

Number Sixty-nine

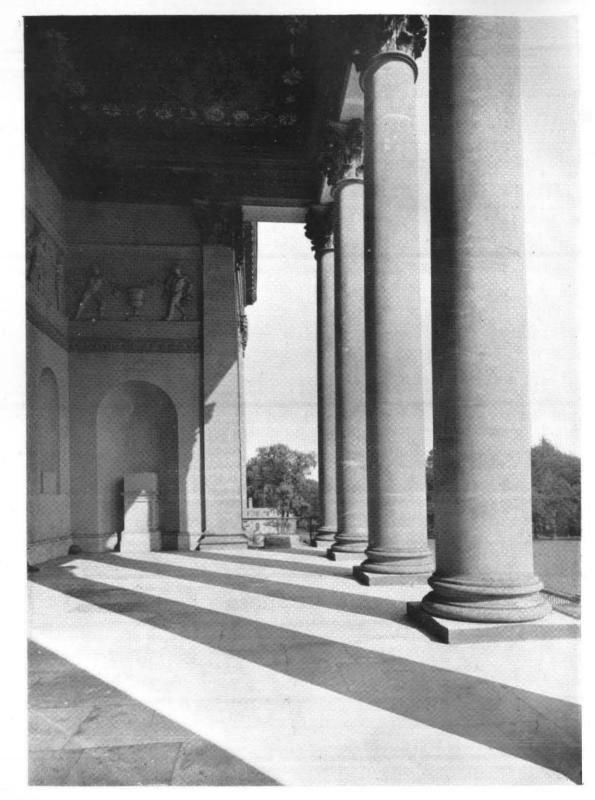


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SOUTH FRONT PORTICO

R. & H. Chapman

VOL XII

APRIL 1946

No. 2

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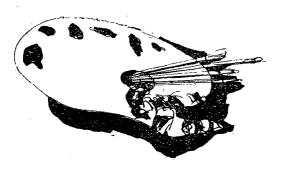
HINGS are beginning to stir: not, indeed, spectacularly, but steadily. Small but significant indications accumulate. No longer the tired pair of taxis, but a host of cars, bright, and with a few exceptions, burnished, now sweep round the curve of the colonnades in that exciting quarter of an hour before lunch on Saturdays. At night, as the late bicyclist from Buckingham knows, the lights of the South Front once more stream magnificently across the Octagon. The names that once crowded under the blue book heading "Absent on Active Service" have migrated to other pages, and now represent real and known people. And then, of course, we have had bananas—the first-fruits of peace, also the first fruits of their kind that the hand of Authority has bestowed in our career here. Things, without doubt, are beginning to stir.

Nevertheless, there lies behind us a wide gap cut by the war in the continuity of Stowe's history. Present Stoics do not, and cannot, picture life as it was lived here in the nineteen-thirties, and so have nothing to guide them in recreating a peace-time life here now. And certainly, to repeat the School's pre-war achievements will be an exacting task.

Stowe was always noted for the diversity of its activities. Besides rugger seasons that today would look too good to be true, it was renowned for its riding, music, and golf. While scholarships were won in ample numbers, there was hunting, beagling and shooting. Stoics made films of the term's activities; chartered the Duke of York's Theatre for the

Stowe Show; sung the Messiah, all five hundred of them; put on the Stowe Ball; went on holiday expeditions to the Continent. Whole suites of furniture were produced in the workshops; ballet, Gilbert and Sullivan, and two full-scale operas were presented—to say nothing of plays on the Queen's Temple steps and nocturnal musical entertainment from barges on the lake. They played cricket at the Oval, shot at Bisley, skied at Klosters. The School challenged Eton and Lancing at Athletics, Rugby at Debating, Harrow at Golf, Radley and Wellingborough to battles on field days.

During the war, Stowe has been virtually inaccessible. It is so no longer: petrol is seeping back and the world at large need no longer pass us by. It is time that some of the vigorous activity of pre-war Stowe was restored in as full measure and as speedily as possible. There is already a stir in this direction: the visit of the London Philharmonic Orchestra, the renewal of the riding and boxing competitions, the rumoured return of the Summer Exeat, with its possibilities, show Stowe beginning to take up its pre-war functions again. But this must be no more than a beginning. It is tempting to murmur those despairing phrases that have become so dully familiar:—that materials are short, that transport is difficult, that one hasn't got the staff . . . Unhappily, these objections still have some truth in them; but they must not be allowed to delay what can be accomplished now. Eia, age, rumpe moras!



DECORATIONS

The following awards have been made to Old Stoics in addition to those already recorded.

D.S.O.

MAJOR A. H. CAMPBELL, M.C. and Bar, (C, 1934), Probyn's Horse. MAJOR W. P. LUNN-ROCKLIFFE, M.C., (C, 1936), Royal Artillery.

BAR TO D.S.C.

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER (A) D. R. FOSTER, D.S.O., D.S.C. (C, 1938), R.N.V.R.

D.S.C.

CAPTAIN N. M. BRYANT (G, 1938), Royal Artillery.

BAR TO M.C.

CAPTAIN C. D. G. PEARSON, M.C. (C, 1931), S. Lancashire Regt.

M.C.

MAJOR F. R. ROTHWELL (C, 1928), 10th Royal Hussars. MAJOR H. R. HOLDEN (C, 1934), Royal Norfolk Regt.

MAJOR J. R. S. PEPLOE (C, 1936), Royal Artillery.

CAPTAIN P. J. BLUNDELL (6, 1938), K.R.R.C.

LIEUTENANT J. S. DAWES (B, 1941), Royal Scots Greys.

D.F'C.

FLYING-OFFICER A. P. R. HOLMES (G, 1939), R.C.A.F. FLIGHT-LIEUTENANT A. A. D. M. BROWNE (C, 1941), R.A.F.V.R.

O.B.E.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL THE HON. A. C. GEDDES (T, 1928), Royal Artillery.

M.B.E.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL M. L. CASE (C, 1929), Pioneer Corps.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. D. BUCHANAN (W, 1935), Grenadier Guards.

MAJOR F. J. T. DURIE (C, 1938), Royal Artillery.

S.S. (U.S.A.)

CAPTAIN J. B. TRAILL (C, 1935), 17/21st Lancers.

Casualties

KILLED

SQUADRON-LEADER M. E. J. CROKER (G, 1926), R.A.F.V.R. In 1941. LIEUTENANT M. N. WILLIAMSON-NOBLE (T, 1937), Royal Artillery, on December 18th, 1945.

OLIM ALUMNI

MR. P. JOHNSTONE (Cl., 1939) was included in the Oxford Golf team for the University match. Mr. J. M. Connell's captaincy of the side has been recorded in a previous number.

MARRIAGES

MAJOR S. D. A. S. AYLMER (C, 1926) to Miss P. M. Buckingham on March 2nd; LIEUTENANT O. CHEAPE (6, 1937) to Miss P. Byrne on December 10th; MAJOR C. P. D. DAVIDSON (T, 1938) to Miss J. D. Fawcett on December 15th; MAJOR G. W. EMRYS-ROBERTS (C, 1932) to Miss J. M. Hilton on January 5th; MR. B. J. R. MORETON (C, 1936) to Miss L. Hardaker on December 22nd; Captain J. G. Thynne (C, 1934) to Miss M. M. de Jenner on January 19th; MAJOR G. S. C. TRENCH (C, 1931) to Miss M. S. Herrett on December 1st; Captain J. H. N. Weston (C, 1931) to Miss P. R. F. Paheman on May 26th; MR. D. N. WILLETT (C, 1930) to Miss H. I. Bindley on January 23rd; Captain K. F. E. Woods (G, 1936) to Miss N. S. Duckworth-King on December 22nd; MR. G. O. Wynne (G, 1941) to Miss P. M. Hill on March 2nd; MR. T. H. Lindsell (G, 1932) to Miss Josefina Chas Madariaga, on October 21st, 1944 (in Buenos Aires); Lieutenant C. R. P. Anstey (C, 1941) to Miss M. Cockburn, on March 29th.

BIRTHS

To the wife of Major F. J. T. Durie (C, 1938), a son, on January 26th; to the wife of Captain C. A. Ashcroft (C, 1938), a son, on December 3rd; to the wife of Lieutenant-Commander K. Firth (C, 1934), a daughter, on February 3rd; to the wife of Major P. W. Forbes (T, 1930), a son, on November 28th; to the wife of Mr. B. C. Gadney (G, 1928), a son, on December 26th; to the wife of Mr. J. A. F. Gethin (C, 1933), a son, on December 11th; to the wife of Squadron-Leader R. C. Lindseli, D.F.C. (G, 1932), a daughter, on September 22nd; to the wife of Captain B. A. Parnwell (G, 1935), a son, on December 12th; to the wife of The Hon. G. C. A. Vanneck (B, 1933), a daughter, on January 26th.

To the wife of CAPTAIN M. L. B. WILLIAMS (W, 1937), a daughter, on March 1st; to the wife of CAPTAIN K. G. RICE (C, 1936), a son, on October 4th; to the wife of LIEUTENANT L. R. LIEWELLYN (B, 1933), a son, on October 6th; to the wife of Mr. F. P. B. SANDERSON (C, 1926), a son, on February 25th.

IN MEMORIAM

S. A. M. Bradley (Chatham, Sept. 1943—December 1945).

Born 22nd September, 1929.

Died 5th January, 1946, as the result of a road accident.

Simon Bradley came to Chatham in September 1943, and settled down quickly and easily in House and School. He had a very individual and infectious sense of humour, which revealed itself in a definite gift for narrative, and a most charming smile which would flash disarmingly from an expression of profound solemnity assumed on official occasions. He had qualities which only required time to ripen them, and it came as a deep shock to all who knew and liked him to hear that that time had not been granted him.

A wide circle of Old Stoics, many more than his contemporaries, will have heard with deep sorrow of the death of Herbert Eldon Hope (T, 1931). He died in hospital at Leicester, where he had again settled in business, after being released from the Army only a few months before. He had served for six years and was in the Royal Artillery. He was one of the most prominent of Old Stoics, whose councils he always brightened with his affectionate and generous spirit and his great vitality; but, like many another, he must, owing to the war, have been no more than a name to almost all present members of the School. They will like to know that, besides being Head of Temple in his last year, he was a very notable runner. In 1931, he won five events in the School Sports; four track races and the Pole Vault, in which he cleared 10ft. 4½ ins. He followed this up by winning the Quarter-Mile in the Public Schools Championships of the same year, his time of 50.8 secs. being then a record for the meeting. His death was due to diphtheria with complications.

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THE STOIC

THE OLD STOIC GOLFING SOCIETY

The O.S.G.S. was founded in 1933. During the seven years of its existence up to the outbreak of war, it developed from modest beginnings to a flourishing membership of eighty-four in 1939, with fixtures during the spring, summer and autumn of that year amounting to fourteen. These consisted of a Spring meeting, seven matches against other School Golfing Societies, two against a Club in Surrey, one against the School itself, one against the Stowe Masters and one against the Old Stoics then at Cambridge. The remaining one was the annual Halford-Hewitt Cup, a knock-out competition between the various old school golfing societies. Since the great majority of the members lived in the South of England, almost all of the matches were played on courses within easy reach of London.

For a Society so young, it was fortunate in having the large number of good golfers it did. Amongst the members, for instance, were the Captains of the Cambridge University Golf side for the three successive years of 1937, 1938 and 1939; and in 1937, besides the captain, there were no less than four other members in the team. Except for the Halford-Hewitt Cup, however, when the Society raised the strongest team it could, the players were selected to give each member his fair share of matches during each season. There was therefore always a good representation of the medium and long handicap golfers.

At the outbreak of war the activities were of course brought to an abrupt end, but with the coming of better times there are prospects of their resumption in the near future. It is early days for any definite plans to have been made, but one thing is clear and that is that more members will be necessary if the activities are to be possible on the same scale as in pre-war days.

The war years have taken a great toll of the membership. No less than eleven of the eighty-four appear on the long list of fatal casualties in the ranks of the Old Stoics. In addition many who played frequently in pre-war days will be unable to make regular appearances now on account of the many additional responsibilities which the past six years have placed upon them. Others, too, are still serving in distant parts of the world.

In order that plans may be made for the future, it would be of great help if all members could inform the Honorary Secretary (M. H. BLUNDELL, Highclere, Batchworth Lane, Northwood, Middx.) of their present address and whether they are likely to be available for future matches.

As far as new members are concerned, some Stoics leaving the School in the early days of the war put forward their names for membership as soon as activities were resumed. They will be written to in due course. Many others must have left since then, however, who know little or nothing about the Society, but who would otherwise be interested. The Secretary will be very pleased to hear from any such Old Stoics and no less, of course, from any who left in earlier days who may now be anxious to become members.

For those who are leaving the School this term or in the future, Mr. Hamer is acting on behalf of the Secretary and will be able to supply membership forms.

The subscription for a life membership is one guinea.

