

LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE
MAGAZINE

VOLUME LV

Number 3

DECEMBER, 1946

Editors - - } D. W. MACDOWALL
R. SHAW-SMITH



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Editorial

WHILE we stand "upon the bank and shoal of time" and contemplate the ship of School sail on still further; as we take up the pen to the Editorial to one more magazine; as we clip on our earphones to hearken to our Muse (she is usually mentioned in editorials out of respect), we wonder what style to adopt. Shall we try to be funny? Yet surely this is not the place for humour which might be taken for irony or worse. We might speak of the weather or chat about world affairs: but no; instead we will be pessimistic, and, for a space, condole with ourselves. If half of our readers knew the difficulties with which we contend, they would wonder why we had not appealed to the Editors' Trade Union long ago. In token that we speak the truth, it will be noticed that all headings have disappeared—to make more room: but if the Iron Gates do not open on to "Chat," we hope it will be no detraction. We have a hopeful eye turned to two more issues before July: though they may not be bumper editions. Publication difficulties are now more pronounced, notably from the financial point of view. However we have tried to increase the literary content without restricting the usual society notes: University letters will appear in the next issue. Contributions have been few, and our thanks to the small band of essayists and poets who have helped to enrich this issue are thus the more heartfelt: remember the magazine is yours to make.

Roundly that is the position; thin magazines often or bumper volumes rarely, and we have chosen the former alternative. These measures are only temporary of course, and we presume our austerity to be as short-lived as it is at present essential.

Such are our difficulties and woes, but we fear we shall lack sympathy; especially from those who turn straight to 'Chat on the Corridor,' or to the Prefects' Letter. So, delivered of the more unpalatable portion of the editorial, let us turn to other subjects.

The size of the school has once again increased, and we have said farewell to the Junior School for ever. A new house system is flourishing and arousing renewed enthusiasm. Houses in a day school need somewhat more coaxing than in a boarding school, and the present 'academic' basis is designed to supply a fundamental incentive to rivalry. We look forward to the revival of House Plays during next term. School societies, new or renewed, will speak for themselves.

Now we think our duty is done, and without more ado, we put down our pen with lightened hearts, and wish you happy reading.

Obituary

K. H. BOSWELL.

Kenneth Boswell, it may truly be said, lived for the School and died for the School. He was taken ill while playing cricket in a practice match at the beginning of the season and passed away in a few hours. He came to us in 1937 and worked his way up to the Classical Sixth with great success and much honour, crowning his career by winning a Scholarship to Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge. He was made a prefect in 1944 and Head Boy in 1945, and his influence was good in every way. Full of energy and enthusiasm, he contributed much to every department of our School life, Cricket, Hockey, A.T.C., Literary and Debating Society. Never happy unless he was doing something; intolerant of slackness in any quarter, but always willing to lend a helping hand to a real trier, he has left behind a memory which will live long in the School; and even when those of us who knew him have passed on, his name will still be remembered in this place by reason of the 'Kenneth Boswell Prize for Public Service' and 'The Kenneth Boswell Cup for House Hockey'—two memorials of him contributed by the boys and friends of the School who respected and loved him. We believe that he has reached "fresh woods and pastures new" wherein to find further and still wider opportunities of service.

K. H. BOSWELL.

By the death of K. H. Boswell on April 10th of this year, the School lost a fine scholar and a loyal captain. It is not too much to say that Kenneth lived entirely for the School: as Prefect, Vice Captain and Captain of the School successively, he commanded the respect of every boy for his honesty and fairness. At the sports field he was a keen player and a thorough sportsman, as all who played hockey or cricket with him could testify. He took a leading part in many school activities, being a flight sergeant in the A.T.C. and a keen member of the Literary and Debating Society. His scholastic abilities need no words to praise them in view of his having won an Open Scholarship to Cambridge. The complete absence of any artificiality in his character, his genuine friendliness and his fine sense of humour were apparent to all who came into contact with him, and made him well liked throughout the school. He was an example to all his fellow scholars, hard-working, cheerful, loyal and eager to play a full part in the life of the school. May the spirit which he showed long continue to animate the members of the Liverpool Institute.

J. R. LITTLE

Chat on the Corridor

THE School was very pleased to welcome Major Freeman on the occasion of his second visit in March. He gave a vivid account of the Wingate expedition in Burma, and graphically described the Chindit operations in the Japanese rear.

Towards the end of the summer Term, Mr. Folland gave an interesting and instructing lantern lecture on Liverpool Cathedral to the upper school.

Members of the School attended a concert of classical music at the Philharmonic Hall on September 12th. The varied programme had a wide appeal, and the audience warmly appreciated the opportunity of hearing the Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra. It was the first concert of a series to be given to the Secondary schools of the city.

At the beginning of October, members of the Sixth Form attended a Student Christian Movement Conference at Blackburne House. As a result of the interest shown in the movement, it is hoped to form an Institute branch in the near future.

At the end of the spring term we said goodbye to Mr. Sutcliffe; who had just returned a few months previously after his service with the Forces. He left us to take up the position of Headmaster in the Cockburn High School, Leeds.

We should like to take this opportunity of welcoming to the staff Mr. Forbes and Mr. Willam, both of Liverpool University, and Mr. Longster of Leeds.

The inaugural meeting of the Engineering and Transport Society was held early in the autumn term, and it already boasts a membership of nearly forty boys. Under the guidance of Mr. Hosker and Mr. Forbes, the society aims to foster an interest in engineering subjects in the school. In the near future, it plans to visit the Mersey Tunnel, Edge Lane Tramway Works and, possibly, the Crewe Engine Works.

MISS WILLIAMSON AND MISS ROBERTSON.

Miss Williamson and Miss Robertson left us at the end of last term. Miss Williamson had spent thirty-eight years in the service of the school, and Miss Robertson twenty-eight.

It is easy to put down formally our gratitude on paper in a few words, thus dismissing the work of half a lifetime. Here we can do little more than assure them that our thanks are heartfelt and that they will not be forgotten by any of those who passed through their hands at School.

The applause and cheers of the School at the end of term represent more clearly than the written word the debt of gratitude which we owe to our two friends, for we would have been so much the poorer for not knowing them.

On behalf of the school, for which they have done so much, let us say that their work is appreciated and we wish them the happiness and joy which they so richly deserve during their retirement.

* * *

House Notes

ALFRED HOLT.

THE House has done none too well this year, coming fairly low on the list both in athletic sports and on the football field. It must, however, be stressed, for the benefit of both Seniors and Juniors, that if everyone had entered into the spirit of the various competitions, and resolved that Alfred should be victorious, the House would have come much nearer to the top.

Since the beginning of this term, the House has fared badly in the various league games that have been instituted, but if everybody pulls his weight, both the Horsfall and the Boswell Cups will eventually find their way into the keeping of Alfred. Moreover, our chances of success in the Summer Sports and in the Cricket Competition next year are more than promising. . . .

We must not, however, neglect the immediate future. Next term there will be a House play, and it is hoped that there will be no lack of talent from which to choose the players. Naturally, not everybody will be able to take part in it, but the more volunteers there are, the better will be our chances of picking a really fine caste, and producing the best play.

Let everyone, then, from the youngest to the oldest, strive hard to make Alfred a House second to none, with a motto of "One for all, and all for one."

L. A. BARDSLEY.

DANSON.

THE unsuccessful beginning of Danson House after its re-inauguration last term under the guidance of Mr. Moy, was probably due to shortage of senior members. However it is a marked feature of all our activities, that everybody shows confidence in the ability of the House to succeed. That this confidence is justified is shown by our efforts at the commencement of this term. We have played well in hockey, a praiseworthy point being the good attendances at all games. Our first efforts at football are promising, and it is grati-

fyng to see the enthusiasm of the junior fives team. The House Play and the Hobby Show, which are to be held next term, will present the House with an opportunity of exhibiting its prowess at indoor activities. We must, in the future, strive to restore, and even to surpass, the pre-war supremacy of Danson House.

K. S. TODD.

HUGHES.

