

DEVONPORT
High School
MAGAZINE

No. 108

FEBRUARY 1955

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The Devonport High School Magazine.

No. 108.

FEBRUARY 1955

Editor : P. M. MILLER, U.VIA.

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Editorial

Specialisation in schools can mean a harmful narrowing of the scope of study producing citizens efficient in their restricted fields, but incapable of reacting satisfactorily to wider problems or in times of crisis. In order that he should be intellectually balanced and to prevent his becoming a man of intense if narrow knowledge and of little ability to be really alive, every student must have interests outside his syllabus.

A school should provide clubs and societies in which the student can find the means to balance his educational diet and so become a person of wide interests. The life of the individual must gravitate to the school as its centre of interest and the source of its intellectual and social drives. In this way the school becomes a community of persons of a certain more-or-less defined intellectual range, having some common factors in aim and outlook and, in the Grammar School, a leaning towards the academic.

In this age of mass-production there is a danger that the techniques of the factory with its inorganic processes may creep into these social environments where the organic is all important. We must not lose the individual touch, the moulding influences, the personal contact; the human quality of education must be pursued in this age of aids to this and that, the radio, television and the gramophone; these things cannot replace the vitalizing and humanising influences of a good schoolmaster.

A community should be large enough to enable it to run efficiently and smoothly and to ensure those qualities that are so essential to the best of its kind; thus in the school, classes should be no bigger than a master can really know individually; and while there should be enough classes to warrant the employment of a staff sufficient for all the possibilities of the curriculum, too many might lead to a loss of personal contact.

In our school community all can lead a complete life, contributing to the whole and taking from it. We are indeed fortunate in having a score of societies and in fielding thirteen teams each week; masters and boys are in close and co-operative contact. Ours is an intensely human institution where every individual can and does develop a sense of responsibility to others and to himself.

It is the advantage of a well-balanced school society that the hours between nine and four o'clock may be devoted to the development of academic ability and out-of-school hours, games periods and Saturdays to the further development of the social graces that are so essential to the world-beyond, of the manly qualities by the exercise of which the buds of education may be brought to full fruition, and of that training in citizenship without which, however academically equipped, a man can neither fit into nor be an asset to a civilised community.

If our country is to be as prosperous and as well governed as it has been, we must continue to implement those factors in education that have produced leaders of men in politics, local government and religion, that have kept us in the fore-front of scientific research, and that will preserve the moral integrity in public affairs for which we have been justly noted. This is our function as a school community and individual boys will contribute to its success by academic distinction and by the cultivation of morals and manners as a normal part of a real education.

School Notes

"The best of prophets of the future is the past."

So wrote Byron in 1821. We don't attempt to go back that far; indeed there is no need; we do and must, however, go back to July 14th, 1954, to pick up the threads where these notes dropped them in our last issue—the day of the Staff Match; one of the rare lovely days in the last seven months, and a school occasion. Everybody was at the ground to see the Staff put up a gallant but unequal fight. What really mattered was the sense of unity and good fellowship that such school functions arouse.

The evening of the same day saw the beginnings of another sense of unity and co-operation, for there was a meeting with the parents of those destined to enter the School in the following September, which was hoped to be the beginning of a friendly and profitable co-operation of staff and parents for six or seven years to come.

On July 17th we were able again, after having missed one year, to hold our annual garden party. As Addison might have written, "There is no greater sign of virtue in a school than a zeal

in its inhabitants for the good of their school." Parents are a part of our greater self, so the success of the Garden Party was a measure of the healthy erudition in which we find ourselves. We are grateful to those who ensured that success—the boys, members of the Staff who gave so much of their time, the members of the Parents' Association who gave so much of theirs, and to Surgeon Rear-Admiral T. N. D'Arcy who so kindly performed the opening ceremony and spent the greater part of the afternoon with us.

A certain member of the Staff, who shall be nameless, must have poured many libations to the gods of the weather, for again on July 19th, we were favoured with one of the warmest and loveliest days of the year. The organisation was as nearly perfect as usual and the time-table was strictly adhered to. Trophies were presented by Mrs. Cresswell to whom we tender our thanks.

Term ended on July 23rd, and we went our various ways

"If all the year were playing holidays,

To sport would be as tedious as to work."

Shakespeare's Prince Hal can say what he likes and does. We don't agree with this particular example. We don't find work tedious; we do find it tiring, and holidays are welcomed as a relief from the tyranny of time; but in the upper school we are so close to the university standard of education, that the holiday becomes an opportunity to revise and absorb much of the work done during the term. There is also time for recreation, recreation in its true sense, re-creation, a building up again of dissipated energies and the restoration of zeal and powers of attack. Fine weather is a great aid to these things. We did not have good weather, and have not since.

The new term began on September 6th, when we welcomed over one hundred new boys. By this time they have settled down, and very well too, as a part of the greater community that is the school. We would have them realise that the school is the boys and masters who form it, the headmaster who controls it, the parents who belong to its Parents' Association, its governors and its buildings and equipment—these last are necessary to it but hardly of it. As Mazzini said,

"Thou canst not, even if thou would'st, separate thy life
from that of humanity. Thou livest in it, by it, and for it."
and a school is a human institution.

The term was but three weeks old when on September 24th, we held our annual Speech Day of which an account is to be found in this issue. Our associations with the Royal Navy have been and are so close that the presence of the Commander-in-Chief was most opportune, and his breezy speech and good advice were greatly appreciated by all:

We are grateful to Monsieur Gollié of the French Embassy for his charming lecture on French life and customs with particular reference to home life. We hope that his visit on October 4th will not be the last.

Old Boys should please note that they will be doing their association a good turn by attending the functions organised for them. The dance on October 9th could have been better attended.

Congratulations to all concerned with the successful jumble sale held in the Scout Hut on October 22nd, when £12 were netted, and there were no expenses: a useful sum that the group will know how to spend profitably.

We are always glad to see Captain Porter, and his visit on October 25th to present the prizes for handwriting, that he so generously gives to the winners, was no exception. His timely and wise advice concerning the value of good writing in examinations was much appreciated.

Elsewhere in this issue there is a report of the activities of the Parents' Association. Our only concern here is to point out to those parents who do not belong that they are missing a very valuable opportunity to identify themselves with the School and so with their own son in it, and a chance too to help the school to help them.

The dance of the Plymouth and District Schools' Music Society, held in our School Hall on November 1st, was a great success. The activities of the society have been really successful, so much so that it has been able to purchase its own radiogram. Good luck!

Our thanks are extended to Col. Rose of the Doctor Barnardo's Homes for his very useful talk to our first and second forms on blind children. It is good that we should realise how relatively fortunate we are and how necessary it is that our practical sympathy should be extended to those less fortunate.

The success of the Parents' Association dance on December 4th is an indication of the flourishing state of the organisation, and of the desire of its members to become part of the larger school community. All concerned are to be congratulated.

Our carol service is now an annual event, and this year the congregation was larger than ever; about eight hundred boys and parents attended. The solemnity of the occasion and the Christmas atmosphere made a fitting end of an Autumn Term. The reading and the singing were of the usual high standard. Canon Caley conducted the service. We thank him for his good offices and for so gladly taking us under his wing and putting the church and himself at our disposal.

The prefects held their Christmas party on December 22nd. We have heard of nothing worthy of special comment. To Mr.

Warren who was M.C., the prefects are grateful for a well-run and pleasant evening. Social events of this sort have their virtues.

Many Old Boys are reminded that an account of the annual dinner appears in this issue. Those present enjoyed a very successful evening. We regret that so many more could have had the same pleasure had they wished. There will be another dinner next year.

By the time we go to print, "The Birds" or the presentation of it will be a thing of the past. Much hard preparation has been made, much spare time willingly given, much organising ability exercised, and for what?—for the presentation of something new in the West Country and unique in the history of our dramatic society. A whole issue of this magazine could be filled with an account of what we owe to the Greeks, in mathematics, philosophy, science, literature, and the drama. It will have been good for us to know something of the form, manner and purpose of Greek comic drama if only as a background to our own. Mr. Nicholas is to be congratulated for his courageous, difficult and useful production, and our thanks are due to all who helped to ensure its success by their contributions to the music, the stage setting, the lighting, props, business organisation, and the host of other essentials without which the training and production would lose much of its final value.

PRAEFECTE VALE

TOLCHER, A. R. Entered School 1947; General Cert. of Education, 'O' Level, 1952; General Cert. of Education, 'A' Level, 1954; Inter B.Sc. 1954; Prefect 1953-54; Grenville House Vice-Captain 1953-54; 1st XI Soccer; 2nd XI Cricket; now training to be a navigator in the R.A.F.

School Calendar

1954

- July 14th. School v. Staff Cricket Match.
Meeting for Parents of new boys.
- ,, 17th. Garden Party.
- ,, 19th. Swimming Sports.
- ,, 23rd. End of Summer Term.
- Sept. 6th. Commencement of Term.
- ,, 24th. Speech Day.
- Oct. 4th. Romeo and Juliet.
- ,, 5th. M. Gollié, lecturer from French Embassy.
- ,, 9th. Old Boys' Dance.

- Oct. 22nd. Scouts' Jumble Sale.
 „ 25th. Visit of Capt. Porter.
 „ 27th. General Meeting of Parents' Association.
- Nov. 1st. Plymouth and District Schools' Music Society Dance.
 „ 1st and 2nd. Half Term.
 „ 16th. Visit of Col. Rose (Dr. Barnardo's Homes).
 „ 17th. Parents' Association Whist Drive.
- Dec. 4th. Parents' Association Dance.
 „ 14th. School Leavers Service.
 „ 17th. Carol Service and End of Term.
 „ 22nd. Prefects' Social.

1955

- Jan. 6th. Old Boys' Dinner.
 „ 7th. Scouts Presentation to Mr. Cocks.
 „ 10th. Commencement of Term.
 „ 10th—20th. Trial G.C.E. Examinations.
 „ 17th—22nd. "The Birds" School Play.
- Feb. 5th. 1st XV v. Plymouth College.
 „ 8th. Scouts' Whist Drive.
 „ 9th. French Play by La Troupe Française.
 „ 12th. 1st XI v. Seale-Hayne College.
 1st XI v. Truro School.
 „ 14th—19th. Speech Preliminaries.
 „ 16th. Parents' Association Whist Drive.
 Inter-Schools' Debate (Plymouth High School).
 „ 19th. A.A.A. Course at School.
 „ 21st. Half Term.
 „ 25th—26th. Three 'One Act Plays.'
 1st XI v. University College of South West.
- Mar. 4th. Speech Semi-Final.
 „ 11th. Joint Assembly to be addressed by Headmaster of Harrow.
 „ 12th. Speech Finals.
 1st XV v. Shebbear College.
 „ 15th. Parents' Association 'At Home.'
 „ 16th. Scouts' Concert.
 „ 17th. School Examinations.
 „ 25th—26th. School Music Society's Concert.
- April 1st. End of Term.
- April 25th—July 22nd. Summer Term.

Speech Day

Speech Day was held this year on Friday, 24th September at the Central Hall. It was a very grand and formal occasion during which a comprehensive assessment of the preceding academic year's achievements was reviewed. The programme commenced with "Folly Song" by Jacob, sung delightfully by the choir, and after this the Headmaster presented his report.

He said that there were at the beginning of the academic year 1953-54 six hundred and two boys in the school, of whom ninety-five were in the sixth forms and one hundred and fourteen in the fifth forms. Moreover, there were seventeen University Entrances, three State Scholarships, seven successful candidates for the Civil Service and one entrance gained for Sandhurst. After congratulating R. Miller on gaining an American International Field Scholarship and P. M. Miller who had won the Mayflower Essay prize, he said that the list of successes was impressive and must compare favourably with all other schools.

Two madrigals: "Hard by a fountain," by Walbrant, and "Come let us all a-maying go" by Atterbury, preceded the address given by the Lord Mayor, Alderman E. W. Perry. He asked the boys to value the instruction they were receiving and to remember the cost of providing the means for their future. The headmaster, staff and scholars were then congratulated on the excellent results achieved; it was an example of fine team-work, he said.

Admiral Sir Alexander C. G. Madden, the C.-in-C., Plymouth Command, then distributed the prizes. In his address, he referred to the association of D.H.S. with the Navy, and he added that the young men who were entering the Senior Service today were first class and of an ever-increasing standard of intelligence.

Mr. Self's arrangement of the traditional "Song of the Western Men" was warmly applauded, and this reception, we feel, fully expressed the audience's sincere appreciation of the music produced under his direction.

The evening then concluded with the votes of thanks which were given by Alderman H. J. Perry, Councillor L. F. Paul and Alderman H. G. Mason. A presentation was then made to the Lord Mayor and to Admiral Madden as an expression of the school's gratitude by the School Captain, P. M. Miller.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We thank all those responsible for sending us the following magazines: The Beacon, Fisgard Magazine, The Coathamian, Hove Grammar School Magazine, Nottingham University Students' Charity Carnival Magazine, The Oak Tree, The Oketonian, The

Plymptonian, The Plymothian, Stoke Damerel High School Magazine, The Suttonian, The Tamaritan, and the Truronian; and crave forgiveness for any omissions.

Careers

At a rough guess there are details in the Careers Room of well over 200 careers. It may be that serious-minded boys seeking help are bewildered or even unaware of this variety.

It is indeed a serious and worrying task to make a decision.

Furthermore, many boys and regrettably many parents, are inclined to procrastinate so that the fifth year arrives with no choice made. Last minute choices often lead to careers accepted with none of the enthusiasm which should accompany this great and sometimes irrevocable changeover.