STOICA

School Officials—Easter Term, 1946.

Prefects:—A. J. O. Ritchie (T), Head of the School; G. P. Lewis (B), Second Prefect; E. D. R. Campbell (G), Prefect of Library; M. G. Falcon (C); D. J. D. Richardson (C), Prefect of Chapel; R. P. Marshall (C), Prefect of Gymnasium; A. N. Griffith (B); D. S. Howard (6); F. D. A. Binns (W); A. K. H. Bull (G); M. R. S. J. Mackey (C); E. C. Skepper (T).

Athletics: - Captain, M. R. S. J. Mackey (C).

Hockey: - Captain, J. G. Chibbett (C); Secretary, P. M. Young (C).

Two visitors have preached in Chapel this term, the Reverend R. J. B. Eddison, Secretary of the Public Schools Scripture Union, and the Reverend J. H. L. Phillips, Director of Service Ordination Candidates.

Chapel Collections this term have included: For the Pineapple, £25 2s. 6d.; for Buckingham Hospital, £28 17s. 6d.; for the British 'Wireless for the Blind' Fund, £30 11s. od.

The marriage took place, on December 22nd, at Christ Church, Kensington, of Mr. Raymond Walker and Miss Bridget Mary O'Brien. The service was conducted by the Reverend C. Windsor-Richards.

On his marriage, Mr. Walker has relinquished the Housemastership of Grenville. He has been succeeded by Mr. R. M. Hamer.

As announced elsewhere in this issue, Major Clifford has given up his command of the J.T.C. and has been succeeded by Major McElwee.

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Dr. Huggins has been appointed Joint Master of the Grafton Hounds for the coming year.

The father of the late Major J. D. A. Syrett (£, 1934), Welsh Guards, has founded a Scholarship to be called the John David Syrett Scholarship which may be held at Stowe by boys selected by the Trustees. Priority will be given to sons of officers or ex-officers of the Welsh Guards killed or disabled in the war, and after them to the sons of officers or ex-officers of the Brigade of Guards.

A small party visited the Greek Art Exhibition in London on Friday, March 15th. Accounts of other expeditions will be found elsewhere in this number.

For the first time since 1937, the London Philharmonic Orchestra visited Stowe this term. The concert, which is fully reported on another page, was conducted by Dr. Ernest Ansermet.

The editors regret that Sir Lewis Casson was wrongly referred to in the last issue as Mr. Lewis Casson.

School Colours have been awarded this term as follows:—

For Cross-Country:—F. D. A. Binns (W), D. S. Howard (6), R. W. Shirley (T), D. G. A. Airey (C), I. B. Calkin (W) and G. P. Tobin (G).

For Hockey:—1st XI: D. R. S. Kingan (T), P. V. Rycroft (C), M. E. J. FitzGerald (6) (re-awarded); A. T. V. B. Bik (C), P. N. Briggs (6), N. Turquand-Young (6), M. D. T. Loup (T), M. D. K. Burns (B), G. F. Armitage (W).

2nd XI: F. D. A. Binns (W), R. J. Broadley (W), J. H. Bourdon-Smith (6), S. B. Cunningham (T), H. D. W. Rhodes (C), D. S. Withers (G), A. K. H. Bull (G), P. Few Brown (6), A. P. Dewing (C), Count W. J. H. van Stirum (B), J. Asbury-Bailey (W).

University Scholarships

Awards were gained by the following in December:—

- G. P. Lewis (B), an Open Scholarship in History at Wadham College, Oxford.
- H. A. Chapple (C), an Open Exhibition in History at Clare College, Cambridge.
- J. J. DAVIS (T), an Open Exhibition in History at Clare College, Cambridge.

Major Clifford

Major Clifford's resignation from the J.T.C. ends the second main period in the Contingent's history. Major Haworth, who founded the Contingent, commanded it from 1924 until 1935. For the following ten years Major Clifford was in command. The third period, now begun, will be associated (no doubt as happily) with the name of Major McElwee.

The first few years of Major Clifford's command were uneventful, although in 1938 a new uniform was introduced (now replaced by battle-dress) and the post-Certificate A courses were extended in scope and variety. But the excellence of the work done was recognised in the favourable report of the present Viceroy of India (then Lieutenant-General Sir Archibald Wavell) who inspected the Contingent in June 1929.

But the days of peaceful development ended when war came. Officers left to join active units, rifles were called in and the onerous work of the L.D.V. (with their dawn and dusk patrols) was added to the C.O.'s responsibilities. However, the war brought opportunities as well as burdens. The Stowe Contingent was the first to organise Certificate A courses for Officers of the Army Cadet Force, and when the C.O. received the personal thanks of the Director of Military Training it was felt by us all that they were well deserved. Then came A.C.F. holiday training camps, for which instructors and demonstration platoons were found. As such opportunities offered they were taken—promptly and whole-heartedly.

But the principal work of Major Clifford and his officers throughout the war years was the steady production of young men whose sound training and fine spirit fitted them to become first-class fighting soldiers. That this work was well and truly done is proved by the achievements of the Old Stoics in the war.

JUNIOR TRAINING CORPS NOTES

Major A. B. Clifford, T.D., relinquished command of the Contingent at the end of the year, and has resigned his commission in the Territorial Army. He is succeeded by Major W. L. McElwee, M.C.

Capt. H. R. Watt, M.C., and Lieut. H. V. G. Kinvig have also resigned their commissions and have been succeeded by W/S Major R. M. Hamer and T/Major J. M. Selby.

The following promotions have been made this term:—

To Under-Officer: Sergeant R. W. Shirley (T).

To Sergeant: Corporals D. E. Granger (C), G. F. Armitage (W), A. K. H. Bull (G), D. S. Howard (6), D. R. S. Kingan (T).

To Corporal: Lance-Corporals M. R. S. J. Mackey (C), J. J. Davis (T), R. J. Broadley (W), C. H. Corfield (T), M. D. K. Burns (B).

Appointed Lance-Corporal: Cadets A. B. S. Mackay (T), C. E. Taylor (B), M. F. Triefus (W), J. F. Wells (C), W. L. N. Brinson (C), J. D. Lloyd (B).

The strength of the Contingent this term is 347, but there have seldom been more than 200 on parade owing to illness. That and poor weather have considerably interfered with normal training programmes and the number of candidates for War Certificate A has been very seriously reduced. In the examinations held at the end of the term 45 out of 49 passed in the "Individual" and 26 out of 38 passed the "Section Leader's" tests. In the circumstances these results reflect great credit on all the officers and N.C.Os. concerned. The examiners for both parts were found by the Training Battalion, The Coldstream Guards, to whom we are most grateful both for this and for the loan of various training stores. Major L. S. Marler, R.A., who has for so long been so helpful to us in acting as President of our Examining Boards, has now retired. We were glad, however, to welcome in his place a Coldstream Old Stoic, Capt. J. W. Procter (6, 1939), recently back from a German P.O.W. camp. He brought one other Old Stoic as an examiner, Lieut. J. S. Hillyer (6, 1943) and, as a visitor and spectator, Capt. S. J. Whitwell, M.C. (C, 1939), who is shortly off to Vienna as G.S.O.

As the beginning of a switch-over to peace conditions, the second afternoon parade has now been replaced by a short parade in civilian clothes during the break on Friday morning and the main parade of the week is now, as it was before the war, on Tuesday afternoon. Weather conditions always make it difficult to introduce much variety into the training in the Easter Term and all that we have been able to have to liven us up was two visits from 'B' Travelling Wing who put on interesting and helpful demonstrations.

Two encouraging and important concessions to J.T.Cs. by the War Office are worth recording. One, which will bring a very general relief, is the abolition of Physical Efficiency Tests as an essential qualification for War Certificate A, so that it is no longer necessary to accept recruits on a provisional basis, making their final enrol-

ment dependent on passing these. The other is a promise of preferential treatment for ex-Under Officers of J.T.Cs. in the selection of candidates for commissions, provided they satisfy the C.O. of their primary training unit of their efficiency. It is to be hoped that this welcome development will continue and so dispel the popular legend that J.T.C. training and the possession of War Certificate A are 'no use' to those called up for military service.

PRIZES

Best Candidate for War Certificate A, Part 1, 'Individual,' :—Cadet J. A. McGougan (C).

Best Candidate for War Certificate A, Part 2, 'Section-Leader's ':—Cadet M. StC. Ruthven (B).

NAVAL SECTION

Strength, 30.

New Rating: - As Cadet Leading Seaman: Lance-Corporal W. L. N. Brinson (C).

The results of the examinations for Cadet Petty Officer and Cadet Leading Seaman have not yet been received. In the examination for Cadet Able Seaman, 5 passed out of 6 candidates.

STOWE CLUB FOR BOYS

95, Frampton Street,
London, N.W.8.

March, 1946.

To the Editor of The Stoic.

The Club is at the moment an impatient and urgent organism.

We had hoped by now to be in possession of our new premises, but we still await the installation of the boilers for central heating, showers, etc., and the gas mains to supply them.

Work on these matters has started now, and we go and watch progress every day, but I think it will be the end of March before we can move in.

In numbers the Club is up to full present capacity, and we manage to give five football teams a game during each week-end.

Activities, except for the dramatic group—this through the illness of the instructress—are flourishing and healthy.

Fifty-six boys visited the School on Sunday, February 17th, and thoroughly enjoyed their day. The Club is looking forward to the time when the hospitality can be returned.

I am, Sir,
Yours faithfully,
C. F. JUPP (Warden).

Public Schools Employment Bureau

A new office has been opened by the Public Schools Employment Bureau at 62, Oxford Street, London, W.1. Stowe is one of the Schools which subscribe to the Bureau and Stoics over sixteen, if introduced by the Headmaster, may consult the Secretary as to commercial and other openings. Old Stoics may be placed on the Registry of Employment after an interview with the Secretary provided that they are not under seventeen or over twenty-one years of age. (N.B. A period spent in war service may be deducted from the actual age.)

THE ART SCHOOL

The Art School is built in such a way that it is only with the greatest difficulty that one can see what lies outside from the windows, and then the sight is sufficiently uninspiring to send even the most enthusiastic of painters back to still life. However, in this, the coldest and most uncomfortable term of the year, enthusiasm for outdoor painting, surprisingly, has grown, and the landscapes which have been done are most encouraging.

Little portrait painting was done in the middle of the term owing to the difficulty of providing models, though now, as at the beginning, there is more activity. Most of the products are little more than steps in what may be the right direction, but the time spent in doing them was not wasted. Though landscapes have been more plentiful than most, a number of still life paintings have been done. The best of these are undoubtedly by O. G. Campion (W) who is the only person who can paint drapery really well. J. S. Taylor (T) has been responsible for enlarging the scope of objects in the still life cupboard and his example has led to the introduction of china men, trees, and, periodically, kippers.

In O. G. Campion the Art School is losing its most successful painter, for although his drawing could be better, his landscapes and still life are the best that have been done for some time, while his portraits are by no means unpromising. The pictures which G. P. Lewis (B) paints outside are quite different from those which he does indoors, and there is no doubt that he benefits from painting from real life as much as anyone else in the Art School. J. L. Hargrave's (G) water colours are still better than his oils and his outdoor paintings provide welcome relief from the familiar tropical scenes which he does in the Art School. It will be interesting to see what his portraits are like if he ever does any. J. R. Plincke (T) has done more seascapes, but most of his time has been taken up with doing scenery for the Temple house-play. The faded water-colours of D. B. Holt (B) promise some interesting things in the future. The exhibition on Sports Day should be of quite a high quality.

A.C-S.

Music

This is a term which is usually considered to be too brief to allow adequate rehearsal for the performance of any large work, and the House Music Competitions at the end of it usually preclude the practising of such works as are in Chamber Music repertory. However, by a break in custom, this term has proved a pleasant exception, for not only has the Orchestra had well-filled folios, but with the foundation of a Chamber Music Society, several Sunday evenings have been filled by excellent concerts which it has produced.

Dr. Huggins, Mr. Negus and Mr. Burke, and the professional string players are to be thanked for all the help and encouragement they have given to this society. Mr. Burke joined the Music Staff this term; he was awarded the Chappell Gold Medal for Pianoforte Playing whilst at the Royal Academy of Music.

The Sunday Evening Concerts have provided many diverting evenings, and attract a good audience. Two very enjoyable concerts were given by the Chamber Music Society when the following programmes were played:—

February 17th.

Brandenberg Concerto No. 4 in G J. S. Bach

Flute I—G, L. E. Spier (G). Flute II—R. G. P. Lloyd (G).

Violin—Mrs. Siller.

Concerto for Three Pianos in C with string accompaniment J. S. Bach Pianos—Dr. L. P. Huggins, Mr. M. T. Burke and Mr. R. Walker.

Suite for Strings and Piano Scarlatti

Solo Piano—Miss R. H. Parkinson.

The Brandenberg Concerto was particularly well played and the flautists gave a brilliant performance of a difficult work.

