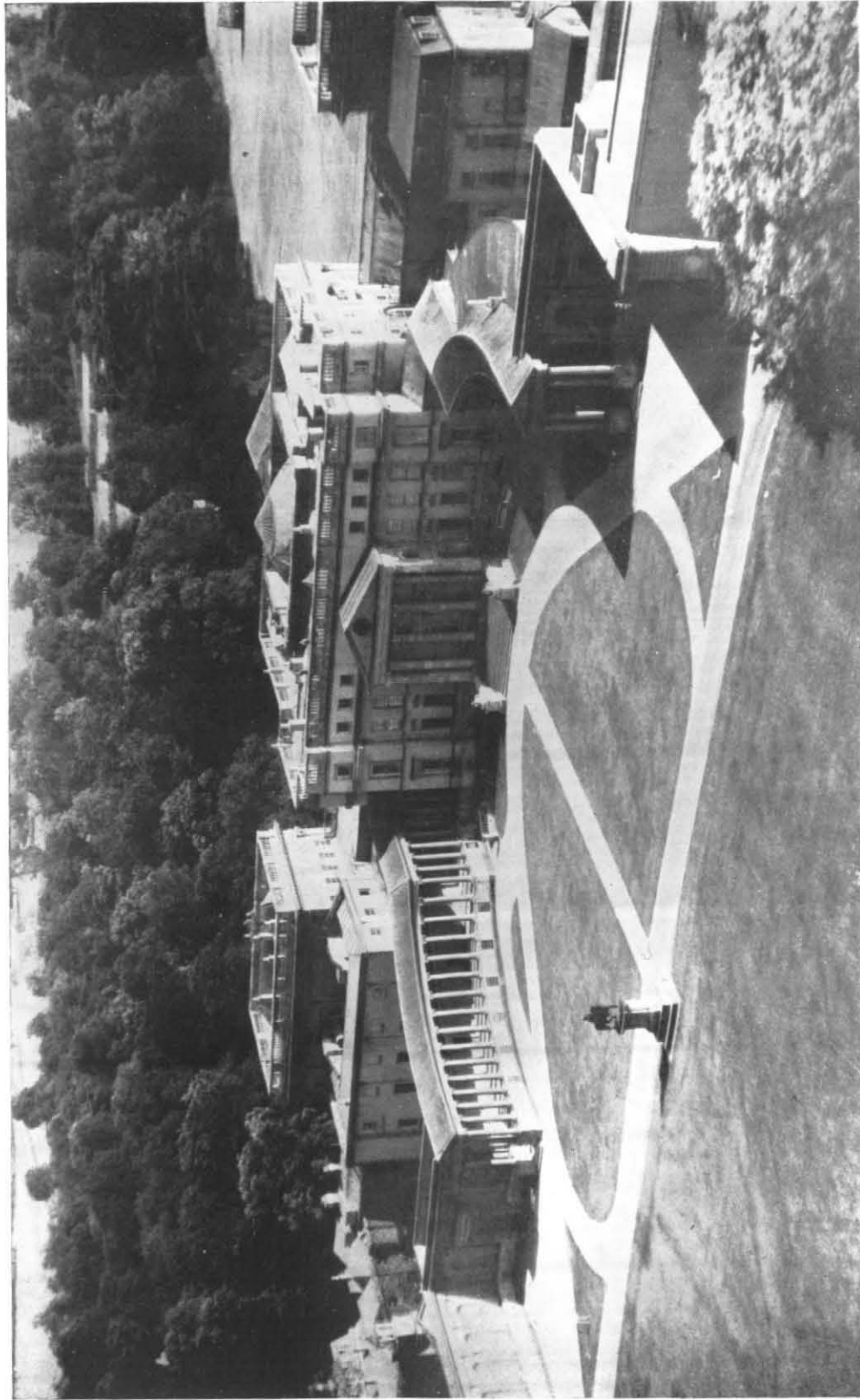


THE STOIC



Number Fifty-three

DECEMBER 1940



THE STOIC

VOL. IX

DECEMBER 1940

No. 4

LEADERS

THE OLD NIGHTMARE AGAIN.

The Stoic was due to be published quite soon, and it seemed, as I sat in a stupor, (I'd to judge if submitters of prose and of verse were fit rivals of Conrad and Cowper), That there came to me suddenly out of my dreams an angry importunate reader Who threatened me saying 'It's time you woke up and began to compose us a leader.' But I sank in my chair, and my study turned dark, as I sat and I pondered and pondered: The darkness grew black, yet the carpet stayed brown—it was still a brown study (you wondered?).

Now the black was converted to shirts, and a voice shouted 'Radio Roma is calling,' And Fascist Ballila were howling for Tunis—the din became really appalling. A figure appeared and in tones that were braggart, with threats that were ultramarine, he

Declared that 'We'll show the democracies what, if you only will trust Mussolini.' Then the brown was shirts too; and a barrage-balloon that turned out to be nothing but Goering

Was hissing hot air about Aryan rights with a series of clichés recurring; Propaganda was here, proper goose-step was there, and everywhere cries of 'Heil Hitler,'

Till all of a sudden the barrage balloon began to grow little and littler.

The dream was dissolved, and here I am back in the saner surroundings of Britain; The Duce's decamped and the Fuehrer has fled. Two leaders are lost but one written.

DECORATIONS

The following awards have been won by Old Stoics in addition to the ten listed in our last number.

D.S.O.

PILOT-OFFICER G. L. CHESHIRE (C, 1936), R.A.F.

"The aircraft was detailed to attack a target near Cologne. A photographic flare was about to be dropped when it was detonated by a piece of shrapnel, causing a blinding explosion in the fuselage and front turret.

"Pilot-Officer Cheshire regained control of his aircraft, which had lost considerable height, and was being subjected to intense A.A. fire, and, although the explosion had blown out a considerable part of the fuselage and caused other damage, he finally succeeded in regaining height. The wireless officer, although his clothing was on fire and his injuries were so severe that he could not see, helped by the rear gunner, called out the settings until it was realized that the wireless was useless. The wireless officer (Sergt. Davidson) refused to be landed at a station nearer than the base, which, although the aircraft was only partially answering to the controls, Pilot-Officer Cheshire eventually reached."

D.S.C.

SUB-LIEUTENANT T. E. GODMAN (T, 1933), R.N.V.R., for work done in a motor yacht at Dunkirk in June 1940.

M.C.

SECOND-LIEUTENANT T. S. LUCAS (C, 1932), K.R.R.C.

LIEUTENANT J. LLEWELLEN PALMER (C, 1933), The Coldstream Guards.

SECOND-LIEUTENANT A. C. R. ALBERY (C, 1935), R.E., in October, 1940.

D.F.C.

SQUADRON-LEADER J. E. MCCOMB (C, 1927), A.A.F., in November 1940.

SQUADRON-LEADER D. A. PEMBERTON (C, 1929), R.A.F., in September, 1940.

"This officer has displayed outstanding leadership since the return of his squadron from France. He has led the squadron on almost every operation, during which time it has destroyed or damaged 51 enemy aircraft. His qualities of leadership and personal example have contributed largely to these successes." (*The Times*.)

FLYING-OFFICER J. C. DUNDAS (C, 1933), A.A.F., in October, 1940.

"With great courage and determination he has destroyed six enemy aircraft. He has shown outstanding leadership throughout." (*The Times*.)

PILOT-OFFICER A. C. BARTLEY (C, 1935), R.A.F., in October, 1940.

"Pilot-Officer Bartley has shot down at least eight enemy aircraft. He has always displayed great coolness in action and proved himself a clever and determined fighter."

ACTING FLIGHT-LIEUTENANT J. C. BREESE (C, 1936), R.A.F.

FLYING OFFICER R. G. A. BARCLAY (B, 1938), R.A.F.V.R.

"This officer has shown admirable coolness and courage in combat. His keenness and determination have enabled him to destroy at least four enemy aircraft." (*The Times*.)

STOICA

School Officials—Christmas Term, 1940.

Prefects:—I. D. W. McEwen (T), Head of the School; P. A. Buchanan (W); C. C. R. Boulton (B); A. D. Thomson (Q); I. N. Craig (C); D. C. Lloyd (C); P. R. Clay (C); P. G. Henderson (W); J. D. Le Bouvier (T); J. A. McDonald (Q); C. M. Musgrave (C); J. D. R. Hayward (G).

The following visitors have preached in Chapel this term:—

Sunday, October 20th. P. H. B. Lyon, Esq., Headmaster of Rugby.

Sunday, November 3rd. The Rev. A. Bolton, Master of Magdalen College School, Brackley.

Sunday, December 1st. The Lord Bishop of Peterborough.

Sunday, December 8th. The Rev. B. C. Gough, Curate of Christ Church, Winchester.

The Lord Bishop of Oxford confirmed 79 members of the School in the Chapel on Friday, November 29th.

The Lord Bishop of Peterborough, the Rt. Rev. C. M. Blagden, D.D., celebrated the Holy Communion at 8.0 a.m. on Sunday, December 1st, when those who had been recently confirmed attended their first communion.

During the Summer Holidays the Chaplain held regular services every Sunday for the benefit of members of the Home Guard and those who remained at Stowe to help the local farmers. Holy Communion was celebrated on alternate Sunday mornings and £1 10s. od. was sent to the Pineapple from the collections at these four services. The regular Sunday services were held in the evening. The Master of the Week read the lesson and a collection was made for the B.B.C's Week's Good Cause. In this

way a sum of £10 os. 11d. was sent to seven different charities. All the services were voluntary and were attended by a large proportion of those who were at Stowe during this time.

Besides the usual weekly services during the term, there were additional celebrations of Holy Communion at 7.20 a.m. on St. Luke's Day, October 18th, and on All Saints' Day, November 1st.

Throughout the Summer Holidays there were parties of boys at Stowe, some engaged in Home Guard duties and some in helping local farmers to gather in the harvest. There was also a Forestry Camp in the North of England, at Whitbarrow. Accounts of these activities will be found elsewhere in this number.

Since our last number went to press, the following masters have left to join His Majesty's Forces: Mr. Cawston, Mr. Gilbert, Mr. Maynard, and Mr. Newton John to the R.A.F.; Mr. Marshall, Mr. McDowall, Mr. McElwee, Mr. Miles, Mr. Pott and Mr. Wakeford to the Army. Mr. Hands has also left to do Government work. Mr. Playford has returned, and the following have joined the staff: Mr. Bisson, Mr. Boyd, Mr. Cooper, Mr. Davis, Mr. Harris, Mr. Haywood, Mrs. Hora and Miss Scott. Mr. Fischer has also returned to take charge of various physical activities.

House Cricket Matches were won last term by Chatham.

The Swimming Sports and the Elkington Relays were won by Grenville.

The Laurus Cup was in abeyance this Summer.

School Colours for Squash have been awarded to I. J. H. Lewisohn (C), R. J. Ellison (T) and Sir F. Beaumont, Bart. (W).

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

For Swimming:—R. T. F. Larsen (G).

For Lawn Tennis:—I. D. W. McEwen (T), C. M. Musgrave (C), A. V. Hollington (C), and P. S. Anstey (C).

Football Colours have been awarded this term as follows:—

1st XV:—A. M. Mitchell (C) and J. D. Le Bouvier (T) (re-awarded); T. G. Knox (C), I. D. W. McEwen (T), J. E. Murray (B), R. C. Hurley (C), I. J. H. Lewisohn (C), J. D. S. Rowntree (T), A. J. Gray (T), P. R. Clay (G).

2nd XV:—J. E. Murray (B), A. J. Gray (T), P. R. Clay (G), R. Gray (C), T. G. Heron (B), J. B. Sumner (C), P. Campbell-Cooke (C), P. M. Ward (T), W. R. Mallory (C), R. W. J. Duff (C), T. M. J. Shervington (C), J. W. Cornforth (G), E. P. Hickling (C), C. C. R. Boulton (B), J. R. Williams-Ellis (T), D. A. S. Gordon (W), R. J. Lankester (C), W. M. Savery (W), T. M. Pragnell (G), I. R. Dunnett (G), R. E. G. Woodward (G), D. L. Vere Hodge (G), K. T. Boyd (C), T. A. S. Carlyon (C).

3rd XV:—T. M. Pragnell (G), J. W. Cornforth (G), W. R. Mallory (C), W. M. Savery (W), E. P. Hickling (C), T. M. J. Shervington (C), R. W. J. Duff (C), E. J. Lankester (C), R. E. G. Woodward (G), R. J. B. Williams-Ellis (T), J. D. R. Hayward (G), J. K. A. Bromley (C), D. C. Lloyd (C), I. R. Dunnett (G), K. T. Boyd (C), T. A. S. Carlyon (C), D. L. Vere Hodge (G), A. G. Jessiman (B), C. Lawson-Tancred (C), R. E. Wordley (C), D. A. S. Gordon (W), R. A. H. Bowring (C), R. D. Lightfoot (W), R. Fleming (C), T. M. Horley (C), R. N. Harding (B), R. H. Hawkins (C), I. R. Erhardt (C), A. R. Barrowclough (G), G. McC. Corbett (B), R. A. W. Rossdale (T).

Colts' Stockings:—I. A. P. Rumsey (C), R. I. Maitland (C), D. W. N. Calderwood (G), R. M. Hippisley-Cox (C), A. A. N. Kurk (G), M. H. A. Robinson (W), A. J. Manley (T), D. L. Donne (G), M. A. Marshall (C), J. M. Connell (G), A. D. Maclean (T), R. E. H. Keppell (W), G. T. G. Conant (B), S. C. Lloyd (B).

Medical examination results since July have been as follows:—

1st M.B., Cambridge. Part I. J. A. McDonald (C).
Part II. E. M. M. Besterman (W).
Part IV. J. D. S. Rowntree (T).

Preliminary examination in Natural Science, Oxford.

Chemistry. P. R. Clay (G).

CERTIFICATES.

As a result of the Oxford and Cambridge Board's examination in July, 1940, the following obtained Certificates:—

Higher Certificates:—C. R. P. Anstey (C), P. S. Anstey (C), D. K. Bewley (T), A. A. D. M. Browne (C), J. P. Burman (G), N. G. Chittenden (T), R. C. H. Collier (B), G. McC. Corbett (B), C. F. Cullis (W), J. K. Daniels (G), M. C. Dodwell (G), C. D. Drew (C), R. J. Ellison (T), P. C. Holden (B), J. S. Hollings (T), A. V. Hollington (C), G. H. P. Holt (B), G. H. Johnson (C), R. W. Kennon (G), E. J. Lankester (C), J. D. Le Bouvier (T), R. B. Lodge (W), T. G. Longdon-Griffiths (G), P. C. Macnamara (B), A. M. Mitchell (C), C. M. Musgrave (C), A. C. R. Newbery (G), C. W. Newton (G), J. F. Nye (C), R. A. D. Oliver (C), J. O. Outwater (C), D. B. Rolleston (C), K. J. Sansom (B), J. C. Simopoulos (G), B. W. B. Sparrow (T), B. B. D. Stopford (C), H. M. Taylor (G), G. E. Williamson-Noble (T).

