

# THE STOIC



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# THE STOIC

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No. 1

## IAN ANDERSON CLARKE

23rd June, 1890—30th September, 1939.

**M**R. Clarke died in Edinburgh on September 30th after an illness of which the beginnings were already apparent on Speech Day. His death involves a loss which cannot be measured, and it has been perhaps the less easy to bear in that it came at a moment when his strength and wisdom would have been of especial value.

Ian Clarke had a good heredity. His father was Dr. John Clarke, of Aberdeen University, a distinguished Scottish educationist and a man of powerful personality, who died two days before his son at the age of 86. His mother belonged to that remarkable family of Andersons, which was first recorded at Inverugie about 1560 and which has produced distinguished men in every subsequent generation.\*

After an education of the best Scottish sort, Clarke went up in 1912 to Christ Church, where he read Forestry and gained his Blue for Rugger and his Half-blue for Athletics. In 1914 he was commissioned to the Gordon Highlanders and served for two years in France, where he was three times wounded. In 1916 he was seconded to the Machine Gun Corps and attained the rank of Major.

After the Armistice he returned to Oxford and gave valuable help in restarting the University Rugger, although his wounds prevented him from playing himself. In 1920 he was appointed a District Officer of the Forestry Commission, and worked for a time in the north-eastern part of Scotland.

\* The present generation includes a Master of Caius, a Director of the Orient line, a Director of the Bank of England, a Chairman of the Dunlop Rubber Company and a British Ambassador to the U.S.A. Through his father I.A.C. was related to another British Ambassador to the U.S.A.—Lord Bryce.

In May 1923 he came to Stowe to help to start the School. During the first term he had no House, but when Grenville was founded in September 1923 he took it over and remained its Housemaster until he moved to Walpole at its opening in 1934. In the same year he was married to Margaret Elphinston Adam Smith, daughter of Sir George Adam Smith, of Aberdeen.

Those who were taught by Mr. Clarke—from the “Form Three” of the first term to the “Middle Vc” of modern days—will not easily forget their time in his Form. It was a bracing experience and sometimes a diverting one. It was an uncommonly useful experience too. For his lucidity and persistence often got knowledge into heads which had previously proved impervious to it, and he expected a standard of care and effort to which some members of his Form had never risen before. ‘Throughly’ was the motto which he chose for the arms of Grenville. At the same time his vigour and his humour gave his “periods” a refreshing quality of their own, while his fairness and his freedom from moods made him by universal consent “a good man to work for.”

Clarke had charge of Stowe Rugger from its earliest days until Mr. Tallent arrived in 1932 to relieve him, and he remained in general control of the games and grounds until 1936. At the Sports he acted as Starter from the beginning, and each year he made himself largely responsible for the Heats. The smooth running of the organization was in great part due to the hard work and clear thinking which he devoted to it in the early years and to the trouble which he took with it right to the end.

Stowe Rugger could not have become what it is without the foundations which he laid for it. His ability as a coach was proved by the long pre-eminence of Grenville, which won the House Rugger Cup for seven successive years. What he was doing for the School Side in the meantime was revealed on the day when for the first time Stowe met another Public School on equal terms. Stowe, captained by B. C. Gadney, beat Radley by 16—0 on the 10th of December 1927—an important day in the School’s athletic history.

Clarke worked with the O.T.C. from its foundation. In later years he was chiefly concerned with the teaching of tactics, in which his practical experience and his general outdoor knowledge were of special value. Many Stoics will remember his T.E.W.Ts. with particular appreciation.

The love of trees which had made Clarke a forester persisted throughout his life as a schoolmaster. For twelve years he took regular classes in forestry here, and one of his favourite recreations was practical work among the Stowe trees. It was he who planned the shelter belts on the Bourbon Field (both Jubilee and Coronation sections) and supervised their planting and after-care. Perhaps his son (who was entered for Stowe at birth) will play games under their protection, or at least watch his own son doing so. It was he who had schemed the rows of scarlet oaks now planted beside the road which leads from the shelter belts down to the Ha-ha. He seemed to know all the trees in the grounds, and he could provide detailed information about any of them if required. Many rare or interesting trees might well have gone unnoticed if he had not been there to call attention to them. One returned from a walk with him filled with new knowledge and with a desire to acquire yet more.

As a singer Clarke had been a mainstay of the Choral Society for fifteen years. Whenever there was singing at Stowe—from the first School Concert in the newly built Gymnasium in 1924 to the last Walpole Concert in 1939—his fine tenor voice was awaited with eagerness and heard with delight.

It was, of course, as a Housemaster that Clarke left the deepest impression upon Stowe and Stoics. Yet he was not a Housemaster of quite the accepted type. For example, he did not achieve or attempt that social intimacy with all the boys which is some men’s source of power. Even to his Prefects and Monitors he seemed a little remote. Yet he knew far more about the individual members of his House than most of them ever suspected, and had far more sympathy with them, both in their successes and in their difficulties, than he ever allowed them to see. Indeed, as his own contemporaries knew well, he had an unusually deep understanding of the human male of all ages. It was this understanding which more than anything else enabled him to do what he did for his boys.

Yet his value to his House and to the School lay less in what he did than in what he was.

Perhaps the fundamental thing about Ian Clarke was his sincerity. It was not the sincerity which results from simple-mindedness. Still less was it of the type which makes the candid friend, for no man was more considerate of the feelings of others. If we thought of him as sincere it was because we knew that his opinions were due never to expedi-

ency or emotion but always to clear thinking based on principles that were a part of himself. A member of his House expressed some of the truth when he said "You always knew where you were with him." He was the same always, he was the same all through and he was the same to everybody.

Sincerity of that kind always gives a man influence over other men, because it immediately makes them trust him. When it is combined with a strong will, a steady sense of right and a magnanimous understanding of other points of view, it makes a man not a leader only but a natural commander. No-one who has spoken to men who served under Ian Clarke in the old war can doubt that he was both a leader and a commander of a pre-eminent kind. In peace-time he might well have held a bigger position than that of a Housemaster—if there is a bigger position. But he was not interested in eminence for its own sake, and he refused to accept the Headship of a great school because he was convinced that he would do more good by remaining at Stowe. No-one at Stowe can dispute that conviction or regret the decision that resulted from it.

Of Ian Clarke as a friend it is hard to speak. His energy, his dry but gay humour, his unchangeableness, his stubborn commonsense and his fine clear brain, added to the warmth and depth of his kindness, which he tried so unsuccessfully to conceal, made him the best man to be with on every kind of occasion. Those who have played games with him or shot with him know that there was no-one like him out-of-doors, as all his friends know that there was no-one like him as a counsellor in adversity or a companion in prosperity.

From our point of view here perhaps the most important thing to be said about him—and everyone who knows Stowe will say it with conviction—is that by doing what he did Clarke became one of the creators of Stowe and that by being what he was he helped to give it some of the qualities of which it is most proud. The School will go on its way without him, but those of us who have served here with him will always feel that Stowe is different since his death, and that we ourselves are poorer.

J.F.R.

It is not often that it can be said of a man that he never spoke an uncharitable word about others; but such was my experience during sixteen years friendship with Ian Clarke.

His sense of duty was highly developed and in no matter, however trivial, did he spare himself from giving of his best.

Although a strict disciplinarian he was always considerate and kindly and never had a 'down' on any boy.

R.H.

His work at Stowe gained much from his strong feeling for moral values and his contempt for anything superficial. His opinions were always sane and comforting, for they were formed with caution and expressed clearly and with conviction.

A.B.C.

An Old Stoic writes :—

I saw the news about Ian in *The Times* and I could not believe it, but I now realize that the hero and friend of my school days has gone. A thousand memories come back. Of Ian in his rather tight tartan trousers on O.T.C. parade, and rides in his car, and tea parties in his room. Richard and Ian on their Sunday afternoon walks, and it was said that in the evening Richard provided the cigars and Ian the whiskey!

Of Ian who made Stowe rugger, in his Oxford blazer, and Ian in his bowler on his way to Twickenham to see the Varsity match.

Of his love for trees, and everything fair. His almost blind trust in boys, and his cry of "be thorough."

When Margaret joined him it was Stowe's and Walpole's gain, and all was wonderful. Now the parting has come, but Ian will never be forgotten. Stowe can never be the same for me, or for any of those who were with him in Grenville in the early days of the School.

## REMEMBRANCE DAY, 1939

*A short Address given by the Headmaster in Chapel on Sunday,  
November 12th.*

Yesterday was Armistice Day. On previous Armistice Days we have been concerned with two things—commemoration and resolve: commemoration of the men who were killed in the old war and our own resolve that there should never be another war. The element of commemoration has come to have less and less reality as the years have passed and as a new generation has grown up. It has never had much reality for you. What of the resolve? The resolve was made in vain, it seems, and we cannot make it again this year, for the other war is already upon us. Is there, then, no resolve that we ought to make to-day? Is there no purpose to which at our first Chapel Service after the Armistice Day of 1939 we can dedicate ourselves? I think there is.

Perhaps the ugliest feature of a war is the spiritual deterioration that it brings about. War not only tortures the body; it defiles the soul—and often it defiles most the souls of those who take the least active part in it. Fear and anger beget hatred, and hatred is the enemy not only of generosity and justice, but of truth. And a world from which generosity and justice and the love of truth have been driven would indeed be an ugly world.

We here have tried to keep the ugliness of war out of this Chapel. Let us to-day resolve to keep it out of our hearts too. Let us resolve that we shall not let fear and anger (and we shall feel both of those many times) fill us with hatred and the love of lies; that though we shall resist evil with all our might, we shall not in resisting it sink to its level; that we shall fight with our bodies but not with our souls; and that whether we live or die we shall keep safe within us the generosity, the justice and the love of truth which distinguish the Christian from the savage, and without which we can never hope to build a new world on the ruins of the old.

## SPEECH DAY 1939

Speech Day was held on Saturday, July 29th. The chief speaker was The Honourable Vincent Massey, High Commissioner for the Dominion of Canada. Mr. Massey said that Stowe among schools and Canada among nations were both young, but that both were the heirs of an old and fine tradition. In a speech of much interest and humour, he spoke of the aims of the public schools and of their value, and of the aims of the British Commonwealth of Nations with its conception of empire that differed so widely from the imperial aims of the Dictatorships. Finally he advised his hearers to “visit the Empire, study the Empire, and try to comprehend its meaning.”

Mr. Massey was introduced first by the Chairman of the Governors (Dr. A. W. Pickard-Cambridge), who also spoke of a number of material improvements either already achieved or contemplated at Stowe; then by the Headmaster, who after a review of the year, described the part that Stowe had tried to play in the past and hoped to play with increasing success in the future. After Mr. Massey's address, a final speech of thanks was made by Lord Huntingfield.

During the afternoon, the Tennis VI played a match against a team of distinguished players brought down by Mr. J. G. Lilley; there were also other sporting activities, a Concert in Assembly, and the usual Summer Art Exhibition. In the evening the Historians presented “King Lear” on the steps of the Queen's Temple. An account of this will be found elsewhere.

## STOICA

*School Officials—Christmas Term, 1939.*

*Prefects*:—J. C. Drew, ma. (C), Head of the School; A. V. Farnell-Watson (W); I. McC. Tait (G); M. J. G. Hann (T); J. B. Frankenburg, ma. (C); J. M. Henry (C); S. R. G. Scott (G); A. J. F. Fergusson, ma. (B); R. C. H. Russell (G); R. H. Widdows (C); P. J. Diggle (C); D. K. Murdoch (T); J. B. Dwight (G).

*Monitors*:—The Hon. J. V. Fisher (T); I. D. W. McEwen (T); M. G. M. Reid (W); C. E. L. H. Reiche (G); J. M. Browne (B); D. E. M. Earle (B); V. D. Burton (G); R. U. P. de Burgh (G); P. A. Buchanan (W); P. D. Forsyth-Forrest (T); M. I. Atkin-Berry (C); M. R. Wallace, ma. (C); R. O. Richards (T); P. A. Bates (C); R. P. Farrer (B); A. B. Luttrell (C); D. W. Barnes (C); J. B. Kennedy, ma. (C); P. D. Forsyth-Forrest (T); G. L. Paget (C); P. G. Henderson (W); G. A. Dunnnett, ma. (G); F. H. V. Beazley (B); A. B. Robinson (G); D. Campbell-Cooke, ma. (C); T. D. Dawson (C); J. R. McCarthy (G); A. G. Whitehead (G); G. A. S. Cox, ma. (W); R. J. Musgrave, ma. (C); C. D. Harvey-Piper (T); J. E. B. Naumann (C); C. F. Broughton (C).

*Captain of Football*:—I. McC. Tait (G).

*Vice-Captain of Football*:—J. M. Henry (C).

On Tuesday, October 3rd, at 4.30 p.m. the Chaplain conducted a Memorial Service for Ian Anderson Clarke, at which Major Haworth read the lesson. The service was intended for Masters and their wives, Matrons, members of Walpole House and of the Middle Five C of last year.

Many preachers who were to have visited us this term and next have had to cancel their visits. We were however fortunate enough to hear the Rev. H. G. Barclay, M.C., Chaplain to H.M. the King and Vicar of Windsor Great Park. Also, Mr. Clifford preached on November 5th.

As the Chapel could not be used after dark, attendance at the Sunday evening service has been made voluntary. From November 5th it has taken place in the Aurelian Room, which on Sunday evenings has been

furnished as a Chapel again. We have had the help of Masters, and besides hearing addresses from the Headmaster and the clergy, we listened to Mr. Capel Cure on November 26th.

On Friday, December 1st, in the absence through illness of the Bishop of the Diocese, the Lord Bishop of Buckingham confirmed 80 members of the School in the Chapel.

The usual Carol Service was held at the end of the Term, but it had to take place in the morning instead of the evening of Sunday, December 10th.

**BIRTH.** On May 11th, 1939, to Margaret Elphinston, wife of Ian A. Clarke, Walpole House, Stowe School, Buckingham—a daughter.

**MARRIAGES.** On August 5th, the marriage took place between Mr. R. H. Pott and Miss C. S. M. Shaw; and on September 5th between Mr. B. E. N. Fawcett and Miss E. J. Tibbits.

A full-page portrait of Mr. I. A. Clarke will be found opposite page one.

Mr. J. A. Boyd-Carpenter (C, 1927) and Major T. Close Smith, of Boycott Manor, have been elected members of the Governing Body of the School. Mr. Boyd-Carpenter, who joined the School at its foundation, is the first Old Stoic to become a Governor.

In January, Mr. H. V. G. Kinvig will take over Walpole House, of which Mr. B. E. N. Fawcett has been in temporary charge during this term.

Mr. J. F. G. Fletcher (T, 1938) has been giving assistance on the Staff during most of this term.

Owing to the outbreak of war, this term was begun on September 19th, a week earlier than was originally intended. Even before that date some twenty boys had returned. The first weeks of September were

spent in a feverish blacking-out of somewhat over a thousand windows. This task was performed by a number of masters and matrons, members of the Workshop staff, the Squash professional, the Shop staff, the laboratory staff, and a number of other enthusiastic amateurs. Yards of cloth, acres of paper, feet of wood, thousands of nails and tacks were consumed; and many a pretty pint of paint was spilled.

In compensation for the initial week, the term is to end on December 16th instead of on the 20th.

Dr. L. P. Huggins and Mr. R. M. Hamer were called up for military service before the beginning of this term, and it is expected that more members of the Staff will be going for the same purpose at Christmas. Mr. M. M. Maynard, after being called up, was sent back in October in order to continue his work with the Air Section of the O.T.C.

A row of Scarlet Oaks (*Quercus coccinea splendens*) has been planted on each side of the short new road which leads from the Ha-ha bridge to the gate of the Bourbon field. This has been done as a small tribute to the memory of Mr. Clarke, to whom the trees at Stowe have owed so much for so many years. It was known that he had long wished to see such an avenue planted.

