

. JOHN BUSKIN .
GRAMMAR SCHOOL
. . MAGAZINE . .



APRIL 1961



Age Quod Agis

A. Davis—L.VIa

I will labour, with such strength and opportunity as God gives me, for my own daily bread; and all that my hand finds to do, I will do with my might.

From Ruskin's Code for the Guild of St. George.

John Ruskin Grammar School Magazine

Series III

APRIL, 1961

No. 24

Editors:

H. S. Kitching, N. Wilkinson

EDITORIAL

The absence of verse in our previous edition has now been more than remedied; we were pleased to accept a number of poems—especially from the Sixth Form—including an amusing satire on philosophy by G. S. Bacon. The prose entries, too, were of a high standard, and only lack of space prevented our publishing many more creditable entries. Here, Craggs deserves special mention for another fine piece of descriptive writing. We received many factual contributions, especially from the Lower School, and although we found them very interesting, we feel that entirely original work is more suitable for a school magazine.

Features of this issue include accounts of Speech Day, (with the list of prize winners and examination results); of the Easter excursions; and of the School Play. There are also the usual Society Notes, testifying that our extra-mural activities continue to flourish. The first report appears of the Cactus Club, since the formation of which boys have had to keep a weather eye open for stray specimens! Another newcomer is the Art Society, catering for the Upper School; but its first report will not be published till our next issue.

Finally we would like to thank A. Davis for his imaginative pen and ink drawing, and in addition, P. Winter, also of L.VIa, for several photographs.

FOREWORD

BY THE HEADMASTER

The Pupil's Progress.

YOU will probably recall a recent Assembly reading from "The Pilgrim's Progress" which told how, when Christian had lost his burden, he was presented with a parchment roll, told to look on it as he ran and finally to give it in at the end of his journey. It has occurred to me that we might do something of the kind when a pupil enters the School.

Senior boys will be familiar with the "Reference Sheet" I issue when anyone requires a testimonial. Its purpose is, of course, to enable me to give credit for all achievements, both inside and outside the School. It is a most useful document; but its fault is that, for some boys, it comes too late. If they had realised, from the beginning, that Universities, Training Colleges, and Employment Officers look for something more than an entry in a register and a G.C.E. result, perhaps some of the more apathetic would have bestirred themselves. There are services to render, Societies to join, games to play, expeditions in which to participate, and books to broaden one's horizons. This document, then, could well be the first to be put into the pupil's folder (which corresponds to the Pilgrim's parchment roll). It should serve as a stimulus and a challenge.

What else ought we to put into the folder? The letter to parents of newcomers certainly, and also a copy of the School Rules, so that a pupil is left in no doubt what he may do, and what he may not; and I should enclose also a copy of Ruskin's Code for the Guild of St. George, which puts before the newcomer a high standard of conduct and one which Ruskin claimed could be accepted by any man of any religion. Later in his School career the pupil would have the document "On Entering the Sixth", which many parents and pupils have found so helpful. Kept at home normally, the folder could be required on occasion at School, and certainly would be at that important moment in a boy's School life—the time for compiling his testimonial.

An account of another pilgrimage comes to mind, as one considers these things—that in T. S. Eliot's "The Waste Land". This poem is an indictment of the superficialities and want of purpose which Eliot found in England in the 1920's. In its last section the poem imagines two travellers walking through an arid land, longing for the refreshment of rain which never comes, haunted by all sorts of hallucinations, and occasionally comforted by a mysterious third person who seems to walk between them. When the desert is at its most dreadful, relief comes at last but in a strange manner. There is a terrifying thunder-storm, and in the claps of thunder the travellers hear three ominous words "Datta, Dayadhvam, Damyata"—I think of Hindu origin—which mean "Give Sympathise and Control". Without observing these maxims, the men of this, or any age will find themselves perpetually walking through a Waste Land. And so, too, in a school career. Unless a pupil exercises some self-

control, unless he broadens his sympathies, and unless, above all, he is prepared to give something in time and service to the community, he will, indeed, find school life barren and unprofitable. If we can do anything, in the manner I have suggested, to bring home early what is expected of him, then we shall have done our young pilgrim some service.

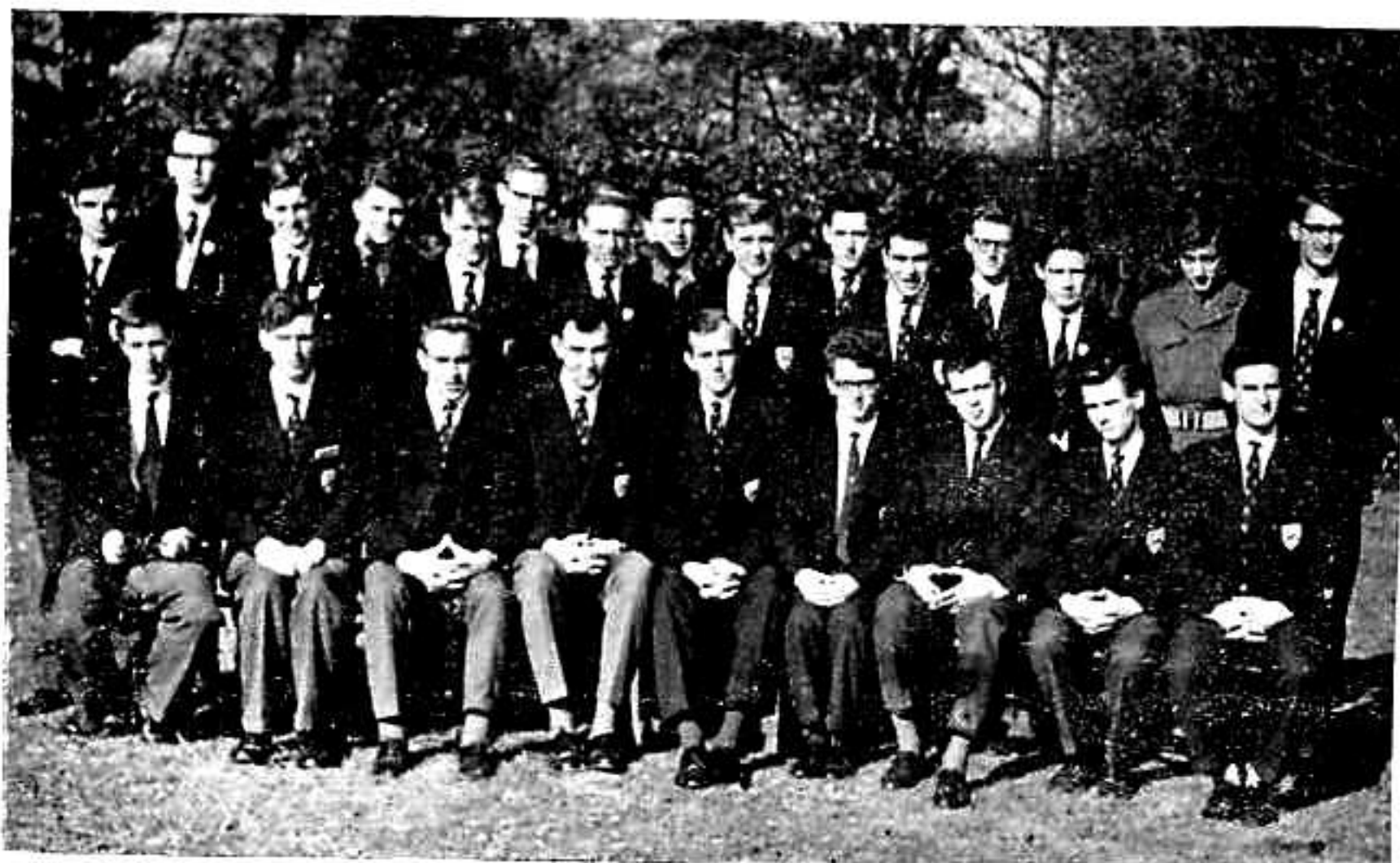
J. C. L.

AVE ATQUE VALE

In our issue of July 1960, we somehow omitted to record the leaving of Mr. Sharrock and the coming of Mr. Cripps; and we hasten to repair these omissions. Mr. Sharrock, our Second Mathematics Master from September 1955 to December 1959, a most successful teacher, a lively and kindly influence and supervisor of the G.C.E. examinations, left us to become Senior Mathematics Master at Sir Walter St. John's School, Battersea. Mr. Cripps succeeded him, coming to us from an important Government post in Cyprus. Previously, Mr. Cripps had been a Master at Chislehurst and Sidcup Grammar School, where he had established himself, as he has since done here, as a fine teacher and a great worker for the School.

In January 1960 we also welcomed Mr. A. J. B. Crowe, M.A., Second English Master and Master chiefly responsible for Dramatics. An account of Mr. Crowe's first production appears on another page. At the beginning of the current School year we welcomed a number of new teachers—Mr. E. J. Cornwell, B.A., (Classics and General Arts); Mr. P. J. Murphy, B.A., (Modern Languages); Mr. J. N. Rhodes, B.A., (History); Mr. D. T. Ricks, B.A., (French); Mr. H. L. Walker, B.A., B.Sc., (Chemistry). To all of them we wish happy and prosperous careers in the School.

J.C.L.



The Prefects

NEWS MISCELLANY

IT was with deep regret that we heard, at the beginning of the Easter holiday, of illness of His Worship the Mayor, our Chairman of Governors. We understand, however, that he is now making satisfactory progress and our best wishes go to him for a speedy and full recovery.

Founders' Day Service was held in the School Hall on Thursday, January 12th, when the Rev. Donald Holt, Vicar of St. Peter's, South Croydon, gave the address.

The new laboratory and the drawing office above the biology wing have been in occupation since last September and are a major and striking improvement to the School building.

Since the builders left the grass banks in the quadrangle have been restored and some new turf laid; and each year, thanks to the interest of parents on bulb-planting day, the grounds are becoming more established and attractive.

As is recorded in the Sports Notes our pavilion at the School ground is now virtually complete. Though of modest dimensions, it is well designed, well built and well appointed; and the additions made possible by our Amenities Fund have increased its usefulness and attractiveness. We are grateful to the many parents who have contributed to this fund which we hope to be able to close after our Jumble Sale on May 13th.

A very successful School Dance was held on Saturday, 17th December and we hope to hold another in July. Congratulations are deserved by several sixth formers who always devise such attractive décor and decorations on these occasions; and we should also like to take this opportunity of recording our thanks to the many parents who organise refreshments at these and all our other functions throughout the year.

Our Whist Drives continue to be held each month during the season. Many parents (and friends of the School) visit us regularly on these occasions and we are most grateful to them for their continued support. Numbers present vary, but an average of 15 tables can be claimed over the past two years. The School Fund benefits and last season more than £50 was handed over from nine Drives. Our next will be on Friday, April 28th, and those who have not yet attended are particularly invited and can be assured in advance of an enjoyable evening.

C. Webb of IIG has been awarded first prize in the local area Ford

children's painting competition and has been put forward for the national competition.

A. Davies of L.VIa has had a pen drawing accepted and bought by "The Croydon Advertiser" for inclusion in their scheme of publishing the work of local artists. Another drawing of his appears on our first page.

Michael Thorneloe (4f), who plays the French horn, deserves a mention for being put on the reserve list for a place in the National Youth Orchestra for their course at Southampton this year.

Double entendres

The population of Great Britain is very dense (VI Form essay).
Arriving late he found himself with half an hour's walk on his hands (IV Form).

A QUARTER OF A CENTURY—AND NOT OUT!

At the end of the Summer Term 1961, Mr. Cracknell and Mr. Pearman will both have been members of our School Staff for twenty-five years; and I should not like the occasion to pass without paying tribute to their distinguished record of service. Grateful as we have reason to be to all our Teachers, it is to such Masters as these that a special debt is owed. They have seen many changes in the School, given much to it, helped to build its traditions. Not only many generations of boys, but also countless younger Masters have gained from their wise guidance, kindly advice and splendid example of service. To both we can only say "We cannot repay our debt but we can record it"; and it is, for me, a great pleasure thus to do so while both are still so ably discharging their duties among us.