March 10th.

Piano Solos—Prelude and Fugue in F sharp Bach
Impromptu in C sharp minor Chopin
G. C. de Chambure (W).

Gavotte and Minuet for Oboe and Strings Lully
Ohoe—I. B. Calkin (W).

Chacony Purcell

Flutes—G. L. E. Spier (G) and R. G. P. Lloyd (G).
Violin—A. P. Clark (G).
Bassoon—E. D. R. Campbell (G).

Other concerts have included Piano and Piano Music Recitals by Dr. Huggins, Mr. Negus and Mr. Burke, a Violin and Organ Recital by Mrs. Siller and Dr. Huggins, and works of Leclair, Mozart and Bach.

For the End of Term Concert the Choral Society has been practising some of the choruses from Carmen, and these were performed with full orchestral accompaniment at the Concert on March 27th. The syncopation and counter-rhythms of this work have proved a difficulty to most of the singers even in this age of Jazz and Swing; but the music is most exhilarating to perform, and has proved very popular on account of its strong melodic line. Victor Hely-Hutchinson's arrangement of Old Mother Hubbard was also performed; this is set as a Handelian chorus and is a clever parody on the style of Handel's Oratorios. However, the Choral Society will agree that original Handel is very much easier to sing.

The Madrigal Society has been preparing Bach's Peasant Cantata and this was performed at the Concert with much success, the Tenor and Bass Solos by J. F. Pim (B) and A. J. O. Ritchie (T) being especially praiseworthy. The Society also assisted the Buckingham Music Society to perform this work in Buckingham on March 26th.

The Orchestra has had a busy term and produced a concert a week before the end of it, M. Birkett (T) giving an excellent performance of the first two movements of Beethoven's First Piano Concerto. The programme was:—

1. Overture: Fingal's Cav	e	•••	•••	• • •	Mendelsso	bn
2. The Peasant Cantata				•••	J. S. Ba	ch
The Ma	drigal S	Society.				
Solo Ten	or-J. I	F. Pim ((B).			
Solo Bas	s—А. J	. O. Ri	tchie (T).		
3. Pianoforte Concerto No	. 1 in C	major	•••	•••	Beethov	en
Alleg	gro con	brio an	d Large	0		
·Pi	ano—M	. Birket	t (T).			
4. Old Mother Hubbard				a	rr. Hely-Hutch	inso
•	The Cho	oral Soc	iety			
5. Ballet Suite: Sylvia	•••	•••		•••	Delib	es
6. Habanera, Gipsy Dance The Chora			_		armen " Biz	et

Practices have been better attended this term owing to the change of the practice time, and the brass section is making noticeably good strides in improvement of tone and blending quality.

The Corps Band has also had well filled practices, and although it is not giving a concert this term, it will be playing for the usual March Past in the Summer.

The House Music Competitions are always notable for their Procrustean treatment of every conceivable type of work, and certainly this year's efforts have not lacked originality or enterprise.

The House winning the Instrumental Cup was Bruce, with Grenville and Chatham as runners-up.

The part-song for the Singing Cup was Charles Tessier's "To lovely groves I'll flee," and this was won by Chandos.

The adjudicator was Mr. James Dawes, the recently appointed musical adviser to the county of Buckinghamshire.

The individual prizes were won as follows:-

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Gilling-Lax Prizes—Senior: G. L. E. Spier (G)—Flute.

Junior: J. D. Nightingale (C)—Organ.

Piano Prizes—Senior: M. E. Harding (T) and M. Birkett (T).

Junior: 1st, G. C. M. G. de Chambure (W); 2nd, A. H.
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Woodwind Prize: R. G. P. Lloyd (G)-Flute; J. B. More (C)-Clarinet.

Harper (C).

This term has seen the return of a feature which we hope will be continued at an increased rate in the future—that of Subscription Concerts. These had been flourishing for some years before the war, but unfortunately had to cease when the difficulty of obtaining first the players and then the transport became insuperable.

However, to start them off again in no uncertain manner Dr. Huggins very courageously engaged the London Philharmonic Orchestra to give a concert in the Gym on February 20th. This was deservedly a great success and the Gym was filled to capacity.

The Orchestra was conducted by Ernest Ansermet and played the following programme:—

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Overture: Leonora No. 3 ... ... ... Beethoven
Prelude à l'après-midi d'un Faune ... ... ... Debussy
Enigma Variations ... ... ... ... Elgar
Ballet Music: Petroushka ... ... ... Stravinsky
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The acoustics were excellent, and the placing of the instruments very effective, except that the trumpet section was too much above the woodwind and strings, and in the Leonora especially, a sustained note on the trumpets tended to obliterate the rushing scale passages in the woodwind and strings.

The whole programme was played with magnificent technique, the woodwind in the Debussy being especially commendable, for their phrasing and for their control of light and shade. The conductor gave great freedom of tempo in all the works, and this produced an intensity of feeling in the Enigma Variations, such as is rarely heard in English interpretations. Petroushka is so essentially ballet music that its nuances tended to be lost in the concert version. Familiarity with the original ballet is most necessary for a complete enjoyment and understanding of this work.

The tonal balance throughout was excellent and the contrasts which Ansermet produced made the whole programme one of much colour.

A meeting of the Music Society was held on March 13th, when we had the good fortune to hear a most stimulating Piano Recital by Solomon, whose programme consisted of:—

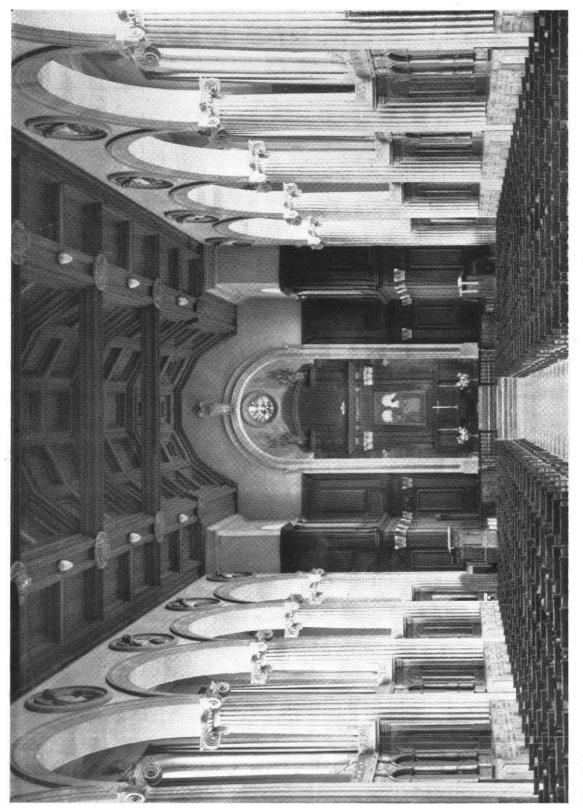
Organ Prelude and F	ugue i	n A mi	nor				Bach-Liszt
Two Sonatas			* * * *	***	XXXX	140400	Scarlatti
Intermezzo in B flat	minor	***					Brahms
Intermezzo in C majo	or		***	14.006			Brahms
Sonata Op. 57 (Appa	issiona	ta _j		• • •	•••		Beethoven
			II.				
Prelude in G major		***	***	14.4.4	***	R	achmaninov
Prelude in G minor		***		•••		R	achmaninov
Voiles		5505	***		***	***	Debussy
Caprice						Pag	anini-Liszt
Nocturne in D flat	*(*)*/			(4)(4)(4)			Chopin
Waltz in A flat			• • •				Chopin
Scherzo in B flat mir	or						Chopin

The meeting was one of the most crowded in the Society's history, and Solomon left us breathless as he glided gracefully over the technicalities, leaving every note distinct and clear. His rendering of the Appassionata was so inspired as to become unsurpassable.

He was received with so much enthusiasm that he played three encores; they were La Danse de Puck by Debussy, Polonaise in A flat by Chopin, and "A Musical Box" by de Severac, a seventeenth century piece full of grace and charm, perfectly rounding off a most enjoyable evening.

Thus it has been a term fraught with enterprise and many musical experiences, and one which we hope will set the precedent for a future untrammelled by wartime restraints.

E.D.R.C.



INTERIOR OF THE CHA

Poto by



THE GRECIAN VALLEY

SAINT JOAN

After showing a marked predilection for the dark with plays like "Men in Shadow" and "The Duke in Darkness," the Congreve Club emerged once more into the light of day with a performance of St. Joan, the most ambitious attempt of its career. The play had to be skilfully cut in order to run for two and a half hours instead of over three, a cast of over thirty had to be first rehearsed, and then made-up and dressed, and, finally and most difficult of all, someone had to be found capable of filling the part of Joan herself, a part bristling with difficulties and full of pitfalls. Joan has to pass through three phases in the course of the play, from the innocence and simplicity of the opening, in which she is merely the instrument of her 'voices,' through the middle period, where her success has the inevitable effect of bringing with it a fatal arrogance as she realises how superior she is to those whom she had always regarded as the great ones of the earth, and, finally, the end, where her pride, her faith, and even, for a moment, her courage break beneath the strain, and, through all these phases, she must still remain essentially herself. That the Congreve Club succeeded in overcoming all these difficulties is very much to the credit of all who took part in this production, and the result was a really distinguished performance.

The opening scene was well done, thanks to excellent timing which avoided any hint of drag. A. N. Griffith (B), as Robert de Baudricourt, succeeded admirably in extracting all the humour from his part, and was most ably seconded by G. R. A. Miskin (W) as the Steward, who added acrobatics to a fine piece of character-acting by falling backwards over a chair with a naturalness as beautiful as it was unexpected. Joan's entry was as impetuous and effective as could be desired, and F. Cator (C) gave us our first glimpse of the control and poise which he was to retain throughout the evening. The second scene, the Court of Chinon, was dominated by S. D. M. Robertson (B), whose performance as the Archbishop of Rheims was second only to Cator's as the Maid. He spoke his brilliant lines with the icy splendour demanded by the part, and his commanding presence dominated the stage whenever he began to speak. C. M. Mosselmans (C) tended to over-act in a difficult part as La Tremouille: his angers were more simulated than natural. J. B. More (C) as the Dauphin was, in many ways, excellent. He was beautifully slick in his timing, and made the character interesting and entertaining, but he vulgarised his part both in accent and manner, and Shaw expressly states that the Dauphin is 'neither vulgar nor stupid.' This was a pity, because it is quite clear that no one was more capable of playing the part well. He went out for his laughs instead of letting them come to him, played too much to the gallery, and paid the penalty of his interpretation by failing to make his conversion by Joan at all convincing at the end of the scene.

Scene Three, on the Bank of the Loire, was, in many ways, the most striking of the play. D. S. Howard (6) made a virile and impressive Dunois with a most beautiful voice, and he was most ably supported by a perfect little Page in R. G. Sparrow (W), whose grace and naturalness helped enormously in building up the romantic element of the only romantic scene Shaw has ever written. Joan's arrival left us in no doubt that she and Dunois would make a first-class team, as indeed they did throughout the whole course of the play.

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The two last scenes, greatly conceived, were finely executed. In the Ambulatory of Rheims Cathedral its Archbishop succeeds in completely holding the stage. The weight and power of his arguments, delivered with all the authority of the Mediaeval Church, make it abundantly clear that Joan, with her heavenly conceptions in a warring world, is doomed, and Robertson rose to the full stature of the part. The ending was particularly fine, when Shaw resists the temptation to bring down his curtain on Joan's magnificent exit, and instead leaves her hearers to sum up the impression she leaves on them individually, and the Archbishop, after having won his victory, quietly confesses 'She disturbs my judgment too.'

In the last scene the main difficulty was to give the impression of a full Court with only a minimum of actors: this difficulty was overcome by effective stage-arrangement, and a small team of Masters gave weight to the climax of the play. Mr. Wilson Knight looked and acted the part of the Inquisitor convincingly, but used his voice a little monotonously in his long speeches. Mr. Reid was persuasive and moving as Peter Cauchon, while Mr. Le Breton looked well as Warwick, but was inclined to be slow on his cues, and even to miss them. R. J. Broadley (W) was Stogumber to the life in the Court scene, but failed in his difficult break-down scene after witnessing the execution. Mere bellowing and roaring are not enough in themselves to move. More variety or a quieter approach would have helped. The remainder of the Court were good in their different ways, particularly J. C. Matthews (5), who used a pleasant voice to great advantage as Brother Martin Ladvenu.

The puzzling Shavian Epilogue, made still more puzzling, incidentally, through being stated in the programme as happening in 1546 instead of 1456, was the least effective part of the play. This was perhaps the author's fault. The interposition of so much humour in a scene whose purpose is essentially serious is bound to mean a real risk of anti-climax unless the actors are unusually experienced and skilful. Here one felt that the new Saint's final rapt utterance was inadequately introduced, and lost something in its setting if nothing in its delivery.