There have been many schemes set out, in some cases almost formulas, whereby the choice is made. The commonsense approach however will in most cases follow closely the path arrived at by the more elaborate methods of the 'experts.'

Five or six points in every child's make-up will eliminate three quarters of the possibilities and then such considerations as, indoors or out, home or away, cost and length of training, financial gain, will leave perhaps only four or five careers from which to choose.

Now, it takes time to digest the possibilities in any one career, so the fourth form is the very latest time for serious consideration and neither bias nor lack of confidence bred by humble surroundings should rule out a choice. Given the right make-up, anybody's son can become a solicitor, barrister, or surgeon, and while this is incontestable, it is very evident that few boys are willing to work hard enough to make such dreams come true. Many forget that their very presence in a grammar school is evidence that they were once deemed capable of advanced work and were invested with a trust, a trust to use to the full the opportunities found in a grammar school.

Few of us work well without incentives and it is therefore disappointing to find so many boys ignoring the greatest source of incentives in the school, viz. the Careers Room. Make the choice as early as possible, find out the qualifications needed and the target emerges, work becomes purposeful and therefore more successful. It is the capacity for hard work rather than high intelligence which builds the successful career and never before have so many boys had so many rich and varied careers offered them.

W.H.W.



Careers in the Coal Industry.—Modern Coalmining is very largely a new industry. More accurately, it is an old and vital industry which is being reconstructed to serve the present and future needs of the nation. While other forms of energy will help, the main source of power in the foreseeable future will continue to be coal.

Technical Careers.—Many well-paid and absorbing jobs are available and the Coal Board are ready to train you for them, either through a University Scholarship or—if you prefer to earn and learn at the same time—by taking you into the industry straight from school and providing technical training without loss of pay.

University Scholarships.—Highly-trained mining engineers are urgently needed. The National Coal Board offer a hundred University Scholarships a year : most are in Mining Engineering, but some are available in Mechanical, Electrical and Chemical Engineering and in Fuel Technology. They are worth about the same as State Scholarships and successful candidates receive them in full—parents' financial position makes no difference to the value of the awards.

Practical Training.—When you have qualified—either through the University or through technical college while working—you are eligible for a two or three year course under the Coal Board's management training scheme. Each trainee has a course mapped out for him personally and a senior engineer gives him individual supervision. If you come in to the industry on the mining engineering side, you have a very good chance of becoming, between the ages of 25 and 30, a colliery undermanager at a salary between £900 and £1,200 a year—or even a colliery manager with a salary in the range £950 to £1650.

Other Careers.—There are also good careers in the Board's Scientific Department and in administrative posts. Young men and women of good educational standard (who have preferably spent some time in the sixth form or have attended a university) are also needed in such fields as marketing, finance and labour relations.

Full details can be obtained from any Divisional Headquarters of the Board or from the National Coal Board, Hobart House, London, S.W.1.

House Notes

DRAKE.

Drake once again won the Swimming Sports, thus concluding a term which proved to be very successful for the House, for earlier we had won the Athletics Championship. However, these very successes revealed a harmful weakness in the House, the thinness of the Juniors, which it is hoped will disappear this year in the more favourable circumstances.

We started this year potentially very strong. Our sixth and fifth are very large and we have nine school prefects including the School Captain and School Vice-Captain. Again, too, we have boys outstanding in every field—Rugby, Soccer and Chess—but, alas! we shall never derive full benefit from our resources unless certain sections and especially some among the Juniors realise that a House succeeds not by the work of a few but on the efforts of the whole. Let us hope that our system of House "families" will obtain the best from all. Above all if we are to obtain a position which really reflects the true ability of the House, a more determined effort must be made.

So far the Senior Soccer side has defeated Grenville 10—0; the Rugby side, depleted by injuries, has lost to Grenville and Raleigh, and the Senior Chess team has defeated Grenville and lost to Gilbert, and the Juniors have beaten Gilbert, but have lost their other two matches.

We wish B. P. George, our former House Captain, and P. G. Goodfellow, School Vice-Captain until he left early this term, every success; we congratulate Young on his State Scholarship and distinction, Miller on his distinction and appointment as School Captain, Perry on his appointment as School Vice-Captain in succession to Goodfellow and Adams, Blackler, Davey, Fairbeard, Leigh, Middleton and Williams, all appointed School Prefects; and we also welcome the new boys and wish them happy years with us.

Above all we thank Mr. Nicholas, our House Master, for his direction, advice and the running of the House. Thank you, Sir!

P. M. MILLER (*House Captain*).

GILBERT.

POSITIONS 1953-54.

	Senior	Junior	House
Soccer	2	1	1
Rugger	3	3	3
Chess	3	3 (equal)	3
Swimming	—	—	4
Athletics ...	2	2	2
Cricket ...	1	2	1
St. Levan Shield	1	3	1

Well Gilbert, at last we have the St. Levan Shield firmly in our grasp again. It has taken the work of several years to prepare the House for its return to the height of success; the brunt of the effort and general planning was borne by Bray, our ex-house captain, who stayed just long enough to witness the triumph resulting from his enthusiasm. The House must work hard to maintain its present position and reputation, so none should plead mental or physical inability: there is a job for everyone, whether arranging, playing or supporting. Gilbert expects

If we are to maintain our position at the head of the table, the standard of our Rugger teams must be improved. The Juniors will probably have more success than the Seniors, since the latter have already lost by quite a considerable margin to Raleigh, but as the other matches will not be played until next year, the interim period may prove to be of some advantage for training the teams. Swimming ability does not appear to be latent in the House, so some will have to be created by next Summer if we are to rise above fourth place. Although the Cock House can be allowed, at the most, one failing, we must not rest too much on our laurels.

To Bray, who is now reading for a degree in History at London University, we extend our best wishes and thanks for the inestimable amount of work he has done for the House. We also wish every success to our ex-school captain, Barrie Cross, who is now doing his national service before going to Cambridge University.

JOHN H. ATHERTON (*House Captain*).

GRENVILLE.

As yet another year begins in the life of the House, we must all endeavour to put Grenville at the top, a position we once held for many years, by showing enthusiasm and a willingness to help the House. We extend a hearty welcome to all new boys and hope they will enjoy their life with us, remembering to give as well as to take.

At the end of the summer term the cricket matches and the Swimming Sports took place. Our senior cricket team, owing to lack of talent, lost all their matches, but the junior side remedied this by winning all of their three, placing Grenville third for cricket. In the Swimming Sports we finished third.

Last year we were top in rugger, fourth in soccer and athletics, and third, with Drake, in cricket. With these results we finished third in the St. Levan Shield.

So far this year only the senior rugger matches, one soccer match, one junior and two senior chess matches have been played. In our first rugger match Raleigh beat us by 13 pts. to 9 pts. Although we were winning during the first part of the game, we

lost the lead to a slightly more experienced team. The other two matches we won quite comfortably. The junior chess team easily won their first match against Raleigh by 6 boards to nil, and the senior soccer team lost to Drake by a fair margin. The senior chess team lost both their matches.

Officials elected for this year are:—

House and rugger captain: M. W. PARNELL.

House and rugger vice-captain: R. F. DOWRICK.

Soccer captain: I. J. MACBEAN.

Soccer vice-captain: D. S. CHISWELL.

Chess captain: A. T. MANTLE.

Junior Chess captain: F. COOPER.

To Püllen, Joint and Tolcher we send our best wishes for every success in their careers, and thank them for all the hard work they have done as officials of the House.

Finally, we thank Mr. Mallinson and the other masters most sincerely for their time and energy, so willingly given, for refereeing matches and conducting the other activities of the House.

M. W. PARNELL (*House Captain*).

RALEIGH.

All the School prefects in the House left at the end of last term, but Mills J. D., Green and Holding have been appointed this term. Mills is the new House Captain and Langdon (U.6A) the Secretary.

The term started with a determined attempt to regain the St. Levan Shield from Gilbert. This determination was shown particularly on the rugger field, where the Senior XV beat Grenville Seniors (13—9) for the first time for many years. This good start was maintained by defeating Gilbert (36—3) and Drake (37—3). No Junior House Rugby matches have taken place yet, but it is hoped that the team will repeat last year's outstanding success. It is necessary for them to win only one game to assure the House of the Rugger Championship.

We have not done so well in the House Soccer Competition, losing 7—1 to Gilbert, but this was rather unexpected and we should do better in the other two games.

In the Chess Championship the Juniors lost to Grenville but the Seniors, although fielding a younger team than last year's, convincingly beat Grenville Seniors. This victory means that we are now tying with Gilbert for first place. If we are to retain the House Chess Cup for the fifth year in succession, the Juniors will have to improve rapidly and are advised to take advantage of the school's chess facilities. In fact, every boy in the House should learn the game.

We extend a warm welcome to all new members and hope they will respond readily to the traditions of the House. We have been fortunate in being able to hold our House Prayers in the Hall, and at half-term an innovation was made: now first-form boys read the lessons. In this way we hope that they will feel they are important members of the House.

Finally, our prospects of winning the St. Levan Shield are quite good, and every boy should ensure that he is being used to the full in all the House activities.

J. D. MILLS (*House Captain*).

The Swimming Sports

Perhaps the most incredible feature of the 1954 Swimming Sports was the weather. Although we have yet had nothing approaching wintry conditions since the revival of the Sports after the war, we could hardly have hoped for a day such as Monday, July the nineteenth.

As in 1953, the House Swimming Cup was won by Drake, with Raleigh runners-up. Grenville was third, and Gilbert fourth. It will be noticed that the final placings were exactly as last year, but there was a slightly greater margin this year between the first two houses and the others. Drake's total was 66 points, as compared with Raleigh's 61; Grenville and Gilbert scored 40 and 37 respectively.

The House Relay Cup was won by Raleigh, with 26 points. Drake being runners-up with 22 points.

Individual cups were won as follows:—

Open (Over 16 years): Potapowicz (Gi.) and Pick (Dr.).

Under 16 years: Easton (Ra.).

Under 15 years: Spicer (Dr.).

Under 14 years: Pease (Gi.).

Under 13 years: Crook (Dr.) and Thornton (Ra.).

Under 12 years: Ferris (Ra.).

All these we congratulate.

Our heartiest thanks are due to Mrs. Cresswell, who presented the Cups, and also, as every year, to the staff at Mount Wise Baths.

Finally, turning from the Sports to swimming generally, mention must be made of the School's contingent of life-savers; their number continues to increase, and we especially congratulate A. T. Mantle on gaining his Instructor's Certificate. This year, for the first time, a number of boys were entered for the Intermediate Award of the A.S.A.; P. V. Stock was deservedly successful, and to the others we wish better luck next time.

A.T.M.

The Staff Match

School, 51 all out; Staff, 28 all out.

The idea of playing the Staff match on a Wednesday afternoon—July 14th—was received with enthusiasm in all sections of the School ; never has interest in cricket been so intense ! When the 1st XI after winning the toss went into bat, the weather was looking very Plymothian, but it brightened as the afternoon progressed. The rate of scoring for the first hour was extremely slow: thirty-four runs in eighty minutes and five wickets down. Consequently, by the time tea was taken the whole side was out with only 51 runs on the board. A notable bowling analysis was that of the Headmaster, who, in a spell of twelve overs, bowled nine maidens, taking one for 5.

The School XI, whose appetites had been completely unaffected by the low score, walked to the centre after tea, believing that they would have great difficulty in keeping the runs down. However, the necessary encouragement came when the first Staff wicket fell without a run being scored. After that, apart from Mr. Warn's marathon effort of 8 runs (equalled only by extras !) wickets were taken cheaply if not quickly. Mr. Warren was justly applauded for a brave defensive innings against decidedly offensive bowlers.

STAFF XI

Mr. Poole, c. Nicholls, b. Atherton	...	0
Mr. Stone, b. Blencowe	...	3
Mr. Warn, c. Clarke, b. Blencowe	...	8
Mr. Wayne, b. Atherton	...	2
Mr. Carter, b. Blencowe	...	2
Dr. Cresswell, b. Blencowe	...	0
Mr. Nash, c. Davey, b. Blencowe	...	0
Mr. Barkell, b. Atherton	...	2
Mr. Warren, b. Blencowe	...	3
Mr. Sherwood, not out	...	0
Mr. Vanstone, b. Atherton	...	0
Extras	...	8
Total	...	28

SCHOOL XI

Davey, c. Warn, b. Nash	...	13
Nicholls, b. Poole	...	8
Clark, lbw., b. Cresswell	...	1
Bray, lbw., b. Warn	...	11
Atherton, b. Warn	...	0
Perry, run out	...	6

Cross, b. Warn	...	I
Hannaford, b. Nash	...	0
Smerdon, b. Warn	...	I
Williams, P., b. Nash	...	7
Blencowe, not out	...	0
Extras	...	3
Total	...	51

THE ATHLETICS CLUB

President : THE HEADMASTER. Master-in-Charge : MR. NASH.
Captain : R. PULLEN. Secretary : L. A. MIDDLETON.

The first of the School's three athletics matches was held on June 30th versus H.M.S. Fisgard, at Torpoint. The senior team did well to defeat Fisgard by one point ; this exciting match being decided by the last event. This victory levelled the score in the series at three each. New records were set up in four events, of which three were by our boys; they were :—Bond (javelin, 134 ft.), Coleman (pole vault, 9ft. 10in.) and Middleton (mile, 4 min. 51.8 secs.).