J.C.L.

THE RETURN OF SPRING

The New Year comes
With snow on the ground;
Trees are all bare,
Not a flower to be found.
February comes,
With wind like a knife,
Under the soil
The bulb comes to life.
The snow is going
There's hope again;
Gently, gently,
Falls the rain.
The March gales come,
Trees shiver and fear.
Out comes the sun,
Spring, Spring is here!

B. HAMMOND—Ih



Springclean

A. Hills—L.VIa

SPEECH DAY

SPEECH day was held on Tuesday, 22nd November when a full School Hall heard the Lord Bishop of Croydon (The Rt. Rev. J. Taylor Hughes) give the address. His main theme was the value of work well done. The future (of the boys) would look after itself if the work they did at school was their best. Struggle and effort in one field was the guarantee of success later in some other. Their school motto—*Age Quod Agis*—was good advice. Work well done brought satisfaction and a sense of fulfilment.

In his report Mr. Lowe said that 1960 had been a record year academically. There were 70% passes at A Level and 69% at O; and one of the gratifying features of the year was the increase in Scholarship studies. The greatest individual success was by M. J. Jeffreys, a State Scholar of 1959, who won an Open Scholarship in Classics to Peterhouse, Cambridge. At A Level there were nine distinctions and three State Scholarships (and one boy on reserve); and the number of university entrants (16) was also a record. The success of the technical form had also been encouraging, and many from it had well qualified for the sixth form.

The year had also been a flourishing one in Sport and Society activities; and there had been improvements and extensions in the school building. A new wing comprising an extra laboratory and a drawing office had been opened; and the heating system had been converted to oil. The pavilion at the playing fields was nearing completion; and many extra amenities, thanks to the donations of parents, had been provided.

The Mayor of Croydon, Ald. G. J. Cole, chairman of the Governors, was present with the Mayoress who presented the prizes. Coun. B. C.



R. M. Floyd being congratulated by the Bishop

Sparrowe, Vice-Chairman of the Governors presided, and among the guests were the Town Clerk, members of the local Inspectorate, and several heads of Croydon Schools.

A happy conclusion to the evening was the presentation to the Mayor and Mayoress of a coffee-table in appreciation of their long association with the School.

GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION

Ordinary Level

Vu—Bodman, R. (9); Campbell, M. G. (5); Clark, R. J. (8); Drury, G. M. (6); Emmerson, G. A. (7); Hoskin, P. (8); Lawson, J. W. (8); Lloyd, J. H. (6); Mottram, K. J. (9); Patterson, A. W. (7); Saker, G. A. E. (2); Smith, P. L. L. (6); Stewart, J. R. (8); Watson, M. W. (3); Wilkinson, G. N. (6).

Vm—Bailey, A. (5); Beaumont, M. R. (6); Bembrick, C. G. (1); Brightwell, J. (5); Clarke, R. F. (4); Clarke, M. C. (3); Coldman, G. E. (6); Day, A. H. (3); Eaton, G. A. (3); Entwistle, R. M. (4); Featherstone, C. E. (2); Foster, A. W. (6); Francis, A. M. (3); Grey, S. (6); Hall, J. A. (6); Hinchliff, M. D. (3); Keiller, R. I. (3); Lancaster, T. A. I. (3); Penman, K. (3); Tennant, V. A. (5); Thalmann, M. P. (3); Wenn, R. V. (7); Wilson, A. D. (7); Young, A. J. B. (5).

Vp—Baker, E. G. (2); Brian-Davis, J. (6); Canfield, S. P. (7); Coleman, P. (6); Constable, L. (4); Davis, A. M. (6); Dearing, J. L. (3); Dixon, M. J. (3); Edwards, E. J. (5); Finch, K. A. (4); Goodman, D. H. (3); Hills, A. R. (6); Humfryes, R. (1); Huxtable, T. L. (1); Kitching, H. S. (6); Lamb, P. J. (6); Lowe, M. E. (6); Lowe, T. J. (7); Lyle, P. M. (6); Mason, J. G. (3); Peretti, C. (3); Pyke, A. (4); Robinson, H. D. (2); Sherwood, L. C. (1); Sorrell, P. (6); Straw, K. A. (2); Thulborn, R. A. (5); Treleaven, D. (6); Tyler, G. W. (5).

Va—Brooker, P. D. (5); Conran, M. F. (2); Corbey, P. C. (1); Downs, K. J. (5); Grieve, I. D. (7); Grover, J. M. (2); Hammerton, J. M. J. (2); Landon, A. H. (5); Le Vine, J. (5); Prince, W. C. (2); Rayner, P. H. (1); Rolfe, A. M. (6); Shadrach, J. W. (4); Stephenson, F. (4); Turner, J. L. (2); Watson, P. J. (3); Winter, P. (3).

Advanced Level

Beales, G. E.	French, Latin	Gilbert, C. R.	P. Maths., Geol.
Grey, P.	Eng. Lit., Geog., Hist.	Green, A. R.	P. Maths.
Hyslop, R.	Eng. Lit., Hist.†, Latin	Harvey, M. J.	P. Maths., Chem., Bot., Zoo.
Kennett, B. G.	Eng. Lit., French	Hills, R. M.	A. Maths.
Mann, P.	Eng. Lit., Geog., Geol.	Hoskin, W.	A. Maths., Phys.
Procter, T. J.*	Eng. Lit.†, Hist.†, Latin	Hughes, D. R.	P. Maths., A. Maths.
Salter, D. P.	Eng. Lit., Econ., Hist.	Jones, M. D.	P. Maths., A. Maths., Phys.
Shanks, S. J.	Econ.	Kane, P. W.	P. Maths.
Stone, A. J.	Geog., Geol.	MacMillan, C. G.	P. Maths., A. Maths.
Sutton, R. P.	French, Hist.	Moore, D. J.	Zoo.
Sweet, M. A.	Geog.†, Econ., Hist.†	Pinkney, J. C.	P. Maths., A. Maths., Phys.
Wickerson, P.	Geog., French	Rengger, R. E.	P. Maths., A. Maths., Phys.
Wright, M. J.	Eng. Lit., Geog., French	Richardson, D. J.	P. Maths., A. Maths., Phys.
Adams, A. W. C.	Chem.	Rickards, B. D.	P. Maths., A. Maths., Phys.
Barson, C. S.	P. Maths., A. Maths.	Robinson, D. H.	P. Maths., Chem.
Bennell, C. F.	P. Maths., Phys., Chem.	Vigor, D. W.	Phys.
Bolton, J. K.	Zoo.		
Buffery, R. M.*	P. Maths.†, A. Maths.†, Phys.		
Craggs, T.	P. Maths., A. Maths., Phys.		
Falkner, D. M.	Phys., Chem.		
Floyd, R. M.*	P. Maths.†, A. Maths.†, Phys., Chem.		

* State Scholarship

† Distinction

FORM PRIZES

IG	1st	Young, M. P.	2nd	Lander, S. N.
IH	1st	Scarle, R. F.	2nd	Graham, P. M.
IM	1st	Harman, G. K.	2nd	Harper, T. T.
IIN	1st	Phillips, R. M.	2nd	White, A.
IIR	1st	Fallows, R. M.	2nd	Marsh, R. J.
IIU	1st	Fentiman, G. J.	2nd	Smith, S. V.
IIIF	1st	Thornhill, P. D.	2nd	Jezepeh, D. H.
IIIG	1st	Mantell, M. J.	2nd	Poore, M. C.
IIIP	1st	Cordy, P.	2nd	Thomas, R. L.
IVU	1st	Hammond, P. J.	2nd	Meikle, J. C. E.
IVD	1st	Littlechild, B. D.	2nd	Masters, C.
IVG	1st	Sale, A. A.	2nd	Whitaker, P. A. D.
L.VI Sc.	Camfield, N. T., and Youldon, R.		L.VI.	A. Hawkins, G. J.

ORDINARY LEVEL SUBJECT PRIZES

English Lang.	Kitching, H. S.	Chemistry	Wenn, R. V.
	Emmerson, G. S.	Biology	Canfield, S. P. &
English Lit.	Wilkinson, G. N.		Lowe, T. J.
History	Winter, P.	General Science	Landon, A. H.
Geography	Stewart, J. R.	Art	Hinchliff, M. D.
French	Patterson, A. W.		& Davis, A. M.
Latin	Bodman, R.	Woodwork	Grieve, I. D.
Mathematics	Wilson, A. D. &	Tech. Drawing	Le Vine, J.
	Rolfe, A. M.	Metalwork	Stephenson, F.
Physics	Wilson, A. D. &	General Subjects	Mottram, K. J.
	Hall, J. A.		

ADVANCED LEVEL SUBJECT PRIZES

English	Procter, T. J.	Applied Maths.	Buffrey, R. M.
Geography	Sweet, M. A.	Physics	Rengger, R. E.
Geology	Mann, P.	Chemistry	Bennell, C. F.
History	Hyslop, R.	Zoology	Harvey, M. J.
French	Beales, G. E.	Botany	Harvey, M. J.
Latin	Procter, T. J.	Economics	Sweet, M. A.
Pure Maths.	Floyd, R. M.	General Subjects	Jones, M. D.

SPECIAL PRIZES AND AWARDS

Magazine	Craggs, T.
Verse Speaking—Senior	Thompson, C.
Junior	Pearce, D. A. G.
IIIU Thesis Prizes	Castro, I. P. and Turner, J. A.
Handicraft—Junior	Booker, A. J.
Music—Senior	Drake, A. D.
Junior	Smith, S. V.
R.S.M. Certificates—	
Grade VI (Piano) with Merit	Drake, A. D.
Grade III (Violin)	Deverell, J. B., Littlechild, B. D., Polyblank, C. W. (with distinction) and Swainson, J. G.
String Music	Polyblank, C. W.
General Progress—Senior	Noakes, M.
Junior	Goulding, P. M.
Stanley Prize for Art	Childs, J. and Maguire, P. K.
Stanley Prize for Science	Cordy, P.
Dramatics Prizes	Hawkins, G. J., Sturt-Penrose, B. J., Thompson, C. and Wilkinson, G. N.

THE JOHN RUSKIN COMPANY (ACF AWARDS)

Ruskin Stick of Honour	Sgt. Martin
Marksman's Cup	Sgt. Shaw
Recruit Cup	Cdt. Muckleston
Clark Proficiency Trophy	Cpl. Elford

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP PRIZE

Jeffreys, M. J.

WILLIAM FIELD MEMORIAL PRIZE

Floyd, R. M.

JOHN RUSKIN OLD BOYS' WAR MEMORIAL PRIZE

Buffrey, R. M. and Procter, T. J.

THE CHAIRMAN'S PRIZE

Wilkinson, J. C. F.

THE WEEDON CUP FOR CHESS

Beales, G. E.

W. P. DAVIES CUP

Gilbert, C. R.

UNIVERSITY ENTRANTS 1960

- R. M. Buffrey: University of London (Imperial College), Electrical Engineering.
G. M. Davidson (Left 1958): University of Leeds, Agriculture.
P. Grey: University of London (Regent Street Polytechnic), Economics.
M. J. Harvey, University of London (Queen Mary College), Botany.
R. Hyslop: University of London (King's College), History.
M. J. Jeffreys: University of Cambridge (Peterhouse), Classics.
M. D. Jones: University of London (Imperial College), Mathematics.
B. G. Kennett: University of London (College of Estate Management), B.Sc. in that study.
D. G. Larman: University of London (University College), Mathematics.
P. Mann: University of Birmingham, English.
A. H. Marks (Left 1959): University of Leicester, Economics.
J. C. Pinkney: University of Hull, Mathematics.
T. J. Procter: University of London (King's College), Law.
B. D. Rickards: University of London (Sir John Cass College), Mathematics.
D. P. Salter: University of Leicester, English.
E. G. Thomas (Left 1959): University of London (University College), Civil Engineering.