IT is usually the lot of a House Captain to have to spend his time bewailing the apathy of certain sections of his House and exhorting them to take some interest in the various competitions. To do this, however, would not only be unnecessary but unjust in the case of Hughes, because great enthusiasm has been shown by the House and all that it needs is a little more co-ordinated effort.

Football has been our most encouraging venture, for although we had the misfortune to lose in the final of the last Horsfall competition our matches so far this term have met with signal success. Our position in Fives too, especially among the seniors, is quite favourable. We cannot claim the same prowess in hockey, but this is a new game to most of the House and we have plenty of good material, only practice is needed. Let us hope that the Hobby show and House play next term will give Hughes a further opportunity of displaying its talent. In conclusion, thanks must be rendered to Mr. A. E. Bradshaw, our House Master, for his work on behalf of the House.

Remember, defeat is a challenge and victory a spur!

R. D. STRAPPS.

OWEN.

SINCE the last issue of the Magazine the fortunes of Owen have varied considerably. An excellent start was made when the senior and junior football teams were victorious in the Horsfall Cup. Then followed a rather mediocre display in the School Sports and total eclipse at cricket. The start of the new season has shown that the fives and chess teams will be capable of many things, but the football teams, both senior and junior, need more enthusiasm from the House members. The hockey prospects are good and I think we can look forward to a successful year, in which we hope the junior members will play their full part. The loss of I. Berman as House captain, and C. F. Parry and R. S. Donaldson, will be regretted by members and we thank them for their services to the House.

N. E. DAVENPORT.

S. LIPTON.

PHILIP HOLT.

SINCE the introduction of the new House system, the House has enjoyed a considerable amount of success. Our greatest achievement was the winning of the House Sports Championship. We must congratulate D. P. Blackstock on becoming this year's Open Champion and on amassing so many points for the House. Unfortunately, we were compelled to field a very weak side in the

Whitehouse Cup competition, and, as a result, we were eliminated in the first round. The juniors did not fare any better in the Junior Cricket Cup. However, so far, it has been the juniors who have set a worthy example to the rest of the House by their keenness and enthusiasm. I appeal, therefore, to the seniors to take a more active interest in their House, and, on sports days, not to stand and criticise whilst the faithful few are struggling to gain points.

May I take this opportunity of thanking Mr. Booth for the interest he has taken in all the House activities, and exhort every member of the House to strive in order to make "Philip" supreme in all departments of school life. L. A. RAWLINSON.

TATE.

THE inauguration of the new House system has brought considerable success to Tate. Lack of numbers has been more than compensated by the keenness which the House has shown. It is most important in such a small House that everyone should pull his weight.

We have been successful in many activities. Last year we won the Fives Cup in face of strong opposition and, but for the intemperate weather, might have won the Whitehouse Cup; we were victorious in the junior section. This term our junior and senior football and fives teams have not, at the time of writing, lost a single match, and the hockey team is next to top of the League. Although the chess team managed only to draw its first game, it promises to develop into a very strong combination. The only failure was in the School Sports when the House could obtain only third place. This is not good enough for Tate.

Thanks are due to Mr. Folland, our House Master, for his most enthusiastic aid; we must especially thank him and Mr. Rowell for enabling us to have several football practices after school. Let us establish the fact that the Classical House is *nulli secundus*.

* * * E. J. WILLCOX.

School Sports Day, 1946

INCESSANT rain came near to ruining this year's Sports Day. Indeed, after several boys had slipped while attempting the High Jump, it was deemed wise to hold this event some days later. The track was very wet and the going heavy, but this did not prevent the return of some good times. Performances most worthy of mention are those of D. P. Blackstock, J. P. Barber and P. B. Watson, who won the Open, Middle and Junior Championships, respectively. Watson also had the distinction of breaking the Under 13½ Cricket Ball record with a throw of 64 yards. In addition to these, D. Nott's time of 5 minutes 9 seconds for the Open Mile should be noted.

The Junior Competition was won by Owen House, whilst Philip Holt House won the Senior and Aggregate Competitions. In Cochrane House 3B won the Shield.

All concerned must be congratulated for making the day a success despite the adverse weather conditions. R. G. EVANS.

Association Football Notes (1945-1946)

THE school 1st XI has had a very disappointing season. Out of the twenty-two games that were played, only seven were won, thirteen were lost and two were drawn. The chief faults were the usual ones of lack of co-operation between the half-backs and the forwards, and the inability of the forward line to produce shots capable of beating the opposing goalkeeper.

The Second XI, owing to the numerous calls made upon it by the first team, was not able to settle down, and few victories came its way. The junior shield team did not achieve much success during the season, and, as usual, it was eliminated in the first round of the Shield Competition.

In the senior Shield Competition, the 1st XI was narrowly beaten in the first round by four goals to three.

Thanks are due to those members of the staff who have kindly looked after the school teams, especially Mr. Peters and Mr. Moy with the First XI; Mr. Bartlett and Mr. Telfer with the Second XI; and Mr. Morgan and Mr. Booth with the Junior XIs. I would also tender thanks to George Wass for keeping Greenbank in good condition; to Messrs. Alfred Holt and Co. for the loan of their ground at Riversdale Road, and to their groundsman for maintaining the ground in such an excellent condition; and to Mr. Watterson for his kindness in preparing tea.

Finally we express our indebtedness to Mr. Reece for his interest in all aspects of the game.

The team usually lined up as follows:—Morris, A. B.; Horton, Low, G.; Childs, Willcox, Donaldson; Parry, C. F., Boaz, Ridland, Rawlinson, L. A., and Alecock.

The following also played:—Sinnott, Low, K., Morris, M. T., Kneale, Lunt, Marsh, Oulton, Giddings, Davies, J. A. H., and Wright, D. P.

Full Colours re-awarded to:—G. H. Low and L. A. Rawlinson.

Full Colours awarded to:—Horton, Morris, A. B., E. J. Willcox.

Half Colours awarded to:—Alecock, Donaldson, Parry, Boaz,

Childs and V. G. Lunt.

* * * L. A. RAWLINSON.

Cricket Notes

THE school team started the 1946 season disastrously with three defeats in succession. Having only one full colour and two half colours as a backbone for the side, it was necessary to build up a team from young and inexperienced players. There was plenty of keenness, and after its bad start the team settled down to win four and draw one of its remaining seven matches. Wins included a "double" against Wallasey Grammar School and a dramatic and unexpected victory over the Liobians. The majority of the team will be at school at least for next season, and we hope that this season's experience and training will reap its deserved harvest in the future.

The chief criticism of the side is that the batting lacked stability—a sign of inexperience. This could be remedied with adequate net practice and it is hoped that nets will be available next year. The bowling was always steady but rarely showed any real venom. The fielding was not up to the desired standard. It must be borne in mind that fielding is as important to the team's make-up as batting and bowling.

The 2nd and Colts XIs enjoyed a fair amount of success, thanks to some good bowling performances.

May I tender my thanks to all those masters who have given up their time to supervise both home and away matches. Special mention must be made of Mr. Cretney and Mr. Rowell for the advice and encouragement which they gave to the 1st and Colts XIs respectively. Thanks are also due to George Wass and his son, not only for their coaching, but for the excellent condition in which they have kept the square in face of adverse circumstances. Finally, I would like to offer my appreciation of V. G. Lunt's work as secretary.

SUMMARY 1946.

1st XI	...	Played 10	Won 4	Lost 5	Drew 1
2nd XI	...	Played 6	Won 4	Lost 2	Drew 0
Colts XI	...	Played 6	Won 3	Lost 3	Drew 0

1ST XI BATTING AVERAGES.

	Times					Highest		Average
	Innings	Not Out	Runs	Score				
Lunt, V. G.	... 5	... 2	... 124	... 47	... 41.3			
Rawlinson, D.	... 10	... 2	... 97	... 38	... 12.12			
Oulton, H. A.	... 9	... 0	... 79	... 32	... 8.77			
Topping, A. W.	... 7	... 0	... 61	... 41	... 8.71			
Rawlinson, L. A.	... 10	... 0	... 85	... 34	... 8.5			
Childs, A. R.	... 9	... 0	... 68	... 23	... 7.5			
Barbour, J. A.	... 7	... 2	... 35	... 11*	... 7			
Morgan, T. S.	... 5	... 0	... 31	... 11	... 6.2			
McKay, D. W.	... 4	... 1	... 18	... 8*	... 6			
Wright, D. P.	... 7	... 0	... 41	... 16	... 5.86			
Peterson, N.	... 6	... 0	... 16	... 7	... 2.6			
Bardsley, L. A.	... 6	... 0	... 14	... 6	... 2.3			
Boaz, W.	... 8	... 2	... 12	... 5	... 2			
Hamilton, L. A.	... 5	... 1	... 5	... 2	... 1.25			

* Signifies Not Out.