Our next fixture was against Sutton High School and took place on July 12th at Marsh Mills. Sutton defeated us by 121½—103½ and now lead by two matches to one. The outstanding weakness in the School team was the lack of sprinters, for we did not obtain a first place in any of the six sprints, senior or junior. Four new records were set up in the senior events, all of which were by our boys; they were :—Bond (javelin, 141 ft. 11 ins.), Congdon (high jump, 5 ft. 4 ins.), Middleton (mile, 4 min. 48.4 secs.) and Pullen (discus, 116 ft.). In the junior events Sutton boys set up two new records.

The last match of the season was on July 15th against Truro School, at Truro. We were beaten for the first time, by 125—116 points. Their system of awarding points for the field events is such that victory in these events depends as much on a good "second string" as on the performance of the best boy. In fact, had all the events been scored by the usual method (four points for first, three for second, and so on) the School would have won by 124—117 points. The senior relay team set up a new record and Middleton equalled the mile record (5 min. 0 sec.).

Excellent performances were achieved by Damerell in the 880 yards, and by Roberts in the Junior 220 yards and the Hop, Step and Jump.

Senior Athletics Team: M. J. Allison, R. J. Bond, J. R. Breckon, B. M. Colman, P. J. Congdon, R. G. Conybeare, E. Damerell,

W. R. Foster, B. P. George, M. S. Gollop, A. Hannaford, L. A. Middleton, P. M. Miller, M. W. Parnell, A. R. Pinches, R. Pullen, M. J. Rouse, M. T. G. Rowe, P. F. Wickenden.

COLOURS:

Re-Award of Full Colours: B. M. Colman, B. P. George, L. A. Middleton, R. Pullen.

Awards Full Colours: R. J. Bond, J. R. Breckon, P. J. Congdon, E. Damerell, P. M. Miller, M. T. G. Rowe.

Half-Colours: M. J. Rouse. L. A. MIDDLETON (*Hon. Secretary*).

THE CRICKET CLUB

President : THE HEADMASTER. *Master-in-Charge* : MR. F. WAYNE.

Captain : C. J. BRAY. *Vice-Captain* : J. H. ATHERTON.

Secretary : N. W. CLARKE.

The 1954 season was fairly successful, although the 1st XI suffered its first defeat in three years, excluding last season's defeats during the London tour. The batting and bowling improved considerably on last season's although the 1st XI included only three members of last year's team. Its only defeat was by Plymouth College, who passed the 1st XI's score of 88 for the loss of only three wickets. In the annual match against the Staff XI, the School again won, this time by 23 runs. In this low scoring match, the School, batting first, scored 51, to which the Staff replied with 28.

The 2nd XI had a much better season than their last, and lost only three of their ten matches. Although the Colts XI and the Junior XI did not have very successful seasons, the Junior XI, nevertheless, defeated Plymouth College for the first time since 1948.

The gratitude of the club is due to many members of Staff who gave up their valuable time to act as umpires and to coach the teams, as well as to the Parents' Association who so kindly provided the teas for the home games. We are also grateful to Crowley, our scorer, who attended all the 1st XI matches.

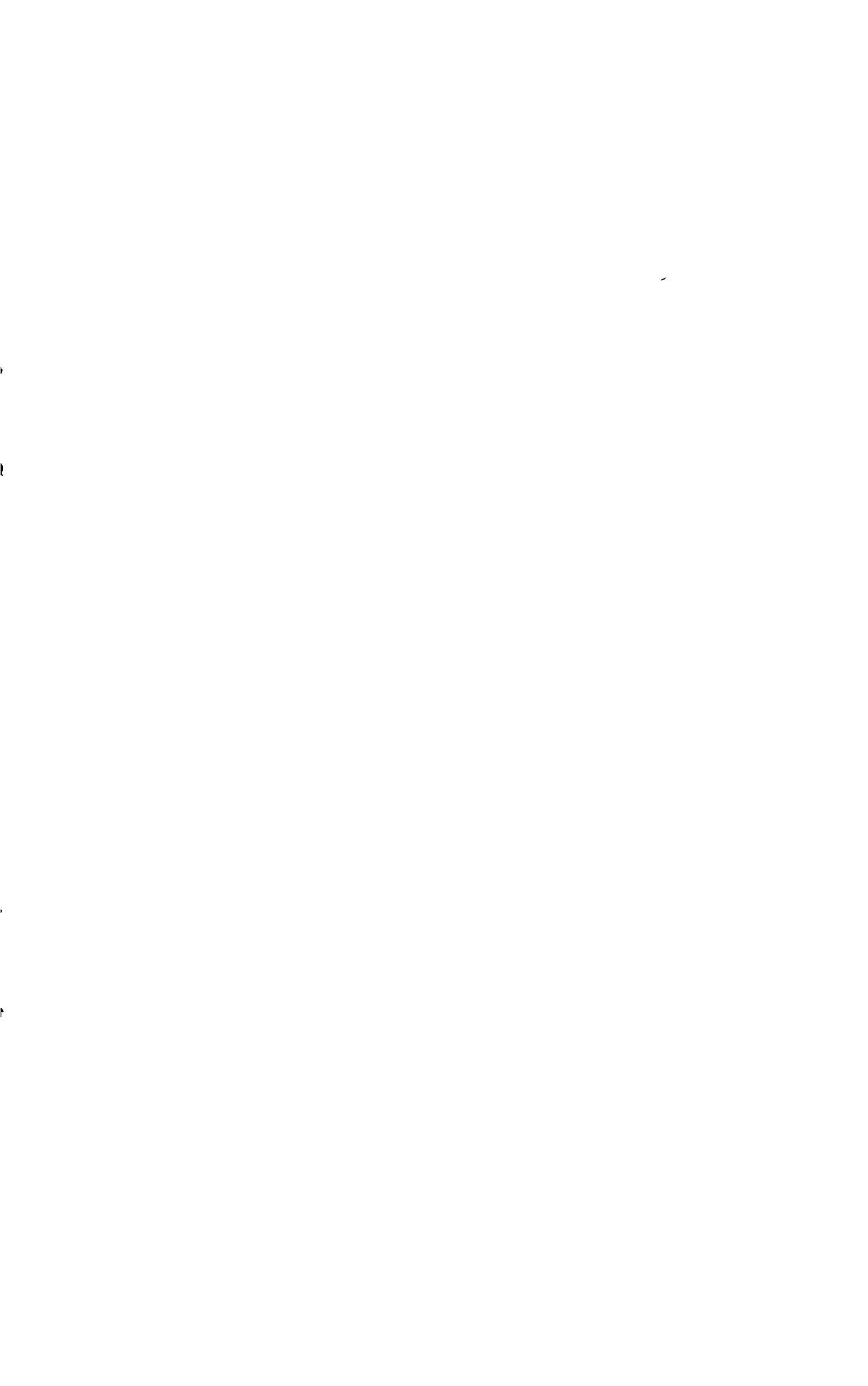
Record	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost
1st XI	...	9	7	1
2nd XI	...	10	4	3
Colts XI	...	7	4	0
Junior XI	...	7	4	0

COLOURS AWARDED 1954.

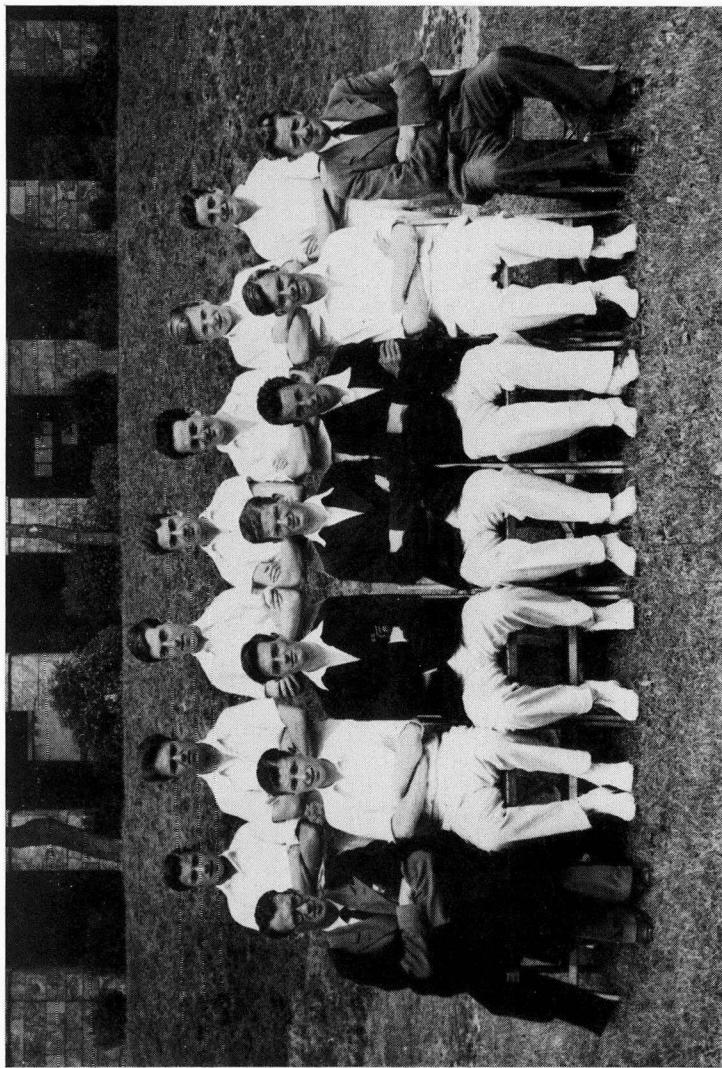
Full-Colours: Re-awards: C. J. Bray, J. H. Atherton; *Awards*: A. J. Blencowe.

Half-Colours: Re-awards: N. W. Clarke; *Awards*: T. G. Davey.

N. W. CLARKE (*Hon. Secretary*).



1st XI. CRICKET, 1954



Standing (left to right): P. S. H. Williams, J. Gregory, C. R. L. Boden, R. Perry, B. Gross, R. D. Smerdon, G. F. Nicholls
Seated: The Headmaster, T. G. Davey, J. H. Atherton (*Vice-Capt.*), C. J. Bray (*Captain*), A. J. Blencowe,
N. W. Clarke (*Hon. Sec.*), Mr. F. Wayne

THE RUGBY CLUB

Because the team has been severely handicapped by injuries to several of the more experienced players, the 1st XV has had a disappointing season. Although there is ample talent and experience in the team as a whole it has not yet functioned as a balanced combination. However, after Christmas, when we hope to field the team at full strength, with a little more intensive training, a change for the better is anticipated. The 2nd XV has no outstanding brilliance and the season's results are below average.

We must congratulate Hooper and Hay who have been selected to play in the Devon Trial at Exeter.

The Colts XV has excelled this season and few teams have reached their standard for many years. The five boys who played for Plymouth indicate the quality of the team. Of these Griffin and Ellis have been chosen to play for Devon and our best wishes go with them.

The junior teams show enthusiasm and under Mr. Nash's experienced coaching are having, as usual, an outstanding season. Our sincere thanks go to Mr. Mallinson, Mr. Warn and Mr. Nash for their undaunted efforts in training and coaching our teams.

R. F. DOWRICK (*Hon. Secretary*).

THE SOCCER CLUB

The Autumn term has so far been one of reasonable success for the Soccer teams. Disappointingly, however, many games have been cancelled, because of rain, but there have been some very promising displays by most teams.

The 1st XI, containing only three of last year's team, have won three, drawn three, and lost one of their seven games. The one game which was lost was against Torquay, who, although not superior in footballing skill, adapted themselves to the conditions much more readily. On the credit side, however, are fine victories over Liskeard and Seale-Hayne, and if the team persevere in their present type of football, they should have a very successful season.

The 2nd XI, as is usual, have had a mixed start this season. So far they have won three matches, lost four; and drawn one. With a little more determination in defence and more 'cracks at goal' in the attack, they should do reasonably well.

The Colts XI have played only two games; in the first against H.M.S. Fisgard, they lacked team-work and determination and were defeated by two goals to nil. In their other game, against the Technical Secondary School, they improved very considerably and were very worthy winners.

The Under 15 XI have made a good start in the League and they look like maintaining the high standard of previous Under 15

teams. Our congratulations are extended to Beer who has been chosen to play for the Plymouth Schoolboys side again this season, this time as captain.

The Under 14 XI have made an outstandingly good start. They have won all their five matches including an excellent victory against a larger and stronger Liskeard XI.

The Under 13 XI lacks physique but makes a real effort at combined play. The full backs should clear their lines more readily and the inside forwards show more challenge and willingness to shoot. The team's record to date is a very creditable one.

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost
1st XI	...	7	3	1
2nd XI	...	8	3	4
Colts XI	...	2	1	0
Under 15 XI	4	3	0	1
Under 14 XI	5	5	0	0
Under 13 XI	8	6	0	2

We offer our most sincere thanks to the Parents' Association and especially to those ladies who work so hard providing teas for the teams. The Club's thanks are also gratefully extended to the members of Staff who so willingly coach the teams and referee the matches.

R. PERRY (*Hon. Secretary*).

THE TENNIS CLUB

Master-in-Charge : MR. W. J. TAMBLIN. Captain : B. P. GEORGE.

Despite the weather which often rendered the grass courts at Collings Park unfit for play and provided less opportunity for the team to practice, last season was one of the most successful for some years.

In a match that was not finished on account of pouring rain, we reached the winning margin of 5 games to 2, and thus beat Plymouth College for the first time for some years. The return game was "rained off."

The first match of the season—played against H.M.S. Fisgard—was won by 5 games to 4, as was the return match later in the season.