The Oaks when larger will give a fine display of colour in the autumn. Future generations will be able to thin them out when they grow too large for their present spacing. But that will not be, at the earliest, until the great-great-grandsons of present Stoics arrive at Stowe.

It may interest posterity to know that the Mulberry (*Morus Nigra*) that has recently been planted on one of the lawns in the Chapel Court is a six years old layered plant.

From *The Times* Crossword, No. 3,048. Clue No. 15 down: 'So wet in School.' We think we can do that one!

The H.M. Evans Biology Prize for 1939 has been awarded to A. B. Luttrell (C).

At the March examination of 1939, J. S. Filleul (G) passed into the Royal Navy.

At the end of the Summer Term, Cricket House Matches were won by Grafton. The Haig Riding Cup was won by Chandos, House Tennis by Chandos, and the Mornington Singles by J. R. C. Holbech (C). House Water-Polo was won by Cobham, and House Swimming by Cobham.

The following have been awarded First Fifteen Colours:—

P. J. Diggle (C), A. V. Farnell-Watson (W) (re-awarded); A. D. Thomson (Q), J. C. Drew, ma. (C), D. K. Murdoch (T), M. I. Atkin-Berry (C), C. M. Musgrave, mi. (C), G. F. B. Newport-Tinley (C), A. M. Mitchell (C), M. Denempont (G), C. D. Drew, mi. (C), J. D. Le Bouvier (T), J. B. Frankenburg, ma. (C).

The following have been awarded Second Fifteen Colours:—

M. I. Atkin-Berry (C), J. D. Le Bouvier (T), M. Denempont (G), A. M. Mitchell (C), C. M. Musgrave, mi. (C), G. F. B. Newport-Tinley (C), J. B. Frankenburg, ma. (C), J. T. Holman (W), T. G. Knox (C), R. H. Widdows (C), R. Backus (B), P. A. Bates (C), R. U. P. de Burgh (G), R. C. Hurley (C), W. E. McCready ma. (S), J. D. S. Rowntree (T), A. V. Hollington (Q), I. J. H. Lewisohn (C), J. A. Modet (G), R. Morriss (S), P. G. Henderson (W).

The following have been awarded Third Fifteen Stockings:—

A. V. Hollington (Q), I. J. H. Lewisohn, ma. (C), R. Morriss (S), F. H. V. Beazley (B), V. D. Burton (S), T. D. Dawson (C), J. B. Dwight (G), The Hon. J. V. Fisher (T), J. B. Kennedy, ma. (Q), J. A. Modet (G), R. J. Musgrave, ma. (C), G. L. Paget (Q), C. B. F. Barham (C), R. C. H. Collier (B), R. Gray (C), P. E. Falkner (W), M. J. G. Hann (T), A. G. Whitehead (S), C. C. R. Boulton (B), G. B. S. Osborne (G), D. B. Rolleston (Q), J. B. Sumner (C).

The following have been awarded Colts Stockings:

R. Fleming (C), R. A. W. Rossdale, ma. (T), T. M. J. Shervington (C), P. Campbell-Cooke, mi. (Q), A. J. Gray (T), R. B. Higham (T), D. L. Vere-Hodge (G), C. Lawson-Tancred (C), R. D. Lightfoot (W), W. M. Savery (W), P. M. Ward (T).

School Colours for Fencing have been awarded to D. W. Barnes (C).

At the end of last term Representative Colours were awarded as follows:—

*For Fencing*:—C. E. L. H. Reiche (S).

*For Lawn Tennis*:—J. B. Dunlop (Q), J. R. C. Holbech (C).

*For Swimming*:—G. F. B. Newport-Tinley (C), J. A. H. Lucas (C), P. M. F. Sichel (C), C. F. Warner (S).

## CERTIFICATES.

As a result of the Oxford and Cambridge Board's examination in July, 1939, the following obtained Certificates:—

Higher Certificates:—D. L. Andrewes (G), C. C. R. Boulton (B), J. M. Browne (B), M. J. Conran (B), J. B. Dwight (G), The Hon. J. V. Fisher (T), J. B. Frankenburg (C), R. C. Gordon (C), I. J. H. Lewisohn (C), I. D. W. McEwen (T), R. O. Richards (T), G. C. C. Rowley (T), R. C. H. Russell (S), M. H. R. Sandwith (W), A. G. Whitehead (S).

School Certificates:—C. Alexander (W), R. K. V. Andrews (S), C. R. P. Anstey (C), M. C. Ashworth (W), R. Backus (B), H. G. Baker (C), J. L. Balderson (C), A. R. Barrowclough (S), P. D. Bennett (B), E. M. M. Besterman (W), R. A. H. Bowring (C), K. T. Boyd (C), P. M. Boyd-Bowman (S), J. K. A. Bromley (C), J. P. F. Brown (G), J. M. Budden (W), J. P. Burman (S), J. S. B. Butler (S), J. D. S. Cable (C), P. Campbell-Cooke (C), R. C. Carr-Gomm (C), D. Q. Chalmers (B), R. C. H. Collier (B), C. d'A. Dakin (T), J. K. Daniel (S), J. R. Dartford (W), D. A. O. Davies (T), R. F. C. Davis (T), A. P. de Pass (C), P. A. Dillon (C), W. E. Duck (W), I. R. Dunnett (G), K. Emrys-Roberts (C), J. F. Ferguson-Smith (G), C. F. Fletcher (C), F. M. Frankenburg (C), D. A. S. Gordon (W), E. F. G. Gosling (C), R. H. Griffith (B), J. W. Harland (C), A. Hass (S), J. D. R. Hayward (G), B. Henshaw (C), E. P. Hickling (C), R. B. Higham (T), J. E. Hodgkin (C), P. C. Holden (B), J. S. Hollings (T), R. C. Hurley (C), A. G. Jessiman (B), G. H. Johnson (C), P. J. Kenneth (B), R. W. Kennon (G), J. A. Kingsland (B), C. Lawson-Tancred (C), G. R. Lees (T), K. S. Leeston Smith (C), T. H. C. Lewis (C), J. C. M. Leyland (B), D. A. Lloyd (C), D. C. Lloyd (C), R. B. Lodge (W), J. A. H. Lucas (C), J. A. McDonald (C), H. Le S. Massy (T), A. A. D. Montague Brown (C), J. E. Murray (B), C. M. Musgrave (C), R. C. M. Nathan (C), A. C. R. Newbery (S), E. E. A. O'Farrell (C), A. B. Oliveira (C), G. B. S. Osborne (G), T. M. Pragnell (G), J. L. Pring (B), J. P. Richardson (C), H. W. Sansom (B), R. J. Sassoon (G), J. V. W. Shand-Kydd (C), B. A. Shelmerdine (W), P. M. F. Sichel (C), R. A. Soames (C), B. W. B. Sparrow (T), J. G. Struthers (C), R. J. M. Sutherland (W), J. F. P. Tate (W), R. R. Thompson (W), A. D. Thomson (C), I. A. Tippetts (W), G. H. Turner (C), M. Tweedy (B), D. Walker (G), D. A. Walker (T), D. C. Wallace (C), P. M. Ward (T), J. C. R. Welch (G), R. H. White-Smith (B), P. G. Whitfield (T).

New Form of Certificate:—C. M. Griffin (C).

## OLIM ALUMNI

## GENERAL.

MR. N. A. MARJORIBANKS (C, 1931) has been appointed Deputy Public Prosecutor of the Federated Malay States.

## ACADEMIC.

MR. J. W. R. KEMPE (B, 1936) has been selected for appointment to the Indian Civil Service.

MR. J. W. STOYE (C, 1936) gained a First Class in the Final School of Modern History at Oxford, July 1939.

MR. J. A. F. GETHIN (G, 1933) passed into H.M. Consular Service at the Summer examination of 1939.

## ATHLETIC.

MR. M. J. ELLISON (T, 1935) was placed fifth for the Prince of Wales's Cup (Sailing) during the summer.

MR. B. W. J. D'ARCY-IRVINE (C, 1936) represented Cambridge University against the A.A.A. in the Long Jump last June.

MR. F. N. H. WIDDRINGTON (G, 1938) was awarded his Blue for Shooting at the R.M.C., Sandhurst, in June, and shot at Bisley for the Regular Army Twenty.

MR. M. B. SCHOLFIELD (T, 1939) and MR. J. E. C. NICHOLL (B, 1939) played in the Cambridge Freshmen's Rugby Football matches. Both the latter and MR. J. P. STEPHENS (W, 1937) have played for Cambridge.

MR. P. R. H. HASTINGS (B, 1939), MR. D. A. YELLOWLEES (C, 1939) and MR. E. B. S. HEWITT (B, 1938) played in the Oxford University Freshmen's Rugby Football Matches. Mr. Hastings has also represented Oxford University.



## ENGAGEMENTS.

- CAPTAIN S. D. A. S. AYLMEY (C, 1926) to Miss J. G. Thin.
- MR. J. E. MARTENS (T, 1926) to Miss D. E. M. Shanks.
- MR. B. C. H. MOWBRAY (T, 1926) to Miss D. M. Cramb.
- MR. A. J. BLAYNEY (C, 1927) to Miss D. P. Jacobs.
- MR. G. M. STEWART-WALLACE (C, 1927) to Miss J. Macgregor.
- FLIGHT-LIEUTENANT J. R. KAYLL, R.A.F. (G, 1931) to Miss A. L. Nisbet.
- MR. R. E. THORNTON (G, 1931) to Miss F. J. Peak.
- DR. J. H. P. GAUVAIN (G, 1933) to Miss B. L. Roberts.
- MR. C. W. N. MILES (C, 1933) to Miss J. Cross.
- MR. J. G. MOULTON (T, 1933) to Miss D. L. Wallace.
- MR. A. F. WEAVER (T, 1933) to Miss A. Perepletnik.
- LORD NEWTOWN-BUTLER (T, 1934) to Miss B. I. Everard.
- FLIGHT-LIEUTENANT P. M. MURTON-NEALE, A.A.F. (C, 1934) to Miss A. M. Schele.
- MR. A. B. MCG. HOUSTON (C, 1936) to Miss M. A. Gardiner.
- MR. A. J. KILPATRICK (C, 1936) to Miss S. M. Falconer.
- MR. P. L. STILEMAN (B, 1936) to Miss R. Garrick.
- MR. A. R. JENNINGS (C, 1937) to Miss J. M. Wootton.
- SIR LINDORES LESLIE, Bart. (T, 1937) to Miss D. S. Howard Thompson.

## MARRIAGES.

- LIEUTENANT B. D. SKELTON-GINN (T, 1924) to Miss J. E. Boon, on September 19th.
- MR. P. M. FALCONER (C, 1925) to Miss E. Clegg, on August 12th.
- SQUADRON-LEADER J. E. MCCOMB (C, 1927) to Miss S. Decker, on October 25th.
- MR. P. E. M. HOLMES (B, 1929) to Miss E. Chance, on August 17th. (In Singapore.)
- MR. I. A. THORNE (C, 1929) to Miss M. C. Scott, on August 26th.
- MR. M. L. DILLON (G, 1930) to Miss G. R. Trolove, on September 21st. (In New Zealand).
- MR. L. WHISTLER (G, 1930) to Miss J. Furse, on September 12th.
- MR. C. M. BAKER (G, 1930) to Miss M. T. H. Torrance, on August 14th.
- DR. P. C. CONRAN (B, 1931) to Miss N. Hurst, on October 20th.
- MR. N. A. MARJORIBANKS (C, 1931) to Miss N. Millard.
- MR. G. V. ROUSE (G, 1931) to Miss M. Block, on October 3rd. (In Karachi.)
- MR. E. D. TAYLOR (T, 1932) to Miss J. A. Sutherland, in December.
- MR. K. E. GODBOLD (G, 1932) to Miss J. Robertson, on September 2nd.
- MR. J. C. CHURCH (G, 1932) to Miss N. Allgood, on September 15th.
- MR. C. G. WALTON (G, 1932) to Miss P. B. H. Sharp, on September 15th.
- MR. A. B. BRETT (C, 1932) to Miss D. H. BROWNELL, on October 2nd.
- MR. P. W. FORBES (T, 1932) to Miss M. H. Lydall, on December 16th.
- MR. G. C. WYNDHAM (G, 1933) to Miss A. D. Hodder-Williams, on August 26th.
- MR. P. A. G. DIXEY (B, 1933) to Miss M. Garrod, on September 23rd.

- MR. P. E. C. HAYMAN (♁, 1933) to Miss S. Gamble, on October 24th.  
 MR. J. M. REAY-SMITH (♁, 1933) to Miss M. Pitt, on September 30th.  
 MR. L. R. LLEWELLYN (♁, 1933) to Miss C. A. L. Bowes-Lyon, on August 1st.  
 MR. A. GIBBS (♁, 1936) to Miss J. Chichester, on September 5th.  
 MR. J. M. MORGAN (♁, 1936) to Miss C. Harper, on September 5th.  
 MR. P. J. ORDE (♁, 1936) to Miss D. R. D. Duval on November 4th.

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 BIRTHS.

- To the wife of MR. D. H. I. SEARLE (♁, 1926), a daughter, on August 3rd.  
 To the wife of CAPTAIN R. W. D. SWORD (♁, 1927), a daughter, on September 19th.  
 To the wife of MR. A. W. M. COLTART (♁, 1928), a son, on July 20th.  
 To the wife of SQUADRON-LEADER P. de G. H. SEYMOUR, R.A.F. (♁, 1928), a son, on November 1st.  
 To the wife of MR. H. J. MIALL (♁, 1929), a son, on July 31st.  
 To the wife of MR. P. P. L. DILLON (♁, 1930), a daughter, on February 16th.  
 To the wife of MR. H. P. LEE-WARNER (♁, 1931), a daughter, on September 26th.  
 To the wife of MR. P. G. AGNEW (♁, 1932), a daughter, on October 18th.

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 DEATHS.

- On August 16th, MR. P. REID (♁, 1929), as the result of a climbing accident in Skye.  
 On November 16th, FLIGHT-LIEUTENANT A. A. VICKERS, R.A.F. (♁, 1930), as the result of a flying accident. (On Active Service.)



## STOWE CLUB FOR BOYS

(THE PINEAPPLE)

62, PENFOLD STREET, LONDON, N.W. 8.

November, 1939.

To the Editor of *The Stoic*.

Dear Sir,

The outbreak of war, and the host of incidental social problems which it raised, made obscure the immediate future of all Boys' Clubs, but renewed interest in the movement has already been shown in many quarters, and it is satisfactory to know that the increasing importance of their work in these days of uncertainty is generally recognized.

Thus it is particularly encouraging to have so much good news to report from the Pineapple. It seemed that this might not be the case at one moment, when it was learnt that our Warden, Mr. Hewlings, was compelled to resign in anticipation of being called up for service with the R.A.F. All who know him feel that this has meant the loss not only of an excellent leader but also of a good friend. It was fortunate that the post could be filled by Mr. A. E. Crewdson, who comes to the Pineapple after a wide experience of Boys' Clubs. Now there is a married warden at Penfold Street, and the combined enthusiasm of Mr. and Mrs. Crewdson, together with the atmosphere of home which they have created there, makes them more than ever welcome. We are also lucky to have living at the Club R. J. Mead, an Old Stoic, who helps wholeheartedly with whatever there is to be done.

Summer camp was a tremendous success in spite of the disappointing weather. The eight Stowe boys, who camped with the Juniors and Seniors for the first week, entered into all the activities with great zest and many new friendships were made. For the second week there were 30—35 Old Boys in camp, who also thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Those camping greatly appreciate the many facilities at Stowe which remain open to them and, in particular, full use was made of the lake and the tennis courts.