Cator's performance as Saint Joan was, of course, the highlight of the evening. Physically he was Joan the Saint rather than Joan the Peasant, and he was much more successful in expressing the heavenly than the earthly side of her character. Where he was most admirable was in his movements and expressions, particularly in the beautiful way in which he used his hands and eyes. The simplicity and sincerity of the part was consistently maintained throughout the play, and in this he was helped by a most sympathetic voice, unusual intelligence, and timing which was quite first-class, and which must have made it a pleasure to act with him. He was perhaps at his best in the trial-scene, where he succeeded admirably in expressing Joan's utter exhaustion after days of brow-beating and hectoring by accusers whose hostility and attitude she was incapable of beginning to understand. It was, taken all in all, a performance of great polish, intelligence and accomplishment.

In conclusion, praise should be given to the many sound pieces of acting to which there has been no space to refer in an article which must be limited, and also to the noble army of scene-shifters and scene-designers, property-men, make-up artists and electricians, and, above all, to the untiring efforts of the producers headed by Mr. A. A. Dams, who must have felt that they were amply rewarded for all their toil by one of the most stimulating and graceful productions seen at Stowe.

A.M.

DEBATING SOCIETY

The only debate held so far this term was on Wednesday, February 6th. It was on the Motion, "That this House is sorry that it lives in the twentieth century."

Proposing, the Hon. Treasurer and Ex-Secretary (J. J. Davis (T)), in one of his more crashing speeches, transported the House to the eighteenth century, where it was destined to remain for the rest of the evening.

- S. D. M. ROBERTSON (B), opposing, talked about an Age of Realism, where one's outlook was more honest and one's morals no worse than in any previous age.
- H. P. Senhouse (B) thought that dance music and the servant problem were insuperable obstacles to civilized life in the twentieth century.
- A. CAIGER-SMITH (T) called Metaphysics and Logic to his aid, and found them rather doubtful allies.

The ensuing debate was painful in the extreme. Hon. Members ranged about over History as the fancy took them, and returned with sweet inevitability to a century (the eighteenth) that was in no way connected with the Motion.

In the Upper House 8 votes were east on either side; the Motion was lost by the Vice-President's casting vote. In the Lower House the Motion was lost by 11 votes to 26.

H.A.C.



Cross-Country

THE SCHOOL CROSS-COUNTRY

The Senior and Junior races were held on Friday, February 17th, this year. The running conditions were heavy as a result of recent heavy rains and at several places on the course, most notably at a point in the Stowe Woods near the Black Pit, where several spills resulted, there was mud of some depth.

The course used by the Seniors was the same as last year's, starting from the North Front. Howard immediately took the lead with a forceful pace down to the Home Farm and held it as far as the Dadford Hill, closely followed by Chibbett and Binns. However, the severe pull up the hill soon spread the competitors out and it was here that Binns took the lead which he held and gradually increased during the rest of the race. Behind him came Howard, Calkin and Airey, with Chibbett and Tobin following nearby in positions which remained more or less constant as far as the Black Pit hay-stacks. Here first Howard and then Tobin forced slight leads into second and third places, the positions in which they finished.

Along the Roman Road, Loup and Marler came up after lying back in the early part of the race, to finish among the first eight. The time was 24 mins, 12 secs.

Result:—Individual: 1, F. D. A. Binns (W) 2, D. S. Howard (6); 3, G. P. Tobin (G); 4, D. G. A. Airey (C); 5, I. B. Calkin (W); 6, L. R. S. Marler (6); 7, M. D. T. Loup (T); 8, G. J. Chibbett (C).

The Junior Race was also run over the same course as last year and after a habitual fast start down to the Sanatorium, Withinshaw took the lead which he never relinquished. At the Bell Gate he was a comfortable hundred yards in front, his nearest challenger being Everard, who was a considerable distance ahead of Brown and Corry. The leading positions remained the same for the rest of the race, Withinshaw and Everard finishing well in advance of the rest of the field, and it was only in a final sprint on the North Front that Corry managed to beat Brown by a couple of yards.

The time, 32 seconds longer than last year, was 18 mins, 16 secs.

Result:—Individual: 1, J. H. Withinshaw (C); 2, F. G. Everard (G); 3, R. J. P. Corry (C); 4, W. J. G. Brown (W); 5, R. N. Langley (G); 6, M. W. L. Pease (G); 7, R. G. Macmillan (C); 8, J. K. Hemsworth (W).

HOUSE POSITIONS

	Junior Poin	ts		Senior Point.	s		Combined Po	ints
I.	Grenville	310	I.	Walpole	789	I.	Walpole	1079
2.	Cobham	302	2.	Grafton	765	2.	Grafton	1037
3.	Chatham	294	3.	, Cobham	714	3.	Cobham	1016
4.	Walpole	290	4.	Chandos	675	4.	Grenville	934
5.	Grafton	272	5.	Grenville	624	5-	Chatham	891
6.	Bruce	224	6.	Chatham	597	6.	Chandos	837
7.	Chandos	162	7.	Temple	537	7-	Bruce	683
8.	Temple	68	8.	Bruce	459	8.	Temple	605

FIRST VIII v. UPPINGHAM

The match was run on Saturday, March 2nd, at Uppingham in the worst possible weather conditions and resulted in a victory for Uppingham by 28 points to 50 (6 a side counting). Uppingham's scoring places were 1, 2, 3, 5, 7 and 10, against Stowe's 4, 6, 8, 9, 11 and 12.

A blizzard greeted our arrival at Seaton station and continued until the match was over; there was a strong and extremely cold wind and visibility was at times limited to about 30 yards. As a result the race became as much a test of physical endurance as of running powers; in this respect Calkin deserves particular mention, for he lost a shoe almost at the start and ran barefoot through the snow for 5 miles.

Despite Howard's courageous jump over an unreconnoitred hedge at the start, Uppingham quickly took the lead and at the half-way mark, where grass is left for the main road, they had the first three men, followed by Howard, Shirley and Binns. Over the last two miles Uppingham increased their lead and two more of their runners managed to split our trio: Stowe improved their positions in the lower half slightly.

Places :---

I. Kerr (Uppingham). 31 mins. 39 secs.

2. Reynolds (Uppingham).

3. Whitaker (Uppingham).

4. D. S. Howard (Stowe, 6). 32 mins. 54 secs.

5. Crooks (Uppingham).

6. R. W. Shirley (Stowe, T).

7. Chapple (Uppingham).

8. F. D. A. Binns (Stowe, W).

9. D. G. A. Airey (Stowe, C).

10. Denney (Uppingham).

11. I. B. Calkin (Stowe, W).
12. G. P. Tobin (Stowe, G).

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SQUASH

Only two matches have been played this term so far, but it is hoped to have a game against the Masters before the end of the term. The School lost 2—3 to Oriel College, Oxford, and 1—4 to the Imperial College, S. Kensington. The School was represented by :—J. H. Bourdon Smith (6), M. E. J. FitzGerald (6), M. D. T. Loup (7), P. M. Young (C), T. J. Greenley (W) and J. J. Crossley (G).

The Senior House Matches were played at the end of last term, and Grafton won after playing Bruce in the final. The Junior House Matches are being played this term and are still in progress. Mr. Owen has returned this term, and has given many lessons, which we hope will bear fruit in the future.

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THE STOIC

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ATHLETICS

Sports Day was held on Saturday, March 30th, when the weather for once was perfect. In spite of this, however, the track was still very heavy owing to the recent severe weather and one could not expect any outstanding times.

This indeed proved to be the case; but the comments of H. M. Abrahams on the first post-war University Sports very aptly describe the Stowe Sports of 1946—"We had no records, but blow the records; there has been some fine racing with terrific finishes and everybody has enjoyed himself."

Several outstanding individual performances were recorded, among which the feat of J. D. Lloyd (B) in winning four Open Events must rank first. J. M. Shinner (B) emulated this feat by winning four Under 16 Events; and D. S. Howard (B), P. M. Young (C), J. H. Withinshaw (C), G. M. Booth (C), D. Connington (B) and A. T. W. Innes (T) each won two events in their respective classes.

In the Open Events, Lloyd, having previously won both the High and Pole Jumps, won the first event on Sports Day, the Hundred Yards, by inches from J. J. Asbury-Bailey (W), who had already won the 220 Yards. It was a grand finish, with a few feet separating the next four runners. R. P. Marshall (C) then won the Hurdles in a most convincing manner. With more racing practice and a faster track, he would considerably improve upon his time of 17.3 secs. Young followed his success in the Weight with a good throw in the Javelin, and R. W. Shirley (T) won the Long Jump against very poor opposition at 19ft. $5\frac{1}{2}$ ins.

The Mile was a most interesting race. For the first two laps the lead changed hands several times, but F. D. A. Binns (W) opened up a lead of between forty at a fifty yards from Howard in the third lap. Howard then made a great effort half way down the back straight in the last lap and rapidly closed the gap, finally overtaking Binns on entering the final straight and winning comfortably. This completed a double for Howard, as he had previously won the Half-Mile. In this race his judgment had been excellent. Munks took the lead in the first lap, which was done in 59 secs., with Howard lying third; but Howard overtook him in the back straight and afterwards always looked the winner. The time of 2 mins. 11.3 secs was very useful considering that the track was heavy. Whereas Howard's judgment in this race was perfect, he should not normally allow anyone to get as far away from him as Binns did in the Mile and expect to win it.

The last Open Event to be run was the Quarter Mile and, as in the opening event, there was a great finish. Lloyd again came into it and this time he beat L. R. S. Mailer (6) by a foot, coming up very fast in the last few yards. Both these runners will be here next year and the result may go the other way.

In the Under 16 Events, Shinner and Withinshaw stood out in their respective spheres. Shinner won both sprints and the Quarter-Mile in most convincing style. He is strong, has a fine finish and should improve considerably on these times next year. His fourth success was in the Long Jump. Mention should be made of C. H. Bradly (B), who was runner-up to Shinner in all three races. In each case, Shinner's strong finish was too much for him, but the Hundred Yards was very close. Within-

shaw was in a class by himself in the distance races and he should do well in the future, perhaps very well. In both the Half and the Three-Quarter Mile he had to make his own pace from the start, and in the circumstances his times were most creditable. G. M. Booth (©) won both the Weight and the High Jump, being only three inches from the record in the former.

The Under 15 Events also produced several good results. Perhaps the best was the hurdling of the brothers Connington. J. Connington unaccountably fell when well over the last hurdle and his brother, who was just in the lead, thus won easily in a fast time. D. Connington also won the Long Jump with a jump of 17 ft. 1½ ins., a fine effort which oudid Shinner's Under 16 jump. Innes, who had won the Hundred Yards, ran a good second lap to win the Half Mile.

What of the future? It is hoped that the Triangular Match with Eton and Lancing will be resumed next year, and there is no need for pessimism in the Stowe camp. We may not win; but there are plenty of promising athletes in the School, especially among the younger generation, and above all they are keen to do well.

Results:---

OPEN EVENTS

100 Yards.—1, J. D. Lloyd (B); 2, J. J. Asbury-Bailey (W); 3, D. S. Withers (G); 4, G. J. Chibbett (C); 5, P. M. Young (C); 6, J. I. Tweedie-Smith (B). Time, 11.2 secs.

220 Yards.—I, J. J. Asbury-Bailey (W); 2, P. M. Young (C); 3, R. J. Broadley (W); 4, L. R. S. Marler (6); 5, M. R. S. J. Mackey (C); 6, J. I. Tweedie-Smith (B). Time, 25.1 secs.

Quarter Mile.—1, J. D. Lloyd (B); 2, L. R. S. Marler (6); 3, R. P. Marshall (C); 4, R. W. Shirley (T); 5, J. J. Asbury-Bailey (W); 6, T. S. Spicer (C). Time, 55.3 secs.

Half Mile.—1, D. S. Howard (6); 2, G. J. Chibbett (C); 3, F. D. A. Binns (W); 4, W. C. O. Munks (C); 5, A. C. B. Chancellor (C); 6, P. B. Buchanan (W); Time, 2 mins. 11.3 secs.

One Mile.—1, D. S. Howard (5); 2, F. D. A. Binns (W); 3, W. C. O. Munks (C); 4, D. G. A. Airey (C); 5, P. Few Brown (6); 6, A. C. B. Chancellor (C); Time, 4 mins. 58.4 secs.

120 Yards Hurdles.—1, R. P. Marshall (C); 2, P. B. Buchanan (W); 3, G. J. Chibbett (C); 4, R. A. Roxburgh (W); 5, M. D. K. Burns (B); 6, J. L. Freeman-Cowen (B). Time, 17.3 secs.

Long Jump.—1, R. W. Shirley (T); 2, T. R. Winser (T); 3, P. M. Young (C); 4, G. J. Chibbett (€); 5, M. R. S. J. Mackey (C); 6, L. R. S. Marler (⑤). Distance, 19 ft. 5¼ ins.

