

THE STOIC



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SPECTATION

WHAT, we are driven to enquire, is the correct way to watch a game of Rugby Football? This has become a pressing question with us. The Old Blue, who remembers his own days in the scrum, will scoff, and the cynic will produce a psychological solution, but as for us, we are in a state of bewilderment. We try our hardest, but we nevertheless seem to lack the essential qualification of a good spectator, for although we study each move of the game in detail, we can never recall it afterwards. When the cheers vanish with the exhausted teams our recollections follow them. They must, for we are quite incapable of giving an intelligent answer to the enthusiast who firmly buttonholes us ten minutes after the game in order to tell us exactly what he thinks of the performance of the opposing stand-off half.

“Man alive!” says he, “why didn’t he kick the ball, instead of letting himself be tackled with it—you know when I mean, just after the beginning of the second half?” We do; but we cannot truthfully go further than that. Deeper examination seldom fails to convince that our ignorance of the game is profound, our enthusiasm non-existent, our appreciation lacking: we have, in short, no spirit. Whether we have enjoyed the game or not is of no consequence: we can give no coherent account of the subtleties of play, and this, we must believe, constitutes a cardinal sin; we have failed in our duty. We presume that this is the reason for our watching matches: that one day we hope to astonish even the most knowing of enthusiasts. We have not yet been successful; the Fates have so far ordained that everything we witness from the touchline shall instantly pass into oblivion. Is there no remedy for this?

Photo by]

THE GRENVILLE COLUMN

[J.F.R.]

STOICA

School Officials—Christmas Term, 1948.

Prefects:—O. B. Sayer (T), Head of the School; B. A. Platt (C), Second Prefect; M. D. Cobham (G), Prefect of Chapel; R. E. S. Wadsworth (W), Prefect of Gymnasium; C. H. Bradly (B), Prefect of Library; R. G. Macmillan (C); P. P. Patten (C); W. R. G. Short (G); H. T. Bowles (T); G. L. D. Duckworth (C); D. S. Paravicini (C); T. R. Lambert (G).

Rugby Football:—Captain, J. F. Conington (B); Secretary, R. G. Macmillan (C).

The following visitors have preached in the Chapel this term:—October 3rd, The Rev. M. B. Dewey, Dean and Chaplain of Pembroke College, Cambridge; October 10th, The Rev. A. G. G. C. Pentreath, Headmaster of Wrekin; October 24th, F. M. Heywood, Esq., Master of Marlborough; December 5th, The Rev. R. J. W. Morris, Vicar of East Twickenham.

Chapel Collections this term have been as follows:—September 26th, for the R.A.F. Benevolent Fund, £26 16s. 7d.; October 17th, for the Missions to Seamen, £26 6s. 6d.; November 14th, for the Earl Haig Fund, £83 os. od.; November 28th, for the Pineapple, £26 17s. 6d.

A Confirmation Service was held in the Chapel on Thursday, December 2nd, when 72 members of the School were confirmed by the Rt. Rev. the Lord Bishop of Oxford.

The annual Old Stoic Dinner was held in London at Grosvenor House on Saturday, November 23th. One hundred and ninety-three Old Stoics attended. Speeches were made by the Headmaster, by Mr. Alasdair Macdonald, and by P. L. Sherwood (B, 1930).

The marriage of Mr. J. M. Osborne to Signorina A. de Vincentis took place in the chapel of Exeter College, Oxford, on Thursday, July 29th.

Mr. R. V. P. Adams (W, 1937) is the first Old Stoic to join the Staff at Stowe. Other new members of the Staff this term are Mr. M. J. Mounsey, who comes as Art Master, and Mr. M. J. Fox.

The Pearman Smith Prize for Mathematics, which is given on the result of the July School Certificate Examination, has this year been awarded to A. M. Vinen (W).

At the end of last term Representative Colours were awarded as follows:—For Swimming: B. A. Platt (C). For Tennis: N. R. Cunningham-Reid (G), G. W. Scott (C), R. N. Langley (G).

