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Editor - - - R. WILLIAMS

Sub-Editors - - { R. D. CANNON
J. D. LUNT

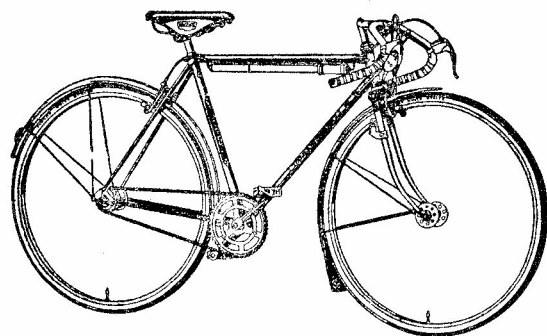
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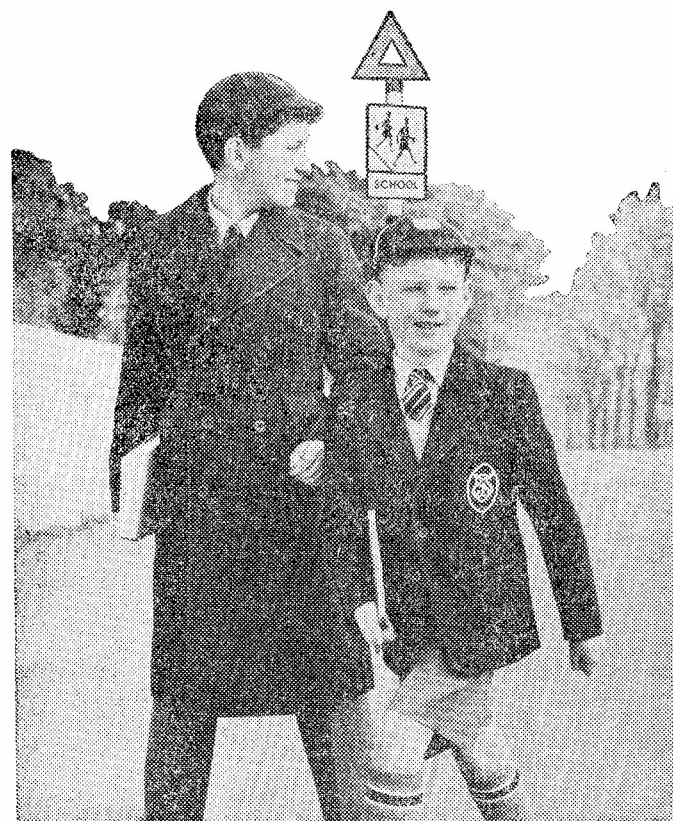
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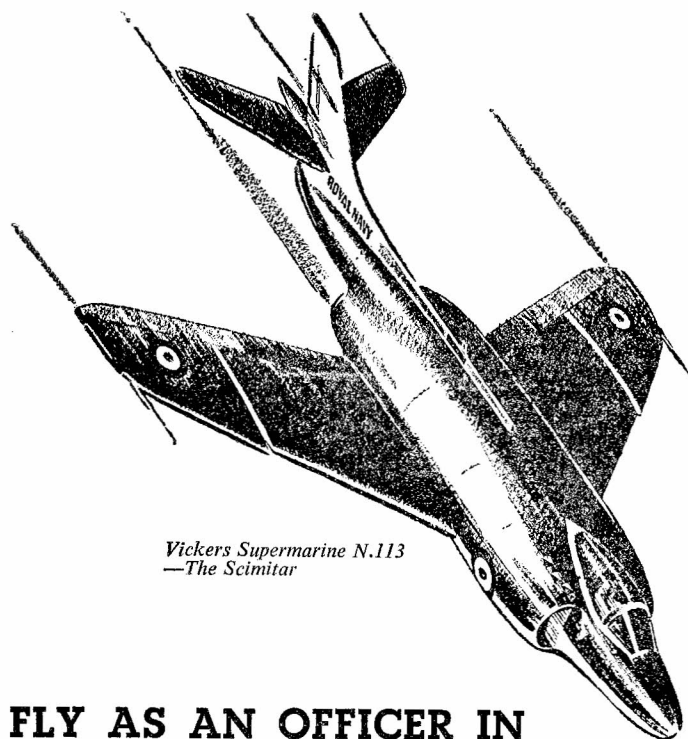
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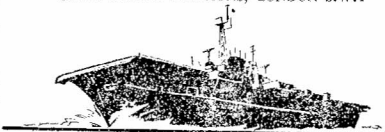
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LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE

VOL. LXVII

JANUARY, 1959

No. 1

EDITORIAL

It is the characteristic of the young to radiate enthusiasm in everything they do. The schools are teeming with earnest and eager young people, busily availing themselves of the universal right to be educated. Yet at times their enthusiasm tends to be misdirected against the traditional pillars of society; they rebel against authority with only the slightest provocation and adopt an outlook whose only merit is that it is unconventional. The result of it all is the peculiarly modern social condition, juvenile delinquency, which is just as serious a reflection on the defects of our times as any nuclear weapon.

Modern psychology will find us a comparatively simple explanation of this problem, but no solution. Adolescence is a period of extreme self-consciousness, when the maturing teenager, acutely aware of his own shortcomings and eager to conceal his feeling of inferiority, will go to great lengths to assert himself and demonstrate his maturity; this is a natural and, on the whole, desirable trend, provided that the young person's attitude of revolt does not develop into an obsession.

All these facts, it is to be hoped, are fully recognised and taken into account by our educational system; for education, first and foremost, will supply the answer to our problem. However, in the following pages the reader will discover few traces of this kind of mental conflict: that dilemma is reserved for the stony-hearted Editor! Rather, this magazine sets out to mirror the life and feeling of the School. And as the School's pulse beats naturally with the unassuming humour and vivacity of youth, we can only hope that some at least of that enthusiasm and *joie de vivre* will make itself felt and perhaps prove stimulating. Not that we would make any bold claims for freshness of approach or originality of expression. But we feel obliged to confess that the purpose of this magazine is less elevated and sublime than it is sometimes made out to be. Our new cover is proof of our willingness to break away from unnecessary tradition; and we hope that, as new ideas are conceived and standards change, we may keep pace with our times, just as surely as the outlook of the School is certain not to lag behind them.

F. W. REECE, M.B.E., M.Sc.

The sudden death, in November, of Mr. F. W. Reece, Vice-Principal of the School, 1950-57, came as a great shock to both masters and boys. We had said good-bye to him at the end of the Summer Term, 1957, and those of us who had seen him since felt that our wishes for his enjoyment of many years of health and well-earned happiness were being amply fulfilled. The announcement of his death was completely unexpected, and we are left with a sense of loss which only time can help to diminish. He was to us, as to everyone who knew him, a true and loyal friend.

CHAT ON THE CORRIDOR

We welcome to the School the following new masters, who joined the Staff in September: Mr. B. H. Edwards, B.Sc. (Birmingham), Mr. N. R. Middleton, D.L.C. (Loughborough), Mr. P. Rice, B.A. (Liverpool), Dip.Th. (London), Mr. J. H. Sweeney, M.A. (Cambridge) and M. Brochier, who will be with us until July.

The School was delighted to welcome Mr. L. A. Naylor on his return to duty after his recent serious illness.

We congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Durband on the birth of a daughter.

Last July a number of boys from the Senior forms attended a Conference held by the Council of Education in World Citizenship. The subject discussed was "India and Pakistan."

After school, on 14th July, 1958, the School Orchestra, with the Recorder Group, gave a concert at Blackburne House. The Orchestra, which was conducted by Mr. R. N. Evans, played music by Haydn and Jeremiah Clarke.

John McCabe was soloist with the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, in a performance of the First Movement of Beethoven's *Third Piano Concerto in C Minor*, at the Philharmonic Hall, on 5th March, 1958; and on 22nd June he performed in Turina's *Rhapsodia Sinfonica*, with the strings of the Merseyside Youth Orchestra.

We congratulate P. W. Johnson and B. Worthington on having been awarded a week's stay in Holland and Düsseldorf respectively, as prizes in an essay competition sponsored by the European Youth Campaign.

A section of the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Mr. Trevor Harvey, visited the School on 2nd October, and gave the following concert to the Lower School: Overture, *La Cenerentola* (Rossini); *Light Music for Strings* (Rawsthorne); *First Movement of Symphony No. 5* (Beethoven); *Aubade No. 1* (Lalo) and *Scherzo from Octet in E Flat Major* (Mendelssohn).

On 4th November, members of the Classical Section of the Sixth Form attended a Classical Association Conference at Birkenhead Girls' High School.

On 11th November, a party of sixty boys attended a performance of Molière's *Le Malade Imaginaire*, given by the Troupe Français, at the Royal Court Theatre.

Sixth Formers also attended a Student Christian Movement Conference, at Holly Lodge High School, on Thursday, 20th November, when M. Jean Inebrit, of Leeds University, gave two talks entitled, "Christianity in Action."

We offer our congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Bilson on their marriage.

A number of boys went to the Philharmonic Hall, on 10th December, to attend a concert organised by the Spanish Society of the School of Commerce.

Speech Day was held on Tuesday, 16th December, in the Philharmonic Hall, when the prizes were distributed by Sir Herbert Gladstone McDavid, C.B.E.

The Hobby Show will take place on the evenings of 13th and 14th March, 1959.

We offer our congratulations to Aigburth Vale High School on attaining their Jubilee.

Miss L. D. Armitage, the Assistant School Secretary, left us in July. We wish her success and happiness in her new calling, and welcome her successor, Miss C. L. Brunton.

We congratulate I. D. Cockburn (L5Sc.), who, after an audition in November, has been accepted for the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain.

We congratulate the following on their academic achievements:—

W. J. Rigby, an Open Scholarship in Mathematics at Jesus College, Oxford.

R. T. Crofts, an Open Scholarship in Classics at New College, Oxford.

A. J. Cummins, an Open Scholarship in Classics at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge.

D. Altshul, an Open Exhibition in Modern Languages at Worcester College, Oxford.

SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

During the afternoon of 19th December, the last day of term, the following Service of Lessons and Carols was held in the School Hall:—

O come, O come, Emmanuel.....The School.
First Lesson: Isaiah 9: 2, 6, 7...*A Lower Fifth Former*—B. R. West (L5A).

The Garden of Jesus.....The Choir.
Second Lesson: St. Luke 2:1-7...*A Sixth Former*—L. F. MacRae (6BM2).

Hark, the herald angels sing.....The School.
Third Lesson: St. Luke 2: 8-20...*The Head Boy*—D. W. L. Burnham (6AM3).

God rest you merry, gentlemen.....The Choir.
Fourth Lesson: St. Matthew 2: 1-15...*The Vice-Principal*.

The Coventry Carol.....The Choir.
Fifth Lesson: St. John 1: 1-14...*The Headmaster*.

A Little Child—Flemish Carol.....The Choir.
O come all ye faithful.....The School.

THE BENEDICTION.

SPEECH DAY

Speech Day was held on Tuesday, 16th December, 1958, in the Philharmonic Hall, when the prizes were distributed by Sir Herbert Gladstone McDavid, C.B.E., the Chairman and Managing Director of the Glen Shipping Company. After the traditional address of welcome, delivered in Latin by R. T. Crofts, Vice-Captain of the School, the Headmaster presented his annual report.

After welcoming Sir Herbert, he referred to the academic successes of the past year, which were well up to the School's high standards. In these days of intense competition for employment, it was most important that boys should devote their full attention to school work. The School had always encouraged, above everything else, scholarship—the establishment of intellectual standards and rejection of the shoddy and mediocre. From scholarship other qualities would follow: a keenness in sport, an interest in School societies, and a sound moral character. Education of the mind and development of character should advance together, and the country could be proud of the excellent way in which its Grammar Schools fulfilled this function.

With the building of the new Science laboratories, the School would be able to play its part in providing men for Science teaching and Industry; there was no intention, however, of discarding the Humanities. The School was always aware of modern demands, and was one of the first to introduce Russian into its curriculum.

The Headmaster then paid tribute to Mr. Killingley, a former master of the School, and to his staff in general. He expressed his deep regret at the sudden death of Mr. F. W. Reece and, in conclusion, thanked the Board of Governors, his secretarial staff, and his prefects for their loyalty and support.