School Certificates:—S. Ausnit (C), J. S. Barrowclough (W), J. P. Becker (C), C. M. Bevan (W), R. C. D. Brow (C), D. Carnegie-Arbutnott (B), J. Carruthers (B), A. R. W. S. Chandos-Pole (T), J. E. Colbeck (T), P. K. Collier (B), J. M. Connell (G), A. J. Q. Cooper (G), J. W. Cornforth (G), R. O. H. Crewdson (C), R. S. Cross (T), P. J. Davies (T), S. C. V. Dodgson (W), G. A. Eve (G), M. C. Eyston (G), M. E. Fawcus (W), A. J. Gray (T), R. Gray (C), J. L. Griffith (G), F. W. E. Groeninx van Zoelen (C), B. W. Guest (B), C. E. Guinness (C), P. K. Harper (T), P. W. Harvey (G), J. A. Hayward (G), A. G. Henderson (B), G. Hoare (C), D. L. C. Hodges (W), D. Hope (G), P. Hopkins (C), A. B. Hutchison (G), K. H. Irgens (C), R. Q. H. Jaggard (G), The Hon. R. E. H. Keppell (W), A. A. N. Kurk (G), D. Levet (G), M. Lloyd (C), J. A. Lloyd-Williams (T), R. F. Loftus-Tottenham (T), J. A. Lucey (C), H. E. McCready (G), I. C. Macdonald (W), A. D. Maclean (T), J. D. Milne (C), H. L. Mosselmans (C),

H. H. B. OSWELL (C), A. D. PAGE (C), G. R. PERCEVAL-MAXWELL (B), J. P. PETTAVEL (W), J. D. PROCTOR (C), J. S. M. RAMSAY (T), J. P. SASSOON (G), G. M. SCOTT (G), M. C. E. SHEARN (T), T. M. J. SHERVINGTON (C), A. J. STOBART (B), P. M. SUTHERLAND (C), J. O. THOMPSON (C), P. R. TOOVEY (C), J. F. TUOHY (T), D. L. VERE HODGE (G), H. J. VERNEY (G), J. A. WALTERS (C), G. D. WAUHOPE (C), J. H. WELCH (C), J. R. B. WILLIAMS-ELLIS (T), R. E. WORDLEY (C), P. G. WORSTHORNE (G), J. W. YOUNG (G).

OLIM ALUMNI

ACADEMIC.

MR. R. C. H. WALKER (B, 1926) is now Headmaster of Busoga College, Mwiri, Uganda. On August 17th, 1940, a new Assembly Hall, which had been presented to the school, was opened by H.E. the Acting Governor of Uganda.

MR. J. M. STOWERS (C, 1937) was awarded the First Entrance Scholarship at University College Hospital in July 1940.

ENGAGEMENTS.

CAPTAIN J. W. A. MAUDE (C, 1930), The Royal Fusiliers, to Miss J. R. E. Tatton.

SECOND-LIEUTENANT J. W. T. LILLEY (G, 1930), R.A.S.C., to Miss J. M. D. White.

MR. R. A. KAYLL (G, 1930) to Mlle. A. Varenska.

MR. S. M. E. FORBES (T, 1930) to Miss M. T. Sulikowska.

MR. H. E. JOSSELYN (T, 1931), Colonial Administrative Service, to Miss P. E. Mills.

SECOND-LIEUTENANT D. G. MACLEOD (G, 1933), The Black Watch, to Miss M. Riscoe.

MR. D. P. E. HOLMES (G, 1932), The Coldstream Guards, to Miss F. Y. Townley.

MR. P. T. HAYMAN (G, 1933) to Miss R. E. Blomfield.

MR. B. DE C. S. MONTAGU (C, 1934) to Miss J. Lehman.

PILOT-OFFICER THE HON. W. R. C. PARKER (G, 1934) to Miss L. Glyn.

SUB-LIEUTENANT A. R. G. PEARCE (G, 1935), R.N.V.R., to Miss A. C. Wightman Powers.

SUB-LIEUTENANT (A) J. E. MANSFIELD (G, 1935), R.N.V.R., to Miss S. Mathews.

MR. J. A. R. FALCONER (W, 1936) to Miss C. M. Smith.

MR. H. E. VICKERS (C, 1936) to Miss A. E. Davies.

SECOND-LIEUTENANT F. J. DURIE (C, 1938), R.A., to Miss D. D. Cory.

MARRIAGES.

SECOND-LIEUTENANT B. C. H. MOWBRAY (T, 1926) to Miss D. M. Cramb, on October 8th.

MR. D. S. MONTAGU SCOTT (T, 1926) to Miss R. P. P. Mayne, on July 20th, 1936.

CAPTAIN LORD SUDELEY (C, 1927) to Miss E. Bromley, on November 30th.

CAPTAIN J. D. G. NIVEN (C, 1927), The Rifle Brigade, to Miss P. Rollo, on September 21st.

CAPTAIN A. B. B. MOORE (C, 1928), 6th D.C.O. Lancers, to Miss J. F. Armitage, on August 28th. (In Melbourne.)

MR. R. W. MOUNT (T, 1928) to Miss R. A. Reilly, on September 28th.

MR. E. J. SPURRIER (G, 1929) to Miss F. Greville, on August 17th.

MR. J. N. WEILER (T, 1929) to Miss C. Dunkels, on October 5th.

MR. A. G. A. A. MACKENZIE (C, 1929) to Miss M. McGuire, on July 24th, 1937. (In Jasper, Alberta.)

LIEUTENANT P. L. SHERWOOD (B, 1930), The Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry, to Miss N. Stevens, on September 21st.

MR. R. E. THORNTON (G, 1931) to Miss F. J. Peak, on October 20th, 1939.

SECOND-LIEUTENANT R. WENTWORTH FITZWILLIAM (B, 1931), The Northamptonshire Regt., to Miss J. Ellery, on August 6th.

SECOND-LIEUTENANT H. E. HOPE (T, 1931), R.A., to Miss P. F. T. Hewitt, on October 5th.

CAPTAIN C. E. SALAMON (G, 1931), R.A., to Miss P. H. Brady, on March 9th.

MR. T. H. CLARKE (C, 1931) to Miss E. Ward, on July 26th.

SUB-LIEUTENANT J. N. HUTCHINSON (C, 1932), R.N.V.R., to Miss P. Ashcroft, on September 14th.

SECOND-LIEUTENANT H. A. L. CHAPPLE (C, 1932), The Wiltshire Regt., to Miss S. Hobbs, on November 9th.

MR. B. E. A. POCKLEY (G, 1933) to Miss M. H. Hamilton, on April 30th. (In Nairobi.)

PILOT-OFFICER D. C. L. CHIDELL (G, 1933), R.A.F.V.R., to Miss I. Biggar, on November 27th.

MR. S. KILPATRICK (C, 1933) to Miss P. Bergen, on August 31st.

- MR. P. E. DAWSON (C, 1933) to Miss A. L. Fimister, on August 15th.
- MR. J. M. B. POYNTZ (G, 1934), The Seaforth Highlanders, to Miss J. S. M. Ogilvie, on July 26th. (In Shanghai.)
- MR. F. A. WHITLOCK (C, 1934) to Miss H. V. C. Adler, on August 17th, 1939.
- SECOND-LIEUTENANT M. T. EDRIDGE (T, 1934), The Royal Tank Regt., to Miss E. S. Jones, on October 5th.
- CAPTAIN E. C. ASHTON (C, 1935), R.A., to Miss C. Butler, on December 3rd.
- PILOT-OFFICER R. A. V. GASCOYNE CECIL (C, 1935), R.A.F.V.R., to Miss H. M. R. P. Luker, on October 12th.
- MR. C. E. THORNTON (G, 1935) to Miss P. Malcolm-Sim, on August 24th.
- SECOND-LIEUTENANT F. L. ASHCROFT (C, 1935), The King's Liverpool Regt., to Miss J. Hyslop, on September 18th.
- MR. A. J. KILPATRICK (C, 1936) to Miss S. FALCONER, on August 30th.
- PILOT-OFFICER M. DEL. WILSON (W, 1936), R.A.F., to Miss M. E. Crauford, on September 28th.
- MR. G. V. L. HOLBECH (C, 1936) to Miss J. Eckard, on November 16th. (In Bulawayo.)
- SUB-LIEUTENANT T. L. CROOKSTON (C, 1936), R.N., to Miss E. B. Damant, on September 9th, 1939.
- LIEUTENANT M. E. FLETCHER (C, 1936), R.E., to Miss C. P. S. Chamier, on September 14th.
- PAYMASTER SUB-LIEUTENANT R. A. EVANS (B, 1936), R.N.V.R., to Miss G. C. O'Connell, on September 6th.
- SECOND-LIEUTENANT C. A. W. DAWES (B, 1938), R.A., to Miss M. N. Finn, on November 23rd.
- MR. J. P. T. DAWSON (C, 1938) to Miss J. Price, on June 17th. (In Canada).

BIRTHS.

- To the wife of MR. D. S. MONTAGU SCOTT (T, 1926), a son, on August 3rd.
- To the wife of PILOT-OFFICER A. J. BLAYNEY (C, 1927), a son, on November 10th.
- To the wife of MAJOR A. G. BOWIE (T, 1927), R.I.A.S.C., a daughter, on November 1st.
- To the wife of MR. C. D. HARRISON (C, 1927), Royal Marines, a daughter, on August 6th.

- To the wife of MR. E. R. AVORY (T, 1927), a son, on October 7th.
- To the wife of CAPTAIN F. R. ROTHWELL (C, 1928), 10th Hussars, a son, on August 6th.
- To the wife of CAPTAIN D. MORLEY-FLETCHER (T, 1928), a son, on September 22nd.
- To the wife of MR. W. D. MCCOMB (C, 1928), a son, on September 19th.
- To the wife of MAJOR T. H. T. GAUTBY (C, 1928), R.A.M.C., a son, on September 29th.
- To the wife of CAPTAIN R. A. GARDINER (C, 1929), R.E., a son, on June 17th.
- To the wife of CAPTAIN M. GOWING (C, 1929), The Royal Norfolk Regt., a daughter, on September 12th.
- To the wife of MR. A. G. A. A. MACKENZIE (C, 1929), a daughter, on June 7th, 1939.
- To the wife of SUB-LIEUTENANT J. G. OAKEY (C, 1929), R.N.V.R., a son, on November 6th.
- To the wife of CAPTAIN T. G. W. FERRIER (G, 1930), R.A.S.C., a son, on November 11th.
- To the wife of CAPTAIN G. F. L. GILBERT (T, 1930), R.A., a son, on November 22nd.
- To the wife of MR. L. WHISTLER (G, 1930), a son, on September 10th.
- To the wife of MR. G. R. CHEAPE (G, 1930), a daughter, on October 27th. (In Shanghai.)
- To the wife of SUB-LIEUTENANT N. LEADLEY BROWN (G, 1931), a son, on January 15th.
- To the wife of FLYING-OFFICER B. T. AIKMAN (T, 1931), R.A.F., a daughter, on September 18th.
- To the wife of LIEUTENANT H. D. H. BARTLETT (G, 1931), R.A., a son, on July 21st.
- To the wife of LIEUTENANT R. E. THORNTON (G, 1931), R.A.O.C., a son, on September 30th.
- To the wife of MR. R. D. LOCKHART-MUMMERY (C, 1933), R.A., a son, on October 5th.
- To the wife of LIEUTENANT C. S. MADDEN (C, 1933), K.R.R.C., a daughter, on August 7th.
- To the wife of MR. G. C. WYNDHAM (G, 1933), I.C.S., a son, on August 4th.

CASUALTIES

KILLED.

- PILOT-OFFICER P. CHAPMAN (C, 1927), R.A.F., on active service in October.
- PILOT-OFFICER A. D. COPLESTONE (C, 1928), R.A.F., while flying in September.
- SQUADRON-LEADER D. A. PEMBERTON, D.F.C. (C, 1929), R.A.F., on active service in November.
- LEADING AIRCRAFTMAN M. A. R. SUTHERLAND (C, 1929), R.A.F., while flying in September.
- LIEUTENANT J. C. SHAW (G, 1934), R.A., died on May 22nd from wounds received in action the previous day.
- FLYING-OFFICER H. C. CORBETT (B, 1936), R.A.F.V.R., on active service in August.
- SECOND-LIEUTENANT J. S. SIMPSON HUNTER (T, 1936), R.E., on active service in September.
- FLYING-OFFICER M. JEBB (C, 1936), R.A.F.V.R., died on September 19th from wounds received in action.
- CAPTAIN H. J. MACLIESH (C, 1936), The King's Own Royal Regiment, died on active service in November.
- SERGEANT-PILOT P. A. CHAMIER (C, 1939), R.A.F., in action in November.

WOUNDED.

- SECOND-LIEUTENANT E. F. D. MACPHERSON (B, 1929). (Now reported not missing.)
- PRIVATE B. C. FAIRWEATHER (C, 1938), R.A.O.C.

PRISONER OF WAR.

- SECOND-LIEUTENANT J. S. DURLACHER (C, 1930), A.A.
- LIEUTENANT R. I. MACKENZIE, (C, 1930), Seaforth Highlanders.
- LIEUTENANT C. S. MADDEN (C, 1933), K.R.R.C. (Also wounded.)
- SECOND-LIEUTENANT W. R. L. THORNE (C, 1933), The Royal Scots.
- SECOND-LIEUTENANT J. E. PEARSON (B, 1933), The Queen's Royal Regiment.
- FLIGHT-LIEUTENANT J. C. BREESE, D.F.C. (C, 1935), R.A.F.

- LIEUTENANT C. R. C. WELD-FORESTER (C, 1935), The Rifle Brigade. (Also wounded.)
- LIEUTENANT P. C. MITFORD (C, 1936), The Seaforth Highlanders.
- SECOND-LIEUTENANT N. A. USSHER (C, 1937), 5th Inniskilling Dragoon Guards. (Also wounded.)
- SECOND-LIEUTENANT W. W. CHEYNE (C, 1938), The Seaforth Highlanders. (Also wounded.)

MISSING.

- FLYING-OFFICER J. C. DUNDAS, D.F.C. (C, 1933), A.A.F., in November.
- PILOT-OFFICER L. LEE PYMAN (G, 1934), R.A.F., as the result of air operations.
- SECOND-LIEUTENANT J. O. N. VICKERS (C, 1935), R.A.S.C. (Wounded, believed prisoner of war.)
- FLYING-OFFICER B. W. J. D'ARCY-IRVINE (C, 1936), R.A.F.V.R., as the result of air operations.
- PILOT-OFFICER H. L. ATKIN-BERRY (C, 1937), R.A.F., in France in July.

MEMORIES OF FRANCE

Since last I wrote to you I have had very little active connection with the war. I left France in March and have not been back since.

However, before leaving I did a very interesting piece of ferry work, taking troops from Rheims 110 miles due east to Metz. This was a piece of battlefield which few English people visited.

The peace-time Cook's tourist knew well enough the old British sector further north, from Ypres to Amiens, but here one passed for 85 miles through a battlefield which was the main debating ground of the French and the Germans.

What place names there are there! One does a crazy journey backwards and forwards in time as one goes from Rheims, with cathedral front well sandbagged this time, through Valmy, Varennes, Verdun, Mars-le-Tour, Gravelotte, Metz, and out on to that incredible system, the Maginot Line.

Those famous towns were of course the principal objects of interest, but one could not fail to be impressed by the miles of old battlefield intervening.

Young trees, Mairies dated 1925, chicken coops of German corrugated iron, two-strand barbed wire fences on stakes designed to carry real entanglements were in their way just as impressive as the endless cemeteries, the vast grass-covered marshalling yards and the innumerable shell holes.

Valmy, a squalid little village with houses in strangely Swiss style, has its Rue Kellermann, its Avenue des Canons and a railway station with a very pretty garden.

The windmill still stands, a little bit repaired, but the slope up which Kellermann charged is now bisected by a railway cutting.