DEGREE RECORD 1960

- P. D. H. Arnott: B.A. Second Class Honours in French, University of Durham.
R. Baldwin: M.Sc. in Production Engineering, University of Birmingham.
A. J. Cleary: LL.B. with Third Class Honours, University of Bristol.
J. E. Deane: B.A. Second Class Honours in History, University of Exeter.
P. A. Dopson: B.Eng. with First Class Honours, University of Sheffield.
M. Forman: B.Sc. Mathematics, University of Nottingham.
P. C. Jeffery, B.A. with Third Class Honours in Spanish, University of Durham.
C. Lanch: B.Sc. with Third Class Honours in Mathematics, University College, London.
J. R. Lee: B.Sc. with Second Class Honours in Chemistry, University of Leeds.
J. B. Powell: B.A. with Second Class Honours in Modern Languages, University of Oxford.
D. Whyman: Ph.D. in Inorganic Chemistry, University of London.

OBITUARY

We were all very grieved to hear during the Autumn term of the tragic death of Michael Pike in a flying accident in the Middle East. Pike went into the R.A.F. after leaving School in 1956 and was in the early stage of what would no doubt have been a highly successful career. His plane crashed while searching for a missing aircraft with women and children aboard.

At School Pike had a record to be proud of. He rose to be deputy Head Boy and Sergeant Major in the A.C.F. He will be remembered for his massive physique and cheerful personality; and we extend our sincerest sympathy to his parents whose only child he was.

THE WILD GEESE

SLOWLY and wearily, I raised my head and looked around. I had always thought the Solway a friendly and beautiful sight, but now, it seemed, the friendliness was gone, the beauty decayed and crumbled between a sky the colour of lead and a sea whose waters were flat, oily, almost stagnant. Not a breath of wind stirred in the cotton-grass, not a bird cried, not a wave lapped; even the distant purr of a lone fishing-boat had faded round the low headland. The hills across the water were as though etched in grey-blue steel.

I turned back and looked down at the still-warm engine, and at the distributor laid out, in its component parts, on the running-board. Suddenly I found myself cursing the old car for letting me down on this of all places. I thought of the miles of flat, open road between me and the nearest garage, and flinched inwardly. For a moment I considered the possibility of being offered a lift, but I dismissed it almost at once. Somewhere behind the leaden roof the sun would soon be setting, and there were few houses along this lonely road.

Few houses, that is, in which anyone lived any more. At one time this place had teemed with life. Small harbours were all along the coast, and trade was good. A great railway bridge spanned the firth between England and Scotland, used, it is said, not only by trains but by Scotsmen who crossed to England in order to obtain drink on the sabbath. But then the silt came on the tide and filled up the harbours, the bridge was washed away and the people began to depart. Small rowing-boats lay rotting where noisy, laughing crowds once streamed aboard gay pleasure steamers, and the old Dandy Railway, built (before the days of steam locomotives) to carry the imported goods, became a broken embankment with, here and there, a roadless, railless bridge. The old Solway seemed to die.

And that was how it seemed now; dead, lifeless. Rotting stakes reflected in the dark water were a tawdry monument to some nameless, long-departed fisherman; a few stunted shrubs were as gravestones to the earth itself. I shivered as I locked the car and walked away along the road.

After some time I began to get the impression that the atmosphere around me had become one of uneasiness, rather than lifelessness. The sky, the sea, the hills, the marshes all seemed to me to be waiting for something. Looking back, it seems absurd, irrational that I should have felt a sense of communication with such inanimate, spiritless things. And yet, in a place as wild and deserted as that, fears and instincts may stir which have been forgotten since the days when Man hunted his food with flint-tipped spears, and lived close to the earth, never knowing the security of a house or even of a large community. And now I, too, was close to the earth, and felt its uneasiness turn to expectancy. I walked, and the sea waited, the sky lightened in the west, the far hills became kinder, the ghost of a breeze made a tiny sound in the grasses, and sand-bars showed above the ebbing tide.

And then, against the spaces of the north, I saw a dark skein approaching, a thin, broken line that curved and swirled and drew itself

out against the sky and streamed down to the rising sandbars with a creak of pinions audible even at this distance. I heard their noisy cries and saw them settle, and, as the clouds in the west parted and a ray of clear sunlight streamed across the water they became suddenly as white as driven snow against the steel-grey sea. Still they came, wheeling and crying, a sight so wildly beautiful that no words, no canvas could possibly do them justice. The white mass on the sandbanks swelled and surged, while, to the west, the sun set in a clear sky. The clouds slowly drifted eastward and stars, sharp and bright against the deep blue, began to appear above. As I topped a slight rise I saw the lights of a village ahead, and I walked on refreshed, leaving the land and sea at peace in the night.

T. CRAGGS—VI.Sc.3

THE TWELFTH COMMANDMENT

'A poem is no place to query
nuclear destruction', you say;
'Let us flit into the undemanding
problems of love and God
and leave atomic strategy
to the "*Sunday Times*".
Death, after all, is but a flicker
on the television screen,
reduced to absurdity
like a painted Devil.
The Russians are not, never could be,
people: the everlasting destruction of mankind
is infinitely preferable to seeing history
through the eyes of a race
that shoots pinioned dogs at the moon'.
Thou shalt turn the other cheek
Only if it is violently radio-active.

G. HAWKINS, U.VIa.

THUNDERSTORM

THE air is still, and close, and no sound can be heard. Even the birds have stopped singing and the crickets are quiet in the fields. No bees are busy around the flowers, which seem to shrink. Silence reigns over everything. Even the two old men sitting on the park-bench seem to talk in whispers under a dark sky.

Then it happens—the full force of the rain descends as suddenly as a tropical night, accompanied by thunder and lightning. The silence is broken by loud cracks of thunder and the darkness is cut by lightning, which brightens up the sky. Everything bows down to this mighty invader. The flowers, the most humble subjects, bend to the ground. The two old men on the park-bench seem to have a new life, for they move as fast as they can to escape from the rain.

Then it stops as suddenly as it began. The rain, its bodyguards thunder and lightning gone, loses heart and gradually fades away. The full force of the storm is reduced to nothing, and, soon, life returns to the wet world.

G. FENTIMAN—IVU.

ODE TO PHILOSOPHY

So Crates has died. Greek gods he had defied—
Unheard of thing! The rulers had him tried
And forthwith set about him nail and tooth,
Contending he'd corrupted Athens' youth.
Next breakfast, chanting "Virtue equals Knowledge",
He hemlock drank. (He normally had porridge.)
His pupil Plato—many call him wise—
Donated "The Republic"—neat surmise—
To bulge the sickly realms of headache food
And aid the search to find the greatest good.
Before his goal can ever be attained,
A host of Warrior Guardians must be trained
In Gym and Music, lofty thought: thus wise,
They make the Wisdom's rule of Plato's eyes.
I wonder now, Did Plato ever guess
That abstract thinkers always make a mess
In down-to-earth affairs? That children's lives
Their very essence lack if one deprives
Them of their parents, just because their Dad
A Warrior Guardian is?—I think that's sad.
In three-four-eight, the thinker's life was done;
He therefore died—at nearly eighty-one;
And yet his date of birth was four-two-eight.
The ancients Backwards Counted for their date.
It's Aristotle next. A silver spoon
Reposed between his lips when he was born:
For Philip, king, asked him to educate
Young Alexander, heir, and soon the Great;
Who, later travelling in the East, forgot
Just what he'd said. (He did not care a jot.)
But, to dispel the thinker's frowning horror,
He sent him, neatly packed, all types of flora.
Biology was 'Stotle's favourite topic,
Though sometimes, too, he tried some metaphysic.
His "Politics" corrected several blunders
That Plato made, but then mankind he slanders:
"We're animals that live for politics!"
The City State's best type of rule to fix
He spent much thought: I cannot here resist
Remarking that his choice did not exist.
And, beg your pardon, I would find dispute
With Aristotle's verdict on the flute:
He says, "Its moral influence is not good;
It's too exciting."—as a Stoic would!
Most thinkers claim, "No good is ever found,
But what between these covers I have bound."
So now I close without apology
For saying, "They can keep thinkology."

G. S. BACON—U.VI.a

THE PASSION PLAY AT OBERAMMERGAU

LAST summer I was given the opportunity to see this remarkable play held every ten years in a quite small village of Bavaria. The play originated in 1633 when the villagers vowed to perform a passion play every ten years if God removed a plague which was raging in the village. Miraculously it went at once, and the plays have continued ever since—when circumstances permitted.

Seeing the play was the purpose of our holiday. We had spent a week in the Austrian Alps first, and we came by train and bus to Oberammergau on Saturday, the 20th August.

The whole village is transformed when the play is in production, all the men have beards, as most of the inhabitants have parts, even if only in crowd scenes or in the choir. All the parts must have an understudy, since the play runs for about four months. The understudies take turns about with the principal actors so that they remain in practice, and also so that the people can devote more time to their ordinary jobs.

We stayed with a local family in a pleasant modern house. On Sunday morning we rose early because the play starts soon after eight. We walked the short distance to the special theatre, which is quite a modern building with covered seats but an open stage. We were, of course, equipped with English translations of the text, and also cushions because of the length of each session! The seats are allotted to each boarding house or hotel, and our seats were quite near the front.

The play itself covers the period we now call Holy Week in Christ's life, between His triumphant entry into Jerusalem and the Resurrection. There are about twenty scenes, almost all of which are preceded by a musical narrative of the story, and of a comparable event in the Old Testament. The Old Testament Stories are accompanied by tableaux, with people standing motionless in a centre stage to represent a picture of the event.

Of course there is little to say about the story, since it is one of the best known in the world. However, the play does try to fill in the gaps where some of the facts have been omitted in the gospels. One possible criticism is the attention paid to Judas. Although of course his action was undoubtedly very wrong, I believe that just before he betrayed his Master the Jewish officials had convinced him that it was the right thing to do, and that he should help the Sanhedrin. Eventually in the play we hear of his agony when he realises his crime, and his subsequent suicide.

On the other hand, Pilate, who was supposed to uphold the just principles of Roman law, and who allowed an innocent man to die a terrible death, does not receive much attention. He only appears at the trial, and this action receives no comment.

The afternoon session, which takes place after a break for lunch, is, to me, the most moving act in the whole world, especially at the end. After the bitterness of the Crucifixion comes the joy of the Resurrection. We see the Roman guards, who had been asked for by the Jews, at the tomb. Suddenly they are blinded by the radiant figure of Christ emerging from the tomb. At the end we see Him at the head of a choir of

angels singing joyous songs to herald one of the most significant events in history.

Seeing this play was certainly the most memorable experience of my life, and I hope that in the years to come, I shall be able to see more and more clearly the profound meaning behind the events recounted in it.

P. J. HAMMOND—5u1

VENICE RE-VISITED

Doubtless inspired by John Ruskin's visit to Venice in 1861

(see "Stones of Venice")

ON April 8th, 1961 a party of twenty boys, mainly from the Upper School, enjoyed that calm crossing which Mr. Woodard always provides, en route for breakfast at Basle. Thus fortified, we were ready to enjoy the spectacular Alpine scenery along the Gotthard line and the beauty of Lake Lucerne. We spent three nights at Aguzzo on Lake Lugano, walking, climbing and visiting Lugano itself, with large Swiss meals preparatory to a cruise on the lake or scaling (by funicular) San Salvatore with its lovely panorama.

After a short break at Milan for some American-style sightseeing we were able, on reaching Venice, to enjoy more leisurely progress on the waters of its canals on the way to the Villa Nora at the Lido.