The Club is doing well at football and the Junior team is probably the best it has ever produced. Other activities are boxing and the usual indoor games such as table-tennis and billiards, but on rather more organized lines, and there are also several fresh features in the Club curriculum, inspired by the new Warden. These include a weekly class of indoor physical games; a boot-repairing class, to be held under a trained expert, the prospect of which has already met with much enthusiasm; the re-opening of the canteen under the management of the Old Boys (who in all ways are assisting greatly in the running of the Club); rehearsals of sketches and one-act plays, for a concert party, together with members of the Rugby Club, and the 'public' appearance next month of those participating is eagerly awaited; and a discussion group for Old Boys which G. C. Campbell, an Old Stoic, holds every Tuesday. There were 69 boys on this term's outing to Stowe.



Photo by ]

STOWE CHIMES

[ G.H.P.H.



Photo by ]

THE DEER BARN

[ F.P.D. de B.

It is only possible to mention briefly what in normal times would have been headline news—the taking over by Stowe of the Maida Hill Club, situated a stone's throw away from our own premises. The war has prevented, for the present, the materialisation of the plans for this new undertaking which would have afforded to all members of both centres some much-needed extra living space. An extensive scheme of improvements to the new premises was on the point of being started when hostilities occurred. It is worth noting that the resources for carrying through this work were to have been drawn from the Pineapple Ball Fund and thus very shortly we would have had something constructive to show as a result of all the generosity received in connection with these dances. Hitler, however, forestalled us on the question of living space and made necessary the postponement of this year's Pineapple Ball, as well as the alterations at Maida Hill.

Also as a result of the war, parties from Stowe cannot continue with their weekly visits to Marylebone. The London Committee of Old Stoics no longer meets, as many of them have been called up. They are greatly missed and no report from here would be complete without saying how much this applies in particular to John Lilley (the usual writer of this letter) who is already out in France. Somehow the Pineapple does not seem complete without him and everyone looks forward to the time when he can return home.

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

JOHN N. WEILER.

#### A FEW IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS.

##### FINANCE.

The Stowe Club is not endowed and depends entirely on past and present members of the School, the Staff and friends of Stowe for its income. A membership of 150 is meagrely provided for. In spite of every sound economy its slender capital has to be drawn on at times to meet current expenses. More donations and annual subscriptions would make the task of those who bear the brunt of its organization and management less exacting. The Club has little remuneration of any kind to offer its officials. The Stowe Committee of masters and the London Committee of Old Stoics are purely honorary. The Club boys themselves contribute something towards the cost of every single activity.

In the year ending June 30th, 1938, the Old Stoics subscribed £296 and the Stowe boys £129 towards Club funds.

Particulars of the subscription list are entirely private to me. Any sum of money, no matter how small it may seem, and especially if it can be sent regularly, will be most gratefully received and acknowledged. Banker's orders may be obtained from me at any time, but cheques, postal orders and cash are exceedingly welcome too. All serviceable gifts in kind (e.g. billiard and ping-pong tables, cast-off clothing, both men's and women's, and kit for games) should be sent direct to the Warden at 62, Penfold Street (late Carlisle Street), London, N.W.8. What cannot actually be used by the boys can be sold for their benefit.

##### EMPLOYMENT.

The Warden would be glad also if anyone employing labour would remember that the Club can often supply good boys for certain types of work. He naturally asks no more than that employers should give Club boys the opportunity of applying for vacancies.

##### VISITORS.

Anyone interested in Social Service is very welcome to visit the premises on any evening in the week except Wednesday and Saturday. Supper is available at 7 p.m. if due notice is given. Old Stoics in particular can do much good by looking in for an hour or so to see what is being done and what it is hoped to do. Visitors are never asked to give money or make gifts or run any activity. Their general interest is valued for its own sake. The Club has an excellent name in the London Federation and is happily conscious of every connection with Stowe.

A. B. CLIFFORD, *Hon. Treasurer.*

## CHAPEL COLLECTIONS

The Collections from July 16th to November 19th have been as follows:—

		£	s.	d.
July 23rd.	Children's Country Holiday Fund ... ..	19	13	1
Sept. 24th.	Pineapple ... ..	12	17	4
Oct. 29th.	Red Cross ... ..	21	15	8
	Early Services (July 16th—November 19th) (for Pineapple) ... ..	11	13	2

From the money collected for the Samaritan Fund last term £4 was sent to the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, £4 to the Shaftesbury Homes and "Arethusa" Training Ship, and £4 to the British Fund for the Relief of Distress in China. From the Red Cross collection on October 29th £18 15s. 8d. was sent direct to the Lord Mayor's Red Cross and St. John Fund, and £3 was given to the Red Cross working party at Stowe to provide them at once with more materials for knitting.

For the Committee,

J. M. TODD, *Hon. Treasurer.*

T. C. P. BROOK.

## RUGBY FOOTBALL

### THE 1st XV.

Played, 12. Won, 9. Lost, 3. Points for, 155.  
Points against, 53.

THE School returned a week early and the outlook must have been grim for the members of last year's team and prospective members of the first fifteen. Yellowlees decided at the last moment not to return: all clubs decided to cancel their fixtures and even Harrow failed us in this respect. This meant that there was the prospect of no fixture for a month. Good fortune was on our side, however, and matches were arranged against two Northampton sides. Most people expected the team to do badly, having lost all their brilliant players from the previous year. However, this was not to be so and results have been above average. Especially encouraging were the defeats of Oundle on their ground, Rugby and Uppingham.

Great credit is due to the old colours who have rallied the younger members of the side to emulate the successes of last year, and from the point of view of results this year's team has not been far behind. They have not been able to score 292 points in the term, but they have had a more solid defence and, on only two occasions has the line been crossed twice in a match.

Why has this side been so successful? The answer is that the success is due to the penetration of J. C. Drew on the blind side and his combination with Thomson, the thrust of Farnell-Watson in the centre and the untiring work in defence by the forwards. To deal with the first point more elaborately: on many occasions near the left touch-line Drew pretended to go to the open side and at the last minute decided to do a quick change to the blind side where he and Thomson were confronted by only the opposition wing three-quarter. It was then fairly easy to get a try. On other occasions Thomson came in for a 'Z,' which means that he took the pass from the scrum, drew the opposing fly-half to

give Drew a clear run through. This worked exceptionally well at Uppingham. Regarding the thrust of Farnell-Watson, he has managed to break through the defence of every side played this term, but his finishing and combination with Thomson have not been as good as might have been expected. He has tended either to push Thomson into touch or to run away from him back into the centre of the field. Now a word about the forwards as a whole: they have not been good in loose scrums, but they have made up for any deficiency in this respect by phenomenal staying power. Every member of the pack gets across the field in attack and defence and, had it not been for their efforts in defence, this article would have been a story of defeat instead of one of success.

The pack was brilliantly led by Tait and the only time they got their tails down was against Bedford, which was due, not to bad leadership, but to the backs continually dropping the ball when the forwards got it back for them. They seem to get more shove packing 3:4:1, and this formation certainly helps a lightish pack to hold the push after hooking. Tait and Henry have taught Mitchell well in the front row and have always demanded a good shove from Denempont and Tinley in the second row. Great credit is due to these two for their efforts in this direction; both of them were Colts last year. The back row was devastating in defensive qualities. Diggle was a constant menace to all fly-halves and the better the opposition the better he played. His best games were against Trinity College, Oxford, and Oundle. Atkin-Berry covered the backs as well as any player I have seen at Stowe and brought off some great tackles. Musgrave played his best game at Uppingham, where his tackling and falling were magnificent. In the line-outs Henry, Tait and Tinley were outstanding, but often when the ball was caught by one of the Stowe side it was lost again by poor binding and shoving by the others.

Murdoch saved many tries by outstanding tackles: he always managed to force the wing three-quarter into the right position for a tackle and then bounce him into touch. His kicking and catching were not of such a high quality. Farnell-Watson, who moved up from full-back, was the most dangerous of the backs, but Thomson brought off some of the more spectacular runs. Le Bouvier was slow to learn, but improved eventually and played his best game at Uppingham. Frankenburg came into the side late and played competent football: he always had a fast opposite

number, whom he dealt with most effectively. The halves worked well as a pair on most occasions, but C. D. Drew was slow in getting his passes out. This led to trouble against Bedford, his brother getting the ball either when standing or when level with the scrum. In the former case it meant that he had to kick: in the latter case either he or the centres were bound to be tackled just as they got possession. This match was a disappointing one, but I have every reason to believe that it has done the backs good to have played so badly.

Congratulations must go to Tait, who has made the best out of material which did not seem too promising at the beginning of the season.

#### THE 2ND XV.

As last year the Second Fifteen have had a mixed season. They began well with a good display against Oundle in a game which they did not lose until the last ten minutes. Thereafter they went on to beat Radley very comfortably and looked set for a good season. At this point, however, J. B. Frankenburg was translated to higher spheres, and the team could never find a fly-half who could fill the gap. In the subsequent games the side showed more than averagely strong defence; indeed no opposing team ever crossed their line more than twice in any game, but the attack was never good. Nevertheless they did well to beat Bloxham First Fifteen by the margin of one point, and although they were narrowly beaten by Bedford they finished their season with a good win against St. Edward's School, Oxford. The side was unlucky in having to do without its captain I. D. W. McEwen in several of its matches, though P. A. Bates took his place well, and was also the best of the backs. J. T. Holman was the pick of a fine pack of forwards.

*Team.*—W. E. McCready (♁); R. H. Widdows (C), A. V. Hollington (C), J. A. Modet (G), R. Backus (B); I. J. H. Lewisohn (C), P. A. Bates (C); J. D. S. Rowntree (T), J. T. Holman (W), I. D. W. McEwen (T) (capt.), R. U. P. de Burgh (G), R. Morriss (♁), P. G. Henderson (W), T. G. Knox (C), R. C. Hurley (C).

#### THE SCHOOL v. DR. STURTRIDGE'S XV.

Played at Stowe on Saturday, September 30th, the visitors winning by a dropped goal from a mark and a try (6 points) to a try (3 points).

The opposition was strong and included nine Northampton players. This did not appear to upset our forwards who went at it with real relish from the first whistle: they began by outshoving and outhooking a much larger pack. The backs played well when they got the ball cleanly from the scrum and Farnell-Watson had a couple of fine cut-throughs: unfortunately passes were delayed on both occasions and no tries resulted. Musgrave was guilty on one occasion of holding on with two men outside him who had the line at their mercy. Le Bouvier made a bad mistake: he was attempting an outside cut-through and succeeded in drawing the wing three-quarter in to tackle him, which left Backus free, but he held on and was heavily tackled by two men instead. Half-time, 0—0.

Stowe had to defend strongly in the second half. The opposing pack shoved hard and moved quicker in the loose, and the home line was only saved by dropped passes. They, however, scored first by a drop-goal from a mark, an unusual occurrence. The whole effort was magnificently executed: first there was a neat mark just as the ball left the foot of a Stowe dribbler, which was followed by a great drop-kick from forty yards out. Not long after Sturtridge went away on the blind side and the wing three-quarter scored in the corner. No goal resulted. Stowe's only try came about a quarter of an hour from time. Thomson kicked ahead, their full-back fumbled, and Knox went off and dribbled from the half-way line to score in the corner. Farnell-Watson's kick was just wide. During the last ten minutes Stowe got the ball from the scrums but could not do much with it.

*Team*:—D. K. Murdoch (T); A. D. Thomson (C), A. V. Farnell-Watson (W), J. D. Le Bouvier (T), R. Backus (B); J. C. Drew (C), C. D. Drew (C); J. M. Henry (C), A. M. Mitchell (C), I. McC. Tait (♁), M. Denemont (G), G. F. B. Newport-Tinley (C), M. I. Atkin-Berry (C), T. G. Knox (C), C. M. Musgrave (C).

#### THE SCHOOL v. NORTHAMPTON WANDERERS.

Played at Northampton on Saturday October 14th, the Wanderers winning by two tries (6 points) to a try (3 points).

Conditions were not good, but despite the continual rain, a few swans and a flock of hens, the game turned out a pleasant one.

The crowd were much impressed by the stout show put up by the Stowe team who were appreciably smaller in the pack. Farnell-Watson was the favourite of the "sixpenny stand" and always got a cheer when he made his forceful runs down the touch-line, when he kicked long rakers to touch or when he smothered his opposite number.

There was no score at half-time owing to slow heeling by both packs and bad attack by the three-quarters, but in the second half some rare football was seen. At one movement Farnell-Watson would be bursting through at the half-way line, at another Widdows would go bald-headed for a kick-ahead and at yet another Thomson would be weaving his way down the left touch-line with forwards backing up inside. It was not, however, until there was a scrum near the Northampton line that Thomson came in for a 'Z' and forced his way over for a try, which left the opponents guessing.

Stowe did not do all the attacking, however, for occasionally Le Bouvier would drop a difficult pass, when the ball would be snapped up by his opposite number who on two occasions was only stopped from scoring by Murdoch.

Northampton were superior in the last ten minutes and two similar defensive mistakes by Stowe led to two tries in the same corner. Neither was converted.

*Team.*—D. K. Murdoch (T); R. H. Widdows (C), J. D. Le Bouvier (T), A. V. Farnell-Watson (W), A. D. Thomson (C); J. C. Drew (C), C. D. Drew (C); I. McC. Tait (G), A. M. Mitchell (C), J. M. Henry (C), M. Denempont (G), G. F. B. Newport-Tinley (C), P. J. Diggle (C), M. I. Atkin-Berry (C), C. M. Musgrave (C).

#### THE SCHOOL v. RUGBY.

Played at Stowe on Saturday, October 21st, the School winning by one goal and two tries (11 points) to a try (3 points).

The match against Rugby was awaited with interest for two reasons: it was the first school match at Stowe since the war began, and, more important, it was the first time the Stowe First Fifteen had played against the school which has the proud claim of having invented Rugby football.

It was a perfect afternoon for the game when Stowe kicked off: fine, dry, with an autumnal nip and a trace of mist in the air, and a ground in excellent condition. It soon became evident that the teams were evenly matched, and the game moved about the field without either side gaining more than a momentary advantage. The Stowe forwards were rather outweighed in the tight scrums, but more than held their own in the loose.

For some time the fortunes of the game were fairly evenly distributed, good individual performances being given by Farnell-Watson, Diggle and Murdoch for Stowe, and by the Rugby left-wing three-quarter, an attractive player, who was constantly in evidence throughout the match. The first try might well have come sooner than it did, for C. D. Drew broke away very cleverly on his own but found nobody up to support him when he was tackled, and it was left to his brother to open the scoring, after about twenty minutes' play, with a good cut-through after a line-out and a try between the posts, which was converted by Backus. After this, though both full-backs had plenty to do on occasions, the game continued without further score till half-time.

At half-time Stowe were most unfortunate in losing Farnell-Watson, who had been playing very soundly. After his departure Diggle was taken out of the scrum to fill his place and Stowe resumed with a five point lead but one man short. Nevertheless, Stowe seemed inspired by a realization of their inferiority in numbers and before long scored again after a good movement by the backs, in which Le Bouvier, who had been playing very well in spite of his rather noticeable lack of pace, cut through considerable opposition and when held up passed to Diggle, who scored far out on the left. Backus failed with a difficult kick. Then Rugby started a series of attacks, which, after they had missed one easy penalty goal, gave them a try they well deserved: the Rugby full-back, an impressively safe player, gathered a Stowe kick ahead and decided to set his three-quarter line moving instead of kicking for touch; and this movement, well carried on, particularly by the Rugby left wing three-quarter, ended after some neat short passing in a try far out on the left. The kick failed, and this left a tired Stowe pack with a none too safe lead of 8—3.