There is a memorial, erected about 1875, with sundry pieces of ex-Austrian Ordnance at its base. The approach to the memorial is up a pleasant avenue under which I parked my lorries to avoid aerial observation. After the troops had unfrozen a little, I dilated on the story of the place, but I doubt if they were really much interested in the ideals of the French Revolution. I was therefore glad to read on the monument that Goethe backed me up and said it was one of the crucial battles of the world's history.

Once more back to the lorries, and we trundled on to Verdun. This could not fail to interest the troops. Nowhere else are there to be seen such terrible marks of bombardment. The battlefield is in the form of a sickle from north-west to south-east of the town, keeping to a range of hills which overlook a muddy vale, wooded in parts, to the north-east of the hills. The French built some forts on the east face of the hills, and we were able to visit these.

The main road east to Etain—where Cobber Kain and his brother pilots kept their Hurricanes—has been well repaired, but on the hill-tops there is a road north to the old forts, which wanders through young spinneys and below which the earth has not yet settled. This is a landscape quite unlike anything else I have ever come across. Narrow-gauge railways skirt the road, all overgrown with grass. Every now and again one is confronted with rusty enamel notices, originally in red and white, put up about 1920. An immense red skull glares at one labelled "Danger de Mort" and lists the horrible things one may find, and ends with an anti-climax—issued under the law of 11 mars 1920, by "X" *préfet of the Département*—all in red enamel.

After a few miles one approaches the old zone of combat; the earth becomes more frantically pocked by shell holes, spinneys thin out, and one arrives at the forts themselves over a landscape which will only support moss.

Inside the forts themselves (which were still very much inhabited in March) had been terrible battles. At one point the Germans, with flame throwers, made the French pay dearly for the water which they drew from a well half-way down the gallery, in a nine-day battle for the well itself. Eventually the Germans captured the fort, and the French Colonel surrendered his sword to the German Crown Prince, who gave it back to him. There is a rather charming letter in French from the Crown Prince to the widow of that Colonel, dated 1938, written on the occasion of his death. This is exhibited in the fort.

At Fort Houdaiment a French regiment was ordered to attack and reached the top of the fortress, where they stayed for 48 hours, exposed to their own and enemy artillery. I believe 60 men returned.

At another spot is the Tranchée des Bayonnettes, where 80 French soldiers were buried on their fire step, and 80 bayonet-tips today stick out, protected by a massive slab of concrete on pillars, held about two feet from the ground. No weeds grow in the shade of the concrete slab.

To me the most interesting feature of this battle is that it was supplied on the French side almost entirely down the one road from Bar-le-Duc—a road at that time little wider than the main avenue at Stowe. This road, as truly a *via dolorosa* as any I have known, now has special kilometre stones, from the temporary camp at Bar-le-Duc to Verdun, each one capped by a steel helmet crowned with laurel.

It requires the courage of a man who could send a million men to death or wounding in 1916 to accept responsibility for surrender in 1940.

From Verdun my little column—in two ex-Carter Paterson vans—went on to Mars-le-Tour and Gravelotte. The former has little to show except a third-rate aerodrome, but Gravelotte is a most remarkable place. All over the field are the graves of the Germans, buried where they fell. Each grave has a tree at its head, and is surrounded by an iron railing. At intervals at the side of the road are little cemeteries of unidentified bodies. This was, I believe, the scene of Von Bredow's cavalry's Death Ride, in its own way as courageous an act as any in the nineteenth century.

Extracts from an Old Stoic's Letter.

JOHN SHEFFIELD

A portrait of John Sheffield, Earl of Mulgrave, Marquis of Normanby and Duke of Buckinghamshire, has been presented to the School by Lady Constance Combe of Frensham, the grandmother of five Stoics.

John Sheffield has no connection with Stowe, apart from his connection with Buckinghamshire. He was, however, something of a personality in his time, and he attained considerable distinction as a sailor, soldier and politician. He sailed against the Dutch at 17 and five years afterwards he commanded a large warship. Before he was 25 he had raised a Regiment of Foot and commanded it as Colonel. At 30 he led a successful expedition of 2,000 men to Tangiers.

At one point in his career he was banished from the Court for making love to Princess Anne. The Princess ultimately became Queen and gave her old admirer a dukedom. He was very independent none the less and frequently opposed the Court at the risk of his own interests.

In his spare time Sheffield wrote a good deal of poetry, and his Life is among Dr. Johnson's *Lives of the Poets*. Johnson is hard on him, and attributes his high reputation as a poet to his social position. He goes on "But favour and flattery are now at an end; criticism is no longer softened by his bounties or awed by his splendour, and, being able to take a more steady view, discovers him to be a writer that sometimes glimmers, but rarely shines, feebly laborious, and at best but pretty." None the less, both Pope and Dryden tried hard, if unsuccessfully, to make his poetry famous. Pope in his *Essay on Criticism* quotes a line from Sheffield's *Essay on Poetry*,

"Nature's chief masterpiece is writing well."

Dryden wrote of him:

"the Muses' friend,

Himself a Muse. In Sanadrin's debate

True to his prince but not a slave of state."

Two pieces by Sheffield appear in the Oxford Book of English Verse—*The Reconciliation* and *On One who died discovering her Kindness*. The first, which is quite familiar, begins

"Come, let us now resolve at last

To live and love in quiet;

We'll tie the knot so very fast

That Time shall ne'er untie it."

One of Sheffield's more curious literary enterprises was a revised version of Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*. This consisted of two five-act tragedies, one called *Julius Caesar* and the other called *Marcus Brutus*. Pope supplied two choruses for *Marcus Brutus*. It is strange that Sheffield should have treated Shakespeare in this way, since he himself in his *Essay* says of attempts to improve on Shakespeare:

" such a jest would make a Stoic smile."

Certainly Stoics may be forgiven for smiling at the last couplet of Sheffield's *Julius Caesar*.

"Ambition, when unbounded, brings a curse,
But an assassinate deserves a worse."

The portrait has been attributed to Van Dyck. It is, however, improbable that Van Dyck painted it, since he died seven years before the Duke of Buckinghamshire was born.

AN ANGLER AT STOWE

It is a pity that out of the five hundred members of Stowe those that fish never seem to number more than ten.

Stowe is ideally favoured for the wrongly-named "coarse" fishing. The season opens on June 16th with tench-fishing. Tench only feed in the very early morning and, if you can get up before the sun, you can be sure of certain sport. All the tench I caught last summer—they numbered eleven fish with a total weight of over 27 lbs.—were caught in the same places, off two little wooden platforms at the far end of the eleven-acre, on Sunday mornings, and these summer mornings are never to be forgotten. Firstly, to be woken up—to the annoyance of the other members of the dormitory—at four o'clock by the unfamiliar ringing of an alarm clock, a hurried dressing (there's no need to wash at 4 a.m.) and then to creep across an unusually quiet Cobham Court, into the state-room for half-a-dozen pieces of bread for bait, and finally to throw the baited hooks and float into the water and await results. The float moves most of the time, but many fish are lost as it is difficult to gauge the time for the strike. A hooked tench fights wonderfully, plunging down into the weeds and even diving beneath the landing-stage. But he is a useless fish when caught, as he is unpleasant to eat; out of the thirty fish or so caught last year, certainly not more than five were killed, apart from two I put into Cobham Pond where I presume they are still flourishing.

But tench sleep all winter, so that from September to March pike are the main quarry. Spinning is much more fun and much less cruel than live-baiting, but it is unfortunately much more expensive; a good reel is essential and the Octagon alone claimed 30/- worth of my baits and braces last year. Since October 1st, 1939, I have had 54 pike from the two big lakes and two fish from the stretch of water near the Oxford Lodge and also two perch of 1 lb. each. Only one pike has weighed over 10 lbs. and four over 8 lbs. This all goes to show that Stowe Lakes are desperately over-stocked, containing hundreds, if not thousands, of small pike of only one to two pounds each in weight, but few of any size. The only solution to this is to kill every pike mercilessly, a wasteful process, as it would be a long time before it would have any effect; and anyhow pike-fishing is only an interlude to fill in the winter months until the warmer weather enables one to enjoy once again some of the most wonderful tench-fishing in this country.

G.H.J.

POETRY

THE DICTIONARY

A thousand pages, more, before my eyes,
 Another thousand letters on each page,
 And all I see is but one word that lies
 Upon my ignorance; I could not gauge
 Its meaning; now in sudden blinding light,
 Not one word, rather hundreds face my gaze,
 And seem to taunt in impudent delight
 My questing mind and leave it in a daze.
 I see the signs and symbols, all that framed
 The thoughts of seers, philosophers and kings;
 With these they enriched mankind, with these they tamed
 Barbarian tongues and countless living things.
 Words, only words! Seek here and ye shall find
 The substance of man's wisdom, all his mind.

P.S.A.

I saw the petal of a rose,
 Swung in a cool blue bowl,
 And lo, the day was at the close,
 Wound like an ancient scroll:

Faun and blue, blue and gold,
 Grey and the evening light,
 And everything or harsh or cold
 Was turned to enclosing night.

J.C.F.

The sun was glinting through the trees,
 White clouds were fleeting by;
 The wind was playing with the leaves,
 As I was drawing nigh.

The rippling loch was sparkling bright,
 The reeds were bending low;
 The hills were bathed in misty light,
 And on their peaks was snow.

The distant sea was calling me,
 Her call was faint but clear;
 And happy birds were singing free,
 As I was walking near.

D.C.W.

My mind is drugged with fanciful illusions
 Of immortality and deathless fame;
 I see the earth's quintessence of confusions,
 And stir it cynically to make a name.
 Too oft I hold the prize above the giver,
 The cheap renown above the actual good,
 The shallow stream above the deep-set river,
 The love of crowds above the mystic's blood.
 And soon the one infallible corruptor
 Will charm my soul with unmistaken words;
 Death is the master-piece of Time, the sculptor
 Who carves the lives of beggars, beasts and lords.
 My life will linger in an epitaph:
 Birth, love, and death, he trod the printed path.

R.C.H.

CRICKET

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STOWE v. TONBRIDGE. Played at Lord's on July 29th and 30th. Lost by 9 wickets.

First Day.

Tonbridge, who normally play Clifton at Lord's, met Stowe there yesterday in a two-day match, with the result that there was a thoroughly interesting day's play and a hard fight for the first-innings lead. A. D. Thomson played a splendid innings of 87 for Stowe and R. A. A. Smith distinguished himself for Tonbridge by a spell of bowling after luncheon which earned him five wickets for 14 runs.

In the two hours before luncheon Stowe by contrasting methods scored 126 runs for the loss of four wickets. The start was so sedate that only 11 runs came in the first half-hour and then T. M. Pragnell, who did not run the first run quickly enough and hesitated on the turn, was run out and six runs later A. V. Farnell-Watson was bowled playing back and late. E. P. Hickling as soon as he came in showed himself severe in his hooking of anything short of a length, but R. D. Bousfield looked dangerous with his leg-breaks, the Tonbridge fielding was keen and sure and, although there were many balls sent down which had not even a nodding acquaintance with length, the batting side was kept generally on the defensive. When T. R. R. Wood came on to vary the well-tossed-up ball with an occasional faster one he persuaded P. A. Bates to poke at a leg-break, but then Hickling found the partner he needed in Thomson, and the total was raised from 43 to 107 before Hickling was bowled.

Afterwards an engagingly simple and honest full-pitch bowled R. B. Higham and then Smith, working up a pace on the fast side of medium, relied on the more orthodoxly dangerous balls to get him his wickets. He bowled W. M. Savery with a break-back which hit the leg-stump without disturbing the off-bail, and, in the same over, had J. D. Le Bouvier leg-before-wicket. There remained Thomson, with his pleasant stance, his left shoulder pointing down the pitch and his predilection for hitting the ball. He straight and off-drove Bousfield to the boundary, forced successive balls from G. H. P. Pritchard off his right foot squarish for 4's, then lost R. H. Hawkins to a neat catch low down at forward short-leg, and was himself bowled playing a stroke which found a rational explanation in the state of the score-board.

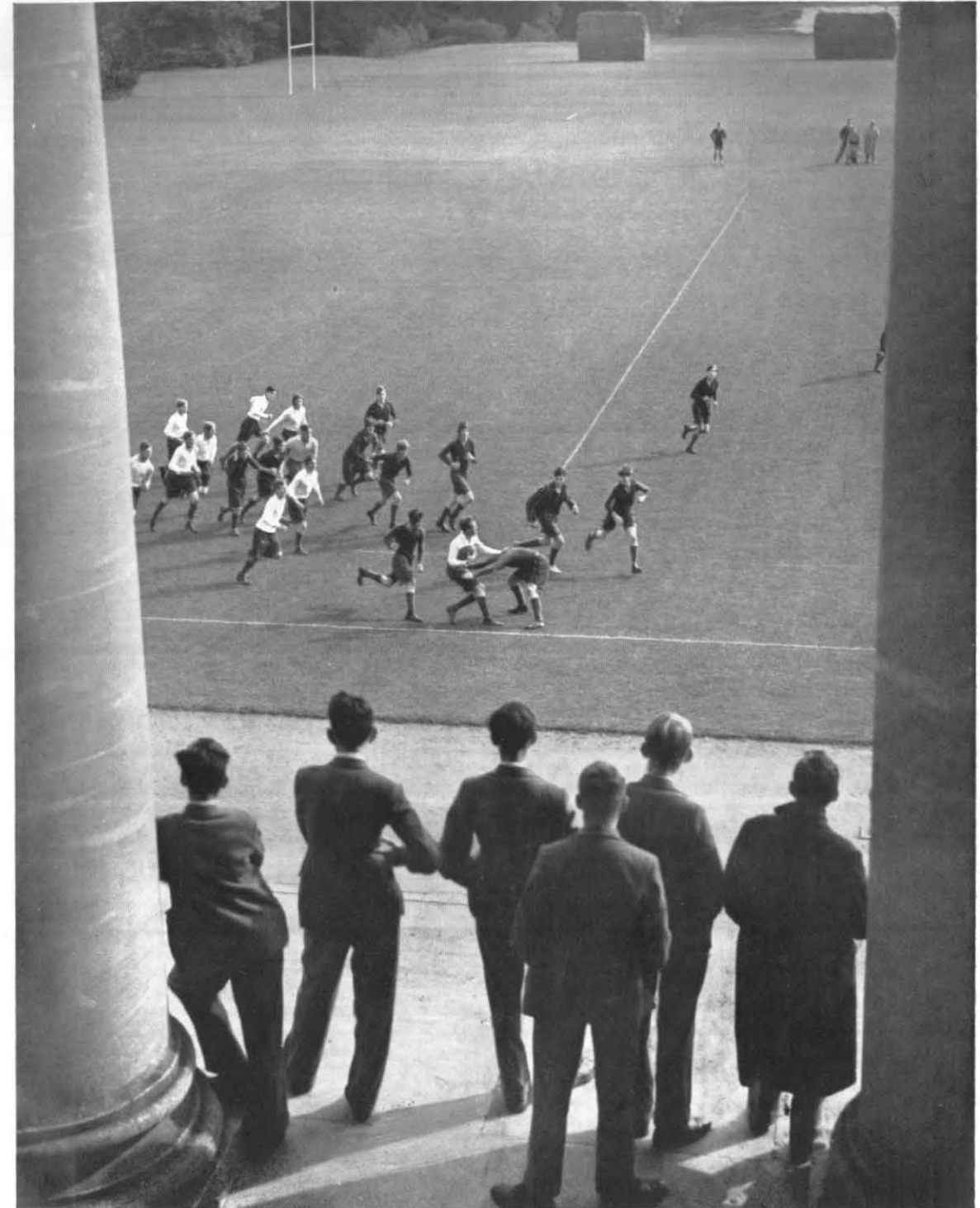
Tonbridge, with T. R. R. Wood and G. H. Leahy in, seemed as though they would make a score of 182 look decidedly small. Wood has more than a hint of angularity about him, but he knows how to watch and hit the ball, and he made 42 out of the 74 runs put on for the first wicket before he was out to a splendid catch by Le Bouvier, who ran away from first-slip to take the ball with his back to the wicket. Leahy promptly hit a ball into long-leg's stomach, J. M. Vernon was bowled playing back to a faster ball from Hawkins, Stowe were generally showing themselves aggressive in the field, and, at 5 o'clock, Tonbridge found that half their wickets were down for 93 runs. Smith, however, played emphatic cricket until he played suicidally across the flight of a ball, and an eighth-wicket partnership helped to restore the balance to Tonbridge.