High Jump.—1, J. D. Lloyd (B); 2, D. G. A. Airey (C); 3, F. D. A. Binns (W); equal 4, S. D. M. Robertson (B) and N. Turquand-Young (C); 6, R. P. Marshall (C). Height, 5 ft. 2½ ins.

Pole Vault.—1, J. D. Lloyd (B); equal 2, R. N. B. Gubbins (T), R. J. P. Corry (C) and J. F. Wells (C). Height, 8 ft. 1 in.

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Throwing the Javelin.—1, P. M. Young (C); 2, J. J. Crossley (G); 3, F. D. A. Binns (W); 4, D. C. S. Mackenzie (C). Distance, 135 ft. $9\frac{1}{2}$ ins.

Throwing the Discus.—1, M. M. T. Paxton (C); 2, R. W. Shirley (T); 3, P. M. Young (C); 4, A. J. O. Ritchie (T). Distance, 92 ft. 3½ ins.

Putting the Weight.—1, P. M. Young (C); 2, T. F. Lloyd (C); 3, F. D. A. Binns (W); 4, R. W. Shirley (T). Distance, 37 ft. 6 ins.

UNDER SIXTEEN EVENTS

100 Yards.—1, J. M. Shinner (B); 2, C. H. Bradly (B); 3, G. W. Scott (C); 4, R. N. Langley (G). Time, 11.8 secs.

220 Yards.—1, J. M. Shinner (B); 2, C. H. Bradly (B); 3, G. W. Scott (C); 4, R. N. Langley (G). Time, 25.5 secs.

Quarter Mile.—1, J. M. Shinner (B); 2, C. H. Bradly (B); 3, G. W. Scott (ℂ); 4, F. W. A. Craandyk (B). Time, 59.2 secs.

Half Mile.—1, J. H. Withinshaw (\mathfrak{C}); 2, J. E. Gamble (\mathfrak{C}); 3, R. G. Macmillan (\mathfrak{C}); 4, D. S. Salt (\mathfrak{G}). Time, 2 mins. 31 secs.

Three-Quarter Mile.—1, J. H. Withinshaw (C); 2, J. E. Gamble (C); 3, R. G. Macmillan (C); 4, O. B. Sayer (T). Time, 3 mins. 41.8 secs.

120 Yards Hurdles.—1, D. E. Bode (C); 2, F. J. Hawkins (6); 3, W. J. G. Brown (W); 4, G. W. Scott (C). Time, 20.2 secs.

Long Jump.—1, J. M. Shinner (B); 2, N. R. Cunningham-Reid (G); 3, C. H. Bradly (B); 4, G. W. Scott (€). Distance, 17 ft.

High Jump.—1, G. M. Booth (€); 2, J. F. Marsden (W); 3, N. R. Cunningham-Reid (G); 4, equal, D. E. Bode (C) and R. R. Glover (⑤). Height, 4 ft. 10 ins.

Putting the Weight.—1, G. M. Booth (C); 2, N. R. Cunningham-Reid (G); 3, J. Duke (6). Distance, 37 ft. $6\frac{1}{2}$ ins.

UNDER FIFTEEN EVENTS

100 Yards.—1, A. T. W. Innes (T); 2, D. Connington (B); 3, P. G. Shinner (B). Time, 12.1 secs.

Half Mile.—1, A. T. W. Innes (T); 2, J. F. F. Le Poer Trench (C); 3, P. J. R. Hubert (3). Time, 2 mins. 29.3 secs.

Long Jump.—1, D. Connington (B); 2, J. Connington (B); 3, P. G. Shinner (B). Distance, 17 ft. 1½ ins.

High Jump.—1, G. T. Laing (B); 2, G. H. Schmiegelow (W); 3, A. T. W. Innes (T). Height, 4 ft. $5\frac{1}{2}$ ins.

House Sports Cup.—1, Bruce, $98\frac{1}{2}$ points; 2, Walpole, 69; 3, Cobham, $59\frac{1}{2}$; 4, Chatham, 54; 5, Grafton, $46\frac{1}{2}$; 6, Temple, 39; 7, Chandos, $37\frac{1}{2}$; 8, Grenville, 20.

HOCKEY

For the first time since regular Hockey started at Stowe four years ago the weather has been really bad and much very necessary practice has had to be sacrificed. The month which had been set aside for universal Hockey produced a fortnight of snow, slush and frost, and arrangements, nicely calculated to fit into the very limited time available, were seriously upset. Nevertheless Senior House Matches were played, somewhat late but with fairly representative sides, and the play in them was better than was expected.

Most have now played Hockey at least since they came to Stowe and games this year at all levels have been the best so far seen. The early claims of Under Fifteen Rugger have made it difficult for many Juniors to learn the game, which may show unfavourable results in future years, but a certain amount has been done on Corps afternoons, and the first Stowe Junior Colts eleven did well against Radley.

The Thirty plays better Hockey than it has ever done before. Earlier First Elevens have had a distinct tail and inadequate reserves, but this season there have been plenty of players to fill gaps and the Second Eleven is a much better team than its predecessor.

The First Eleven at one time looked like becoming a good side. Its début against the R.A.F. Apprentices was full of promise. It won easily against St. Edward's and hardly deserved to lose against Magdalen College School. Then the weather interrupted training and eliminated the Occasionals match, which should have been a valuable experience, and before the side had recovered from its inactivity it was beaten, though narrowly, by Radley and more definitely by a good Rugby side.

It is a disappointing record and it is probable that more than one result might have been altered by the infusion of something which, for lack of an exact English word, one may call "ferocitas," a spirit more valuable to any side than unlimited coaching or practice. It is a combination of alertness, tenacity, aggressiveness, hustle and the will to win; it will always rattle an otherwise superior opponent, and it will make a good side practically unbeatable. G. J. Chibbett (C), the captain, has something of this quality. He is fast, spectacular and indefatigable, but

too much of an individualist. His solo work at left half has been very valuable in crises, but he is better at outside left, to which place he has recently returned. The forwards, on their day, begin to look something like a good line, but miss too many opportunities of exploiting gaps in the defence. P. V. Rycroft (C) has neat stickwork and cool judgement, but is slow on his feet. M. D. K. Burns (B) is worth his place for his powerful shooting. M. E. J. FitzGerald (6) is clever with his stick and fairly fast. His centres are not hard enough, but he has made some profitable openings. The best of the halves is D. R. S. Kingan (T), his good eye and sense of position making up for his lack of speed. P. M. Young (C) and P. N. Briggs (C) combine contrasting styles to make a flexible defence, the one cool and accurate with a firm tackle but too fond of dribbling, the other fast and impulsive though not altogether reliable. A. T. V. B. Bik (C) lets very little into the goal that can be stopped.

THE SCHOOL v. ST. EDWARD'S, OXFORD.

Played at Stowe on Wednesday, February 20th. Won, 5-0.

St. Edward's had only just started their season and had played only two or three games before the match. From the start it was plain that we should control the game. The forwards very soon began to get together, their short passing looking very effective against an inexperienced and somewhat bewildered defence. Rycroft, very much at home in this sort of game against slow tackling, made some neat openings with flick passing. FitzGerald was excellent at outside-right, varying the long centre with short back-passes to his inside. Stowe scored three times in the first half. As the game proceeded, the halves and backs moved up to the attack, pinning St. Edward's down in their own twenty-five and allowing them little chance to clear and none to develop an attack. Two more goals followed in the second half and only inaccurate shooting prevented a much larger score.

The match gave the side a good chance to practise playing according to the book. At the same time the standard of play was not remarkably high—the pace was too slow and there is still a great deal to learn about constructive play. By normal standards our passing was too late and too square and would have been intercepted by experienced backs. A hustling and harrying opposition would probably have been more healthy for the development of the side. It is to be hoped that the Occasionals and Rugby will show them something quite different, for Stowe have not yet learnt to play at top speed.

Team:—A. P. Dewing (C); P. M. Young (C), P. N. Briggs (C); P. B. W. Pumfrey (C), D. R. S. Kingan (T), G. J. Chibbett (C); M. E. J. FitzGerald (6), D. R. North (W), M. D. K. Burns (B), P. V. Rycroft (C), J. J. Asbury-Bailey (W).

THE SCHOOL v. RADLEY

THE STOIC

Played at Radley on Saturday, March 9th. Lost, 3-4.

There had been no Hockey for nearly two weeks before this match because of the snow, but, in spite of this, or maybe because of this, the game was very fast, and probably the best of the season. From the start, Radley attacked and their quick passing among the forwards showed up very well in comparison with the slow movements of the Stowe line. It was not long before they gained their reward, and, after twenty minutes' play, they were two goals in hand. Things now looked very black for Stowe. FitzGerald, however, put some new life into an otherwise lifeless forward line, and, largely on his own initiative, scored two goals. So the score remained till half-time.

After the change-over, Stowe seemed a different side, and in the second half had a definite superiority. The forwards were warming up, the defence, particularly Young, was very sure, and Turquand-Young had now mastered the Radley left wing who had been troublesome in the first half. But then came the lapse which comes, at times, to every side. The Stowe lapse only lasted five minutes, but, during it, Radley scored two goals. The Stowe recovery was quick, but the forwards, though playing much better, were unable to put the ball into the net. Chibbett scored off a corner five minutes from time, but that was to be the last goal. Altogether Stowe was unlucky to lose a very good and even game for which a draw would have been a fair result.

Team: -A. T. V. B. Bik (C); P. M. Young (C), P. N. Briggs (C); N. Turquand-Young (C), D. R. S. Kingan (T), G. J. Chibbett (C); M. E. J. FitzGerald (6), M. D. K. Burns (B), G. F. Armitage (W), P. V. Rycroft (C), M. D. T. Loup (T).

THE SCHOOL v. RUGBY

Played at Rugby on Tuesday, March 12th. Lost, 1-4.

We expected Rugby to be a good side and we were not disappointed. Their stickwork was better, they were faster on the wings and their tactics were more open and purposeful. They hit the ball very hard and accurately. Their forwards kept it close and got on the ball more quickly. Lastly, they went all out to win the initiative and they gave nothing away. By contrast Stowe were slow on the ball and very dilatory in making use of it. They can hit as hard as anyone could wish, but to-day they seemed either to fluff their drives or to pat the ball tamely into the blue. Needless to say, the alleged pass had already been anticipated and was snapped up by a Rugby man several feet ahead of the nearest Stowe player. Stowe did not play like a beaten side, indeed much of the individual play was as good as anything on the Rugby side, but they seemed lacking in purpose and too ready to let their opponents have their way. Forwards, backs and halves all dallied with the ball, until either they lost it or the next move was anticipated, so that they seldom had the Rugby defence disorganized.

Rugby had nearly all the game for the first fifteen minutes. Thereafter we recovered from the first confusion and gradually began to develop our attack. Then followed ten minutes of really encouraging play. Taking the cue from Rugby we began to hit the ball about, to keep the game moving and in the right direction. Rycroft missed the goal narrowly and several times we were in a position to score. Armitage got in a hurried and not very hard shot, but followed it up and rushed it through. We were one goal up and we looked as if we could add more.

8 I

However, this promising phase passed and Rugby recovered and hit back, scoring twice before half-time, while Stowe relapsed into uninspired and mainly defensive play. We were still in a position to win if we could have recovered the initiative, but there ensued a long period of inferior play. Stowe were evidently feeling the pace and there was a certain amount of miss-hitting, while few passes found their mark. Rugby continued to press, and though Bik made one good save, they had added two more goals by the end of the game, one a magnificent half-volley shot that no goalkeeper could have stopped. Stowe had one more chance, but Burns shot straight at the goal-keeper. Otherwise we seldom looked like scoring in this half.

The result fairly represented the run of the play. It was not an overwhelming defeat. Stowe earned their single goal by establishing a distinct superiority for a short time. They were beaten in the second half, firstly because they allowed their opponents to get to the ball first, secondly because they presented them with at least one pass out of three, thirdly because they were slightly less expert with their sticks. The moral is obvious.

Team:—A. T. V. B. Bik (C); P. M. Young (C), P. N. Briggs (C); N. Turquand-Young (C), D. R. S. Kingan (T), G. J. Chibbett (C); M. E. J. FitzGerald (G), M. D. K. Burns (B), G. F. Armitage (W), P. V. Rycroft (C), M. D. T. Loup (T).

THE SCHOOL v. MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL, OXFORD

Played at Stowe on Wednesday, March 13th. Lost 1-2.

We were without Young for this match and missed his steady tackling and hard hitting. Magdalen College School played good hockey and showed clear signs of experience and regular practice, both individually and as a team. There was very little in the early stages of the game, though M.C.S. on the whole were developing their attack better and showing more co-operation between forwards and halves. Stowe, on the other hand, were swinging the ball about and several times had the defence on the run with long passes from the wings. FitzGerald found himself closely marked and was unable to provide the usual chances from his wing. Nevertheless opportunities arose, but erratic shooting lost us at least two goals.