Also Batted.

Tishler, H.	...	1	...	1	...	4	...	4*	...	—
Sayer, D.	...	1	...	0	...	1	...	1	...	—
Donaldson, S.	...	1	...	0	...	0	...	0	...	0

* Signifies Not Out.

1ST XI BOWLING AVERAGES.

1ST XI BOWLING AVERAGES.									
	Overs		Maidens		Runs		Wickets		Average
Rawlinson, L. A.	114.3	...	24	...	318	...	40	...	7.95
Boaz, W.	84.4	...	17	...	268	...	27	...	9.93
Wright, D. P.	43.1	...	6	...	132	...	8	...	16.5
Bardsley, L. A.	34	...	6	...	107	...	3	...	35.6

Also Bowled.

McKay, D. W.	...	4	...	0	...	9	...	1	...	9
Topping, A. W.	...	13	...	2	...	39	...	4	...	9.75
Tishler, H.	...	5	...	0	...	16	...	1	...	16

FIELDING.

Catches:—

Rawlinson, D 7, Oulton 3, Wright 3, Boaz 2, Childs 2, Hamilton 2, Lunt 2, Rawlinson, L. A. 2, Topping 2, Barbour 1. Rawlinson, D. stumped 2.

1st XI Full Colours have been re-awarded to L. A. Rawlinson.

Full Colours awarded to V. G. Lunt.

Half Colours re-awarded to W. Boaz and D. P. Wright.

Half Colours awarded to Childs, H. A. Oulton, Rawlinson, D. and Topping.

CRITIQUE.

RAWLINSON, L. A. As captain of the team and the side's most experienced player and best all-rounder, he carried a heavy burden. As opening bowler, his attack was always accurate. He persevered for long periods and always returned good figures. As a batsman, he started well and confidently and promised many runs. He has many good strokes. That he almost invariably lost his wicket early, in apparent absent-mindedness, was a source of disappointment throughout the season. With more confidence in himself and with less responsibility in batting and bowling on his shoulders, he would have made a greater success of his captaincy.

BOAZ, W. He bowled very well on occasions, but his fastish bowling did not improve upon last season's form as much as expected.

WRIGHT, D. P. When he was called upon, he bowled well. He makes the ball come off the pitch very quickly, and is capable of producing a late in-swing, which causes much trouble to the batsman. His batting was disappointing. A fearless field at mid-off.

OULTON, H. A. Despite his peculiar style of batting, he has been valuable as an opening bat. A very keen point fielder.

TOPPING, A. W. A young batsman possessing many good strokes. He failed to score many runs through trying to force the pace. He bowled well, when given the opportunity.

LUNT, V. G. The school's most successful batsman during the past season. He is very forceful and uses his wrists to the best advantage, when he receives a ball on the off-side of the wicket.

RAWLINSON, D. A very young and a very good wicket-keeper. He let through few byes and he is a stumper and not a mere stopper. He should make many runs when his batting matures.

CHILDS, A. R. A very forceful batsman who failed to make high scores owing to his nervousness. An excellent field at cover point.

BARBOUR, J. A. A batsman with a pleasing style who needs to develop scoring strokes. He should do well next season.

PETERSON, N. Has the makings of a good batsman, but he should try to overcome his nervousness.

McKAY, D. W. He bowls faster than the average schoolboy fast bowler. He achieves great speed off the pitch, and the ferocious expression on his face as he runs up to the wicket is a great asset to his bowling. We are looking forward to his performances next year.

L. A. RAWLINSON.

* * *

Hockey Notes

BY the beginning of last season many of the older players had left school. With their departure, the widespread popularity of the game in the previous season waned. Only a handful of young players were ready to fill the vacancies in the 1st and 2nd XIs. Those who did earn places in the School teams, however, were not lacking in ability and had an excellent opportunity to gain experience. They have made a solid foundation for the teams this year.

Both teams played against very mixed opposition. They defeated some rather weak sides easily, but against some more mature teams one major fault was apparent. Weak hitting by the backs resulted in far too much play taking place in our half of the field. In defence they made up for not clearing the ball by covering well, but the positioning of the attack was upset because the inside forwards were forced to drop a long way back to gather the ball.

Once again we must thank Miss Harkness and Messrs. Halton and Willott for their help during the season.

The 1st XI was usually chosen from:—H. A. Oulton, D. P. Blackstock, J. R. Little, Owens, Finch, Eedle, R. G. Evans, Mayne, Lipton, K. H. Boswell, McKay, Strapps and Craig.

RESULTS.

1st XI. Played 18. Won 10. Lost 8.
Goals: For 68. Against 42.

2nd XI. Played 9. Won 4. Drawn 1. Lost 4.
Goals: For 17. Against 33.

COLOURS.

Full Colours were re-awarded to K. H. Boswell and H. A. Oulton, and awarded to D. P. Blackstock.

Half Colours were awarded to Eedle, R. G. Evans, Finch, J. R. Little and Owens. R. G. EVANS.

* * *

Fives Notes

IN spite of the difficulty in obtaining gloves and balls, Fives is becoming more popular than ever. The demand for courts is so great that members of Cochran House have unfortunately been deprived of the opportunity of playing Fives for the present.

Last term, for the first time in recent years, there was a knock-out competition for the Fives Cup. This was won by Tate House in a thrilling final. Moreover, the School team, which consisted of Lunt, Willcox, Benson and Barker (J.), was awarded Half-colours. Junior and Senior Fives Leagues have been instituted this term, and all courts are allotted to Houses when not being used for matches. The House Fives Captains then allot these courts to the members of their respective Houses.

Mr. Doughty, after fostering the game for many years, has handed over to Mr. Bentliff, who has proved a worthy successor. A match was arranged between the School and the Masters which was won by the School. It is hoped to arrange several more fixtures for the School team in the near future.

E. J. WILLCOX.

* * *

J.C.C. Notes

IN December, 1945, Captain W. J. Hart retired, after a long and faithful service to the Corps much to everyone's regret. At the beginning of the next term Captain W. L. Halton took over command, and presented the retiring O.C. with the proceeds of a collection made during the preceding term.

In March, a Signals Demonstration was held in which all types of wireless and a teleprinter were shown, and were operated by the Cadets. The term was completed by a Field Day in which lines of approach and camouflage were studied.

The Summer term was a very full one for the Corps. A Field Day in which Cadets underwent battle inoculation was followed by the Certificate A examination in the same month, 15 passing Part 2 and 17 passing Part 1.

In June the most important event of the year, the inspection by Major-General C. D. Moorhead, C.B., D.S.O., M.C., Comdt. N.W. District, took place. The Corps gave of its best and Major-General Moorhead expressed his satisfaction at what he had seen during the day.

This term will see the change-over from field service to general service caps, a sign that the Corps is keeping up with the dress of the Regular Army.

The Corps Band has been re-formed and it is hoped to be on parade shortly. Anyone who would like to play in the band should see Cdt. Terry, as there are still a few vacancies, especially for buglers.

In closing we would like to wish D. P. Blackstock every success during his army life, and we feel sure that the valuable experience he gained, through unstinting service to the Corps, will stand him in good stead.
N. E. DAVENPORT, C.S.M.

J.T.C. CAMP, CHESTER, 1946.

ABOUT forty members of the J.T.C. met at Central Station to travel to the Dale, Chester, where we held our summer camp at the 24th Machine Gun Training Centre. Cadets from the Liverpool Collegiate and Merchant Taylors J.T.C.s joined us on the train.