The next three days passed all too quickly as we explored the innumerable wonders of the most visually exciting city in Europe. To take one example, the Piazza San Marco where we stood and looked at the magnificent view across the lagoon with the gondolas plying busily; then at the Byzantine glory of St. Mark's itself, built when Venice was very much an Eastern city; then at the Gothic Palace of the Doge; then at the Renaissance Piazza itself; and finally the modern Campanile which makes a perfect contrast with the domes of the Cathedral. There were also the paintings of the great Venetian masters to be enjoyed, but John Ruskin has described them much better than I can.

Not that our interests were always on quite this high level—there was the visit to the prisons, for instance—and many unofficial investigations into Venetian social life. Among the most enjoyable official visits were those to the islands of Torcells, Burano and Murano where the Cathedral, lace-making and glass-blowing were admired respectively (and respectfully) while the English Masters had to see the Rialto and the Bridge of Sighs, but refrained from quoting.

These memories of the most memorable of cities will include those incidents omitted from official accounts (even John Ruskin's?) and the good-will and good-humour of all the party, including Mr. Crowe whom we should like to thank, with Mr. Tryon, for helping to arrange our trip.

R.F.V.W.

PARIS and the LOIRE VALLEY, EASTER 1961

Paris, Tours, Blois, Chambord, Cheverny, Chaumont, Vouvray, Chenonceaux, Langeais, Amboise, Azay-Le-Rideau . . . these are now no longer mere place names to the 31 boys, led by Mr. Robertshaw and Mr. Field, who spent part of their Easter holidays exploring them.

We left Croydon early on the morning of Friday 31 March for Newhaven, Dieppe, Paris and finally Tours, where we were to remain until the following Wednesday. Tours, which, apart from being an ideal centre for visiting the Loire Valley, is attractive in its own right. In the Middle Ages one of the most important pilgrimage centres of France, its principal monuments, La Cathédrale de St. Gatien, Abbatale St. Julien, Cloître de la Psalette, preserve perfectly the aspect of those times. The former archiepiscopal Palace, now a Museum of Fine Arts, presents, through its ancient panellings, hung with silks and damasks, its works of art and furnishings, the complete picture of a royal dwelling in 17th and 18th Century France.

Excursions were made from Tours to view the neighbouring Châteaux: Amboise with its towers and ramps, a monument to the young King Charles VIII; Chenonceaux, a bridge spanning the river Cher; Cheverny, a prototype of the 17th Century French country house; Langeais, one of the finest fortified country mansions of the Middle Ages. Perhaps the most impressive were: Blois, a majestic building, not surprisingly the favourite residence of the Renaissance Kings of France, with its Little Gallery, Great Hall and monumental open staircase; Chambord, sited in the middle of the Boulogne forest, from time to time the home of François I, Henry III, Louis XIII and Louis XIV, where Molière gave the first performance of *Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme*; and Azay-Le-Rideau, 'Image de la Touraine, Symbole de la France', where we witnessed a most impressive *Son et Lumière* exhibition. Certainly not the least interesting of our visits was that paid to Vouvray, one of the most celebrated of the Touraine vineyards. An hour spent in the caves where the wine is stored was a revealing and educative experience.

From Tours we returned to Paris. In the three days at our disposal we 'did' Paris. We made a circular tour by coach, climbed the Eiffel Tower, took a trip on the Seine and spent half a day at Versailles. We still found time to visit the Louvre, Notre Dame and Jardins du Luxembourg and to do some present-buying in the Galeries du Louvre, Galeries Lafayette and Au Printemps. What we saw made us wish we had had longer to stay there.

With reluctance we left Paris on the Sunday morning bound for Croydon. Croydon on a Sunday evening seemed prosaic after Tours and Paris . . . however, return to school was still a full week away.

P.R.

GEOGRAPHICAL FIELD COURSE

AFTER an absence of four years the Geography Department returned this Easter to North West Yorkshire. A party of 23 explored a corner of England which offers a great variety of scenery and activities. The Yorkshire dales and fells enable karst country and the results of glaciation to be seen at their best. The course also included farm visits and a visit to a textile mill. A small number of the party had the opportunity of visiting the Roman Wall before joining the rest in Yorkshire.

C.W.P.

MUSIC NOTES

SINCE the last edition of the school magazine the school's music activities have indeed flourished. Proof of this was the extremely varied and interesting concert in which so many boys took part with great enthusiasm. However, more of that later.

Our collection of records was greatly enhanced by the leaving gifts of Shanks and the gift of Thorneloe, who incidentally obtained the singular honour of being accepted as a reserve horn player in the National Youth Orchestra. No less helpful was the loan of violins by Mr. Hasler. Drake, who will soon take a further step towards the goal of a musical career, passed Grade VI with Credit in the R.S.M. examination, whilst Deverell, Swainson, and Polybank (Distinction) were successful in the Grade III section for violinists. S. V. Smith, our versatile head choir-boy, gained a special award as choirboy of the year at Croydon Parish Church. It is pleasing to note that some of our second year violinists were able to join in some of the orchestral items at our musical evening. The influx of new boys helped the soprano section of the choir as usual, and such boys are to be congratulated on their regular attendance and enthusiastic singing.

Many external concerts were attended and the obvious enthusiasm shown speaks well for many boys' musical taste. Among such visits were the performance of Sir George Dyson's "Canterbury Pilgrims"; The Spring Park Music Society's performance of Coleridge-Taylor's "Hiawatha" (in which five of our instrumentalists took part) and Bach's Passion according to St. John; a Recital by Valerie Tryon at the Civic Hall; Ernest Read's Orchestral Concert at the Denning Hall; C.O.D.A. and their worthy production of "White Horse Inn" and "Ruddigore"; Croydon and Bromley Symphony Orchestras' Concerts.

The Croydon Music Festival was well supported, our two string groups gaining two second places—a very creditable performance. Day, though relatively inexperienced, gained a third place, whilst Polyblank gained two third places. All reflected great credit on the work of Miss Bicknell. Drake arranged the musical background for the School play "Macbeth". Choir and orchestra variously assisted at Founders' Day, Speech Day and the Carol Service.

However, the year's climax was the Musical Evening on March 15th. This was well attended and deservedly praised. In fact, it was rather epoch-making in that no less than three first performances were given—an item for violin and piano by Polyblank, an Essay for percussion and piano by Drake and a forward looking composition by Hawkins for narrator, violin, viola, guitar, horn, piano and percussion and entitled "In memoriam—Wilfred Owen". If such items were not to everyone's taste at least the composers enjoyed playing them! We were fortunate in having Mr. Sydney Snape as guest soloist in Stanford's "Songs of the Fleet" to add even more stimulus to an already keen choir. Miss Gillian Lowe played very efficiently with Messrs. Hancock and Gedge in Bach's D Minor double violin concerto. Our thanks also go to J. Tebbitt for his great help as trumpeter and to all members of the Staff, students, and other friends who helped the choir and orchestra to complete their finest hour.

Many thanks also to all members of Choir and Orchestra and to Messrs. Murray, Field, Hasler, Nunn and Cook. We look forward eagerly to the coming musical year and regretfully we say farewell to those who have helped so much in the past. Finally, is it too much to expect a surge of tenors and basses from the upper school so that our next year's report may be even better than this one?

C. W. POLYBLANK—Vu

WE ARE SO SMALL TO EVERYTHING

In the Mississippi of time
We are particles of sand
Carried along to the brine,
Then falling towards the land,
Till we finally rest
On the floor of nothingness.
We are nothing in time, our short lives;
We are nothing in the universe in size;
Yet over little things we fuss:
A mark on a jacket, and worry we must
Over a dribbling tap; over a bird in the gutter we pine.
Our small or large pleasures are short in time—
Sun warmth,
Heath-wind buffets, cut lawns,
Water reflections, music, seeing
Spring's flowers—yet they are our being.
Our greatest happiness is love, yet that dies
When lovers die,
Or sooner.
We are so small to everything,
Yet so large to ourselves.

H. S. KITCHING—LVia

WINTER SUNSHINE—SHIRLEY HILLS

Hot, brown heather twigs, frozenly writhing;
Cool, odorous, fresh green moss blotching soil—
Soil damp, deep, richly peatful.
Before, cool, shadowy winter green
Of trees; and driving fingers of naked twigs.
Behind, hot, white, palpitating stones
Interspersed with tawny sand,
And grey-green, wiry, trodden grass tufts.
Sun beating, flowing, soaking into
Willing flesh and damp soil.
Sluggish breeze wafting breath of
Awakening of plants and dry twigs.
Lying drowsy, talking, dreaming,
Life far away in mind, yet close around,
Forgotten, yet haunting subconscious
Disinclination to return to work.

N. Wilkinson—LVia.

THE SCHOOL PLAY

"MACBETH" in many ways is one of the most suitable of Shakespeare's plays for schoolboys. Full of sound and fury—ghost, witches, assassins, blood-lusting warriors—it has everything to excite them. And only one female rôle of length. The Dramatic Society, then, tackled it with gusto, and with conspicuous success. Their production played to full houses on the evenings of December 8th, 9th, and 10th.

Chief acting honours naturally enough went to Granville Hawkins in the name part. He is now an actor of some experience and held the production together with a very virile and dominating performance. If he was better on some occasions than on others this is no serious criticism for Macbeth is a complex character, poet as well as soldier, and one who grows aged and weary as events submerge him. And Hawkins tackled the part with confidence and much success.

John Drewit's Banquo was an admirable foil and captured the spirit of the part exactly. His fine voice and sensitive acting struck just the right note of contrast.

And what of the Lady? A challenging part, surely, for a schoolboy. Clive Thompson responded supremely well. He spoke his lines intelligently and organised the murder, and then the faltering murderer with callous assurance.

In the important minor rôles there was no weak link. Nicholas Wilkinson was outstanding as 'the boy Malcolm'. His gallant bearing and gracious manner made him every inch a prince. Samuel Sayer, as his father, the venerable Duncan, did just as well. Admirably made-up, he spoke his lines with appropriate gravity and 'bore his faculties' with the required meekness.