School Colours for Football have been awarded as follows:—

1st XV:—J. L. Paxton (C), D. E. Conington (B), P. G. Shinner (B), R. J. Roberts (C), D. S. Paravicini (C) (re-awarded); C. H. Bartlett (T), W. R. G. Short (G), T. R. Lambert (G), T. P. Grossmark (C), B. A. Platt (C), A. T. W. Innes (T), G. J. E. Dixon (T), C. H. Bradly (B).

2nd XV:—G. J. E. Dixon (T), T. P. Grossmark (C), J. E. Gilbey (G), R. E. Wadsworth (W), P. M. Horley (B), W. M. Patterson (B), J. Darnley-Smith (C), M. H. Goodhart (W), J. C. Turner (G), C. C. McNeil (T), A. M. Whitty (T), P. J. R. Hubert (G).

3rd XV:—P. M. Horley (B), W. M. Patterson (B), M. H. Goodhart (W), J. F. F. LePoer Trench (C), C. C. McNeil (T), R. G. Cunningham (T), J. Darnley-Smith (C), A. M. Whitty (T), M. J. Gemmell (B), R. R. Glover (G), D. Read (T), F. J. Pearce (B), P. J. R. Hubert (G), P. A. Cullum (C), A. J. Macintosh (T), G. D. L. Adams (B), P. J. Harkness (T), P. J. Upton (C), J. R. Perring (G).

Colts' Stockings:—P. M. Salt (G), C. T. A. Hammond (C), H. J. Lloyd (T), E. B. J. Williams (T), S. Pendle (G), A. Highwood (B), R. J. Ruhemann (C), T. Knight (B), N. Cleve (B), A. M. Gooch (B), J. I. Holt (C), J. A. deS. Charlesworth (G).

OLIM ALUMNI

N. G. ANNAN (T, 1935), Fellow of King's College, Cambridge, has been awarded the Le Bas Prize for Literature, the value of which is £215. (*Birmingham Post*, August 11th, 1948.)

J. W. STOYE (C, 1936) has been elected to an official Fellowship and Tutorship in Modern History at Magdalen College, Oxford.

At the Annual International Air Races organised by the Cinque Ports Flying Club at Lympne Airport on August 28th, the Auxiliary Air Force Inter-Squadron Map-reading Competition was won by SQUADRON-LEADER H. S. L. DUNDAS, D.S.O., D.F.C. (W, 1938), in a Spitfire at a speed of 294 miles per hour. A 100-mile course was flown with turning-points notified to the pilots only ten minutes before the take-off, and the aircraft were handicapped in accordance with the official performance figures. (*Royal Aero Club Gazette*, October 1948.)

I. G. BUTLER (G, 1943) has been awarded the James and George Whitbread Travelling Studentship by Trinity College, Oxford.

G. P. LLOYD (B, 1945) represented Cambridge in the Inter-University Relay Races held at Oxford on November 20th.

The following passed out of the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, in July 1948 and have been gazetted to the regiments or corps shown after their names:—A. K. H. BULL (G, 1946), King's Dragoon Guards; I. GRANGER (C, 1945), Royal Artillery; P. T. LAMBERT (G, 1944), 5th Dragoon Guards; G. M. MORRIS (W, 1945), Royal Army Service Corps; R. M. RANSFORD (C, 1946), Royal Artillery; G. C. ROBINSON (W, 1945), York and Lancaster Regiment; H. T. THORNTON-BERRY (C, 1946), Green Howards.