On arrival we were welcomed by the Commanding Officer and were shown around the camp. Later we drew blankets and rifles, this before the days of Field-Marshal Montgomery's New Army with its pillows and sheets. Kit boxes were provided but the chief use was for the locking in of keys!

We used our rifles on the next day on the 30 yards range and later on the open range at Sealand, being introduced to the process known as 'boiling-out.' The Brens we used on another day, however, were cleaned by somebody else.

After repeated assurances as to the efficiency of the weapon we witnessed an impressive demonstration of the Vickers machine-gun after which everybody fired a burst from the gun. Five members of each school were chosen to take part in a Bren gun instruction course lasting five days.

The rest of the party were taken in machine-gun carriers to the carrier training ground, learning on the way how to replace the tracks. The familiar battle drill demonstration was performed at Llangollen in heavy rain and the party was also conveyed to Chester Castle to visit the Museum of the Cheshire Regiment.

On Sunday a Church Parade was held at Upton Parish Church.

Training continued each day in drill and fieldcraft and was supplemented by excellent Army instructional films, whilst unofficial lectures and training in stirrup-pump warfare continued in the evening in the huts.

Although the food was good the NAAFI was well patronised, especially the games room where an Army concert party provided one exciting evening.

Altogether it was an excellent camp, the training being interesting and the fullest co-operation being given by the staff of the camp.
T.D.H.

A.C.C. Notes

SINCE the last issue of the magazine the Squadron has lost many of its older members. Only three of last term's N.C.O.s are still in the Squadron. Despite this loss, the number of cadets has been maintained by the intake this term; we have about 75 cadets on the books and are thus one of the largest Squadrons in the Command.

During the summer months several of the senior cadets have attended Gliding Courses at the R.A.F. Station at Sealand. Of these, Flight-Sergeant Eedle and Sergeant Finch have succeeded in gaining "A" licences. Corporal Nott is at present still attending one of these Courses.

In the summer holidays a small party of cadets attended a Camp at Kingstown Civil Airport, near Carlisle. We understand that everyone had a most enjoyable week.

Two field-days have been held since the last issue of the magazine. Towards the end of last term a large party went to the R.A.F. Station at Hooton. Most of the party were flown by the C.O. of the Station, in the course of the day. The rest of the time was spent in a detailed examination of a number of discarded Halifax bombers which were awaiting dismantling. The Squadron helped in this operation!

This term another party went to Sealand. No flying was available, but some shooting was done on the Station range. Great hilarity was caused by one Corporal, who changed into his uniform during the journey, much to the delight of his companions.

Although full Squadron parades have been confined to one forty-minute period each week, dinner-hour classes have been restarted in Navigation, Aircraft Recognition, and Morse. Most of these classes have been well attended, and we hope to enter a number of cadets for the Proficiency examination before the end of the term.

Finally, our thanks are again due to the Officers of the Squadron, who have devoted a great deal of their own time to maintaining the smooth running of the Unit. J. H. EEDLE, F/Sgt.

An Autumn Landscape

THE window of my chamber looked out upon what in summer would have been a beautiful landscape. There was a sloping lawn, a fine stream winding at the bottom of it, and a tract of park beyond, with noble clumps of trees and herds of deer. At a distance was a neat hamlet, with the smoke from the cottage chimneys hanging over it; and a church with its dark spire in strong relief against the clear cold sky. The house was surrounded with evergreens, according to English custom, which would have given almost an appearance of summer; but the morning was extremely frosty; the light vapour of the preceding evening had been precipitated by the cold, and covered all the trees and every blade of grass with its fine crystallizations. A robin, perched upon the top

of the mountain-ash that hung its clusters of red-berries just before my window, was basking in the sunshine, and piping a few querulous notes; and a peacock was displaying all the glories of his train, and strutting with the pride and gravity of a Spanish grandee on the terrace walk below.

M. S. GEDDES, R.B.

Scout Notes

SINCE the last issue of the magazine only two field-days have been held. The first, during the Spring Term, took place at Heswall Dales and the second, during the Summer Term, at Cronton. In May the Troop took part in the display given in Sefton Park to mark the visit of the Chief Scout to Liverpool.

During the Easter Holidays some of the senior members of the Troop stayed three nights at Plas Rhiwoedog Youth Hostel. Four pleasant days were spent hiking in the Dee Valley, among the Berwyns and the foothills of the Arenigs, and upon the shores of Bala Lake. Also during the Easter Holidays, P. L. Martin took part in St. George's day parade of King's Scouts at Windsor.

At this year's Summer Camp held at Tyn-y-Celyn Farm, Vivod, Llangollen, a very high standard of camping and cooking was displayed by all four patrols, the camp competition being won by the Kingfishers. Some of the more gallant members of the Troop showed their prowess in a rounders-cum-baseball match at a joint campfire with a neighbouring Company of Guides. The last afternoon was spent on a motor-coach tour through the Horseshoe Pass via Corwen. The mystery of the two legs of lamb still remains unsolved.

This term the Troop was re-organised, and Fane, M. D. Jacob, Rochester and Swallow were appointed Patrol Leaders, and McGuinness, A. E. Philips, D. R. Philips and Wells, Seconds. Two Senior Patrols are being formed, and we look to these to provide inspiration and stimulus for their younger brothers.

We congratulate Fane, M. D. Jacob and Ripon upon gaining the First-class Badge.

We thank our S.M. for the work which he does for the Troop, Mr. Bradshaw for acting as Treasurer, and Mr. Rowell and Mr. Forbes for their interest.

DAVID E. MARSDEN, T.L.

Music Notes

OWING to the summer activities and the prior claims of the choir, all meetings last term were suspended. We were sorry to hear of the resignation of R. D. Strapps, our well-tried secretary, who feels that new blood will keep the society flourishing.

An extensive programme has been mapped out for this term with the helpful assistance of the committee—Mr. Young (chairman), Mr. Baxter (treasurer), D. F. Mowle (secretary) P. Cass (assistant secretary), Mr. Naylor, W. L. Adlington and A. R. Pugh, and the first meetings have been very encouraging.

D. F. MOWLE (Hon. Sec.).

Choral Society

"TANTIVY TOWERS"—November 7th, 8th, 9th.

ONCE more the Choral Society has proved its worth; the three performances of "Tantivy Towers" went through with remarkable smoothness and ease, although there were one or two rather anxious moments, and were noteworthy for their clarity. One or two of the solos were marred by bad mis-timings and voice-strainings, but the ensemble work was of fine execution, made possible by the absolute necessity for strict self-discipline on the part of each performer.

B. A. Leeson (Jenny Jay) and G. Wild (Ann Harkaway) sang delightfully. The latter, though hampered by a breaking voice, went bravely on; his attack was specially commendable. B. A. Leeson played a somewhat pathetic Jenny with conviction.

Mr. Jones, too, was responsible for some delightful moments. His singing of "Wear your white, my love," and "I think of you" was outstanding, and it was a great pity that no encores were allowed. Mr. Hart can always be relied upon to give an amusing and at the same time faithful performance; his "Charles Harkaway" was no exception—"huntin' shootin' and fishin'" seemed to suit him down to the ground, and probably his J.T.C. memories aided his witty interpretation of "Never, never let your gun." Mr. Dawson certainly made up for what he lacked in finesse of voice by his bluff and hearty "self educated" performance as "Captain Lord Bareback." Here—as in the case of Mr. Hart—was a good job of casting.

Of Mrs. Folland and Mr. Hosker (the Earl and Countess of Tantivy) it is hard to say anything other than that they were charming. Their worldly advice was delightfully given and enthusiastically received. But before passing on to the Chorus one number must be singled out—the solo and quartet "On the sunny hillside"; a really compelling piece of work.

The Chorus was extremely enthusiastic, and their enthusiasm was infectious. One or two effects were gravely spoilt by bad leads—a long-standing fault which might be cured by better grouping—but they showed by their performance of "John Peel" that they knew how to sing a *pianissimo* as well as a *forte*—an ability worth having.

At the piano was Mrs. Hosker; her accompanying was unobtrusive but exact, and the success of the venture was due in no small degree to her playing.