As is usual, we lost to Kelly College, but this time by the reduced margin of 4 games to 5. This was also the result in the return match and, due to the rain, we played both matches at Kelly.

The team comprised, mainly:—George, Colman, Wood, Holding, Rouse, Pullen. Only one of these now remains with Thomas, Breckon, Northcott, Dowrick, Mason and Chatsfield. Next term, practices will be instituted at Beacon Park. This will

also serve to give some practice to the 2nd VI members who were so successful against H.M.S. Fisgard in both their matches. With this strength we should be able to offer reasonable opposition to our opponents.

Finally, next year we hope to have two new fixtures— Dartington Hall and H.M.S. Thunderer.

R. F. DOWRICK (*Secretary*).

The School Play

The production of Aristophanes' "The Birds"
at the Globe Theatre, 17th to 22nd January, 1955.

Apart from student productions and the rare professional appearances of the Oedipus plays, the modern English theatre-goer has little opportunity to see productions of Greek plays. It is difficult for him to make an adequate criticism, because criticism involves standards, and standards imply comparisons. A theatrical generalisation is that plays deserve the audiences they get and conversely audiences get the plays they deserve; if this is true then it might indicate that the Greek play is not in public demand and that its place is in the study with the minor Elizabethan playwrights. Was there then any justification for the production of Aristophanes' "The Birds" at the Globe (17th—22nd January)? This rhetorical question is best answered by first looking at the play and its position in world drama. The Greek comedies had developed out of rather bawdy entertainments, but the laws of the three unities had brought order to the structure of the plays. Aristophanes established himself as the greatest of the comic writers combining the two worlds of phantasy and reality, the whole being veneered with a cynical wit which has rarely been equalled. "The Birds" was written during a period of great trial for Greece and not many years were to pass before the end of Greek democracy; it would seem that Aristophanes sought escape from these events in the world of Cloudcuckopolis. Basic emotions and the eternal truths have not altered much since those days and the words of Aristophanes in Gilbert Murray's translation still hold meaning for a modern audience; it is only the topical allusions, political and social, that have lost their meaning for us. The play has great beauty and is entertaining.

Having established justification for the production, what of the production itself? How would a group of actors without great technical resources respond to a great play from the dawn of the theatre. The keynote of the play is its simplicity and it is this quality that was brought to the production. Coupled with sincerity, it provided a series of satisfying performances as the week progressed, and there was an immeasurable improvement from the dress rehearsal to the last night, indicating that illness had taken

its toll of time that should have been devoted to rehearsal. Albeit I found the overall production a little dry (in the sense "dessèché" rather than "ennui") and it was not helped by a very flat set reminiscent of an advanced travel agency. The colours of the back centre flats were brought down by the cream-coloured side-flats which were obviously for masking and not for decorative purposes. The lighting occasionally cast hard shadows that irritated the eyes, but on the occasions when a specific effect was required, such as the green lighting for the lovely speech by the Leader of the Chorus or the rainbow for the entrance of the Goddess, Iris, then it was very effective.

The music, however, went straight to the heart of the play and theatrical emotions were finely translated into musical terms which, like all good incidental music, continually improved and underlined the stage action. In particular the war dance and the final chorus were most impressive and emotionally disturbing.

There are some schools of theatrical philosophy who believe that it is the actor who finally counts in a production. To me this is patently true and it is by the acting that this production shall stand or fall. There was, of necessity, some unevenness, but with such a large cast this was inevitable. I remember with particular pleasure Kimmens as Euelpides for his innate sense of comedy and Finch for his full-length portrait of "a preposterous thing," Trigger for the clarity of his Hoopoe and Lock for his deliciously solemn priest.

A hall-mark of the Greek play was of course the Chorus and I felt that a great deal of time and work had been spent upon the Chorus. It is not possible to give the name of each member of the two choruses although they deserve it; however, Hill, as the Leader of the Chorus, shall be mentioned for the lovely speech at the opening of Part II.

The role of Pithetaerus is extremely difficult; here is the voice of Aristophanes personified, cynic, philosopher, dictator, humanist, all mankind rolled into one, a formidable task for the greatest technician amongst actors with its long expositions in the first part and its changes of mood in the second. Arnold Leigh's performance improved considerably during the week, until by the Saturday night it stood out above the other actors as a full, fascinating creation. Frequently Zeus himself takes a hand and casts a wonderful spell of magic for one moment in a play, and such a moment occurred on Saturday night after Pithetaerus had heard the news of the building of the wall by the birds; he fell into a reverie from which he was awakened by the Leader of the Chorus asking him if he were amazed. "By the Gods I am and well I may be," replied Pithetaerus. Leigh filled this simple phrase with all the magic that the theatre can hold and I was amazed and well I might be to discover "le mystere du theatre" on a don's night out.

J.S.G.

The Scouts Visit to Luxembourg

On August the 8th a group of twenty-nine excited scouts of the School group, accompanied by Messrs. Cocks and Church, left Plymouth for Luxembourg.

We journeyed by train to Paddington, where we were joined by Messrs. Cross and Hill, and proceeded by tube to Victoria. There we were supposed to collect our camping equipment, which had been sent on some days previously. It wasn't there! but with only half an hour to spare—Vivent les Chemins de Fers Britanniques!—it was found.

We left Victoria at 10.30 p.m., arrived at Dover at 12.07 a.m., and left Dover at 1 a.m. for Ostend. Luckily the sea was calm but it was very cold on deck. We had our first experience of the cost of living abroad, on a Belgian steamer—2s. 8d. for a pot of tea for two.

We arrived at Ostend at 4.30 a.m. Here, after a series of adventures and much discussion with the station officials, we found our baggage once more and finally got aboard our first continental train.

We had 3rd-class wooden seats which were far more comfortable than we had been led to suppose and the carriages and stations were spotlessly clean.

On our arrival in Luxembourg City we were met by Henri Bock of the F.N.E.L. (Fédération Nationale Eclaireaux de Luxembourg), the Luxembourg scouting movement. First we had a continental meal in a restaurant opposite the station, and then walked to Henri's group's headquarters in which we were to stay for the next fortnight.

The day after we arrived, each patrol had to find a famous place of interest, write a log of how they found it and, what is more, to write all conversations which they had with the local inhabitants in French.

The weather during the first week rivalled Plymouth's. It rained heavily all the time except for one morning and an afternoon. It was much better, however, during the second week when a number of the more able boys went on a four-day hike, sleeping in Youth Hostels and scout chalets.

Before we left we had another meal in the same restaurant, and finally at 6 p.m. bade farewell to Henri and Luxembourg.

The trip across the Channel this time was in complete contrast to the one going. It was blowing a gale and the wind practically blew one over. A number of the younger and even some of the older brethren were either sick or turned to that delightful green usual in people with a touch of "mal de mer."

We left in the early hours of the morning when it was still dark, but we arrived at Dover in daylight. The sky was so cloudy that we could not see the sunrise, but when we were still some miles off Dover, the redness of a hidden sunset broke through a layer of patchy cloud and coloured the white cliffs a sinister red.

Each boy had to write out a list of goods which he had bought abroad and after the customs officer had glanced through them we were allowed to pass through the Customs Shed.

In the evening a group of tired but contented Scouts arrived back at North Road Station.

C. J. RUSE.

Out of School Activities

SCIENCE SOCIETY.

This report should first extend the valuable work of the previous Honorary Secretary, by recording the success of the excursions envisaged by him in the July issue. They were much enjoyed by all those members who were able to join the groups, and we thank, most sincerely, the administrators and officials who so hospitably welcomed us to, and so ably conducted us round, the installations visited.

The Society has reoccupied its headquarters in the recently modernised Physics Laboratories in Block D, and it is pleasing to report that many of the various sections, whose activities were curtailed owing to the lack of facilities when we were moved to Block B, are once more showing signs of activity.

The Photographic Section now has a very well appointed darkroom at its disposal, and many boys are making use of the available equipment. It is hoped that the standard of the work produced by this section of the Society will prove to be as high as suggested by the popularity of the Photographic Exhibition, organised by its members at the Garden Party at the end of the Summer Term. At the same function, the Cine Section exhibited "Operation Phoenix," the film of the reconstruction of the school, and this was equally well received. Meteorological reports are once more being posted regularly on the Society's notice boards, which our "Press Agent" is keeping well stocked with articles of scientific interest.

The Annual General Meeting of the Society was held at the end of last term. At this meeting the resignations of the retiring officers were accepted, and the officials for the coming year were elected, R. T. F. Williams (U.6), becoming Chairman, and M. W. Parnell (6S), Vice-Chairman. The new committee has decided to continue the two performances of films on Tuesdays, even

though we now have a shorter lunch hour, and has also introduced a system of membership cards which, it is hoped, will greatly assist in the efficient running of the Society.

At the time of going to press, many films on various topics, ranging from the production of thermionic valves to a lesson on cooking by Philip Harben, have been seen by members, and those worthy of special mention are "Ultrasonics," "High Temperature Flame, Master of Metals," "The Vital Flame" and "The Moving Spirit." The Society has also enjoyed four lectures so far this session, one by Mr. H. Holliday, of Messrs. Chubb and Sons, Ltd., Lock and Safe Manufacturers, who came from Bristol to give an illustrated talk on "Locking Devices," and another by Mr. W. A. Gibson-Martin, who came from Liverpool to deliver an address on "Steel." Two more recent ones were by Mr. E. O. Goss, Superintendent Radiographer at the South Devon and East Cornwall Hospital, Greenbank, who gave us an amusing, illustrated talk on "X-Rays," and by Mr. Dumbell, Chief Chemist of the Amalgamated Limestone Corporation Ltd., to whom we are especially grateful for presenting a most interesting paper on "Cement Manufacture." We are very grateful to these gentlemen, and to the organisations which they represent.

The sincere thanks of the Society is also extended to the Royal Corinthian Yacht Club, which entertained a party of members on the occasion of a lecture given by Mr. Russell Adams, Chief Photographer of the Gloster Aircraft Company, an accomplished Old Boy of the School, whose visit two years ago was so much appreciated.

C. E. MATTHEWS (*Honorary Secretary*).

THE SCHOOL LIBRARY.

The Library has now been firmly established in its temporary quarters at the bottom of Block 'B.' This room, though adequate in space, is rather dark and generally leaves much to be desired aesthetically. However, it seems possible that we shall be able to shift back into Block 'C' next September or October.

The Third-Formers chosen to be this year's Junior Librarians are Coldwell, Chiswell, Palmer, Gilbert and Wonnacott of IIIA. It is already quite obvious that these boys will maintain the excellent standard of their predecessors. These latter, however, have not resigned, we are pleased to note. They have taken on the tedious task of being responsible for the appearance of the shelves in the Senior Library—a duty which they are performing admirably.

The Senior Library is still being excellently managed by last year's team: Adams, Blackler, Mantle and Share—and three newcomers: Flemen (6A), Andrews (6A) and Jeffery (U.6A). We realise that these boys are all sitting for major examinations

in the near future, and it is to their credit that they find time to run so large a concern as the Library in addition to the rest of their work.

We are deeply grateful to all the boys who have presented a book to the Library as a token of their gratitude for the benefits they have received from the School, and we hope that this purely unofficial practice will be continued. R. PERRY (*Hon. Librarian*).

FIELD CLUB.

To aid the newcomers in bird identification, several expeditions were undertaken in the summer term. A "Warbler" hunt was organised which resulted in the song of the rare and elusive Grasshopper, among others, being heard. Three evening excursions to Bickleigh Vale were arranged in order to see the Nightjars. The bird sanctuary at Wembury was also visited.

The Club has become a corporate member of the Devon Bird-Watching and Preservation Society and five senior boys are partaking in the National Wildfowl Count by recording the wild-fowl on the River Erme estuary once a month.

We have also started a 'gull count on the Creek. This provides good practice in field-work and will aid us in keeping a wary eye for rare birds on the Creek.

During the year it is hoped to arrange Bird-watching trips to Berry Head and the River Exe.

The activities of the Club are now being extended to cover, as far as possible, all activities which come under the comprehensive term "Field Work." A survey of Bickleigh Vale is being organised and it is hoped to include Geological and Historical as well as the Ecological survey.

P. F. Goodfellow has left for the U.C.S.W. and we wish to thank him for the assistance he gave to the Field Club while at D.H.S.

PET SECTION.

The Field Club has branched out to form a "pet-keeping" section. The mortuary, which for so long harboured the dead, now houses a lively and ever-growing number of pets. At present the "stock" consists of rabbits, mice, pigeons, frogs, toads, lizards and a budgy, with more to come when space for them can be found. The housing problem, as elsewhere, is very acute, and we have been forced to resort to the skyscraper.

It is the aim of the Section to encourage the keeping of animals of any kind, believing that an understanding of animal life comes not only from observation of wild animals in their natural environments, but also from the observation of the most common or garden domestic pet.

C. J. RUSE (*Hon. Secretary*).

LITERARY AND DEBATING SOCIETY.

Our first meeting this term was held late, owing to House Rugger matches, which were played on Wednesday evenings, the Society's meeting night. At this meeting the resignation of last year's secretary, owing to pressure of work, was regretfully accepted.

The Society now meets on Tuesdays. This is the evening on which the Science Society also meets, and the Debating Society are invited to attend en bloc the meetings of the former when they have an outside speaker.

A balloon debate has been held, which was enjoyed by all who attended. The characters in the balloon were a Communist, a Contemporary Artist, a Biologist, and a Member of the Plymouth City Council, ably represented by Miller, Atherton, Holding and Andrews respectively. It was decided that the Biologist should remain in the balloon.

