

DEVONPORT
High School
MAGAZINE

No. 105

JULY 1953

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The Devonport High School Magazine.

No. 105.

JULY 1953

Editor : D. W. HENDRA, U.VI.SC.

Sub-Editor : R. J. SAINSBURY, U.VI.A.

ALL CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PUBLICATION SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO THE
Editor, D.H.S. Magazine, c/o The Headmaster, Devonport High School
AND SHOULD BE WRITTEN LEGIBLY, AND ON ONE SIDE OF THE PAPER ONLY

Editorial

A School has three main factors, the Headmaster, the Staff and the pupils. If these are harmoniously related there is a basis on which to build a really good School. We are sure that at the present time this harmony has been attained; its effects are obvious. D.H.S. maintains and fortifies its reputation in the country.

This balanced proportion is to be disturbed. After a short period of five years Mr. Barker is leaving us. Our loss is Redcar's gain. During his stay with us we have seen many changes in the life of the School and without exception they have been for the good. To mention all these would take half this magazine, but the introduction of the Speech Contest, gardening activities, sports fixtures with Public and Grammar Schools, outside of the city, in our out-of-school life, and the founding of specialised rooms for Careers, Current Affairs, Geography and History and the new end-of-term examinations on the academic side may be noted. Much of this required not a little capital and Mr. Barker's keenness in furthering the activities of the Parents' Association has enabled the School to widen its social outlook. Now we encounter a greater change, and as it is very true that a School cannot remain static, we must progress or slip back; in either case an indication of our quality and fibre.

Mr. Barker will also be leaving his mark on the social life of our city. His absence we're sure will be felt by all who have taken part in Plymouth Badminton and Tennis, by members of Stoke Damerel church and by the staffs and boys of schools and colleges who have made his acquaintance at inter-school functions. He has always sought to further all our sporting activities, and his presence at matches has been a grand stimulus to the players. The School now runs six or seven Rugger teams and five Soccer teams in the winter and four Cricket teams and two Tennis teams in the summer, and they all have had the Headmaster's keen

interest. His own tenacity and ability in work and play were a good example for us all to follow.

Dr. Cresswell, our new Headmaster, will naturally take some time to settle down among strangers. There is an obligation upon every member of the School to do his best to see that our good name and tradition remain. Each boy who behaves badly in the street, takes no interest in his appearance or is slack in his school work is doing an injustice to both the School and himself. A person seeing a member of the School playing the fool in public is gaining a bad impression of the *whole* school, not merely of that individual. The School will always stand by the pupil; see that you, the pupil, stand by the School. "*Prorsum semper honeste*" in all things; give as well as take; and benefit by your own efforts and not only by those of the Headmaster and the Staff. Only by so doing can we ensure that the School under Dr. Cresswell will maintain our reputation in the worlds of sport, of academics and of social life.

We wish Mr. and Mrs. Barker and their family 'God Speed'. They take with them our good will and best wishes for their futures and, Mr. Barker especially, takes a knowledge that he has added considerably to a tradition of which all D.H.S-ians are proud. Dr. Cresswell may rest assured that he is coming to lead a willing band whose morale will not have been affected by the changing times.

School Notes

By the time these notes are published examinations will be over, so that we can do little but wish that the papers were pleasing and that candidates have done well. Publication of the results in due course will tell its own tale. May it be good.

Our Carol Service on December 22nd was again held in Stoke Church and conducted by Canon Caley, and as usual the lessons were read by boys, members of the staff and the headmaster. A large and representative body of parents was present, and carols and hymns were led or sung by the School choir accompanied by a section of the School orchestra and the organ, played by a member of the Sixth Form.

The new term began on January 12th, and on the following day the School Music and Dramatic Societies put on the first of a series of five presentations of "Let's Make an Opera," a very ambitious project and a difficult problem with an all-male cast of boys. An account of it is to be found in our pages.

On February 20th, we were hosts to local grammar schools at an inter-schools debate on the subject that "Woman's place is in the Home." We went to the Y.M.C.A. on March 9th to debate that "The plodder gets the best out of life," and on March 12th at Plymouth College the subject was "That this house deploras the Continental Sunday." They were useful and enjoyable events of which accounts are to be found elsewhere in this issue.

There was a change in our Speech Contest this year. Mrs. Joan Warne who so kindly adjudicates suggested that the semi-finals should be held before the whole School, and that she should be present, not only to select the finalists but also to give the whole School the benefit of her adjudication and of the remarks upon it to the competitors. We have yet to become really speech-conscious, and are glad to express here our thanks to Mrs. Warne for her help and professional knowledge, and for her final adjudication before boys and parents on March 7th; when we enjoyed a pleasant and instructive evening.

The re-construction of Block E is well on the way although very little can be noticed from the outside. Block D will not now be started before the end of term. By the time you read this we hope to be in occupation of Block B. Re-building and repair have meant and will mean some disorganization. That it has been minimized and organized is obvious, but we must all do our best to lessen any possible ill effects of such a major upheaval.

By no means the least important effect of the re-construction is the cancellation of the annual Garden Party, a disappointment for the Parents' Association because it was not only a social function but also a means of acquiring the wherewithal to do a great amount for the School. We feel sure that other means will be found to fill the financial gap; and there is no reason why any other social activities need be curtailed.

On March 20th a party of ten boys from the Upper VI forms attended a meeting of the Post War Society at Plympton. The proceedings commenced with a short service in the ancient parish church of Plympton St. Maurice, and this was followed by organized discussions at the Grammar School. After a pleasant lunch the party was entertained by the versatile and vigorous oratory of Mr. Shaw Desmond who spoke on the 'Supernatural.' Plympton Grammar School deserve our thanks for their efficient and kindly hospitality.

A well-attended School Concert held at the School on March 20th and 21st was evidence, if indeed any is needed, of the virility and activity of the School Music Society. The first half of the programme was a fine rendering of Handel's Oratorio 'Solomon,' by a choir of sixty-four voices. The orchestral second half comprised works by Holst, Wishart, Beethoven, Mozart, Handel and Haydn by an orchestra of ten violins, viola, 'cello, tympani and piano. Of these four only were not members of the School. We are grateful to those friends who made it possible for the boys to put their skill to a public test, and to Mr. Stone for his help. Mr. Self is to be congratulated on a fine effort. We hope it will not be his last.

John Douglas Wright, B.Sc. (Lond.), who was at School from 1937 to 1944, has been awarded his Ph.D. in Physics at London.

He is lecturing at University College, Auckland, New Zealand. Congratulations! It is interesting to know to what parts of the world our Old Boys go, and how well they are doing. Old Boys can keep in touch with us through the Old Boys' Association or direct by letter to the School.

Our sister school, Devonport High School, Tasmania, with whom we are on close terms of friendship, have sent us a detailed account of themselves, of their activities, and of their home town, with a request that we should send them one about ourselves. We thank them for their interesting and courteous gesture and gladly reciprocate.

Mr. Tamblin has supervised the preparation of a comprehensive scrapbook that covers the history and geography of places of interest in the district, its industries, famous men, and the neighbouring towns including Torquay, Saltash, Tavistock, Bere Ferrers, Teignmouth and Looe. There is too an account of D.H.S.

Included in the historical survey are pre-history, a survey of history to the present day, not forgetting Devonport and Stonehouse, bomb damage and re-construction, the building of the new city, and an article on local government. The geographical survey includes our situation, an account of the coast, the geology and the climate, the problem of drainage in the city and of our water-supply. Mention is made of the China-Clay industry, and stress is laid upon Plymouth as a port, on the Millbay Docks and on the railway systems that serve them, the town and the surrounding districts. Finally there is a report on bird-watching as a School activity.

Among the industries described are the Dockyard, fishing, the processing of foods, the design and manufacture of ladies' clothing, the making of bricks, the manufacture of lubricating systems and of radio and television sets, and the milling of flour. Some account is given of famous men connected with our history, men like Drake and Cook, Brunel, Cookworthy and Captain Scott.

Places of interest described and pictured include the Breakwater, the lighthouses, the Barbican, Hoe, and the Aquarium. There are twenty-two drawings and maps by the boys concerned, and copious photographic illustrations of old Plymouth and of the modern city including Royal Parade. Photographs of school teams and Prefects add the necessary personal touch.