After a musical interlude, during which the Junior Choir sang *Adam Lay Ybounden* and *The Graceful Swaying Wattle*, the Chairman of the Governors, Mr. Brian Heathcote, M.Sc., expressed satisfaction with the Headmaster's report, and his particular pleasure in seeing Mr. Lawrence Holt present. He then formally welcomed Sir Herbert McDavid, the distinguished guest of the evening. Sir Herbert's career in itself showed the truth of the Headmaster's belief that a high standard of scholarship encouraged the development of personality and character: his industry had led him to the top of his profession, but he had never neglected the demands of physical fitness.

The Choir then sang *Legend* (Tchaikovsky), and *Glee*, from Sullivan's *The Mikado*, after which Sir Herbert distributed the prizes.

Sir Herbert McDavid opened his address by admitting his natural feelings of nostalgia at this, his first official visit to a school function since he himself had been a pupil at the School. He acknowledged his personal debt to the training the School had given him in the formative years of his life, and by interesting and humorous anecdotes he illustrated its influence upon his later life. A school initiates and stimulates that intellectual curiosity which later life develops. He recounted how the study of German at school had enabled him to attempt escape from Germany and to reform the code of law for prisoners-of-war in the years of the First World War. In any career one must still desire fresh knowledge and must not be discouraged if work is menial or difficult. The broadening influence of travel and healthy recreation must not be neglected through pre-occupation with one's career. As a result of the time he spent with a shipping company, the speaker could speak with a conviction born of extensive experience of the value of certain virtues in business. In authority one must be understanding and tolerant to one's subordinates and also honest and resourceful. All these qualities combined would establish the leaders of the future, of whom the country has great need.

A Vote of Thanks was proposed by D. W. L. Burnham, the Head-Boy, and seconded by Mrs. E. M. Wormald. These speeches were followed by the School's spirited rendering of *There Lived a King*, from the *Gondoliers*.

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

HOUSE NOTES

ALFRED HOLT

Perhaps the most pleasing feature of last year's competitions was the keen interest shown by younger members of the House. Our Junior team was placed first in the Swimming Sports, and it was their praiseworthy effort which played a major part in the eventual victory of the House in the over-all Swimming Championship. D. A. Hulin and A. J. Cowan, Junior and Intermediate individual champions respectively, are to be congratulated

on their achievements. Our Juniors also gained overwhelming victories in the Cross-Country Competition and in the Athletic Sports. The House is indeed fortunate to have such enthusiasm among its younger members.

In the last Hobby Show, the House won the House Play Competition and was placed second. We feel confident that this year we can move up this one place, if every member, Senior and Junior, makes a determined effort to enter as many exhibits as possible. If, in the other competitions, the Seniors follow the example shown by the Juniors, this year should prove even more successful than last.

G. J. ROWLANDS.

COCHRAN

In the past year the House was moderately successful. The Seniors won the Cross-Country Competition, and the Intermediate Section of the House won three competitions—Cricket, Swimming and the Athletic Sports.

The Hobby Show is to be held in March, and for the House to gain distinction in any of the many groups, every boy should enter for at least one group. Cochran expects the keen support of all its members.

R. F. HUBBARD.

DANSON

The past year provides, in retrospect, a somewhat dismal picture. We have been singularly unsuccessful in the various House Competitions. This was no doubt due in part to our lack of Senior boys, our Sixth Form members amounting to a mere handful. However, with the infusion of 'new blood' into the House, we can hope for more success in the future. Our efforts are currently directed towards the Hobby Show and the competitions that take place in the Spring Term, and we call on all members of the House to take their full share in all activities. We can do much better than in the past; a little more enthusiasm is all that is necessary.

We welcome Mr. Bradley as a Housemaster, in succession to Mr. E. R. Jones, who left last summer. To him and to Mr. Nelson we proffer our thanks for their advice and encouragement.

D. ALTSJUL.

HUGHES

Last year was one of the most successful in the history of the House, with honours distributed evenly amongst the various age groups. The Junior Fives team was victorious, the "Boswell" Hockey Cup was retained by the Seniors, while our House representatives in the Middle School won the team event in the Cross-Country Championships. In a few other competitions the House was runner up, and members were always glorious in defeat; the fighting display put up by our Basketball team springs immediately to mind.

It is, however, pleasing to see this uniformity of effort allied with strong resolution. It is not the dedicated few, but the zeal of the many which ensures success in competitions. This team effort must be the first consideration, since the "Hobby Show" is in the not far distant future, and I believe that in this respect the House has fallen in Hobby Shows of the past. Each member of the House must take pains and make his contribution. I hope that by the time the magazine is published, the finishing touches are being applied to our many and varied exhibits. Our thanks are due to Messrs. Rogers and Edge for their cheerful patronage.

B. L. COSTIGAN.

LAWRENCE HOLT

We must congratulate our Under-13 Cricket and Senior Swimming teams for being victorious in their respective competitions at the end of the Summer Term.

As is usual in the Autumn Term, all House activities seem to be in hibernation. However, this is no reason for the members of the House to follow suit. They are to be reminded that the Hobby Show, an event now accepted as a Lawrence Holt House monopoly, takes place in March, 1959, and boys ought now to be preparing their entries. Those who would prefer a less strenuous means of expressing their support should remember that the Cross-Country Championships take place in January. W. J. RIGBY.

OWEN

The House has not won any more competitions since the last issue of the magazine, and our achievements for the past year remain confined to Senior Basketball and Junior Hockey. This record is not undistinguished, but it fails to do justice to Owen's high traditions; each member should feel it his individual duty to ensure greater success for the coming year—in particular by submitting at least one entry for the Hobby Show.

Plans are being discussed for the introduction of some new House activities, and, with the full encouragement and co-operation of all members, we feel sure that we shall enjoy a most successful year. D. REED.

PHILIP HOLT

During the past few years there has been a considerable increase in response from all House members. We are confident that this year the House will show its true merit in the coming Hobby Show and other competitions. It is hoped that, for the Hobby Show, every member will enter at least one exhibit. Only in this way can a creditable performance be assured.

Thanks are due to both our Housemasters, Mr. Bentliff and Mr. Rowell for their unfailing support and interest. J. M. RADCLIFFE.

TATE

Of the final competitions of last year, Tate won the Plevin-Grieve Cup for Gymnastics, but failed to achieve any other outstanding results. After the Autumn Term's respite from House activity, we can expect to approach the Hobby Show with energies unimpaired, and to extend our success in former years in the House Play Competition to other branches of the Hobby Show.

Unless the weather is again unfavourable, the football and hockey competitions will take place in the Spring.

Tate had the first House Meeting of the year, and it is hoped that the House's early promptness augurs well for the future. R. T. CROFTS.

SCHOOL MAGAZINES

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

The Caldean, The Wallaseyan, The Quarry, Holt School Magazine, Childwall Valley High School Magazine, Aigburth Vale High School Magazine (and the Jubilee Edition), Wirral Grammar School Magazine, The Inkwell, Holly Lodge High School Magazine, The Satellite, Ryym.

THE HOBBY SHOW

The Hobby Show will be held on Friday and Saturday, 13th and 14th March, 1959, much earlier than usual, and at the end of a short and very busy term. Nevertheless, we are looking forward to a large number of entries, which, it is hoped, will exceed even those of 1957, one of our best years. The Thirds and Fourths, to whom the Exhibition is new, are particularly invited to send in contributions, though we must warn them that a very high standard of work is expected. Every boy, Senior and Junior, can and should make a determined effort to help his House to achieve success. A.V.P.

CRICKET 1st XI, 1958

Most of the energy accumulated over Easter appeared to be expended in crushing Collegiate by 10 wickets, for average Wallasey and Manchester XI's followed by gaining easy victories over the School, in spite of fighting innings by Grace and Gurney.

Facing a century by Gurney and a fifty by Grace, Sefton were lucky to draw; the revival, however, was short-lived, for Liverpool, Merchant Taylors and the Liobians enjoyed their easiest victories for some years.

Of the remaining matches, eight were drawn and three won. Sefton, Liverpool and Calday Grange were held to good draws, but Cowley lingered on to dismissal against weak bowling, content with a certain draw. Gurney claimed 7 Staff wickets for 31, but 7 School wickets fell before the necessary 82 runs were scored for victory. Collegiate's revival deserves particular mention; they made 132 for 2, in reply to 134 for 2. King's School and the Liobians drew well, and Oldershaw lost heavily, after an excellent undefeated century by Gurney.

On the whole, the School had a poor season, but, in Grace, Gurney and Malam, had three cricketers who can take their place with the best. Indeed, Gurney broke a 28 years' old record in scoring 657 runs in one season. General turn-out and conduct, as usual, were exemplary, and at no time could any player be accused of not doing his utmost. The younger members gained valuable experience, which we hope will be turned to good account next season. F.B.

AVERAGES

	Innings	Not Out	Highest Score	Runs	Average
Gurney, J. J. ...	17	5	122*	657	54.75
Grace, J. H. B.	17	3	73	506	36.15
Malam, C. A. ...	18	2	69	348	21.75
McDermott ...	11	4	22*	72	10.29
Rivers ...	12	2	24*	102	10.2

* Signifies not out.

Rivers	57.2	13	133	13	10.23
Egerton	55	8	180	13	13.84
Nicholls, D. ...	128.2	28	323	23	14.03
Gurney, J. J. ...	173	32	493	34	14.5
Morton, W. F. ...	143	39	377	21	17.95
		P.	W.	L.	D. Abandoned
1st XI		18	4	5	9 1
2nd XI		11	5	0	6
Colts		9	7	1	1

A VISIT TO RUSSIA

Last summer, for the first time, an official exchange of teachers took place with the U.S.S.R., when thirty English teachers of Russian spent four weeks in Moscow and Leningrad, while a similar number of Russian teachers of English spent four weeks in Edinburgh.

The Russian party flew from Moscow to Edinburgh and back, but we had the more tiring, if also more interesting journey by train from the Hook of Holland. We left East Berlin on the 22nd July, the journey to Moscow taking about thirty-six hours. We found the Russian "soft" class sleepers very pleasant indeed but even the "hard" class, I was told later by some Austrians in Moscow, is also clean and comfortable. At Brest-Litovsk, on the Russian frontier, the carriages were transferred to the bogies used on the Russian wider gauge and we then trundled at about thirty miles an hour across the north Russian plain. As we approached Moscow, the sun was shining brilliantly and the first thing we saw was the new University building in the south-west of the city: enormous and rather childish, like an over-elaborate decoration on a wedding cake. There are eight or nine of these new and gigantic "tall buildings" in the city, but the Russians, I'm glad to say, have decided to build no more of them. After a welcoming ceremony at the station, we were taken by bus down Moscow's main thoroughfare, Gorki Street, across the Red Square and over the river to our hotel, the "Bucharest," where we spent the next three weeks.

By the next day most of us had sufficiently recovered from the welcoming banquet to begin our course in the Russian language. The timetable was strenuous: from 9 to 11 we had a two hour lecture on a linguistic subject followed by three hours' conversational practice in small groups of 5 or 6, with one teacher to each group. At 2 p.m. we had the main meal, for which we were all very ready, and in the afternoon or the evening (or both) there were generally organised excursions to the usual "sights" of Moscow, to the theatre or to the cinema. Neither the lectures nor the conversational classes were compulsory and if we wished to go somewhere on our own, or merely wander about exploring Moscow, we were completely free to do so.

The main impression of Moscow is one of people: there are so many of them. Crowds at all hours of the day in the Red Square—queuing to get into the Lenin-Stalin mausoleum on the days it is open and just standing gaping at it when it is not; crowds in "Goom" the big department store; crowds in Gorki Street, in the various parks and public gardens, where it is always so difficult to find an empty seat on a bench. The crowds make Moscow an interesting city in which to wander—rather like Paris, but I should imagine that the very bad housing conditions are often responsible for the fact that most people prefer to spend their time out of doors when they can.

The whole of Moscow is being gradually rebuilt, but even in the new

blocks of flats, living space is very cramped by our standards. I was invited to a teacher's flat in a new block near the University. He and his wife and his parents lived in two small rooms, both couples using one kitchen. The flat was neat, tidy and well-furnished. He explained to me that these rooms were a little larger than the others in this block of flats, but that he had taken them so that he could also have his parents to live with him. There are others who are not so fortunate. I also visited a family of three living in an old house near the centre of the city. Here the conditions were very bad, all three living in one room and using a communal kitchen for that floor, on which six other families lived. The Russians, however, received me in these cramped quarters with great charm and dignity and with only the very slightest trace of embarrassment. One Sunday when I was there they had four other visitors, and we all sat drinking tea and talking for several hours in a space four feet wide and twelve feet long. The way in which my hosts endured these material conditions, which are still very difficult, was most impressive. The authorities are clearly making great efforts to deal with this over-populated city and most Russians pointed with pride to the enormous and, in my opinion, quite hideous blocks of flats which are being put up at great speed.