A debate deplored capital punishment, proposed by B. Childe and opposed by B. Wilson, was defeated by nineteen votes after a spirited debate.

Our thanks are extended to both Sutton High School and St. Dunstan's, for invitations to their Inter-Schools' Debates. At the first, the motion, "That contemporary arts are decadent," was defeated by one hundred and twenty-eight votes to sixteen, and at the second, the motion, "That this house believes examinations are useless to discover the best man," was defeated by ninety-four votes to thirty-four.

The Annual Debate at the Plymouth Y.M.C.A. was a resounding success, and the motion, "That modern entertainment is corrupting youth," was carried only after a lively debate.

The Autumn end-of-term debate was on Jazz and was held before a large number from the Middle and Upper School in the School Hall. The motion, "That Jazz is out of place in a modern civilized community," was proposed by Atherton. His main point, after dealing with the origin of Jazz, was that Jazz appealed solely to the emotions and so should be rejected.

Holding opposed the motion and proceeded to dispel all the arguments given against Jazz. He said that Jazz was not meant to convey the deepest emotions, but to give an outlet to the creative urge of man.

The main speakers were seconded by Mantle and Kimmins respectively, who gave sound speeches which were curtailed by the shortage of time. This unfortunate factor also lessened the number of speeches that could be had from the floor.

After each of the main speakers had summed up, the vote was taken, and the result was one hundred and ten in favour to one hundred and sixteen against the motion, with eighty-two abstentions. Our thanks are due to our Chairman, Mr. Clark, and to Mr. Self who gave some musical illustrations on the piano.

B. CHILDES (*Secretary*).

POST-WAR SOCIETY.

The Christmas term conference was held at Stoke Damerel High School for Girls on December 3rd. "The Press and Publicity" was the general subject for discussion. First on the day's agenda was a short service conducted in St. Michael's Church by the Vicar, the Rev. M. Heath. The address was given by the Rev. W. H. A. Cooper, whose main point was that one should beware of being dazzled by the high degree of colouring used today in newspaper articles and advertisements.

Lunch, served by our extremely considerate hostesses, was followed at 1.15 p.m. by the Brains Trust which comprised: the Rev. W. H. A. Cooper, Dr. H. J. Hewitt, and Messrs. W. Best Harris, N. A. T. Vinson, P. Walshaw and A. D. M. Priestley. This panel proved very capable and sufficiently versed in the subject to answer the varied questions with which they were confronted. The group discussions following the Brains Trust were summed up briefly by the team when they returned to the platform.

Tea was taken at 4.15 p.m. and the day's proceedings came to an end with the customary evening social, lasting from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

JOHN H. ATHERTON.

THE SCHOOL CHOIR.

The first two weeks of last term saw intensive choir practices which culminated in successful singing at Speech Day. The choir started in a confident mood with "Folly's Song." Next were two madrigals: "Hard by a fountain" and "Come let us all a-maying go." The Lord Mayor's address was followed by "Bring us in good ale." Here, the expression on Mr. Self's face told us that even he thought that we had sung it well. The delight of the choir that evening prompts the quotation from Twelfth Night:

"I take pleasure in singing, sir."

Of those who have recently left school we remember Brooks, Purchase, Rich, Wood, Cross, Woodfield and Truscott, who have all given good service. We especially miss Goodfellow, who for many years has been a faithful and conscientious member of the basses. We thank them for loyal service rendered.

At the time of writing, the Christmas-tide service had not taken place. Some new carols will have been sung this year as well as the customary ones; the new carols include "The Crown of Roses" and "The Infant King." We look ahead to the Music Concert in the spring when we intend to perform Handel's "Saul."

I cannot end these notes without a sincere word of thanks on behalf of the choir to Mr. Self, whose untiring efforts in training us do not go unnoticed, indeed, they are greatly appreciated. Thank you, Sir.

A. R. LEIGH (*Hon. Secretary*).

CHESS CLUB.

The Senior team has won all its five matches in the first half of the "Goodman Cup" Competition which they won last year for the first time. This year they have entered the "Moyle Cup" Competition which is one of the competitions run by the Devon County Chess Organisation and is open to any club in the county. Only one match has been played in this competition so far, and this we lost to Exeter Chess Club ($2\frac{1}{2}$ — $3\frac{1}{2}$). We wish to thank the Ladies' Committee of the Parents' Association for the excellent tea which they provided and served on this occasion.

The Junior Team (Under 15 years) has also had a successful season, recording two wins and a draw. We have at the request of other schools fielded special teams with a lower age limit. Now we are trying to arrange matches for an under 13 team, and would like all boys who are interested in playing for this team to contact the Secretary.

In the House Competition the rivalry has been much keener than usual. Raleigh has lost its clear supremacy of the last three years. The present position is:—Gilbert and Raleigh (8 pts.); Drake and Grenville (6 pts.) This year we congratulate R. T. F. Williams on being placed equal fifteenth in the British Boys' Championship at Nottingham. J. D. Mills, being the School Chess Champion, is therefore an honorary member of the Plymouth Chess Club, and this year has won their Taylor Trophy (one of the five trophies open to competition among club members). Both J. D. Mills and R. T. F. Williams have played for the Senior Devon County Team against Cornwall, winning all their games.

The Club now meets in 4A room on Monday and Wednesday evenings, and every lunch-hour. We should like to see all those interested in the game attending these meetings. Beginners will be very welcome.

J. D. MILLS (*Captain*).

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

MUSIC CLUB.

Statistics show that a relatively small proportion of the School is responsible for maintaining an increasingly large number of clubs; consequently, clashing loyalties and the time-factor have taken their toll of not a few societies. It is, therefore, not surprising that, although the music club has a membership of just under twenty it has been difficult to maintain a steady attendance of even half that number, in spite of the tempting programmes offered.

The activities this term have consisted of plain gramophone recitals, except for one programme of Gilbert and Sullivan in which Lancaster presented "Trial by Jury." At Mr. Self's instigation, the innovation of dinner-hour "live" concerts, in which

performers have been drawn entirely from the school, has been started. The success of this venture in the future will depend upon the number willing to contribute, the talent is present.

The first concert this term arranged by the Plymouth and District Grammar Schools Music Society Committee, was held at Plymouth College, and was to have consisted of music taken from the sound-track of the film "Tales of Hoffmann," but owing to a failure in the gramophone—bought by the society for use exclusively at these recitals—it could not be played. Instead the audience heard excerpts from "Carmen" on 78 r.p.m. records. Further attractions were to have been the film "Henry V," chosen for its background music, and an illustrated talk by Anthony Hopkins, the well-known composer and broadcaster. Unfortunately, neither was available at the last moment. To avoid clashes with Christmas arrangements the P.D.G.S.M.S. dance was held in the school assembly hall at half term.

J. H. ATHERTON (*Hon. Secretary*).

CHRISTIAN UNION.

Unlike the societies which cease activities during the summer, the Christian Union has continued to pass from strength to strength throughout the whole year; it is now decidedly one of the most active groups in the school, owing to the enthusiasm of its nucleus of staunch members. A comprehensive programme for the Christmas term, worked out by the committee during the summer holidays, has since proved to be sufficiently attractive to maintain an average attendance of approximately a dozen.

The general plan of having a meeting after school on Wednesdays and a short service in Stoke Damerel Church each Friday dinner-hour has been continued this term. As a rule, one meeting a fortnight is devoted to Bible-study and discussion: one of the members gives a short introduction to the passage under consideration—taken this term from the Gospel according to St. Luke—and general questions and answers ensue. In the alternate weeks the Union is usually addressed by outside speakers, who base their talks on personal experiences. The "Any Questions" this term proved to be of the utmost interest, since the panel consisted of the Rev. W. H. A. Cooper, the Rev. J. H. Chamberlayne, and Messrs. Austin and Whitfeld, who were plied with very searching questions on the Christian faith and its relevance to the contemporary world.

It must be duly emphasised that the primary function of the Christian Union is to help people to straighten out their difficulties and doubts concerning the Christian faith, and not to provide training for a clique of prospective parsons.

JOHN H. ATHERTON (*Hon. Secretary*).

MIDDLE SCHOOL SOCIAL CLUB.

In the Editorial of last term's School Magazine the existence of and reasons for a Middle School Social Club were mentioned. This club, which was instituted by B. Cross, is now well under way. It is open to any boy in the Fourth Form and those of the Fifth who were in the Fourth Form last year. The subscription has been agreed upon by the members themselves to be one shilling, and over a hundred boys have joined. The meetings this year are on Wednesday evenings for the Fourth Form and Friday evenings for the Fifth.

The main activity is table-tennis and the members, with the indispensable help of Mr. Quarterman, are constructing a table to overcome the present situation of having only one—and that a borrowed one! Billiards and snooker are also extremely popular and the club's most sincere thanks are extended to Mr. and Mrs. Perry and to Mr. and Mrs. Cross for each presenting a table and equipment. Another popular activity is badminton, and it is pleasing to note that quite a number of members are becoming reasonably proficient in this fast and skilful game. Every club-evening a dancing-class is held and now every member can attempt a Waltz or Quick-step with some confidence.

At present an immense amount of interest is being shown and it certainly seems as if the club will thrive. So far this term there have not been less than 45 members at any Fourth-Form meeting or less than 30 at any Fifth-Form meeting. Hopes for the future are high.

N. DINGLE (*Hon. Secretary*).

DANCING CLUB.

The Dancing Club, in conjunction with the Devonport High School for Girls, has again been holding its weekly classes this term. The club, of necessity limited to members of the Upper and Middle Sixth, has maintained a stable membership throughout the term, an improvement on previous years.

Apart from five veterans, the members who entered the club this term were mostly without any experience of Modern Ballroom Dancing. They have, however, learned in a creditably short time the basic steps and some elementary technique, with the result that they are now able to approach the dance-floor with some degree of confidence.

The aim of the club is to help its members to overcome social self-consciousness, in which modest endeavour it is succeeding remarkably well.

We should like to offer our thanks to our pianist, Mrs. Bradley, and to our instructor, Mr. Butt, for their kind assistance and patient tuition; we must also sincerely congratulate our partners for their uncomplaining perseverance. B. Y. LANGDON (*Hon. Secretary*).

THE JAZZ CLUB.

Early last term some members of the Sixth Form suggested the institution of a Jazz Club with the avowed purpose of uniting an appreciation of this recognised element of music with the entry of those pupils who can find no place in the other societies of the School.

Initially there was a tendency towards Swing (with its main exponents Bestick and Kenton), but after a few meetings the emphasis had swung to Traditional—New Orleans jazz (Armstrong and Biederbecke). This may have been due to an excellent and extremely informative interpretation of this style by Mr. Adams. The examples that he played were some of the supreme examples of this style. A similar talk was to have been given by a master from Plympton Grammar School but on the Chicago idiom (Armstrong and Ellington, D.). Ford also gave a talk, illustrated from his collection, and this emphasised the immense popularity of Sweet Music (Glen Miller). Similarly appreciated is the Afro-Cuban style (Bellson).

However, we are most anxious to receive suggestions to aid what is still a young club. This club meets at 4.10 p.m. on Thursdays, and any members of the Fifth and Sixth forms are welcome.

G. A. LANCASTER (*Secretary*).

SCOUT LOG.

Unfortunately, owing to pressure of business, Mr. Cocks has had to leave us. We wish to thank him sincerely for his generosity in devoting so much of his precious time to helping us.

In his place we are pleased to welcome as our new Scoutmaster, Mr. Bowden, who is also an Old Boy of the school.

This year's crowning event, for which we thank Mr. Cocks, was the Summer Camp held in Luxembourg. Twenty-nine boys, the highest number which has attended a Summer Camp, spent seventeen days abroad for the meagre price of ten guineas apiece.

The membership of the Group at the moment is 33. There are five junior patrols, and one senior. The seniors are hoping for a patrol of Queen Scouts and one third of the junior troop have their first class, of whom eight have their Scout's Cord. A number of others have to gain only their First Class, or a few badges, for their Scout's Cord.

In conclusion we should like to thank our hardworking Parents' Committee who provide us with the income without which many of our Scouting activities would have to be curtailed. C. J. RUSE.

On Friday, January 7th, a social evening was held in the Scout Hut, to which Mr. Cocks, our late Scoutmaster, was invited. The photographs taken in Luxembourg were judged and the winner was declared to be Senior Scout C. Webb.

Mr. Cocks was presented with an engraved desk calendar by Mr. Bowden in appreciation of the work done by him in previous years. In his reply Mr. Cocks thanked him for the gift, said what a wonderful adventure the previous years had been and related some of the amusing things that had happened at various camps and especially on the Luxembourg trip. He congratulated Troop Leader Allan Trigger on gaining his Queen's Scout's Badge: the evening ended with a camp fire and prayers which were read by Mr. Church, our Assistant Scoutmaster.

TABLE-TENNIS CLUB.

*Master-in-Charge: MR. WARREN. Hon. Treasurer: B. Y. LANGDON.
Hon. Secretary: M. R. PINE.*

The past year has seen a considerable improvement in the general standard of play. In recent years unsatisfactory equipment and playing facilities have prevented any inter-school matches. This term, however, the Table-Tennis Club is fortunate that it has acquired the use of a more spacious room and the school table has been repaired and repainted, thanks to the efforts of the School carpenter.

With a view to inter-school fixtures, trials are being held to decide the school team, which will be chosen from the following: Pine (*Captain*), Langdon, Holding, Clarke, Lamb and Whitear.

The annual match with the Staff, which was won by the School by 7 games to 4, proved to be as popular as ever. Once again we must marvel at Messrs. Barkell, Sherwood and Warren, who although their only practice was provided by the school-tournament, gave excellent displays.