Credit must be given to Mr. Tamblin who supervised the production and planned the book, and to members of Forms 3D, 3A, 2B and 1A who did the bulk of the work so well. We hope that our friends in Tasmania will like it and that it will give them useful information of us and of our city and surroundings. We should at least be something more to them than a mere name. We thank them heartily for their kindly contribution to the cementing of a friendship that stretches half-way across the world.

Doctor Cresswell, our new Headmaster, has visited the School twice since his appointment. By this time he will have some idea of what to expect from us. Next term we shall know what to expect from him. We look forward to a new chapter in our School life.

In the last week of the Spring Term our Junior Dramatic Society presented on two successive evenings a programme of one-act plays to a full School hall. Not only is such an activity good for poise and speech and useful as training for senior dramatics later on, but it is also a sign of a very healthy virility. The level of performance was generally higher than that of last year, and this is significant of the value of the whole activity. Praise is due to Mr. Sherwood and all who contributed to such successful evenings.

There is little need to stress the efficient organisation of our annual School Sports, held at the Brickfields on May 19th by kind permission of Vice-Admiral M. J. Mansergh, C.B., C.B.E., Commander-in-Chief, Plymouth, whom we heartily thank. The timing was as good as ever, the standard of achievement high, judging by the records that were broken, the weather was fine, and what more could be desired? That our newly-elected Lord Mayor, Alderman Sir Clifford Tozer, an Old Boy of the School should make this one of his first public functions was a compliment and friendly gesture to which the presence of the Lady Mayoress added that charm that is hers. Captain (E) R. T. Sanders, R.N., cemented even more firmly our friendly links with Figgard by his presence and presentation of the prizes. To the Lord and Lady Mayoress and to Captain Sanders, R.N., we give our hearty thanks.

Finally a word must be said of the departure of the Headmaster, and, seeing what has been said elsewhere in this issue, we find it difficult. We have suffered from him in and out of school, on tennis court and cricket field, in assembly and form room; we have appreciated the impersonality of his punishments and the honest-to-goodness breezy directness of his praise; we have come to look for him at School functions of all kinds; and now we are losing him. For all he has done to and for us we are grateful. He has our best wishes for success and happiness in his new post.

PRAEFECTI VALETE

- J. B. KNIGHT. Entered School, 1945; School Cert. 1949; General Cert. of Education 'A' level 1952; Prefect, 1951; School Librarian, 1951-52; 1st XI Soccer, 1952; Vice-Captain House Soccer, 1952-53; Now in R.A.F. prior to entering Executive Civil Service.
- A. G. GOSWELL. Entered School, 1945; General Cert. of Education 'O' level, 1951; General Cert. of Education 'A' level, 1952; Prefect, 1951; 1st XV Captain 1952-53 (Colours); 1st XI Cricket 1951-53 (Colours). Now in Army prior to entering Executive Civil Service.

To Our Headmaster

"Tomorrow to fresh woods and pastures new."

Mr. S. G. Barker, M.A., Cantab., LL.B., leaves us at the end of this term to become Headmaster of the Sir William Turner's School, Redcar, Yorkshire. He came to us from the Grammar School, Newport, Isle of White, in April 1949. We still have our memory of his first appearance at prayers, when Mr. Buckley introduced him to the assembled School; and we wondered what the future was to hold for us under his guidance, for a Headmaster means much to a School. Now we know; and he is leaving us.

"There is a tide in the affairs of men." To a School it means a series of changes, a flow and ebb that mould the sands of time and leave their marks upon the rocks of tradition; and these, rooted deeply in the strata of the past, stand firm though their shape may change. Ours is an honourable tradition of work and sport, of gentlemanly behaviour and courtesy, of academic distinction and of broad preparation for the larger world. We have become very conscious of their importance in the last four years.

Organization, directive and drive have created a purposefulness that sums itself in terms of careers. We have become directional in our activities, conscious of ends and of the value of success in work and sport, reflecting the Headmaster's clarity of vision and his practical approach. Every boy in the School knew him, was known by him, and was for him a future in his hands, and so part of a wider school organisation; no boy failed to be in personal contact with him in school or on the sports' field; many found him an objective instrument of justice.

He had a broad sense of humour that could at times be grim, and a forthright and forceful manner. His outstanding powers of organisation, backed by an ordered mind and a memory that rarely failed, gave him an air of almost impersonal and machine-like competence; while his dominating personality and easy sense of sufficiency gave him the respect of the School.

We, who were once a world to conquer, bid him speed in his new enterprise and in any that may follow it, knowing that when conquests are past he will have assured for himself a safe anchorage in the sheltered waters of success.

To Mrs. Barker, whose quiet dignity, sincere interest in our activities, and personal charm have endeared her to us, we wish every happiness in her new environment.



S. G. BARKER, Esq., M.A., LL.B.
Headmaster 1949 - 1953

Athletics Club

Master-in-charge: MR. W. NASH.

Captain: M. C. WOTTON. *Vice-Captain:* D. L. McMANUS. *Secretary:* A. D. APPLEBY.

The annual School Sports were held at the Brickfields on Tuesday, May 19th. - Once again, the Championship Shield was won by Raleigh House, despite a strong challenge from Drake, who were second, with Gilbert third and Grenville last. The Victor Ludorum Cup was won by M. C. Wotton for the third year in succession, with A. D. Appleby as the runner-up. The cups and certificates were presented, at the conclusion of the sports, by Captain (E) R. T. Sanders, the Commanding Officer of H.M.S. Fisgard.

The steady improvement in the general standard of the Sports was maintained again this year. In all, fourteen records were broken and it was encouraging to note that eight of the new records were established by boys in the Senior Group. Taking into account the fact that the school team is selected mainly from this group, the School can, it appears, look forward to its most successful season for many years.

This season the team has the usual matches against H.M.S. Fisgard, Sutton High School, and Truro School.

We congratulate our Athletics Captain, M. C. Wotton, on his selection for the Devon team in the Inter-County Championships at the White City.

At Kelly College on Wednesday, May 27th, the School Junior Athletics team competed in their annual meeting with Kelly College, Plymouth College, and Plympton Grammar School. Despite the fact that they were unable to hold the Kelly College team, the School did very well in gaining second place. A notable performance was that of Breckon who won the High Jump with a jump of 4ft. 11½in.

DEVON PUBLIC AND GRAMMAR SCHOOLS SPORTS.

The fourteenth annual meeting of the Devon Public and Grammar Schools Sports was held at Kelly College on Saturday, May 30th. The School team, as expected, did extremely well and finished second to a very strong Kelly College team. Wotton won the 100 yards in the record time of 10.2 seconds and now holds the records for both the 100 yards and the 220 yards. He also won the 220 yards and the Long Jump. The School's other win was gained by Appleby who jumped 5ft. 5in. in the High Jump, and he was also second in the Hop, Step and Jump. McManus, George and Coleman were placed second in the hurdles and third in the mile and pole vault respectively. Other members of the team who were placed in the first six in their respective events were, Coles, who was fourth in the 880 yards, and Miller, who was sixth in the 440 yards.

COLOURS AWARDED LAST SEASON:

Re-Award Full Colours: M. C. Wotton, M. H. Marshall.

Award Full Colours: A. D. Appleby, D. L. McManus, M. J. Ford, D. R. Le P. Quantick, W. G. Marchant, G. J. Gillespie.

Award Half-Colours: B. P. George.

A. D. APPLEBY (*Hon. Secretary*).

Rugby Club

Captain: A. G. GOSWELL.

Vice-Captain: M. T. G. ROWE. *Hon. Secretary:* R. PULLEN.

It is pleasant to record that there was a Rugger revival in 1952-3. Many more boys played than in the previous season; practices were more enthusiastically attended and, an unimportant consequence, the results were better. The 1st XV, enjoying a remarkable freedom from serious injuries and splendidly led by Goswell, an outstanding player and captain, began by winning the first five games. This run included our first victory for some years over Truro School, at Truro, and a rather lucky defeat of Plymouth College, when Rowe, at full-back, dropped a fine goal, the only score in the game. The sixth match was at Tavistock, against Kelly College, who scored 13 points in the first ten minutes and a severe beating seemed at hand. But Goswell pulled the side together and the only other score in the game was a fine try made by him.