Rugby immediately pressed again and looked like scoring almost immediately; and then occurred one of those incidents which change the whole course of a game. Thomson receiving the ball in his own "25" broke tackle after tackle within a few yards of the touch line to find himself ultimately between the Rugby posts, a brilliant solo effort, but one which Rugby could justifiably feel aggrieved at, for it was quite against the run of the game at the time. Rather surprisingly Backus missed the kick, and then for the last ten minutes of the game Rugby waded grimly into the fight to reduce a deficit of eight points, and the match reached its most exciting stage. But Rugby grimness was matched by the Stowe team, who, a man short for the whole of the second half, played, particularly the forwards, with a ferocity which made up for their lack of weight. The Rugby pack rushed the ball valiantly forward several times, but were always held up, sometimes not till the last moment, by a determined defence, in which every player seemed to fall on the ball as if he enjoyed it, and the tackling was of the most deadly kind. Thomson in particular played a grand game, watching his opposite number like a lynx and grassing him every time with most gratifying efficiency. Tired though they were, the Stowe forwards held their own doggedly, and the whistle finally went with Stowe the winners by 11—3.

The Stowe team have every reason to feel satisfied with their performance, for the teams were very evenly matched. The game was won for Stowe by the slight advantage their backs had over the Rugby backs in attack and defence, but the real heroes of the match were the Stowe forwards, who, already outweighed in the first half, played one man short for the whole of the second half and refused to let themselves be intimidated by the odds against them. Splendidly led by Tait, the captain, they gave an appreciative crowd of spectators an object lesson in how to play the worrying bustling game which gives the backs the chances to score. The keenness of both sides, who played very hard but always fairly, made this a most enjoyable game, which we hope will be the first of many of the same kind.

*Team.*—D. K. Murdoch (T); R. Backus (B), A. V. Farnell-Watson (W), J. D. Le Bouvier (T), A. D. Thomson (C); J. C. Drew (C), C. D. Drew (C); I. McC. Tait (G), A. M. Mitchell (C), J. M. Henry (C), M. Denempont (G), G. F. B. Newport-Tinley (C), P. J. Diggle (C), M. I. Atkin-Berry (C), C. M. Musgrave (C).

*Referee.*—Mr. H. B. Toft.

#### THE SCHOOL v. MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL AND AYLESBURY.

Played at Stowe on Wednesday, October 25th, the School winning by 30 points to nil.

In this match special attention was to be paid by the team to heeling in loose scrums and quicker defence by the three-quarters. Both of these improved, but progress can still be made in these directions.

Disorganized defence by the opposition led to many tries by Stowe. It was most gratifying to see that when Stowe had "a man over," they invariably got a try. J. C. Drew was in great form at stand-off half and scored four tries. Thomson reminded the spectators of Hastings, captain of last year's team, and scored three tries. Backus got over in the corner for the last try of the match. Diggle played a great game and did some magnificent tackling, especially one on J. C. Swanson, wing three-quarter at Cambridge last year.

*Team.*—D. K. Murdoch (T); R. Backus (B), J. D. Le Bouvier (T), A. D. Thomson (C), R. H. Widdows (C); J. C. Drew (C), C. D. Drew (C); I. McC. Tait (G), A. M. Mitchell (C), J. M. Henry (C), M. Denempont (G), G. F. B. Newport-Tinley (C), P. J. Diggle (C), M. I. Atkin-Berry (C), C. M. Musgrave (C).

THE SCHOOL *v.* R.A.F., HALTON.

Played at Stowe on Saturday, October 28th, the School winning by four goals and two tries (26 points) to a try (3 points).

The scoring opened from a blind-side movement by J. C. Drew; he passed to Frankenburg on the right wing, who returned it, and Drew went over near the posts. The next try came from a dropped pass by the opposition, which was picked up by Farnell-Watson, who had little difficulty in avoiding the full-back. Two more tries were scored before half-time, the first one by Thomson and the second by Atkin-Berry after Thomson had made the running. Halton got a try from a blind side move which might easily have been stopped.

Stowe pressed most of the second half but only scored twice. C. D. Drew hid behind breaking forwards and went away on the blind side and Musgrave scored in the corner. The last try of the match was an amazing one. Thomson caught the ball within a foot of the touch-line and went straight through their pack, dodged the full-back and scored near the posts. Farnell-Watson converted four tries.

*Team.*—D. K. Murdoch (T); A. D. Thomson (C), J. D. Le Bouvier (T), A. V. Farnell-Watson (W), J. B. Frankenburg (C); J. C. Drew (C), C. D. Drew (C); J. M. Henry (C), A. M. Mitchell (C), J. T. Holman (W), M. Denempont (G), G. F. B. Newport-Tinley (C), P. J. Diggle (C), M. I. Atkin-Berry (C), C. M. Musgrave (C).

THE SCHOOL *v.* P. R. H. HASTINGS' XV.

Played at Stowe on Wednesday, November 1st, the School winning by two tries (6 points) to a try (3 points).

The opposition was a strong side from Oxford and included mainly players from the Freshmen's Trials.

Great credit for the win goes to the solid work of the forwards, who, by hard prolonged shoving, spoiled their opponents' heeling. Murdoch deserves great praise for some great tackling, especially one on Hastings near the line.

The first try was scored by Musgrave, who received the ball from J. C. Drew on a blind-side move. The other try came again on the blind side: Diggle got the ball from C. D. Drew and gave Frankenburg the opportunity to hurl himself over the line. Farnell-Watson narrowly missed both the kicks from far out.

*Team.*—D. K. Murdoch (T); A. D. Thomson (C), A. V. Farnell-Watson (W), J. D. Le Bouvier (T), J. B. Frankenburg (C); J. C. Drew (C), C. D. Drew (C); I. McC. Tait (G), A. M. Mitchell (C), J. M. Henry (C), M. Denempont (G), G. F. B. Newport-Tinley (C), P. J. Diggle (C), M. I. Atkin-Berry (C), C. M. Musgrave (C).

THE SCHOOL *v.* TRINITY COLLEGE, OXFORD.

Played at Stowe on Saturday, November 4th, the School winning by three goals (15 points) to nil.

Trinity had a fairly strong side out including Strathie, who has played many times for his University and London Scottish. Against this opposition Stowe began slowly without much life, but strong attacks by Farnell-Watson and Thomson gave the forwards encouragement, after which they played a grand game. The first try was the result of fast accurate passing, which led to a man over, and Thomson slipped inside

the full-back before grounding the ball. Scrappy play characterised the remainder of the first half, neither side doing any more scoring.

Stowe played well in the second half and some entertaining moves were witnessed. Strathie was continually trying to outwit the defence, but Diggle rarely failed to get him. On one occasion Strathie fly-kicked a pass across the field to Frankenburg, who passed the ball out to Farnell-Watson and again was there for the return pass, when he found the line at his mercy. The other try was more orthodox: Le Bouvier got his cut-through and timed his pass well to Farnell-Watson, who went over far out. From this position and two other similar places the latter kicked three magnificent goals.

*Team.*—D. K. Murdoch (T); A. D. Thomson (C), A. V. Farnell-Watson (W), J. D. Le Bouvier (T), J. B. Frankenburg (C); J. C. Drew (C), C. D. Drew (C); I. McC. Tait (G), A. M. Mitchell (C), J. M. Henry (C), M. Denempont (G), G. F. B. Newport-Tinley (C), P. J. Diggle (C), M. I. Atkin-Berry (C), C. M. Musgrave (C).

THE SCHOOL *v.* OUNDLE.

Played at Oundle on Saturday, November 11th, the School winning by one goal, one penalty goal and a try (11 points), to two penalty goals and a try (9 points).

This game, which was to prove one of Stowe's most satisfying victories, differed in prospect from last year's grim struggle on the North Front. As we were driven away from Stowe on a misty Armistice morning it was natural to contrast, compare and wonder. This year's team lacked the tremendous striking-power of last season, but we had every reason to feel confidence in it. It was a well-balanced side with no conspicuous weaknesses, and it possessed as good an all-round defence as any Stowe fifteen we have ever seen. We had proof of this in the fact that, in all its games so far, only one side had succeeded in crossing its line twice in any match. Oundle had beaten Uppingham fairly easily but had been narrowly beaten by Bedford, while Stowe had defeated Rugby: so there was, on paper, nothing in it. Oundle seemed to have some advantage in playing at home, and in still possessing a most formidable partnership in Spray, their last year's captain, and Grant, a very fast left-wing. Also it was certain that they would do everything in their power to atone for last year's defeat.

Despite petrol-shortage there was a record crowd of Stoics, past, present and affiliated, to watch Farnell-Watson kick-off in a game in which he was destined to play such a decisive part. As might have been expected, the opening play was inclined to be tentative and experimental, but two things at once became apparent; in the first place, Oundle were scrumming finely in the tight, and, in the second, the Stowe tackling prevented success from orthodox three-quarter movements. Also Stowe seemed more lively in the loose and kept Oundle penned in their own half. The first try came after about ten minutes' play and was virtually scored by Cameron Drew, who went through the smallest of gaps with a raking stride and an acceleration reminiscent of his renowned predecessor. He bore down on the full-back, passed out to Farnell-Watson who was perfectly placed on his left, and who swung round behind the posts, recovered his breath, and kicked the goal with the geometrical accuracy he reserves for kicks from that position. (5—0.)

First blood to Stowe, and Oundle indignantly swept up the field, heeling the ball repeatedly and making ground steadily, though occasionally they seemed to overdo the inside pass which was either dropped or allowed their men to meet our forwards coming across in defence. They were given a penalty which they missed, and then a



dangerous attacking kick was very well held by Murdoch, who made a vast and most valuable distance with a fine kick. The Stowe forwards continued to play with grand dash in the loose and once again Stowe went ahead from almost the same position. The try was again scored by Farnell-Watson, this time entirely on his own. He handed-off a couple of tacklers, swerved round the full-back and scored in the corner, failing with the difficult kick. (8—0.)

So far Oundle had been heeling the ball from most tight scrums, while Stowe had more than held their own in the loose. The Stowe forwards now began to bind less tightly in the loose scrums and, in consequence, Oundle got far more of the ball. This helped to bring them into an attacking position, and Spray scored a very fine individual try on the left by going outside his wing to gain a practically unstoppable position. The kick was missed, and half-time came shortly afterwards. (8—3.)

The second-half began with some comic-relief in the form of amusingly abortive touch-kicking which gave no hint of the grimness to come in its final stages. Very shortly afterwards Oundle were extremely unlucky. A very obvious knock-on by a Stowe three-quarter on his own twenty-five was brilliantly snapped up by Spray who seemed quite clear just after the whistle went for the infringement. It was undoubtedly the flagrant nature of the knock-on which made the referee instinctively blow his whistle before applying the advantage rule. Stowe returned to the attack and Thomson and Le Bouvier handled well to sweep the game far up the field until presently Stowe was awarded a free-kick from almost the identical angle and distance as the prodigious effort by which Farnell-Watson took us from 11—11 to 14—11 in the same game last year. On this occasion the kick was more difficult because the ball was wet, but the man and the moment were with us again. A long low kick hit the cross-bar, leapt in the air, and, amid tumultuous applause from Stowe, fell on the far side. (11—3.)

This kick started a fashion in penalties, which provided the rest of the scoring in the game. There were two of them, and both were from straight in front of the Stowe posts and resulted in six valuable points for Oundle, which brought them within striking distance of the Stowe score. (11—9.) And now came the finest part of this most memorable game. Grant of Oundle got clear away for the first time, beat two men and then was brought down by Murdoch with a perfectly-timed tackle. Spray made the run of the match, a long cork-screw affair, of more than fifty yards, but was tackled in the end. Thomson saved magnificently under the shadow of his own posts. The tackling of the Stowe forwards, particularly Diggle, who appeared miraculously in places where by all the laws of nature he had no right to be, was in excess of our highest expectations. In fact at this point, the last ten minutes, when we were reconciled to a physical rallentando, the game seemed to become faster and faster, and the final whistle relieved a suspense that was rapidly becoming intolerable.

And so Stowe won by a margin of two points, and the game was a worthy successor of last year's. This account began with a summary of the prospects before the match: it may well end with a final summing-up. Stowe undoubtedly won because of two things, a dogged and impenetrable defence to which every individual member of the team contributed, and a fine balance throughout the side. All Tait's inspiring leadership was needed in that last Oundle onslaught, and the way in which his men followed him proved them to be one of the best Stowe fifteens as it was most certainly the deciding factor in their victory.

*Team.*—D. K. Murdoch (T); J. B. Frankenburg (C), J. D. Le Bouvier (T), A. V. Farnell-Watson (W), A. D. Thomson (C); J. C. Drew (C), C. D. Drew (C); I. McC. Tait (S), A. M. Mitchell (C), J. M. Henry (C), M. Denempont (G), G. F. B. Newport-Tinley (C), C. M. Musgrave (C), M. I. Atkin-Berry (C), P. J. Diggle (C).

#### THE SCHOOL v. BEDFORD.

Played at Stowe on Saturday, November 18th, Bedford winning by a dropped goal from a mark and a try (6 points) to nil.

This was a disappointing game and Stowe particularly played well below their true form. This was to some extent due to Bedford's tactics which aimed at preventing the Stowe three-quarters from getting moving rather than at throwing the ball about. The Bedford backs lay up close to their opposite numbers and their tackling was hard and effective. Nevertheless, Stowe had enough of the ball to win the match time and again, but their handling was bad and their kicking generally poorly placed.

Both packs played well. Stowe were the lighter but got their fair share of the ball in the tight and were, if anything, superior in the loose. Both full-backs were good.

The game opened with Bedford pressing, but they did not seem likely to score as the Stowe defence was very sound. After twenty minutes of rather scrambling play Farnell-Watson intercepted a pass and ran clear. His pass to Thomson was, however, well forward when a score seemed most likely. Stowe now pressed but could do little with their opportunities owing to close marking and dropped passes. J. C. Drew miskicked but Thomson saved with an excellent tackle. Farnell-Watson broke through again, but once more his final pass was forward, and half-time came with no score.

Stowe pressed again after the start of the second half and Thomson and Le Bouvier both ran and kicked well. A good kick by Bedford then gained nearly three-quarters of the field, and Bedford attacked.

After fifteen minutes an ill-advised punt by a Stowe forward led to a Bedford forward marking in front of the Stowe goal and dropping a goal.

Stowe pressed from the kick-off, but a good kick drove them back and a series of forward mauls developed on the Stowe line. A set scrum was ordered and from it Bedford scored a good shove-over try which was not converted.

Stowe pressed again but could not break through the Bedford defence, and the backs presented with plenty of the ball could only drop their passes. The end came with Bedford winning deservedly by six points to nil.

*Team.*—D. K. Murdoch (T); J. B. Frankenburg (C), J. D. Le Bouvier (T), A. V. Farnell-Watson (W), A. D. Thomson (C); J. C. Drew (C), C. D. Drew (C); I. McC. Tait (S), A. M. Mitchell (C), J. M. Henry (C), M. Denempont (G), G. F. B. Newport-Tinley (C), C. M. Musgrave (C), M. I. Atkin-Berry (C), P. J. Diggle (C).

#### THE SCHOOL v. UPPINGHAM.

Played at Uppingham on Saturday, November 25th, the School winning by a goal and a try (8 points) to nil.

Stowe won the toss and Uppingham opened play in the first encounter between the two schools by kicking into a strong wind on a very wet pitch.

This was one of the best games I have ever seen played under such adverse conditions. Neither side hesitated to handle the ball and efforts in this direction were most praiseworthy, especially by the Uppingham forwards, who did all the attacking for their side by short passing movements.

Stowe might have scored more points than they did had things gone better for them. Thomson just touched the corner flag before grounding the ball: again J. C. Drew got clear from the half-way and was just caught a yard from the line: again the same player broke through, but his scoring pass to Farnell-Watson was forward: once again the latter player had the line at his mercy when a despairing effort by a defender brought him down with a last minute heel-tap.