Second Day.

Tonbridge beat Stowe at Lord's yesterday by nine wickets, the winning hit being made at 5.25.

Nine wickets indicates an easy victory, but actually there were periods when Stowe were holding their own. Nevertheless, Tonbridge generally looked the stronger side. Their out-cricket was remarkable in its sureness and keenness and in R. A. A. Smith, who took 10 wickets for 102 runs, and T. R. R. Wood, their captain, who made 126 (not out) of the 193 runs they needed to win, they claimed the two individual heroes of the match. It was a splendid game of cricket from start to finish and no comment on it would be complete without a mention of G. H. Leahy's brilliant wicket-keeping.

Tonbridge eventually led on the first innings by 13 runs, and when the second Stowe wicket fell Stowe were no more than 12 runs on. The game was clearly at a crisis and the Tonbridge out-cricket, always splendidly aggressive and sure of itself, behaved as though it were well aware of the fact. A. V. Farnell-Watson and E. P. Hickling, however, met the situation with straight bats and realism, the roots of the partnership went deep, the hundred was up at 10 minutes past 1, Stowe were generally creating a gratifying *Lebensraum* for themselves, and then Farnell-Watson was caught at the wicket. A. D. Thomson stayed with Hickling until luncheon when the score was 114 for three wickets and the situation full of possibilities.



By courtesy of]

FROM THE SOUTH PORTICO

[The Sporting & Dramatic



[W. E. C. C.]

FORESTRY AT WHITBARROW
AUGUST—SEPTEMBER 1940

Photos by]

THE STOIC

The hour afterwards exploited them to the full. Smith, as on Monday, found his best form after luncheon, and he struck a shrewd blow for his side when he knocked Hickling's leg-stump out of the ground with a ball which came back abruptly. At the same total R. B. Higham was out, and Stowe, with three wickets in hand, were only 149 runs on. J. D. Le Bouvier then came in violently, to put the game back into the balance. He pulled Bousfield to square-leg for 6, lay back and cut Pritchard for successive 4's, on-drove Smith for another 6, and then, in attempting the same stroke, both lifted and lost his head and retired with the satisfactory knowledge that in 15 minutes he had scored 45 runs. The innings did not long survive the new ball, and at 3.30 Tonbridge found themselves at the wicket with 193 runs to make to win.

T. R. R. Wood and Leahy had shown confidence enough in the first innings, and this time they made it plain from the start which way the game was going to go. Wood has strength and strokes, and he made immediate use of both. He reached his 50 out of 73 runs, played a square-cut off R. H. Hawkins which had pedigree written all over it, and, with some loose Stowe bowling aiding and abetting, 111 runs were scored in an hour and then Leahy was leg-before-wicket hitting across the flight of the ball. Afterwards the Stowe fielding faltered, and Wood, going on from strength to strength, cut, pulled, and drove to victory a team which from the start had looked both formidable and sophisticated.

STOWE.			
1st innings.		2nd innings.	
T. M. Pragnell (G), run out	7	b Hubble	10
P. A. Bates (C), c Leahy, b Wood	11	b Smith	5
A. V. Farnell-Watson (W), b Pritchard	2	c Leahy, b Smith	44
E. P. Hickling (C), b Pritchard	45	b Smith	51
A. D. Thomson (C), b Smith	87	lbw, b Hubble	13
R. B. Higham (T), b Smith	10	b Hubble	0
I. J. H. Lewisohn (C), lbw, b Smith	1	c Oswald, b Smith	16
W. M. Savery (W), b Smith	4	b Pritchard	10
J. D. Le Bouvier (T), lbw, b Smith	0	b Smith	45
R. H. Hawkins (C), c Kingsley, b Pritchard	5	not out	0
G. P. Marshall (C), not out	0	c Vernon, b Hubble	5
Extras	10	Extras	6
Total	182	Total	205

Bowling.—Smith, 5 for 42; Pritchard, 3 for 19; Wood, 1 for 20.

Bowling.—Smith, 5 for 60; Hubble, 4 for 46; Pritchard, 1 for 33.

TONBRIDGE.			
1st innings.		2nd innings.	
T. R. R. Wood, c Le Bouvier, b Hawkins	42	not out	126
G. H. Leahy, c Higham, b Le Bouvier	25	lbw, b Hawkins	40
J. M. Vernon, b Hawkins	1	not out	20
M. Lloyd, c Bates, b Farnell-Watson	4		
A. R. Kingsley, b Farnell-Watson	7		
R. A. A. Smith, b Hawkins	35		
G. M. Sims, b Farnell-Watson	13		
G. A. Oswald, lbw, b Hawkins	28		
R. D. Bousfield, c Bates, b Le Bouvier	21		
H. R. O. Hubble, not out	6		
G. H. P. Pritchard, b Le Bouvier	0		
Extras	13	Extras	7
Total	195	Total (1 wkt.)	193

Bowling.—Le Bouvier, 3 for 42; Hawkins 4 for 61; Farnell-Watson, 3 for 29.

Bowling.—Hawkins, 1 for 40.

RUGBY FOOTBALL

1ST XV.

IT promised to be a good side, perhaps as good as last year, but this promise has not been fulfilled owing to the exceptional number of injuries to members of the first two fifteens. Up to the time of writing, after the Wellington match, thirty-one different players have represented the 1st XV this year. This has led to much reshuffling of the forwards and backs, who have never had a real chance to settle down as a team.

The positions most affected by these mishaps have been stand-off half and left wing three-quarter. Thomson has filled the former position nobly, but he has not learnt how to get the best out of the players outside him although he has played brilliantly himself. In the latter position Campbell-Cooke played well until an injury to his ankle halved his effectiveness. Lewisohn did invaluable work in two matches especially, winning the Rugby match and helping to draw the Oundle match by a neat cut-through and devastating tackling. Murray on the right wing was the most improved player in the side with his well executed swerve, side-step and speed. Thomson played some very fine games against Oundle, Uppingham and Radley, but he was not nearly so good when playing away from home. The defence of the threequarters was ragged in every match except the Oundle match when their backs were pulverised by fierce tackling.

The forwards might have been as good a pack as Stowe have had for years, but there has been a lack of life, little cooperation in the loose, and a marked slowness in getting across the field both in attack and defence. Only on one occasion did they produce the form of which they were capable when roused and that was in the stirring battle against Oundle when they were simply magnificent: never have I seen a Stowe pack play like it. The tight scrumming was of a high class and rarely were they ever equalled in this respect. The line-out work was ragged, especially against Cheltenham, and in the loose scrums there was always a lack of keenness to get heads in and hook the ball back. Individually, dribbling was good, but rarely did we see the whole pack in action at the same time. Mitchell led the pack and made as good a job of it as he could; in view of his lack of experience in this respect he did well. He also hooked splendidly and was a fine example in the loose. Musgrave began the season badly, but has played very well lately. He has kicked extremely well and many of our points are due to his long accurate place-kicking. Knox has always featured as one of the outstanding forwards: being very fast and large he has caught the threequarters many times on his way to the corner flag. Hurley on the open side has been a source of trouble to the opposition and his grand defence helped us against Oundle. A. J. Gray, taken out of the Colts, has played as well as any of the others and promises to be more than adequate in years to come. McEwen has broken away quickly from the scrums and has scored a few good tries. The second row have done their work thoroughly and deserve praise although they have not had much reward to show for it.

It has been a disappointing season, but only from the point of view of injuries. The matches have been played in the right spirit and some of them have been greatly enjoyed by both players and spectators. Thomson and Murray have always been a joy to watch at home and the former has been a good captain to a young and disorganized side.

D.I.B.

THE SCHOOL v. ROSSLYN PARK 'A.'

Played at Stowe on Saturday, October 5th, the School winning by two goals, a penalty goal and three tries (22 points) to nil.

Rain and the application of a portion of Stowe lake via the fire hoses made play just possible. The ball was dry and there was little excuse for the bad handling except lack of practice and over-keenness. Dropped passes caused the game to be scrappy, but some movements were well executed and on the whole the game was fast and enjoyable.

Thomson scored the first try: he attempted to kick from the centre of the field to the blind side touch-line. The ball failed to reach and he was up very quickly to take it first bounce and avoiding a few would-be tacklers scored fairly far out. Musgrave kicked a good goal. Not long after this the same kicker scored from a penalty. The forwards were beginning to play well now and ran into excellent form for the second half. They partook in the most spectacular try of the match. Le Bouvier opened up instead of kicking, he dummied and swung inside the defence and passed to the forwards backing up. Mitchell got the ball and it went to McEwen, back to Mitchell and eventually to Knox, who had an easy run in behind the posts. Other tries were scored by Thomson, Murray and Ward, all of them individual efforts. Musgrave only kicked two goals and a penalty goal, but was unfortunate in that the ball fell over twice owing to the shallowness of the hole in the hard ground.

Team — J. D. Le Bouvier (T); P. Campbell-Cooke (C), I. J. H. Lewisohn (C), A. D. Thomson (C), J. E. Murray (B); P. M. Ward (T), P. R. Clay (C); I. D. W. McEwen (T), A. M. Mitchell (C), J. D. S. Rowntree (T), R. Gray (C), T. G. Knox (C), P. G. Henderson (W), R. C. Hurley (C), C. M. Musgrave (C).

THE SCHOOL v. R.A.F., BICESTER.

Played at Stowe on Saturday, October 12th, the School winning by five goals, a penalty goal and two tries (34 points) to nil.

This game began quite well, but by the end the Stowe team had lowered themselves to the standard of the opposition. There were some good moves individually, but very little combined play. The forwards played well and gave the ball to their backs from practically every scrum and line-out.

Tries were scored by Thomson (3), Le Bouvier, Hurley, Campbell-Cooke, McEwen. Musgrave kicked very well and converted five of these tries and kicked a penalty.

THE SCHOOL v. RUGBY.

Played at Rugby on Saturday, October 19th, the School winning by a goal (five points) to a try (3 points).

In Matthew Bloxam's account of the origin of the present Rugby game it says:—"In the latter half of 1823 originated, though without premeditation, that change in one of the rules which more than any other has since distinguished the Rugby School game from the Association Rules. A boy of the name of Ellis, William Webb Ellis, while playing Big Side at football that year caught the ball in his arms. This being so, according to the then rule, he ought to have retired back as far as he pleased without parting with the ball, for the combatants on the opposite side could advance to the spot where he caught the ball, and were unable to rush forward until he had either punted or placed it for someone else to kick, for it was by means of these placed kicks that most of the goals were in those days kicked, but the moment the ball touched the ground, the other side might rush on. Ellis, for the first time, disregarded this rule, and on catching the ball, instead of retiring backwards, rushed forwards with the ball in his hands towards the opposite goal"

It was on this same ground, on which the Ellis incident occurred, that Stowe played for the first time in an away match with Rugby. The turf was in excellent condition for a good game, with the grass slightly damp following a morning mist. The game, however, was a scrambling one with neither side gaining much ground except by kicking, which was of a very high standard in the case of Le Bouvier and Thomson: the Rugby full-back also kicked a long accurate ball. There were very few incidents worthy of note in the whole game, but these are perhaps worth mentioning. Musgrave took a penalty from far out on the twenty-five line: the ball fell short and the Rugby player who caught the ball was well and truly tackled, the ball was

quickly heeled from the ensuing scrum and Thomson narrowly missed the left hand post with a drop kick. Later in the first half the Rugby right wing rounded his man and was tackled just short of the line, and from one of the following loose scrums their scrum-half dived over. The kick failed and so did a penalty from the same position a few minutes later. The Stowe forwards who were getting plenty of the ball in the scrums and in the line-outs executed a very fine old-fashioned wheel and gained by it some twenty or thirty very valuable yards.

The second half was much the same as the first except that the Stowe forwards wore down the Rugby pack by weight and hard work in the tight. Through this superiority Rugby were hemmed in their half most of the game. This gives some indication of how bad the Stowe attack was. The backs were given more of the ball than they knew what to do with, but it was only on one occasion that the Rugby defence was beaten. This was when Lewisohn ran in from the twenty-five, catching all their defenders on the wrong foot. Musgrave converted to give Stowe the lead. This was held without much difficulty until the final whistle a quarter of an hour later.

Team :—T. M. Pragnell (G); J. W. Cornforth (G), J. D. Le Bouvier (T), I. J. H. Lewisohn (C), J. E. Murray (B); A. D. Thomson (C), P. R. Clay (S); I. D. W. McEwen (T), A. M. Mitchell (C), A. J. Gray (T), R. Gray (C), J. D. S. Rowntree (T), R. C. Hurley (C), T. G. Knox (C), C. M. Musgrave (C).

THE SCHOOL v. TRINITY COLLEGE, OXFORD.

Played at Stowe on Wednesday, October 23rd, the School winning by two goals and four tries (22 points) to one penalty goal and two tries (9 points).

Against a weak Trinity side Stowe gave a lifeless display and missed a grand opportunity for correcting the mistakes made in the Rugby game. The backs continued to run across the field in attack and the forwards still lacked fire in the loose rushes. Tries were scored by Thomson (2), McEwen (2), Murray and Savery. The try by Murray was the result of the only combined movement in this dull game. Musgrave kicked two goals. T. G. Heron (B) and J. W. Cornforth (G) played for Trinity.

Team :—J. D. Le Bouvier (T); W. M. Savery (W), I. J. H. Lewisohn (C), A. D. Thomson (C), J. E. Murray (B); W. R. Mallory (C), P. R. Clay (S); I. D. W. McEwen (T), A. M. Mitchell (C), A. J. Gray (T), R. Gray (C), J. D. S. Rowntree (T), R. C. Hurley (C), T. G. Knox (C), C. M. Musgrave (C).

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

Played at Halton on Saturday, October 26th, the School winning by three goals and a try (18 points), to a goal and three tries (14 points).

In pre-war days this match was considered to be one of our best. Then Halton always produced a highly organized team, who played fast open rucker: now their team consisted of fifteen individualists, who played a ragged unpolished game with plenty of offside. These factors caused the game to deteriorate into a game of kick and rush which was pleasant neither to watch nor to play.

In the first half good tries were scored by Mallory, Thomson and Murray, all of which were converted by Musgrave. Halton scored one converted try. In the second half McEwen arrived out of the blue to accept a pass from Savery and scored near the middle; the kick failed. During the last quarter of an hour Halton scored three tries none of which were converted.

Team :—T. M. Pragnell (G); J. E. Murray (B), I. J. H. Lewisohn (C), A. D. Thomson (C), W. M. Savery (W); W. R. Mallory (C), P. R. Clay (S); I. D. W. McEwen (T), A. M. Mitchell (C), A. J. Gray (T), R. Gray (C), J. D. S. Rowntree (T), R. C. Hurley (C), T. G. Heron (B), C. M. Musgrave (C).