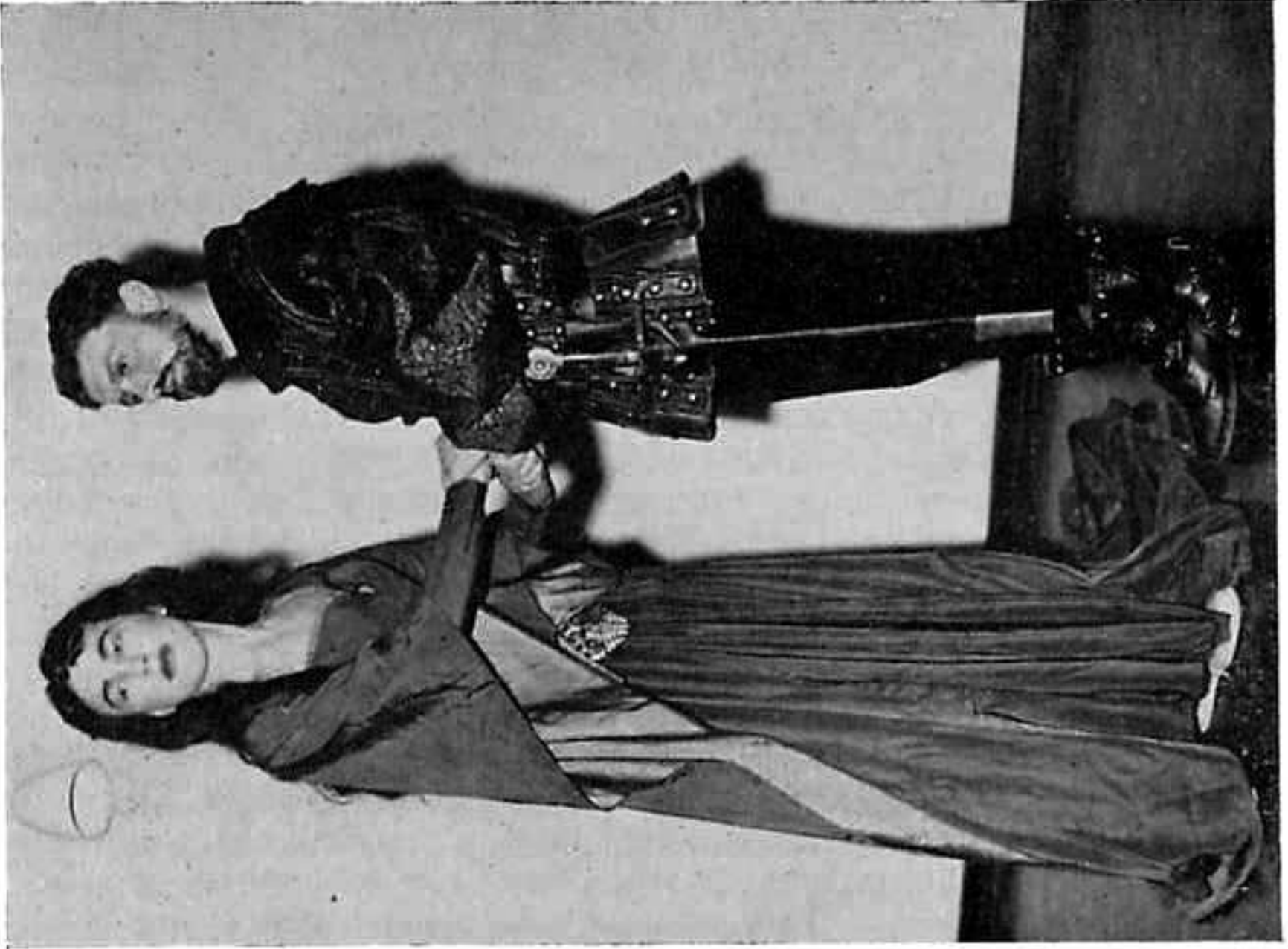
Peter Penhallow made a dashing Macduff and shared with Hawkins and Sturt-Penrose (as Young Siward) some very lusty sword fights. The battle scenes, incidentally, were noticeably good and Birnam Wood moved to Dunsinane with a rare flourish.

The three witches were very imaginatively played by Anthony Patterson, Peter Wilson and Ian Castro. They had separate identities and each made a special contribution. Vernon Reeve enjoyed himself thoroughly as the Porter and Graham Keyes was quite at ease as the Doctor.

Other parts were played by D. Treleaven (Donalbain), I. Aylesbury (Lennox), C. West (Menteith), C. Polyblank, G. Drury, (attendants), B. Sturt-Penrose (Captain), N. Camfield (Ross), J. Stuart (Angus), R. Avery (servant), B. Littlechild (Fleance), H. Air (old man), P. Little (Caithness), S. Innes, J. Rivers, A. Walker (Murderers), J. Turner, P. Graham (apparitions), G. Beales (Lady Macduff), J. Holbourn (Gentlewoman), K. Sparks (Seyton), T. Sims (Old Siward), R. Elford, T. Lancaster, J. Tinkler, G. Drury (Soldiers).

Macbeth, of course, is an electrician's delight—or nightmare; and one of the features of this production was the lighting. The cauldron scenes were specially effective but the high light was the apparition scene which was almost professionally done. Chief credit for this goes to T. Craggs, D. Faulkner, T. Lowe and M. Lowe. The music—including

[continued on page 35]



*Top: Duncan (S. Sayer), Banquo (J. Drewitt), Malcolm (N. Wilkinson),
Macduff (P. Penhallow)*
Bottom: Lady Macbeth (C. Thompson), Macbeth (G. Hawkins)

SOCIETY NEWS

THE RUSKIN COMPANY

THE highlight of our year's work with the Corps is undoubtedly the fortnight's Annual Camp with the rest of the 1st Queen's Cadet Battalion, and last year's camp at St. Martin's Plain, Shorncliffe, under the command of our new C.O., Major Sale, will, I think, be voted one of the best ever held. Camping out on 36 hour schemes, Sgt. Reeve's remarkable stew, river crossings on home-made rafts, landings from Assault boats, firing of the L.M.G. and the F.N. rifle, and, of course, the usual day out by the sea, followed this year by a visit to the Royal Marines' Tattoo at Deal—are all events which should be long remembered by every Cadet who attended. Since our return to School last September we have welcomed into the Corps a new officer, 2nd Lt. Rhodes, who has taken charge of the Range, and normal Company Training on Friday evenings has continued under the direction of C.S.M. Burton and subsequently of C.S.M. Reeve, both of whom have been admirably supported by a new set of Platoon Sergeants (Sgts. Fentiman, Martin, Shaw and Tennant), and a small group of young but enthusiastic Junior N.C.O.'s. Two Cadets (L/Cpls. Gibbs and Muckleston) gained Cert. A. Part II during the Xmas term, and two more Part I, while the remainder are sitting the exam early in the Summer Term. Cpl. Elford and L/Cpl. Roach, assisted by Cadet R. Thomas, have been doing excellent work in the Armoury, and until his recent resignation, Cpl. Haithwaite was preparing the motor bike, and the newly acquired car chassis for M.T. instruction to begin early in the Summer. Sgt. Tennant is now i/c Signals instruction, having successfully attended both a Signals Classification and an Assistant Instructor's course during the Christmas holidays.

Many Cadets have attended the weekend schemes arranged by the Battalion in conjunction with the T.A. and it is hoped that many more will take the opportunity of joining in the large number of similar schemes arranged for the Summer Term.

Ceremonial, too, has again played its part in the work of the Company, with Battalion Parades in honour of the visit of Her Majesty the Queen to the Borough on November 2nd, on Armistice Sunday, and for the Annual Carol Service in December; while on March 10th the Company paraded for its Annual General Inspection by Brigadier Nelson-Smith, who gave us to understand that he had no doubts as to the efficiency of the Unit.

The last six months has also seen the transfer of Battalion H.Q. to the R.A.S.C. Drill Hall in Sydenham Road, and the formation of the 21 A Club where Senior Cadets may meet on Monday Evenings for a variety of Social activities, lectures and courses. A small group of Senior N.C.O.'s, in particular, is attending a Driving and Maintenance Course which will culminate in their taking a driving test at the age of 17.

We are pleased, also, to see that many of our former Senior N.C.O.s have remained with the Battalion as Instructors since leaving School, and, in particular, that three ex-members of our Company (2nd Lts.

Burrows, Jones and Wilkinson) have been granted Commissions in the Battalion.

Once again we have achieved some considerable success in Shooting. At the Surrey Rifle Association Inter-Services Cadet Meeting on September 4th, the Battalion was represented by 2 teams consisting of 6 present and 2 past members of the Company. The A Team (Sgts. Martin, Shaw, Humfryes and Cdt. Smith) carried off the Secretary's Challenge Cup for Snap-shooting and the A.C.F. Challenge Shield for the best A.C.F. aggregate in Deliberate and Snap-shooting. The B Team (C.S.M. Burton, Sgt. Oliver, L/Cpl. Money and Cdt. Finch) were runners-up in the Falling Plate Competition, and the Combined Teams were awarded the Surrey Challenge Bowl for the best aggregate of any 2 Teams. Individual awards also went to Sgt. Martin (Deliberate) and Sgt. Shaw (Snap-shooting and best aggregate for Deliberate and Snap).

At the National Championships at Bisley in October, three of our Cadets qualified for the "Cadets 100" (the 100 best Cadet shots). Cdt. Smith was placed 3rd and was awarded the Rifle Brigade Challenge Trophy for the best A.C.F. shot, while Sgts. Martin and Shaw were placed 8th and 11th respectively. These two N.C.O.s were also chosen with two other Cadets to represent Surrey in the A.C.F. Inter-County Comp. and helping to win for the County the Canada Trophy, and with Cadet Smith were included in a team of 10 representing the A.C.F. in the Inter-Cadet Force Challenge Cup, which again they helped to win. L/Cpl. Money, although failing to be included in the Cadet's 100, was awarded the Bronze Medal for being placed 2nd in the Individual Championships at 500 yards. Finally in the realm of Small-Bore Shooting the Battalion was placed 3rd in the Montgomery of Alamein Challenge Cup Competition and quite recently it was announced that five Ruskin Cadets (Sgts Shaw, Martin, Cpl. Elford, Cdts. Clements, Carnell) have been included in a team of 40 to represent the A.C.F. in a Postal Shoot against the other 2 Cadet Services, thus gaining National Colours.

It was, therefore, an extremely strong team which met the Old Boys in the Annual Shooting Match on March 8th and there is no doubt that the Old Boys did extremely well to run the School so closely. The final scores were: The School 632 points, the Old Boys 575 points.

Altogether, therefore, the beginning of another very successful year's work, and my thanks to Mr. Rhodes and to all the N.C.O.s for their assistance in making it so.

K.G.M.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

THE first meeting this year of the Society—which is only open to Sixth Formers—was held on Thursday, January 19th, when H. S. Kitching and M. A. Eggert were elected Secretary and Treasurer respectively. The Society now meets on Fridays, usually fortnightly. The second meeting took place on January 27th, when H. S. Kitching gave a short introductory talk on archaeology generally. Two weeks later, M. A. Eggert expounded a theory that there was a Roman town in China. A fortnight after this, C. Graham gave a talk on the Aztecs, the

theme of which he continued two weeks later at our last meeting before going to press.

The Archaeological Society is a comparatively new one in this school, being only founded last year, and there was a danger in the Autumn Term that it might fade out; but since its renaissance in the Spring Term, it has prospered, and is now looking ahead to the Easter holidays when it is organising a coach excursion to St. Albans to visit the remains of the Roman settlement near there at Verulam. However, the mainstay of the Society is in its Friday evening meetings, which we are confident will be as successful and as interesting as they have been up till now.

H. S. KITCHING—L.VI.a (Secretary).

THE ARCHERY CLUB

WITH the opening of the Christmas term some ten new members were admitted to the Club, only five having remained from the previous year, and it might be expected that the standard of shooting would deteriorate as a result of this. However, although few of them had previously practised archery, it was not long before our targets were receiving more wear and tear than they could reasonably be expected to take. Accordingly, a halt was called for a few weeks so that repairs could be made, and, by the time these were complete, the wet weather had closed in. Few shots took place during the winter months, but regular meetings have now been resumed (after the expulsion of several mice from the straw targets). With the resignation of two of our members, the Club has admitted D. Goodman and J. Hall of the Lower VI, the latter distinguishing himself by being the first new member with no experience of serious archery to score a "gold" (let alone hit the target) on his very first shoot!

We now look forward to a pleasant season's shooting, and hope that, with the aid of a grant from the School Fund, we shall be able to improve our position with regard to equipment.

T. CRAGGS—U.VI.Sc.3 (Secretary)

THE CACTUS CLUB

THE beginning of the Autumn Term saw the foundation, by R. W. Sparks and J. A. Green, of the Cactus Club, under the presidency of Mr. P. Robertshaw and with the invaluable advice of Mr. D. Green. The aim of the Cactus Club is to extend the knowledge of and interest in cacti and succulents in the school.

The Club meets alternate Tuesdays and since its foundation a series of interesting and informative talks, especially those by Mr. Green, have widened the members' knowledge considerably.

The kind gifts of several friends of the school of various cacti have laid the foundation for a school cacti collection, to which will be added members' own products. Already some fine cacti adorn the Art Room windowsills.

Shortly after Christmas we became affiliated to the National Society for Cacti and Succulents. We receive its quarterly journal together with other papers, illustrations and seed-bargains.

The Club looks forward to a lively Summer term with perhaps a

visit to Kew as the highlight. We hope that as our club widens its horizons it will increase its membership proportionately.

J. A. GREEN—U.VI.a.

CHESS CLUB

THE Chess Club has enjoyed a most successful year: our First Team has done well against a variety of strong opponents, and the Under 14 Team has also maintained its high standard of play.