The highlights of the Spring Term were the 3-0 victory over Plymouth Albion Juniors, who had lost only one game in the previous six months, and the match at Dartmouth against the R.N.C. 'Benbows' XV, when, with 15 minutes to play, we were losing 0-6 and Rouse had gone off, injured. Goswell then scored two fine tries and dropped a goal and, in the last minute, some exuberant rugger ended in a try by Pullen. In all, ten of the sixteen games were won. Only the powerful Hele's XV beat us both at home and away; the other defeats included two by 3 pts., and one by 2 pts.

Our annual visit to Exeter to play in the P. and G.S. seven-a-side tournament was a dismal affair, for we were beaten 0-11 in the 1st round by Plymouth College, a game in which the rugger was so bad that it was an embarrassment to watch it.

Full Colours for 1952-3 were awarded to: Goswell, Mills, Parr, Pullen and Rowe, and Half-Colours to: Burroughs, Dowrick, Hendra, Hooper, Lucas, Martin and Miller. Goswell played for the Devon P. and G.S. XV during the Christmas holidays.

The 2nd XV also had a much better record than last year winning seven games, and drawing one. They were very good when they were winning and horrible when they were losing. Thus 283 pts. were scored, but weak tackling allowed their opponents to score 235 pts.

The Colts XV began badly, losing five of the first seven games. Then practice by the boys, coaching by Mr. Warn, and the enthusiasm of everybody began to show results and, of the last ten games, five were won and one drawn. In all 172 pts. were scored against 132 pts. Although this was the best Colts XV for some years, for the first time for several years, no boy was good enough to play for the Plymouth Schools XV.

Unhappily, it seems impossible for the best boys in one year's Under 13 side to play for the Junior XV in the next. Again, we had great difficulty in raising an Under 14 side, which, out-weighted and outplayed, won only two of twelve games.

Mr. Nash once more turned out a remarkable Under 13 XV. They lost only one out of nineteen games and scored 584 pts. against 18 pts., an extraordinary record.

The 'B' team was usually an Under 12 XV, with a view to next season's Under 13 side, yet they showed great promise and won seven out of fourteen games.

The teas given by the Parents' Association to the visiting teams were once more greatly appreciated, and the Rugger Club warmly thanks the Association for its generosity and the ladies for their work.

The Club's thanks are also gratefully given to all those members of the Staff whose enthusiastic help made it possible to fulfil so heavy a programme of games.

H.M.

Soccer Club

President: THE HEADMASTER. *Master-in-charge:* MR. WARREN.
Captain: C. J. BRAY. *Vice-Captain:* D. L. McMANUS. *Secretary:* W. I. JOINT.

The season 1952-53 was a successful one in every way. It was a season of team building and the 1st XI in particular introduced many young players.

The 1st XI record is not as impressive as in other post-war years, but the games that were lost were by the odd goal on each occasion. The team was handicapped after Christmas by the departure of several players and it took many weeks before a sound combination could be decided upon. Many young players were given a game and the prospects for next season look good.

The 2nd XI was unsettled in the New Year by the demands of the 1st XI, and after a very promising start the team failed towards the end of the season. With a large proportion of the team still at School next term, however, the coming season can be faced with confidence.

All the teams showed great enthusiasm, and in particular the Colts XI. Its record was not very good, but on every occasion the team played with keenness and spirit, and, although many of its members were small in stature, it fought strongly against bigger teams.

The most impressive team of last season was the Under 15 XI which was champion of the Senior Schools League. It is the first time that we have won this League and we congratulate the Under 15 XI on its triumph. This team also reached the final of the Senior Cup, only, for the second year running, to lose to Public Secondary School. Our congratulations are extended to Covington on his selection for the Plymouth Schools XI which reached the semi-final of the English Schools Cup for the first time.

The Under 13 XI, our other League team, played extremely well and had a very impressive record. Although it was knocked out of the Cup in the early rounds the team finished second in the League, which indicates its capabilities. It contains many players who will be a great asset to the School in future years.

The Junior XI had a very successful season and the team was one of the strongest for many years. The football was of a surprisingly high quality and this team should do even better next season.

Once again we offer our thanks to the Parents' Association for providing teas and to the Staff for refereeing the games and for training the teams after school.

RECORD:					Goals.	
	Played.	Won.	Drawn.	Lost.	For.	Against.
1st XI	22	15	3	4	115	41
2nd XI	17	12	1	4	69	34
Colts XI	12	3	2	7	34	67
Under 15 XI	12	8	3	1	33	19
Under 14 XI	18	16	1	1	83	17
Under 13 XI	18	11	5	2	49	13

COLOURS AWARDED 1952-53:

Re-Awards of Full Colours: K. Woodward, D. L. McManus, C. J. Bray, A. J. Herring, W. I. Joint.

Award—Full Colours.—A. D. Appleby, J. W. Ede, N. Springthorpe.

Award—Half-Colours.—D. N. Green.

Cricket Club

President: THE HEADMASTER. *Master-in-charge:* MR. WAYNE.

Captain: C. J. BRAY. *Vice-Captain:* A. G. GOSWELL. *Secretary:* J. H. ATHERTON.

So far this season, in the games played, the only undefeated team is the 1st XI. In defence of the 2nd XI, who have won only one game, it must be added that their chances of making higher scores have been reduced by the scarcity of batsmen in the School, most of whom are needed in the 1st XI. The Colts XI have won two matches and lost as many, while the Juniors have conceded one match out of four.

After the School's annual tussle with Plymouth College on 6th June only the 1st XI emerged victorious, our opponents' score of sixty-four having been passed with four wickets still standing. This was the second time that we have ever defeated our rivals, the first time being in 1948.

The 1st XI look forward to this year's match against the Staff and hope to repeat their last success.

With much more curiosity they await the exchange tour, which takes place at the end of this term, with the William Ellis School in London. More details of this project will be found in the next number of this magazine.

Our thanks are due to the members of the Staff who have given up their time to umpire School matches. We must also thank the members of the Parents' Association who have provided the teams with teas at Collings Park. Once again the 1st XI has a regular scorer. We are grateful to Morris for having attended all our matches.

RESULTS SO FAR.	Played.	Won.	Drawn.	Lost.
1st XI	.. 6	6	0	0
2nd XI	.. 5	1	3	1
Colts XI	.. 4	2	0	2
Junior XI	.. 4	3	0	1

J. ATHERTON (*Hon. Secretary*).

Careers

We are soon to enter upon another stage in our development as the Careers department of a Grammar School.

Although the present Careers Room has done excellent and very useful service to many scholars past and present and offers more than most schools in the country, we have been acutely aware of one of its shortcomings. The present quarters are too cramped for all the information we now have for display and the necessary handling of pamphlets in searching, does not help towards their general preservation. Neither is it possible to have a place for everything and everything in its place.

After the re-construction, the new Careers Room will be the present Music Room with display shelves and notice boards and cupboards along the whole of the West and South walls. Here we shall be able to display the literature of each of the principal careers adequately in its own named and appointed place. No longer will six sheets on one career be fastened together. All careers will be sign-posted with neatly stencilled labels and all our information will be on view quickly and clearly to the seeker.

It is to be hoped that the boys who are privileged to use it will appreciate these major improvements by keeping the pamphlets in their proper places.

Once again we ask for any printed matter on Careers which will be useful to others and now no longer of use to you, and information from Old Boys now in direct contact with the careers of their choice. We want to know the advantages and disadvantages as you see them and display them for those who have yet to decide.

W.H.W.

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House Notes

DRAKE.

The main topic of interest during the summer term has been the School sports. A start into athletics training was made at the commencement of the summer term. P. Miller was elected Athletics Captain and our thanks go to him for the very methodical manner in which he chose his team. Trials were held early to pick members from the —12 age group because we knew little of their capabilities. On the whole it was gratifying to see an increase in the number of standards attempted and very encouraging to see a rise in the number obtained.