Uppingham pressed at first but were driven back and for thirty minutes of the first half Stowe were in their territory. The pressure set up by Stowe was immense, but the Uppingham defence held out until nearly ten minutes from half-time, when C. D. Drew went away blind and gave Frankenburg a beautiful scoring pass. Farnell-Watson converted. Then with only a few minutes to go Farnell-Watson ran round both his opposite centres to score, but he did not convert this time. The ball was wet and heavy and he had every excuse in missing three penalty kicks as well in the first half.

Uppingham playing down-wind were more dangerous, but their efforts led to no tries. Stowe had an anxious ten minutes, when their forwards battered at our line, but Henry, Tait, Denempont and Tinley cleared very effectively after each onslaught. On another occasion their left-wing looked dangerous when he got away, but Murdoch got him. Stowe pressed as much as Uppingham did in this half, but failed to score although players seemed to be clear away on several occasions.

Every member of the Stowe side played well, but Farnell-Watson was outstanding. C. D. Drew played his best game of the season and the forwards were great.

*Team.*—D. K. Murdoch (T); J. B. Frankenburg (C), J. D. Le Bouvier (T), A. V. Farnell-Watson (W), A. D. Thomson (C); J. C. Drew (C), C. D. Drew (C); I. McC. Tait (G), A. M. Mitchell (C), J. M. Henry (C), M. Denempont (G), G. F. B. Newport-Tinley (C), C. M. Musgrave (C), M. I. Atkin-Berry (C), P. J. Diggle (C).

#### THE SCHOOL v. CAMBRIDGE OLD STOICS.

Played at Stowe on Wednesday, November 29th, the School winning by a goal, a penalty goal and two tries (14 points) to two goals and a try (13 points).

Weir brought down a strong side including Allen, a member of the Harrow XV last year. On the first occasion that Stowe got the ball back Le Bouvier cut through and when confronted by the full-back he passed to Farnell-Watson, who scored but failed with his conversion. His kick later from a penalty was successful. The Old Stoics retaliated and Scholfield burst inside Murdoch and ran between the posts for Fletcher to convert. Near the end of this half Farnell-Watson got inside Nicholl, swung out to avoid the forwards and inside Earle to score between the posts and convert.

Bad tackling by everyone and poor positioning by Murdoch led to two Old Stoic tries, one of which was converted by Fletcher. The first of these tries was by Fletcher himself and the other by Thomson after a quick follow up and a lucky bounce. Stowe tried hard to get ahead and Farnell-Watson was the man to do it. He got outside Nicholl and touched down far out but failed to convert. On the whole it was a scrappy game with poor scrummaging.

*Teams.*—*Cambridge Old Stoics*:—C. D. Earle; D. R. Foster, J. E. C. Nicholl, M. B. Scholfield, J. M. Thomson; P. E. Allen (Old Harrovian), R. B. McGrigor; J. F. G. Fletcher, P. M. Syrett, G. W. A. Keir, A. P. Beeton, E. B. Moore, J. H. Weir, J. B. Dunlop, G. T. Hugill.

*The School*:—D. K. Murdoch (T); R. Backus (B), J. D. Le Bouvier (T), A. V. Farnell-Watson (W), J. B. Frankenburg (C); J. C. Drew (C), C. D. Drew (C); I. McC. Tait (G), A. M. Mitchell (C), J. M. Henry (C), G. F. B. Newport-Tinley (C), M. Denempont (G), P. J. Diggle (C), M. Atkin-Berry (C), P. G. Henderson (W).

#### THE SCHOOL v. RADLEY.

Played at Radley on Saturday, December 2nd, the School winning by one dropped goal, three goals and three tries (28 points) to a dropped goal (4 points).

It was a glorious day for rugger: the Radley ground was remarkably dry considering that there had been rain every day for the past three weeks: there was a dry cold breeze and the sun shone throughout the match.

Stowe looked dangerous from the very start. Farnell-Watson cut through whenever he wished, but he was usually caught by the full-back or the covering forwards. He, however, got the first try when J. C. Drew had done most of the work. At this time Diggle was playing a great game and on one occasion actually tackled two members of the Radley back division in the same attacking movement. Thomson got the next try from a 'Z' movement. Both of these tries were converted by Farnell-Watson, who made another opening to score himself. The last try of the first half was scored by J. C. Drew from a blind-side movement. Half-time: Stowe 16, Radley 0.

The second half did not contain much good football; the backs got lazy and did not get back into their positions, the forwards did not get into the loose scrums and the result was highly disorganized, scrappy rugger, with a few good individual moves. Thomson scored another try from a 'Z' movement: this was converted by Farnell-Watson, who followed up with a good try. Ten minutes from time J. C. Drew spooned over a drop-goal from fifteen yards out. Radley then attacked strongly and a try in the corner was prevented by a great tackle by Musgrave, who broke his nose in making it. The ball came across the field, and with a similar drop-kick to that of Drew, Twiston-Davies of Radley got four points for his side.

Radley had a very young side and were missing their regular scrum-half, and great credit is due to them for a fine showing of courage in face of defeat from a much faster and heavier side. At times they attacked with great vigour and were unlucky more than once not to score.

*Team.*—D. K. Murdoch (T); J. B. Frankenburg (C), J. D. Le Bouvier (T), A. V. Farnell-Watson (W), A. D. Thomson (C); J. C. Drew (C), C. D. Drew (C); I. McC. Tait (G), A. M. Mitchell (C), J. M. Henry (C), M. Denempont (G), G. F. B. Newport-Tinley (C), C. M. Musgrave (C), M. I. Atkin-Berry (C), P. J. Diggle (C).

THE SECOND XV. *v.* OUNDLE SCHOOL SECOND XV.

This match was played at Stowe on Saturday, October 14th, and resulted in a win for Oundle by 3—0. Oundle actually deserved to win by a much bigger margin, but were unlucky in just missing tries on several occasions. The Oundle forwards were extremely good and made the Stowe eight look very ragged: in fact they dominated the game and the Stowe backs saw practically nothing of the ball. Still the general defence was sound and Oundle were kept out until the last ten minutes when their largest forward scored after a powerful dash for the line.

THE SECOND XV. *v.* RADLEY COLLEGE SECOND XV.

Played at Stowe on Saturday, October 21st. Won, 29—0. The game was a hard one for only about ten minutes and after that Stowe established an ascendancy they never subsequently lost. In a fairly regular series of tries the Radley line was crossed by Holman, Widdows, Hollington, Frankenburg (2), McEwen and Beazley. Knox converted four of the tries. The half-backs played really well in this game, Lewisohn showed that he could cut through, and the best of a good pack of forwards were Holman and Henderson.

THE SECOND XV. *v.* BLOXHAM SCHOOL FIRST XV.

Played at Bloxham on Wednesday, November 15th, Stowe winning by 9 points to 8 points.

This was a hard game in which both sides handled a wet ball well. Bloxham opened the scoring with an unorthodox and unconverted try and then Stowe scored two good tries after two very fast runs by Backus. Both kicks were missed. In the second half Bloxham scored a good try and converted it and thus led by two points, but Stowe started a very strong offensive which ended in the right corner of the field. From a quick heel Backus passed well to Hollington who went over with a good burst of speed. Backus failed with the kick and Stowe won by 9—8. Holman led the forwards well in the loose, Rowntree did excellent work in the line-out, while Modet, playing his first game for the team, was very sound in defence.

THE SECOND XV. *v.* BEDFORD SCHOOL SECOND XV.

This match was played at Bedford on Saturday, November 18th, and was lost by 5 points to nil.

There was no scoring in the first half, although Stowe came very near to doing so when Lewisohn broke away but unfortunately chose to pass inside to Hurley instead of outside to a faster man. Bedford scored soon after half-time from an inside pass to a forward from their stand-off half who should have been tackled at least three times previously. In this game the Stowe defence was, on the whole, satisfactory, but their attack was spoilt by far too many rudimentary errors—attacking kicks which went straight to the full-back, badly timed and wrongly directed passing, ill-advised attempts at interception, and poor positioning. Altogether it was a disappointing game.

THE SECOND FIFTEEN *v.* ST. EDWARD'S SCHOOL, OXFORD.

Played at Stowe on Wednesday, November 29th, Stowe winning by 11—0.

The ground was heavy from much rain, and consequently three-quarter play was greatly hampered. Stowe took the lead with a try scored by Hurley after an opening by Bates, and there was no further scoring in the first half. St. Edward's played hard football, and on several occasions got their wings going well, but McCready tackled very strongly. In the second half Beazley scored twice, once from a pass dropped by the opposition and once from an opening by Bates. Knox converted the second of these tries.

## THE THIRD FIFTEEN.

Played, 5. Won, 3. Lost, 2. Drawn, 0.

The team was of a somewhat mixed and changing character, but nevertheless it has played with some success.

The forwards have generally been useful, though their work in the loose left a good deal to be desired.

The backs have suffered from a lack of centres who could run and take and give a pass.

The team was ably captained by V. D. Burton (C) who showed great enthusiasm and some skill at stand-off half.

Other good performances were given by the Hon. J. V. Fisher (T), R. J. Musgrave (C), J. B. Dwight (G), G. L. Paget (Q) and T. D. Dawson (C).

## COLTS' FOOTBALL, 1939.

Three matches have been won and three lost. Fixtures with Wellington and Harrow had to be cancelled, but the team has met St. Edward's School twice.

The first three matches were marred by a tendency towards sleepiness in the first half. St. Edward's, on their own ground, were allowed to score fifteen points before half-time to Stowe's three, and although no-side brought a Stowe victory by 17—15 it was made to look more of an achievement than it was. The Radley forwards played a bustling and determined game and were largely responsible for their side's success. Stowe appeared to be superior behind the scrum but the forwards failed to get possession in tight, loose or line-out, and the match was lost despite an immense amount of work in both attack and defence by Murray. Rugby 'Young Guard' (under 16½) were a large and bustling side, though they lacked polish and cohesion. Stowe appeared the more skilful side, but skill was not enough if only by 2 points.

The return fixture against St. Edward's showed the side as a whole in its best form, and a good game, played hard all through, was won by a much more comfortable margin than the away fixture against the same side. Oundle were beaten after a good hard fight in the mud. Stowe spent most of the first half grimly defending and once or twice were lucky to have kept Oundle out, but the only scoring was in Stowe's favour, a penalty goal by Savery and a solo try from just inside the Oundle half by Murray. The second half produced plenty of hard work, but no more scoring by either side.

Despite matches lost which might have been won, it has not been at all a disappointing season; the Club has been keen and cheerful and the team has steadily improved. The backs' defence, weak at first, was really good against Oundle; the forwards have slowly evolved from a set of heavy but gentle individuals into a hard-working pack. Murray has been an excellent Captain, always prepared to think hard about improving his team, and on the field has been invaluable. He has been responsible for most of the scoring and his covering and tackling have been a first class example for the rest of the side.

The team has been made up as follows:—

J. E. Murray (B) (Captain), R. Fleming (C), R. A. W. Rossdale (T), P. Campbell-Cooke (C), A. J. Gray (T), R. B. Higham (T), T. J. M. Shervington (C), D. L. Vere Hodge (G), R. D. Lightfoot (W), C. Lawson-Tancred (C), W. M. Savery (W), P. M. Ward (T), J. D. R. Hayward (G), T. G. Heron (B), J. W. Cornforth (G). R. W. J. Duff (C), D. A. S. Gordon (W), T. M. Pragnell (G) have also played in one or more matches.

Results:—

v. ST. EDWARD'S SCHOOL, OXFORD (away).	Won, 17—15.
v. RADLEY.	Lost, 10—13.
v. RUGBY.	Lost, 10—12.
v. ST. EDWARD'S SCHOOL, OXFORD (home)	Won, 14—0.
v. OUNDLE.	Won, 8—0.
v. BEDFORD.	Lost, 3—35.

#### THE JUNIOR COLTS.

The Junior Colts have had, in some respects, a rather disappointing season. There was plenty of good material, both in the scrum and among the backs, and though the team showed itself capable of playing good football on several occasions, it was apt to be temperamental and lacking in initiative when facing strong opposition.

The first match of the season, against St. Edward's at Oxford, was won by the comfortable margin of 22—0, which should have given the team confidence for the next match, against Radley. Here, however, they allowed themselves to become depressed by the strength of the opposing team and lost by the unnecessarily large margin of 24—0. Against Rugby, however, they improved and won a close game by 11—8, due principally to the better co-ordination of the Stowe backs, who always looked more dangerous than their opponents. A return match against St. Edward's at Stowe was again won, though not by such a large margin (9—0). The last match played, at the time of writing, was against Oundle, which was lost 12—0 after a rather insipid display, during which failure to fall on the ball and half-hearted tackling gave away some points, and the unexpected failure of the Stowe backs to combine properly robbed their attack of penetrating power.

The forwards often got through a lot of hard work, but they were rather a light pack compared with many of the opposing scrums and were not always able to hook the ball quickly and cleanly. In the loose there were several good performers, notably Kurk, who played a magnificent game in the first St. Edward's match, but later manifested a tendency to get offside rather frequently till he was played in the second row;

Hippisley-Cox, always forceful and hard-working and a shattering tackler; Keppel, usually well in the middle of things; and Kessler, who was very keen. Maclean, the captain, began as a hard working wing-forward, but later played scrum-half.

Of the backs, Robinson was always very reliable at stand-off half, but none of the three scrum halves who have played with him has been a great success. In the centre both Harding and Lack, whose kicking has been of great service to the side, have improved, although their defence has sometimes been found wanting. The wings, Conant and Calderwood, show considerable promise, and at full-back Lucey has made up for his lack of inches and speed by intelligent positioning, and he has shown any amount of pluck and determination in all the matches in which he has played.

The following represented the team in most of the matches:—

J. A. Lucey (C); G. T. G. Conant (B), E. A. Harding (B), T. S. A. Lack (G), D. W. N. Calderwood (G); M. H. A. Robinson (W), A. D. Maclean (T) or M. E. Fawcus (W); the Hon. R. E. H. Keppel (W), J. C. Farmer (W), D. G. Forsyth (G), J. B. A. Kessler (B), R. I. Maitland (C), R. M. Hippisley-Cox (C), A. A. N. Kurk (G) and D. G. Champion (W) or A. D. Maclean (T).

Results:—

v. ST. EDWARD'S (Away)	Won, 22—0.
v. RADLEY (Away)	Lost, 0—24.
v. RUGBY (Home)	Won, 11—8.
v. ST. EDWARD'S (Home)	Won, 9—0.
v. OUNDLE (Home)	Lost, 0—12.
v. BEDFORD (Away)	Drawn, 9—9.
v. BLOXHAM (Home)	Won, 9—3.

#### INTER-HOUSE KICKING COMPETITION.

	Senior Place	Junior Place	Senior Drop	Junior Drop	Senior Punt	Junior Punt	Total	Position
Cobham ...	30	16	25	28	21	23	143	1
Chatham ...	15	24	20	24	27	19	129	2
Chandos ...	30	12	20	24	24	11	121	3
Temple ...	35	8	15	16	27	17	118	4
Walpole ...	20	20	25	20	13	19	117	5
Grafton ...	25	16	15	12	26	22	116	6
Grenville ...	20	20	15	16	15	23	109	7
Bruce ...	35	16	10	8	13	20	102	8

## CRICKET

### FINAL HOUSE MATCH.

COBHAM *v.* GRAFTON (Grafton won by 5 wickets).

This very low scoring match was won, perhaps rather surprisingly, by Grafton. Grafton led by 7 runs on the first innings, but another extraordinary collapse by Cobham left them with only 83 runs to get. This they duly did but not without many anxious moments.

It was in this innings that Marten showed his real value to any side, as he played a great innings of 39 which was worth many a hundred. It was the first part that he had taken in the match owing to illness and he joined Robinson when the score was 28 for three wickets. Together they took the score to 77 before Marten was out. One of the features of their partnership was their running in between the wickets.