We take this opportunity of thanking J. Ede for the efficient and energetic way in which he ran the Table Tennis Tournament, and offer him our congratulations on winning the Singles Title for the second year in succession. We also congratulate Mr. Barkell and Mr. Sherwood who were a particularly strong combination, on winning the Doubles Title, and Buzzo, the Junior Champion.

As in past years, the club is, of necessity, restricted to the fortunate few of the second and third-year Sixth.

M. R. PINE, U.6A (*Hon. Secretary*).

STAMP CLUB.

The Stamp Club meets regularly in 5S. Form Room on Wednesday evenings after school, under the guidance of Mr. Hopford.

So far this term an interesting series of talks on Stamp Collecting have been given. One evening a Club Photograph was taken, thanks being due to our Chairman, Mr. Hopford. Some evenings have been devoted primarily to album work and the sale of

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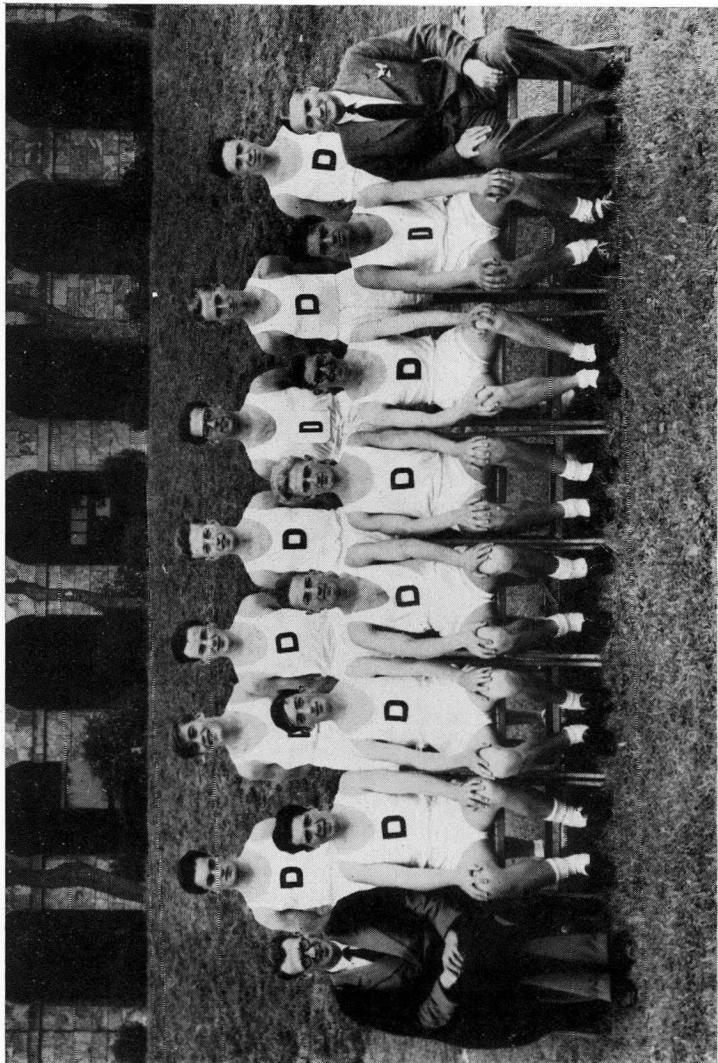
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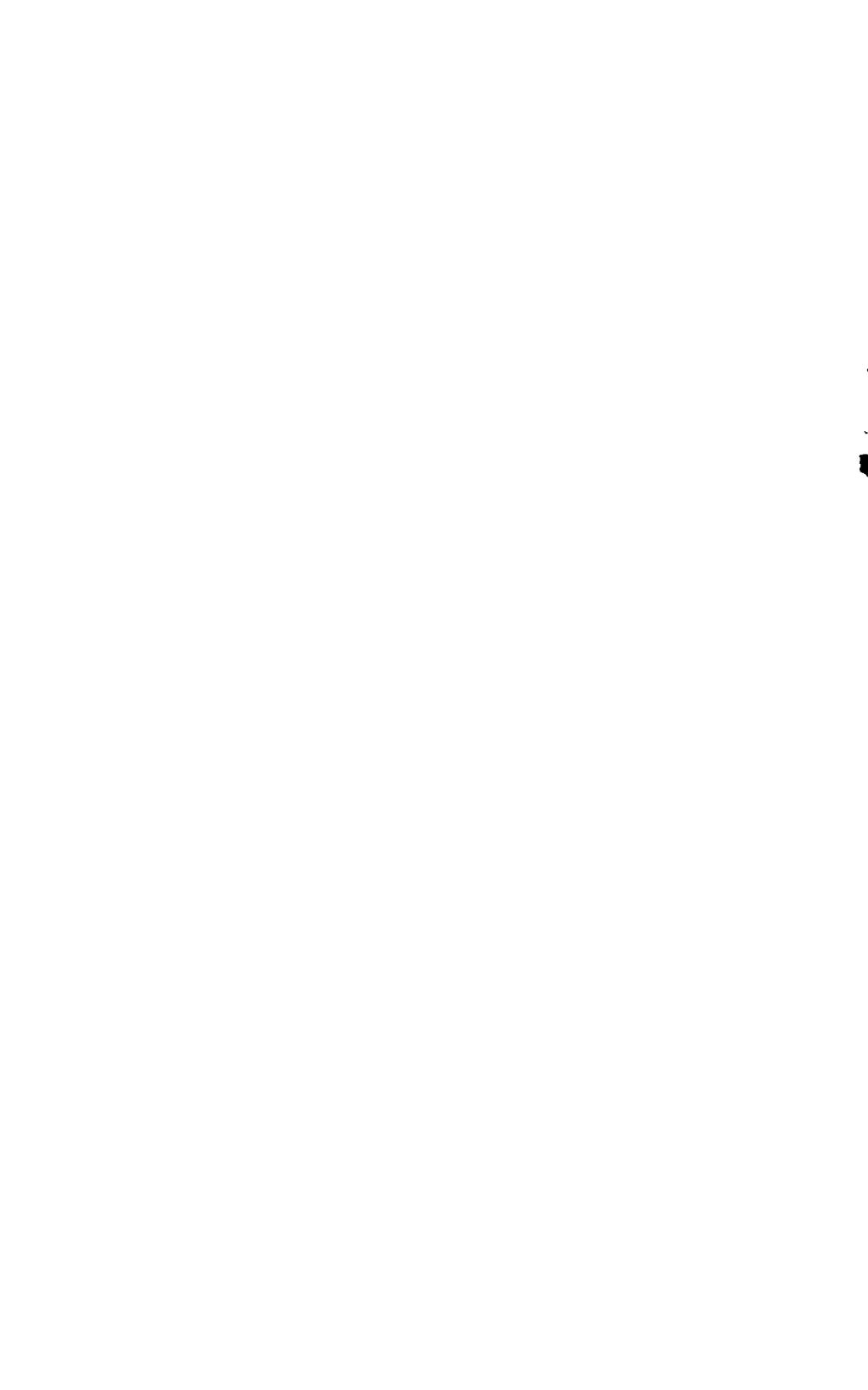
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SENIOR ATHLETIC TEAM, 1954



*Standing (left to right) : W. J. Foster, P. P. Wickenden, M. J. Allison, M. W. Parnell, D. J. Purchase, E. Damerell,
R. G. Conybear
Seated : The Headmaster, R. J. Bond, J. R. Breckon, P. M. Miller, L. A. Middleton (*Secretary*), B. P. George,
P. J. Congdon, Mr. W. Nash*



approvals. At the time of writing everyone is busy preparing entries for an Album Competition to be held shortly. Recently a Thematic Competition was held and the quality of the entries was surprisingly high. The winner of this Competition was C. J. Booth with a fine sheet of stamps. Meetings held at the end of the term included two Stamp Auctions, and the showing of some film strips. We are also hoping to revive later this term the traditional visit to the G.P.O.'s Sorting Office at Pennycomequick to see the manner in which Christmas mail is dealt with.

We have recently lost the services of Lancaster as Club Secretary. The work he has put in cannot be over-appreciated by the members, and I am sure that I am right in thanking him on behalf of all.

A recent increase in the Club's membership is noted with satisfaction, but there is a marked lack of support from the Upper School. To Stamp Collectors in the Middle School we say: come to Club meetings, you are missing golden opportunities.

M. J. A. GRIFFITH (*Hon. Secretary*).

Correspondence

Dear Sir,

A few weeks before I left home, I was informed that the school I would be attending in England was called Devonport High School for Boys. I knew nothing of your school at that time.

In the few weeks that I have been here, I have enjoyed many new experiences and learnt much about you.

Naturally I have had difficulties, but with the help of both staff and boys, I have overcome them. I am very grateful for the assistance that all have given me in helping me to settle into the daily routine and to grapple with the different subjects.

Before I came to England, I had heard that boys the world over were very much alike, but until I came to D.H.S., I did not realise that I could have so many good friends.

I receive more homework here than I did at home but I am sure I shall get used to it. One of the reasons that I had less homework at Shawnee Mission was that I had an hour and a half set aside each day for study.

The school dinners are not so inviting as those at home. I miss the "hamburgers," "hot dogs," and ice cream.

I like the remodelled section of the school buildings, which in some ways are better than those at home.

All together, I have greatly enjoyed the time that I have been in this school and I am hoping that the rest of the year will be just as enjoyable.

BOB MACLEAN,
*from Quivvia Lake,
Kansas City, 3,
Kansas, U.S.A.*

Wilmington,
Delaware,
U.S.A.

Dear Sir,

It was 434 years ago that the Pilgrim Fathers sailed from the Mayflower Steps, the majority of them never again to see the city of Plymouth. Throughout my year's stay, I can feel more fortunate than they in the knowledge that at the end I shall be returning to my native city and to Devonport High School, but, even so, as I sailed down the English Channel, and caught the last glimpse of the Eddystone I felt, just like those early settlers must have done, on the brink of a great adventure.

The voyage across the Atlantic on board the *M.S. Seven Seas* took ten days. The Council of Student Travel provided a wonderful programme, but alas ! I was not to enjoy all of it, the railings taking a heavy toll of my time during the storm and the hurricane which we ran into. However I am glad to say it did not seem long before the joyful shout of "Land !" was heard and I was gazing in absolute wonder and amazement at the New York skyline.

It was September 13th when we arrived, and before midnight I was gazing down on a most magnificent spectacle from the 102nd floor of the Empire State building. It was dark, and New York was just a fabulous maze of lights stretching away for miles beneath this gigantic building. During my week in New York I was to see many sights, from the interior of the wealthy great Stock Exchange, to the slums of China Town, but nothing impressed me more than the United Nations' Building. As a young boy I could not imagine people arguing in such magnificent surroundings, and I now consider that if eternal peace is to be achieved then here is a splendid place to do it.

From New York I proceeded to Wilmington, a large semi-chemical industrial town. Here I was given a wonderful welcome by the family with which I am to stay for the year. Indeed, I found every American I have met friendly, informal and generous, and everywhere I am made to feel at home. Especially in my new school, which has the same colours as D.H.S., I have made many friends. School, of course, is very different, and the Junior School would revel in the almost non-existent state of discipline.

Amongst other highlights of my trip have been an interview with the Mayor of Wilmington when I had the honour to present a letter from Alderman E. W. Perry, Lord Mayor of Plymouth, and a week's visit to Boston, including a day at Harvard University, where my school uniform roused considerable interest. I have also had an opportunity to broadcast on the (State) radio-network. In the near future I expect to visit Atlanta, Georgia, and to be in New York during the Queen Mother's visit there.

Perhaps one of my greatest thrills and, undoubtedly, one of the educational values of my trip has been to meet and talk with pupils from no less than thirteen different countries. On the voyage over, I shared a cabin with a French and a Greek boy, and one from that distant Celtic land of Wales. In my school there is an exchange student from Japan, whilst in Wilmington there is also one from Turkey. Occasionally all the foreign students meet, and there is always one point on which we all agree, namely, that we have been given a wonderful reception, and that everybody has endeavoured to make us feel at home in the United States.

About the nation itself, it is really surprising that the various nationalities have been so well blended together; and a great spirit of patriotism has been created, the oath of allegiance being sworn to the American flag every morning, in my class. Occasionally I feel that this spirit and the removal of any inferiority complexes, has been created to the abandonment of some of the principles of discipline, respect for seniority, and serious thinking, among the younger people.

My school is co-educational and comprehensive, and briefly I will endeavour to describe a day in a school of 1,500. I arrive at school at 8.15 a.m., school beginning at about 8.25 a.m. There is no morning assembly, but before periods begin at 8.45 a.m. registration is taken, the teacher gives a short Bible reading, and a prayer, and the oath of allegiance is taken. Then the principal gives the announcements over the public address system. There are eight class-periods of forty-five minutes each a day, and these are always in the same order. First I have American History, then Problems of Democracy (a study of sociology). This is followed by French and English, which I generally use for private study, and then the best period of all—lunch. My seventh period is Latin. The last period which ends at 3.15 p.m. is usually devoted entirely to extra-curriculum activities. School is, therefore, much easier. There is little preparation and—a junior's paradise—no prefects. The policy of such education is, I would say, to train people so that they are easily adaptable socially to life after school rather than to train the brain to assimilate factual knowledge and to think seriously.

Before ending I should like to say how happy I am to have been given the opportunity and honour of this experience, and to wish D.H.S. every success in the present academic year.