By half-time M.C.S. were two goals up and deserved it. Stowe, however, were improving, and it was not long before we scored. The remainder of the game was much more in our favour, and we finished in good style, well on top of our opponents, though still unable to turn our advantage into goals.

It was a fast game, with good stick-work on both sides. The result was disappointing—one felt that we might just as well have won as lost. Stowe were not really playing together, though there was plenty of individual promise. Chibbett, at centre-half, worked prodigiously, but his usual tendency to hold the ball too long drew him out of position and left his wing uncovered. Briggs was good at left-back, but his rush tackles were highly dangerous when he was not covered by Lloyd.

Team:—A. T. V. B. Bik (C); S. B. Lloyd (C), P. N. Briggs (C); N. Turquand-Young (C), D. R. S. Kingan (T), G. J. Chibbett (C); M. E. J. FitzGerald (B), D. R. North (W), S. B. Cunningham (T), P. V. Rycroft (C), M. D. T. Loup (T).

BOXING

An effort has been made this term to reintroduce Boxing at Stowe, after a lapse of some years.

The School's response to its introduction was both surprising and gratifying. There were seventy entries for the first Championship, the finals of which were held in the Gymnasium at 8.30 p.m. on Friday, March 22nd.

Illness prevented the participation of some Finalists and Runners-up had to be substituted. Both during the Preliminaries and the Finals, the boxers displayed character and gave a good impression of developing skill, whilst leaving little doubt as to their ability to fight.

Circumstances prevented the whole School from attending the Finals, which must have been a disappointment for most, since unusual and unanticipated enthusiasm had previously been shown by many.

A good attendance at such functions would do much to relieve the prejudice that does exist; and to the many interested would constitute further encouragement towards active participation, whilst perhaps creating new interest in others. As teams rely much upon the supporting crowd, so does the presence of an interested audi-

ence favourably react upon the boxers. It is hoped that a more suitable time will be arranged next year and that the School will then be able to attend.

GYMKHANA

In view of the increased interest in riding, it was decided to hold a Gymkhana towards the end of term. The date decided on was Sunday, March 17th, and a field near the Corinthian was to be the arena. All the events were inter-House, and were arranged on the "knock-out" system. Each House had to produce a team of their four best riders, the Haig Cup being awarded to the winning House.

The organization was very nobly undertaken by Dr. Huggins, Mr. Connor and a number of helpers and they prepared the field for three events—jumping, a bending race and an obstacle race.

The best performance was in the jumping, in which the Grafton team made a particularly fine show. Probably the greatest obstacle in the obstacle race was understanding the involved procedure, for this included such diverse items as eating buns, dropping potatoes into a bucket, saddling and unsaddling, all interwoven with a relay race.

We were most fortunate in having, besides the future Joint Master of the Grafton, Dr. Huggins, the present Master, Lord Hillingdon, as the judges.

The winners of the Haig Cup were Bruce, with Chandos and Grafton as close runners-up.

The Gymkhana was a great success in every way, only the weather being unfavourable. However, the rain held off till near the end and, although many of the spectators were driven to cover, did not damp the competitors' enthusiasm.

Clubs and Societies

THE GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

Towards the end of last term, on December 11th, the Society had its first lecture from an Old Stoic. The lecturer was Captain R. E. Pears (6, 1934), Parachute Regt., and he spoke about Iraq and Iran, where he was posted at one period of the war. He first described Iraq, whence after landing at Basra and being stationed in the vicinity of that port for a short time he moved north to Baghdad. From Baghdad he journeyed with some lorries taking supplies to the Polish Forces in Persia. Capt. Pears gave detailed accounts of the scenery and inhabitants of the two countries.

On February 6th, Major E. A. Belcher talked to the Society on "New Zealand," where he was a Headmaster prior to the 1914-18 war. He gave a brief account of the history of New Zealand and then spoke about present-day conditions, particularly con-

cerning the very successful Socialist Government of the country.

The second meeting this term was held on March 11th, when H. T. Thornton-Berry (C) read a paper on "Hinduism in India." He listed the deplorable customs associated with this religion and said that Hinduism was very slowly declining in power.

Later in the term the Secretary intends to read a paper on "The Civilisation of the Incas."

M.H.G.S.

THE XII CLUB

The traditions of the Club are such that to prepare a paper for it means a great deal of hard work, and the Club meets but seldom. At the end of last term, D. B. Morgan-Grenville (W) read a paper on "The Byzantine Empire," which was happily not so exhaustive as to be exhausting. This term A. N. Griffith (B) delivered a paper on the refinements (in one sense) of crime and of methods of inflicting sudden death. R. W. Shirley (T) later read a perplexing paper on "The Mind-Body Problem."

G.P.L.

THE CONGREVE CLUB

Since this is the term for house plays, the Congreve Club has limited its activities

to organizing lectures and play-readings.

At a General Meeting held on January 26th it was decided that rather than try tobuy impossibly expensive electrical equipment, it would be better to start lectures, both of a general and more technical nature, on subjects connected with the stage and theatre. Two lectures have been given, both on technical subjects, lighting and make-up. The first was given by Mr. Richard Southern, an excellent lecture on the principles and fundamentals of lighting.

On March 15th, Miss Nancy Fisher gave the second lecture, on "Make-up." A.W. Murdoch (T) gallantly offered himself as model and spent the evening undergoing rapid transformations at the hands of Miss Fisher, from a young heroine to an old man

who looked surprisingly like Harpo Marx.

These two lectures have been open to all members of the School in the hope of increasing the standard of make-up, and particularly lighting, not only in Congreve Club productions, but also in house-plays.

Play-readings have been held at Mr. Dams' house in Dadford. Unfortunately the Drama League made a muddle over the books, so that there have only been two meetings this term. At the first Noel Coward's brilliant comedy "Hay Fever" was read, which was a great success; and at the second a group of one-act plays.

S.D.M.R.

THE SYMPOSIUM

Three meetings were held this term, papers being read by M. C. J. Whitby (G) upon "The City of London," a humorous but comprehensive and clear study of the city's customs and life; by J. C. Harper (T) upon "Havelock Ellis," an appreciation of this philosopher's thoughts; and by P. A. Gibbs (O) upon" Lavoisier," an account of his many contributions to scientific knowledge. All the papers were penetrating and

Members were: -M. Birkett (T) (Secretary), S. D. M. Robertson (B), A. Caiger-Smith (T), P. M. Gibbs (C), J. C. Harper (T), J. D. R. Whitley (W), M. C. J. Whitley

(G), J. K. Hill (C), J. F. Pim (B).

The Society learnt, with deep regret, that Mr. Knight, the President, is leaving at the end of term, and feels deeply grateful for all that he has done to make the Society what it is. We shall all miss him very much.

M.B.

THE SCIENCE SOCIETY

At the end of last term a meeting was held during which a new constitution for the Society was drawn up. By this constitution the Society was divided into senior and junior members, the senior members being entitled to a tea before each meeting. A society subscription was also proposed and a Treasurer (a mathematican) was elected.

The first meeting of the term was held on February 13th, when a film was shown on "Oil Production." This drew a large audience but was unfortunately rather poor. After a lapse of several weeks, the next meeting was held on March 6th, when Mr. Stewart, of Messrs. Kodak, came down to give a lecture on "High Speed Photography." This was an excellent lecture and extremely interesting, the varied uses of this type of photography in industry being amazing. There will be one more meeting this term, when Mr. Reynolds will be giving a lecture on "Uranium and its Salts."

It was hoped to have arranged an expedition to a power station at St. Neots, but this was thwarted owing to a transport ban. The visit will probably be arranged next

term when the ban will have been lifted.

During the term, D. I. Hird (C) and R. M. Macnaughton (C) have been observing astronomical objects of interest, and on a number of occasions have demonstrated them to members of the School. On Sunday, February 9th, R. M. Macnaughton demonstrated a large sunspot group to some fifty members of the School.

F.C.

THE 46 CLUB

So far this term, the Club has held two meetings. At the first of these, Mr. E. H. Boyd tendered his resignation from the post of President of the Club. The Club accepted his resignation with the greatest of regret and unanimously passed a vote of thanks proposed by Mr. Llowarch. Mr. E. H. Reynolds was elected the new President of the Club.

A paper read by A. N. Griffith (B) was on "Forensic Medicine." It gave an extremely good account of the way in which science is used in the detection of crime, and its effectiveness was very much augmented by the large number of models and diagrams available for inspection.

The second meeting was held five weeks later, when R. W. Shirley (T) read a paper of the most absorbing nature on "The Mind-Body Problem." This paper was a departure from any previous one heard by the Club in that it was decidedly philosophic; but its unconventionality proved a cause for the most animated discussion in the history of the Club.

It is hoped to have a further meeting this term, when R. H. Prestwich (6) will read a paper on the subject of "Vision in Birds."

W. L. N. Brinson (C) has been elected a member of the Club.

R.M.M.

THE VITRUVIANS

At the end of last term the Treasurer, R. P. Marshall (C), read a paper on "Edinburgh," in which he dealt with the older part of the City and which was illustrated with several photographs shown on the epidiascope.

The first activity of this term was a general business meeting held on February and. It was two years since we had last had such a meeting and the members present were very ready to air their views and make suggestions. Note was taken of all the points brought up.

On February 13th, Mr. R. Gordon Brown, A.R.I.B.A., A.A.Dipl., came down from the A.A. School of Architecture in London, where he is Principal, to give us a lantern lecture on "The Architect and His Work," in which he dealt with the architect as an individual from the time of the building of the Pyramids of Gizeh to the present day. Three weeks later, Mr. John Betjeman visited the School and delivered a delightful vindication of "Victorian Architecture" to the Society. His talk, which was enlivened with some very amusing anecdotes, was chiefly concerned with Victorian Architects and their personalities, as he was attempting to explain how what was on the particular architect's mind caused him to design the building concerned. On March 16th the Treasurer read an instructive paper entitled "Design in Everyday Life," after which he showed some sixty illustrations on the epidiascope.

The Committee this term has been the same as last term, except for the post of Treasurer which has been held by J. S. Taylor (T). The membership for the term was 71, of whom 25 were in the Upper School.

D.H.W.V.

THE MODERN LANGUAGES SOCIETY

New members elected to the Society this term were:—M. Birkett (T), E. M. L. Latham (C) and G. H. B. Carter (T). E. C. Skepper (T) was Secretary and N. N. Proddow (C) committee-man.

Unfortunately, owing to the lack of copies of French or German plays available, the Society's play-reading has been greatly curtailed. There were only four meetings this term and the only play read was Théodore de Banville's "Gringoire."

E.C.S.

THE CHESS CLUB

During recent terms there has been a steady increase in the number of those who play chess, so that the re-starting of a chess club was welcomed by a comparatively large number of people. In the re-establishment of the old club on a permanent basis with a President, Secretary, Treasurer, small committee and about twenty members, the aid of Mr. Windsor-Richards was invaluable, and he consented to become President. The Secretary elected was D. S. Howard (6) and the Treasurer, M. F. Triefus (W).

On Saturday, March 9th, the Club organized a team of six which played and won against Radley on their home boards by three games to one with two stalemates. The enthusiasm roused by this was considerable and it was with great disappointment that another match against Bradfield College had to be cancelled owing to travelling difficul-

'At the moment of going to press there is an individual tournament in progress, and in the House matches the winner of Grafton and Chandos will meet the winner of Walpole and Chatham in the final.

The team that won against Radley was as follows:-

	owe.		Radley.	
2nd Board. 3rd Board. 4th Board. 5th Board.	H. T. Thornton-Berry (C) D. S. Howard (6) A. C. Eastgate (C) V. S. Greig (C) J. C. Matthews (6) R. A. Hird (C)	v. v. v.	E. G. Nugee. M. J. Flint. O. J. Horrocks G. H. James. J. D. Briggs. P. P. J. Sterwin.	Won. Lost. S.m. S.m. Won. Won. D.S.H.

THE FILM SOCIETY

This winter's films have been French and Russian, and on the whole most enjoyable. The appeal of the French film lies, of course, in the totally different technique and system of production from that used in our own studios. "Sous les toits de Paris," one of the first films to use sound—and to use it with an economy which directors of today might emulate—has been much criticised for a lack of cohesive action. However, it shows excellently the French method of taking a district, its atmosphere, and its life, as the theme of a film, and leaving the characters and action as incidental to the environment. "Le Voleur de Femmes" and "Quai des Brumes" were two modern and well-executed films; Jean Gabin's performance in the latter being first-class. "Le Lac aux Dâmes" was the French counterpart of the weaker type of Hollywood production, in which bathing beauties figured prominently.

We eagerly welcomed the chance to see a Russian film-Chekhov's "Jubilee," a knock-about farce that taxed no-one's mental powers, but had the restraint to last only thirty minutes. Eighty-four minutes of "Adventure in Bokhara," an adventure that was clearly written for a slow-witted audience, did not have this virtue. It was comforting to see that the Russians have quite as many weak moments on the screen as any other nation.