BIRTHS

To the wife of F. H. HEATHCOTE (G, 1938) on August 21st, a daughter; to the wife of P. D. BALLY (C, 1940) on August 26th, a son; to the wife of P. M. JEAVONS (G, 1938) on September 14th, a son; to the wife of R. N. BARCLAY (C, 1937) on July 29th, a son; to the wife of W. R. K. SILCOCK (C, 1927) on May 12th, a son; to the wife of J. L. ELVY (T, 1934) on July 23rd, a son; to the wife of A. K. FRAZER (T, 1938) on February 15th, a son; to the wife of J. A. R. FALCONER (G, 1936) on October 20th, a daughter; to the wife of J. W. T. LILLEY (G, 1930) on October 23rd, a daughter;

to the wife of I. M. MARTIN (G, 1930) on October 2nd, a son; to the wife of J. H. PENTON (B, 1934) on October 15th, a son; to the wife of L. G. STRAUSS (T, 1926) on September 8th, a daughter; to the wife of D. E. HARTNELL-BEAVIS (T, 1935) on July 11th, a daughter; to the wife of C. A. WILLINK (C, 1932) on September 24th, a daughter; to the wife of THE HON. G. D. E. RUSSELL (T, 1938) on July 22nd, a son; to the wife of MAJOR P. A. J. GORE GRAHAM (C, 1930) on August 29th, a son; to the wife of A. A. DAWSON (T, 1931) on November 15th, 1947, a son; to the wife of G. F. GOMME (C, 1937) on October 5th, a son; to the wife of N. A. USSHER (C, 1937) on July 28th, a son; to the wife of G. W. EMRYS-ROBERTS (C, 1932) on September 10th, a son; to the wife of A. G. WHITEHEAD (G, 1940) on September 24th, a daughter; to the wife of T. L. SECCOMBE (C, 1932) on November 2nd, a son; to the wife of THE HON. T. C. F. PRITTI (G, 1933) on October 21st, a son; to the wife of B. R. ARKWRIGHT (B, 1940) on August 17th, a daughter; to the wife of R. H. WHITE-SMITH (B, 1941) on November 3rd, a daughter; to the wife of FLIGHT LIEUTENANT R. U. P. DE BURGH (G, 1940) on November 5th, a son; to the wife of C. P. D. DAVIDSON (T, 1938) on September 2nd, a daughter.

To the wife of CAPTAIN H. C. I. ROME, K.O.Y.L.I. (C, 1937) on September 27th, a son; to the wife of F. W. BLAIR-IMRIE (C, 1927) on October 26th, a daughter; to the wife of LIEUTENANT (A) J. C. B. BREMNER, R.N. (C, 1943) on October 27th, a daughter; to the wife of J. M. REAY-SMITH (C, 1933) on September 15th, a daughter; to the wife of MAJOR A. D. HUNTER (G, 1934) on September 10th, a daughter; to the wife of F. L. ASHCROFT (C, 1935) on July 28th, a son; to the wife of MAJOR D. W. BASSETT (G, 1934) on August 15th, a daughter; to the wife of D. J. CATER (G, 1933) on July 15th, a son; to the wife of MAJOR D. R. ENGLISH, R.E. (B, 1930) on November 3rd, a son; to the wife of MAJOR F. W. KENNEDY (G, 1930) on July 18th, a daughter; to the wife of H. A. MITCHELL (C, 1937) on July 3rd, a son; to the wife of C. G. WALTON (G, 1932) on August 7th, a son; to the wife of MAJOR F. J. R. P. NEEDHAM (C, 1933) on July 30th, a son; to the wife of P. JUDE (G, 1938) on August 26th, a son; to the wife of DR. J. ROCHE (T, 1938) on August 29th, a son; to the wife of J. H. PENROSE, F.R.C.S. (G, 1933) on July 2nd, a daughter; to the wife of MAJOR H. D. NELSON SMITH, M.C. (C, 1932) on October 19th, a daughter; to the wife of C. H. BLAMEY (C, 1944) on November 19th, a daughter; to the wife of R. D. G. MUSSETT (C, 1927), on November 16th, twin daughters.