The events held before Sports Day enabled us to see the actual standard of fitness before deciding upon the main bulk of the team. Our best performances in these events came from the juniors though determination was not lacking in the other groups.

As a result of these events we were lying well behind the leaders although we were in second place. This however acted as a spur and on Sports Day the House slowly closed the gap. The performances of the whole team were very creditable and it is probably fitting that no individuals came out in front of others. Despite being within three points at one period we finally finished a close second to Raleigh.

At the time of writing these notes the cricket teams have not completed their fixtures. The results to date however are:—

		P.	W.	L.	D.
Senior	...	2	1	1	—
Junior	...	2	0	2	—

B. P. GEORGE (*House Captain*).

GILBERT.

With one of our more successful campaigns rapidly drawing to a close, one may now attempt to select the highlights of the past year, and perhaps to gaze for a moment into the somewhat "veiled future." At Soccer, the senior eleven, though seriously weakened by boys leaving the School at Christmas, performed creditably to complete their programme undefeated, and to earn themselves the runners-up position to Raleigh. The Juniors gained maximum points from their games, beating Raleigh 4—1, Drake 4—0, and Grenville 13—0. Thus Gilbert, without losing a single match, senior or junior, shared the House Soccer Championship with Raleigh, both Houses having gained fourteen points.

The Rugger teams were by no means so fortunate. Our hopes that the Junior Fifteen would lift the House from the lowly position brought about by earlier senior defeats failed to materialise, for so young and light was the team that it was outweighed and out-paced both in the scrums and outside it. Nevertheless, in their

dogged persistence and intense enthusiasm one noticed marked signs that this was perhaps the last chapter in our dismal tale of rugger disasters. If our rugger players achieve their anticipated improvement, and the footballers maintain their present standard, next term could easily be an outstanding one for Gilbert in both codes.

Starting some dozen points behind Drake on Sports Day, we gradually narrowed the gap until it was a mere four points, but then Drake, seemingly sensing the danger, drew away again, leaving us to be content with a hard-won third place. In their respective sections, the Seniors were third—this being the first time they have risen from the bottom position for several years—and the Juniors a good second, after a closely-fought battle with Raleigh. This all-round improvement was largely due to the undying efforts of our House Master and Athletics Officials, to all of whom we offer our sincere thanks and congratulations.

Cricket champions in 1952, we opened this season with considerable optimism, but having occasionally experienced the treachery of those deities which preside over inter-House cricket, we were not excessively confident. As yet, however, nothing has occurred to destroy our hopes, for in the opening fixtures against Drake, the Seniors won by fifty-seven runs, and the Juniors by nine wickets. Although the Swimming Sports, due to be held this term, carry no points for the St. Levan Shield, a notable performance here by Gilbert would be a fitting conclusion to a most satisfactory year.

C. J. BRAY (*House Captain*).

GRENVILLE.	<i>Seniors.</i>	<i>Juniors.</i>	<i>House Position.</i>
Rugger	1st.	2nd.	1st.
Soccer	3rd.	4th.	3rd.
Cricket (to date)	1st.	3rd.	—
Athletics	4th.	3rd.	4th.
Chess	2nd.	1st.	2nd.

Grenville has rather a mixed bag of results to report. This time last year we occupied third position in the Athletic Sports—the most important of our House activities. A quick glance above will show that in 1953 Grenville (honourably, I hope) carried off the ‘wooden spoon.’ Although we obtained 559 standards (as compared with 335 last year) we were still far behind the other Houses. By the new system every boy in the House takes all his standards, and as we were still far behind it indicates that our number of athletes is diminishing. But we were not disgraced on Sports Day, as the position of our Junior section proves—look out for the ‘Blues’ in future years. We must congratulate A. D. Appleby, our Athletics Captain, on being runner-up to Victor Ludorum, and on winning the high jump (Open) with a record jump of 5ft. 4in. and also Eustace on winning the Under 14 Championship Cup.

Once again we proved ourselves undoubted Rugger champions. The Senior team captained by A. G. Goswell, who was also the School Rugger Captain and played several times for the Plymouth

Albion first team during the season, won all three of its games very convincingly. The Juniors also played well having won two and lost one.

The Soccer results were not so encouraging, the Seniors winning one, losing one, and drawing the other. The Juniors, who were very weak, lost all three, although they tried hard, against stronger opposition.

Great news! Grenville have found some intellects and finished second in the House Chess Competition, the Junior team actually being top of their section—Well done!

Only two Cricket matches have been played as yet, one Senior and one Junior, both against Raleigh. The Seniors won by a narrow margin, off the last ball of the match, but the Juniors lost their game.

In conclusion we wish to thank our House Master, Mr. Mallinson, and other members of Staff for their help and support throughout the year.

D. HENDRA (*House Captain*).

RALEIGH.

RESULTS FOR 1952-53:		<i>Juniors.</i>	<i>Seniors.</i>	<i>House.</i>
Soccer	2nd.	1st.	1st.
Rugger	3rd.	2nd.	2nd.
Chess	3rd.	1st.	1st.
Athletics	1st.	2nd.	1st.

Well done Raleigh! For the second year running we have won the Athletics Shield, and as we have done well in the other activities the House is virtually certain to retain the most coveted St. Levan Shield.

We congratulate M. Wotton, the Victor Ludorum, who broke three records on Sports Day, and ran very well in the Devon Public and Grammar School Sports. Ellis and Pickering won the Under 13 and Under 12 Cups respectively, and Bond's efforts in the Under 15 age group deserve special mention. We lost very little ground on standards in the fight for the Shield, and so the House as a whole may feel proud of its achievement.

Easton has now entered the Executive Civil Service, and Woodfield has been elected House Secretary in his place. Our Junior cricket team, under the captaincy of Brimacombe, opened the season by defeating Grenville, whilst our Seniors, under the captaincy of Ede, lost by one wicket to the same House.

Last year Raleigh won the Swimming Sports in convincing fashion, and so we are looking forward to this year's contest with the utmost confidence. If anything, this year has been altogether more successful than last, with more boys taking an interest in the House activities. The St. Levan Shield has indeed been won by Raleigh as a House, and not by a select number of boys. Well done.

R. SAINSBURY (*House Captain*).

Out of School Activities

LET'S MAKE AN OPERA.

It was a bold break from tradition when Benjamin Britten's "Let's make an Opera" was produced as the School play at the beginning of this year, a production which showed the confidence which the dramatic producer, Mr. Whitfeld, and the musical producer, Mr. Self, had in their cast, and the willingness and talent of the boys.

This is a far from easy play for amateurs, especially boys, much of the music being difficult and intended for voices of greater range and power than are found in schoolboys, and involving several female parts. Nevertheless, the performance of "The Little Sweep" was marked by clear, keen singing. The children, including three very convincing girls, tried hard and were most successful. Miss Baggott, played by Roy Perring, was, perhaps, the character which "stole the show." Really feeling the part, he gave a very sure, amusing performance coping well with his passages of difficult recitative. Rowan was well portrayed and sung with obvious determination, especially in one complicated aria; Hill certainly looked a pretty young lady! The tenor and the bass parts—D. Purchase and J. Brooks, having a true feeling for character brought across the brutality of the sweeps and the humour of the trunk scene with evident enjoyment, both singing with fine success. Lastly there is the little sweep boy, Sam—Lidiard. His simple and true performance of a far from easy character was acknowledged to be the highlight of the production.

On the dramatic side, apart from the success in characterization, the other points which leap to mind is the subtle and natural grouping both in the play and the opera. Lastly, we must mention the set and the orchestra with its conductor. The former, whether it was the simplicity of the early scenes, or the colourful flats of the nursery was always most effective. The orchestra, fighting the obvious disadvantage of contrary acoustics gave the production the final touch with fine accompaniment both for the stage singing and in the audience

songs—which were a most enjoyable part of the opera.

Mr. Self, Mr. Whitfeld, and the cast, must be congratulated on a production which never lagged and which was agreed by all to be a great success.

B.C.

TENNIS CLUB.

Captain: B. GEORGE.

Vice-Captain: B. COLEMAN.

Secretary: G. WOOD.