The Society hopes to show more German and Russian films next year.

E.C.S.

G.P.L.

THE LIBRARY

One of the things that we have inherited from the former inmates of Stowe is an attitude towards the small things of life that might be described as one of easy disdain. It does not matter if things are lost or destroyed or wasted—there are always more to

take their place.

That is to say, there always have been. Little annoyances like the war, it is known, have interfered with this prerogative of magnificence so indispensable to the equipment of a true gentleman; and not least is this so in the case of books. When we found at the end of last term that five per cent. of our Library was missing, we reluctantly decided that laisser faire had had its day, and that the time had come for a little rigid state control. In consequence, books have had to be taken out at fixed times when there has (theoretically) been someone in the room to check them out. At all other times the cases have been locked. The confusion that the institution of this system caused behind the scenes was beyond belief. Quaint difficulties arose to prevent our obtaining anyone to let books out. At first the Librarians took it in turn. Then Miss Soffe was torn from the protecting arms of Mr. Lucas, and, with Mrs. Watt's help, carried us through the greater part of the term. Finally Mr. Saunders returned to take over for the last fortnight. Inconvenience has inevitably been caused to many quite innocent people, but the School as a whole has fallen in with the new scheme remarkably quickly and there has been no diminution in the number of books read. The increase in efficiency is, of course, very great, and evidence so far points to an almost negligible loss of books.

We held this term's Gallery Sale early in March, again clearing a large amount of space for better things and again demonstrating under what circumstances the pounds will look after themselves. The quality of the books for sale, euphemistically described as Miscellaneous Literary Works, was in many ways better than in any previous term: the demand, in consequence, was not so good. But it was good enough, and another valuable instalment has been added to the history of the Gallery, before that venerable structure finally collapses (as it surely must) on to the floor of the Library eight feet

below.

Otherwise, like Mr. Gladstone, we aimed at Peace, Retrenchment and Reform. Unfortunately, Retrenchment and Reform went ahead so well that Peace was rather squeezed out, but large blocks of work—cataloguing, transferring, checking—have melted away before us, and the result has been a term of stern and masterful progress.

A number of eighteenth century books relating to Stowe, mostly various editions of Seely's Guide, have been presented to the Library by Mr. T. Clarke.

H.A.C.

ENTERTAINMENTS

The films have shown a decided improvement this term. With one or two exceptions, they have all contained the elements, either of good cinema, or of entertainment pure and simple.

The term began particularly well with the movie of Daphne du Maurier's Rebecca, exquisitely acted, and one of Hitchcock's greatest triumphs.

Dark Waters revealed Merle Oberon in some sort of peril in the Louisiana Swamps. But it was a little too dark to discern exactly what.

History Is Made At Night was an old and rather slow comedy, somewhat redeemed by the climax of a huge liner striking an iceberg.

On Approval was a hilarious Lonsdale comedy, screened by Clive Brook. But Beatrice Lillie seized the honours.

Waterloo Road was an effete but well-acted little British effort on the subject of the temptations in the path of a soldier's wife.

Greer Garson, who has rather a genius for finding unsuitable parts, is far from convincing as the glamorous Mrs. Parkington, but the supporting players are brilliant.

Patrick Hamilton's Gaslight has been remade quite unnecessarily in America. Although Ingrid Bergman won the Academy Award for her performance, the film proves once again that Charles Boyer is the most polished actor in Hollywood.

H.P.S.

EXPEDITIONS

Members of the General Modern Studies Side (8a) paid two visits to London this term in order to see public institutions in action.

The first party went to Bow Street Police Court on March 2nd. The Presiding Magistrate, Mr. L. R. Dunne, M.C., had kindly given permission to attend a whole session.

A Police Inspector received the party, and showed them round the Court Buildings, telling them of the history of Bow Street, explaining the cases which were going to follow, and describing the procedure. When the Court opened, the party was given reserved seats and was allowed in Court while the Magistrate heard "Applications" which were officially in camera.

There followed seventeen cases, from petty offences such as being "drunk and disorderly" for which small fines were imposed, up to serious offences such as house-breaking, desertion and forgery for which the offenders were sent to prison.

The party gained not only a picture of a somewhat gloomy though real aspect of life, but above all they saw for the first time how the English legal system works in action. After the session the Presiding Magistrate received them most kindly in his private rooms, and explained many details and answered more questions.

The second visit was on March 6th to the G.P.O. This has been made possible through the kindness of the Postmaster General, The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Listowel, P.C. The party was shown round for over two hours by the Chief Controller of the London Postal Region and his three assistants. The three main sections they saw were the Post Office's private underground railway, the letter-section, which copes with 17 million letters a week, and the parcel section, which deals with over 80 thousand parcels a day. The whole organization was so gigantic, amazing and at times over-powering that any detailed description would be misleading. All felt not only thrilled throughout the visit, but deeply grateful to the authorities that they were privileged to see one of the greatest organizations in the world in action, and to have every detail of it explained to them and every question answered by one of the senior officers.

LECTURES

The series of Upper School lectures was continued this term.

The first speaker was Sir Frederick Ogilvie, Principal of Jesus College, Oxford, who came on February 5th and had chosen as his subject "An Approach to Economics." His lecture covered a much wider field than the title might suggest. He explained and discussed such topical subjects as the American loan, post-war trade, social security and international economic problems. Moreover, after the lecture he answered a

great many questions from which the audience greatly benefited.

On February 22nd the new Member for Buckingham, Flt./Lt. Aidan Crawley (Labour) paid his first visit to Stowe. He spoke on the general situation at home and abroad. The picture he gave of the Government's intentions and achievements was somewhat different from the one given by Mr. Beverley Baxter last term. The house thoroughly enjoyed being able within such a short interval to hear two opposed points of view presented to them. Flt./Lt. Crawley answered many questions after the lecture and met about twenty senior boys informally after dinner to continue the discussion with them. The speaker was accompanied by his wife, the American diplomat and author, Virginia Cowles, who most kindly, and to the great delight of those present, answered questions on American policy, mentality and outlook.

Lastly, Mr. A. J. P. Taylor, Fellow of Magdalen College, came on March 14th to talk on "The Situation in Central-Eastern Europe." He explained the facts and problems of the Balkan states, made it abundantly clear that political and economic conditions in this part of Europe cannot possibly be compared to Western European standards, and that a solution can be found to the grave Balkan problems only if we bear in mind this fundamental difference between East and West. Nothing, according to Mr. Taylor, would be more futile than to try to apply our standards of political and ethical rules to Eastern Europe. His talk, too, was followed by a most stimulating discussion.



GENERAL PAPER

What was or is the colour of:—1, The Limpopo river? 2, The Queen who screamed before she was hurt? 3, The facings of the East Kent Regiment? 4, The Benedictine habit? 5, The quarantine flag? 6, Apuleius' ass? 7, Germander speedwell? 8, Judas' bribe? 9, Gainsborough's Boy? 10, Moby Dick?

In the following groups of words or names, four have a common factor. Strike out the one which is out of place:—11, Aeneid, Iliad, Odyssey, Areopagitica, Argonautica. 12, Ceres, Diana, Juno, Jugurtha, Minerva. 13, Julius Caesar, Fabius Cunctator, Hannibal, Titus Andronicus, Epaminondas. 14, Gibbon, Herodotus, Livy, Praxiteles, Thucydides. 15, Verulamium, Mancunium, Camelodunum, Uriconium, Condominium. 16, Slim, Spiers, Somerville, Stilwell, Spaatz. 17, Skua, siskin, bittern, burnet, grebe. 18, Herculean, stentorian, spasmodic, titanic, volcanic. 19, Decimetre, decilitre, decimal, decibel, decigram. 20, Dram, scruple, grain, carat, pole.

To the following suffixes add the name of an animal to make a flower:—21, -rose. 22, -parsley. 23, -glove. 24, -bell. 25, -pint.

To the suffix "lock" join words to describe the following:—26, Wild mustard. 27, A male witch. 28, The hair behind a horse's pastern. 29, A poisonous plant used for drugs. 30, A town in Derbyshire.

Who composed:—31, The Enigma Variations? 32, An American in Paris? 33, The Lost Chord? 34, The Jupiter Symphony? 35, Prince Igor?

Mortmain; Morton's Fork; Mortimer's Cross; Pride's Purge; Drake 'sDrum; the Queen's Maries; the King's Evil; Brown Bess; Bloody Mary; Spinning Jenny; Mons Meg; King Pym; Black Tom. From the list above, write down:—36, A Queen. 37, A battle. 38, An Act of Parliament. 39, A musket. 40, A disease.

41-45. Arrange the following (one artist and one author) in approximate contemporary pairs:—Turner, Rubens, Johnson, Wordsworth, Rembrandt, Gainsborough, Milton, Shakespeare, Van Eyck, Chaucer.

In which games or sports are the following terms used:—46, "A good wood."?
47, "Give her ten."? 48, Piece "en prise."?

- "Striker nominated blue after a foul, but failed at an awkward double, leaving his opponent angled." 49, What is the game? 50, Who is the World Champion?
- 51, What name is common to:—A Stowe athlete, a war commentator, a battle, a town where chess tournaments are held, and a Governor-General. 52, Who laid the Foundation Stone of Stowe Chapel? 53, In what year? 54, From the following list of names strike out the one unconnected with Stowe's history:—Pope, Cobbett, Inigo Jones, Vanbrugh, Grenville, Pitt, Brown, Queen Victoria.

What is the symbolic animal of:—55, St. Mark? 56, St. John?; and the floral national emblem of:—57, France? 58, Athens? 59, Canada?

State whether each of these statements is TRUE or FALSE:—60, Water boils at a lower temperature in Simla than it does in Calcutta. 61, An iceberg floats with 5/8ths of its bulk below the water level. 62, Birds can perch safely on the "live" rail of an electrified railway. 63, A long-sighted person cannot see distant objects clearly.

Give the names of those men usually credited with the following scientific discoveries:—64, X-rays. 65, The law of gravitation. 66, The telescope. 67, The telephone. 68, The barometer.

69. What is the standard fuel of a jet-engined aircraft such as the Meteor?

Quinoline, crinoline, mepacrine, rayon, carillon, cyclotron, Geryon, George, Gee. sun-spots, sundew, Saturn, novocaine, ptomaine, naphthalene. From the list given above, select the word you associate with: -70, Radar. 71, An anaesthetic. 72, Magnetic storms. 73, Atomic fission. 74, An anti-malarial specific.

Which of the following woods (ash, box, elm, hickory, rosewood) would be most suitable for making: -75, skis? 76, a wheelbarrow? 77, a peg for a violin? 78, a ruler? 79, a pickaxe handle?

- 80-84. Arrange in the right chronological order:—The end of the North-African campaign, Russian counter-offensive at Stalingrad, Battle of Midway, Fall of Singapore, Sinking of the Bismarck.
- 85, The proposed American loan to Great Britain involves our acceptance of an agreement made at :- Birnam Wood, Bretton Woods, Warm Springs, Dumbarton Oaks, Forest Row or Savile Row? Which?
- Complete the following:—86, "In my Father's house are many....." 87, "I will pull down my and build others." 88, "There was a man
- 91, Whose nose caused him to make love by proxy? 92, Whose ear was the pretext of a war? 93, Whose leg appeared cross-gartered and in yellow stockings? 94, Whose eye was burnt out by Ulysses?
- 95-96. Two of the following are famous chess players. Which? Alexander, Montgomery, Lysander, Vyshinsky, Manuilsky, Tartakower, Suvorov, Tolstoy, Paderewski, Casabianca.
- A six-inch cube is painted blue and then cut into 216 one-inch cubes. How many of the small cubes will have exactly:—97, One blue face? 98, Two blue faces? 99, Three blue faces? 100, Four blue faces?

DEEP WATER TO SHOAL

It was as though he was gradually sinking—his body seemed to grow heavier. The level of the water sank, the water rumbled, making valiant attempts to draw his feet down the pipe, and he, like some survivor of a shipwreck, lay there still, as the water drained away.

. It had all been so sudden and his confused senses were not fully aware what had happened, but the awful implications soon made themselves evident.

He might have done it subconsciously, or it might have been pure accident, he thought, and for the moment he was content to meditate on the causes and disregard the consequences. But he could not escape from the fact that the chain was firmly wound round his toes.

There was a final conclusive and singularly expressive gurgle, and the last drops of water drained out in an insignificant trickle. As he lay there reflecting upon the inopportune ending of his reverie, he contented himself with the realisation that it wasn't his bath night after all.

J.S.T.

STORY

John was aged eight when, out of the blue, came a Great Day. For a whole afternoon he was entrusted with the key of the house. This was to let himself in with when he came back at tea-time, since everyone else was going out.