MARRIAGES

A. A. DAWSON (T, 1931) to Miss E. Grice, on December 14th, 1946; DR. R. H. GRIFFITH (B, 1941) to Mrs. D. van der Meer, on August 27th; G. VERDON-ROE (C, 1936) to Miss G. E. Van Buren Emmons, on September 11th; C. S. CREED (T, 1926) to Miss P. A. Cunningham, on September 1st; A. T. R. NICHOLSON (W, 1939) to Miss A. J. Bateson, on October 2nd; B. R. ARKWRIGHT (B, 1940) to Miss D. Edmondson, on August 9th, 1947; G. R. CHEAPE (G, 1930) to Miss J. Haswell-Miles, on August 18th; THE MARQUIS DE AMODIO (G, 1926) to Comtesse de La Rochefoucauld, on August 4th; G. G. RIDDICK (C, 1938) to Miss F. Money, on September 2nd; THE HON. H. M. RITCHIE (B, 1937) to Miss A. Johnstone, on August 23rd; THE HON. J. C. D. PARKER (W, 1936) to Miss D. Whitaker, on November 20th; N. WARD (C, 1938) to Miss J. A. Cunningham, on September 4th; H. R. JESSOP (B, 1924) to Mrs. W. L. Whately on

October 23rd; D. R. BLUNDELL (G, 1943) to Miss S. Lawton, on September 18th; J. B. DWIGHT (G, 1940) to Miss J. Newham, on September 11th; H. F. SASSOON (G, 1939) to Miss P. M. Butler, on October 30th; S. J. H. SHERRARD (C, 1933) to Miss E. E. Duffus, on July 8th; C. D. HARRISON (C, 1927) to Mrs. M. E. Roberts, on June 29th; R. D. R. LYCETT-GREEN (T, 1942) to The Hon. Mrs. P. R. Aitken, on July 13th; M. B. E. CLARKSON (G, 1940) to Miss M. Earls, on June 5th; P. W. FORSYTH (C, 1936) to Miss J. Weir, on April 29th; C. R. MILNE (T, 1939) to Miss L. E. De Selincourt, on July 24th; E. H. S. RENDALL (T, 1938) to Miss R. E. Barton, on August 12th; E. P. HICKLING (C, 1941) to Miss A. P. Pemberton, on August 7th; A. N. C. BRUCE (B, 1943) to Miss A. Norton, on September 25th; H. J. MOLLOY (C, 1943) to Miss M. Ramsay, on July 24th.

OLD STOIC GOLFING SOCIETY

On November 13th the Society met the Old Wykehamists at Wentworth. The Society was represented by P. B. Lucas (G, 1934) and C. R. T. Cunningham (C, 1939), J. D. A. Langley (G, 1936) and G. G. Harrison (G, 1928), D. R. Foster (C, 1938) and J. P. Phillips (C, 1939), J. R. L. Gale (C, 1939) and N. G. Chittenden (T, 1940), and defeated the Old Wykehamists by 8 matches to 0.

On November 14th the Society, represented by the same players except that M. B. Scholfield (T, 1939) played instead of J. D. A. Langley, met the Old Rugbeians at Sunningdale. After a close competition the Old Stoics were defeated by 4½ matches to 3½.

The Hon. Secretary of the O.S.G.S. (D. R. Foster), will always be glad to hear of Old Stoics who wish to become members. His address is 52, Grosvenor Gardens, S.W.1.

GREY LONDON

Upon a certain Sunday in September,
In the slow, pedestrian murmur of the rain,
The rain that whispers 'London' as it stutters
Through the trees, against the window pane,
Licking the soot from chimney pots and shutters,
Scattering the streets with silver—I remember
Watching the peering traffic lights projecting
Onto a pewter pavement, shattered gems,
Seeing transparent fantasies and visions
Rising in the tug smoke from the Thames,
A hundred cities' dead dreams and decisions;
And in the timeless London rain, reflecting—
The years had paved the cities of the dead,
Not with golden paving stones, but lead.

P.G.P.

STOWE CLUB FOR BOYS

423A, EDGWARE ROAD,
LONDON, W.2.

22nd November, 1948.