Owing to the vagaries of the English summer, all the matches arranged for May had to be postponed. These included two matches against H.M.S. Figgard and one against Plymouth College, whilst another match on 20th June also against Plymouth College had to be postponed. Alternative dates have enabled the Club to complete its fixtures with H.M.S. Figgard. On 13th June, the School entertained them at Colling's Park and won by nine events to nil, although the final score did not do credit to Figgard's efforts. The return match took place at H.M.S. Figgard on 27th June, and again the School team was triumphant with the score at 7—2. Some experimenting is being done with the second and third pairs to find the best combination so that to date eight boys have played in the team.

On Thursday, 25th June, an enjoyable evening was spent when the annual match against the Parents was held. This the School and Staff won by 9 sets to 7 sets. It is hoped that the matches with Plymouth College may be played at a later date.

It is pleasant to note the influx of keen tennis players and the great use to which they put the courts at the School, and also at Collings Park on Monday and Thursday evenings.

The standard of play has improved considerably in the team and in general. Some of the Juniors show considerable promise but not all of them appear to realise that unless they develop correct stroke production from the beginning that they are unlikely to rise above the mediocre.

GORDON WOOD.

CHOIR NOTES.

Once more the Choir led the singing in the Annual Carol Service on the last days of the Christmas term. This is fast becoming an event to look forward to by both the Choir and the School.

In March of this year we held our third annual School Concert on the nights of the 20th and the 21st. Both the performances were well attended, all tickets being sold for the Saturday night, but the number of tickets sold to the School was very disappointing and we hope there will be a great improvement next year. Those who did not attend missed one of the best activities put on by the School this year, many people having said that the Concert was the most outstanding thing the Choir has accomplished since its re-formation.

The Concert was in two parts. The first was taken up entirely of Handel's "Solomon" arranged in a special shortened form. The oratorio itself is sub-divided into two, the first named "The Dedication of the Temple" the second "The Wisdom of Solomon." The overture, opening the first part, was followed by a stirring chorus "Your harps and cymbals sound," Recitatives and Solos followed, being interspersed with two more choruses both songs of praise to Jehovah. The part ended with a beautiful chorus "May no rash intruder" which made a pleasing contrast to the other choruses.

Part two starts in a most impressive manner with the chorus "From the censer" which was a favourite with all the Choir. Someone was heard to use the adjective 'barbaric', while describing it. Other recitatives and solos followed depicting the famous story of the two mothers arguing over the ownership of a baby son which was cunningly solved by the wisdom of Solomon. The oratorio ended with two choruses, one in praise of Solomon and the last chorus another shout of praise for the Most High Lord. Altogether it is a most satisfying work to sing and, we hope, to listen to.

The second half of the programme included three orchestral pieces well played by the School Orchestra with help from only a few outside players; the standard of the Orchestra is

steadily becoming better. These pieces were the "Brook Green Suite" by Holst, "Divertimento in D" (first movement) by Mozart, and Handel's "Il Ballo" from the opera "Alcina" (Minuet and Bourree). The remainder of the programme was choral. Two novelty numbers "The Flea" and "Old King Cole" were presented by Tenors and Basses and full choir respectively, while Choir and Orchestra combined very effectively to give the finale "The Heavens are Telling" from the 'Creation' by Haydn. This well crowned an extremely well received programme which, we are sure, satisfied all. D. HENDRA (*Hon. Secretary*).

STAMP CLUB.

The Stamp Club has not met during the Summer term but it had a successful session last term, meeting regularly on Friday evenings after School, frequently at other times too, under the chairmanship of Mr. Hopford.

The meetings mainly consisted of general philatelic work such as mounting stamps and discussions led by Mr. Hopford. Other meetings included auctions of different types, which met with great enthusiasm, balloon debates and various competitions for which generous prizes were given. Meetings were also reserved for the sale of approvals, the sale of duplicates and for exchanging.

One of the highlights of the term was a visit to the Main Sorting Offices at Pennycomequick last December. The party was met by a guide who conducted the party around the different departments, pointing out the many interesting machines which enabled speedy stamping of the thousands of letters which pass through the offices.

During the following month the Club held a competition in which the competitors had to give in a mounted set of stamps which dealt with one topic only.

Another highlight of the season was the loan by the Plymouth Education Committee to the Club of a series of film strips which we were able to show to Club members regularly every fortnight after School on Fridays in the Physics lab.—by kind permission of Mr. Coombe.

The membership of the Club consists mainly of boys from the first, third and fifth forms. We need more support from the rest of the School. It is towards the second and fourth forms that we look for it and it is sincerely hoped that the Club will continue to flourish when it starts its new meetings in September.

SCIENCE SOCIETY.

The half-session covered by this report has been a very active one, and seems to indicate that the policy of the retiring committee has met with the approval of the membership.

The practice of securing the services of 'outside' speakers to lecture to the Society has been continued, and the exhibition of films of scientific interest has been an equally important part of the winter's activities. The holding of two meetings on "film" days proved to be most popular.

It is gratifying to record that the membership has passed all previous figures, and stood at eighty-seven at the end of the winter. Attendances at the meetings have been very good, and it was during this session that a record attendance figure for a meeting was established. Support of visits is, of course, overwhelming, being not so much a matter of how many participate, but of how many cannot possibly be accepted. It is hoped that our methods of selection meet with approval.

The lecture series opened with a visit by Mr. Skentelbery, who is well known for the boats he designs and constructs, and is now even better known to us because of his breezy and entertaining style. Inspector Clingan next enthralled us with his lecture on "The Application of Science to Crime Detection." Mr. Hurrell again visited us and talked to us about his colour filming of nature, and the autumn term closed with an address by the Plymouth City Engineer, Mr. Paton Watson. He gave us a most interesting talk on "The Ramifications of Engineering and Surveying in a Community," and many members felt that he was talking of something more than bricks and mortar. He was bombarded by many questions on varied topics of civil engineering in a city.

The Spring term programme was opened by a most entertaining hour from a Fire Officer who revealed a number of little known facts about the services provided by his force. Mr. Westlake, of Messrs. Tecalemit, next privileged us with a lecture on "Electroplating," illustrated by experiments and exhibits. One of the highlights of the term's meetings, judging from attendance figures, was the visit of Mr. Russell Adams, Chief Photographer of the Gloster Aircraft Company. Being an Old Boy of the School, he was quickly on terms with his audience. He brought with him several dozen photographs, of breathtaking beauty, taken by himself in the air. He recounted many of his photographic flights and told us of the many difficulties to be overcome when photographing high speed aerobatics from a Meteor jet fighter. Finally, he exhibited about forty minutes of coloured cine film taken on routine flights over the Gloucestershire countryside.

As direct results of two of the lectures, visits were arranged to the Boat-building Yard at Laira Bridge and the Sewage Disposal Installation at Camel's Head, and further excursions are being arranged at the time of going to press.

We would like to thank all those involved in making possible, and arranging, the above programme.

B. P. GEORGE (*Honorary Secretary*).

BADMINTON CLUB.

Improved equipment led to a very much improved standard of performance during this season, and it was hoped that several fixtures would be played during the latter part of the Spring term. A fixture was played against the University College of the South West whom we defeated by eight matches to one. Unfortunately the fixtures with the Staff and Old Boys' Association had to be cancelled, because the Assembly Hall was not available.

Several new players became quite proficient during the season and this means a sound foundation for next season's team, and it is hoped that a good list of fixtures will be arranged.

B. COLMAN (*Hon. Secretary*).

LIBRARY NOTES.

Shortly after Christmas the Library lost J. B. Knight, a most efficient librarian, to the Civil Service. His intimate knowledge of the books under his control is unlikely to be equalled for many years.

With his departure, the Library came to the end of a period of administrative repose; change is again in the air. Early in the Summer term the whole stock was reshuffled into numerical order by the Dewey system. The abandonment of the old sectional arrangement aroused a certain amount of protest from the subject masters, but after minor adjustments within the new system the criticism has dwindled, and a new series of directional signs after the reconstruction should still it altogether.

Expansion has continued this year, and the five-thousand mark must have been passed some time ago. This, together with increasing patronage by the School, has meant that methods satisfactory when the Library first began have now become clumsy and laborious. Accordingly, the period of end-of-year stocktaking is to be used to change to the ticket system of borrowing books (as in the Public Library) instead of the present method of writing up the details of every book borrowed. A further projected change is the replacement of the rather unwieldy stockbooks by an alphabetical card index.