For his work in producing and conducting the opera we tender hearty thanks to Mr. Young. His baton work was crystal clear and all the performers responded to him admirably in an exceedingly difficult work. It was a great pity that we heard so little of the Chorus of the Choral Society, especially in the second Act. What about performing something of a different nature next time and giving the Chorus the full limelight—The "B minor Mass" or "Judas Maccabeus"? Such works would also remove the difficulties of action set by Concert Versions of Comic Opera.

R.D.S.

"Much Ado About Nothing"

ON October 9th, a party from the Sixth Form, in the charge of Mr. Dawson, went to see Robert Donat's production of "Much Ado About Nothing" at the Royal Court Theatre.

The curtain rose and once more the romantic figures of Hero and Claudio, Benedick and Beatrice strolled through the streets and gardens of old Messina. Once more villainy in the shape of Don John and Borachio continued its rôle of rumour, mischief, triumph, and finally—disaster. The sparkling wit and broad comedy of "Much Ado" lived again to be remembered by all.

"Much Ado" is a great comedy and only the best acting and producing is good enough for it. Robert Donat's production was masterly and the acting was equal to it.

The two Principals both gave excellent characterisations of Benedick and Beatrice. Robert Donat's Benedick was a superb combination of roughness and wit, of vivacity and melancholy. Renee Asherson's personal beauty, her charm and clear articulation were combined in a brilliant presentation of "My Lady Disdain." Miss Asherson's acting was an experience to be marked, praised and remembered.

The supporting cast was outstandingly good as a whole. Prominent was Jay Laurier as Dogberry. He combined all Shakespeare's wit with a very English but genuine countrified accent. He was ably supported by Horace Sequeira as an exceedingly decrepit Verges. Valerie White gave a good but somewhat colourless characterisation of Hero, and Patrick Throughton did well as Claudio. Paul Demel's foreign accent lent reality to his Borachio, while Harcourt Williams as Leonato, Henry Hewitt as Don Pedro and Henry Oscar as the Bastard were entirely satisfying.

The production was nearly excellent but was marred throughout by the presence of two "boys" in every scene who, when called upon to perform, went through a series of acrobatic dances which would have done credit to a Hollywood musical comedy. Mr. Donat's production was also very slow moving and only after the scene in the Church did the plot proceed at a satisfactory pace. What stroke of genius inspired the producer to introduce the additional scene, where Borachio made love to the pseudo Hero? It was yet another touch of brilliance to be added to a production which almost soared to the height of perfection.

The brilliant colour of the clothes and scenery went far to shed a ray of light into the dark austerity of the present day and nobody left, I am sure, without bringing away a memory of a very fine production.

J. H. HEATLEY.

Chess Club

A HIGHLY successful year reached its peak last term with the winning of the Wright Challenge Shield. We welcome back Mr. Willott: thanks to his taking over the instruction of beginners from the third forms, Mr. Rowell is now free to coach the fourths and fifths, whilst Mr. Booth has organised the removes and sixths. Thus the whole School has the opportunity to play Chess.

This term has seen the initiation of a House Chess League, which promises to be a great success, and it is proposed to restart the pre-war House Knock-out Competition.

We wish to thank Mr. Booth for the time and work he has put into the School Chess activities; with his encouragement the Chess team has made a flying start in this year's Shield Tournament by winning its first four matches, and we look forward with confidence to the remainder of the games.

S. LIPTON (*Capt.*).

Philatelic Society

THE Society has been divided this year into two sections, a senior and junior. The senior section is made up of boys from the Sixth, Remove and Fifth forms, while the junior section is drawn from the Upper Fourth, Fourth and Thirds.

The senior section is guided by Mr. Folland, and meets every Monday after school in room 27. The junior section is taken by Mr. Bowen and meets on Wednesdays in room 32.

At these meetings all matters connected with this fascinating hobby are discussed, and advice is freely given. Interest is maintained by frequent competitions in which valuable stamps are given as prizes.

An effort is being made to connect the hobby with the teaching of geography and history, and with this object in view a series of small weekly competitions, with stamps as prizes, are being held. Full details appear on the Society's notice board each week. These competitions are not confined to members of the Society, but it is hoped that all boys who enter the competition will join in. In connection with the above Mr. L. D. Holt, of the Alfred Holt Shipping Company, through his manager, Mr. Brian Heathcoll, is sending us some of the stamps which come to their offices. When sufficient numbers have been received they will be distributed among members of the Philatelic Society.

All boys who are interested in collecting stamps are urged to join the Society, and to get the best out of their hobby. There is something for everybody and the subscription is only one shilling per year.

* * *

Metropolis

OVER the great city tranquillity reigns. The solitude of the night lingers on as the first streaks of light, heralding the dawn, appear in the east. Gradually, the light grows, and now another day of bustle and work begins. A tramcar moves slowly down the track carrying sleepy-eyed passengers to their daily work.

Slowly the great metropolis comes to life. Big Ben strikes the hour in slow, majestic tones. The stream of traffic, so characteristic of this great centre of a vast Empire, begins. Outside the great newspaper offices of Fleet Street cars draw up almost continuously. The bells of Westminster Abbey peal forth in sonorous tones, calling the people to worship. Thousands of men stream out of the underground stations in the City; a train has arrived at Euston from the north, and a continual succession of taxis wend their way out of the famous station. Far away the chimes of Big Ben can once more be heard. Motor buses drive cautiously along Oxford Street in an endless line; in all the big stores assistants scurry to their counters with the vision of another busy, weary day confronting them. By now, thousands of people are thronging the sidewalks, both in the City and in the suburbs. The North Woolwich Ferry carries hundreds of shoppers across the Thames; in Beresford Square the open-air market is a mass of queues and shopping baskets, while only an hour or so earlier, all was deserted.

On this particular day, I had decided to go on a tour through the City of London. Having alighted at the Underground Station of Mark Lane, I found myself at the Tower of London. Here, in contrast to the noise and hurry of the City, the atmosphere was one of peace. I found it hard to believe that in this great tower so many grim happenings had occurred in the murky past. From there on to St. Paul's Cathedral. Here again, the atmosphere was serene. The white marble statue of Lord Kitchener, coupled with the solitude of the church itself, made the scene very impressive. Then, out once more into the rush of Fleet Street, The Strand, Charing Cross, and then Whitehall, stopping for a moment at the Cenotaph, standing as a symbol of those who died for their country. My next stop was at Downing Street to see the famous Number 10. Here, also, was quiet. Two motor cyclists left with a message, and almost immediately, two more appeared to take their place outside the residence of so many famous men. I now walked along Parliament Street to Westminster Abbey, there to see the tombs of the Kings and Queens of bygone times; the shrine of Edward the Confessor, built in the fashion of a house; the many statues erected to the memory of great men and women of all professions.

On leaving the Abbey the chimes of Big Ben reminded me that I had yet to see the Houses of Parliament. The best view was from the other side of the river, so, having crossed Westminster Bridge, I sat down on the embankment by St. Thomas' Hospital. The noise of the traffic, especially the tramcars, crossing the bridge, seemed to fade into the distance as I gazed on the majestic building, one of the most beautiful in the City. I thought of the host of famous personalities who had spoken and argued within its walls. I was brought back to reality by the sound of Big Ben booming out the hour, and, re-crossing Westminster Bridge, I turned right along Birdcage Walk to Buckingham Palace. Here the scene reminded one of a never-ending roundabout at a fairground. Cars, taxis and all kinds of similar vehicles drove round the Queen Vic-

toria Memorial incessantly. Buckingham Palace, I thought, as I peered through the iron railings, must be a wonderful building inside. The exterior reminded me, however, of a castle being besieged, as the entrances were barred by huge iron gates, securely locked. By this time it was growing late, so I returned to Westminster Underground Station, directly opposite to the Houses of Parliament.