THE SCHOOL v. CHELTENHAM.

Played at Cheltenham on Saturday, November 2nd, Cheltenham winning by 14 points to nil.

Rain began to fall just before the time of the kick-off in the first game played with Cheltenham and it seemed obvious that the side which adapted itself to the slippery conditions would eventually emerge the winner. This turned out to be the case. The Cheltenham forwards went much harder than the Stowe pack even imagined possible and their superiority in spirit caused our

forwards to lose any hope they may ever have had of victory: they stopped shoving in the tight, failed miserably to lie on the ball, did not cover in defence and were pathetic in the line-outs. This is true of only some of the forwards, for Musgrave, Knox and A. J. Gray fought back valiantly on many occasions but got no support from the others.

As has been said, the game was one of forward superiority on a wet day, with Stowe not adapting themselves to the conditions. The actual play always seemed to advance in favour of Cheltenham. Their relentless forwards broke through the line-outs and loose scrums to take the ball on with their feet, or they took the ball on from some tackled player. Gradually play would approach the Stowe line, where on four occasions the opposition forced their way over. At no single moment in the game did it look as if Stowe might score: they were rarely in the Cheltenham half.

The Stowe backs played as well as they were allowed to or as badly as they were made to by their hard tackling opponents, who gave them no room to move.

Stowe thoroughly deserved to lose and it is only to be hoped that they may learn to face up to difficult situations and conditions in a more valiant manner in future matches. Stowe were missing a few players, including Mitchell, the leader of the forwards, but this must not be served up as an excuse for an ignominious defeat.

Team.—J. D. Le Bouvier (T); A. D. Thomson (C), I. J. H. Lewisohn (C), J. E. Murray (B), R. W. J. Duff (C); W. R. Mallory (C), P. R. Clay (S); I. D. W. McEwen (T), J. D. R. Hayward (G), A. J. Gray (T), R. Gray (C), J. D. S. Rowntree (T), C. M. Musgrave (C), T. G. Knox (C), R. C. Hurley (C).

THE SCHOOL v. OUNDLE.

Played at Stowe on Saturday, November 9th, the game being drawn, each side scoring a goal and a penalty goal (8 points).

On that morning there could have been few people at Stowe who regarded our prospects for this, the most important match of the season, with anything but the frankest apprehension. We had started the term with high hopes, but injuries had prevented the team from settling down and, after winning the Rugby match by a place-kick and losing our first fixture with Cheltenham by a resolute refusal to rise to a notable occasion, they had to face, without the services of a forward, a half-back and a wing three-quarter, what would clearly be a determined effort by Oundle to repair their losses of the last two years. The weather had been consistently wet throughout the previous week, but grudgingly cleared up for the match, thus allowing the game to be unexpectedly open on a ground that was in surprisingly good condition.

The opening gambits of this remarkable game were very much what we had expected, and feared. We started rather over-keenly, and by our fumbles and mistakes allowed the Oundle forwards to produce their usual smooth and formidable game. They kept on heeling the ball and two good half-backs got their line going well, but our tackling was very sound, and Le Bouvier was steadiness itself behind. The Oundle pack continued to monopolise the game in the tight, though our forwards had one glorious rush up-field, and their three-quarters with plenty of the ball brought a long series of attacks to a climax with three vicious stabs at the Stowe line on the left wing, in the centre and on the right. The last onslaught of this triple thrust had just been successfully repelled when the game had to be stopped owing to an injury to Le Bouvier. He was able to continue playing, but was limping badly, and we knew that from then on every Oundle break-through would be doubly dangerous. Very shortly after this disaster Hurley, who had been dogging the opposing fly-half in a manner reminiscent of P. J. Diggle, was on the spot a shade too soon, and from the resulting free-kick Wilson kicked a fine goal to put Oundle three points ahead. Shortly afterwards they were back again and from almost the same spot they found a gap in the centre, flashed past the injured Le Bouvier and scored between the posts. The kick was successful.

Less than quarter of an hour gone and Stowe were eight points down. We told ourselves that this was what we had expected, that Stowe had played as well as could be hoped, that Oundle were just too good, and that the score would be perhaps twenty points, perhaps more. And then with the most abrupt and startling suddenness the utterly unexpected took place. The Stowe forwards seemed to find the inspiration which on the same ground two years ago had carried their predecessors to the first Stowe victory over Oundle. Their fire and dash, aided by a fine run on the right wing by Murray, brought the game into the Oundle twenty-five, where we were awarded two free-kicks both of which were well within Musgrave's power, and both of

which he missed. We remembered the two kicks missed by Farnell-Watson two years before, to be followed by the great kick that won the game, and hoped that the parallel would work itself out to the same successful conclusion. Stowe continued to press home attacks which came very near to scoring, and just before half-time we were given another penalty-kick. Thomson took the kick himself, and, as he placed the ball, this remark was heard on the touch-line. "If will-power can do it this means three points for Stowe." As the words were spoken the flags rose behind the goal.

Stowe had spent the last twenty minutes of the first half in Oundle territory. They began the second with a forcefulness which was to allow their own to be merely raided for the rest of the game. The first memorable incident of this half was a crash-tackle by Thomson, the hardest and most effective of the game. Thereafter the pace materially increased, and the ball travelled like a shuttlecock from one flank to the other. Oundle swept back to the attack, and Hurley and A. J. Gray were most prominent in defence, Hurley with some really hard tackling, and Gray by not only falling on the ball, but by rising with cat-like rapidity to hurl himself at the on-rushing Oundle pack. The first enemy raid into the Stowe half ended in disaster for them. Lewisohn went through a gap at top-speed and bore down on the full-back with Thomson on his left. His pass was perfectly given and Thomson had the Oundle line in front of him. He was just caught, but succeeded in forcing his way over for a try. Once again he called on Musgrave to take the kick, and, with Farnell-Watson in our minds and our hearts in our mouths, we watched and waited. This time there was no mistake: the shouting started as soon as the ball left the ground, and Stowe drew level.

The last quarter of an hour of this match was as thrilling as those of its predecessors. Mallory broke through well, and it looked very much as though we might go ahead, but his pass went astray. The Oundle left-wing had a fine run down his flank and would certainly have beaten the disabled Le Bouvier, but Musgrave hurled him into touch with the coolest and grimest of tackles. Then the Oundle attack swung across to the right and Duff dealt most adequately with his wing, but by this time our forwards were almost run off their feet, and their opponents got more and more of the ball, being kept out only by desperate defence. Yet this hard-fought half kept its greatest excitement for the last minute. Oundle had been hammering at our line and one felt that they might snatch the game from the fire at any moment when a twenty-five gave Stowe relief. Thomson daintily drop-kicked the ball five yards or so, caught it and was off to the open side of the field with Murray at his side. Murray took the ball well and moved beautifully down his wing. For a moment we thought the game was won, but the Oundle full-back came across at a great speed and never looked like missing the tackle. As he and Murray rose to their feet the whistle blew.

This match can definitely be said to rank with its two great predecessors. This Stowe team may not have been as strong as those of the last two years, but a team which can go on to the field immediately after a crushing defeat, with the odds heavily against it, practically lose the services of its full-back and be eight points down in the first quarter of an hour, and then go on to spend fifty of the remaining fifty-five minutes in enemy territory and batter their way through to a level score is assuredly a team of which Stowe need have no reason to be ashamed.

Team:—J. D. Le Bouvier (T); R. W. J. Duff (C), A. D. Thomson (C), I. J. H. Lewisohn (C), J. E. Murray (B); W. R. Mallory (C), P. R. Clay (S); T. G. Heron (B), A. M. Mitchell (C), A. J. Gray (T), R. Gray (C), J. D. S. Rowntree (T), C. M. Musgrave (C), T. G. Knox (C), R. C. Hurley (C).

THE SCHOOL v. BEDFORD.

This match was played at Bedford on Saturday, November 16th, Bedford winning by three goals, two tries and a dropped goal (25 points) to a penalty goal (3 points).

From the Stowe point of view the match was a great disappointment. The team never approached the form it had shown against Oundle the previous week. There was uncertainty, fumbling and a total lack of dash. The backs all seemed to have an off day. Nothing went right for them and they were reduced to futile kicking against a swift Bedford line which was playing on the top of its form. The forwards worked hard but were beaten too often in the tight and were not quick enough in the loose rushes and scrums. The ball came back slowly and the backs took it standing still.

There was a slow start with Bedford pressing continuously. After three minutes play Bedford took the ball quickly from a loose scrum and scored (5-nil). After thirteen minutes' play mostly in the Stowe half a Bedford centre went through with a clever dummy and passed inside for a forward who was up to score (8-nil). On starting again, Stowe took advantage of a free

kick to press for the first time, but it was Bedford who scored again following a movement which went the length of the three-quarter line for the left wing to go over (13-nil).

After 28 minutes pressure Bedford were across again but the scrum-half dropped the ball and Stowe was saved. Towards the end of the first half Stowe worked their way down to the Bedford end and Musgrave placed a good penalty goal to make the score 13—3 at half-time.

The second half went much the way of the first; Stowe pressed occasionally and once Murray was nearly in. However, Bedford generally rushed the ball clear of danger and their backs showed a speed and penetration with which Stowe could rarely cope. Bedford scored three times during this half, a goal, a try, and finally a drop-goal from play just before the final whistle.

Team:—J. D. Le Bouvier (T); J. E. Murray (B), I. J. H. Lewisohn (C), A. D. Thomson (C), J. W. Cornforth (S); W. R. Mallory (C), P. R. Clay (S); T. G. Heron (B), A. M. Mitchell (C), A. J. Gray (T), R. Gray (C), J. D. S. Rowntree (T), R. C. Hurley (C), T. G. Knox (C), C. M. Musgrave (C).

THE SCHOOL v. UPPINGHAM.

Played at Stowe on Friday, November 22nd, the School winning by five goals and three tries (34 points) to a try (3 points).

Conditions were good for open football when Uppingham kicked off against wind and sun. Stowe soon took the play into their opponents "25" and after the first few minutes it became apparent that Stowe were likely to heel the ball from the set scrums while Uppingham appeared more successful in the line-out and from many of the loose scrums. The first score came soon when Thomson, receiving a pass from a scrum near the centre, ran towards the left but instead of passing out to Campbell-Cooke who was marked cut in right again to score between the posts. The ease with which he appeared to do this seemed to point to the way the game would go; and sure enough all the tries were scored or made by Thomson, who time and again found a gap in the defence.

After the first score the game slackened off. The forwards did not show much life, although Mitchell led some good rushes and Knox was always prominent. Uppingham had plenty of the ball and looked dangerous from an occasional long throw in from the line-out but they gained little ground with their passing movements, although their right wing looked the most dangerous three-quarter on the field. It was not until nearly half an hour had elapsed that Thomson, going round on the blind side on the right, passed to Murray who went through very fast and ran round to score behind the posts. About this time a fine dribble by Shervington along the touch-line nearly brought a try. Two more scores came in quick succession before half-time, the first another cut-through by Thomson and the other a movement started by him and carried on by Lewisohn who managed, when held up by the back, to pass the ball to Musgrave following up well, who scored and converted. Half-time, 20—0.

Uppingham started the second half with great dash and prevented Stowe from getting the ball back so often. The first score, however, was again from Thomson who found the same gap to score far out on the left. Musgrave's kick hit the post. Soon afterwards the Uppingham forwards took the ball down the field in a fine rush and this movement led to the ball being snapped up by their left wing threequarter, Henson, who made a dash to score in the centre. After a charge had been disallowed, the Uppingham kicker placed the ball again after it was down and forfeited the kick. 23—3. The next score was the result of an attempted drop at goal by Thomson. The kick was wide but an Uppingham player fumbled and Murray, following up, scored a try far out. Musgrave converted with a fine kick. Another try by Thomson (and another kick from far out by Musgrave which hit the post) took the score to 31—3. An amusing incident, when Murray, after apparently being tackled, was found to have dodged out from under his opponents leaving them in each other's arms, was followed by a similar effort by Thomson who wriggled out of several tackles to the right and emerged running round to score behind the posts.

As can be seen from this account the match was dominated by Thomson's scoring and Musgrave's kicking. The new formation with Thomson at stand-off half was certainly a success on this occasion. But it must be admitted he was given plenty of time to get going and find those gaps in the defence. Hickling, at centre three-quarter, in his first match played quite soundly. Le Bouvier, at full-back, still appeared stiff from his leg injury and was often out of position, although he brought off one good run near the end when he nearly scored. The wing forwards tackled well but the pack as a whole was not at its best. Clay got the ball out well, though at first his passes were too high and too far behind. Uppingham had that defensive weakness in the centre which led to our big score, but their right wing three-quarter, Pearce, was

an attractive runner who often beat his man and was only stopped by good covering. Their team as a whole and the forwards in particular played harder the more the score rose, and were perhaps at their best even at the very end.

Team :—J. D. Le Bouvier (T); J. E. Murray (B), I. J. H. Lewisohn (C), E. P. Hickling (C), P. Campbell-Cooke (C); A. D. Thomson (C), P. R. Clay (G); T. M. J. Shervington (C), A. M. Mitchell (C), A. J. Gray (T), D. A. S. Gordon (W), J. D. S. Rowntree (T), C. M. Musgrave (C), T. G. Knox (C), T. G. Heron (B).

THE SCHOOL v. RADLEY.

Played at Stowe on Saturday, November 30th, Radley winning by a goal and a try (8 points) to a try (3 points).

Hard frost made it doubtful whether it would be possible to play the game at all. However the sun came through about noon and the ground on the South Front was just made playable and no more.

Stowe attacked strongly in the first fifteen minutes, with Thomson breaking through every time he caught the ball. In the first few minutes he found a gap, passed to Lewisohn, and Hickling finished off the movement: the ball fell over and a goal was not obtained. A very few minutes later Thomson nearly scored again but was tackled a yard from the line. Once more he broke away on the blind side and Murray was bundled into touch five yards from the corner flag. Then it was Radley's turn to show their worth: a centre broke through, caught Le Bouvier on the wrong foot and was racing for the line when Knox caught him from behind. Radley continued the attack and scored far out. No goal resulted. Stowe came back to the attack once more and a bad pass from the scrum in their twenty-five allowed the Radley backs to boot the ball far past Le Bouvier and get the touch down; this try was converted. A final attack by Murray nearly ended in a try but again he was pushed into touch. So, much against the run of play, Radley were leading by 8—3 at half-time.

The battle for supremacy raged for the whole second half between the two twenty-fives. Stowe attacked mainly by forward rushes with the ball on the ground, but Radley made most of their ground by short-passing among the forwards. Thomson saved some dangerous moments by exquisite kicking, never failing to gain less than thirty yards. Murray had one good run, but was not given much chance to show his worth. Radley had, if anything, the better of this half, but neither side scored. Stowe forwards must improve their backing up and close tackling and the centre three-quarters must be more resolute and less hesitant in attack and defence.

Team :—J. D. Le Bouvier (T); J. R. B. Williams-Ellis (T), E. P. Hickling (C), I. J. H. Lewisohn (C), J. E. Murray (B); A. D. Thomson (C), P. R. Clay (G); T. M. J. Shervington (C), A. M. Mitchell (C), A. J. Gray (T), D. A. S. Gordon (W), J. D. S. Rowntree (T), I. D. W. McEwen (T), T. G. Knox (C), C. M. Musgrave (C).

THE SCHOOL v. WELLINGTON.

Played at Wellington on Thursday, December 5th, Wellington winning by 41 points to a goal (5 points).