When complete, these changes will streamline the present running of the Library and make future expansion easier; meanwhile the work of the change-over is in full swing. Boys passing the door after School hours might (if they knew their Keats) pause and whisper "Hush, hear ye not the hum of mighty workings?"

R. A. LANGSDALE (*Hon. Librarian*).

LITERARY AND DEBATING SOCIETY.

The Society notes this term, in summarising the year's meetings, are a mixture of pride and doubt.

Doubt because, after an excellent start at the beginning of the School year, counter attractions—Athletics and Rugby in particular—caused numbers to dwindle so rapidly after Christmas

that adequate meetings at School could not be held; much to the disappointment of the handful of loyal supporters.

Their enthusiasm, however, was rewarded by first-class support of the "out of School meetings." The Sixth Form realising the good name which the School has in the field of debating, put away their obvious dislike for public speaking and not only turned up en bloc, but in the main made speeches which belied their inexperience.

Returning now to a factual report, it is fair comment to say that the Autumn term was one of the most successful terms in the history of the Debating Society, meetings being held regularly with attendances of over twenty for nearly all meetings. The winter term sported only two meetings at School with three others, one being the annual exhibition debate at the Y.M.C.A. when members made the most of the difficult subject "Plodders get the most out of Life." The other meetings were, a very pleasant evening at Plymouth College discussing the motion that "This House deplores the Continental Sunday," and finally when the School offered its hospitality to about one hundred and thirty sixth formers from various Schools debating the motion that "Woman's place is in the Home."

It now remains for me on behalf of the Society to thank Mr. Clark most sincerely for the time and criticism which he has given so willingly and which we have found so invaluable.

D. F. PARR (*Honorary Secretary*).

CHESS CLUB.

This year the membership of the Club has been a record. The increased interest in the Junior School is an encouraging sign for the future.

The senior team was third in the Goodman Cup Competition. The results were: Won 6; Lost 4; Points 12.

J. D. Mills, R. T. F. Williams and H. Blencowe played in all ten games and scored 6½, 6 and 5 points respectively. C. Woodfield scored 3 points from 9 games; J. W. Ede 4½ and R. A. Langsdale 4 from 8 games each, and Morris 4 points from 5 games.

The junior team provided the younger boys with valuable experience of inter-school chess and twelve took part. The results were : Won 0; Drawn 2; Lost 5.

This year Junior House matches were played for the first time. Raleigh won the Cup for the third time in succession. The results were:

	Raleigh	Grenville	Gilbert	Drake
Senior	22	10	8	8
Junior	5	8	7	4
	—	—	—	—
Total	27	18	15	12

J. D. Mills won the Individual Championship for the second time in succession. The results of the final were J. D. Mills, $5\frac{1}{2}$ points; R. T. F. Williams, 4 points; and Morris, $2\frac{1}{2}$ points. Mills was also runner-up in the Devon Under 18 Championship and played for Devon in the Correspondence League. A Devon Under 18 team was formed this year. J. D. Mills and R. T. F. Williams played twice, and H. Blencowe once. In the Southern Counties Junior Championship, J. D. Mills was fifth with $2\frac{1}{2}$ points. In the West of England Junior Championship R. T. F. Williams was sixth with $4\frac{1}{2}$ points, and J. D. Mills eighth with $3\frac{1}{2}$ points.

We shall welcome new members from any part of the School next term. Mr. Berry is willing to teach the game to all those interested.

R. T. F. WILLIAMS (*Secretary*).

SCOUT LOG

JUNIOR TROOP.

Under Mr. Cock's guidance, the Troop has had a successful year. Last summer's camp in Wales was a great success after a dubious start. The

water provided at the camp site proved fatal to the 'innards' of several boys. Aided by the local District Commissioner, a hasty move to a new site was made. Here water arrived daily in a milk churn and no further trouble ensued. The Troop had the honour of being inspected by General Sir Bernard Paget, K.C.B.

Owing to the re-construction, the Senior Troop has had to elbow into the Scout Hut. In return for this hospitality, they are assisting in the instruction of their junior brethren in the mysteries of semaphore, first aid, etc. In addition March and Church are acting A.S.M.'s. With this wealth of instructors the Troop should soon have both arms laden with badges!

Preparations are now well advanced for this year's camp at Mardock, near Monmouth. It is much regretted that Mr. Innes will be unable to attend as he is shortly to join the R.A.F.—lucky people!

SENIOR TROOP.

We congratulate B. March on becoming a Queen's Scout, and hope more of our Troop will follow his example.

Made bold by our most successful hike through North Wales via Snowden last summer, we are going further afield this year. The winter has been spent building three canvas canoes, which, despite pessimistic prognostications, are water-tight. So the Troop intends to canoe up the River Seine this summer. In the building of these canoes and in the preparation for this overseas venture, the Troop wishes to thank the Parents' Association for their encouragement and financial assistance. A.M.T.C.

Cambridge Letter

PEMBROKE COLLEGE, June 4th.

Easter term always appears to contain more activity than it can hold. This year the University has so far recognised the outside world as to shorten and advance its term in order that there shall be no clash between loyalty and the exams. Consequently greater ingenuity has had to be shown in reconciling the claims of the sports grounds, the river and the Tripos. Some happy compromises were discovered and consciences were appeased by "taking some work" on the river or to Fenners.

The May exams and the May races are now completed and the May balls will also be a vague memory by the time this is printed. Most colleges appear to be taking some pains to make their Coronation May Balls particularly memorable.

Kings' College Ball is due to be enlivened at the stroke of midnight by the triumphant return from rustication of Mr. Mark Boxer who was concerned in the publishing of an allegedly blasphemous poem in "Granta." This led to the magazine's suppression and to a demonstration at the "funeral obsequies" of Mr. Boxer's mortal remains which secured a place in the daily newspapers even against such rivals for journalistic space as the numerous pieces of Coronation information, imagination and fabrication.

Coronation celebrations in the University were limited by the proximity of the city to London itself. Many of the colleges have been floodlit and the effect of coloured lights along the Backs was quite pleasant. The University Madrigal Society included songs from "A Garland for the Queen" and "Oriana" madrigals in this year's programme of its annual concert beneath Kings' Bridge.

The city has erected decorations which are neither more nor less vulgar than those of other municipalities and members of the university "in statu pupillari" have been asked to refrain from damaging them.

Visitors to the University this term have included Her Majesty Queen Salote of Tonga (for whose benefit the members of Girton College learnt the words, if not the meaning of the Tongan National Anthem), and the Crown Prince of Japan, Prince Akhito. Among those who received honorary degrees at a ceremony on June 4th were Pandit Nehru and Sir Frank Whittle. Her Royal Highness, the Duchess of Kent is to receive an honorary degree in July.

The congratulations of all Old Boys here are very warmly extended to D. G. Honey of Fitzwilliam House who received his half-blue for Athletics after representing the University at the White City. Here he ran in the mile instead of his more usual distance. Honey also ran for Devon at the White City on Whit Saturday.

As this year comes to an end we shall find that the representation of the School in the University is slightly altered. David Honey and Peter Reid (of Queens) will be going down this term and Officer Cadets David Wanstall and David Mills have already moved from the Combined Services Language School in Cambridge to Bodmin. Next year we shall be joined by Mr. David Wanstall who is coming to Emmanuel and by Anthony Cross who comes to St. Catherine's.

In common with other Old Boys and members of the School we extend our very best wishes to the retiring Headmaster and to Mrs. Barker, together with our sincere hopes for their happiness and success in their new surroundings.

D.A.P.

Parents' Association

The Association has organised its usual round of events for the social and financial benefit of the School and, although there has been a slight falling off in the support for some of these, the efforts of the Association continue to bring mutual benefits to parents and staff.

The Annual Dance in December proved a most pleasant function and, in the School Hall most tastefully decorated by the Ladies' Committee, over one hundred and fifty parents, staff and their friends enjoyed old time and modern dances. The event yielded £19 to the Association's funds.