It is now early in the evening in one of the suburbs. Unlike those in the city to which I belong, a large percentage of the shops are still open. There are long queues outside the cinema, but even now the sun is beginning to set beneath a lurid sky. The numbers of people are lessening as night approaches. The cinemas empty, and the long queues at the trolley and motor bus stops slowly decrease, until at last only an occasional couple can be seen. From a nearby house the strains of Charles Ernesco and his Sextet pierce the silence, only broken now by a furtive rustle of the wind. There is a short silence and then Big Ben chimes midnight, and the radio programme is finished for the night. Silence. . . . slowly, majestically, the moon rises amid scudding clouds. The Houses of Parliament are silhouetted against the sky; the moon shimmers on the waters of "Old Father Thames," symbolizing forever, England. Over the great City tranquillity reigns. The solitude of the night lingers on.

R. NUTTALL, R.B.

Sixth Form Science Society

THE Sixth Form Science Society was re-started in January this year. Because such a time had elapsed since the last meeting and none of the records of the Society were available, a new constitution was made. The Society flourished and now boasts a membership of over fifty boys from all the Sixth Forms.

Up to the present there have been eight meetings of the Society during which lectures have been given on subjects ranging from "Relativity" to "Fluorescent Lighting." The visits made by the Society were few, but worth while and there are many more planned for the near future.

Finally, the Secretary wishes to thank Mr. Doughty, Mr. Naylor and Mr. Jones for the help and support which they have given to the Society in its re-establishment and its subsequent meetings and wishes N. E. Davenport, the new Secretary, every success.

E. R. ADLARD, *Hon. Sec.*

How to write an Essay

I SHOULD like to explain to my readers the art of essay-writing. If, however, you wish to write really good essays, I suggest you procure, if possible, a copy of Mr. Smith's book, "Rules for Essay Writing," which, unfortunately, has not yet been released to the general public.

However, back to my subject. Before one writes an essay one must naturally choose a subject, and it is usual to write on that subject, and no other. One must be very careful not to spoil the

essay by using worn-out or hackneyed words, such as "got," "nice" and "lot." These words tend to make the essay boring, and tempt the reader to eat the essay rather than read it. Colloquialisms, although your readers may understand them, must not be used; neither must slang terms nor Americanisms.

Short sentences should be used if the writer is not sure of himself, no sentence being allowed more than one or two pages. Try to use the word which most illustrates your meaning. Never use long and unusual words, such as "sausage" and "pineapple," the meaning of which you are not sure. One should remember the awful example of the notorious Mrs. Malaprop, who had a fit of "hydrostatics" when she "interceded" Jack Absolute's letter. Pay attention to grammar and punctuation. Badly constructed sentences suggest to the reader that the author is a Chinaman, skilled only in pidgin English. Always write out your numbers in full, even though one of them may be four hundred and forty-six thousand, three hundred and two and three-fifths. Figures of speech may be used, but be careful not to mix your kettles of fish with wild goose chases.

I have now, I think, summarised the main points necessary for the composition of a fairly good essay, which ought to secure at least two out of ten for Jones Minor of the Lower Third. Just one final word: re-read your effort, although you may dislike this most of all, most schoolboys finding this task very boring. You may now go out into the world and make a fortune writing essays and short stories. I hope I have observed all these rules myself.

This section of an essay is commonly called the conclusion. An essay also contains an introduction and a main body, each consisting of one or more paragraphs. The essays of A. A. Milne are very good examples of a style which the beginner should endeavour to copy. Which is all I wish to say about writing essays.

G. JONES, R.A.

Homeward Bound

Head the ship for England!

Shake out every sail!

Blithe leap the billows,

Merry sings the gale.

Captain, work the reckoning;

How many knots a day?

Round the world and home again—

That's the sailor's way!

We've traded with the Yankees,

Brazilians and Chinese;

We've laughed with dusky beauties

In the shade of tall palm trees;

Across the line and Gulf Stream,

Round the Table Bay:

Everywhere and home again—

That's the sailor's way! M. S. GEDDES, R.B.

Literary and Debating Society

SO far this session of the Society has been one of the best on record. There has been a large attendance at each of the debates, and a keen interest has been taken not only by the more experienced older members, but also by many who have just started to attend. We hope that this interest will be maintained throughout the session.

We were unfortunate to lose one of our Secretaries, I. Berman, shortly after the beginning of the session. We wish him every success at the University.

The Society has been fortunate in retaining the services of Mr. C. H. Moore as Chairman. His understanding and careful guidance have ensured the success of the debates.

The four debates so far held were as follows:—

Sept. 24.—"This House is in favour of the abolition of Capital Punishment." Proposer: E. A. Griffith. Opposer: R. D. Sharrock. Motion lost 17-24.

Oct. 8.—"Ignorance is Bliss." Proposer: L. Bennett. Opposer: R. D. Strapps. Motion carried 24-19.

Oct. 22.—"This House welcomes the British withdrawal from India." Proposer: Mr. D. G. Bentliff. Opposer: Mr. W. G. Cretney. Motion lost 12-28.

Nov. 5.—"This House is in favour of the abolition of the Football Pools." Proposer: S. M. Henshaw. Opposer: D. C. W. Sharp. Motion carried 16-15. J. H. EEDLE } Hon. Secs.
D. E. TYNAN }

The following is a report of the India debate.

The Chairman opened public business by calling upon Mr. D. G. Bentliff to propose the motion that: "This House welcomes the British withdrawal from India."

The proposer confessed that he feared the opposer because he was the expert. However, he found the opposition had no case and were merely trying to intimidate him. The opposer, he said, was setting himself against the opinion of three generations of statesmen and the policy of a century. His main argument was, he said, historical. British policy had always aimed at giving India self-government, he then quoted Munro, Lawrence, and Macauley who supported his views. Declaring that self-government was the goal, he attempted a survey of the history of India's preparation for freedom. He then enumerated the various acts by which India had obtained her present degree of self-government and he said since our withdrawal is the crowning act of a century's policy we should welcome its completion.

Withdrawal was also consistent with the idea of the British Commonwealth, and since our Empire is a free co-operative body we should be insincere to the noble claims of our Empire if we did not welcome the withdrawal.

Lastly, he reminded the Society that daily our own Western Culture is continually subjected to attacks from all sides. We are

accused of still fostering Imperialism. We should give India her freedom and remove all cause for criticism. Withdrawal from India is the fulfilment of a pledge, is consistent with our empire theory, is a fine gesture in the eyes of the world, therefore let us welcome it.

The Chairman then called on Mr. W. G. Cretney to oppose the motion. The proposer felt it just that the proposition's case was idealistic as is so often the case when a person has no working knowledge of the subject. He admitted that he was perhaps prejudiced. He warned the Society against rash-thinking. Ignorance of the true facts had created a mis-conception of India's problems. India had always been ruled from Whitehall, it was remarkable how, through our ignorance we had been able to govern India at all.

The British went to India primarily for commercial reasons. Our trade will suffer, but we must not regret our loss. We must decide what is best for the Indian people. The speaker believed the withdrawal inevitable but did not welcome it. He admitted the proposer's history, and agreed that we should withdraw when India was ready. But India is not yet ready.

Knowingly he said all young men, rightly, love freedom. The riots in India are being planned by the young university students fed on liberal ideas. They should have their freedom but not before time.

The war has hastened the withdrawal, he said. We have been forced to make untimely concessions against our better judgment. We could only remain there through increased armies. We are being forced to leave, but we should not welcome it.

Encouragingly, the opposer declared, young men are now more enlightened. Given ten years we could prepare India for a dignified freedom without bloodshed.

The speaker reminded the Society that India was a sub-continent, a land of numerous peoples and sects—then if the idea of a United States of Europe is a dream, what hope is there for a united Indian government?

India is ill-prepared for self-government. There is mass ignorance and mal-administration, and educated leaders are lacking. All this is of our own making, and we should not leave now. We should not rush into a settlement. In India, after we have left, the students and the capitalists will reap, but will the masses benefit?

Concluding, the speaker declared he supported freedom, and agreed we should fulfil our promises. But not before the time was ripe. Let us welcome freedom, but not an ill-timed unhappiness.

E. A. Griffith was then called upon to second the proposition. He divided his speech into three parts (1) Reasons why we should welcome withdrawal (2) the opposer's faults (3) what would happen if we did not leave.

He re-stated the proposer's main point, viz.:—That withdrawal was the fulfilment of a pledge, and he eloquently described how the Indians fought for freedom.