Just after four he came down the road; it was a quiet surburban avenue. A light breeze was beginning to tremble the tops of the stumpy chestnuts on the green plots of grass on either side. In the distance a lawn-mower rattled. He trotted down the gravel path leading to the front door. With satisfaction he looked at the cool white plaster façade of the house. It was his: he was the only person for miles who could get in. In order to prolong this pleasant feeling he decided not to go in just yet, and trotted off down the path of crazy paving leading round the house to the lawn at the back.

Ten minutes later he walked importantly round to the front again and put his hand into the right-hand pocket of his shorts. Suddenly the house swayed and went blurry

in front of him. Then it froze back again snap to its normal shape.

"Bother," he said, "I must have lost it." And then he gave a small gurgle when he realized that it wasn't in the other pocket either. A train passed through a cutting in the valley half-a-mile away.

For a whirling few seconds, thoughts racketed about his brain: the thought of being locked out and all alone; the thought of no tea; the maddening thought of how silly he would look when they all came back, still out in the garden, poor little thing; and most of all the humiliation of having thought how important one was, and suddenly finding one wasn't. Then he panicked down the crazy path again to search all the ground he had been over.

He tore round and round the lawn like a terrier. Then he very deliberately walked up and down, searching it in strips. Then he crawled wildly about on hands and knees till his eyes swam and his knees bore the wrinkled impression of the grass. Then he put his head sideways to the ground and closed his upper eye in the mad hope of seeing the thing sticking up. Short trembling blades of grass stretched endlessly away.

· At a quarter to five he stood before the house, a small pathetic figure in shorts. The white plaster walls and the dark-stained front door sat indifferently there, defying him. In a fury he rushed at the crazy-paving path. The thing must be there: a small brassy key-if he closed his eyes he could see it-with Vaun on the round bit and a hole just above the letters. He remembered how it felt to run your thumb over the teeth: he remembered the crunch it would make when pushed home in the lock: the letters cut in brass glared in his mind's eye-Vaun Made in England; Vaun Made in England. The thing must be there. He rocked up and down the uneven crazy

The chimes of a quarter past five floated across the clear air. The breeze was cooler. The stumpy chestnuts shuffled their tops continuously. The shadows they cut on the plots of soft grass were longer and deeper. He decided to dig up all the flower-beds with his hands.

It was nearly six when hope at last died. A miserable small boy with grimy hands shambled round past the garage to the front again. A small pathetic figure in shorts.

Well, they would be back in half-an-hour—and he tried not to think of how absurd he would look. He approached the front door. It had been stained to look like oak. He sank down below it on the step. His back met the hardness of the wood. The hinges moaned slightly as it swung back and let a shaft of light fall across the hall.

A SUMMER'S EVENING

The room was almost stifling, with the evening sun streaming through the windows and only the small door open to the outside air. Through the haze of rising smoke could be seen the empty street outside and above the muddle of conversation one could hear the jingling of glasses. The strong smell of alcohol mingled with tobacco was strangely refreshing to that crowd of men after a long and hard day's work.

Over in the corner of the serried room stood two men, each with a tankard in his hand. One was short and thick set with a three-day beard and a pipe dangling help-lessly out of his sweaty mouth. He was very, very old and looked utterly exhausted as he leant on his elbow against the wall and scratched the back of his bald pate with a nicotine-stained hand. His soft hat had been pushed down over his wringing brow, perhaps to shade his eyes from the brilliant sun. He wore a dirty waistcoat and no collar, though he possessed the inevitable front-stud. His short-sleeves were sadly torn at the shoulder and his trouser-legs, tied below the knee with a piece of string, were clotted with brittle mud. On his feet he wore stout black boots which were heavily studded and must have tired his old feet. His companion, who leant with his back against the wall in front of the old man, was younger and taller and had sharp aquiline features. His face was clean-shaven but was flushed and shone with perspiration. Attached to his corduroy breeches was a pair of braces all tattered and torn and round the breeches were black leather leggings.

Slowly the old man bent down to do up a flapping boot-lace . . . very slowly . . . and, in doing so, quickly reflected on his past life. He tried to unbend his back, but he could not, and he wondered if he would ever stand upright again. He slowly moved one foot, and then the other. The younger man helped him out through the narrow door and the two men went very, very slowly up the gentle hill out of the village, occasionally stopping, until they had vanished from sight.

, 11 0.

D.V.

"DISILLUSION"

The honeyed years of infancy are gone; Those years when grief was hidden far away; When joys were simple, laughter unrestrained, And sorrows but the short-lived showers of May.

The garden too has lost its childhood charm, Though genial bees still gossip round the flowers, Where sunk in hazy musing I would lie And dream away the golden summer hours.

But grey-haired doubt has softly glided in Where only joy and laughter lived before. Our crystal world of hope was crushed in dust Beneath the squalor of a sordid war.

J.M.K.

AN ODDI-DITTY

"Supper for one, sir? Alone, sir, tonight?"
"Thank you. Tonight I'm alone."
"I'd hoped, sir, that things would turn out all right."
"Well, they haven't. The bird has flown."

"Here, sir, or there, sir? Or nearer the bar?"

"Anywhere I can listen and smoke,
And study the Jew with the cheap cigar,
And the bourgeois telling a joke."

"To eat, sir?" "Nothing. A feast for the eyes Instead of a meal on the table."

(The girl who has just left the floor, I surmise, Was not wearing genuine sable.

And the bored Lady X with that chap in the Guards, Gallantly looking intense,
Will "enjoy a joke," like smashing pards,
In the *Prattler*, a few weeks hence.)

And I suddenly thought that a child of mine Might likewise come here to drone.

Shall I continue this parasite line?

No—I'm glad that the bird has flown.

J.B.M.

SONNET

(from the French of Hérédia, "Soleil Couchant.")

The bright furze gilds the summit's sombre gray Gold upon gold, bathed in the sun's last beams; Where the earth ends and the white surf still gleams, The boundless ocean stretches far away.

Night's silence falls about me; with the day Has gone the birdsong, man to fireside dreams. Tolled through the mist, the solemn church-bell seems To mingle with the murm'ring ocean's sway.

And then, as if from some deep chasm, rise, From path, and heath, and gully, distant cries Of shepherds leading their flocks late to fold.

Dying upon a wine-dark sky, the sun Leaves the horizon dark, and, its course run, Folds up its flame-red fan's branches of gold.

M.B.

95

WINTER IN THE EASTERN QUARTER

In the cold streets ambition
Creeps like a hungry cat,
Her old broken claws gripping the numbed stone,
And through the glacier of the mind
Flashes a nine-foot spark,
Jumps between the two black girls.
A great expanse of joy
Woven in the older fibres of the brain
Blows across the dark crevasses of the mind
As lazy as a wind
That blows the moonlight into city squares.

And then the lion comes,
The drunken sky is swaying in the street,
A child's open face
Weaves a strained anxiety
About the bending snow.
The witches of the North have sold their wares
And ear-rings glitter in the trees.

G.M.J.

ABSTRACT

The abstract world Is a world of one dimension, A world without time— Shape lying on shape, Colour eclipsing colour. The sense is there, The vague, difficult sense Of looking through shuttered windows, Of peering down the long corridor of a Telescope reversed. Sensations are undivided. Here the dark restaurant's dirty lighting Borders on the glare of the bright street. The business-man's silhouette And the old store faces Glare across the frozen sea, Their big quartz eyes Jazzy, glittering and of queer intent.

G.M.J.

CORRESPONDENCE

To the Editors of The Stoic.

Sir,

We, the undersigned, beg you to afford this communication the hospitality of your columns. The matter on which we write might seem to you slight, even insignificant, but we are deeply concerned by its importance and urgency.

The arrival of a certain pioneer, who has decided to paddle east to west across the Atlantic in a barrel, is, according to opinions held in high Canadian circles, confidently expected. And yet the British, nay even the Canadian, press has shown a superb indifference to this, perhaps the most momentous, pioneer effort of our time. It pays no heed to the far-reaching consequences that may accompany this heroic exploit.

When the first automobile was produced, little did we think it would prove necessary to keep the club windows permanently closed to exclude the noise and pestilential vapours of the internal combustion engine. Perhaps we are already upon the threshold of a barrel age and no-one can say where it will stop. No doubt we shall also have amphibious barrels with—the lift boy has just informed Mr. Jones that even the "flying barrel" did good work in the Pacific during the war. A future, bright with bobbing barrels, seems to loom ahead.

The importance of this lies in its demonstration of a factor blankly ignored in the world of today—the enterprise of the small man. When the council saw fit to drain the Emergency Water Tank at the bottom of the club garden, among other items of interest discovered was a taxi in its entirety. This speaks well for the small man.

The existence of a family, whose members' self-appointed destiny it is to occupy the family barrel in an excursion over the Niagara Falls, was common knowledge fifty years ago. And yet today, neither side of the Atlantic is aware that a heroine-to-be, a grand-daughter of the first barrel pioneer, is about to cast herself down that capricious cascade. We can see no sufficient reason for this gross omission.

Our Senior, Mr. Slipknot, can distinctly remember being told about the inventor of that collapsible toad-stool, the umbrella, to keep from the person rain in winter and sun in summer. But tragic to relate, his name too, has passed into oblivion. Is the inventor of that other boon that makes life bearable, the hot-water bottle, also to suffer the same ignominy?

Do not think for one moment the omission and neglect of the deeds of the small man is due to a deficiency of such exploits. Only a year or two ago, a junior citizen of the mother country, aged sixteen, was found assiduously rowing across the English Channel, armed with a penknife, to capture the West Wall. When he was returned to England, much against his will, he was not given the freedom of half-a-dozen cities, but clapped in Portsmouth gaol for leaving the country without a passport.

We trust that this article will stimulate a greater interest from a wider public in the achievements of the small man. The man who managed to die of laughing; the illustrious ecclesiastic who in desperation spent four years inventing a washing-up machine from the parts of his bicycle; and finally that elusive and almost extinct curiosity—the person who actually contributed to *The Stoic*; all are indications that his exploits have not ceased.

We are, Sir, your obedient servants,

SLIPKNOT, SLIPSHOD, SNAPSHOT AND JONES.

Noodle's Club, St. James.

A WINTER SCENE

After going up a lane for a mile, and listening to the crunching noise the snow made under my feet, I entered a small wood. It was like a palace. There were big halls, with pillars all round made of ice. The chandeliers were made of ice too. The ceiling was exquisite, pure white with pretty designs painted on, made of green pine leaves and icicles. Then I went along colonnades shrouded on all sides by beautifully carved white walls. Oh, what a beautiful palace; man could not build anything so beautiful as this, even if he spent all the money he had doing so. I came next to the armoury of the palace; this consisted of spears and javelins, but they were not made out of such crude and vulgar materials as steel or iron, they were made of glass. Beautiful glass, so delicate they looked, but, oh! how dangerous. The spears were in rows, waiting for the soldiers to take one as they filed past. I imagined them, filing past, and then gliding away in their chariots of snow.

A.M.O'C.

Answers to General Paper, 1946

1, Grey-green or grey, green. 2, White. 3, Buff. 4, Black. 5, Yellow. 6, Gold (en). 7, Blue. 8, Silver. 9, Blue. 10, White. 11, Areopagitica. 12, Jugurtha. 13, Titus Andronicus. 14, Praxiteles. 15, Condominum. 16, Somerville. 17, Burnet. 18, Spasmodic. 19, Decimal. 20, Pole.

21, Dog-. 22, Cow-. 23, Fox-. 24, Hare-. 25, Cuckoo-. 26, Char-. 27, War-. 28, Fet-. 29, Hem-. 30, Mat-. 31, Elgar. 32, Gershwin. 33, Sullivan. 34, Mozart. 35, Borodin. 36, Bloody Mary. 37, Mortimer's Cross. 38, Mortmain. 39, Brown Bess. 40, King's Evil.

41-45, Johnson and Gainsborough; Turner and Wordsworth; Shakespeare and Rubens; Milton and Rembrandt; Van Eyck and Chaucer. 46, Bowls. 47, Rowing. 48, Chess. 49, Snooker. 50; Joe Davis. 51, Hastings. 52, Queen Mary or the Oueen Mother. 53, 1927. 54, Cobbett. 55, Lion. 56, Eagle. 57, Lily or Fleur-de-Lys. 58, Violet. 59, Maple (leaf).

60, True 61, False. 62, True. 63, False. 64, Röntgen or Roentgen. 65, Newton. 66, Galileo. 67, Bell. 68, Torricelli. 69, Paraffin. 70, Gee. 71, Novocaine. 72, Sun-spots. 73, Cyclotron. 74, Mepacrine. 75, Hickory. 76, Elm. 77, Rosewood. 78, Box. 79, Ash.

80-84, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1. 85, Bretton Wooods. 86, Mansions. 87, Barns. 88, Job. 89, Nazareth. 90, Saul. 91, (Cyrano) de Bergerac. 92, Jenkins. 93, Malvolio. 94, Polyphemus (Cyclops). 95-96, Alexander, Tartakower. 97, 96. 98, 48. 99, 8. 100, 0.