This is the highest score against Stowe for some time. The reason for that may be the number of injuries which has caused the best players to get completely tired out fighting against odds in most of the matches. This time they came up against a side which was on the top of its form, whereas the Stowe team did not get going until fifteen minutes from the end, when they pressed considerably. During this period Musgrave and Murray showed us a very good way of getting five points from a penalty kick. The kick was granted right in front of the posts: Musgrave's miskick hit the post and Murray following up fast, picked up the ball, and scored. This time Musgrave made no mistake. The best thing about the game from the Stowe point of view was that they came back at the end of a gruelling disheartening game to score and nearly score again: the worst thing was the deplorable tackling. Le Bouvier played his best game since he was crooked more than a month ago: his kicking was long and his tackling sure.

Team :—J. D. Le Bouvier (T); J. E. Murray (B), I. J. H. Lewisohn (C), A. D. Thomson (C), J. R. B. Williams-Ellis (T); J. W. Cornforth (G), P. R. Clay (G); K. T. Boyd (C), A. M. Mitchell (C), A. J. Gray (T), D. A. S. Gordon (W), J. D. S. Rowntree (T), D. L. Vere Hodge (G), I. D. W. McEwen (T), C. M. Musgrave (C).

THE SECOND XV.

This has been one of the poorest seasons this fifteen has had for some time. Six matches have been lost and only one won: points for 40, points against 115. Potentially the backs have had the strongest scoring force for years, but the uncontrolled and often ill-directed efforts of the forwards have failed to give them the chances they ought to have had. The defence of the back division has been below par; going for the wrong man and hesitation in tackling have led to many tries by the opposition. This fifteen has been more seriously affected by injuries than even the first fifteen and this is probably the cause of their failure to improve as a team throughout the season. They must be congratulated, however, on being able to produce such varied and useful substitutes to fill the gaps in the fifteen above: not one of them has failed to give of his best and none has let the side down.

Results :—

Saturday, October 12th.	v. Oundle (away).	Lost, 5—26
Wednesday, October 16th.	v. Middlesex Hospital (home).	Won, 8—3
Saturday, October 26th.	v. R.A.F., Halton (away).	Lost, 6—28
Saturday, November 2nd.	v. Old Northamptonians (away).	Lost, 0—9.
Wednesday, November 13th.	v. Bloxham (home).	Lost, 6—14.
Saturday, November 16th.	v. Bedford (home).	Lost, 7—21.
Saturday, November 30th.	v. Old Northamptonians (home).	Lost, 8—14

THE THIRD XV.

This team has had a somewhat mixed season. Owing to casualties in it and other teams it has rarely played together for two consecutive matches. Thus its performances have varied considerably. The pack when together have been ably led by their captain Bromley and showed promise of developing into a useful eight. D. C. Lloyd, Collier, Hayward and Lawson-Tancred have been especially prominent. Corbett came in late to the team and played several useful games. The backs, with one or two notable exceptions, found tackling beyond them, but they improved very much in this respect in the latter half of the term. Wordley played really well at scrum-half. Harding improved steadily at stand-off half. Jessiman led the line well and tackled hard. Fleming was an adequate full back.

Results :—

v. OUNDLE.	Lost, 0—20.
v. MAIDEN ERLEGH.	Lost, 6—13.
v. BLOXHAM.	Won, 53—0.
v. ST. LAWRENCE.	Won, 42—0.
v. BEDFORD.	Lost, 0—23.

Several other matches were played against the Colts.

COLTS.

Illness at the beginning of the term reduced the number of matches from six to four. St. Edward's, Oxford, were only met once and the Radley match was cancelled. Of the four matches played two were won and two were lost.

The captain of Colts, A. J. Gray, who gave promise of being a most successful leader, was taken to the Fifty early in the term and eventually got his 1st XV colours. The loss of Gray was a serious one to the side as the forwards showed signs of becoming a powerful and bustling pack. Rumsey was made captain in Gray's place.

The first match was not until November 2nd, against Rugby, in pouring rain and without Rumsey. The team played hard against heavier opponents and did well to lose by only 8—0. St. Edward's, Oxford, were beaten 8—6 in a lifeless game in which the forwards showed little of their Rugby form and the backs failed to use their speed. Oundle beat us badly by 29—0, helped by a reputation which on form was not fully deserved. Our team expected to be beaten and were soon struggling in defence, and only realized that they could do much better when it was too late.

The only home match was the last one, against Bedford, and was a great struggle won by 3—0. The score was a lucky one but our performance in the second half justified the win.

The usual series of games against the 3rd XV were played.

The team had possibilities but needed the stimulus of hard playing opponents to bring out the best in them. Rumsey was outstanding but was handicapped by the cares of leading the forwards and did not show his best form until he had handed over this leadership to Maitland. Robinson has the makings of a good fly-half but must cure himself of coming up too close to the scrum and taking his passes standing still before he can get the best out of his three-quarters. Calderwood ran well at times and with more opportunity would have made a dangerous attacking centre.

The defence (except in the game against Oundle) was good.

JUNIOR COLTS

So far this has been a most unhappy season for the Junior Colts, all the four matches played having ended in defeat. The dismal fact has to be recorded that in these games the side has scored only one try. That this solitary try was scored by a forward is a true indication of the side's weakness. Except against St. Edward's, when almost everybody played badly against a particularly strong team, the forwards have done very well, and, under the effective and lively leadership of Kessler, have more than held their own. Behind the scrum the halves, Perry and Molloy (especially the latter), have improved steadily, and Pease has played bravely at full-back, but no combination of three-quarters—and many people have been tried in this position—has ever looked even adequate in attack or defence. The standard of kicking is low, the tackling and falling far too hesitant, and determination and hard straight running in attack have been conspicuous by their absence. In extenuation it should be said that the side has twice had to play without its captain, Kessler, and that it has been much upset by illness and injuries.

Results of matches :—

v. RUGBY (away).	Lost, 3—6.
v. ST. EDWARD'S (away).	Lost, 0—43.
v. OUNDLE (away).	Lost, 0—14.
v. BEDFORD (home).	Lost, 0—20.

One more match (v. Bloxham) remains to be played. (Later: Drawn 3—3, away.)

The following have played for the Junior Colts in matches :—

J. B. A. Kessler (B), F. I. Watson (S), J. S. Perry (C), J. G. O. W. Yerburgh (B), J. Smith (S), G. W. Hawkins (C), H. J. M. Molloy (C), J. M. Gale (C), J. C. B. Bremner (C), R. H. M. Pease (G), A. W. B. Hayward (G), M. E. B. Scott (T), B. K. Montgomery (S), W. M. W. Thomas (C), J. E. C. Kennon (G), D. V. Palmer (C), E. D. Good (B), C. S. Wallis-King (S), N. A. Tolkien (B), J. M. Ashcroft (C), M. S. Withers (G).

House Football Leagues were won by Grafton.

SQUASH

The standard of squash has suffered this year from the lack of matches. When a team has regular weekly matches throughout a season, it is extraordinary how quickly the players improve with the experience. The team this year would probably have been well up to standard, but without this incentive of match play there is too much inclination to play about gently instead of going all out for a kill.

In a seventeen-string match against the Masters, the School won 12 matches to the Masters' 5. The R.A.F., Bicester, brought over a very strong side including Squadron-Leader Elmslie, the R.A.F. champion, and they beat the School 4—1. We were delighted to see them and they gave a very good lesson in play and squash etiquette.

The School did well to beat the Oratory School 4—1, as the latter had several players who showed great promise last time we played them.

I. J. H. Lewisohn (C), as captain, and R. J. Ellison (T), the secretary, are regular members of the team; and Sir Francis Beaumont (W), playing first string, should become really good, if he can have the match experience he would normally have in peace time. Others who have played for the team are R. A. Soames (C), E. P. Hickling (C), R. A. D. Oliver (C) and P. S. Anstey (C).

The competitions are still in their early stages and house matches will be played towards the end of term.

It is still hoped to play a few more matches against Army sides and perhaps a five-string match with the Masters.

TRAINING CORPS NOTES

The following promotions have been made this term :—

To *Senior Under-Officer* : Under-Officer I. D. W. McEwen (T).

To *Under-Officer* : Sergeants P. G. Henderson (W), C. C. R. Boulton (B), J. B. Sumner (C), J. E. Hodgkin (C), E. J. Lankester (C), I. N. Craig (C).

To *Sergeant* : Corporals C. M. Musgrave (C), A. D. Thomson (C), J. A. McDonald (C), F. M. Frankenburg (C), R. C. Hurley (C), G. P. Marshall (C).

To *Corporal* : Lance-Corporals K. T. Boyd (C), D. C. Lloyd (C), J. D. Le Bouvier (T), I. J. H. Lewisohn (C), E. P. Hickling (C), R. Gray (C), J. G. Struthers (C), T. G. Knox (C), J. D. R. Hayward (G), R. F. C. Davis (T), D. A. O. Davies (T), N. W. Riley (B), R. H. Hawkins (C), J. F. St. J. Craigen (C), B. N. L. Fletcher (C), J. B. Lloyd-Philipps (S), J. F. L. Robinson (W), J. A. Hayward (S), R. A. H. Bowring (C), R. J. Ellison (T), P. R. Clay (S), J. S. Hollings (T), R. D. Lightfoot (W), R. M. Sellers (W), G. D. Innes-Lillingston (C), R. C. H. Collier (B), B. Henshaw (C), J. K. A. Bromley (C), J. E. Murray (B), A. G. Jessiman (B).

Appointed *Lance-Corporal* : Cadets A. M. Mitchell (C), J. O. Outwater (C), P. Campbell-Cooke (C), T. A. S. Carlyon (C), P. S. Anstey (C), T. G. Heron (B), J. S. Barrowclough (W), R. E. Hodgkin (C), J. K. Daniel (S), R. N. Harding (B), J. W. Cornforth (G), D. L. Vere Hodge (G), H. J. Verney (G), I. A. P. Rumsey (G), R. Fleming (C), H. D. Christie (C), R. E. Wordley (C), J. E. Hutton (C), M. H. A. Robinson (W), P. A. Buchanan (W), C. W. Newton (S), W. V. Machin (W).

An intake of 51 Recruits this term, rather more than were anticipated, has brought the strength of the Contingent up to 310 cadets.

There were 61 candidates for the November Certificate "A" examination and 55 passed. This brings the total number of Certificates held by members of the Contingent to 201.

PRIZES.

Best candidate for Certificate "A" (July 1940):—The Hon. R. E. H. Keppel (W).
 Best candidate for Certificate "A" (November 1940):—E. M. M. Besterman (W).
 Best Recruit (Summer term 1940):—D. W. N. Calderwood (G).

TRAINING.

Lieut. W. L. McElwee and 2nd Lieut. R. H. Pott and Pilot-Officer M. M. Maynard, R.A.F.V.R., were called up for active service at the end of the summer term. Messrs. Kinvig, Barr, Macdonald and Fawcett will shortly be appointed to commissions. Already these potential Officers have been assisting the work of the Contingent to excellent purpose. Pilot-Officer W. Llowarch, R.A.F.V.R. has taken charge of the Air Section.

Particular mention should be made also of the leading part played by the Under-Officers in training Certificate "A" candidates apart from their own platoons. They and the Sergeants have, in addition, been giving spare time to a Course designed to increase their general military knowledge and their capacity in handling companies and platoons tactically.

Relays of senior cadets spent a fortnight at a time at Stowe during the holidays working intensively at Home Guard duties. The fine weather was unbroken throughout, and full advantage could be taken of the opportunities afforded. Each Course included Signalling, Bayonet-fighting, Shooting practices which were rather out of the ordinary, practical Guard Mounting, the manning of Barricades, Map Reading, Message writing, Fieldcraft, Exercises in rounding up parachutists, and Talks of general interest to Home Guards. A great deal of enthusiasm was shown, and no little trouble was taken to make progress.

Winter training at all stages in the Contingent is proceeding very satisfactorily. It has been possible to get out in the open on most Tuesday afternoons, but there has been no lack of constructive "wet weather" alternatives when they have been necessary. By careful preparation during the previous week-end N.C.Os. have made the most of the time available on parade.

Shooting this term has resolved itself into Miniature Range practice regularly every fortnight for members of the Home Guard and a Recruits' Test for cadets in their second term.

SHOOTING

Owing to the war and the resulting lack of .22 ammunition, little shooting has been possible this term. The Rifle Club has carried on as usual and special provision has been made for members of the Home Guard, but school matches proved impracticable and the S.M.R.C. competition had to be cancelled.

Thanks, however, to the War Office grant of ammunition, every member of the Home Guard has been able to practice at the Miniature Range once a fortnight, and as the term progressed the standard of shooting steadily rose.

The Rifle Club, undisturbed by wartime conditions, has continued to hold its weekly spoon shoots, and spoons have been won by the following:—

Class A.—D. C. Lunn-Rockliffe (C) (3), J. W. Harland (C) (2), G. C. Rogers (W), J. S. Hollings (T), J. E. Hodgkin (C), R. B. Higham (T), G. P. Marshall (C).

Class B.—R. F. C. Davis (T), G. P. Wright (C) (2), J. E. Colbeck (T), G. A. Callender (C), W. L. S. Knox-Gore (C), R. B. Higham (T), M. G. Manton (C), J. R. Mosley (B), J. M. Sykes (W).

C.C.R.B.

STOWE FORESTRY CAMP

A month's Forestry Camp was held at Whitbarrow in Westmorland during the second half of August and the first half of September. The working-party for the first fortnight consisted of twenty people, of whom four remained for the whole month, while the rest were relieved by fresh arrivals. Little was known beforehand of what was expected of us, and we were agreeably surprised to find that we were to be entrusted with the actual felling and trimming of trees—mostly for pit-props. A small advance-party arrived a day early to pitch tents, and so forth, and thanks to fine weather were able to have everything in readiness for the arrival of the main party on the evening of Saturday, August 17th. A seven-day week was to be worked, so next morning we "clocked-in" at the Foreman's hut near the top of Whitbarrow, where we picked up tools and were given an outlying corner of forest to fell. The trees here were small and difficult to deal with, and at first, as we had had little experience of such work, and as little skilled instruction or supervision could be spared for us, progress was slow and the standard of work very amateurish. Later on our organization improved: we divided ourselves into three small working-parties, each in its own "windrow"; we were encouraged to watch professional woodmen at work, and the two lady measurers who assessed our output gave us many valuable hints, so that when soon afterwards we were promoted to better timber we were able to increase our output enormously. The fact that the output of the second fortnight was in excess of that of the first must be attributed to the better organization of work, a better supply of tools, and the amazingly improved felling technique of Vere Hodge and Cornforth who stayed the full month, for actually the second party was on the whole younger and less robust than the first, and contained a smaller number of capable and indefatigable axemen. As we gained experience we were able to improve the quality of our work: our "brash-lines" became straighter and less liable to hinder felling in other windrows; our trees were more cleanly trimmed, and the stocks we left behind us were lower and more clean-cut, though in this respect we were never able even remotely to rival the work of the professionals. Indeed, with heavy six-pound axes to handle, and working as we were on very rocky ground, we often found it advisable not to aim at absolutely "ground-level" stocks for fear of chipping our blades—not that we always avoided doing this as it was.

Most of our work lay among larch, with, in places, a considerable admixture of Scots, Corsican and Austrian pine, and an occasional unwelcome spruce. We were taught too, to measure our own timber, and introduced to "Hoppus" and the quarter-girth tape, while other mysteries into which we were initiated were when to catalogue Scots-pine as larch, and how a tree could technically be both at once!