Moscow always has a large number of visitors from other parts of the Soviet Union: but visitors from the "West" are generally distinguishable by their clothing. The Russians are drably and poorly dressed and we were occasionally approached to see if we would sell articles of clothing. Interest seemed concentrated on raincoats and footwear. One member of our party was offered 200 roubles (at an exchange rate of 27 to the £1) for a plastic mackintosh which had cost him 21/-. But not all those who approached us in the streets—and there were many who did—were interested solely in buying what they could. Quite a number, finding that we were English, spoke to us in English. One engineering student from Armenia said he had been following the B.B.C.'s courses in English but that it was very difficult in Moscow because the broadcasts were jammed. He was looking forward to returning home to Erivan, in the Caucasus, where, among other advantages, the B.B.C. broadcasts were not jammed. "There's a lot we don't hear, you know," he said.

For a Westerner it is this one fact which is so striking: it is impossible in Russia to obtain any news except that given by Soviet official sources, or approved by them. The only English newspaper on sale is the *Daily Worker*. This complete isolation from any other sources of information is the most important factor determining the Russian's attitude towards Westerners.

For instance, in Leningrad, where we spent a few days at the end of the course, two of us became involved in an open-air impromptu discussion with a delightfully eloquent Red Army officer. We met him one evening on the promenade along the banks of the Neva, which, as is usual on such a fine day, was very crowded. When he had discovered that we spoke Russian, he showed how confident most of the younger Russians are in themselves and in their beliefs by engaging us in argument. Gradually a considerable crowd gathered round us and listened politely, and for the most in attentive silence, during the whole conversation, which must have lasted close on three hours. No attempt was made, either to listen to the discussion or to disperse the crowd, by a policeman who came up and then went away again. This Red Army officer first told us that it was quite impossible for the "son of a worker" to obtain a University education in England. We disabused him of this idea and of some other misconceptions about our educational system, such as the "fact" that our selection for grammar schools was a means by which the "bourgeoisie" held down the "people."

The discussion eventually and inevitably turned to politics and to the

events in Hungary. When we told him that the judicial murder of Nagy and Maletier had shocked public opinion in England, he replied that it was no murder but a sentence carried out after trial and due process of law. When asked why Nagy had left the safety of his refuge in the Yugoslav Embassy in order to be tried and executed, he was at a loss (and this was the only occasion during the discussion) for an answer. When we told him that the reason was clearly the promise made to Nagy that he would *not* be liable to prosecution for any part he had taken in the events in Hungary in 1956, this was clearly the very first time that either he or the crowd had heard of any such promise. The discussion, in spite of its thorny subject, was carried on in a pleasant atmosphere, and for this I think the chief credit must go to the Russian officer, who was under cross-fire from both of us, but defended himself with skill, eloquence and good humour. But how difficult any discussion is, when information on one side is so partial!

We spent four days in Leningrad, full of excursions and meetings. It seemed to me a more beautiful city than Moscow and is certainly more "European" in appearance, much of the centre of the city having been built by western European architects. Four days were hardly enough to do it justice. On our return to the capital we met a deputy Minister of Education, to whom we freely expressed our views on the course. After the ritual of the farewell banquet with multitudinous toasts to "greater understanding between our two countries," we left Moscow on the 23rd August.

My general impression of the visit is composed of gratitude and regret. Gratitude to the official bodies in this country and in the U.S.S.R. which arranged and paid for the exchange. Gratitude more especially to the officials and teachers in Moscow who went to such immense pains to make our course interesting and our stay both attractive and profitable. And regret that in the time at my disposal I did not manage to get into closer contact with more of the Russians I met; regret that on many occasions the language barrier remained a barrier, for even if one can read Russian fluently, it is still a difficult language to speak well. I trust that the Russians and the British Council will be encouraged by the success of this visit to arrange further exchanges. I certainly hope to return to the U.S.S.R. and am looking forward to seeing again the people I met. The enormous number of personal contacts made by our group can only do good and might even help towards that "greater understanding" which everyone desires, but which it is so difficult to achieve.

W.S.P.

HOCKEY

In their first game of the season, the 1st XI defeated a rather poor Sefton Hockey Club side by nine goals to nil, thus receiving a false impression of their strength. They approached their next game, with the Collegiate, over confidently and were defeated by four goals to two. The School were unlucky to be defeated by a Wallasey Hockey Club XI, by one goal to nil, in a game in which they were on the offensive much of the time. Defeats followed at the hands of Bolton School, by two goals to nil, and Dunlop Hockey Club, by four goals to nil. In their game against the Malayan teachers the School were again defeated, by nine goals to four, but had only ten men, and in spite of this handicap, played well. The second victory of the season came against Rhyl Grammar School, when the XI combined well and won a fast and furious game by three goals to two.

The 2nd XI has been hampered by the lack of strength and the diminutive size of their players, a large number of whom were juniors. Some older and bigger boys have now been brought into the team, and their play has improved. With more practice the team should improve considerably.

The members of both elevens would like to express their thanks to Messrs. Rogers, Wray, Parker and Dodd, for giving up their spare time to umpire games, and to Mr. Wass for preparing the pitch.

The full 1st XI is:—Hughes, Butler, R. F. Hubbard, Milbourne, B. L. Costigan, Tatham, G. J. Rowlands, G. I. Davies, Brown, Marks, D. C. Barron.

Results up to and including 8th November:—

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.
1st XI	6	2	0	4	18	22
2nd XI	6	1	0	5	6	32

G. I. DAVIES.

GYMNASTIC CLUB

This year we have lost several of our more experienced members, but, with Mr. Goodall's active support, we feel sure that the standard of performance will soon be higher than ever, since the new members are enthusiastic, and more people are attempting more complicated activities.

Meetings of the Club are held every Thursday at 4-0 p.m.

There is also a Junior Gymnastic Club for members of the Lower School who are interested in this sport; meetings of this Club take place every Friday, at 12-50 p.m., and are conducted by Mr. Middleton, who declares that the boys will soon present a serious challenge for the Senior Section.

New members from the Upper or Lower School are always welcome.

P. F. OWEN.

SWIMMING

Since publication of the last magazine, the only event worthy of note was the defeat of Wirral Grammar School.

In the Autumn Term, however, came the real test of the swimming strength of the School, the Inter-Grammar School Gala. With a much weakened team, owing to the absence of A. Smith, the School gave an excellent performance. The Seniors were placed 3rd, the Juniors 1st, and the overall position, out of 14 schools, was 2nd. The Junior victory was particularly creditable, as it was won by a considerable margin. A. J. Cowan is to be congratulated on winning the Junior backstroke in this gala in a new record time. These results seem to augur well for the future, but unfortunately the new Senior members of the side, last year's intermediates, are not up to previous years' standards and only hard training will eradicate this fault.

Congratulations to M. H. Williams on gaining his Instructor's Certificate for Life Saving and to E. Butler for gaining his Scholars' Instructor's Certificate.

Finally, we should like to thank most heartily Mr. Spencer for his never failing interest in the team and School swimming in general.

R. D. LANG.

SWIMMING SPORTS

The Swimming Sports were held at Picton Road Baths on Tuesday, 22nd July, and a good-sized audience turned up to see a programme of events, which retained the essential backbone of straight swimming races, while containing sufficient items of a novel nature to prevent monotony.

Much time was given over to various forms of diving; there were contests for the execution of a neat dive in three age-groups. Contestants had to dive from the bath-side and from the 4 ft. board, and were judged by Messrs. Jones and Lang; it must indeed have been difficult for them to pick the winners after such a display of skill, and we owe them a debt of gratitude for their invaluable support.

Style and neatness of execution were somewhat less to the fore in the Long Plunge, which was also divided into three age-groups. The audience held their breath as various inert forms floated down the bath, to be greeted, as they emerged, by wild applause from the audience and by Mr. Rowell, who was waiting to chalk down on the bath-side the distances they had achieved.

An underwater race for Juniors preceded the Senior Underwater Distance Test, in which R. C. Cregeen, finding no one of sufficient calibre to oppose him, had to try to beat his own previous record of 74 yards. This he succeeded in doing by a margin of over 4 yards. His appearance, however, on leaving the water made one wonder whether this type of test is either necessary or advisable. Immediately after this, the 50 yards Butterfly Senior event gave the audience a chance to witness this unusual stroke.

The falling-in of several people not scheduled to do so caused much consternation among the organisers, but this was found merely to herald a demonstration of life-saving, in which four supposedly drowning persons were rescued with an efficiency which must have been very comforting to the audience at large.

Team events were not lacking either. There were Medley and Squadron races for both Seniors and Juniors, which provided scope for co-ordination, as well as individual prowess.

The serious business of the meeting now began to give way to contests of a lighter nature: there were two Clothed Races and a Sculling Race, and the evening ended with three monster Obstacle Races, in which contestants were required to perform such feats as blowing up and bursting a balloon, and donning a pair of trousers while in the water.

The Sports were organised this year for the first time by Mr. Spencer, to whom must go the major share of the credit for their undoubted success. He was ably assisted by Mr. Rowell, Mr. Middleton and various other masters. Mr. Hart occupied his customary place at the microphone.

Details of new record times and distances are as follows:—

UNDERWATER DISTANCE TEST—Senior, 78 yds. 2 ft., R. C. Cregeen.

50 YARDS BACKSTROKE—Junior, 34.2 secs., A. J. Cowan.

100 YARDS BREASTSTROKE—Senior (heats), 81.7 secs., D. Norris.

25 YARDS BREASTSTROKE—U.13, 19.7 secs., K. Nicholson.

RESULTS

OPEN

SCULLING RACE—1st, M. H. Williams; 2nd, J. G. Milbourn; 3rd, A. J. Cowan. CLOTHED RACE—1st, Williams; 2nd, L. C. Jones; 3rd, E. J. Butler.

SENIOR

100 YARDS FREESTYLE—1st, R. D. Lang; 2nd, R. C. Cregeen; 3rd, Butler.
100 YARDS FREESTYLE—1st, Lang; 2nd, Cregeen; 3rd, Butler. 100 YARDS BACKSTROKE—1st, Lang; 2nd, L. C. Jones; 3rd, Butler. 100 YARDS BREASTSTROKE—1st, Lang; 2nd Cregeen; 3rd, Williams. NEAT DIVE—1st, Williams; 2nd, Lang; 3rd, B. Connor. LONG PLUNGE—1st, Butler; 2nd, Lang; 3rd, Williams. 50 YARDS BUTTERFLY—1st, Williams; 2nd, Butler. OBSTACLE RACE—1st, Williams; 2nd, D. A. Hall; 3rd, Butler. UNDERWATER DISTANCE TEST—Cregeen.

JUNIOR

50 YARDS FREESTYLE—1st, Milbourn; 2nd, W. R. McConnell; 3rd, Cowan. 50 YARDS BACKSTROKE—1st, Cowan; 2nd, P. L. Rimmer; 3rd, J. R. Hughes. 50 YARDS BREASTSTROKE—1st, N. F. Garland; 2nd, N. G. Brooks; 3rd, Cowan. NEAT DIVE—1st, Garland; 2nd, Rimmer; 3rd, K. A. Jones. LONG PLUNGE—1st, D. W. T. Hughes; 2nd, Cowan; 3rd, R. Allman. UNDERWATER RACE—1st, K. A. Jones; 2nd, Cowan; 3rd, L. B. Gregory. 25 YARDS BUTTERFLY—1st, Garland; 2nd, M. W. Drew; 3rd, Brooks. OBSTACLE RACE—1st, Cowan; 2nd, K. A. Jones; 3rd, Rimmer.