To the Editor, *The Stoic*.

DEAR SIR,

"The Pineapple" will reach its twenty-first anniversary on the 25th of this month and it will not be out of place to recall a little of its history. The Club was opened when Youth Clubs as we know them to-day were few in number, and the majority of those were in the east end of London. At that time unemployment and poverty were very prevalent in the Edgware Road district. That the venture has achieved something is well-known locally, and it is greatly respected by the Local Authorities, Probation Officers and the Federation of Boys' Clubs for its work among adolescents.

Unfortunately the war created many additional difficulties. The original Pineapple was blitzed, and temporary accommodation was found in old premises in Frampton Street. In 1946 our present larger premises were taken, and the work of the Club has expanded considerably since then. Though large enough for the boys the accommodation is not sufficient to house the Old Boys, many of whom were foundation members and served in the War. Therefore one of our most pressing needs at the moment is to obtain premises for their sole use.

A section for boys aged 11—14 is a new venture started this autumn. At present the boys meet on Mondays and Wednesday from 5.0 to 6.45 and on Saturday mornings for football. The present membership is 40, and I would be glad of the assistance of any one interested and willing to do good work for this age group.

The main section of the Club (i.e. Juniors 14—16 and Seniors 16—18) is really flourishing, the average attendance being 50—60 boys. The Juniors excelled themselves at the Paddington Swimming Gala and won the Challenge Cup in spite of heavy odds against them. Also they have not lost a football match so far this season.

The visit to the School on October 24th was a memorable one as it neither rained nor snowed. The party consisted of 55 boys including three soccer teams which were all victorious against the School elevens of volunteers. The boys had a grand time and were very grateful for all that was done for them.

They are now looking forward to the Club's twenty-first birthday party to be held on Saturday, January 8th, when we hope to welcome all past and present patrons and friends of the Club. A charge of 2/6 for admission tickets is being made to help meet the expenses.

In conclusion I would like to express my thanks to all the Old Stoics who week by week without fail give so much of their time to the welfare of the Club—work which is fascinating, interesting and well worth doing.

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

R. W. HONE, (*Warden*).

THE 1848 SALE

Now that autumn colours have replaced the heavy greens of summer, it is in keeping with the season to leaf through the brittle, yellowing pages of the "1848 Catalogue." For it was at the end of August and during the short, cool afternoons of September, 1848, that the great family of Buckingham and Chandos brought into the open the last of its accumulated magnificence, with a sort of autumn splendour, no sooner displayed than carried away. The sale, in which the great house was virtually gutted of its splendid furnishings, had hung over the family for a long time, but became inevitable after the second Duke made the glorious but disastrous gesture in 1845 of entertaining Queen Victoria on a scale of luxury unknown even in the eighteenth century. It is said that the bailiffs were already in the house at the time of the royal visit, but like gentlemen concealed themselves as footmen until the Queen had left. Although the Gentleman's Magazine omitted any mention of it out of respect and good manners, the sale was inevitably the talk of the town. Some said that the Duke's extravagance was the cause; others unchivalrously accused his wife. Retrenching was much too undignified a process for a great family. The first Duke had gone abroad before disaster struck and so avoided it, but his son waited too long and his exile after 1848 was involuntary and permanent. He had made the fatal mistake of investing in land, and the repeal of the Corn Laws decimated his income. He decided, however, to live in the magnificent fashion to which he was accustomed to the end and then retire philosophically to a life devoted to literature.