During our month we cut down a twelfth part of the forest of nearly 180 acres. This represented just under 50,000 lineal feet of timber (nearly 4000 cubic according to "Hoppus"). For one day we held the record for the biggest tree cut on Whitbarrow—a Scots of 28 feet with a quarter-girth of 6½ inches and a timber content of 7 feet 7. Then the professionals cut a tree of over 8 feet content—the trees on this part of Whitbarrow were about 25 years old. We started with shortish hours—5 and 6 on the first two days, but after that several of the stronger and more enthusiastic workers put in 7 or sometimes 8 hours' work a day, and this was in addition to a stiff twenty minutes' climb up to the "clocking-in hut." Though we did not on the average quite earn the 6d. an hour paid as regards actual output, we were consoled with the information that we were mostly working in "difficult" timber that the professional piece-workers would not have touched, and we had the satisfaction of being told by the Foreman that he would willingly re-engage a party of our strongest and most skilful cutters at any time. He even paid us the compliment of inviting a party of four of our best axemen to try their hands on some of his finest larch near "professional avenue," the satisfactory result being that they "earned" money at the rate of nearly 1/6 an hour.

The camp site itself was a disappointing one as the sun disappeared behind Whitbarrow at about five o'clock, when a bitter wind almost invariably began to blow, and a mere trickle

of a stream was our only water-supply for washing purposes. Though we dug a "lido" and diverted the stream into it, cattle and ducks still considered that they had a prior claim. Nor were there any adequate drying facilities for clothes, and on the few wet days (when we worked till it became impossible to hold axes properly) we had to live in hopes that the next day would prove sunny and dry us out again. Mercifully it always did. In spite of these discomforts everyone kept fit, thanks to the strenuous work and open-air life and to the cooking of White whom we took with us from Stowe. In the most primitive conditions he performed wonders, and coped amazingly with our enormous appetites. Owing to the "black-out" we could have no camp-fire in the evenings and retired to bed almost as soon as the nine o'clock news had come through. Probably these long hours of sleep also contributed to our fitness.

E. H. D.

FARMING AT MIXBURY

During August and the first week of September parties amounting to some hundred boys of all ages came back to Stowe to help bring in the harvest at the neighbouring farms. It was the privilege of six or seven so-called "toughs" to farm with Mr. King, at Mixbury, who was apparently renowned throughout the district for being a hard task-master. At first, he seemed rather suspicious of us, and was afraid that we would not work sufficiently hard for our 6d. wage per hour. We gradually allayed his doubts, however, and at the end of our time he could safely say that he had not been granted a raw deal. Dr. Zettl was in charge of us and accompanied us nearly every day. Messrs. Gilling-Lax, Brook and Saunders also helped occasionally.

We used to leave at 9.30 a.m. every morning and arrived at Mixbury at 10 o'clock, when we started work almost immediately. We could not complain of a lack of variety in the jobs apportioned to us, although we tended to tire of doing a certain job if we had to do it on three or four successive days. Stacking flax was the hardest job, as the various bundles clung so hard to one another, that it was difficult to separate them and throw them off the cart on to the elevator which took them up to a barn where others of us, under the guidance of a skilled labourer, helped to stack them. At the other extreme was "stooking" or "shocking" wheat and oats, which we found could be performed with the minimum effort; for this job, however, gloves were essential, as thistles were almost as numerous as the stalks of corn. Stacking carts with wheat was also an easy job, and we took it as a period of relaxation after we had been working with the threshers for an hour or two. The threshers were not employed by Mr. King as ordinary labourers, but were a collection of some six or seven men who went the round of a large number of farms in Buckinghamshire throughout the year threshing. Their machine gave the outward appearance of being old and liable to break down at any moment, but it worked with surprising efficiency and regularity when put to the test. It threw up dust in all directions, especially on a windy day, and some of us had to wear goggles so as to protect our eyes; it also kept us very busy. The last job was one which fortunately only occurred once a week; it was the unenviable task of cleaning out the pigs, and as one boy actually seemed to like this pastime the rest of us never bothered to challenge his position.

Our hours of work were from 10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. when we used to go along to the local pub to eat our lunch; from 1.30 p.m. to 5 p.m., when we were allowed half-an-hour for tea; and finally from 5.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m., when like Gray's ploughman we did "homeward plod our weary way," glad both that our day was done and that we had helped to bring in the harvest.

I. J. H. L.

Farming parties also visited a number of other farms, in particular that of Mr. Owen of Westbury. The work was similar to that described above, chiefly stooking and stacking, and some thinning and hoeing. Closer detail need not be repeated; but mention should certainly be made of the generous and appetising teas provided by Mrs. Owen and of the unfailing kindness of all with whom we came into contact. Yet another party worked in Cheshire.

STOWE CLUB FOR BOYS

95, FRAMPTON STREET,
LONDON, N.W.8.

To the Editor of *The Stoic*.

Dear Sir,

The heading to this letter might well be The Pineapple in the Front Line, for in September both our Stowe and Maida Hill Clubs were rather seriously damaged by the blast from bombs which fell in the neighbourhood. Further damage occurred to Maida Hill towards the end of October.

The lease of the Pineapple had not much more than a year to run, and a good deal of money would have been needed for repairs. So it was decided to abandon Penfold Street and concentrate activities at the Maida Hill premises, which were not so badly damaged. Temporary repairs were carried out at once, and something more permanent is now in hand. All the Pineapple equipment, which suffered only slightly, was transferred. Some of it, including the baths, cannot yet be used, but lies stored in the basement at Maida.

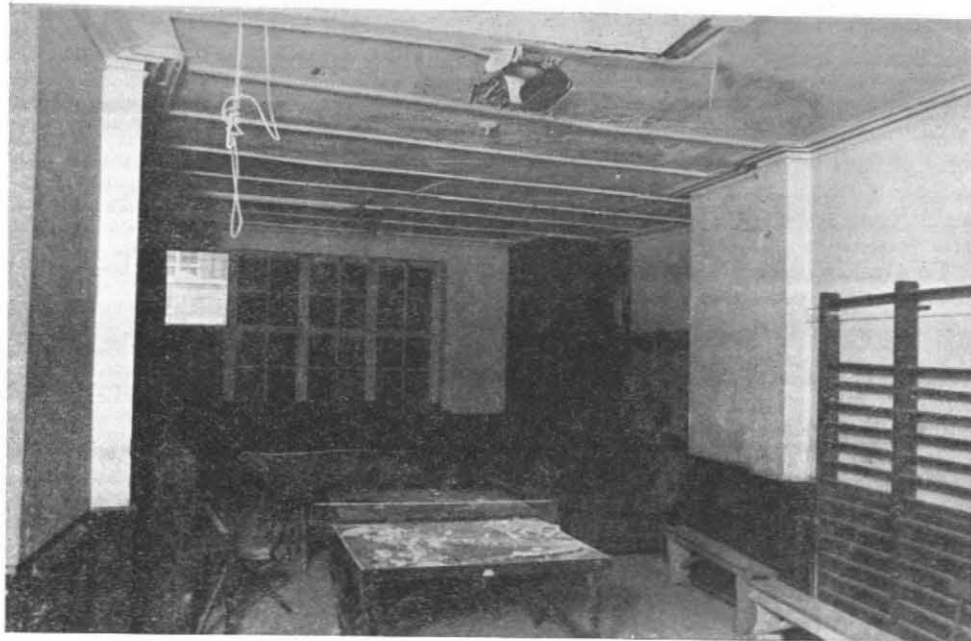
The change has necessarily meant the closing of the Hostel and the Warden's living out. But the difficulties caused by air-raids and the heavy hearts shown at leaving the old Pineapple have revealed the deep appreciation which exists among the lads for what Stowe does. Never was it clearer than when they first rallied to clear up the mess of broken glass and debris.

Our work among them is more essential than ever, and we realize that in these days a Boys' Club must spread its wings and include the welfare of the boys' families as well. This is being done as far as resources allow. There are practically no facilities for feeding people in emergency, but we can give them shelter and comfort of a sort. In this connection magazines and illustrated papers are badly wanted, and there is a great need these cold nights for blankets and warm clothing.

Football is going strong, and a very fine Club team has won its way through a series of friendly matches against Rugby, Repton, Bradfield, Jesus College and other Clubs. Inter-Club visits on Sundays are very popular, and the latest development is week-ends at a Country Club (provided through the generosity of Mr. John Sebag-Montefiore) in a scheme organized by the London Federation and National Association of Boys' Clubs. Lads go off on a Saturday and are brought back to work on Monday morning early, their whole outing costing only a very modest sum.

It is sad to record that two Club boys, John Quill (aged 15) and Albert Addison (aged 17), have been fatal air-raid casualties, one in a shelter and the other in his home. Two more boys received nasty wounds, but are recovering fast. We should also like to record sympathy with our friends and rivals the Rugby Club, which, after being completely bombed out, has amalgamated with the Harrow Club.

There are some 55 Old Club Boys already serving in the fighting forces. Many of them have visited their old Club when on leave. A considerable number, also, of lads are serving as R.A.F. cadets. Other visitors have included Tony Pearce, on leave from his ship, John Lilley, preparing to go abroad, and members of the Stowe Committee.



Photos by]

TWO INTERIORS AT THE
STOWE (MAIDA HILL) CLUB
(Some air-raid damage is visible.)

[H.B.P.

We offer heartiest congratulations to John Weiler on his marriage and Tony Pearce on his engagement.

Boys of Bryanston Club, which has had to close, have been very welcome as members of the Stowe Club. They have mixed well with our boys and have brought an excellent tone with them. The facilities extended to them have been keenly appreciated. The addition of these boys has to some extent offset the decrease in our numbers due to the evacuation of most boys under 15 years. Such evacuees were not of an age to be encouraged to attend the Club at night.

Naturally it is not practicable to organize as many activities in these days as at one time, but no member ever finds any lack of things to do. The Club now opens every afternoon (from 3 o'clock) and evening, is available during the week-ends, and is being well supported. Visits from any Stowe boys in town during the holidays would be very welcome. The Club much enjoyed its outing to the School in October. The football went well and honours were divided. To enable the return journey to be made earlier than usual and not cut the visit short, the Club arrived in time for lunch.

Early in the New Year it is hoped to have a tea-party to celebrate the season. Apart from the fact that Sunday afternoon seems the most suitable time, details have yet to be worked out.

I feel that special mention should be made of the work which Gordon Ruffle continues to do for us. Though he is serving in the Army Pay Corps, he still manages to give us his week-ends and two nights a week in the Club. I need scarcely stress the great help this means to me in carrying on.

To all Old and present Stoics and friends of the Club we wish a Happy Christmas and a Brighter New Year with sincere thanks for the support they have given us in this first year of the war.

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

A. E. CREWDSON (*Warden*).

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, 1940, the Old Stoics subscribed £364 (£307 by banker's orders), and the Stowe boys contributed £118 direct and another £88 through the Chapel collections 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 95, Frampton Street, London, N.W. 8. What cannot actually be used by the boys can be sold for their benefit.

VISITORS.

Anyone interested in Social Service is very welcome to visit the premises on any late afternoon or evening. 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.*

MUSIC

Throughout the whole School there has been a sudden wave of enthusiasm for music and this has had a very noticeable effect upon all musical activities; members of the School are beginning to realize what a difference a good audience makes to a concert.

The Choral Society has had a moderate but constant attendance, perhaps the consequence of changing from a frivolous to a serious programme. The Motet "Glory, Blessing and Honour" and "Sleepers Awake," by Bach, were sung on December 4th with the help of the orchestra. Both these works are more difficult than those done of late and the Society has "gone for it" with remarkable enthusiasm.

The Orchestra has been concentrating on a more classical programme than usual this term. There are two well-known works—the Unfinished Symphony and the Overture to the "Marriage of Figaro"—both of which have come out with their eternal freshness, and their difficulties. Both of these works have good brass parts and suit the Orchestra very well. The Prometheus Overture has been one of the toughest nuts and it has taken a term to practice this up to concert pitch. However, if the first violins can keep together at the beginning of the Allegro and the woodwind remember to syncopate at the right places it should go very well indeed on the night. There are two concertos—the piano concerto No. 4 in G by Beethoven, which J. M. Budden (W) will, no doubt, execute with his usual brilliance and accuracy; and the Horn Concerto in E flat by Mozart, to which the Hon. W. Hilton Young (W) will give the punch and liveliness on his extremely difficult instrument for which he is renowned. This concert is to take place on December 11th and should, judging by the other concerts of the term, be a great success.

One of the most surprising developments has been that of the Sunday Popular Concerts. It was said by some at the beginning of term that there was nothing popular about them, but the facts have contradicted this. The original purpose of the concerts has been strictly adhered to, and they have occurred every Sunday night at 8 o'clock in the Aurelian Room. All members of the School have been welcomed and never has there been an audience of less than 75. Boys and masters have performed solos on the piano, violin, cello, oboe, flute, clarinet, horn and trumpet as well as playing duets, trios and quartets. Mr. Newton John gave a final vocal recital of Schubert's Lieder before joining the R.A.F., and Mr. Cross gave a recital of English and Irish songs.

Under Mr. J. M. Todd's guidance, members of the lower school, who have been listening to the gramophone for their Tuesday Evening Hobby, have shown unprecedented enthusiasm for such works as Bach's Mass in B minor, Beethoven's 5th Symphony and Mozart's Requiem. It is hoped that by means of these two organizations a real interest in music will be stimulated throughout the school.

THE MUSIC SOCIETY.

Owing to the war it has been very difficult to arrange any entertainment by musicians outside the school. However, on Wednesday, October 23rd, Mr. L. Blofeld gave an excellent Violin Recital with Mr. W. L. Snowden at the piano which was received with much applause. The programme was very well chosen and suited the players admirably. The first item was the Bach Sonata in E minor, the first movement of which might well have been for unaccompanied violin. Though it was difficult to grasp at the first hearing, it is clearly one of Bach's greatest Sonatas; and the playing left nothing to be desired. The second item was the Mozart violin and piano Sonata in G which was the most popular work of the evening. The third item was the César Frank Sonata whose melodious first movement and vigorous second made us realize that he was one of the great composers. As a concert of great music, played sincerely with technique subservient to true art, there can have been few evenings affording greater enjoyment.

On Wednesday, November 20th, Betty Andreae and Mayre Lawson came to give the only "outside" concert of the term. Their programme consisted of a number of songs in costume of the Tudor and Georgian periods.

R.C.M.N.

THE LIBRARY

The following books have been added to the Library this term:—

'Analytical Conics' (Sommerville); 'The Economics of Ancient Greece' (Michell); 'The French Classic Age' (N. Scarlyn Wilson); 'Gautier and the Romantics' (J. G. Laplace); 'Larousse Universel' (2 vols.) (ed. Angé); 'The German Novel of To-day' (A. W. Bettex); 'Sergeant Lamb of the Ninth' (Robert Graves); 'Jorkens has a Large Whisky' (Lord Dunsany); 'Lotte in Weimar' (Thomas Mann); 'Memory Hold-the-Door' (John Buchan); 'Eastern Industrialization and its Effect on the West' (N. Hubbard); 'The Army of the Future' (de Gaulle); 'Country Life,' Jan.-June, 1940.

CHAPEL COLLECTIONS

The Collections from July 14th to Dec. 1st were as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
July 1st. War Comforts for Sailors	10	0	0
Collections during Summer Holidays	10	0	11
Sept. 22nd. Pineapple	10	3	2
Oct. 13th. The Lord Mayor's Air Raid Relief Fund	13	3	3
Oct. 27th. R.A.F. Benevolent Fund	8	10	0
Nov. 10th. Fund for Prisoners of War	15	8	6
Early Services (July 14th—Dec. 1st, including those during the holidays) (for Pineapple)	15	10	10

The details of the collections during the Summer Holidays were as follows:—
Toc H., £1 5s. 9d.; R.S.P.C.A., £1 7s. od.; Dr. Barnardo's Homes, £1 2s. 6d.; British Sailors' Society, £2 5s. 8d.; Polish Relief Fund, £1 11s. od.; Channel Islands Relief Fund, £1 5s. od.; Huts for the Forces, £1 4s. od.