UNDER 13

25 YARDS FREESTYLE—1st, S. Elsworthy; 2nd, K. Nicholson; 3rd, N. A. Robertson. 25 YARDS BACKSTROKE—1st, Elsworthy; 2nd, D. A. Hulin; 3rd, M. H. Hadfield. 25 YARDS BREASTSTROKE—1st, Nicholson; 2nd, Hulin; 3rd, Elsworthy. NEAT DIVE—1st, Hulin; 2nd, G. W. Gaston; 3rd, M. M. Cooper. LONG PLUNGE—1st, Elsworthy; 2nd, Hulin; 3rd, J. Hall. 25 YARDS CLOTHED RACE—1st, Elsworthy; 2nd, J. A. T. Woods; 3rd, W. Kenwright. OBSTACLE RACE—1st, Elsworthy; 2nd, Hulin; 3rd, M. W. Drew.

SQUADRONS

SENIOR: MEDLEY—1st, Lawrence; 2nd, Owen; 3rd, Alfred. FREESTYLE—1st, Lawrence; 2nd, Owen; 3rd, Alfred.

JUNIOR: MEDLEY—1st, Cochran; 2nd, Alfred; 3rd, Tate. FREESTYLE—1st, Cochran; 2nd, Alfred; 3rd, Tate.

INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

SENIOR: R. D. Lang (Lawrence). JUNIOR: A. J. Cowan (Alfred). U.13: S. Elsworthy (Alfred).

HOUSE CHAMPIONSHIPS

SENIOR: Lawrence. JUNIOR: Cochran. U.13: Alfred.

AGGREGATE: Alfred.

CROSS-COUNTRY RUNNING

This year the season has started in a most satisfying manner. However, all the laurels are borne by one team, the other two not having so much cause for pride.

It was thought that racing ought not to start at the very beginning of term; so the first two Saturdays were left without fixtures. In this way the teams could regain their fitness after, in some cases, six months' rest. This proved to be a mixed blessing. The two Junior teams trained conscientiously, while the Seniors made the best of the free Saturdays by lying in. As a result, the U.16 team has been beaten only twice, while the Seniors

never had a chance to recover from one week's race before the next is upon them.

The U.14 team has not had particular success. Regular readers of these notes must have read this statement for many years now. They will probably find it repeated for evermore. It has been found however, that, if a boy trains very hard and achieves some success as an U.14 against other schools, this does not necessarily ensure his continued success in the future. So, a serious attitude by the boys to the sport at that age is regarded as more important than outstanding performances, and not much significance is placed on how they fare against other teams.

This policy has shown itself to be correct in the performance of the U.16 team. Few of its members have been running seriously until this year, and yet the results leave nothing to be desired. On 11th October, Manchester Grammar School narrowly defeated them, and a week later they shared equal points with the winning team of the Waterloo Road Race, Wirral Grammar School. During the next fortnight two races were held, in which most Merseyside schools took part. The Sefton Harriers' Memorial Trophy was won from fifteen other schools and, a week later, twenty-three other teams were defeated in the Liverpool Harriers' Booth Cup Race at Woolton. These trophies have never been held by the School even in ages past, when K. Thompson and V. N. Cowan led a team which is reported to have swept all before it.

The considerable improvement in the general fitness of the teams is in a large measure due to the "Paarlauf" sessions (and Oxos?) which have now become a weekly necessity for all those whose desire for physical discomfort is never satisfied. There has also been gratifying support for the Wednesday runs held at Mersey Road, latterly in the dark.

Not the least enthusiastic towards reaching peak fitness by weekly sessions at circuit training and Paarlauf is our master in charge, Mr. Rowell. It is his enthusiasm which keeps us on our toes.

W. J. RIGBY.

BASKETBALL NOTES

The Gymnasium was out of use for most of the summer, but basketball was resumed in the Autumn Term. Two matches have been played. The first, against Calday, resulted in a convincing victory, while the second, against Alsop, resulted in an equally convincing defeat.

The fact that only two matches have been played this year makes it hard to forecast the fortunes of the team. It is obvious, however, that if the team is to do well, it must avail itself of every opportunity to gain practice in shooting, passing and other basic requirements, not the least of these being a thorough knowledge and understanding of the rules.

Finally, our very sincere thanks to Mr. Goodall for taking such an active interest in the team, and to Mr. Dodd for his never-failing presence on Monday lunch-times, to give us another opportunity to practise.

R. D. LANG.

RUGBY FIVES

In the latter part of the Summer Term the School teams maintained their long sequence of victories against other schools. Wallasey Grammar School was beaten by 10 matches to nil on our courts and by 5 matches to 1 on theirs. Calday Grange Grammar School sent a senior team to our courts which lost 17-1, and a junior team which lost 9-0. The Old Boys, however, won their match against the School by 8 games to 4. This

match produced a much higher standard of play and was greatly enjoyed by all who took part.

N. Dixon won the Eric Davies Cup in the Senior Singles Championship and J. Park the new cup for the Junior Singles. This cup was presented to the School by Mr. Rowell. Thirty-six juniors entered this competition and it is to be hoped that they will continue to play with the same fervour and that they will make every effort to obtain a footing on the Fives Ladder.

The covered court now contains fluorescent lighting, which is a welcome improvement, for now a satisfactory game can be played by artificial light. In addition to practice games, it would now be possible to play matches against other schools during the dark winter evenings.

CAREERS

"Not only for his own vocation but also because it is part of his understanding of modern society, a boy should acquire as thorough a knowledge of careers as possible." It is therefore an essential part of a Career Master's duty to link a boy's work in school with his proposed career, and for this purpose three avenues of approach have been provided for boys in the Remove forms and above.

There is direct contact between the prospective employer and the potential wage-earner. The employer writes to the school giving details of the qualifications he requires and the salary he is prepared to offer, and suitable boys are sent to him for interview. Appointments to any particular post are made provisionally in April or May, confirmation being dependent on G.C.E. results in August. Where the master knows both the boy and the particular vacancy, the results are often very successful indeed.

Then there is the Youth Employment Service, which functions outside the school. Early in their last year in school, boys are given a general idea of the types of employment available to them. They are later interviewed individually, in the presence of their parents, if they wish, and then 'placed' as vacancies arise, by the Youth Employment Bureau.

Lastly, there is now in the School a comprehensive library of Careers literature available at almost any time to any boys who are interested. This not only sets out details of a variety of careers ranging from Archaeology to Veterinary Science, but also helps boys to obtain a realistic insight into occupations of which, up to this time, they have been almost completely unaware.

We hope, therefore, that all boys who are concerned with making the right choice of a career will, in future, make full use of one or all of these facilities and so make a decision which will eventually contribute to their own personal happiness as well as the right utilisation of their abilities.

OLD BOYS' SECTION

We asked our Staff Spy to report on the 1958 Ladies' Night, which was held at Mecca, Sefton House, on Saturday, 25th October.

LADIES' NIGHT

This article is in no sense an advertisement. Good wine needs no bush and Ladies' Night needs no boost. Liobians fall into three groups: those who come once and come again the next year, those who never come and

miss a lot, and those who want to come but cannot, because there is no room. For the sake of the third class, the event should be held in St. George's Hall next year. I'm sure it could be organised. If Ladies' Night has become one of the most popular events in the Liobian diary, it is only because of the effort exerted, year after year, by those responsible for organising it. Those who watch them as they chivvy around for weeks before, bullying caterers, printers and minstrels, cannot fail to be impressed by the work that goes into Ladies' Night.

Again this year, the Lucullus Suite at the Mecca, Sefton House, was the centre of pilgrimage. The guests, after being welcomed by the President and Mrs. Crichton and by the Headmaster and Mrs. Edwards, enjoyed a dinner of the usual high standard. Prizes of a surprising variety—3 lb. of chocolates, a set of kitchen scales—were given away free to lucky guests, even if they couldn't tell the M.C. how to spell prestidigitation. The floor was cleared for dancing within minutes.

We were privileged to have the company of the Mayor of Wallasey, Alderman T. F. H. Wilson, who confessed proudly to having been at the School as long ago as 1893. Sixty-five years a Liobian: while G. Campbell, at the other end of the scale, had not been gone sixty-five weeks. Old Boys had come to this dance from as far north as Carlisle and as far south as London: from abroad (Glasgow) and from the colonies (Meols). Music was provided by Freddy Corbett's Band and during the interval R. Bailey gave a virtuoso display on the piano which really "had the joint shaking." In fact, he nearly ended the performance by bringing the floral decorations round about his ears.

The Whist Drive was a little quieter but even that could not save the President, Mr. J. D. Crichton. When prizegiving came, he had to creep across the floor to receive the booby prize from Mrs. Edwards.

Others had better luck, but even those who did not win anything were fully satisfied. We offer our sincere thanks to the organisers, and are sure that next year will see yet another successful and well-attended Ladies' Night. Book early!

The search for a suitable War Memorial ended this year in the purchase of the Melbeck Road Tennis Courts. When the War Memorial Fund was launched nearly twelve years ago, its organisers had in mind some such project as a permanent base in the Lake District, but the cost proved prohibitive. One of the first acts of the trustees was to provide the commemorative plaques which stand beside those of the First World War outside the Hall; later, a clock was purchased for the Mersey Road pavilion. But for one reason or another, all major schemes put forward by members have had to be abandoned.

What we wanted was something within our limited means; something that could be shared by Old Boys and members of the School alike; something which would, in fact meet with the approval of those men whom it commemorates. The Committee believes that all these requirements have been met in the purchase of a pair of hard courts at Melbeck Road, Allerton. The existing club has had strong connections with the School and the site is ripe for development as a meeting place. We shall be able to erect a sizeable pavilion with the balance of the Memorial Fund and we plan to serve light refreshments there during the summer months. We hope to clear the land adjoining the courts and set it out as a small tea-garden. Members of the sporting clubs will be encouraged to regard the pavilion as their centre, and present members of the School will be eligible to join the Tennis Club as Junior members.

A great deal of work remains to be done before the project can be

said to be complete. Old Boys and senior members of the School who would like to help with the preliminary work should contact the Secretary, Mr. A. Durband, at the School.

We have heard with regret of the deaths of the following:—

P. R. Jones (1944-1949), who joined the City Police in 1955. He was killed in a motor-cycling accident.

A. W. H. Thomas, aged 87, formerly German and French Master at the School for more than 20 years.

Ex-Alderman F. H. Thornton, M.B.E., F.C.A., aged 77, an ex-Mayor of Wallasey.

R. A. Longmire (1934-1942) has been appointed First Secretary to the British Embassy in Moscow.

T. C. Waddington (1914-1949) has been appointed Tutor at Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge.

R. Hodson (1941-1949) and R. King (1944-1951) were each awarded Ph.D.'s at Cambridge in 1958.

G. Davies (1944-1952) has been appointed Lecturer in Aeronautics at the University of Sydney, Australia.

K. Thomson (1948-1956) has been awarded his Half-Blue at Cambridge for the third time.

E. T. Halliday (1910-1916) has completed his fifth portrait of the Duke of Edinburgh. It is destined for the Mess of the R.A.F. Technical College, Hendon.

The London Dinner will take place at the National Liberal Club on Friday, 20th February, 1959. The organiser is Mr. H. Miller, 183, St. Paul's Wood Hill, Orpington, Kent.

The Annual Dinner of the Association is to take place at the School on Wednesday, 7th March, 1959.

C.C.F.—ARMY AND BASIC SECTIONS

The Contingent continues to make encouraging progress. At the beginning of the summer holidays we enjoyed our Annual Camp at Kinnel Park near Rhyl. Arduous at times, it was always full of interest and the varied training programme included demonstrations by the Royal Engineers, the Royal Artillery and the Infantry.

At the end of last term we said farewell to Sergeant Majors Johnson and Stark. The Corps wish them all success in the future and we all express our sincere gratitude for all the enthusiastic service they rendered to the Contingent during a very difficult period.

The Signals Section is now well established and with regular instruction from N.C.O.'s of the Royal Signals Squadron at Western Command it will play an increasingly important part in Field Days and Camps to come. The Shooting Team is in process of resurrection and a Demonstration Drill Squad has been formed under the leadership of Cpl. Laing.

The chief object of the C.C.F. is to produce leaders, and efficient N.C.O.'s and instructors are essential. Good progress was made in this direction when sixteen N.C.O.'s attended an intensive course at Formby towards the end of the summer holidays under the supervision of Capt. Boote and Sgt.-Major King of the University O.T.C. If the N.C.O.'s

maintain their present high standards and the recruits continue to respond as well as they have done, the Corps can look forward to a very successful year.

Finally, on behalf of the Contingent, I would like to express our appreciation of the time and energy devoted to the successful running of the Contingent by our officers, always at hand to give help where needed.