R. A. MILLER.

A NEW UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.

Dear Sir,

No doubt there are a few people who have never heard of the University College of North Staffordshire, let alone Keele Hall. For their information, Keele Hall is situated about three miles to

the west of Newcastle-under-Lyme, and was, until recently, the home of the Sneyd family.

U.C.N.S. is, to say the least, different. For a long time numerous university professors and others have held the opinion that a university education at any of the old universities and university college, was too specialised and did not produce an educated student in the true sense of the word. Their combined efforts culminated in the foundation of U.C.N.S. by the grant of a Charter of Incorporation, sealed and signed on the 11th August, 1949. Here's your excuse, you "few." The Charter empowers the College to confer the Degree of B.A. That's the first difference: a university college awarding its own degree.

The first students arrived in October, 1950. They probably thought they had come to the wrong place when they first saw the estate. All that was to be seen were rows of army huts, the foundations of permanent buildings (now completed and forming the scientific blocks) and, almost completely hidden by trees, Keele Hall itself. Here I must inform you that U.C.N.S. is completely residential, the army huts being the desirable residences. However, these huts have been renovated and modern furniture put in to produce a pleasing interior with electricity and central heating laid on—different by far from the time when the estate was used as an army camp. These huts are divided into Lindsay Hall, for women, and Horwood Hall, for men. There is also a large private house and grounds, in the village of Keele not far away, used also for men. There are incidentally only about 600 students, a third of them women. This small number allows for close co-operation between the academic staff and students, a very great advantage not to be had in many (if any) other universities.

The course itself is unusual in that it lasts for four years instead of the usual three. The extra year is added so that the Foundation Year Lectures may be given. It is these lectures, dealing with the Development of Western Civilisation from earliest known evidence of man to the present day, Man and his Environment and the Industrial Revolution, which are meant to provide, in part at least, the general education of the student. There are ten of these lectures a week and these are backed by discussion groups of six or seven students, with a professor or senior lecturer as chairman, meeting once a week to discuss the matter of the week's lectures. Added to these the first year student has to take two or three principal subjects together with two or three subsidiary subjects to total five subjects together. Of these subjects at least one must be taken from each of the groups A, B and C, listed below:—

A. English Language and Literature, History, Latin, Greek, French, German, Philosophy, Historical Theology.

B. Economics, Political Institutions, Geography, Social Studies,

Political and Moral Philosophy, Theory and Practice of Education, Psychology.

C. Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Geology.

The subsidiary subjects are taken for each of the three terms of the first year whilst the principal subjects are taken for one term only with the sole exception of Mathematics, which has to be taken for the three terms in any case. Subsidiary subjects are normally taken for two or three years whilst the principal subjects are taken for the degree course which begins in earnest in the second year. This doesn't mean that the first year may be neglected as the student has to qualify by examination at the end of the year before proceeding to the degree course. The student is not committed to the subjects for his degree course until the end of the first year. He may change his mind during the year, usually the first term, and take up a subject he has never previously studied. Such cases are rare, however, and the student normally takes the subjects that he took in the G.C.E. at the advanced level, or its "equivalent," as his principal subjects.

The student at Keele has therefore a stable pyramid of education starting with the broad first year education at the base and building upwards and consolidating his knowledge to the specialised peak whereas at other universities the trend is to produce an unstable column of specialised knowledge from top to bottom with no firm foundation. It must however be clearly understood that Keele is still in the experimental stage and the syllabus is still being much modified when any improvement is foreseen. It remains to be seen whether or not the experiment will be successful, and with the first graduates, who left at the end of the last session, go all the best wishes and hopes of their tutors and the students following in their steps. To end on a cheerful note, however, it is almost certain that the experiment will be a great success and that U.C.N.S. will soon be as well established as the other universities of the country.

Two of the guinea-pigs,

MICHAEL J. RICH.
PETER WARLOW.

H.M.S. Britannia,
Royal Naval College,
Dartmouth.

Dear Sir,

Because of drastic changes in the initial stages of training this letter will be of little use to prospective naval officers now at school. Only about thirty per cent of the officers in the Royal Navy pass through Dartmouth, and of that percentage the majority are in the Executive Branches; and there is very little branch training at

Dartmouth, and in fact a limited amount of naval training, although we live always in a naval atmosphere: one-tenth of our time is used for seamanship and but one week in each term for engineering.

In the second term at the college a cadet can ask to be considered for an Alpha, as it is called, and all the 'term' takes an examination on the results of which depends the number of Alphas promoted. Thus a cadet is helped to concentrate on the subjects that he likes best. This examination marks the end of the settling-in period which is very necessary because of the variation in the educational standards of new entrants. At the end of the fifth term the first half of the Passing-Out examination is taken, the remainder being taken in the sixth term.

The College is divided into four houses—Grenville, Blake, St. Vincent and Exmouth, and in charge of each is a House Officer and three Cadet Captains, the latter being much like prefects, one coming from the fifth and two from the sixth terms. A Chief Cadet Captain, with no house ties, is responsible for internal affairs. Each house has two small cabins for the three Cadet Captains while the rest of us live in gunrooms which are large and heavily furnished.

We have at least two hours for recreation each day, and more on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays. Each weekday we have a spare period of twenty minutes after breakfast, and this is usually devoted to parades. On weekdays we are inspected by Cadet Captains, and on Sundays by the Captain of the College.

There are few river activities in the winter, but in summer the river is often packed with college boats. We have our gym and swimming baths next to the squash courts, and near the rugger, hockey and cricket pitches are the kennels for the beagles that chase hares and sometimes catch them. Behind the sick bay or doctor's surgery is the point-two-two shooting range next to the "radio shack" where we can send signals to or receive signals from most of the other schools in the West Country, while above these are the main tennis courts.

Our library is large, and Alphas have the privilege of doing their prep there. In winter we have a film each week and an occasional play put on by members of the college: there are also occasional lectures. We eat in mess halls, and it is traditional to grumble about the food, but we have a N.A.A.F.I. canteen where we can supplement our meals. Another grumble is our pay—four shillings a week. We are not allowed to smoke, but in the sixth term may have beer in the canteen provided for the Benbows; we have our own chapel and chaplain, and we must attend morning service on Sundays.

The present course at Dartmouth takes six terms or two years, but in future it will take about four years, cadets will join at

eighteen, will have several cruises on a squadron based on Dartmouth, and at the end of the course will go straight to the fleet. It seems that my 'term' will be the last midshipmen, R.N., in the fleet.

Yours sincerely,

D. A. ROWE.

Kitchener Hall,
Royal Military College of Science,
Shrivenham,
Nr. Swindon, Wilts.

Dear Sir,

We have now re-assembled at Shrivenham for a further year and since I wrote last R. Hancock has joined our members; he came first at Christmas for an Intermediate course and having obtained the same returned in October on a degree course.

We had a surprise visitor last week namely Mr. S. G. Barker who was on an official visit arranged for headmasters from various schools. He came and found those of us whom he knew and requested that we should convey his sincerest wishes to the school when writing, which I have the greatest pleasure in doing.

R. Juniper, whose rugger ability many of us have admired, played at centre for the college 1st XV for the greater part of last season, but has now decided to revert to his old position of prop. forward and has, of course, started playing for the 1st XV again. R. Hancock plays occasionally, and yours truly turns out for the 3rd XV.

The pressure of work is beginning to bear heavily now. Juniper takes his Part I Engineering (in March); Alan Honey has his finals in Chemistry next summer, and I also have Part I Chemistry next June.

We all send our best wishes to the school for this coming year and hope it be a successful one academically and otherwise.

Yours sincerely,

D. F. PARR.

64, Rothmans Avenue,
Chelmsford, Essex.

Dear Sir,

I am writing this letter to ask if you would kindly let me know the date of the "Old Boys" dinner.

I am quite settled down here now in a company house. I teach part time at the Mid-Essex Technical College. They mainly take H.N.C. here, and I am taking one of the final years in—wait for it—mathematics.

Remember me to all the fellows, and all the best to the rugger club.

Yours sincerely,

K. S. CHAPMAN.

CAMBRIDGE LETTER.

St. Catharine's College,
Cambridge.

Dear Sir,

Had you been present one evening last week in the main court of this College, you would soon have realised that speeches were being made and toasts proposed in the Hall. Michaelmas in Cath's is a term of special celebration. We were commemorating the Feast of St. Catharine of Alexandria, our patroness and the guardian saint of learning, with both ecclesiastical and later gastronomic honours. The day ends with a fine dinner to celebrate the gift to the Governing Body of a large estate by the will of a certain Mrs. Ramsden in 1743, which amounted to what was essentially a re-foundation of the College. She was a strong-willed and certainly a wise woman to insist that a sumptuous dinner be served to us annually in order to perpetuate the memory of her benefaction. I, who occupy a room of fine eighteenth century proportions, have additional reason to be grateful to her, since the bequest served to build these elegant chambers.

I mention this commemoration because it may give you some idea of the current of tradition within which one's life is shaped in this University. The great strength of this place is the combined traditions of the proud and independent little communities, the colleges, of which it consists, all properly jealous of their particular histories and customs, occupying buildings which demonstrate their antiquity, guarding and nurturing their particular individualities. The consciousness of the traditions of one's own community gives each man therein a sense of continuity with the past and a sense of security by personal identification with the body of the College in the present and the past.

To prevent this letter becoming an essay on the subject of tradition in community, I must tell you of a very striking event which took place here this term. I heard Dr. Martin Niemöller, the famous Lutheran leader and opponent of Nazism, preach in the University Church. He had just returned from the Evanston meeting of the World Council of Churches and was spending a week in Cambridge talking, addressing meetings and preaching about that conference. It would not be an exaggeration to say that the eschatological accent, the sense of living, spiritually and physically on the edge of a dangerous volcano, is one which one never hears from speakers in this country. Here is a man who has spent seven years in Nazi Concentration camps, including the notorious Dachau camp, who in the political field is utterly opposed to German Rearmament, a living reproach to the lassitude and moral bankruptcy of religious and non-religious people in Western and Eastern Europe.

I have recalled this sermon out of the many happenings of a term in Cambridge because it seems to me to convey some idea of the environment which surrounds us here. To enjoy the impression that one lives in one of the main streams of contemporary political and religious thinking in full consciousness of the conserved traditions of the past is a rare and invigorating experience.

May I on behalf of the group of us, now joined by Ronald Pullen, up here in Cambridge this year, send warmest regards to you, Sir, and to the School, remaining,

Yours sincerely,

TONY J. CROSS.

Parents' Association

The last twelve months have proved as successful and useful as any previous period and there is no doubt that the enthusiasm and support for the Association's functions have never been higher.

The main event of the Summer Term was the Garden Party, held during July, the annual joint effort of the Association, staff and boys. It was apparent from the outset that extra effort would be required to overcome difficulties due to incomplete reconstruction but these were tackled resolutely by all concerned.

The spirit of the afternoon was set by Rear Admiral D'Arcy, C.B., C.B.E., L.R.C.P., who performed the opening ceremony with genial good humour, and who showed a lively interest in the various events of the day. All the school departments staged displays or entertainments of some kind and the fifteen hundred visitors had much to interest and intrigue them. They were diverted, too, by a wide variety of sideshows ranging from a chamber of horrors to a model railway, from a pets' corner to photographs of members of staff when very young, all planned by boys in the school. Tea was organised by the Ladies' Committee and the day concluded with an enjoyable Flannel Dance in the Assembly Hall. As a result of these wholehearted efforts the funds of the Association have benefited by the record amount of nearly £160.

The current School year opened with the Annual Meeting in October when, following the usual business, the Deputy Director of Education, Mr. W. D. Barras, M.A., B.Sc., addressed the Association on "The place of education in Society." Considerable enthusiasm for the work of the association was shown and a marked willingness of parents to share in this work resulted in several new members being added to the Committee.

During November a very successful Whist Drive was held in the Assembly Hall. About one hundred and fifty parents, staff and friends engaged in friendly rivalry for some attractive prizes,

a number of which had been given by parents and one of which was won by the Headmaster's wife! The profit to the association was £15.

This year we were able to revert to our usual December date for the Annual Dance, a function which is anticipated with pleasure by the parents of many boys, past and present. This year the Hall was rendered even more attractive by subdued lighting installed by boys of the VIth form. The attendance was very gratifying and, although the floor was fairly crowded, it was never uncomfortably so. The Association's funds benefited by £21.

In addition to these social activities the regular, unobtrusive work of the Association has continued—funds have been granted to the School for the cost of Speech Day prizes and expenses, the renovation and completion of School Honours Boards, the completion of stage curtains in the Assembly Hall, the inauguration of a Welfare Fund (to be administered by the Headmaster), and for the provision of teas for all teams visiting the School for rugger, soccer, cricket or tennis matches. We have also entertained artistes at the School Music Society concert and the Clarion Choir on the occasion of their visit to the School during December.

Coming events include, a Whist Drive on February 16th, 1955, at 7.15 p.m., and the evening when the Association are "At Home" to the Staff on Tuesday, March 15th.

Our thanks are due to all members of the Association, especially those on the Committee, who devote so much of their time and energy to the work of the Association for the welfare of the School and who support its functions with such regularity. The Association, fortunate indeed to find interest and loyalty in such large measure, looks forward with confidence in its ability to serve the best interests of the School.

D.H.S. Old Boys' Association

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Vice-Presidents :

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Chairman : H. CAPLAN *Vice-Chairman* : J. G. POLKINGHORNE

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

Hon. Treasurer : W. J. TAMBLIN *Hon. Assistant Secretary* : A. BOWDEN.