For the Committee,
J. M. TODD, *Hon. Treasurer.*
T. C. P. BROOK.

DEBATING SOCIETY

THERE have been three debates this term and all of them have met with considerable success. In response to the general criticism of the School, the motions have all been simple and the subjects for the debates have been of a sort which should interest most people.

Officers of the Society :—President, Mr. J. M. Todd ; Secretary, H. M. Taylor (S); Librarian, P. G. Henderson (W); Treasurer, J. C. Simopoulos (S); ex-Secretary, C. W. Newton (S).

The following have been elected members of the Society :—D. H. G. Beaman (T), J. S. B. Butler (S), S. C. V. Dodgson (W), P. W. Harvey (G), P. W. I. Rees (T), J. F. Nye (C), The Hon. R. C. M. Nathan (C), D. C. Wallace (C), E. M. M. Besterman (W). Miss I. A. Radice was elected an honorary member.

The 131st Meeting of the Society was held in the School Library at 8.10 p.m. on Wednesday, October 9th. The motion was debated that "This House would rather cultivate than be cultivated."

P. S. ANSTEY (C) opened the debate with some well chosen words, and started traditionally with a classical quotation, which put the House in its place. He clarified the issue by attempting to define what the word "cultivate" meant.

J. C. SIMOPOULOS (S) rose in opposition and took his inspiration from the thought of his forefathers. He quoted from Nietzsche, his favourite teacher, and complimented the House by referring to its members as potential Socrates or, as was perhaps more likely, potential farmhands.

J. B. SUMNER (C) continued the tale with an idyllic dissertation on the pleasures of farming, quoting the infinite patience of a local farmer as proof of his contention.

H. M. TAYLOR (S), speaking fourth, spoke in a lighter strain and told the House that it was nice to get up in the morning but nicer to stay in bed.

There also spoke : *For the Motion*, C. H. Van Raalte (G), J. S. B. Butler (S), R. C. Hurley (C), D. H. G. Beaman (T).

Against the Motion, J. E. M. Irvine (T), B. Henshaw (C), A. D. Maclean (T), P. R. Armstrong (W), R. A. Guinness (C), C. M. Campbell (W), J. D. S. Cable (C), S. C. V. Dodgson (W).

There voted in the Upper House :	For the Motion	5
	Against	12

There voted in the Lower House :	For the Motion	17
	Against	22

The motion was therefore lost in the Upper House by 7 and in the Lower House by 5 votes.

The 132nd Meeting of the Society was held in the School Library at 8.10 p.m. on Wednesday, October 30th, when it was debated that "This House considers itself misunderstood."

P. G. HENDERSON (W) proposed the motion with a mellifluous speech. He rose up in all bashfulness and reminded the House that they were his jury, and warned them of the dangers attached to this duty.

J. E. RICHARDSON (C) rose in answer and said that he was seeking to rid the House of a morbid condition, its desire to be misunderstood and reluctance to argue in case it might be understood.

R. C. HURLEY (C) spoke third and warned the House that it would be destroyed by the effects of luxury, and then broke into a lecture on Classicism and Romanticism. He deplored the fact that the Upper House was no longer aristocratic because it was so large.

C. E. GUINNESS (C) spoke fourth and illuminated the debate with a parable taken from a dream he had had. He had beheld the Librarian leaning against a cow and the Ex-Secretary's red socks rising over Dadford Hill.

There also spoke : *For the Motion*, J. E. M. Irvine (T), F. M. Frankenburg (C), C. M. Campbell (W), J. D. S. Cable (C), D. R. Blundell (S), C. R. P. Anstey (C), S. C. V. Dodgson (W), P. W. Harvey (G), D. V. Palmer (C), P. W. I. Rees (T) and R. R. Thompson (W).

Against the Motion, B. Henshaw (C), A. P. de Pass (C), A. D. Maclean (T), The President.

In the Upper House there voted :	For the Motion	13
	Against	8

In the Lower House :	For the Motion	44
	Against	9

The motion was therefore carried by 5 in the Upper House and by 35 in the Lower House.

The 133rd Meeting of the Society was held on Wednesday, November 27th, at 8.10 p.m., in the School Library, when it was debated that "This House has no confidence in the idea of progress."

R. A. D. OLIVER (C) opened the debate with a well-balanced speech. To disbelieve in progress, he said, was not to disbelieve in change, and he reminded the House that he was no die-hard. He condemned progress as a Victorian myth and said that when we think we progress we really slip back.

C. R. P. ANSTEY (C) opposed the motion at length. He contended that the meaning of the motion depended on what was meant by progress, improved machines or improved conditions. He wisely remarked that progress in methods of destruction was compensated by progress in antidotes.

THE HON. W. HILTON YOUNG (W) spoke third and made a speech which was one of the wittiest in the Secretary's memory. He illustrated his argument with an allegory taken from primitive cave life, which amused the House so much that there was barely time to laugh between the speaker's wisecracks.

G. McC. CORBETT (B), speaking fourth, said that the question was not whether progress was desirable, but whether the House supported it. To this the answer was most emphatically in the affirmative.

There also spoke : *For the Motion*, P. R. Armstrong (W), S. C. V. Dodgson (W), J. P. Pettavel (W), J. E. M. Irvine (T), J. C. Farmer (W), G. A. Eve (G), A. W. Mosselmann (C), R. W. Alexander (C), D. Carnegie-Arbuthnott (B), Miss I. A. Radice, C. E. Guinness (C).

Against the Motion, D. C. Wallace (C), J. S. Ramsay (T), The Hon. R. C. M. Nathan (C), C. M. Campbell (W), E. M. M. Besterman (W), J. F. Nye (C), B. Henshaw (C), R. A. Guinness (C), A. R. Heath (T).

There voted in the Upper House :	For the Motion	15
	Against	10

There voted in the Lower House :	For the Motion	27
	Against	24

The motion was therefore carried by 5 votes in the Upper House and 3 votes in the Lower House.

H.M.T.

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

THE XII CLUB.

The 152nd meeting of the Club was held in the Library on Tuesday, October 8th, when R. A. Oliver (C) discoursed with apparent distinction on Puritanism.

The 153rd meeting of the Club was held in the Library on Tuesday, October 22nd, when H. M. Taylor (G) read a paper on Miracles.

The 154th meeting of the Club was held in the Library on Tuesday, November 26th, when J. C. Simopoulos (G) read an excellent, erudite paper on Greek Orthodoxy.

There will be a 155th meeting of the Club before the end of the term, when Mr. R. E. J. Davis will read a much awaited paper on "Some Aspects of the English Character, and their Explanation."

C.W.N.

THE NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

The Society suffered a loss in the departure of Mr. R. H. Pott, a vice-president and past president, at the end of last term, when he was called up for military service. We wish him the best of luck.

The Society this term has been made open to the whole School, without subscription, as the funds of the Society are, at the moment, adequate.

Four meetings have been held this term and before the end of the term three films are to be shown.

Mrs. F. B. Hora, who joined the Biological Staff in September, gave a most interesting lecture on her experiences in Lapland as a member of an Oxford University Women's Expedition. She went as a botanist and had much to say about the plants which she collected.

E. M. M. Besterman (W) and J. W. Young (G) gave lectures on Digestion and on Butterflies of Stowe respectively, both lectures being the result of much spare time work in the laboratories.

Dr. F. B. Hora, D.Phil. gave a lecture on Fermentation which was listened to with great interest by a large audience and should prove of benefit to Biological Specialists.

As a result of research into the darker corners of the School Library some interesting books have been found which Mr. Saunders has kindly passed on to the Biological Library. These include several Ray Society Monographs, and twelve volumes of Sowerby's *British Botany*, 1860-1870. Also the Library has been presented with a Herbarium of Plants of Fifeshire, collected about 1860, by Mr. Haynes of Oxford, a most welcome gift.

A start has been made on the re-arrangement of the Insect Collection in the laboratories. The British Butterflies and Moths are complete, but before the rest can be done it will be necessary to have classifications of Foreign Butterflies. We would be very grateful for the loan of any such books from members of the School who have them at home.

It is hoped to produce the Journal in some form, either at the end of the next term or the beginning of the Summer term, as much work has been done by members of the Society.

B.A.B.

THE MODERN LANGUAGES SOCIETY.

The Society has met four times this term in the President's rooms. Two French comedies of a contrasted character have been read: Molière's "Tartuffe," and "La Grammaire," a farcical one-act play by Labiche.

J. K. Daniel (G) and A. C. R. Newbery (G) have been elected members of the Society.

C.C.R.B.

THE NATURAL SCIENCE SOCIETY.

The Society has met three times this term, and Mr. R. Walker has promised to read a paper on "The Gyrostat" at the end of term. At the first meeting business was discussed and Mr. W. Llowarch informed the Society of his resignation of the post of President, which was taken by Mr. E. H. Reynolds. The now vacant office of Vice-president was taken by C. F. Cullis (W), whose place as Secretary was taken by G. E. Williamson-Noble (T).

At the second meeting the President read a paper on "The Electronic Theory of some Organic Reactions." There was a good attendance at both this and the other meeting, at which H. H. B. Oswell (C) read a paper on "Explosives."

G.E.W.N.

THE MUSIC CLUB.

The Music Club has had an active term, having listened to and discussed four papers on diverse subjects. J. M. Budden (W) began the term with his long-awaited and brilliant paper on Mozart. C. R. P. Anstey (Q) has discussed the Overture; and S. C. V. Dodgson (W) has discoursed on Berlioz. Finally The Hon. W. Hilton-Young (W) produced some entertaining notes on Orchestration, illustrated at length upon the gramophone.

R.J.E.

THE CLASSICAL SOCIETY.

This term the Society has had to rely entirely on its own resources for entertainment, because under the prevailing conditions it has proved impossible to secure any outside talent. There have been two meetings; the first on October 27th when H. M. Taylor (G) read a paper on Catullus, and the second on December 3rd when J. M. Budden (W) read a most erudite paper on Greek Music.

H.M.T.

THE FILM SOCIETY.

Although transport difficulties were such that it was impossible to know when a film would arrive, Dr. Zettl succeeded in obtaining four—all French. Sacha Guitry was responsible for the success of two, Yvonne Printemps sang the mediocrity of 'Trois Valses' into a musical triumph, and the last "Le Joueur d'Échecs" was substituted at the last minute by the film suppliers for a film shown here two years previously and received with unanimous delight, "La Kermesse Héroïque" (reviewed in *The Stoic*, April 1938).

I.D.W.McE.

Trois Valses.—Although the theme of this film lacked originality, it was skilfully exploited and by a different waltz, uniting in each case Yvonne Printemps and Pierre Fresnay. In the first—the generation of the second empire—the soldier sacrifices the ballet dancer for his military career; in the naughty nineties of the second generation the soprano is too attached to the stage to desert it for the libidinous, egocentric cravings of her dilettante lover, who is gracious enough to accept her choice to the melodious strains of "Je t'aime," and to return to Maxim's to make his. Finally—the grandchildren in the modern world; she a temperamental, fruit-throwing Dietrich eventually won by a go-ahead insurance agent. Revelations of his real identity and the inevitability of their partnership—thanks to the negotiations of her persevering, nonagenarian producer who both introduced her grandmother to the stage and also managed the theatrical talent of her mother—destroy her disdains and, in contrast to the other two, provide a happy if long awaited conclusion.

The smartness of the production and the magnificent singing of Yvonne Printemps were neither enhanced nor embellished by the elaborate and exaggerated décor, witnessed first at Longchamps, then on the stage and finally in the film studio; indeed it is unusual in French films, where simplicity is the keynote and acting sufficient in itself, to rely on settings so strongly reminiscent of Hollywood realism. Pierre Fresnay was only adequate and uninspiring as the trilogical lover—though perhaps his part called for no more than husky murmurings and polished manners. Only in the last period is Yvonne Printemps called upon to do more than just to sing and to be, and in it she acts energetically and well; it is she who joins the scattered parts of a wide theme and by her charming personality and delightful voice unites them into a light and superficial though entertaining story.

I.D.W.McE.

Remontons les Champs Elysées.—"The problem for the artist of any age is to find a form of entertainment and subject it to a process which would leave it a work of art." The Elizabethans succeeded in modelling the existing stage forms into their drama; our problem is to utilise our form of entertainment, the film, as successfully. The gap between the play-wright and the actor still is contested on the stage, but on the screen the actor has always been supreme, and Guitry's films represent most clearly the reversal that has taken place in the roles of actor and writer: Shakespeare wrote his plays and incidentally acted in some of them; Guitry acts in his films and incidentally writes some of them. Shakespeare's skill lay partly in his ingeniousness of plot; Guitry shares with Jonson skill (rather) in doing without a plot.

In this film unity of place disciplined the action, and the thread of the schoolmaster's ancestry gave continuity to the whole. The total lack of anachronism and historical incongruity was achieved not so much by correctness of detail, for so little was detailed, as by unswerving instinct for historical conjecture. Guitry caught the atmosphere of his periods and signposted his history by the individual introduction of Chauvelin, Marat, Wagner, Philippe Lebon, Strauss and Offenbach; the broad impression was pegged to earth and made lasting by these brilliant shots, and reduced and focussed by his healthy cynicism and sense of humour: only once did he allow sentiment to get the upper hand, in the meeting of the two Napoleons, and perhaps the result was worth it.

The least a critic could say of *Remontons les Champs Elysées* was that Guitry presented his view of some French history extremely well; and a generous critic might even suggest that he had been such an artist as to use French history to demonstrate something, at least, of "the genius of France" or the character of the French.

P.G.H.

Le Roman d'un Tricheur.—This is the cynical and effective account of a boy who, finding honesty a less efficacious policy than is commonly believed, becomes a card sharper until the attraction of the gaming table grows irresistible and he adopts the more honest, if less lucrative, pastime. Sacha Guitry as narrator is mesmeric, as actor invigorating in his self-restraint and in his unaffected, good-natured fatalism. Guitry is well supported in a small cast headed by Jacqueline Debulac, a welcome change from the glamorous 'femme fatale' of many modern films. She is alive and scintillating, not in their supposed meaning, but in the mysteriousness of her own character and personality. It is this element of the unknown in her which attracts Guitry into forming with her a double partnership—of marriage and of the exploitation of a technical system of Roulette—'Le tiers du Cylindre.' The scene in which he feels his attraction to her—the irresistible synchronization of their wills contesting the ultimate supremacy of chance—is enhanced by his own mystified description of it. Coincidence, an essential factor in his films, causes the 'manchot' who saved his life in the war to convert him to the exaltation of honest gambling. Guitry, abandoned, alone, deceived, cannot start again. He feels that he has been punished in his failure to win, not because of moral wrong but because of his failure to cheat successfully.

The severe simplicity, small cast and absence of glamour gives an unusual milieu—a milieu almost naturalistic in the repetition of coincidence (e.g., the meetings with the countess and 'le manchot'), the sordidness of the music-hall scene, the squalid depression of his early life, and finally the brilliant fantasy of his dream—a scene that will last long in our minds.

Impressively and economically directed as are so many French films, there lay beneath the ironical facade a deep human understanding and sympathetic representation of perverted character.

I.D.W.McE.