C.S.M.

C.C.F.—R.A.F. SECTION

This year Mr. Wray has joined the R.A.F. Section in place of Mr. Preece. As a boy, Mr. Wray was a member of the School G.T.C. Squadron, in which he passed both the G.T.C. proficiency examinations and took his gliding certificate. This experience as a cadet and his later service in the R.A.F. are already proving valuable to the Section.

During the summer holiday, four cadets attended a gliding course at R.A.F. Hawarden and all of them gained 'A' and 'B' gliding certificates.

Field Day was held at R.A.F. Woodvale, where all cadets enjoyed flights in Chipmunks, even though the simple aerobatics of earlier years were performed with a few extra flourishes.

At half term eleven cadets attended courses in physical training and navigation at R.A.F. Halton. The results, however, were not as good as they have been in previous courses. The two cadets passing proficiency at advanced level maintained the standard of previous years, but the results of the ordinary examinations could have been better, since only two cadets gained passes. Thirteen cadets have been entered for the examinations in December and it must be stressed that success can only be assured by attending the lunch time lectures. The December examinations will be the last to be held using the present syllabus, since at the beginning of the year Home Command announced its intention of modifying the training system. The new course will stress practical application rather than theory and is intended to develop the spirit of leadership in cadets.

Flt.-Lt. Watson and Plt.-Off. Wray are thanked for the efficiency with which they have attended to the administration of the Section.

R. F. HUBBARD (Flt.-Sgt.).

19th CITY SCOUT TROOP

The annual camp was held at Cors-y-Gedol Hall, some five miles from Barmouth. The advance party braved diluvial conditions to erect the tents. The main party was greeted by a bedraggled G.S.M., whose bland smile proved transient at the reluctance of his car to perform amphibious miracles.

On the rare occasions when the rain paused and the mist lifted, we enjoyed an inspiring view of the golden sands of Dyffryn and the sweep of Cardigan Bay. Outings were plentiful, and Cader Idris was conquered by a group of Seniors. One S.M. and our A.S.M. demonstrated their skill in map-reading by losing themselves on the mountains and spending the night at a farm-house.

The waters of Dyffryn proved, alas, to be far from pure, acting as an emetic and boosting the sales of restoratives. Despite these "contretemps," members of the Troop seem anxious to camp again next year.

* * *

Field-day was spent in and about Llangollen. On the way, we saw

the Horseshoe Pass in brilliant sunshine. The activities organised by the officers proved to be a trifle ambitious.

Our swimming team came a close second in the annual Association Gala.

Our meetings have been well attended this term, and we have had an intake of seven promising recruits. If any boy is interested in joining the Troop, it might be possible to fit him in.

POMPEII

A hot August sun shone down on the dark waters of the Bay of Naples, on a young fisherman mending his nets on the shore and on a young soldier to whom he was talking.

Suddenly there was a deep sinister noise that seemed to come from the very bowels of the earth. The soldier looked up. His gaze fell on Pompeii, his home town, which lay at the foot of a large volcano, Vesuvius. There was a strange pall of smoke hanging over its summit. He thought back to that terrible February day sixteen years ago, in A.D. 63, when a large earthquake had nearly destroyed the city. They were still repairing some of the damage. Another long rumbling startled him and made him hurriedly set off towards the nearest gate, several hundred yards away.

Anxiously, he made his way through it and along a main street. He started to run along the roadway, but when he was nearly knocked down by a chariot, he was forced to step on the pavement. He came to another street and ran across the stepping stones that had been placed in the road because the drainage in wet weather was not too good, and the ruts made by the chariot wheels could be dangerous at times.

He ran on past the majestic temple of Jupiter into the forum, where large crowds of people, who had been terrified by the strange noises, had gathered. He did not heed them, but passed by the wool and cloth exchanges and turned a corner where a baker was just placing freshly baked bread on show in his shop. He ran on past a hot-drink stall and a small theatre to a square. Here he made his way past the public baths and the military barracks, until he came to a side street, down which he turned. On the walls of the houses there were scrawled advertisements, election notices and a caricature of a schoolmaster drawn by some mischievous schoolboy.

He came to his own house and raced through the small porch. He did not even glance at the beautifully worked mosaic on the forecourt, which showed a dog and gave the warning "CAVE CANEM." He shouted to the slaves, but none came, so he went into the kitchen. The cook had been preparing a meal. There were loaves, cakes, olives, grapes, eggs and wine in jars, all ready to be served, but the cook had disappeared. Some water which had come half a mile through lead pipes, trickled noisily from a large bronze tap.

There would be no one upstairs, he reflected, as they were the slaves' quarters. He went into the small garden, but did not even look at the beautiful flowers and shrubs, or at the red painted pictures along the porticoes. Suddenly his mother, who had been dressing for the evening meal, came out. She had left her bronze mirrors, her hairclips, cameo brooches and phials of perfume. "Vesuvius is erupting!" she cried. "Flee, my son, flee!"

He knew better, however. Was he not a soldier of the Roman Empire? Had he not gained distinction under Frontinus in the campaigns in Britannia? He stepped out into the street. People were running down towards the shore. He gazed up at Vesuvius. From its summit came cinders, small stones, ash and a dense, rolling cloud of smoke.

The smoke began to make him cough. He started to choke and staggered inside again. He groped his way to his bedroom, pushed the door open and went in. Hesitating a moment, he locked the door and fell on to his bed. The fumes seemed to be getting worse and worse. He tried to breathe, but in vain. His face was tortured with pain and agony. He put his cloak over his nose in an effort to stop the fumes. But it was no use: he still coughed, and choked and gasped.

* * *

Some eighteen hundred years later, while digging to construct a new aqueduct, a workman found a strange object in the basaltic soil. It was a sword. Soon archaeologists and scholars from all over Europe came to the spot and eagerly started digging. They found under all the volcanic ash and stones a forgotten city, just as it was centuries before. Some objects such as the fishing net, egg shells, sandals, mirrors, and the remains of a bed, could easily be recognised with the naked eye. Test-tubes and microscopes revealed such other charred objects as grapes, olives and even the colours and types of flowers and shrubs. Where once the men and women had fallen, their bodies had been covered by the volcanic deposits and in time had decomposed. The experts now took plaster casts of the hollows thus formed and so had exact copies of the original bodies in the positions in which they had fallen. One was of a young man with his hands over his face, trying not to breathe the poisonous fumes. His face was contorted in agony as he lay on his bed, his death-bed.

* * *

In 1958, a party from the Liverpool Institute made their way back to the coach, near the place where a young soldier had once chatted to his friend. Who was he? No one knows. Perhaps when the rest of the town is excavated, his identity may be revealed. The only witness was the sun-god who was still shining and is forever silent.

R. W. DAVIES (6AC).

LITERARY AND DEBATING SOCIETY

This session was approached with some trepidation by the older members of the Society. It was the old, old story: "There'll never be one like the last one!" Nearly all of our most experienced speakers had departed, and the possibility of a successful session seemed remote. However, all our fears proved groundless. Inspired by the experience and enthusiasm of our Chairman, Mr. C. H. Moore, and our Vice-President, Mr. D. G. Bentriff, the Society rose to the occasion; and with the additional guidance of Mr. G. F. Bilson and Mr. H. R. Dodd, both very hardened campaigners, members both old and young have combined to produce gratifying results. So far, four meetings have been held:—

October 7th: *That Scientists are the salt of the earth.* Pro: W. J. Rigby and G. J. Rowlands. Con: T. I. Williams and R. T. Croft. Motion Carried: For 32; Against 20; Abstentions 8.

October 21st: *That tradition is an obstacle to progress.* Pro: D. Reed and J. R. A. Power. Con: R. D. Cannon and L. F. MacRae. Motion Defeated: For 9; Against 13; Abstentions 19.

November 4th: *That gossip is the spice of life.* Pro: R. W. Davies and A. M. Zalin. Con: D. Altshul and T. I. Williams. Motion Defeated: For 11; Against 21; Abstentions 14.

The Society's most recent meeting was held on November 18th, the minutes of which are given below:—

Minutes of a meeting of the Liverpool Institute Literary and Debating Society, held in the Board Room on Tuesday, November 18th at 7 p.m., with Mr. C. H. Moore in the chair.

Upon the conclusion of private business, M. F. McNaughton rose to propose the motion: *That we would rather be living cowards than dead heroes.*

He argued that, since a dead man can feel nothing, he would feel no satisfaction in being a hero. It would not matter to him whether he was a hero or a coward. There would, admittedly, be public admiration for his valour, but the dead man would not appreciate it. He admitted that life could be unpleasant for a man branded as coward; but, just as men forget bravery, so do they forget cowardice, and before long the coward would find himself free from public censure. Discretion, he maintained, is the better part of valour, and life a thing too precious to give away at any price.

Opposing the motion, J. R. A. Power asserted that the British people were heroes by nature and had always been proud of the fact. Anyone wanting to be a living coward was forfeiting the distinction which he had inherited from his fathers: a distinction which every other nation recognised. No-one should fear death. It was inevitable and should be faced in the best possible manner: and the best way to die was as a hero. England possessed many institutions of a very distinctive nature, and running through them all was the vein of heroism, which none could destroy, try how they may.

Seconded to the Proposition, K. McKelvie, argued that different people possessed different conceptions of heroism. In a revolution, for instance, the rebels might appear to their supporters as heroes dying in the cause of justice; but to their opponents they would seem cowards, afraid to live under the old regime. The words "coward" and "hero" thus had very little significance. The vital word in the motion was "living"; and since the living could benefit their fellow-men far more than the dead, the motion should be supported.

R. Williams seconded the Opposition. Nothing, he claimed, could be gained without sacrifice, and a man must therefore be prepared to make sacrifices for his country, even the supreme sacrifice of death. It was only in times of war and disaster that a man's character could really be tested and the heroes distinguished from the cowards. An example of this had occurred during the recent uprising in Hungary. The cowards had deserted the cause and fled to Western Europe, but the true heroes had remained in Hungary to die. They would always be remembered.

The temporary Lord High Poker-in-Chief, D. Altshul, considered heroism to be an instinct, for which the battle-field was but one of many outlets. It was for each man to decide whether his ideals were worth dying for, but if he believed in them, the sacrifice was surely justified.

T. I. Williams referred to Remembrance Sunday, which, he said, always filled him with disgust. The people who were worshipped as heroes on that day were in fact nothing of the sort. Most of them were just ordinary men who had been led into war by their country much against their will.

Vice-President Mr. D. G. Bentriff felt that a clarification of the meaning of the motion would not be out of place. If the words were interpreted literally it might be argued that heroes, being dead, could have no feelings, and that the motion could therefore not be opposed on any grounds. He urged the House to regard them as meaning "we

would like to feel that, if an emergency arose, we would stay alive by cowardice rather than lose our lives heroically."

L. MacRae felt that the people who showed cowardice in war were very sensible. It was easy for non-combatants to condemn cowards, but if they were in the soldier's position, they too would wish to remain alive.

S. C. E. Richardson pointed out the Christian belief in a life after death, in which heroism and cowardice counted for nothing.

R. D. Cannon could not subscribe to the view that the Hungarian refugees should be condemned. They had had very little hope of success, and they were wise to leave while they were still able to do so.

Mr. H. R. Dodd reminded the House that it was possible for a man to be a living hero or a dead coward. If he had to choose simply between heroism or cowardice, he would prefer to be a hero, not because of any natural inclination towards heroism, but because it brought public respect, whereas cowardice did not.

Mr. G. F. Bilson accused the opposition speakers of out-moded, out-dated thinking. The cowards in the Hungarian Revolution were not those who fled from Hungary, but the people of Britain and America, who refused them aid in their hour of need. The view that only the dead are heroes, although wide-spread, was far from the truth. Life was a talent which should be used wisely: the true heroes were those who devoted their life to the benefit of mankind.

Maiden Speaker A. J. Cowan quoted the saying, "he who runs away lives to fight another day."

Maiden Speaker P. A. Ellison considered that the real hero did not attach any importance to the glory he would win.

Another Maiden Speaker, C. W. Manley, wanted to think of himself as a potential hero, but doubted his ability to be one.

According to R. W. Davies, the real hero in a war was the man who could steel himself to perform work to which he was unaccustomed and unsuited: the office-worker, for instance, who had the courage to perform manual work.