Although membership reached 86 last term, more support from the senior forms would be appreciated. Subscriptions have enabled us to purchase four new chess sets and a chess clock.

An extensive programme of matches was arranged against most of the local grammar schools. In addition, house matches have again been organised, and with two matches still to be played, Beta v. Alpha and Delta v. Gamma, Beta lead with $10\frac{1}{2}$ pts., followed by Alpha (10 pts.), Gamma (8 pts.) and Delta ($3\frac{1}{2}$ pts.).

This year, two teams were entered for the *Sunday Times'* National Schools Tournament, but were both eliminated. Two other tournaments have been held during the year, but neither has as yet been completed. In the knock-out tournament to determine this year's winner of the Weedon Cup, G. Beales (the holder) meets either R. Lynn or P. Wilson in the final. In a simultaneous display by the Surrey Junior Champion (1958-60), P. Wann, the school gained only four pts. out of 22.

In conclusion, we should like to thank Mr. Howden for his constant interest and support, and also Mr. Cracknell for arranging teas at our home matches.

Summary of School Match Results

First Team

July 15th	v. Purley County G. S. (home).	Lost, 6—8.
Sept. 16th	v. Wallington County G.S. (away).	Lost, $2\frac{1}{2}$ — $5\frac{1}{2}$.
Sept. 23rd	v. Coloma Convent G. S. (away).	Won, $7\frac{1}{2}$ — $\frac{1}{2}$.
Oct. 21st	v. Reigate G. S. for Boys (away).	Lost, $2\frac{1}{2}$ — $3\frac{1}{2}$.
Jan. 20th	v. Wallington County G. S. (home).	Won, $5\frac{1}{2}$ — $2\frac{1}{2}$.
Jan. 27th	v. Reigate G. S. for Boys (home).	Won, 4—1.
Feb. 10th	v. Heath Clark G. S. (home).	Won $4\frac{1}{2}$ — $1\frac{1}{2}$.
Feb. 17th	v. Purley County G. S. (away).	Won, 5—4.
Mar. 3rd	v. Selhurst G. S. for Boys (away).	Won, $5\frac{1}{2}$ — $\frac{1}{2}$.
Mar. 10th	v. Whitgift School (away).	Lost, 6—14.
Mar. 17th	v. Coloma Convent G. S. (home).	Won, 5—0.

Second Team

Oct. 14th	v. St Olave's G. S. for Boys (home).	Won, 4—2.
Nov. 4th	v. William Ellis School (away).	Lost, 0—6.

Under 14 Team

Sept. 30th	v. Wallington County G. S. (home).	Won, 8—0.
Oct. 21st	v. Reigate G. S. for Boys (away).	Won, $11\frac{1}{2}$ — $3\frac{1}{2}$.
Jan. 13th	v. Purley County G. S. (away)	Lost, 3—7.
Jan. 27th	v. Reigate G. S. for Boys (home).	Won, 6—4.
Feb. 3rd	v. Wallington County G. S. (away).	Won, $8\frac{1}{2}$ — $3\frac{1}{2}$.
Feb. 20th	v. Heath Clark G. S. (away).	Won, 6—0.

P. WILSON—U.VI.Sc.A (Secretary)

The Club is greatly indebted to P. Wilson for the unflagging enthusiasm with which he has helped to organise its many and thriving activities.

Frequent matches and daily practice have raised the standard of play to its highest level since the Club was revived in 1958. This is shown by the fact that P. Wilson, G. Beales and P. Hammond (Club Treasurer), have played several times for Surrey in Junior (under 18) Matches against other counties. The same three players, together with Lynn, of 4f, who had to face, in inter-school matches, some of the strongest junior players in Surrey, have more than held their own. Among the younger players who have won honour are Gerlach (IIg) (Junior Captain), Max (IIIr) and Arrow (Ig).

L. R. H. (President)

CHRISTIAN UNION

DURING the past two months, the Christian Union has been without the capable assistance of G. Keyes, our previous Secretary, who has been confined to bed for several months. Our thanks are due to Keyes for his previous service to the Society, and our prayers go for him that he may speedily return to better health.

During the past year, the Christian Union has sprouted a branch of the Scripture Union, which, led by Mr. Nunn, has proved most suitable for instruction and discussion among the lower forms of the School, where the members can feel less inhibited than if they were involved in a discussion with Sixth Formers.

During the last year, the Society has received visits from such diverse denominations as the Roman Catholics, Jehovah's Witnesses and the Christian Scientists, whose talks resulted in many interesting discussions. We have been most honoured recently by a visit from His Grace the Bishop of Croydon, who gave us as stimulating a talk, as his previous address on Speech Day had led us to expect.

Although the Lower and Upper School are well represented in the Society, the Middle School is not; this last must supply the leaders of the Christian Union of to-morrow, and the Committee would be glad to have inquiries for membership from this part of the school.

T. P. SIMS—U.VI.Sc. (Secretary)

THE FIFTEEN SOCIETY

SINCE our last report, the Fifteen Society has continued its initial aims, with considerable success. The policy of restricting membership to fifteen remains and, when two members left the school recently, fifteen applications were received to fill the two vacancies. Old Ruskinians, once members of the School Fifteen Society, regularly return to our meetings and continue to play an active part.

In June of the summer term, the Venerable Ratanesera visited us. His talk on Buddhism proved to be one of our most successful meetings. Mr. John Dean, M.A., on the staff of *The Economist*, provided an extremely interesting contrast at a later meeting, when he discussed the problems of starvation. The successful introduction to Buddhism prompted us to invite Mr. K. Q'namaruddhin to lecture on another great eastern religion, Islam. Later, the author and philosopher, Mr. H. J.

Blackham, B.A., spoke to us on Existentialism and it might be mentioned here that one of his books—"Six Existentialists"—has just been re-published as a paper-back. From the Bow Group, Mr. Kenneth Coleman explained the Conservative philosophy and the traditional discussion afterwards turned out to be extremely lively. The last meeting of the Society had Mr. G. P. Horstead explaining his conversion from communism to Christianity.

In February last, Mr. F. H. Amphlett Micklewright, M.A., F.R.Hist.Soc., made a welcome return to the Society and spoke this time on Religion and Morality. The Society is greatly indebted to Mr. Micklewright, not only for speaking to us but for his introduction to other guests.

By a two-thirds majority, the Society decided to support the recent Civil Disobedience Campaign against nuclear weapons, organised by Lord Russell and the Rev. Michael Scott. More recently, supporters of the Campaign for nuclear disarmament within the Society picketed the Town Hall to coincide with the arrival in Holy Loch of the Polaris submarine.

Towards the end of last term, the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Society, Mr. A. L. Murray and Mr. A. J. Crowe, were presented with Fifteen Society ties as a token of our appreciation.

News of Fifteen Society Members. Robert Hyslop, Terence Procter and Peter Grey are at London University; Donald Salter is at Leicester University; Roger Courtier is working in an Austrian refugee camp under the auspices of the United Nations.

B. J. STURT-PENROSE—U.VI.a.

SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

AT our first meeting this session, the well-publicised film "This is the B.B.C." attracted a large audience; the following week, the Telephone Service was the subject of a lecture illustrated with slides.

On October 20th, Mr. Rooke, from the Croydon firm of Brooklands Plating, gave a lecture on "Metal Finishing", also illustrated with slides and samples. Next, Mr. Branthwaite, the Superintendent of Croydon Power Station, spoke to us on "The Building and Running of a Power Station", in which he gave us an insight into the problems of Electricity Supply. This was followed by a lecture and two films on "Plastics", supplied by Bakelite, who sent along two of their staff to answer questions raised by the films.

To end the term, the Pest Advisory Centre gave an illustrated lecture on "Pest Control" which was particularly concerned with rodents.

The New Year started with a lecture on "Supersonic Transport Aircraft", given by Mr. R. G. Thorne from the Royal Aircraft Establishment at Farnborough. This proved to be the most popular lecture to date, provoking a large number of questions. Later, on March 9th, Mr. Sauders and his assistant gave a very interesting lecture on X-rays, demonstrating the techniques involved in their use with the aid of a portable X-ray machine.

At the time of writing, we are looking forward to a lecture by the British Oxygen Co. on "The Industrial Uses of Gases", on May 11th.

Owing to examinations, this will be the last lecture of the School Year. In conclusion, I should like to thank Penhallow, our Treasurer, Sims, our Publicity Manager, and the willing group of boys who operated the projectors. As a result of their hard work, our membership has reached the record figure of 160, which makes the Society the largest in the School.

R. YOULDON—U.VI.Sc.A (Secretary)

SCRIPTURE UNION

THE Scripture Union has more than a million and a quarter members all over the world; its aim is to encourage people to read and understand the Bible.

If a boy wants to join the School branch of the Scripture Union, he pays fivepence bi-monthly for "Key Notes", a helpful little reference book, and, if he so wishes, one shilling and threepence for a badge. The meetings are held on Fridays after first lunch.

On Saturday, March 11th, Mr. Nunn took a party of nine boys to a special Scripture Union Rally which was held at the Central Hall, Westminster. We were able to visit Westminster Abbey before attending the Rally, which we found most interesting. The programme included two films and a well-acted play, and concluded with enthusiastic hymn-singing. After lunch we went on a tour round London and climbed the Monument.

D. KNIGHT—I.g.

THE DRAMATIC SOCIETY

AN encouraging feature of this year's activities has been the enthusiasm shown by all members of the Society. Casts of junior and senior plays alike deserve high praise for the energy and imagination which they brought to their work; so do the technicians, who tackled and solved a formidable number of problems concerning lights, make-up and properties. Such ingenious creations as Dr. Knock's car, the apparition scene in "Macbeth" and the make-up of the Porter testify to the polish and sophistication of this team under the direction of Messrs. Peacock and Tryon.

The actors, too, have maintained the high standards set by previous productions. They owe this in part to the leadership of such veterans as Hawkins, Wilkinson, Penhallow, Sayer and Sturt-Penrose. Another reason for their success was undoubtedly that many had served a fruitful apprenticeship in last year's junior production. Both plays, in fact, gained immensely from the experience of 1960. Thompson's sensitive and confident performance as Lady Macbeth was but one of many examples. The Society is sincerely grateful to Mr. Field for his direction of its junior section.

Our Annual Competition has exercised a very valuable and enriching influence upon the quality of verse-speaking. This year we chose tough and subtle pieces for the senior boys to recite in the hope that emphasis would fall on "the naked thew and sinew of the English language" rather than on mere declamation. Middle-school readers, on the whole, disappointed us and we hope that in future years more

of them will take an interest in the competition. Pearce (4U) was a welcome exception: he deserved first place for his moving, controlled interpretation of "Anthem for Doomed Youth". Two pieces were offered by the Seniors: Shakespeare's "Like as the waves make to the pebbled shore" and Donne's "Death be not proud". Wilkinson (L6A) read the second poem with remarkable maturity and understanding to win the prize. Second and third places were awarded to Treleaven (L6 Sc.) and Thompson (5U); both showed a firm command of rhythm and phrasing. The junior section offered, perhaps, the most pleasant surprise of all. Each finalist delivered an intelligent version of the passage set and the result was a close one. P. Graham (2C) took first place after a spirited recital of the extract from Masefield's "Reynard the Fox".

Once again, theatre visits were prominent events in the Society's calendar. Senior boys supported a brilliant production of "Measure for Measure" at the Civic Hall and later in the year went to Selhurst's performance of "The Tempest". Another group saw "Hamlet" in the round at the Pembroke—a stimulating evening. On 16th March a large party visited the Old Vic to see "Henry IV, Part One." Many were disturbed by the rather shallow characterisation, though the underground lighting and fireworks in the battle scenes fascinated everyone. Most exciting of all, however, was the production of "Romeo and Juliet" at the same theatre. The hand of a continental director shaped this extremely beautiful re-creation of Renaissance Italy so that music, colour and décor brought to life the poignant tenderness of youthful love.