Robinson eventually made the winning hit with a powerful off-drive for four. This was pure justice as without doubt he had been the outstanding figure in the match. He had bowled over after over in both Cobham innings, finishing with 9 wickets for 80 runs in 45 overs. In Grafton's first innings he played very well for 56 and aided by McCready put on 93 runs for the fourth wicket—a great all round performance.

In Cobham's first innings Lewisohn played well, but Griffin after several good shots threw his wicket away. It was left to Turner and Shervington to make the best stand of the innings and Shervington hit very hard—an excellent innings.

In their second innings Cobham, with the exception of Bates, failed against Robinson and Burton who bowled better than in previous matches.

Although on paper Grafton must thank Robinson almost entirely, this is in fact not quite the case. Darling captained the side splendidly, and it was in no small way due to his efforts plus the combined efforts of the rest of the side in the field that Grafton eventually won.

## SQUASH

Owing to transport difficulties there has only been one match so far this term, against a team of Cambridge Old Stoics brought by A. Shaw. He and A. G. Buchanan were too good for our first two strings but the other three all won, so the match was ours 3—2.

There will be a match on December 2nd against Tring. (Won 4-1.)

A Senior and a Junior ladder competition are in progress, though other activities prevent the regulation one match a week being played by many of the competitors.

There is a Junior as well as a Senior "knock-out" tournament this term, although both are still only in their early rounds.

If we had had a full fixture list, the standard would have been rather, but not so very much, below the usual. The standard among the Juniors is distinctly promising and with match experience we should soon have a good team again.

The four houses left after the first round of Senior House Matches are Cobham, Walpole, Grenville and Bruce.

The team against the Cambridge Old Stoics was:—A. V. Farnell-Watson (W), P. J. Diggle (C), I. J. H. Lewisohn (C), R. J. Ellison (T), J. M. Henry (C). M. C. Dodwell (S) would have played but was medical.

## SWIMMING

### ELKINGTON CUP.

The Elkington Relay Races were held this year on Sunday, July 23rd. Some very close finishes were seen, and after an exciting last race the Cup was won by Grenville

Results:—

	<i>Junior</i> 25 yds.	<i>Junior</i> 50 yds.	<i>Senior</i> 50 yds.	<i>Senior</i> 75 yds.	<i>Composite</i>
1. Grafton		Grenville	Cobham	Cobham	Bruce
2. Grenville		Cobham	Temple	Chatham	Grenville
3. Bruce		Chatham	Grafton	Grenville	Cobham
4. Temple		Grafton	Chatham	Temple	Walpole
5. Chandos		Temple	Grenville		Temple
6. Chatham			Chandos		Chatham
7. Cobham					Grafton
8. Walpole					

1 min. 13 $\frac{3}{4}$  secs.    2 mins. 30 secs.    2 mins. 22 $\frac{3}{4}$  secs.    3 mins. 53 secs.    2 mins. 56 $\frac{3}{4}$  secs.

Final placings:—

1. Grenville	32 points.	5. Grafton	21 points.
2. Cobham	31 "	6. Bruce	14 "
3. Temple	25 "	7. Chandos	7 "
4. Chatham	24 "	8. Walpole	6 "

J.R.H.

## FENCING

We are fortunate in having a permanent instructor now. Mr. Ponsford has been taking Fencing at Concord nearly every day, and owing to this everyone has improved a great deal, particularly the beginners.

Owing to the War we have only had two Matches so far, but we are hoping to have three more. We beat Rugby, but were beaten by a very good Oxford team. C. E. Reiche (S) has not come up to expectation in Foil, but his Epée has improved since last term. D. W. Barnes (C) has at last shown his real form. He was good not only at Sabre throughout the term, but also on occasions at Foil and Epée. F. M. Frankenburg (C) has not been able to fence very much this term owing to the demands of Rugger; this has not prevented him, however, from being successful at Sabre, though his Foil is still weak. J. P. Pettavel (W) has been very successful at both Foil and Epée, and should become an excellent fencer, if he is less wild. Both Frankenburg and Pettavel fully deserved their Club Chevrons. M. B. Stevenson (S) and R. R. Thompson (W) have also fenced for the School at Sabre, and, though they still lack experience, should be useful later.

We have had a great number of beginners this term, most of whom show considerable enthusiasm. Of these G. McN. Bowle-Evans (T) is in a class by himself, and many others are very promising. Attendance at Concord has been good throughout the term.

Mrs. Stevenson has very kindly presented a sword to the Club, to be awarded every term to the best all-rounder.

Results :—

THE SCHOOL *v.* RUGBY. October 14th. Away. Won, 16—9.

Foil.—*Stowe*, 12; *Rugby*, 4.

(Reiche 4, Pettavel 3, Barnes 3, Frankenburg 2.)

Sabre.—*Stowe*, 4; *Rugby*, 5.

(Barnes 2, Frankenburg 2, Stevenson 0.)

THE SCHOOL *v.* OXFORD UNIVERSITY ASSASSINS. November 25th. Away. Lost, 9—18.

Foil.—*Stowe*, 4; *Oxford*, 5.

(Pettavel 2, Reiche 1, Frankenburg 1.)

Epée.—*Stowe*, 5; *Oxford*, 4.

(Reiche 2, Pettavel 2, Barnes 1.)

Sabre.—*Stowe*, 0; *Oxford*, 9.

## LAURUS CUP, 1938-9

	<i>Points</i>	<i>Winner.</i>
Football—House	24	Cobham.
—Junior House	3	Cobham.
—Leagues	9	Grafton.
Cricket—House	24	Grafton.
—Junior House	3	Temple.
—Leagues	9	Grafton.
Athletics—Sports	14	Temple.
—Cross-Country	12	Chatham.
—Relays	10	Grafton.
Tennis—House	7	Chandos.
—Leagues	3	Chandos.
Swimming—Sports	3	Cobham.
—Relays	3	Grenville.
—Water-Polo	1	Cobham.
Fencing	6	Grenville.
Fives	4	Grafton.
Golf	4	Cobham.
Squash	4	Cobham.
P.T.	15	Chatham.

<i>Final Points</i> —		
1.	Grafton	56
2.	Cobham	39
3.	Chatham	27
4.	Temple	17
5.	Chandos	10
6.	Grenville	9
7.	{ Bruce	0
	{ Walpole	0

## BEAGLING

The North Bucks Beagles were only able to arrange three meets this term; for, owing to the Petrol Rationing, they had considerable difficulty in getting here. Unfortunately people failed to realize this, and only a very few came out from Stowe. There was an excellent day at Water Stratford when three good, fast hunts were followed. The meet at Maids Moreton was only able to provide one hare, which was lost in the outskirts of Buckingham.

It is hoped that they will be able to continue to come next term, and that there will be more followers.

I.N.C.

## O.T.C. NOTES

The following promotions have been made this term :—

To *Under-Officer*: Sergeants I. McC. Tait (G), C. E. L. H. Reiche (G), D. Gardiner (C), M. J. G. Hann (T).

To *Sergeant*: Corporals J. B. Frankenburg (C), D. E. M. Earle (B), J. B. Dwight (G), R. H. Widdows (C), P. A. Bates (C), A. V. Farnell-Watson (W), M. R. Wallace (C), G. L. Paget (C), D. K. Murdoch (T), D. W. Barnes (C), R. J. Musgrave (C), V. D. Burton (G), I. D. W. McEwen (T), D. B. Rolleston (C).

To *Corporal*: Lance-Corporals the Hon. J. V. Fisher (T), M. G. M. Reid (W), J. R. McCarthy (G), P. G. Henderson (W), C. C. R. Boulton (B), D. T. Weston (G), J. B. Kennedy (C).

To *Lance-Corporal*: Cadets M. I. Atkin-Berry (C), A. B. Luttrell (C), D. J. Webster (W), J. E. B. Naumann (C), M. P. Forsyth-Forrest (T), W. E. McCready (G), E. F. G. Gosling (C), C. M. Musgrave (C), P. E. Falkner (W), I. N. Craig (C), A. J. R. Davenport (C), G. F. B. Newport-Tinley (C), J. C. M. Leyland (B), D. A. Lloyd (C), C. D. Drew (C), J. P. F. Brown (G), J. W. V. Shand Kydd (C), R. S. Watson (B), B. A. Shelmerdine (W).

Certificate "A" Part II (Written) has been abolished for the duration of the war. A Part I (Practical) examination was held on November 7th, and 43 out of 66 candidates passed. The test was made more exacting than hitherto. For the first time full effect was given to the system of entering candidates in the fourth term of their training.

The strength of the Contingent is 341, an increase of 11 on that of last term. There were 64 Recruits in September.

Mr. P. K. Bourne is carrying on the work of Mr. R. M. Hamer, who has been mobilised for duty with an Officer Cadet Training Unit.

## PRIZES.

*Best Candidate for Certificate "A" (Part I), November 1939*:—J. S. Hollings (T).

*Best Recruits, Summer Term 1939*:—1. C. M. Argles (C).

2. H. D. Christie (C) and D. L. Vere Hodge (G).

## TRAINING.

In the earlier part of the term the Under-Officers and N.C.Os. carried out some simple night exercises in marching and reconnaissance patrolling. Great keenness made them very successful. They will be continued when the weather improves again.

Post-Certificate "A" courses are employing 59 cadets. These numbers will increase during the coming year. The Signallers are capable of considerable expansion, a new course in Survey work is projected, and much would be gained by forming a senior Company to reach a higher standard of infantry work.

In future the Certificate "A" examination will be held as late as possible in the term and so avoid the necessity for more than a few extra parades. Promotion to

Lance-Corporal cannot be automatic on passing Part I only. Candidates will have to wait a little for their first stripe, and their previous and subsequent record will also be taken into account.

A new system of practice on the Miniature Range is being tried out with the object of giving all cadets, except Recruits, more opportunity of firing and of raising the general standard of shooting.

It proved impossible, owing to lack of motor transport, to carry out a Field Day with Radley, and the local fields have since become too wet and muddy for successful collective training. The black-out, too, raises its own problems. But an alternative has been arranged in the shape of Route Marches, and on November 28th the Junior Platoons went on a circular march via Shalstone and the Senior Platoons on a rather longer one via Westbury.

We now possess a D.P. "Bren" gun, and the R.S.M. will shortly be using it for instructional purposes.

## CAMP.

Last summer both the Regular officers and the tentage usually available for the O.T.C. were required by the Militia. But the Air Ministry held a camp at Norton Priory, Sussex, a private aerodrome, for the O.T.C. Air Cadet Wing, some 250 boys. A/Squadron-Leader Maynard and 10 cadets from Stowe attended, and the following is an account, by one of them, of the week spent there :—

"Tangmere, the R.A.F. aerodrome, was eight miles away, and we made the journey by bus each day. We began by seeing a display and fly-past of all the modern aircraft types of the R.A.F., ranging from the biggest bombers to the little Spitfire fighters. The next day we flew up to the Headquarters of the Fighter Command, and, after learning many of its secrets and crawling over Hurricanes and Spitfires, we were entertained by the sight of a Fighter squadron attacking a flight of Fairey Battles.

"On our next excursion we learnt about the Coastal Command and were particularly interested in the intricacies of the aerial torpedoes which we saw dropped between two buoys by a Wellesley and a Swordfish. After examining the new Lerwick long-distance flying-boat and seeing the pigeons used by the R.A.F. we made a flying-boat trip from Calshot.

"On our last flying day we saw a Spitfire firing all its eight guns into the butts and the Link trainer in operation. Finally we went on a reconnaissance flight of ninety minutes over the South of England.

"During the week we had lectures on the rôles of the different Commands, saw films illustrating these rôles and came to understand a good deal of the everyday life of the R.A.F. Our cross-country journeys were made in long-suffering Avro Ansons.

"On Guest Night, Mr. Duff Cooper came down and made us a speech, after which he was chaired round the aerodrome by wildly cheering cadets. Squadron-Leader R. L. R. Atcherley, of Schneider Trophy fame, and Squadron Leader D. A. Pemberton (O.S.) gave each boy some instruction in flying a Miles Magister during the week. Much praise and thanks are due to them and to the officers and men of the Tangmere Station, who transported us about so well without a mishap of any sort.

"Apart from all the technical instruction, the camp life itself was an equally interesting experience. Reveille began by being at 7 a.m., but gradually got earlier, until on the last day it was at 5.30 a.m. Our training finished never later than 5.30 p.m. and we were then free to bathe, eat in the N.A.A.F.I. or go for a stroll in the vicinity.

Every evening after tea we had community singing followed by a film, both organized by the energetic Padre. There was also an R.A.F. band to keep us in step every morning as we marched to embus and to play to us at tea-time.

"Major Clifford spent two days with us, seeing the training for himself, and on two occasions we were inspected and addressed by high R.A.F. officers.

"Altogether it was a very full and most enjoyable week's camp."

## SHOOTING

The results of the "Cottesloe Cup" for the Summer Term were as follows:—  
1st, R. N. C. Knight-Bruce (C), with an average of 59.4; 2nd, J. S. Barrowclough (C), with an average of 57.8.

The School is competing in the Lancashire League for the first time. A match is shot against a different school each week, and the competition extends into next term. It includes members of the "Rifle Club" as well as members of the O.T.C.

A new system has been introduced this term, by which every member of the Corps shoots at least once a fortnight. This method, besides ensuring practice for everyone, has the additional advantage of bringing to light new talent.

The following members of the "Rifle Club" have now won Spoons this term:—

"A"—C. M. Fergusson (B), 3 spoons, K. T. Boyd (C), 2 spoons, J. S. Barrowclough (C), J. E. Hodgkin (C), I. C. Macdonald (W).

"B"—D. C. Lunn-Rockcliffe (C), 2 spoons, W. E. Duck (W), 2 spoons, P. A. Dillon (C), R. D. C. Reynolds (B), W. L. S. Knox-Gore (C).

The results of the "Tin Hat" Competition were as follows:—

"A"	R. C. H. Collier (B) ... ..	96
	C. C. R. Boulton (B) ... ..	92
	R. J. Musgrave (C) ... ..	91
	C. D. Drew (C) ... ..	91
	J. S. Hollings (T) ... ..	88
	R. E. Hodgkin (C) ... ..	88
	J. S. Barrowclough (C) ... ..	87
	E. P. Hickling (C) ... ..	86
	Total ... ..	719

This total exceeds last year's by twelve points.

The "B" Team scored 659 points as compared with last year's 644.

The "A" Team were 8th out of 59 competitors, which is the best they have ever been.

R.J.M.

## THE LIBRARY

We wish gratefully to acknowledge the following presentations to the Library:—

From Col. R. V. Lloyd-Philipps:

'The Prince Imperial' (Katherine John).

From Dr. A. R. Roche:

'Queen Elizabeth' (Mandell Creighton).

From the Author, N. A. C. Croft, Esq. (C, 1925):

'Polar Exploration.'

From the Author, Capt. H. A. Lloyd, M.B.E.:

'The English Domestic Clock.'

From the Carnegie Trust:

'The Declaration of Independence' (Becker).

'The American Commonwealth' (Bryce).

'The American Revolution' (Trevelyan).

'The Cambridge History of American Literature' (vols. II and III).

'America: Its History and People' (Faulkner and Kepner).

'Collected Poems' (Vachel Lindsay).

'Modern American Poets' (selected by Conrad Aiken).

'Abraham Lincoln' (Charnwood).