The 1848 Catalogue, the factual analysis of this fabulous event, is in effect the last will and testament of the Buckingham and Chandos family, and like a legal document it has a vocabulary of its own. To the uninitiated, words like almandine, porporina, porphyry, chalcedone, lapis lazuli and or-molu, occurring again and again in the descriptions of exotic objects, have a dazzling effect far beyond that of startling prices. The names of the objects themselves are often enough to set the most prosaic mind to romantic and imaginative speculations. What, for instance, is an orrery, or a cow-tail chowrie, or a praefericulum, or even a chimaera; and what is the difference between girandoles with nozzles and without? The deeper one gets the more fascinating the terminology. In the sections on statuary and objects of vertu, names like rosso verde, bianco e nero antico, Italian scagliola, braccia Africana, verde di prato and giallo-antico carry with them a delicious flavour of classical ease and pillared perfection. In all some 5,379 lots came under the auctioneer's hammer, but the number of individual objects knocked down during the forty days of the sale must have exceeded 10,000.

Everyone and his agent attended the sale; the aristocratic connoisseurs, the London dealers, the local gentry and the Buckingham bourgeoisie, all were there. The sumptuous display which filled every room was of an unparalleled richness and diversity. On a single page of the Catalogue among a variety of japan dishes, caskets of amber, Renaissance chandeliers, sconces, encoigneures, one finds: 'The Fonthill cabinet; the friezes are composed of lapis lazuli, the fronts of the drawers are slabs of haematite, set with coloured stones; in the centre are groups of Neptune and marine deities, with figures and animals in relief, in the niches of a temple, supported on four columns of rosso antico.' And this directly followed by: 'A pair of solid ivory round-backed arm-chairs, partly gilt, on five legs, the arms and backs with pierced panels of solid ivory, with the tiger's head—the badge of Tippo—on the extremity of the arms.'

In general the objects were classified and sold on special days: china and Raffaele ware dishes on the first day, Sevres porcelain on the fifth, eighth and ninth, antique marbles on the tenth, wines on the eleventh, plate from the seventeenth to the twentieth, pictures and armour till the twenty-fourth to say nothing of an untold quantity of furniture and glass. The most heart-breaking was the sale of the cellar, but the most remarkable were the paltry prices fetched by the collection of pictures. It is not unusual for the pawning of the family portraits to be a disappointment, but it is astounding that a collection which included no less than 14 Lelys and Vandycks, 10 Holbeins, 9 Rembrandts, 3 Tintoretos, 2 Santa Rosas and a Titian, as well as others by Leonardo da Vinci, Velasquez, Veronese, Cuyp, Claude, Breughel, Bellini and Ruysdael should go for a trifling ten thousand pounds. Even such curious objects of historical interest as the Chandos portrait of Shakespeare and a brilliant golden lock of the hair of Mary, the daughter of Henry VII and Queen of Louis XII, failed to arouse more than desultory interest. With all his philosophy, the second duke must have had difficulty in concealing his disappointment when the total sum realised was found to be only £75,562 4s. 6d.

The great sale finally ended on Saturday, October 7th, and the accumulations of centuries were dispersed to the four corners of the kingdom, 'for a handful of silver.' Even the inhabitant of the Boycott Pavilion carried off his share of the spoil; among other things, 42 tin plates and a bell. It is still possible to buy in Buckingham odd articles of furniture and rusty fowling pieces which came from the Sale, but the majority of the objects, once sold, lost their identity completely. Not so the house, for the family itself often felt that it did not so much own Stowe, as belong to it. When it and all its magnificence were no more than faded memories, the house continued to have a sleepy and traditional existence of its own; and the latest era of its life is not a break with that tradition but a new and dynamic phase. In the short century which has elapsed since the sale, Stowe has seen its winter and is now striving to produce a new intellectual flowering as rich in its way as the worldly magnificence of the Buckinghams.

P.G.P.

IMPRESSIONS OF AN AMERICAN PRIVATE SCHOOL

"All play and very little work" is the general English conception of American Private Schools. This was also our expectation before we came to Lawrenceville; but we were very quickly disillusioned. Apart from twenty-five classes, we do twenty preparations each week and each preparation is designed to last an hour. If we only had to work, it would be easy enough, but there are even more outside activities than at Stowe. The boys produce their own weekly newspaper, a quarterly literary magazine and a School Year Book. There are numerous clubs, many of which extend a cordial welcome to the English Exchange Student, with the result that free time just does not exist. Stoics complain about the rush of school life, but they at least have eight-and-a-half hours sleep, whereas we are lucky to get seven.