The opposer was too much a critic, he said. The Indians have controlled India since 1935. The proposer exaggerated the bitterness. The Moslems have already accepted positions in the Indian Government. The Indians, their frustration removed, would act differently. He agreed that the Indian was ignorant, but in England Reform Acts preceded Education Acts. He believed the rivalry between the sects would cease. The cry that the time was not ripe had been applied to every nation's demand for freedom. India was of age politically.

Concluding, the speaker reminded the Society that India had been swept by a fervent nationalisation, and if we remained, there would be a ghastly war.

R. Neely then rose to second the opposition. Indians owe their first allegiance to the state, he declared. When we leave; the power politics of the tribes and religions will overwhelm India; the Hindus will not permit a minority, and India will never improve. India without the English would be exploited, he continued. The English are impartial administrators. He declared that Indian politics should not be compared with previous squabbles in history. The only salvation for India is by education under English rule. The bloodshed after our withdrawal will damage British prestige.

The Chairman then declared the debate open.

The L.H.P.I.C. spoke first. He believed the focal question was which would cause the most misery, our withdrawal or our remaining? He believed that the Cripps missions must have felt withdrawal was the only way out, and declared the bloodshed, if we remained, would be much greater.

D. C. W. Sharp disclosed he had come biased in favour of the proposition, but had been converted. The time is not ripe, we must prepare India. When he considered the complexity of the question he could not see any way out. If there was a way it was through education. Time, therefore, was needed.

G. W. Gallimore then spoke. He too, agreed the time was not ripe. He declared education preceded franchise; educate your masses, he said. Concluding, he declared that nobody had mentioned what would happen when we left India, and he proceeded to restate the opposition's case.

D. Nott confirmed our decadent position and declared we should not welcome a retreat which would add to other nation's contempt for us. India itself would fall into chaos. His menacing voice declared that in a factious India exploited by another power, lay the seeds of a third world war.

R. D. Sharrock believed India should remain a colony under English suzerainty. Then followed a gory description of the blood-baths which would follow our withdrawal. He turned to food. India was not entirely self-producing. "Who's going to give them ships when we leave?" he asked. He concluded with the picture of Joseph Stalin, alias Norman Evans, peering over the Afghan Wall.

J. H. Eedle disclosed he had read Pandit Nehru's autobiography, which reveals the squabbles twixt Hindu and Mussulman. "Will they cease when we leave?" he asked. They will have only themselves to fight. The Hindus are united, but not the Moslems. He stressed the need for a sane hand. We must break down the caste-system. What about the Anglo-Indians? The speaker sat down.

R. D. Strapps asked had the proposition's referees had adult experience. "Is the time ripe?" he asked. We should have a few more years there to improve education, health, sanitation, etc. The time was not ripe he decided.

He said it was our policy to give freedom to developed bodies, but India is not. India's freedom is too high a price to pay for ridding ourselves of Imperialism. "We should side with the opposition," he concluded.

L. Bennett declared, Indians are humans, and they should have the right to decide their fate. We have exploited India. Our Foreign Policy is not in the Indian interests. When we first went to Australia and Canada the countries were deserted. We founded new races, but in India there were people already living there. The Indians do not want us. Let us welcome the withdrawal.

W. P. Cass had been converted by the opposition. "Give the poor people a look in," he said. If we want to stop in India to help the Indians we should stay; otherwise we should get out.

J. A. Barbour said we all want to give India her freedom but can we welcome it now. First results show that the Indians are not doing very well. We should stay and help India to prepare for freedom.

Judging the time ripe to close the debate the Chairman called upon Mr. W. G. Cretney to sum up for the opposition.

We are leaving behind us a problem of our own creation he declared. The parties are like two snakes waiting to attack one another. The Indian Army, though brave, is a mercenary crowd and the average Indian cannot sensibly exercise a vote.

Our withdrawal is inevitable but if you welcome it you must think that India is prepared for freedom, if not you can only reluctantly acquiesce.

In his summing up, Mr. D. G. Bentliff declared we cannot oppose India's bid for freedom on the grounds of racial superiority. He recommended his authorities and pointed out that not one speaker in the Commons Debate on India had opposed independence.

The Indians should not be left to stew in their own juice but on the other hand they do not need a nursemaid. At any rate, he concluded, it was well worth a try and we should welcome the withdrawal as a great experiment in keeping with our great ideas and we should welcome it also as the fulfilment of a noble ideal.

On being put to the vote the motion was defeated, 12 votes for 28 against, there were 3 abstentions.

D. E. T.

Order of the Day

Today, my friends, on you depends the fate
Of many nations, who, with bated breaths,
Await the outcome of the dawn's attack;
For after waiting many weary weeks,
Stung by the sand and blistered by the sun,
We march at last to meet our hated foe,
Whose dreams of victory we hope to smash
In one decisive battle. Let us make
The words "El Alamein" as widely famed
As "Waterloo." Now to your posts. May God
Defend the right and grant us victory.

R. W. ROCHESTER, R.B.

Prefect's Letter

THE PREFECTS' ROOM,
LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE.

Dear Mr. Editor,

Previous writers of this epistle appear to have been motivated by the desire to insult and misrepresent their fellows. My intentions are purely altruistic. If I did not undertake this duty some vile slanderer would invent foul and baseless lies. I will tell the truth, though not the whole truth, for that would take too long. No doubt everyone would be highly amused by a description of Mr. Bardsley's large body bent double in a corner as he played a game of "Cricket" with a Fives ball, but the editor would not permit such a waste of space. Therefore I will merely record faithfully the most important characteristics of the Prefects.

Our Head Boy, Mr. Shaw-Smith, by virtue of his office deserves to be mentioned first. He it is who endeavours to control our august assembly although he is really no better than the rest of us. His ability to appear capable whatever he is doing is acknowledged by all. You have only to look at his athletic and expert postures when he is "slamming" the ball in table tennis after this sight the fact that the ball is in the net seems insignificant. When not working he can often be heard emitting a most hideous noise, the result of being musical. He must be intending to join the Civil Service as he claims to be the only prefect who can make tea. Mr. Willcox, his shadow, is quite contented to drink his products, though himself contributing only the caddy. He never possesses a pen, but as he does not write in the accepted sense of the word, the loss is about as small as the amount of cream which he weekly allows his hair to smell. His politeness extends to the football field, and it can be authoritatively denied that he jumps out of the P. R. windows into the fives courts to save the time and trouble of going down the stairs.

The stalwart of the 1st XI is of course Mr. Rawlinson who is one of the quietest members of the brotherhood. One day this

sporting gentleman had been to football practice during first shift and while at dinner during second shift made one of his rare speeches, expressing his surprise on learning that it was not 12-30. It is maybe as well that he is so taciturn. His sense of humour can be mentioned in connection with this, for he appears to derive considerable satisfaction from anointing unsuspecting heads with any convenient liquid he can find. It is rumoured that Mr. Horton, the captain of the 1st XI, can keep fit only upon a fruit diet for he manages to procure some sort of fruit every day to torment his fellows. Between bites he can be heard declaiming upon the incapacity of the team, but he admits that some of its members (he never actually mentions his own name) can play well.

Mr. Marsden is a gentleman with an alias. When he began to wear his haversack he was thought to resemble a dromedary so much that he was immediately called "Camel" and that name has persisted. He is in the School Scout Troop but does not appear in uniform as often as Mr. MacDowall. The latter is very learned, but as he takes such a delight in wearing short trousers it can only be assumed that he is not yet past childhood. His place of origin is not known, for his name, his dialect and the fact that he does not possess a caber, point in different directions. It has been discovered that Mr. Mirrlees, the other aspirant to the rather dubious honour of being a Scot, was born over the border—the border of Yorkshire. This pseudo-Scot is probably living in fear that I will reveal the significance of his third initial. He need not worry as I do not consider this the place to disclose such a secret. The inquisitive must be told that his humour, though childish, is much appreciated by those who can spare time from their duties to listen to him. He is a member of Mr. Eedle's Hockey Team and will often amuse himself and terrify the onlookers by demonstrating the correct way to "flick" a Hockey ball: it would be all right if he knew where he was going to "flick" the ball. Mr. Eedle himself is a small vivacious gentleman who is fast assuming the place of the late departed Mr. Berman as the practical joker of the P. R. In his capacity of Hon. Sec. of the Netball Association he arranged one of our most interesting fixtures. He has not, however, taken up Mr. Berman's occupation of perpetually chanting choice selections of classical music for the annoyance or edification of all.