The following books have been bought this term:—

'Idea of a Christian Society' (T. S. Eliot); 'Doctrine and Action' (Salazar); 'Cantos LII to LXXI' (Ezra Pound); 'Beethoven' (Turner); 'After many a Summer' (Aldous Huxley); 'Lafayette' (Woodward); 'Scrapbook of Katherine Mansfield'; 'Testament of Joad' (C. E. M. Joad); 'Modern French Painters' (Wilenski); 'Since Fifty: Men and Memoirs, 1922-1938' (Rothenstein); 'Hornblower Omnibus' (C. S. Forrester); 'African Survey' (Hailey); 'The Natural History of Aquatic Insects' (Miall); 'Essais de Psychologie Contemporaine' (Bourget); 'Germany—A Companion to German Studies' (Bithell); 'The German Language' (Pribsch); 'Wörterbuch für Deutschen Literatur' (Rohl); 'Geschichte der Deutschen Literatur' (Scherer-Walzel); 'The Classical Age in German Literature' (Willoughby); 'The Romantic Movement' (Willoughby); 'The Romantic Movement' (Breul); 'Evolution de la poésie lyrique en France' (Brunetière); 'Etudes Littéraires, XVIIe, XVIIIe, XIXe Siècle' (Fagnet); 'Corneille' (ed. 'Les grands écrivains français'); 'Hugo' (ed. 'Les grands écrivains français'); 'La Fontaine' (ed. 'Les grands écrivains français'); 'Molière' (ed. 'Les grands écrivains français'); 'Racine' (ed. 'Les grands écrivains français'); 'Voltaire' (ed. 'Les grands écrivains français'); Harrap's New French Dictionary (Vol. II); 'The Roman Revolution' (R. Syme); 'Roman Provincial Administration' (G. H. Stevenson).

W.L.McE.

C.W.N.

P.C.M.

B.H.



## DEBATING SOCIETY

THE meetings of the Society have been attended multitudinously and enthusiastically this term. Many good speakers have appeared from the Lower House; many, unfortunately, have been prevented from speaking through lack of time. But enthusiasm is not daunted; the Society is more inclusive than it ever has been; the third meeting produced the largest number of speakers; and the challenging torch of debate burns with unquenchable battery.

C. W. Newton (♁) and the Hon. P. B. R. Vanneck (B) have been appointed Treasurer and Librarian respectively.

The 124th Meeting of the Society was held in the School Library at 8.15 p.m. on Wednesday, October 11th. The motion before the house was that "In the opinion of this House the upper class in this country is played out."

Before the motion was debated there were several unimportant, though diverting, motions in private business.

R. A. D. OLIVER (C) then proposed the motion. He began in dead earnest. He proceeded as a prophet of future society to lead a flowery way into a world of words. He ended with emotion. Though he clouded some brains, yet he forced on others an admiration for his ideals which needed greater clarity and more earthliness to claim conviction.

THE HON. P. B. R. VANNECK (B), in opposing the motion, chose to extol the upper class for its past merit and considered its present position humanising and not uncompromising. He said that the upper class had, and always would have, two main functions, government and patronage of the arts.

D. W. BARNES (C) decried the gentleman who received the O.B.E. for the manufacture of zip-fasteners; he despised Drake for raiding undefended ships; and so he dealt with others. The casual duke was to the foreigner the example of the Englishman. An outrage to humanity!

R. J. ELLISON (T), speaking fourth, upheld the view that the upper class should stand together in a body for self-protection. He then steamed off on to a detailed declamation on Russian communism, and ended with an appeal to the self-interest of the house.

There also spoke: *For the Motion*, C. D. Harvey-Piper (T), P. G. Henderson (W), G. McC. Corbett (B), J. D. S. Cable (C), P. S. Anstey (C), J. E. M. Irvine (T).

*Against the Motion*, F. M. Frankenburg (C), C. R. P. Anstey (C), G. L. Paget (C), The Treasurer (♁), B. Henshaw (C), R. C. Hurley (C), B. R. Armstrong (W), S. R. G. Scott (G), A. P. de Pass (C), A. D. Maclean (T).

	For	Against
There voted:—In the Upper House	6	9
In the Lower House	14	72

The motion was therefore lost in the Upper House by 3 votes and in the Lower House by 58 votes.

At a Committee meeting held afterwards the following were elected members:—S. R. G. Scott (G), B. Henshaw (C), B. R. Armstrong (W), J. E. M. Irvine (T).

The 125th Meeting of the Society was held in the School Library at 8.15 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 8th. The motion for debate was that "It is the duty of the newspapers to deceive the public."

M. J. G. HANN (T) (Hon. Proposer) made a speech of political ideals and educational problems. The irrelevant path of his theories led him to appear to the opposition "at one instance both friend and enemy." He wished to educate the public through the newspapers up to a certain mind standard.

THE SECRETARY (C), opposing, after an apologetic prologue marched onto the field of advertisement, on which the papers play such a dirty game. His own puppets proved to be unsound marksmen; his own shots adhered to a sticky pitch; his final whistle was as profound as ever.

P. S. ANSTEY (C) was convinced that deception was a necessity in this morbid world and by balancing the possibilities of a Stowe newspaper written with or without imagination he made a conclusive point. The "white" lie was less harmful in many cases than the naked truth.

G. MCC. CORBETT (B) intended to sway the house's reason by speaking seriously and making the motion clear. His illustrations from the newspapers and the fruit of his imagination re-affirmed the existence of truth and added fuel to its light.

There also spoke: *For the Motion*, F. M. Frankenburg (C), The Treasurer (♁), A. D. Maclean (T), H. M. Taylor (♁), J. P. Pettavel (W), A. M. Mitchell (C), J. S. Ramsay (T).

*Against the Motion*, B. Henshaw (C), H. H. Sebag-Montefiore (W), J. E. M. Irvine (T), I. McC. Tait (♁).

	For	Against
There voted:—In the Upper House	8	7
In the Lower House	20	69

The motion was therefore won in the Upper House by 1 vote and lost in the Lower House by 49 votes.

The following were elected members:—I. McC. Tait (♁), J. S. Ramsay (T), A. M. Mitchell (C), J. P. Pettavel (W) and R. C. Hurley (C). M. J. G. Hann (T) was pre-elected unsubstantiatedly.

The 126th Meeting of the Society was held in the Library at 8.10 p.m. on Wednesday, November 29th, when the Motion for debate was that "In the opinion of this house it is the function of education to make the young respect the old."

After the paper speeches, the general trend was magisterial, in some cases in regrettably bad taste (which, surely, it were the function of education to dispel). The story of the attempted chloroformation of a certain master, whose supernatural powers however provided sufficient resistance, led the House to voice its already grown respect for him in loud cheers at having survived the clutches of the anaesthetist; the nature of the operation to be performed, had the patient succumbed, was in kindness not disclosed.

G. L. PAGET (C) made an extensive catalogue of the purposes of education, not omitting a description of gentlemanly qualities and an allusion to food. He drew a picture of himself and others in old age and left the House in doubt how to judge, not however before he had given a warning of imminent Euclidian syllogisms.

J. B. FRANKENBURG (C) at once dispelled all doubts by alluding to his great-grandfather and Milton. Rising to the heights of the arts and sinking to the depths of the masters, he showed that ability, not old age, was to be respected. Two spurious Latin quotations were the conclusion of a mathematician's speech.

P. G. HENDERSON (W) made the best speech of the evening. Grafting pomposity with pleasantry and wisdom with wit, he piloted his ship through dangerous channels. He found the House a crowd of free individuals and left it a humoured, submissive and respectful audience.

H. M. TAYLOR (S) amid many generalizations explained that the aim of education was to give a clear vision rather than a respect for the old; these two seldom went together. Youth was always up in arms against the old. Respect might be the lot of the old if their big, manly voice turned not again toward childish treble.

There also spoke: *For the Motion*, J. E. M. Irvine (T), D. W. Barnes (C), P. R. A. H. Billinge (C), J. P. Pettavel (W), C. J. Massey (T), G. Hoare (C), R. A. D. Oliver (C), B. R. Armstrong (W), M. G. M. Reid (W), The Treasurer (S), R. R. Thompson (W), J. E. Richardson (C), N. E. Seely (T), F. M. Frankenburg (C), D. R. Blundell (S).

*Against the Motion*, C. R. P. Anstey (C), M. J. G. Hann (T), J. S. Ramsay (T), G. McC. Corbett (B), D. V. Palmer (C), C. M. Campbell (W), A. D. Maclean (T), S. R. G. Scott (G), B. Henshaw (C), J. A. Lloyd-Williams (T), H. H. Sebag-Montefiore (W).

	<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>
There voted:—In the Upper House	10	11
In the Lower House	26	40

The Motion was therefore lost in the Upper House by 1 vote and in the Lower House by 13 votes.

At a Committee meeting held immediately afterwards the following were elected members:—P. R. A. H. Billinge (C), C. J. Massy (T), G. Hoare (C), M. G. M. Reid (W), J. E. Richardson (C), D. R. Blundell (S), D. V. Palmer (C), C. M. Campbell (W).

J.C.D.

## CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

### THE XII CLUB.

The XII Club has met three times this term. On Tuesday, November 5th, M. J. G. Hann (T) read a paper entitled "A Thousand Times," which was a detailed biography of Marshal Ney. At the second meeting, on Thursday, November 23rd, S. R. G. Scott (G) read a paper on Frederick the Great. On Tuesday, December 5th, R. O. Richards (T) read a paper entitled 'Let Newton be.'

The following have been elected members:—S. P. Worsthorne (C), the Hon. P. B. R. Vanneck (B), C. W. Newton (S), H. M. Taylor (S) and R. J. Ellison (T). R. A. D. Oliver (C) and G. L. Paget (C) were permanent guests.

J.C.D.

### THE HERETICS.

Owing to the inefficiency of the Secretary, only one meeting has been held this term. At this, held in the Vice-President's rooms on Tuesday, November 21st, B. Henshaw (C) read an entertaining paper entitled,

"It's gude to be off with the auld luvie,  
Before ye're on with the new,"  
and digressed enthusiastically from the point.

D.W.B.

### THE MODERN PLAY-READING SOCIETY.

The 27th meeting of the Society was held in the Headmaster's rooms on November 6th, when John Galsworthy's "Loyalties" was read.

J.C.D.

### THE VITRUVIANS.

Owing to the impracticability of expeditions, the activities of the Society had to be confined to lectures and papers. A meeting of full members was held on November 13th, when H. M. Taylor (S) read a paper on "Hadrian's Wall," which was long, rambling and generally knowledgable. On December 2nd there was a meeting of the whole Society, when the Rev. A. A. H. Radice (T, 1933), the foundation secretary, gave a most interesting lecture on "Baroque Architecture."

The Society acknowledges with thanks the Headmaster's gift of "Modern Architectural Details—A Portfolio of Photographs and Working Drawings."

R.A.O.

### THE CLASSICAL SOCIETY.

Three meetings were arranged for this term. On November 7th, P. S. Anstey (C) read a much-needed paper in praise of Cicero, and on November 17th the Society was honoured by the presence of the Headmaster to read a most interesting paper on Bombast. On November 28th, Mr. J. N. L. Myres gave a most expert and well proportioned address on Roman Britain. The Society is very grateful to him for coming over from Oxford.

R.H.W.

## THE NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

Despite the difficulty of getting outside speakers this term, there have been three meetings. At the first, held on October 7th, Mr. P. Howson (C, 1937) read a paper on "A Biological Tour round the World." The second was held on October 28th, when Mr. K. D. Ponsford read his paper on "The Science of Training," which was illustrated by a film. Owing to lack of time it had, unfortunately, to be cut short.

On November 25th, four films were shown on the 16 mm. projector in the New Lecture Room. This was well attended both by members and non-members. The films were:—The Buzzard, Blood Circulation, Spiders, Roots.

C.A.M.

## THE MUSIC CLUB.

In the absence of Dr. Huggins, Mr. Snowden has assumed the Presidency of the Club. The fifth meeting was held on October 30th, when R. J. Ellison (T) read a very comprehensive paper on "Debussy." On November 20th, S. Worsthorne (C) considered the view that "Chamber Music is to be played but not listened to," which provoked some interesting discussion.

The following were members: R. A. Oliver (C), R. J. Ellison (T), J. C. Drew (C), D. K. Murdoch (T), The Hon. W. Hilton-Young (W), D. W. Barnes (C), J. B. Frankenburg (C), I. McC. Tait (G), S. Worsthorne (C), P. S. Anstey (C), C. R. P. Anstey (C), C. W. Newton (G), H. M. Taylor (G), J. F. P. Tate (W), J. M. Budden (W).

R.A.O.

## THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY.

Although this is usually a slack term for photography, many new members have joined, some of them enthusiastic beginners, which bodes well for the future of the Society. Slight alterations have been made to the darkroom, so as to enable any number of prints to be conveniently produced in an afternoon's work.

We have received an invitation to submit prints to the Public Schools' Travelling Exhibition, which spends a short time at each of the principal public schools, and ends by being shown at the Oxford University Camera Club. The Society has accepted the invitation, and we hope to send in a good selection of pictures.

G.H.P.H.

## THE SCIENCE SOCIETY.

Apart from a short meeting held on October the 12th, at which new officers were elected and other business was discussed, the Society has met only twice this term. On Wednesday, October 25th, the Hon. J. V. Fisher (T) read his paper on "Natural and Synthetic Dyes"; and on Wednesday, November 15th, J. S. Hollings (T) read a paper on "Alternating Current and the Grid." It is hoped to arrange one more meeting this term.

Expeditions, however, have been unfortunately rendered impossible owing to transport difficulties.

C.F.C.



Photos by ]



[ G.L.P.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS AIR CAMP,  
NORTON PRIORY, AUGUST 1939

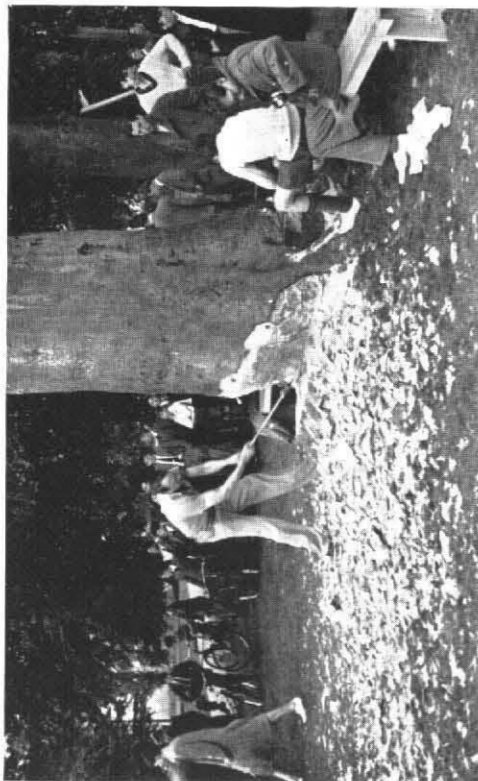
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WARTIME TRANSPORT

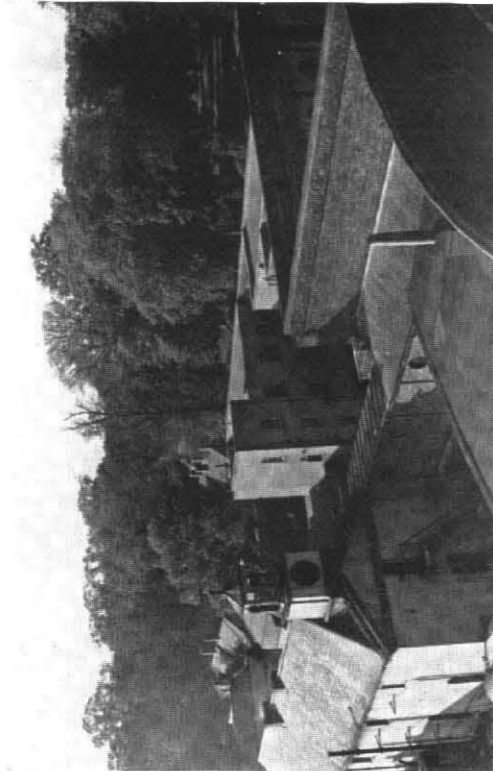
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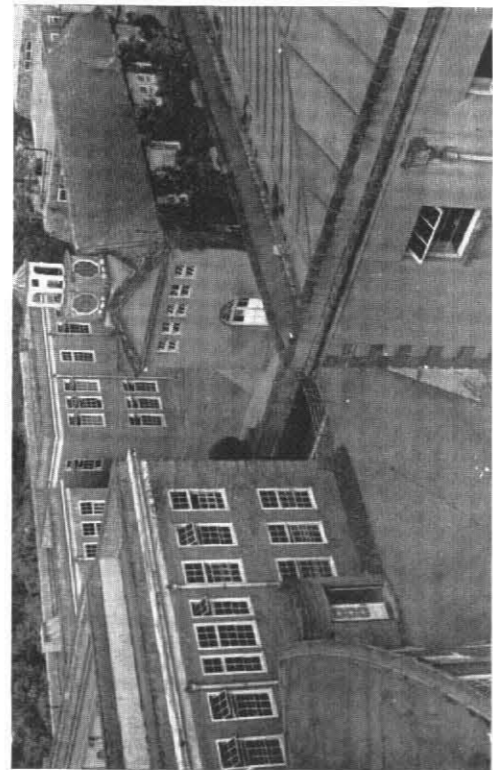
TREE FALLING



TREE-FELLING



COBHAM COURT AND STONEYARD ROOFS



Photos by ]

[ R. H. W. S.