Committee :

E. HANNAM, E. J. BRIMACOMBE, E. E. COCK, L. M. TAYLOR, P. J. MOWAN,
F. C. OLDFORD, L. F. VANSTONE, H. BRENTON, G. LAKEMAN, E. W. R. WARN,
F. T. HEALY.

With the later publication of the Magazine I had hoped to have been in the position to give a good account of the Annual General Meeting and of the Annual Dinner for the benefit of Old Boys of D.H.S. exiled from Plymouth. Circumstances, however,

decreed that I should be unable to attend either function and I am virtually in the position of seeking fuller information. For the Dinner I have been fortunate in obtaining an "eye-witness" account from one of the Boys of the School who attended as a guest of the Association. This, I believe, is the first time that such an account has been published in the mag. and it should be interesting even if only to perceive "how others see us."

As for the A.G.M., I was among the 500 or more members of the Association who failed to put in an appearance at the School on Friday evening, December 17th. I am given to understand that such was the interest this meeting aroused that only 10 (ten) Old Boys thought fit to attend. Our A.G.M. has never been noted for an overwhelming attendance (more's the pity) but this proved to be a deplorably new low. Maybe this fiasco will prove a turning point in the affairs of the Association which in recent years has been suffering from a marked apathy on the part of both young and old members either socially or in the field of sport, it being left to but a few to try and make a go. As for the meeting itself very little business was conducted but it was necessary to elect a new Treasurer as Mr. H. G. Plucknett had tendered his resignation. In his stead Mr. Tamblin has been elected and he can be contacted at the School. No further elections were made apart from a sub-committee who, I understand, have been empowered to consider ways and means of resuscitating the Association and to call an Extraordinary General Meeting at the earliest opportunity.

At the end of these notes will be found the Personal Column which is compiled by the Headmaster. Please drop a line to him with any news you may have of Old Boys or for that matter of yourself. It is always of interest.

News has been received from the Old Boys' Rugger Club and the notes are included below. I have not received notes from either the Soccer or Badminton Club. As for the Badminton, I am given to understand that Club evenings (Tuesday and Saturday at the School) are up to their usual enjoyable standard, but that the team is not enjoying a very successful season as yet in the P. & D. Churches Badminton League. From reports in the Press the Soccer team appears to be having a moderately successful first season since its revival.

THE RUGBY CLUB.

This season has been quite a fair one up to the present, and the record reads as follows:—

Played 13, won 7, drawn 2, lost 4, Pts. for 132, Pts. against 73.

Only two games have had to be cancelled through weather, which gives a fair indication of the value to the Club of the Roborough ground. Naturally we were extremely pleased at beating the School XV again this year, but we should like to

congratulate them on their fine display against a heavier and more experienced side. We hope that some of the boys will join us on leaving school. After the School match we had an extremely satisfying tea provided by the Parents' Association and we must put on record here our gratitude for this service.

Mr. Gordon Collins, our Chairman-elect, has secured a post at Winchester and to him go our sincere wishes. Our very old and respected friend, Mr. J. G. Polkinghorne, has now taken on this office, amongst his other duties for the Old Boys.

Our congratulations go to 'Tony' Curtice, last season's captain, on his marriage, but we do miss him now that he is permanently exiled in Launceston.

Another Old Boy recently plunged into the matrimonial world, Mr. R. E. Mackintosh, is now living in Sussex, and we offer our congratulations.

To conclude, would Old Boys wanting games while on leave or if they are residing in Plymouth please contact the Secretary at 56, Durham Avenue, Lipson, Plymouth (Office: Tel. Plymouth 62038). The same applies to rugger players still at school. Let's hear from you !

ROBERT E. CAMBRIDGE (*Hon. Secretary*).

THE OLD BOYS' DINNER.

The Old Boys' Dinner this year was held at the Continental Hotel on 6th January at 7.30 p.m. The Headmaster, Dr. J. L. Cresswell took the chair; Captain (E.) C. G. Gosling, R.N. and the Lord Mayor were the Guests of Honour.

At the end of the actual meal, Dr. Cresswell proposed the toast to the Queen; then pipes were lit and the company relaxed.

Captain Gosling proposed the toast to the City of Plymouth. He said that that he was proud to be a citizen of such a fine city as Plymouth, and that the time that he most looked forward to during his cruises was the moment when he could sail into the Sound and see the Hoe once more. In his reply to the toast, the Lord Mayor mentioned the proud position which Plymouth held, and then went on to lay emphasis on the advantage of an Old Boys' tie and the social and moral uplift of having attended a school with a tradition such as Devonport High.

The proposal of the toast to the Association, with special emphasis on the Rugby Club, now in its 25th year, was made by Mr. E. Butcher, who gave a history of the Rugby Club, mentioning a large number of members who had been with the Club from its initiation and those who had gained representative honours for the Services and the County. Mr. C. F. Austin, who founded the Rugby Club, replied to the toast in jovial vein at first; later on, however, he gave a serious review of the Playing Field situation pointing out its numerous shortcomings and stressing the need for immediate improvement.

The toast to the School was proposed by Mr. J. G. Polkinghorne who enthused over the close relationship between the Old Boys and the School which, he added, was producing material as good, if not better, than any it had ever produced. In his response to the toast Dr. Cresswell stressed the fact that academic distinction without a corresponding training in citizenship did not satisfy either the definition of education as we envisaged it, nor did it present a true concept of the function of the school.

PERSONAL COLUMN — *News of Old Boys*

- B. D. PORTER (1946-1953) has passed the qualifying examination for the Mechanical Sciences Tripos at Emmanuel College, Cambridge. He is now in his final term as a senior officer cadet at the R.M.A., Sandhurst.
- H. M. HOWARTH (1940-1947) has been awarded a £100 post-graduate scholarship in Physics at Exeter.
- H. S. JAMES (1948-1953) is now "square-bashing" at Padgate. He hopes that the Sixth are working harder than he is—certainly they could not be doing less.
- T. M. BOSSOM (1943-1951) is now married; so is H. D. D. THOMAS (1942-1950). Congratulations.
- R. J. RICKARD (1943-1951) is in Customs and Excise at Dover, and regularly meets DEREK BALL (1940-1944) and GEORGE ANDERSON (1944-1950). These latter are both married, and Anderson has a son. He hopes to have a transfer to Plymouth in time for him to enter D.H.S.
- P. NORTHCOTT and ANTHONY ROBERTS (1945-1950) are both sub-lieutenants on an aircraft carrier, and were home for Christmas in time for the O.B.A. Annual Dinner.
- J. IDE (1947-1950) is working in W. H. Smith's, and has been ill recently. We hope he has now recovered.
- H. ROY WILTSHIRE (1918-1922) found himself in Plymouth for a Garden Party and Dance. He served in Ceylon during the war, and is now sub-editor of the Wolverhampton *Express and Star*. He will be delighted to meet any Old Boys.
- H. G. EASTLEY (1945-1950), now at Seale-Hayne, expects to leave shortly for Southern Rhodesia as a Soil Conservation Officer. He recently met TED DOWNING (Degree in Agriculture) now on a Turkey Research Station in Norfolk. O.B. Christmas Dinner officials please note.
- C. J. HUTCHINGS (1949-1953), not exactly an old Old Boy, since he is still in school at Tavistock Grammar, was more than impressed by the splendour of our reconstructed laboratory block.

- E. G. ROWE (1946-1953), now in the Foreign Office in Downing Street, recently on leave, is obviously enjoying life. He strongly recommends the Civil Service.
- D. C. BENNETT (1945-1950) visited us on the same day as Rowe. He is now a P.O. Engineer in embryo, and is at present at Catterick on National Service, where he has met several of his contemporaries.
- J. TRUSCOTT (1945-1953) is a regular Wednesday-afternoon visitor —half-day closing. He appears to like Woolworth's and anticipates some speedy promotion.
- Four O.B.'s visited us on another day. B. CROSS is off to the R.A.F. training. J. W. EDE (all seven feet of him) made me wonder how the Army will find a bed for him. A. J. HILL (1944-1952) is in his final year at Sandhurst. D. A. PINCHES (1945-1950) is in his final year at Cambridge.
- The REV. J. CROSSLEY, M.A. (School Captain 1944), shortly to leave for Nigeria on mission work, addressed a meeting of the Christian Union. He tells us that he will be married in the near future. We wish him all good luck and happiness.
- C. H. SUTTON (1947-1952) and A. C. ATKINS (1948-1951) were encountered at Oxford during examinations by three of our Sixth Form. They both hope to visit us soon.
- NAISH has just been promoted in the Admiralty and is leaving Bath for London. He is down here on liaison work. He called at Fisgard and failed to recognise Capt. Gosling (1918-1925). He remembered M. G. BALL (1937-1944); they met in Perkins buying O.B.A. ties. BALL is now with the British Industrial Solvents—158, Chislehurst Road, Orpington, Kent, is his address. He mentioned G. WALFORD (1935-1943) who is now farming in Kenya, D. WALFORD (1936-1942), now in Australia, and his brother, A. BALL (1939-1945), now in Lavisham (medical) married 18 months ago. He had also met R. T. HUZZEY (1936-1943), recently in London.
- A. G. GOSWELL (1945-1953), now posted to Austria, called in to return the Sportsmanship Trophy. He hopes to enter the Civil Service shortly.
- N. E. CHAFF (1931-1939), safely home from the Far East with wife and daughter, has generously given some specialised books on Physics to the Science Library. (O.B.'s please note!).
- C. H. B. EVANS (1948-1953), now at Fisgard, has won a scholarship to Dartmouth. Congratulations.
- A. C. HAM (1940-1948), with his charming fiancée, attended the O.B.A. Dance. On leave from Farnborough, he promises to show us around if we ever go up.

- A. G. READ, R.N. (1945-1949), has sailed round the world and mentioned C. ROBERTS and D. BURROWS, with whom he shared a pot of tea far from home. He looked very fit and is still in training.
- M. C. WOTTON (1946-1953) deserves congratulations on his winning a Kitchener Memorial Scholarship and his "purple" for London University. He has also been chosen to train with a view to the 1956 Olympics. He trains with Roger Bannister.
- G. D. LEMMON (1938-1941) spent a day with us. We owe a real debt to him—he offers the History prizes annually.
- R. C. QUARM (1936-1941), address "Badgers," Footners Lane, Burton, near Bournemouth, was so interested in the new buildings that he brought his wife along to see the school. All he now wants is a transfer to Plymouth. He had news of R. M. HOLGATE (1935-1942) playing rugby for the R.N.
- P.O. L. F. CANN, R.A.F. (1938-1943) enjoyed his visit and so did we. He had news of A. DARK (1947-1951), in his third year at Exeter, JOHN WALSH (1945-1951), commissioned as a navigator in the R.A.F., and recently returned from Canada. E. SOWDEN (1944-1950) is also commissioned in the R.A.F. and D. DEWDNEY is now in Ireland as a P./O. Navigator.

The same day, R. H. PARRELL (1945-1951), qualified in Radiography, and J. B. KNIGHT (1945-1952) called in. Knight had news of M. W. SHEAD (1950-1953), R. A. LANGSDALE (1946-1953), L. C. NETHERCOTT (1949-1953), and A. APPLEBY (1945-1953). All these are busy keeping the Air Force up to strength.

- D. A. VARCOE (1936-1941) and T. BOSSOM are doing splendid work in helping to keep O.B.'s in touch in London. Their addresses are: T. Bossom, 38 Lancaster Gate, W.2.
D. Varcoe, 5. Byward Avenue, Feltham, Middlesex.
Write to them and to the Headmaster.

A letter has been received from 2734195 A/C. CROSS, B., where with 2734196 A/C. GEORGE, B., he appears to be dreading with some success the future of Hut 49, 10 Flight, "C" Squadron, No. 1 Wing, Hednesford.

MR. T. H. Down has obtained a B.Sc. degree (Honours) in Mechanical Engineering.

MR. E. E. COCKS has been in England on leave and is now returning to Leopoldsville.

The Bristol "Britannia," the world's largest turbo-jet airliner was piloted by MR. A. J. ("Bill") PEGG, an O.B., and Chief Test Pilot to the Bristol Aeroplane Company.

We regret to record the death of Mr. Harold Alexandre JACQUET. Mr. Jacquet was the son of a first French Master, Mr. A. M. Jacquet. On leaving school he entered Lloyd's Bank, and was later transferred to the Paris branch. He served in the French Army in the 1914-18 War and was at the siege of Verdun. He was wounded on several occasions, and was awarded both the Croix de Guerre and the Military Medal.

- R. GOVETT (1930-1937), has been made Chief Inspector of Meat in the borough of Islington, a post of some worth and responsibility. We wish him every happiness and success in it.
- R. BILLINGS, J.P. (1929-1935), has been elected to the Magisterial Bench at Saltash. Congratulations and our wishes for a long and useful term in that important office.
- A. C. HAM, B.Sc. (Oxon.), (1940-1948) has been granted a Ph.D. degree in Physics for his researches into Low Temperature Reactions. He is now doing secret and important research at Farnborough. We wish him all success and happiness in his work.
- W. A. SIMMONDS, a one-time Senior Prefect, House Captain (Grenville), and Captain of Rugger, has gained a Ph.D. degree. Doctor Simmonds, the eldest son of our former Headmaster, Mr. H. A. T. Simmonds, obtained an Honours Degree in Physics at London University and later entered the Research Department of the Gas Industry.

The Old Boys' Association Treasurer is now

Mr. W. J. TAMBLIN

who can be contacted at the School

Please send any subscriptions due direct to him there

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