At the end of January the Whist Drive attracted just over one hundred people. Although this was rather fewer than usual, the evening provided some keen play and, thanks to the generosity of the Ladies' Committee in giving the prizes, the balance to funds of £7 was more than from previous whist drives.

The domestic evening during March was well attended and over three hundred and fifty parents listened to the Headmaster explain matters connected with examinations, grants and scholarships. Following this some twenty-five members of staff were available for consultation by parents concerned about their boys' welfare and progress.

The Association again acted as host to the guest performers and choir on the occasion of the Music Society's concert, some eighty being entertained on each of the evenings.

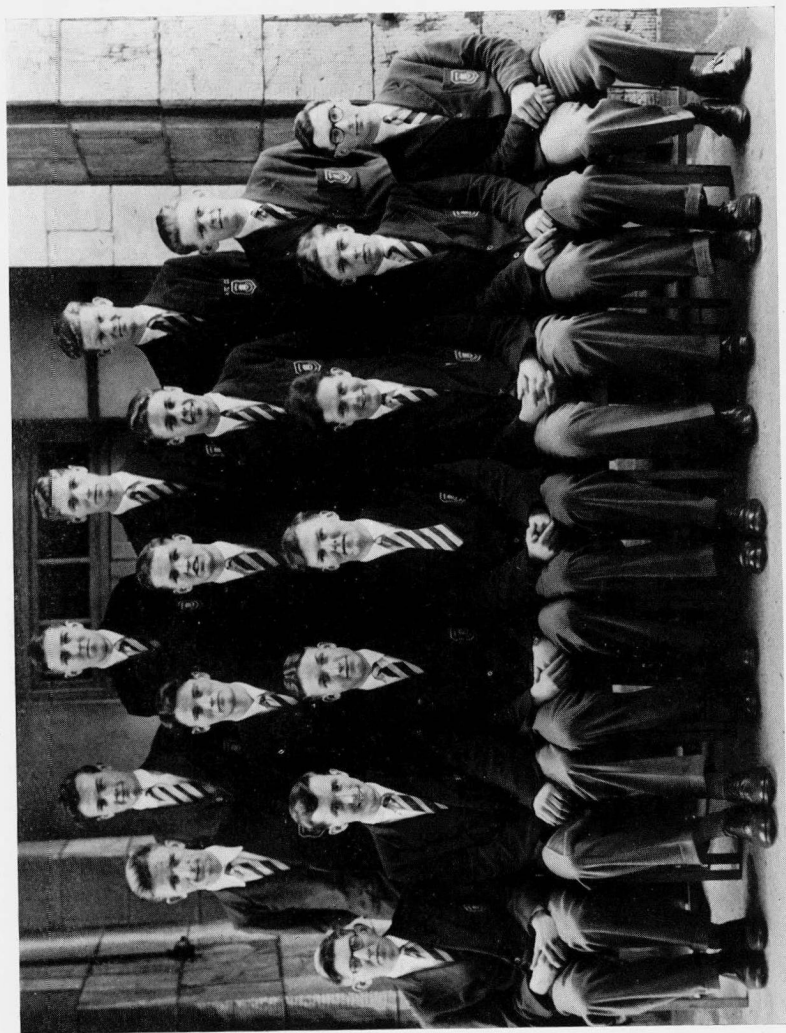
The coach trip during May included a visit to Buckland Abbey where we were met by the City Curator, Mr. Cummings, who spent nearly two hours conducting us over the Abbey and the Tithe Barn. His willingness to give of his time and his wealth of information were much appreciated by all. Tea was taken at Totnes and the return journey was along the coast.

Reconstruction of the School makes it impossible to hold a Garden Party this year, and as this is always our major function it will be necessary to redouble our efforts next year.

During the year the Association has purchased its own whist tables, made grants to the Music Society and the School Fund, renewed the oil stove at Collings Park, and generally served the School—not least in the provision of teas for football, cricket and tennis teams.

We take this opportunity of wishing farewell to the Headmaster and his wife. Mr. Barker has been most enthusiastic in the work of the Association and has conducted its affairs most efficiently while Mrs. Barker, in her gracious and self-effacing manner, has supported and advised the Ladies' Committee with quiet assurance. We wish them and their family every success and happiness in their new surroundings.

H.W.



Back Row (left to right) : M. W. Shead, R. A. Langsdale, J. B. Martin, C. J. Bray
Middle Row : G. W. J. Clapp, M. T. G. Rowe, R. Pullen, A. D. Appleby, M. J. Rich
Front Row : B. P. George, A. G. Goswell, R. J. Sainsbury, D. W. Hendra, B. Cross, C. H. R. Wood, G. W. J. Matthews
(Vice-Captain) (School Captain)

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W. H. BUCKLEY, ESQ., B.A., B.SC., A. T. BROOKS, ESQ.

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Vice-Chairman and Hon. Treasurer: E. W. R. WARN, The School.

Hon. Secretary: C. E. GILL, 14 Haddington Road, Stoke, Devonport.

Hon. Assistant Secretary: A. BOWDEN.

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H. BRENTON, G. LAKEMAN, J. G. POLKINGHORNE, L.F. VANSTONE, H.G. PLUCKNETT.

The Old Boys notes, being published on two occasions only during each year, must of necessity contain in the main a survey of the programme for the future, this being as yet the only medium of contacting those members (in the majority it is regretted) who are outside the normal sectional activities. Space permitting (and I have been strictly enjoined not to use too much this term) brief accounts will be given of past events for the benefit of members exiled from Plymouth and unable to participate.

There is much to be reported on, but before doing so I am sure that it is the wish of all that I make comment on the imminent departure, for Redcar, of our President. Firstly, we wish both Mr. and Mrs. Barker all that is best in their new sphere of life. Like ourselves, we are sure that Redcar will benefit immensely by having them in their midst—in education, in society and in sport. D.H.S. and the Old Boys' Association in particular have much for which to thank Mr. Barker. His attendances at all meetings have been virtually 100 per cent., not merely being an onlooker but giving advice and assistance, without interference, whenever necessary; he has ensured that every school leaver has become acquainted with the O.B.A. and that in turn the Association has become acquainted with the leaver; he has been keenly interested in the activities of the various sections and where possible has participated in their events (notably perhaps Badminton, having assisted the team to reach 1st Division status this year); he has endeavoured to bring the Association into closer contact with the School by inviting its representatives to the many varied School functions. Our tribute to him, and to Mrs. Barker—and I am sure that none finer can be summed up in so few words—is that "They will be missed."

In saying "Good-bye" to Mr. and Mrs. Barker let us welcome to D.H.S. Dr. and Mrs. Cresswell as their successors. I have been privileged to meet Dr. Cresswell on a recent fleeting visit he made to Plymouth, and was able to talk with him for a short while on the O.B.A. He made it clear from the outset that he was intensely

interested in an Old Boys' Association and was appreciative of their value to the school; eager to offer his assistance I am sure he will prove a worthy successor as President to Mr. Barker.

Taking my cue from the previous Old Boys' notes it is my intention to give you notice of forthcoming events before reviewing the past.

As a result of an idea put forward by our Association to other Old Boys' Associations there has now come into being the Plymouth Grammar Schools Old Boys' Association comprising the O.P.M.'s, Drakonians, Old Suttonians and ourselves, for the time being. The primary object of this Association is that representatives from each body shall meet at every conceivable type of sport and social activity once in each year. On these occasions it is intended that the very best players available shall be brought together irrespective as to whether they play for any organised section of their own Association, it being a well-known fact that players of International and County standard for obvious reasons do not play in normal club games. At the inaugural meeting our Mr. Cyril Gill was invited, and accepted, the office of Chairman and Convenor and on their first subsequent meeting the Committee (two representatives from each club) framed a preliminary programme. To ensure this new venture the success it deserves it will of course be necessary for everybody to give their fullest support whether by playing or 'looking-on.' The programme to date is as follows:

TENNIS.	Thursday, 9th July, at D.H.S. Courts. American Tournament (four from each club).
CHESS.	Date to be fixed.
CRICKET.	On or before July 15th, at Ford Park (if available). O.P.M.'s and Drakonians versus Old Suttonians and D.H.S.
RUGBY.	O.P.M.'s versus the rest at Christmas.
GOLF.	O.P.M.'s versus the rest.
BADMINTON.	D.H.S. versus the rest. At D.H.S. when the courts become available (after Christmas).
SNOOKER.	October at Mutley Barracks—American Tournament.
TABLE TENNIS.	At Sutton High School (date to be fixed). Old Suttonians versus the rest.