D. A. Hall felt that men who were cowards in peace-time very often became heroes in times of war.

Maiden Speaker D. M. Andrew referred to sportsmen, singers of popular songs, and other public idols. They were heroes, but to suggest that people who were not public idols were cowards was ridiculous.

After the summing-up a vote was taken. But the House seemed unable to choose between the two sides, for the voting was equal: For 18; Against 18; Abstentions 12. It was left to the Chairman to make the casting vote, and this he did in favour of the opposition. Thus the motion was defeated by the narrowest of margins.

The Chairman congratulated the House on a very successful debate and adjourned the meeting.

A. J. CUMMINS, R. S. PYBUS.

SIR DONALD MACALISTER SOCIETY

There have been three meetings this term, all well attended, and the Secretaries would like to take this opportunity of thanking those members of the Staff who have addressed us on these occasions.

The first talk was on *Egyptology* by Mr. J. D. Wray. He described a

complex and fascinating subject from power to decline and fall in a most interesting manner, illustrating his talk with excellent diagrams and examples.

Mr. R. N. Evans' talk, *Fringes of Insanity*, dealt with music "of sorts"—twelve note, concrete, computational and electronic music. He illustrated his talk with examples of his own composition, a record by Hindemith and tape recordings which he made from a technical record, thus making it an instructive and topical lecture.

A revelation in the light of modern thought of J. S. Mills' essay, *Liberty*, was the topic chosen by Mr. J. G. Rogers who compressed a great amount of detail into a very short time. It was interesting to hear the ideas for the future of this nineteenth-century personage, and their comparison with existing political forms of our own time.

Encouraged by the excellence of the papers this term, it is hoped that, during the Spring Term, members, free from examinations, will return to the practice of reading their own talks.

We should also like to thank Messrs. R. T. Jones and D. G. Bentliff for their unfailing patience and able chairmanship.

D. W. L. BURNHAM, J. M. BLOND.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Three meetings have been held so far this term. Mr. Bilson gave an informative and at times very amusing lecture on *The American Civil War* and Mr. Brazendale spoke to us on *The Peninsular War*, pointing out the effect it had on Napoleon's future career. The two films, which comprised the third meeting, contrasted sharply with each other. The first dealt with medieval monasticism, revealing a typical day in the life of a monk, while the second gave an insight into the aristocratic life of the eighteenth century.

The Society would welcome more support from senior boys, particularly from those members of the Sixth Form who do not study History.

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

L. BIVON.

CHRISTIAN UNION

The term has been an encouraging one, seeing the implementation of several of the suggestions made at the final two meetings of last term—the abandonment of the traditional pattern for notices, the display on the notice-board of pictures of churches and the establishment of a library. The last two activities mentioned are in the capable hands of R. S. Pybus (6AC), who is at present amassing a collection of books, periodicals and pictures which, it is hoped, will be of value to members.

Meetings this term have included a large percentage given by members themselves. Mr. Rice, whom, together with Mr. Long, we welcomed as new Vice-Presidents at the beginning of this term, led two discussions, one on the colour problem, one simply entitled *What is a Christian?* H. J. Davies gave an interesting talk under the title *Jabu*. Both the Secretaries gave talks and presented film-strips. Outside speakers included two missionaries from North Africa, who showed us slides of the people and land in which they work, and Rev. L. D. T. Kelly, who spoke on the meaning of Advent.

To meet the needs of older members of the School, a series of talks

and discussions has been organised which will avoid the restrictions imposed by the dinner-hour by taking place after School. At first they will take place once a month, and it is hoped they will prove of value and be well supported.

An encouraging increase has been shown in the number of boys who joined the Scripture Union and several have attended meetings organised by the Union in Liverpool.

A general welcome is extended to all to join in our meetings and the Secretaries are always ready to give further information to those desiring it.

The Secretaries wish to acknowledge with gratitude the help and advice given at all times by Messrs. Watson, Rice and Long.

T. I. WILLIAMS, S. C. E. RICHARDSON.

SIXTH FORMS SCIENCE SOCIETY

The Society has had large attendances this year and we are pleased to see that many members of the non-science Sixths were interested in the lectures given.

The first speaker of the year was Dr. C. P. Cranston, of Imperial Chemical Industries, Birmingham, who came to lecture on Titanium, a metal with a short but exciting history.

Dr. P. M. Sheppard, of Liverpool University, in his lecture, *Evolution by Natural Selection*, showed us how the processes of natural selection were working to-day. He brought a large collection of slides to illustrate his observations.

A visit was arranged to the works of Beck, Koller and Co. Ltd., Speke and prior to the visit, the firm's Production Manager, Mr. I. C. Sime, gave an introductory talk, which added considerably to our enjoyment of the visit the next day.

After half term Mr. A. Gamwell showed the Society the "inside" of Ceramics. His explanation of the processing of the materials used in manufacture of ceramics was accompanied by a comprehensive array of examples.

The Society will continue its meetings every fortnight until Easter and possibly one or two lectures will be arranged for the Summer term.

W. J. RIGBY.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

Unfortunately, the Secretary has to report once again a poor attendance at the varied meetings arranged during the term. Better use could also be made of the well-stocked library which is open during the lunch-hour on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The loss of senior members last July has been offset by a number of new members, but there still remain some vacancies.

The annual Excursion was made on 28th July, this year to Dovedale.

On 23rd October, the Society had a lecture by Mr. D. S. Moran, of Ilford Limited, on *The Exhibition Print*. The information given in this lecture will be of assistance to members' preparing prints for the Hobby Show. It is hoped that the high standard of prints reached in previous exhibitions will be maintained.

K. MCKELVIE.

CHESS CLUB

This year we welcome Mr. P. Rice, who has taken charge of the Chess Club in place of Mr. E. R. Jones, who left us last year. We feel sure that chess in the School will prosper under Mr. Rice's guidance.

The Chess Club has continued to grow from strength to strength and we now have over a hundred members. A large proportion of these are drawn from the Middle and Lower School, so that our prospects for future success in the Wright Challenge Shield Competition should be very bright.

The Shield Competition is being played this year for the first time on the Swiss System which, it is claimed, combines the excitement of the knock-out with the fairness of the all-play-all. At the end of last year the School team lost four of its members, including its first three boards, and is therefore considerably weakened. It has so far won one of its two matches and consists of: G. J. Rowlands, J. R. Conder, C. J. Byrne, M. F. McNaughton, J. G. Settle, D. S. Norris and P. L. Bracev.

Thanks are due to Mr. Rice for his help and also to C. J. Byrne for his untiring efforts on behalf of the Junior members of the Chess Club.

J. R. CONDER.

MUSIC CLUB

The Music Club was handicapped during the first half of the term by the prolonged absence of the Chairman, Mr. Naylor; handicapped but by no means forced to curtail its activities, for Mr. R. N. Evans came to the help of the Committee and a varied programme was arranged. Of live recitals, there was the performance of D. Norris (Oboe) and J. E. Roberts (Violin), who played, among other works, part of J. S. Bach's *Double Concerto in D Minor*, and the recital by Mr. H. R. Dodd and R. S. Pybus of movements from Bach's *Piano Concerto in D Minor*, and Beethoven's *Third Piano Concerto*, accompanied by Mr. R. N. Evans on the organ. This recital is believed to be the first of its kind in the history of the Society. To be included in the ranks of the "live" is the programme of recorded music by Johann Strauss, presented by that ebullient disc-jockey, Mr. Edge. At other meetings, gramophone records of works by Dvorak, Tchaikovsky and Brahms were played.

The General Business Meeting of the Society was postponed until 4th November, by which date Mr. Naylor had returned to school. His efforts at that meeting to vote himself out of office failed, and under his guidance a performance of Mozart's *Horn Concerto No. 3 in Eb*, by Mr. D. Conolly (Horn) and Miss B. Pott (Piano), a lecture on Verdi, by L. Bivon, and a piano recital, by A. R. Bingham, were arranged, as well as a programme of records of chamber music lent by Mr. A. Evans.

R. T. CROFTS.

THE ORCHESTRA

Following a successful concert given to the Music Club of Blackburne House just prior to the summer holidays, the Orchestra has begun rehearsals this year with added vigour and enthusiasm. Very few of last year's members have departed, and we can confidently look forward to yet another year of success.

Autumn Term would seem to be one of comparative inactivity for the Orchestra. The first event of importance does not take place until March, when the Hobby Show makes its biennial appearance, and the Orchestra

is to provide interval-music during performances of the House Plays. But to suggest that the Orchestra has been idle would be quite wrong. In the carefree atmosphere generated by this lengthy gap between performances, it has been possible to play, by way of experiment, music which otherwise would have been quite beyond our scope. For instance, a number of Handel's Organ Concertos have been played, simply for the Orchestra's personal pleasure, satisfaction and—most important of all—education; it may even be said that such experience is as valuable as that of performing in public.

But now March is drawing near. Our programme for the Hobby Show has been planned, and full-scale rehearsals have begun. In the midst of all our enthusiastic activity one thing stands out above all else: the industry and keenness of Mr. R. N. Evans, for which we are truly grateful. Under his guidance we can safely expect success.

A. J. CUMMINS.

RECORDER GROUP

It is now just over a year since the Recorder Group came into being, under the leadership of Mr. D. W. Rowell, an enthusiastic beginner on the descant recorder. The Group, which is four strong, has an ever-increasing repertoire, and has given a number of recitals. It played to the Music Club in the Spring and Summer terms of last year as well as in the Music Club Concert. A short performance was given at Blackburne House last July, with the assistance of Mr. H. R. Dodd, and the Group took part in a concert in Crosby on the invitation of Mr. A. Hosker.

The bulk of the music available for recorders is from the pre-classical era, and the Group has played works by Orlando Gibbons, John Bull, Byrd, Locillet and others. A number of contemporary composers have taken an interest in our recorders, and Britten's *Alpine Suite* is now being rehearsed.

R. T. CROFTS.

THE ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY

On Friday, 3rd October, it was announced that an Archæological Society would be formed. Enthusiastic support was given when members of the Sixth Forms who were interested assembled in the Physics Laboratory to hear Mr. Wray's proposals for the founding of such a society. The Headmaster was voted President; Mr. L. Nelson, Mr. J. W. McDonald and Mr. J. D. O. Long as Vice-Presidents; Mr. Wray, Chairman; C. I. Vaughan (6AC), Secretary; R. D. Grogan (6AMI) and T. I. Williams (6AC) as a Committee representing the Science, Modern and Classical Sixths respectively.

The purpose of the Society is to promote an active interest in Archæology and archæological excavation. It is hoped that we shall sometime next Spring give gallant support to the "labour camps," which will enable members of the Society to gain valuable experience in excavating. A point has been raised about subscriptions. Every society needs a monetary basis and some need larger ones than others. Funds paid into our Society will be primarily used in the purchase of magazines; these are very expensive owing to the small market for them, and this accounts for the fact that the subscription must be 1s. 6d. per term.

The first meeting of the Society was held on Wednesday, 22nd October, when Mr. Wray gave a short talk on Archæology, as a general subject. The speaker first of all explained the derivation of the word "Archæology" and then described the different aspects of archæology and the many branches of science it entailed. It was therefore concluded that archæology is essentially a science and Mr. Wray ended by agreeing with Sir Mortimer Wheeler's

statement that archæology is primarily a "fact-finding discipline."

Mr. Kitchen, a lecturer at Liverpool University, gave the second lecture of the Society, on 5th November, on the *Principles of Archaeology*. This proved to be an excellent talk, during which the speaker made full use of maps, diagrams and photographs, and described the discipline required in excavation and the uses of stratigraphy, epigraphy, and pottery.

On 19th November, members were brought up to date on the subject of Crete and the civilisation discovered there, when T. I. Williams lectured on *Minoan Civilisation*. The speaker considered first the whole of Crete and then concentrated on the town of Knossos. At Knossos, a royal palace has been excavated revealing startling facts about a civilisation which until recent years had been unknown, except for descriptions in Homer. Archæologists had refused to trust Homer as a writer of true facts until the end of the 19th century when Heinrich Schliemann excavated the mythical city of Troy.

Lectures including the *Decipherment of Linear B* and *Pompeii and Herculaneum* will be given in the near future. At present, membership is confined to the Sixth Forms; later, however, the Upper Fifth Forms might be admitted since a disappointing, though not unexpected, fall in attendance has occurred.