One novel and interesting venture must be mentioned in conclusion. Senior members of the Society were invited to display Croydon's newly acquired theatrical costumes for the first time. They presented a series of mimed scenes from Shakespeare, using the dress of Roman, Medieval and Elizabethan ploys, before an audience at Coombe Cliff. The pageant was organised by Mr. Powe, who has helped the Dramatic Society in many ways. We thank him, Mr. Woodard and all the other members of staff who have given their services so generously throughout the past year.

A.J.C.

LITERARY SOCIETY

AT the first meeting of the Literary Society, which met regularly every Thursday evening of the Spring Term, G. J. Hawkins gave a talk on D. H. Lawrence, in which he recommended that newcomers to this author should begin with 'Sons and Lovers'—a book which the Society discussed later in the term. In the following week's meeting, a varied selection of short stories—which were afterwards discussed—was read by N. Wilkinson, T. Lancaster, J. Green and B. J. Sturt-Penrose, the authors being Poe, Somerset Maugham, De Maupassant and Dylan Thomas respectively. This was such a success that there was another short-story evening the following week, when selections from T. F. Powys, O. Henry and H. G. Wells were read by Mr. Crowe, R. Clark and H. S. Kitching.

At subsequent meetings, there were talks on the history of journalism

to the present day, by Kitching, and on Ezra Pound the controversial American poet, by Gordon, a reading of Shaw's 'Pygmalion', and the discussion, mentioned above, of 'Sons and Lovers'. These, like most of the Society's other meetings, were well-attended.

Our last meeting of the term was devoted to Mr. Lowe's comments on members' own short stories. These all had much merit and were full of fresh description and a sense of creativeness, and we welcomed a suggestion from the Headmaster, that an award (kindly presented by Mr. Lowe), should be given to the boy who produced over the year the most meritorious literary work, and to be presented during the Autumn Term before Speech Day. All the boy's original writing would be taken into consideration. It is felt that this will encourage boys to use their literary faculties more, and doubtless competition for the prize will be keen.

H. S. KITCHING—L.VIa (Secretary)

DEBATING SOCIETY

WE have pleasure in reporting that during the winter terms topics debated remained as varied and vital as ever. A motion upholding civil disobedience, for example, turned out to be a field-day for our polemicists, while the success of an experimental 'balloon' session broke the humour-rating record previously held by stump speeches.

A lively and provoking open discussion on censorship provided a well-attended diversion and a welcome departure from the rigours of formal debate.

It is with regret that we have to announce the elimination, in the second round, of our team from the current United Nations' Association Inter-Schools Debating Competition. Our reasoned and spirited defence of African Nationalism fell by the wayside in the face of a stiff Trinity opposition.

Our thanks must go once again to Mr. Murray for his continued support as our chairman, to our indefatigable debaters and to our staunch supporters.

J. R. GORDON—U.VI. Sc.

LE CERCLE FRANÇAIS

Au cours de l'année scolaire, notre cercle français s'est réuni bien des fois. Monsieur Lasnet, notre assistant de langue française, a présidé la plupart de nos séances, et il nous a aidés énormément à comprendre la langue parlée et à nous exprimer en français. Le programme a été très varié; en présentant des oeuvres littéraires stimulantes, Monsieur Lasnet a bien su nous encourager à participer à des discussions. Il y a plusieurs semaines, par exemple, il nous a fait une conférence, avec diapositives, sur la peinture française. A d'autres réunions, nous avons écouté des disques: "L'Avare" enregistré par la Comédie Française, et "Christophe Colomb" de Claudel, interprété par la troupe de J. L. Barrault. A présent, nous sommes en train de lire "La Guerre de Troie n'aura pas lieu".

Ce dernier trimestre nous nous sommes rendus à l'Institut Français deux fois pour voir "Le Misanthrope" de Molière et "On ne badine pas avec l'amour" d'Alfred de Musset. Dans "Le Misanthrope", une

comédie, le personnage principal, Alceste, veut changer les mœurs de la cour; mais malheureusement, ou peut-être heureusement, il n'y réussit pas. "On ne badine pas avec l'amour" raconte l'histoire romanesque de deux jeunes gens, Camille et Perdican, unis par inclination et séparés par l'orgueil. Comme toujours, la troupe française Stirling Richer a donné des représentations excellentes.

C. WEST, R. SPARKS—U.VI.a

JEDERMANN

WAHREND des vorigen Semesters besuchten die Primaner, die Deutsch studieren, das Rathaus zu Hammersmith, wo das religiöse Theaterstück "Jedermann" von dem Kammerspielkries Lübeck vorgestellt wurde. Dieses Mysterienspiel, das die antiken Formen im Gewande moderner Sensibilität behält, ist von Hugo von Hoffmansthal erneuert worden.

Die Schauspieler traten hinter die dargestellten Personen in die Anonymität zurück; obgleich man deswegen keinen der Schauspieler im besonderen Licht erwähnen kann, gaben alle Gestalten und Stimmen eine lobenswerte Aufführung.

Das Stück selbst stellt den Menschen in die Begegnung mit dem unerbittlichen Gesetz Gottes. Es handelt sich um das Leben und Sterben eines reichen Mannes, der im Augenblick des Todes von allen Freunden verlassen ist. Er muss nur an die Barmherzigkeit Gottes glauben: darin sucht und findet er seinen Trost. Man merkt wohl die Glaubensstärke des Mittelalters.

Walter Ruders Bearbeitung machte uns grosses Interesse, und es klatschte viel Beifall, als das Stück zu Ende kam. Im allgemeinen wurde das Stück vortrefflich aufgeführt, und es war besonders interessant, insofern dass die Fragen Fragen jedes Menschenlebens sind, sein Ruf richtet sich an alle, an jedermann. Obwohl es vom Mittelalter stammt, schien das Stück keineswegs gezwungen oder falsch. Wir werden uns immer an die Aufführung dieses Theaterstücks als Vorbild der guten Schauspielkunst erinnern. Hoffentlich haben wir viel davon erfahren.

M. G. CAMPBELL, A. W. PATTERSON—L.VI.a

SCHOOL CHARITIES

THIS school year has witnessed developments in many fields of activity, not least in the School Charities organisation.

Records for the Christmas term show an increase of almost £4 over the amount received during the same period last year. All told, the various charitable bodies which we support benefited by £41 17s. 3d.

Thanks to the laudible initiative of the 15 Society and Mr. Crowe's kind offices as accountant, a new venture—The Congo Appeal Fund—was launched on a grand scale this term. This cause evoked a noble response and the princely sum of over £134 was finally handed over to the Oxford Committee for Famine Relief. At the same time, the routine weekly collections have continued and £10 10s. 6d. has been received to date.

In all, the School Charities movement has enjoyed by far the most successful year yet in its short life, and undoubtedly carries the good wishes of all friends of humanitarian causes.

D.J.R.

SPORT

THE PAVILION

WE are at last able to report the virtual completion of the pavilion at the School Ground, although some further work has yet to be carried out. The frontage has to be railed and re-turfed; the flagstones have to be extended, and furniture and catering necessities have yet to be delivered. But the building itself is, however, complete and almost wholly in use. A Pavilion Amenities Fund, launched last year (and still open) produced an encouraging response. It is most gratifying to have, at last, some comfort and convenience for our sporting programme, and the added amenities are greatly appreciated.

FOOTBALL 1960—61

Our normally heavy programme was badly interrupted during the very rainy period November—December and many matches had to be cancelled or postponed. However, much football has been played, and much of it very good football. Our Middle School players have done particularly well and several of them have been selected for Representative Matches.

Colin Bateman, goalkeeper for our Under 15 XI played regularly in this position for the Croydon XI and for the Surrey XI and has also been selected for the London v. Birmingham and the London v. Manchester games.



COLIN BATEMAN

He was further chosen for International Trial Matches and kept goal for the South of England against the Midlands at Ilford and against the North at Birmingham. We warmly congratulate Bateman on being the first John Ruskin boy to be awarded an International Trial Badge. Over the years only four other Croydon boys have qualified for this award. He has already received Croydon and County badges.

Michael Noakes captained the Croydon XI which won through to the sixth round of the English Schools competition only to be defeated at Bristol by 3 goals to 1. He also played for the Surrey XI against Sussex and Essex but a foot injury kept him out of the Home Counties Final against Middlesex. Noakes and Ian Paye shared virtually all the

goals in Croydon's series of English Schools and Surrey competition matches. These two, together with Bateman, J. McDonald, and R. Simmons were outstanding members of the Croydon XI which won through to the final of the "Hood" Shield competition.

Croydon and Surrey badges were awarded to these players.

J. Little (captain), K. Robinson, K. Masters played for the Croydon Schools Senior XI which won the "Sir Cyril Black" Trophy in a Surrey Schools competition.



MICHAEL NOAKES
(Captain, Croydon Schools XI)

In School matches the great disappointment of the season was the elimination of our team by 2 goals to 3 in the London "Lipton" Cup competition. After winning all previous rounds handsomely by excellent football, and establishing a two-goal lead in the quarter final, the team then proceeded to play lazily and below form and enabled S. E. Essex to snatch an odd-goal victory.

We did, however, for the second successive year reach the final of the Surrey "Beloe" Trophy competition.

We do congratulate these



players on the fine football they have shown us and we hope to have the services of several of them for two further seasons.

The Under 13 XI playing in local Schools League football, also had a grand season, winning consistently as the following figures show.

	P.	W.	D.	L.
League Matches ...	16	16	—	—
Other Matches ...	9	7	—	2

The 1st XI did not have an outstanding season, but improved steadily, enjoyed some useful football and did well at the end of the season in holding the Old Boys XI in a 2—2 drawn game in the Challenge Shield competition.

BASKETBALL

Two teams were entered in the Croydon Schools competitions, whilst a 1st team played more widely. In the Croydon tournaments the 4th year and 5th year teams were winners and runners-up respectively, two very fine performances. The 4th year team in particular, C. Gibbs, M. Noakes, I. Paye, C. Bateman, J. McDonald, R. Simmons, (our outstanding footballers, too, it may be noted) had a splendid Basketball season with a record which reads:

Played 18. Won 15.

OLD BOYS' CHALLENGE SHIELD

School has, so far, won $2\frac{1}{2}$ of the five events:

Basketball	35—26
Shooting	632—575
Football	2—2

Cricket and Swimming have yet to be contested.

CRICKET

The Magazine usually goes to press at times which make it impossible to give end-of-season accounts of sports activities.

For the record we should mention that in Cricket 1960 our Under 15 XI won the "Courlander" Cup and the Under 13 XI the "Mitchell" Cup.

Our 1st XI in an Invitation Competition sponsored by the Norwood Cricket Club won through to meet, in the Final, St. Joseph's College, but the wet weather prevented this match from taking place. Accordingly, the "Bedser" Trophy was awarded jointly to the two Schools. C. Gilbert, our 1st XI Cricket Captain, was further awarded a prize for the best bowling performance in the competition.

Almost all our 1st XI players left last July, so many new players will be needed. We trust that there will be many challengers from our 6th and 5th Forms for places in the Senior XIs.

The cricket tables look to be in very good condition and the pavilion with its catering facilities will add to the pleasure of an afternoon's cricket.

We look forward to staging a Schools' County Match, Surrey v. Kent, on Saturday, 17th June.

DATES TO NOTE:—

Cricket. Past v. Present School. Saturday 24th June.

Athletics: Croydon Schools Over 15. Wednesday 10th May.
Croydon Schools Under 15. Wednesday 17th May.
Surrey Grammar Schools. Tuesday 6th June.

We must again thank our many supporters among the parents of our players for their attendance at our matches, and for their great help and encouragement. Their loyal presence, their unstinted help and their many kindnesses are greatly appreciated.