Will players of either the above games who are prepared to assist please contact Mr. Cyril Gill, at 14 Haddington Road, Stoke, as soon as possible.

ANNUAL DINNER.

Please book January 1st, 1954, for the Annual Dinner. The venue will be the Continental Hotel. The guest for the evening has not yet been fixed but Sir Clifford Tozer in his capacity of Lord Mayor of Plymouth will be present.

Whilst on the subject of the Annual Dinner it would not be amiss to make mention of the last Dinner, even though it is now far distant. I think I am safe in saying that this proved to be one of the outstanding events in the history of the Association. We were privileged to have as our principal guest and speaker, Mr. H. A. T. Simmonds, formerly headmaster at D.H.S., together with the Lord Mayor of Plymouth (Alderman H. E. Wright) who delighted us all with their remarks. An innovation at this gathering, which will be carried on in the future, was the opportunity afforded members to reply to the last toast—"Old D.H.S.ians—near and far"—by giving news of Old Boys with whom they had recently come into contact, or from whom they had received word, and who were unable to be present. The result was truly amazing and proved of outstanding interest. I am sure that those Old Boys who are away from Plymouth and read these notes will be pleased to know of this toast and even more so to know that we who are destined to remain in Plymouth are eager to have news of you wherever you may be or whatever you may be doing. Mr. H. Ferraro, our correspondent, will welcome any such news at Morwell, Dimson, Gunnislake, Cornwall.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY.

Arrangements are in hand to hold the Annual Children's Christmas Party sometime in January, 1954, fuller details being given in the next issue of the Magazine. In the meantime it is very necessary to look to the financial aspect as this Party is becoming ever more expensive to organise. Last year, if you remember, we held a *Jumble Sale* which proved quite successful inasmuch that we intend to follow the same procedure again, but with an even higher target. It has been proved that the goods can be sold but the greatest difficulty is in getting together the goods for sale. This is where everybody can assist—no matter how little each individual contributes the more who contribute the better we shall be pleased. The sale will be held in October but the goods are being collected now under the auspices of Mr. J. G. Polkinghorne of 1 Green Park Avenue, Mutley, Plymouth, where the goods may be taken. We found last time that trinkets had a ready sale so that it is not necessary to confine your gifts to clothes—incidentally, hats do not sell. Last year we had competition from several sources in the collection of Jumble, but so far to my knowledge we are first in the field this time and there should be no excuse. Let us, therefore, have a really record sale.

If you had looked in at the School on January 10th last you would be most appreciative of the above appeal. To see the youngsters (at least 75) and the not-so-young enjoying themselves on the slide and roundabouts, at tea, and at the film show, with the ultimate climax of Father Christmas distributing the gifts was a wonderful experience and far beyond my capacity to describe—

those who had never been before were truly astounded and certainly intend to join us again. Many thanks to the Ladies without whose help the event would not be possible.

THE RUGBY CLUB.

The season 1952-53 commenced somewhat inauspiciously with several heavy defeats but in the period after Christmas the club enjoyed some of the finest games since the war. It was clearly apparent, however, that the most serious deficiency was that of a good and consistent place-kicker—a number of games could have become victories had the kicking been better. Congratulations to Mr. D. Cliffe and Mr. D. Duddy on playing for the Plymouth Combination in their match against Plymouth Albion. Two teams entered the Devon seven-a-sides, one team reaching the second round.

Season's analysis: Played 30; Won 12; Drawn 4; Lost 14; Points for 191; against 230.

At the Annual General Meeting thanks were expressed to the retiring Chairman, Mr. J. G. Polkinghorne, for his long and loyal service to the club. He has been succeeded in office by Mr. R. F. Lyon with Mr. G. W. Collins, the former Secretary as Vice-Chairman. Mr. R. E. Cambridge of 56 Durham Avenue, Lipson, is now Secretary being assisted by Mr. A. E. King as Fixture Secretary. Mr. J. Lakeman has relieved Mr. Lyon of the office of Treasurer, and Mr. A. Curtice is Captain, with Mr. D. J. Cliffe as Vice-Captain. At this meeting members took the opportunity of thanking Mr. Barker for his interest and support in a practical manner by presenting him with a pipe.

The club were pleased to see Mr. M. Tait, on leave from the R.A.F. in Cyprus, at the meeting, and also to welcome back Mr. A. E. King after a lengthy absence.

THE BADMINTON CLUB.

Season 1952-53 proved highly successful for the Badminton Club culminating in their becoming champions of the Second Division of the Plymouth Churches Badminton League with promotion to the First Division next season. Unfortunately the club is likely to be hampered for the want of a court until such time as the re-construction of "E" Block at School is complete. In the meantime Greenbank Methodist have very kindly invited the members to play on their court until their accommodation is again available. At the A.G.M. Mr. H. Brenton asked to be relieved of the onerous duties of Secretary and his place has been taken by Mr. D. Mallock, Mr. Brenton still being fully occupied as Tournament Secretary. I have been invited to, and accepted, the office of Chairman for a further spell and Mr. G. Rooke will continue as Treasurer having succeeded Mr. K. Mallet during the past season, Mr. Mallett having been transferred to Liverpool on promotion.

We were pleased to see Mr. and Mrs. Mallett recently when they returned to Plymouth on holiday. Like the Rugby Club, the Badminton Club gave thanks to Mr. Barker in a practical manner by looking after his creature comforts in the form of a tobacco pouch suitably filled. It is interesting to note that Mr. Barker had given up smoking prior to his coming to Plymouth but the example set by many Old Boys caused him to succumb once again to the pleasures of pipe smoking.

CRICKET CLUB.

I have very little news of the Cricket Club but I do know that they are doing reasonably well in their evening cricket. It must be emphasised that this Club exists solely for the entertainment of those who enjoy a quiet evening's cricket irrespective of results (obviously a win is always appreciated) the rugger club being the basis on which it is nurtured although any Old Boy interested in this form of cricket is welcomed.

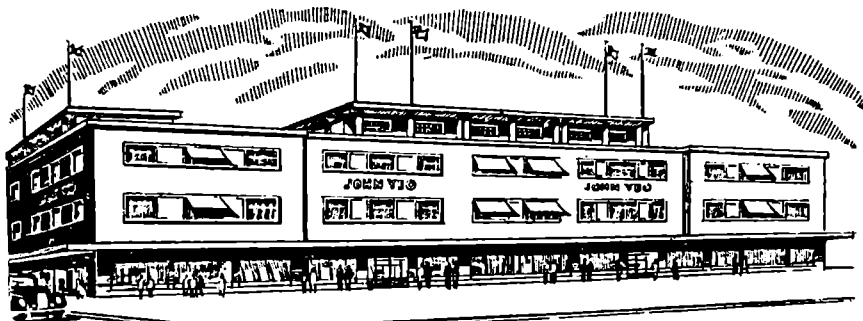
TENNIS CLUB.

Here again the game is played solely for enjoyment. Two courts are available at the School and the membership is made-up in the main from the Badminton and Rugger Clubs. Our expenses are not high so that the subscription is correspondingly low. The courts are available on Tuesday and Thursday evenings and Saturday afternoons. Old Boys are invited to come along (with their wives for the married) but it would be advisable to ensure you have a partner just in case (if you haven't a partner you can afford the risk on Thursdays which appears to be the most popular evening).

I regret that space does not permit of the usual "jottings" (being news of Old Boys) but I would like to acknowledge receipt of a letter (through Mr. Gill) from Mr. J. F. D. Wood. At the time of writing he had qualified for his A.M.I.C.E. (Civil Eng.), and was supervising the construction of a Generating (Power) Station. He has now married and for the time being is living at 4B Eaton Grange, Alder Road, Liverpool 12.

E. J. B.

**The Valletort Press
Plymouth**



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