Mr. Strapps is now the Head Boy's sole associate in musical matters. When he has company he is frequently found sedately sitting studying a book on Old Masters (the musical variety). If interrupted when alone he is seen striding round the P.R. reading this book aloud and offers his explanation that this is the only way in which he can learn it. His ability in composing harmonies is strictly limited but with the assistance of Mr. Mowle he has dominated many a seventh. The last-mentioned gentleman is the secretary of the Croquet Club although his main interest appears to be the J. T. C. He can often be found hastily glancing at a lecture before he delivers it to the ignorant with an air of profound knowledge.

Mr. Tynan is the man with the multiple voice. He has never revealed where he was born, but one could guess from his accent at times, either Wales, Ireland or maybe Scotland Road. Nevertheless, on occasion he can speak intelligently and with an "Oxford" accent and consequently he is a secretary of the Literary and Debating Society. Another member of this rather talkative body is Mr. Bardsley to whom everybody is polite. They always say "please" when making requests. Such respect has he acquired by winning the shot putting event at the last School Sports and by other prodigious feats of strength; to mention what he can do with one hand and a waste-paper basket would be superfluous. He is also a prominent member of the A.T.C. and stands head and shoulders above the rest.

Mr. Davenport, however, was terrified by the thought of flight so he stood his ground and joined the J.T.C. In this way he has managed to obtain a large "flat 'at" which conceals and is held on by the strands of barbed-wire that otherwise would cover his forehead. The "flat 'at" also brought exertion and frustration in the struggle to write the J.T.C. Notes. When playing chess—for he is very versatile: Mr. Davenport often exclaims upon the subtlety of his moves but Mr. Lipton, the School Chess Captain, invariably wins. The latter flits silently to and from the P.R. His neighbours must wish his violin was as silent as his shoes.

The grand old man of the P.R. is, surprising though it may seem, none other than Mr. Evans. He may not look old or grand but he most certainly is. Although one of his out-door occupations is reputed to be golf he never comes to school in plus-fours—but then he is in the A.T.C. and never comes to school in uniform either. In spite of this he has had a long and complicated correspondence with the Minister of Labour and National Service and, proving traitor to his handsome but little-used uniform, expects to be in the Army very soon. It has just been brought to my notice that this tall dark person who wears a brown sports jacket and whose name appears to be Mr. Todd is a bona fide member of the P.R. This no doubt worthy person can often be seen playing table-tennis at 4 p.m. Whether he comes to school for this purpose alone it is impossible to say but he most definitely plays with great intensity.

These, Mr. Editor, are the inhabitants of the P.R.—that abode at the top of the School lately made homely by a fire, and a kettle and teapot resting in glory upon the hearth. There I think we ought to leave them before the fire starts smoking and causes them to throw open the door for air and to find my eyes glued to the keyhole. It has! I must tear them away! Too late! They've found them!

Yours, after insufficient haste,

I. B. BLYND.

Dear Sir,

Letters to the Editor

Some mention of National Service, I feel, is most necessary in the Magazine for it affects every boy in the School; every boy will, sooner or later, have to serve in the Forces, unless he is in one of the restricted groups excluded by the Act.

One of the questions raised on the subject is what age is most suitable for conscription. It cannot take place before the age of eighteen; if that age is chosen it interrupts a great many in their education, which has to be resumed at the University after military training. If, on the other hand, conscription is deferred until the completion of the education, the young man is torn away at the very beginning of his career, which is not fair to him, and not beneficial to the country as a whole in the long run. Training assimilated in such circumstances is unlikely to be remembered for any length of time.

One of the most glaring faults in conscription is the call-up of school teachers. Such is the need for trained teachers that students are deferred until they have completed their training. At this point they are immediately called up. Thus the Government deprives the schools of their services for a period of two years, during which they could be actively employed in their profession. Similarly doctors, after taking their degrees, are conscripted. Surely this is a very short-sighted policy of the Government, and is of little benefit to the country.

Finally I would like to raise a most important point. If we intend UNO to succeed, and the peace of the world to be ensured, as is so often stated, why then is it necessary to train the youth of the country in the handling of weapons? Against whom are we protecting ourselves? If world peace is truly to be ensured, then all nations must abandon the creation of armies. The first step would be the abolition of conscription and the period of compulsory National Service. This move must originate in the country which proves herself more enlightened and less suspicious than her neighbours. Why should it not be our own country?

Yours etc., JAMES HENRY.

Sir,

A revolutionary change has taken place in the House system. The members of each form are now, as far as possible, in the same House. This means that everyone who took classics in the fourths is in Tate, and likewise with scientists and moderns. The other members of the school are divided into Alfred, Hughes, and Danson. This action was taken because of the inertia of the former system and in the hope that the House spirit would be encouraged by the existing rivalries between "Classicists," "Modernists" and "Scientists."

There are several disadvantages, however, for there are now six Houses which is not such a convenient number as four for arranging games and knock-out competitions; and these Houses are not even equal in numbers. Furthermore, there are only three Houses with any real affinity in their work.

It is indisputable that under the new House system there has been a great revival of interest. This is noticeable in all activities—Hockey, Football, Fives—and will no doubt show itself in all future competitions. But, under the old House system the Houses were thought about only a few days before the Horsefall and Whitehouse Cup Competitions, and before the School Sports. In my opinion, if the present activities had taken place under the previous system, the present enthusiasm would also have existed, and been undiminished. Therefore in view of all the disadvantages I wonder whether the change was really necessary or advantageous?

Yours etc., E. WILLCOX.

School Library—An Appeal

DURING the last few years the School Library has sustained losses so numerous that a considerable proportion of the books, many of them greatly in demand, are not available. Most of these books are not readily replaceable and their absence is detrimental to the work of the School.

Books have occasionally been borrowed in haste without signature and have either been overlooked or retained for such a lengthy period that borrowers have hesitated to return them. Old boys would be doing a service to the School if they would search their shelves for any such books and return them anonymously, either by the hand of a boy still at school, by personally handing them in at the School Office, or by post.

An Appeal

THE period of the School's Evacuation at the beginning of the war appears to have been the cause of some rather serious interference with the file of the Magazine, which now is incomplete. If any readers have the following numbers, the Headmaster would be grateful to have them and would gladly pay the cost:—

Volume XLVI No. 2, April, 1935.

Volume XLVI No. 3, October, 1935.

Volume XLVII No. 1, January, 1936.

Volume XLVIII No. 3, October, 1937.

Volume XLIX No. 1, January, 1938.

Volume XLIX No. 2, May, 1938.

Volume XLIX No. 3, October, 1938.

Volume L No. 1, January, 1939.

Volume L No. 2, May, 1939.

Volume L No. 3, October, 1939.

Volume LI February, 1940.

and any subsequent issues up to the end of 1942.

Acknowledgments

THE Editor wishes to acknowledge the receipt of the following contemporaries and apologize for any unwitting omissions:—The Holt Magazine, Ruym, Alsopian, Holly Lodge Magazine, The Caldeian, The City of London School Magazine, The Wallaseyan, St. Francis Xavier's Magazine.

Old Boys' Notes

NOW that many of our Old Boys have returned from the Forces, we have had fewer letters and visits. We shall still be glad to receive letters from Old Boys with news for inclusion in these notes.

H. G. McDavid (1917) tells us that he has now transferred to London.

Rev. E. Jones (1924), Chaplain to the famous Stalag Luft III, visited the School recently.

A. T. Jones (1944), now a P.T.I. in the R.A.F., came into School recently. He still seems to find time to do some track running.

C. Moore (also 1944) came in with him. He is bound for the Mediterranean with the Navy and hopes to be demobilised in about a year's time.

RAVENSCROFT & WILLIS,

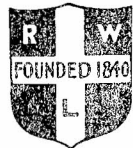
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