Without the valuable help, too, of R. Clark and R. Montague as referees it would have been virtually impossible to run our football programme. We are deeply indebted to these two John Ruskin men for their services so readily given. Players would do well to realise how very much this willing assistance means to us all.

IN THE CLUTCH OF METAL CLAWS

Mighty man no longer master
Thought-pain slain by metal brain compelling
Electronically;
Protests quelling:
"Feed me, captive keeper, pose me
Problems passing high above thy puny mental power,
And I shall prove thee greater things."
Hypnotically enchanted man obeys
The gaze of bright red eyes insatiate,
The humming voice with cunning lilt,
Scumming up his mind succumbing.
Should he puzzle, probe and ponder
When the master-mind machine is ever present?
Let him all his force and judgement squander
Intellectually;
Let him wealth pursue, and worldly-wisdom;
While his beauty brain rests silently in peace.

F. W. PATTERSON—*L.VI.a*

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bubbling water effects—was skilfully arranged by A. Drake; the general stage management was of the high standard we have come to assume from Mr. Peacock; and the make-up, under Mr. Tryon, was, as always, first class.

But, as ever, chief praise and thanks must go to the producer. It might be sufficient to say that Mr. Crowe, whose first production with us this was, upheld the traditions of the Society established by Mr. Neale. But let us add that his labours brought much enjoyment to many, and much credit to the School.

HOUSE NOTES

ALPHA

Since the last School Magazine was published, there has been a period of inactivity in House competitions. Recently, however, there was the House Basketball Competition; the team of Aylesbury, Bateman, Baugh, Gibbs, Huxtable and Simmons deservedly beat Beta and Delta, and were unfortunate to lose a hard-fought game to a tough Gamma team. Alpha gained second place in the competition, although the general standard of play left much to be desired.

With Football, Verse Speaking, Cross-Country and Sports Day soon to come, the next few weeks will be extremely busy, and it is hoped that all sportsmen will be available, if called upon.

On behalf of the House, I should like to welcome Mr. Powe, Mr. Murphy and Mr. Davey, and hope that with their help the House will continue to flourish.

At the beginning of the School year, A. J. Stone was elected House Captain, and I. Aylesbury Vice-Captain as well as Captain of Football and Basketball; G. Keyes was appointed Secretary.

C. Gilbert, last year's House Captain, was awarded the Sportsman of the Year Cup at Speech Day, and the Bedser Trophy for the best bowling analysis.

Congratulations also to Buffrey, a prominent member of the House, who was awarded a State Scholarship and is now studying at Imperial College, London; also to C. Bateman of 5ul on his appearance in goal for Croydon, Surrey and London Teams.

The Endeavour Cup once again escaped our grasp, and it seems that considerable 'endeavour' is needed before we can hold the Cup which temporarily belongs to Alpha House.

A. J. STONE (Capt.)—U.VIa

BETA

After the "near misses" of recent years, we were this year undoubted winners of the Endeavour Cup by a handsome margin of points. As is so often the case this magnificent effort was the work of the few and we would point out to our Senior members the honourable duty of gaining House-points. They are a worthy reward for work well done and you should collect these points whenever meritorious work justifies their award; and let us not lose any for late arrival at School, if we are to win the Cup for next Speech Day.

House competitions are engaging our attention at the time of writing.

In Basketball our very good team failed miserably in shooting at the basket and instead of leading the field, as they could so easily have done, won only one game of three. We look for greater success in the football, cross-country and athletics matches, where we trust that our several sportsmen in Little, Sturt-Penrose, Lyle, Noakes, Paye, McDonald, S. Smith, K. Robinson, will acquit themselves well to bring us the taste of success.

Again, these are the few in Sport, and full entries are needed in all our athletics events. Realise that you, too, will be needed.

We recently lost the services of our House Captain, R. Sutton, a footballer and cricketer of real worth. We place on record our thanks for all his work for Beta House and for the School and wish him every success in his career.

We congratulate R. Floyd on gaining a place at Cambridge to study mathematics and wish him, too, the best of success and good fortune.

And now in work and in sport, and with all the opportunities of the Summer Term before us, let us unite in the classroom and on the playing field to prove what we stoutly maintain—that Beta House is the finest of the four.

P. LITTLE—U.VIa.

GAMMA

Once again we have failed to win the Endeavour Cup. Although we always do well in the early half of the year, as the Competition draws near to its end, the House loses ground to its rivals. This means that a consistent effort is required by the House, especially by our “intellectuals,” to see that the flow of house-points is maintained throughout the year.

The inter-House basket-ball contest ended with Gamma coming first, a just reward for the dazzling play of our team who defeated Beta 16—13; Delta 31—13 and Alpha 12—8, and thereby repeated last year's fine performance. Let us hope that this is a foretaste of Gamma teams for 1961. (Team: Barson, Sims, Taylor, Adams, Little, Lawton and P. Smith).

Congratulations are due to Hawkins, the House Secretary, for his most professional rendering of the title rôle in the School's production of “Macbeth”; and to the many other members of the House who helped to make this production possible.

We feel we cannot over-emphasise the need for training if we are to do really well in sporting activities, and in this connection Barson (football), Sims (swimming) and Taylor (athletics) have been appointed as Sports Captains in order that they may pass on their own special skills to other members of the House. But we will never win the Endeavour Cup while there are diffident members of the House who do not turn up for practices. It is up to these boys to come forward and try to gain a place in the House team. No one will blame them for trying, and the chances are, that with a little coaching, some really good sportsmen will emerge.

Let us make 1961 a year of improved fortune for Gamma; let us go forward until we have wrested the Endeavour Cup from the hands of our rivals, and shown the School Gamma's real worth.

A. W. C. ADAMS, M. A. SWEET—Joint House Captains

DELTA

Unfortunately, this year we failed by a very narrow margin to secure the Endeavour Cup. We feel sure this was due chiefly to a lack of interest and support from the Senior part of the House. The Junior boys are repeatedly gaining House Points for academic achievements—special mention being given to the Hammond twins (Ih), Peachey and Peppin (3r)—whilst the Senior boys lose them by repeated lateness.

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OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION

President: J. C. Lowe, Esq., M.A.

Chairman: H. G. White, Esq.

Secretary: R. G. Simmons, Esq., 41 Torridon Road, S.E.6 (HITHER Green 2166).

Treasurer: G. Floyd, Esq., 189 Parchmore Road, Thornton Heath (LIV 8150).

Committee: Messrs. J. K. Bell, M. Hart, R. Sageman, C. E. Smith, R. Montague, G. G. Day.

Auditors: E. Harding Esq., A.S.A.A., F. R. Porter, Esq., F.C.A.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING. This, held on Thursday, 27th October, was well attended and showed an improved interest in the Association's activities. As he warned us last year, the retiring Chairman—Mr. Hunt—reluctantly resigned from his position. We should like to take this opportunity of conveying to him our grateful thanks and appreciation for his sterling services over the past years.

His place as Chairman, fortunately, has been ably—and amply—filled by Mr. H. G. White, who has now returned to the Croydon area.

Our Treasurer and our Secretary—much to our good fortune continue unchanged but the Committee as such has altered quite considerably. May we record here our sincere thanks to the retiring Committee and give a hearty welcome to those who have replaced them. The names of those elected appear above—many of them, if not all, well known to most of us—and we are quite sure that the new blood will be a valuable injection to the Association.

It was observed at the A.G.M. that School Leavers were not coming into the Association, in the numbers we would like, and it was hoped that the recent practice of inviting the School Captain and the six senior prefects yearly to the Annual Dinner would eventually bring its reward. An effort is to be made shortly to canvass old Boys personally and any members who can help are asked to contact the Association accordingly—one or two already have, and arrangements are now being made to let them have lists of names of old boys.

DINNER DANCE, "40 YEARS ON". This, the highlight of our activities during recent months was held, on Saturday, the 19th November, at The Shirley Poppy Hotel, with dancing to Johnny Howard's Ambassadors. Councillor B. C. Sparrowe, Vice-Chairman of the School Governors and Mrs. Sparrowe, Mr. and Mrs. Myers, Mr. and Mrs. Hepworth, Mr. and Mrs. Clements and Mr. G. Southgate were among those present, and the Headmaster and our President (with Mrs. Lowe) controlled the proceedings in his usual inimitable style.

Over 120 attended this event and a very enjoyable time was had by all—in fact the feeling of all those who went was so enthusiastic that a further function has been booked for Saturday, 18th November, 1961, please take good note of the date.

THE JOHN RUSKIN CHALLENGE SHIELD TROPHY. You will recall that the School won this trophy outright last year, as a result of which we have had to provide a new one to start a fresh series of contests. The events so far completed however are certainly not very promising for the Old Boys. The results are as follows:—

Basket Ball—School 35; Old Boys 26.

Shoot—School 632; Old Boys 575.

Football—Draw 2-2.

which means as the School lead by 2 events to nil with one drawn we cannot win. Consequently, all that we can do is to draw this series provided we win the Cricket Match—Oaks Road on Saturday, 24th June, and the Swimming Match at the School Gala—end of term in July.

ANNUAL DINNER. This will be held on Saturday, the 22nd April, 1961, at The Shirley Poppy Hotel—7.00 for 7.30, when a good attendance and a jolly evening is expected. The principal guest will be Dr. T. P. Morris, who will propose the toast to the School. Mr. Cracknell will reply. The toast to the Old Boys will be made as usual by the reigning School Captain—A. S. Stone, with the reply by Mr. Martin Hart. The six senior prefects will again be with us to swell our numbers not only now but, we trust, in the future as well.

THE HUT. The attendance on Tuesday evenings at the hut—Ledbury Road, South Croydon (adjacent St. Peter's Hall) continues promising but a few more regulars would not be amiss. Club night starts at 8 p.m. and there are facilities for billiards, snooker, darts, cards and



Dinner Dance—'40 Years On'

table tennis. Any other suggestions as to recreational activities would be welcome. Please try and come along frequently and take the opportunity of meeting other old boys every week.

DERBY DRAW. This will be held this year as usual and books of tickets will be available at the Annual Dinner.

TIES, BLAZERS, SCARVES, ETC. These are still available from Messrs. Hewitts, 45/49 Church Street, Croydon (Tel. CRO 1830). but do not forget your Membership Card when calling at the shop.

THE ARTHUR WM. MACLEOD MEMORIAL. A final cheque for five guineas has been handed over to Mr. Lowe as a concluding gesture and we are pleased to learn that Mr. Thomas has completed a fine bookcase in mahogany with a bronze plaque inscribed as follows:—

“These volumes were presented by the John Ruskin
Old Boys’ Association in affectionate memory of
A. W. McLeod, Headmaster, 1934—1946”

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS. These are as follows:—
2/6 per annum for the first two years after leaving School.
10/- per annum thereafter.

£5 guineas Life Membership if over the age of 40.

SCHOOL LEAVERS. If you get as far as this section—please do your best to join the Old Boys’ Association. The initial subscription is now quite nominal but apart from this your support is needed to maintain a healthy organisation. Please send your name and address together with the initial subscription of 2/6d. to the Secretary without delay.

R.G.S.

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We hope the success of the House this year will be just as great as in the past. The Junior Football and Cross-Country teams have now been training regularly, and the Senior teams are now organised under the leadership of Fisher and Reeve. These notes will be published after the Inter-House Football, but owing to this regular training we are strongly in the running for this event. The Basketball tournament saw Delta at the bottom of the score-board in spite of a great effort by the team.

In the not too distant future, the Sports Day and Swimming Gala will be upon us. Our success in the past, especially in the latter event, will be maintained if keenness and support is given by all members and not by just a few.

Finally, we offer our best wishes to all Delta boys who left last year—and in particular our sincere thanks to Bennell, the previous House Captain, for all the interest and support he gave the House—and issue a call to every boy to make Delta the top House this year.

D. H. ROBINSON (Capt.)—V13.

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