THE MODERN LANGUAGES SOCIETY.

Four meetings of the Society have been held this term, and two French comedies of contrasted character have been read; the first, "Les Plaideurs," by Racine; and the second Musset's "Il ne faut jurer de rien."

M. Bué has accepted an honorary membership, and J. D. Le Bouvier (T), A. M. Mitchell (C), R. H. F. Barker (C), and A. A. D. M. Browne (C) have been elected members of the Society.

C.C.R.B.

THE FILM SOCIETY.

The difficulty of booking films has made it possible to show only two films this term. "Lac aux dames," starring Simone Simon, was shown on November 22nd, and a Finnish film "Fredlos" will be shown on December 13th.

J.C.D.

STOWE FILM PRODUCTIONS.

It was decided at the end of last term that the Group should this term be reorganized under J. K. Beney (G), and the result has been a great increase in efficiency. A good notice board was procured, and here were shown weekly reports, photographs of the events filmed, and other things of interest such as regular income and expenditure accounts for each film. This last was felt necessary, as many people were wondering how our money is spent. The following appointments were made:—

A. J. F. Fergusson (B), Director and Cameraman; J. K. Beney (G), Production Manager and Assistant Cameraman; G. E. Williamson-Noble (T), Head Sound Engineer; P. G. Whitfield (T), Assistant Sound Engineer; J. S. Hollings (T), Electrician; J. F. P. Tate (W), Camera Operator, Photographer; G. H. P. Holt (B), Photographer; R. H. White-Smith (B), Photographer.

During September and October the film unit photographed several short episodes, and these were put together in the form of a monthly News Review. There was included in the October News Review the felling of a tree by the Bruce House Estate workers; floods in Buckingham; a pony trap; and the roofs of Stowe. It was shown on November 5th together with a film on Russian Urban Life. For the first time the commentary was recorded and synchronised with the film on projection. On Saturday, November 11th, two cameramen went to Oundle to film the Stowe-Oundle match. This will be shown towards the end of term.

The Sound Department has been reorganized this term, and experiments which were carried out last term were this term soon completed with the result that we were able to offer Personal Recording to the public on Saturday, November 4th. On Saturday, November 18th, a new record was introduced which we were able to offer at a lower price than the others.

The Group also undertook to improve the presentation of the Saturday evening films with interval music and coloured lights.

A.J.F.F.

## MUSIC

This term Mr. Snowdon has ably fulfilled both his own functions and those of Dr. Huggins, who is absent on active service. The Choral Society and Orchestra, which is composed less of outsiders than usual, has been working at Constant Lambert's "Rio Grande," a formidable undertaking. K. Emrys-Roberts (C) is the piano soloist. It is intended that the work should be performed with some Vaughan Williams part-songs and orchestral pieces on December 6th.

Two meetings of the Music Society have been held; the first, on October 25th, was a string trio consisting of George Stratton, Horace Ayckbourn and Edith Churton, who played Beethoven's trio in C minor, a terzetto by Gordon Jacobs, and Brahms' piano trio with Mr. Snowdon at the piano. There was a large attendance; the Brahms and the Beethoven were very popular.

At the second meeting, on November 15th, in the Library, the School Orchestra played three movements of Beethoven's First Symphony, Mozart's "Eine Kleine Nachtmusik," and the overture to Nicolai's "Merry Wives of Windsor." J. M. Budden (W) gave a brilliant performance as the soloist in the first movement of Mozart's piano concerto in E flat. R. O. Richards (T) and D. T. Weston (G), with R. C. M. Nathan (C) as continuo, played the first movement of Bach's Concerto for two violins. A recording was made at the final rehearsal of the first movement of the Beethoven Symphony.

The Sunday evening "Popular Concerts" have been revived under the guidance of Miss Radice. Pieces were played by many members of the School, and in particular recitals were given by Mr. Newton John, of Mozart and Schubert songs, and piano solos by K. Emrys-Roberts (C); and a Mozart String Quartet by Mrs. Anderson, R. C. M. Nathan (C), Miss Harrison, and S. P. Worsthorne (C).

The Madrigal Society will perform carols in Chapel.

'The Pirates of Penzance,' which was to have been performed this term, has been postponed until next term.

## "KING LEAR"

At first it seemed as though the luck might fail that had blessed the Historians with eight consecutive fine nights for their annual venture upon the steps of the Queen's Temple. The uninviting prospect was not improved as we looked back on past productions and reflected that the Historians' stock of Shakespeare plays must be growing meagre. Nor were we comforted, on looking into the programme, by the realization that the producers themselves had doubts. The distress of old men seemed no fitter subject for the talents of youth than the pride and modesty of women. We could but hope that Lear had not been too desperate a last resort and resign ourselves to fate "with hey, ho, the wind and the rain."

Lamb wrote that "the Lear of Shakespeare cannot be acted"; but Lamb lived at a time when the fashions of the stage demanded a more realistic production than they did or rather could in the early seventeenth century; and today fashion is returning to the simpler productions of the Elizabethan stage which exercised the imagination as well as the senses. If Lamb feared that the character of Lear would, on the stage, appear unreal to his material age, that the elements in full artificial action would distract the attention and confuse the issue, it may be said that a work of art takes little toll of reality. That a play may be read, but is yet not suitable for production, can only be because it is long and lacking of action or because it involves practical difficulties which the imagination of the reader alone can leap. But length can be cut drastically without loss to the structure, as was demonstrated by the present production, while lack of action, other than in the cinema sense of the word, is not a fair criticism of "King Lear." It may not boast the blood and thunder heroics of "Macbeth" and "Julius Caesar's" crowd of sweaty nightcaps, such as have entertained us in past years; but the passage of Lear, through scenes of fine conception, from arrogance to the humiliation of madness, is drama sufficient to move all but the most boorish of audiences. The personal fad, that Lear is unconvincing in practice, is no excuse for banning great drama. If Shakespeare's Lear had been the same as the King who ruled England in the 7th century B.C., Lamb would probably never have laid down his law and the Historians certainly would never have contradicted it. The world's greatest playwright probably knew whether his masterpiece could be performed.

The first duty of the production of any play is to be as vigorous and stimulating as possible; especially this is the case with "Lear" which a film-soaked audience might find tedious. The Historians' production, however, was never in danger of this, and the inevitable immaturity of youth was amply compensated by vigour. P. Johnstone's (C) conception of Lear was perhaps the best that could have been attained under the circumstances of youth; and in his own way he provided a most excellent and delightful performance. He moved us deeply to sympathy with his pathetic humiliation at the hands of ingratitude, with his tremendous efforts to stem the upward surge of madness, to delight at his fantasies with "my philosopher" and to wonder at his final great speeches. But as the production demanded comparison with professional performance, one could not help missing in some degree the original proud dignity of royal authority. It is undoubtedly difficult to reconcile the temperament of the King who could banish Cordelia and Kent for ever at a word, and the apparently weak old man being chivvied from one ungrateful daughter to the other; this was perhaps the one difficulty the production failed to overcome. The weakness of the King was ever convincing, but Lear, for all his 'hubris,' was not without strength. Such criticism, however, seems laboured in the face of what was clearly a grand performance, such as may well join M. A. V. Walter's Richard II in the annals of tradition. The other parts were always alive, and there were some outstanding individual performances: M. B. Scholfield's (T) Edmund, a brilliant study in lazy cynicism; D. M. Bolton's (C) Goneril, of superbly chillsome disdain; E. N. Rolfe's (B) Gloucester, a splendid piece of stuffy old age; and P. E. Falkner's (W) Kent, a stout display of restrained competence. The most immediate attraction of the production, however, was its free and original interpretation of the lighter side of the play. S. R. G. Scott (G) was fascinating in the part of Edgar.

With such a fine spate of tremulous energy it mattered little whether he was mad or sane ; his squeaking frolics will indeed live long in the memory. Finally, middle-aged damehood is all very well for schoolboys, but even the appropriate sex seems to find innocent maidenhood hard enough to simulate ; and B. R. Armstrong's (W) Cordelia did not appear to violate the Stowe traditions of blushful modesty.

The economy of the production, like most of the acting, was not without a fine vividness ; and even if the purple of the back-cloth did seem a little too royal by daylight, the steps of the Temple proved as homely a setting as ever. In the storm Lamb's " contemptible machinery " was mercifully reduced to a diminutive battery of kettle-drums, that wisely performed only between scenes. But while we remember many occasions of stimulating energy such as bastard Edmund's epic struggle with Edgar and the pardonable relish with which Regan and her myrmidons tormented the lamenting Gloucester, there were moments of strange, unforgettable, beauty. Kent falling asleep in his stocks at nightfall ; the herald trumpeting Edmund's challenge abroad ; and the grave dignity of the final close. Whatever fears we may have had at first, we went away the sadder and the wiser. And for other reasons now, we can but hope that " Lear " was not the last of a great series.

R.J.E.

## POEM

If autumn lacks the blaze of summer, yet  
 There's softer colouring ; faint scent of morning mist ;  
 A new-found freshness in the long grass, wet  
 At midday ; all these compensate for what is missed  
 Of summer's gaudy brightness. What if night  
 Is longer ? Longer to dream of happiness ; too short  
 To comprehend how beautiful the light  
 Born of our own imagination, where each thought  
 Of day is gilded by lost glory which we sought.

The day's too short ? Why then, much less the time  
 To quarrel, labour, and achieve the least we prize.  
 Sooner the darkness hides each petty crime  
 Longer conceals the tissue of a life of lies  
 And falseness ; longer peace in sorrow, so  
 The Spirit's healed in longer sleeping, and combines  
 At rest all energies which overflow  
 And, bursting, bear the mind to that long home ; confines  
 The frame to sleep in woods of cypresses and pines.

## LEISURE

Many men see in leisure relief from the toilsome order of their lives. After long hours beneath the clock they long for time of their own ; time to do nothing, to browse deeply in armchairs, a book open, the continuous melancholy of a wireless in the background ; time to make conversation over cups of tea, time to meander in gardens, to sit on grass in the sun ; time to potter and to waste. Many men serve time. They are brought up, the focus of strict and anxious eyes ; life is a vast monotony of doing things, ordered to the last spare pair of socks for wet grass, to the last curl and to the last calory. Spotlessly organized they go to school ; they learn to read the clock, they learn that most universal of all questions, " what's the time ? " Day after day they are driven down the same road ; day after day they eagerly count the few minutes they may sit by the wayside. Having learnt how to serve time, they leave school, to put their lives to some use. Enjoyment, leisure, is the aim of life ; but this can only be gained by money. They see the great hill " position " before them, and they stumble off, eager to write their name on the summit. Work absorbs them, time fascinates them. The last second of the day is organized, from the last hair on the chin in the morning to the last blanket on the bed at night. They marry, eager for some more things to organize on the rare occasions when they are not absorbed in trying to serve Mammon a little less than God. For forty years or more they serve time thus ; and when at last they feel assured that they have laid up store against all eventualities, that they can sit back and realize their achievements while their sons carry on, they discover that they are old. They have spent their lives trying to attain time for leisure, and now that they have it, they find no more energy to enjoy it. They have, however, done well ; they may at least sit back and die and be mourned. Harley Street has saved its lives. We were the backbone of the nation ; ours was a good life.

But there are some men who see in that leisure which is freedom of action from external influence and compulsion the highest aim of life ; to be oblivious of time ; to be independent of all organizations in life ; to be undismayed by " the way things are," politics and events ; to be without worry, envy, jealousy and hate ; to make the body subservient to the spirit rather than the spirit slave to the body ; to be free from the tyranny of money and the necessity of making it ; and, above all, to be independent of circumstances, seen or unforeseen. When all this has been forgotten and man has freed his mind from worldly considerations, then he is ready for life, his will is his own, he is at leisure not to do nothing, but to make the very best that he knows of his mind, having risen above the environments of the world. The powers of the mind, imagination, set at large, there is no end to the possibilities of life. Freed of its ties he may return to the world and go wherever his spirit, God's spirit, leads him. He is at leisure to pursue the first and last object of life, knowledge which is infinite. The true value of leisure is that it leaves man free to lead a better life.

He, it is true, is bound to fail. The man who toils all his life, hard and well, whose gaze never exceeds the limits of the world, and who is ever secretly longing for leisure—he is great ; but not so great as the man who uses leisure to try to look beyond this world. The one seeks for his reward on earth and gains it ; the other seeks for no reward.

R.J.E.

## BOOK NOTICE

“POLAR EXPLORATION,” by Andrew Croft. A. & C. Black, 1939.

Andrew Croft was one of the boys who left Lancing to help in the starting of Stowe. He was a monitor in Temple for the opening term and went to Chandos as its first prefect in September 1923. He became Head of the School in September 1924.

That he has had considerable experience in Polar work may be gathered from the fact that he was a member of the Trans-Greenland Expedition of 1934, which involved an unsupported sledge journey of over 1,000 miles across the Ice-Cap. He also spent a year in 1935-36 on North-East Land off Spitsbergen.

R.H.

## FIFTY TERMS

*The Stoic* completes its fiftieth number and the School completes its fiftieth term at a time when England has already been three months at war.

Though the war has so far affected our ordinary lives but little, we know that it will affect them deeply before it ends, and that whatever happens the old conditions will not return. Darkness has come down upon the road before us—the road which was once illuminated with so clear and cheerful a light.

It was not with such a prospect in view that Stoics and Stowe Masters and Stowe Governors worked and planned during these fifty terms. We worked in a world that seemed progressive and secure; we planned for a future that was to be full of new achievement and was already full of hope. We dreamed of the service that we could render to an England steadily advancing towards justice and happiness. Our dreams are dead.

But there was a dream at Stowe which died before ours was born. Bishop Burroughs, friend and Governor of the School from the beginning until his death, once wrote a “School Song” for Stowe. It contained the lines:—

“Temples and Grenvilles, Lords of Stowe,  
In spacious days of leisure  
Built fair and wide on this hillside  
A palace for their pleasure.  
Their dreams are dead, but we instead,  
The heirs of their endeavour,  
Shall build into the years ahead  
The dream that lives for ever.”

When one dream dies another may be born—and one dreamer may dream them both. We have a new dream now.

It is a dream of a changed England and a changed Stowe, and in the new dream as in the old the School is seen to be serving the Country to the best of its power. What form that service can take we do not yet fully know. But when we see more clearly what the country requires of us we shall be ready and able to provide it. We were not founded to face a future of upheaval and impoverishment. But we shall face it if need be, and we hope that we shall face it not ignobly.



*Photo by* ]

SOUTH FRONT

[ J.F.P.T.



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