C. I. VAUGHAN.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Under the Chairmanship of Mr. Bowen, the Society continued to hold regular meetings last term, but there was a disappointing number of older boys, especially Fifth Formers, and it is hoped this will be remedied.

The meetings consisted of several discussions, quizzes, and two auctions, which as usual, maintained their popularity.

The Library has been open on Friday dinner-hours, during which the Stamp Pool has received much interest.

The Society hopes to put on an admirable display at the Hobby Show, for which the support of all boys is requested.

Once again, the Society is indebted to the Chairman for his interest, advice, and encouragement at all times.

R. P. BALFOUR.

ENGINEERING AND TRANSPORT SOCIETY

Since the last issue of the Magazine, the Society has enjoyed one of its most successful and active periods. The Summer Youth Hostel Tour (described in full below) was an unqualified success, while less ambitious excursions have included visits to the L.C.P.T. Depot, at Edge Lane, the Edge Hill Marshalling Yards, and the British Railway Carriage Works at Earlestown.

We have concentrated on films and talks for our Monday evening meetings; guest speakers have included the President of the Festiniog Railway Society, the Traffic Manager of Liverpool Transport, and a British Railways Official, who gave a widely appreciated talk on the future developments of Merseyside's railway system.

The Library continues to gain in popularity, and an ambitious programme of meetings, works visits and Hostel tours has been arranged for the future. Boys wishing to cultivate an intelligent interest in transports are cordially invited to take advantage of the Society's activities.

Finally, we should like to thank Mr. Hosker and Mr. Dodd for their constant advice and co-operation.

C. EARL, D. REED.

SUMMER YOUTH HOSTEL TOUR

It had, we all agreed, been a marvellous holiday. We were occupying our last few minutes building, on Barmouth beach, a grandiose tunnel system truly worthy of an Engineering and Transport Society. Perhaps such activities were considered a little naïve by the six younger members of our party, but a Master and five Sixth-formers were greatly enjoying themselves. These six days had proved that such trips can be as pleasurable as they are instructive.

It seemed a long time since we had set out on our tediously slow journey to Bala. The holiday came alive with the appearance of the one coach train that was to take us high into the moors on the lonely branch line to Ffestiniog. Puffing and straining, the engine toiled higher and higher above a wide valley, taking frequent rests to regain steam at desolate halts.

At Trawsfynydd we left the train and its seventeen passengers, making our way over the moors to Boston Lodge, the works depot of the Ffestiniog narrow gauge railway. We were shown round the works by the Traffic Manager, who explained that the line had closed to all traffic in 1946, but nine years later a group of railway enthusiasts formed a Preservation Society, enlisting voluntary support to undertake the formidable task of clearing the track, relaying the permanent way and making the derelict engines fit for service. The track is now open for seven miles and a Summer Service of trains carries hundreds of passengers into one of the most beautiful Welsh valleys.

The next day, the weather was very unfavourable for our ascent of Snowdon. We struggled up the Watkin Path, the optimists declaring the mist was lifting, the erudite asserting we would soon climb above it, and the realists observing that it was getting worse every moment. Damp and cold, we trudged into the Summit Café, having enjoyed the inspiring view of Snowdon.

On Thursday, our travels took us to Aberystwyth by broad gauge, and to Devil's Bridge by the narrow gauge line that runs above the Rheidol Valley. The journey was pleasing enough, but the line lacked character: tickets, uniforms and crests were all conventional, and the carriages carried the traditionally worded warnings of £5 fines and of the dangers of self-defenestration.

The Tal-y-Llyn Railway, on the other hand, was not lacking in character. With carriages that looked like hen coops on wheels and a track that frequently disappeared under a sea of grass, it had the charm of antiquity. The engine happily ignored the demands of a time-table, chuffing its way unhurriedly up the valley, allowing us time to appreciate at leisure the quiet beauty of the hills.

Our journey was followed by a superb walk past Tal-y-Llyn Lake and over Cader Idris to Dolgelley. The superb view made up for anything we had missed on Snowdon. The hills rolled away towards the distant plains of Shropshire and the peaks of Snowdonia, while beneath us, the woods rose sharply above the Mawdach estuary. A shimmering blue haze hovered over Cardigan Bay.

That evening, in the hostel, we looked back over a splendid trip. We had all greatly enjoyed ourselves and we should like to thank Mr. E. R. Jones for giving up his time to come with us and for contributing so much to the success of the holiday.

D. REED.

CAMBRIDGE LETTER

Cambridge.

The Editor, The Liverpool Institute Magazine.

Dear Sir,

When I was at School I could never understand the University Letter. Esoteric jokes about people known only by the most Senior boys passed over my head, and after one or two attempts I never again bothered to read them until I was in my last two years, when I could remember something of the people concerned. This experience prompts me, now that I have the task of writing the letter, to give a straight forward and brief account of some of the doings of the Liobians in Cambridge, and I must apologise for my failure to follow the tradition of humorous fancy and mild satire.

Senior Liobians "in stat. pup." are Lawrence Taylor (Trinity) and Keith Thomson (Jesus) both doing fourth year post-graduate courses and both engaged to be married. Glimpses of Eric Richards, late of University College, Oxford, have revealed little else beyond his presence in Cambridge and the fact that he is married and domiciled some way beyond walking range.

The third year men continue in their wonted habits—Ken Barbour (Trinity) still plays Bridge, only in a larger room this year; Reg. Parry (Pembroke) spends most of his time at the piano. Jonathan Rosenhead (St. John's) continues to make his way towards the pinnacle of Cambridge politics, having had his name on the paper at the Union—nearer the bottom than the top, but nevertheless before the Labour Club electors. Peter Hallam (Trinity Hall) is now exiled beyond the gasworks but still plays football, and drinks at the "George and Dragon." Tony Ryland (St. Cath's.) is working for Part Two.

Of the Second Year men, Neil Ryder and Norman Fyans (St. Cath's.) have been the luckiest in the allocation of rooms, which is a great topic among the Second Year men wilting after a year in lodgings—they have a set just evacuated by a Fellow, and are probably the only men in Cambridge with a private bathroom. They are gradually taking control of the University Basketball Club—Neil Ryder holds the purse strings—and annoying their neighbours with a trombone which can be heard as far away as Emma, where Jim Watson is living the life of a recluse. John Sharp (Peterhouse) has at last found a home for his histrionic talents at the A.D.C. after a number of ambitious and some socially useful performances at Homerton: John Taylor (Trinity) offers his talents to a more limited public in the Greek production of 'Antigone.' Dave Thomas (Queen's) continues in his quiet ways, occasionally visiting Borstal, or Oxford Colleges, and looking for a game which nobody but he can play.

Four of the six freshmen are in College for their first year. Peter Johnson (Pembroke) and Brian Stark (Selwyn) have both joined the O.T.C., but fortunately only the latter plays the bagpipes, and he is far enough away. Brian Worthington (Downing) spends his time sitting at the feet of his great master, or presiding dowager—like over afternoon tea parties. Colin Malam (Sidney Sussex) and Ralph Whiting (St. Cath's.) are both making their

mark in the football world while Eric Bramhall (St. Cath's) is dabbling promiscuously in the politico-religio-sporting world, despite his éloignement from the centre of Cambridge.

Twenty-one Liobians among six thousand, nine hundred and seventy-nine other undergraduates have no real corporate impact on the University, but individuals continue to rise to that most transitory fame which is the reward of achievements here: and the links forged in School still hold firm, even if one does see certain people only on the platform at Bletchley, or Ely. But this letter is overdue and I must post early for Christmas.

Yours sincerely,

CANTAB.

OXFORD LETTER

The Editor, The Liverpool Institute Magazine.

Oxford.

Sir,

The society of Old Boys in Oxford alters little with time. Each year sees newcomers arrive and a few potential graduates bracing themselves to go down, but then changes of personality do little to disturb the general scene. For this reason we claim your readers' indulgence if one Oxford letter differs only slightly from its predecessor. The fault lies partly in its inevitable conformity with an established tradition, but principally in the characters it describes, for their activities vary little from year to year, and their modest and retiring natures do not make your correspondent's task any easier. An interesting account would be achievement enough; originality is too high an ambition.

Many of your readers will already be familiar with the names of our two lecturers in Philosophy, Mr. McKie of Brasenose and Mr. Kneale of Exeter, whose eminence continues to add distinction to the list of Oxford Old Boys. Does Mr. Kenworthy, we wonder, aspire to similar heights as he grapples with his occult problems at Merton? Certainly he seems to have attained a creditable degree of permanency in the university.

There are others who have been unable to tear themselves away from academic life and who remain in Oxford on a variety of pretexts. Mr. Ferdinand and Mr. Jeffrey, both of Jesus, now join this number; the former commences a year's research, and Mr. Jeffrey has a longer reprieve to read for a D.Phil., Mr. Armstrong remains researching at Wadham, and Mr. Glass has arrived from Durham to study sociology at St. Catherine's.

Following in Mr. Armstrong's footsteps at Wadham are Mr. Ledgard, also nurtured on Mathematics, and Mr. Jacob, who reads Law. His fellow renegade from the Classics, Mr. Walker of Pembroke, studies Law, practises rock-climbing and plays hockey. Those who read your magazine with attention might expect mention of that other sportsman of Pembroke, Mr. Hayes. It would be inappropriate to disappoint them, for Mr. Hayes' dubious tackles do not allow his footballing associates to forget that he is still there.

It is difficult to think of Mr. Hayes without turning one's mind to his contemporary in the modern language faculty, Mr. Hesketh. This gentleman is gaining notoriety at Exeter for the wild music of his descant recorder. Perhaps this accounts for Mr. Baker's move to lodgings in a district which he claims is more to his taste. Mr. Baker is nothing if not original, and one is not surprised to learn that he hopes to turn from Classics to Psychology.

If he fulfils this ambition, he may in time prove the salvation of Mr. Matthews, the Diogenes of St. John's, whose cynicism is in danger of becoming misanthropic. But in the interests of creative art all can be for-

given, and Mr. Matthews assures us that his letter to the *New Statesman and Nation* is only the beginning of his literary work. His pessimism is unlikely to affect Mr. Horsford, whose mathematics probably take him beyond the realms of such human failings.

Mr. Jack has retired from his honoured position as Corpus Christi's senior cox, intending, so he says, to work for Schools. His enthusiasm might even infect the serene existence of Mr. Parsons, but it will not deceive the clear thinking, fives-playing Mr. Smith. He has come to Brasenose to join our artist scientist Mr. Blond, whom your readers must by now regard as a second Leonardo da Vinci. Mr. Evans has deserted Oxford and Brasenose to spend a year in Germany.

Somewhere in the outskirts of Oxford lives Mr. Leech, who makes generous offers of hospitality, secure in the knowledge that there are few who are not too idle to make the necessary journey. Mr. Leech is playing football for the University and St. Edmund Hall with greater success than ever.

Mr. Craigen, returned from the wars, is reading Steinbeck and Modern Languages at Magdalen, and no doubt preparing his mémoires for publication. His vocabulary of Cypriot Greek is limited, but impressive.

And so to University College, where Mr. Dumbill, feeling the weight of his years, has set his mind on serious affairs, and taken up residence in the Old Parsonage. In contrast, Mr. Watson, our President, becomes more unbearably hearty every week on the strength of theoretical physics and rowing. His diet when in training could be explained as an attempt to shanghai his companions into the Boat Club. Mr. Norris spends his afternoons running through the mud on the river bank. At other times he may be found in his room eating black bread, drinking black coffee and savouring the satisfying view of the bend in the High.

At Queen's lives our Secretary, Mr. Berry. He has lost faith in languages and now reads Philosophy, Politics and Economics. Mr. Lawrence of Oriel is more interested in practical politics and we wait to see whether he will employ the methods of Athenian democracy in his activities at the Labour Club. Another classicist, Mr. Jackson, of Jesus, has also been observed at political meetings, but Mr. Jackson's sympathies are still a closely guarded secret.

So, sir, you have your report on Oxford, and the misgivings of the first paragraph have, I fear, proved well-founded. One would relish an opportunity to describe deer hunting or barbecues, one would be grateful for a member of the Woodpeckers' Club or the Tiddleywinks Society, for there is room for humour in winks and squidges. But these things are not to be, and following the example of my predecessors I remain in anonymity.

NOVUS HOMO.

PREFECTS' LETTER

The Editor, The Liverpool Institute Magazine.

Sir,

There has recently been much public agitation for an investigation into the affairs of those ferocious robed warriors who, at frequent and apparently pre-determined intervals, descend from their highland fastnesses upon the innocent and defenceless inhabitants of the lowlands (I hesitate to say, "the lower regions"). In deference to these demands, I have succeeded, at overwhelming risk to life and limb, in penetrating undetected into their mountain stronghold, whence I despatch the following report.

The leader of the noble band is Mr. Burnham. His talents are too numerous to mention—though he makes frequent and eloquent attempts at doing so. He lays modest claims to being the Beau Brummel of Merseyside, as well as "The Terror of all Left-Wingers" (in a non-political connotation, of course). His propensity for throwing implements, stamping his feet, and playing savage flamencoes on his clarinet is no doubt due to the volatile nature of the Spanish blood that is said to flow through several of his veins. It is rumoured that the mercurial Mr. Burnham is contemplating writing his autobiography, under the intriguing title, "Bogarde was my Stand-in."

Joint Seconds-in-Command are Mr. Crofts and Mr. Rigby. They both come to school on a bicycle, and have frequent arguments as to who is to sit on the crossbar. Mr. Crofts, whose frantic efforts to avoid being press-ganged into the Second Hockey XI cause endless amusement, has a penchant for making enigmatic speeches that no one understands. He illustrated this tendency at Speech Day. He is an accomplished musician; members of the lower school were daily witnesses of his virtuosity on the whistle, until the installation of the new electric bell put a welcome end to his lunch-hour recitals. Mr. Rigby has recently appropriated a loud voice, which he now uses to great effect. His hobbies consist of running and mathematics. Meanwhile, he has succeeded in shaping his feet into cross-country shoes, thus eliminating unnecessary expenditure.

Mr. Costigan, who apparently wants to "get away from it all," has expressed a desire to make a detailed exploration of Iceland. Considering his alarming tendency to shout the hymns in hall—"O cette voix d'enfant, chantant dans la coupole"—this project may well meet with considerable approval from his long-suffering colleagues. Mr. Costigan, famed for his pioneering work in the charting of Childwall Woods, is the only Scout who lights a fire by rubbing two hockey sticks together. Fellow Scouter, Mr. Rowlands, is a veritable one-man Olympic Games; indeed there have lately been many attempts to invent a sport in which he does not participate, badly. Supporters of the Hockey XI have been intrigued by the manner in which this gentleman combines his playing rôle with his admitted partiality to lying on the ground. For intellectual recreation Mr. Rowlands "does sums," and in his spare time he works.

Work is anathema to Mr. M. Lunt, whose declared ambition is to sleep all the time: he is practising hard. A distressing rumour spread recently when Mr. Lunt was several times observed to introduce surreptitiously into the P.R. a number of dark-hued bottles of dubious content; fortunately, these proved, on closer examination, to contain nothing more objectionable than photographic chemicals. Mr. J. D. Lunt, who is learning to dance, "treats" us to frequent demonstrations of the art. As he also utilises the P.R. as a practice football pitch, our only way of discovering which of the two activities he is indulging in at any particular moment is to observe whether or not he is using a ball. Despite many valiant attempts, Mr. Lunt has not yet succeeded in strangling himself in the window cords, from which he incessantly swings.

Mr. Cummins, we fear, is beyond redemption. A musician of some note (E flat, I think), he is an ardent supporter of the three R's: Rock, Roll, and Raunchy. His hockey is as good as his jokes, but we hope desperately for some improvement. Meanwhile he plays an important part in the testing of the P.B.M. (Prefectorial Ballistic Missile)—he is the target!

Chief of the Strategic Air Command is Mr. Hubbard, who is addicted to hero-worship: his hero is Mr. Hubbard. He keeps his sandwiches to himself, but is very liberal with the paper bags. Mr. Hubbard is a traditionalist; his desire to restore the Victorian era is evinced in his nostalgic renderings of such songs as "Are there any more at home like you?" His exertions

with the hula-hoop have so far had no noticeable effect on his expansive figure. Mr. Whittaker is another air force man, who finds an outlet for his passion for playing with numbers by acting as Cricket Secretary. Here he has played with them to such good effect that opposing teams are considering an investigation. Mr. Whittaker has made astounding progress as an aviator, and the Air Ministry have agreed to let him fly his own kite next time—provided he brings his own string, of course.

Mr. Lang is the blond bombshell of the P.R. This poor man's Van Johnson presents an entrancing spectacle, as he reclines gracefully in a corner greedily cramming another outsize meat pie into his expansible mouth. Mr. Lang's academic interests are centred around physical geography; so are his recreational activities. He is renowned for his aquatic prowess, but this may be due in no small measure to his webbed feet. Mr. T. I. Williams, who is frantically endeavouring to prove that his initials do NOT stand for Tudno Idwal, is one of those unusual phenomena, a giant Welsh baby. He protests strongly against this definition, maintaining hotly that he is actually a baby Welsh giant. A budding politician, this "Welsh Dragon-fly" is building his election campaign around the slogan "Enosis for Llangollen!"

That unknown celebrity, Mr. Reed, has been exhibiting theatrical propensities, and is currently electrifying the P.R. with his Method performances. The imperturbable Mr. Reed spends much time at home, but his parents occasionally grow weary of his effulgent self-complacency, and on those days he comes to school. Mr. Altshul, the High Priest of Fazakerley, has become Haifa-lootin' since his journey to the Orient, and is pioneering a new style in school blazers—the "baby doll outsize drape." At present, he is hard at work trying to find a justification for his existence; we hesitate to tell him the truth. But he is a simple soul, and passes many happy hours in vacant contemplation of his season ticket to Oxford.

Our pseudo-Austrian pastry-cook, Herr Johannes McKenzie, has developed a giggle and size 11 feet. He works off his high spirits by wiping the floor of the P.R.—with Mr. Crofts! He also spends much time practising riding his scooter, and he can now travel considerable distances with both feet off the ground.

With the departure of Mr. Grace, the position of Chief TV Watcher has been filled by Mr. Radcliffe. Consequently, the B.B.C. is sadly neglected. Mr. Radcliffe, whose recently acquired interest in Jacob's biscuit factory is believed to be occasioned by ulterior motives, has adopted the rôle of P.R. Pacifier, and maintains the peace in his own gentle manner whenever the gathering hordes threaten the ebullient Mr. Cummins. Mr. Byrne is a silent gentleman who has not yet made his mark on the world. But this he intends to do in no uncertain manner. His modest ambition is to become the chess champion of the world, the finest athlete in history, the first bowler to take 24 wickets in a test match, and the greatest honky-tonk of all time. Meanwhile, he "wanders lonely in a shroud."

Last of all, we come to that grand old man of weak verse, Mr. R. Williams (one has an urge to call him Bransby). He is fond of life and intends applying for an extension. Beyond this, nothing is known of him; he appears to be an invisible ass-et.

But hold! the enemy has lit the fire and my hiding-place has been discovered. All is lost! My fate is sealed! I am—I was—

Yours thermally,

SHMOOL.

THE FLOWER

It begins its life in early spring,
 When bees swarm from their winter sleep
 And wing their way over the fields and meadows.
 Steadily it thrusts its way through the moist soil,
 Eagerly searching the light of day,
 And, though threatened by many dangers,
 The human tread, and the cumbersome beast,
 It boldly strives to fulfil its life
 To bear the seed of a future offspring.
 Thus it survives, until the grim winter takes its life,
 And, its foliage, exposed to the frost, decays.

R. R. FORSHAW (6BMI).

A FROG

One morning bright, as I awoke,
 I heard a mumble, then a croak;
 Upon my window-sill he sat,
 Just like a ball, so small, so fat.
 He seemed to say, to my surprise,
 "Wake up, good sir, wake up and rise!"

The sun shone bright upon his head;
 And as I tumbled out of bed,
 I saw him go from whence he came;
 "O, my good frog, what was your name?"
 Yes, my heart was full of sorrow,
 But I will see my frog tomorrow.

D. T. GROGAN (4A).

"A LIFE CYCLE OF THE YEAR"

The English winter has been long, dreary and cold. Spring comes at last. From the ground shoot up the early snowdrops and the crocus; their bright flowers stand out against the background of rotting leaves, left over from the hard winter. As Spring progresses, the daffodils come out and make a lovely scene at the foot of the trees, with the primroses in the hedges. Each day more plants appear and burst into colour.

Now Summer approaches, and each day the sun climbs higher in the sky, so giving the plants the long wanted warmth. Roses bloom and the garden grows more colourful every day. Then, as the days shorten, there are fewer flowers.

By September, Autumn is in its early stages. Leaves—red, brown and yellow—fall to the ground. The trees become more and more bare, and the landscape bleak, till in the end only the branches stand out, gaunt and defiant, silhouetted against the dull sky.

Winter approaches, and a great number of the small animals hibernate, living on the food they collected from the trees, during the autumn. The days become colder and colder, until the snow falls thick and fast, covering the ground with a thick white blanket and so preserving the tender green shoots, which will carry on nature's never-ending life cycle of the year.

B. R. HANLON (L5B).

INTO THE DEPTHS

A solitary figure slouched furtively along the stone breakwater. None could see his face, for his hat was pulled over his eyes and his coat collar was turned up. Over his shoulder he carried a small sack, and ever and anon he would glance stealthily through the drizzling rain on either side of the jetty. When he reached the end, he gazed at the water, dark, turbulent, unfathomable. This was what he needed—the darker and deeper the better! He threw down the sack on the causeway and without pity or flinching drew from its depths several small bodies freshly chopped into small portions. Some were still quivering but he never flinched. He chose one portion and to it attached a weight which would carry it down to the murky depths. Then, glancing around to make sure he was indeed alone, he summoned all his strength and skill and cast it far, far into the sea. A splash, a few bubbles, widening ripples and the dread deed was done.

He sat down, motionless, and waited in silence for the first tug on his worm-baited line.

D. H. MAWDSLEY (L5A).

ON TRYING TO WRITE A POEM FOR
THE SCHOOL MAGAZINE

I've racked my brains without success,
 I've thought of cricket, football, chess,
 And wintry days and summer nights,
 And daffodils and satellites.

I've thought of what the seasons bring,
 Of snow in winter, rain in spring.
 In summer too it rains all day,
 And autumn also has its way.

I've tried to write a poem on sport,
 Although of that we're seldom taught.
 Of going to games we never hear:
 We've not had soccer once this year.

I've tried with man's achievements too,
 And Wordsworth's field of golden hue.
 I've tried to write of space transport.
 I've gazed and gazed but little thought.

My mind is blank. It's getting late.
 The time is nearly half-past eight.
 I don't know what to put, my friend;
 I'll bring my labours to an end.

P. CARTMEL (4A).

OBITUARY

THE REV. H. H. SYMONDS

The Magazine was going to press, when we learned with regret of the death of the Rev. H. H. Symonds, Headmaster of the School from 1924 to 1935.

As a classical scholar, it is natural that he should expect the School to uphold its classical tradition. He set himself, however, to broaden the basis of scholarship and education in the School and during his time Spanish and Biology were introduced and Woodwork was taken for the first time as a School Certificate subject. For whatever was false or sham he had no use, whether in scholarship or life. Boys of his time will remember his love of the humanities, his illustrated lectures on architecture, painting and sculpture and his passion for the Lake District. The School Camp, first in Borrowdale and then at Troutal introduced many to the magnificence of mountains and to the delights of fell-walking. His *Walking in the Lake District* was dedicated to the "Instituti Liverpoolitani alumni quibuscum curas ambulando solvimus."

The year 1925 saw the centenary of the foundation of the School. From the celebrations held at that time sprang, at Symonds' instigation, the urge to record the development and achievements of the School. The results of these efforts are to be seen in the *History of the Liverpool Institute* and on the Honours Boards placed in the Entrance Hall and on the first-floor corridor. On these are recorded the successes of boys and Old Boys from 1825 to 1935. The arduous task was accomplished with Symonds' usual meticulous and painstaking thoroughness.

Symonds threw his tremendous energies and hard, practical ability into the Youth Hostels movement and it was largely due to his drive and determination to overcome all obstacles that the first chain of Youth Hostels in Great Britain was opened. After his retirement, he went to live in his beloved Lake District, where he devoted himself with his usual boundless enthusiasm to the task of preserving the natural amenities and encouraging public interest in open spaces.

We also regret to announce the death of Mr. W. C. Fletcher, C.B., Headmaster from 1896 to 1904.



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