Speed: intensity: the 'it-doesn't-matter-where-I'm-going-as-long-as-I-get-there-quickly' atmosphere. These are the factors most apparent both in American school life and elsewhere. Everywhere people are anxious to learn, and one can sense Drive, with a capital D, even when people are standing about aimlessly with their hands in their pockets. In many ways life is much more informal in American schools than in English: there is, for instance, less supervision on the part of authority. But the attitude to work is in complete opposition to such informality. For instance, when a team goes away for a match it has to do all the work it misses by so doing out of school. The day starts at seven-fifteen a.m., when Breakfast takes place, work being begun at eight-five, with five fifty-minute periods in the morning. Afternoon half-courses (at five p.m.) offer such choices as Russian, Carpentry, Photography, Music, Engines and so forth; and after Chapel at seven-fifteen Preparation begins. For the Sixth Forms, 'lights-out' is at their discretion, and this is usually the only way that assignments for the next day get done.

The boys themselves are virile and intelligent. They are, however, given little chance to develop this potential, because they are only taught facts and Upper School life is just one dash for marks. Entrance into College is decided by the graduation at the end of the final year at school, and thus is decided not by any one examination, although one is taken, but rather on the work throughout the year. Hence the scramble for marks, an aggravating state of affairs though one that does promote some sort of keenness.

American Football is the great game here. The School Band turns out in force to make a good noise (the Stowe Band could do that!). There are cheer-leaders to organise the cheering, so that many and varied chants are invented by each school for its own use; this could be a good thing or not, depending on the school, on the state of the game, and on the weather. There are no Houses, and League Football is played between two School Clubs, which play the best of seven games to win the series, and for these games there is much enthusiasm. Many are hurt in these games despite the protective equipment they wear. They think Englishmen are mad to play Rugger without padding, and they find a two-mile Cross-Country course quite sufficient. Cricket, one finds, is just impossible to explain to an American; he thinks Rugger is played with a soccer ball, talks of Hockey only as Ice Hockey, and believes that all Englishmen wander about continually saying 'Pip, pip, and all that sort of tosh, don't you know?' The influence of Hollywood is a two-way traffic.

Last week-end we were required to move out of our house, and two hundred girls took it over for the night. That was on the occasion of the Fall Prom or, in plain English, the Autumn Dance. A fourteen-piece Band, led by Jerry Jerome, gave us "a really hot jam session," but it concentrated mainly on slow tempo dancing and everyone moves so slowly that it is impossible to do a quick-step. The Spring Prom is the great thing, as it lasts two days. Just imagine two hundred girls moving into Stowe for two days!

M.R.D.G.

J.R.J.B.

Lawrenceville, N.J.
November, 1948.

THE CAUCUS RACE

"Sixty-five times!" said the Headmaster. "Can you really be interested in that sort of thing, gentlemen?" It appeared after all that we could. The news that a tortoise-racing track was shortly to be opened in Chackmore was received with great excitement by the whole School, but it was Denbigh-Feveringham who first suggested that we should attend it, making the journey on hired penny-farthings.

"There's a wizard Siamese tortoise," he said, "belonging to Prince Thing, and some Italians, and one or two old British ones."

"Did you know," I asked, "that the only living creature to have seen Napoleon is a tortoise?"

"The ordinary road," he went on, quelling me, "will be shut by the police, but we can get round by Akeley. We can take some grape-nuts and a bottle of vinegar for our lunch, and we should get there in good time."

All the roads and most of the fields were blocked with visiting motor-cars, but we managed to force our way to Chackmore over their roofs, and we got there at the beginning of the thirteenth lap. The tortoises, not very intelligent animals, were kept on the track by low wooden fences, and at the moment were going round at a tremendous speed, causing enormous friction between their own shells and the barriers. The horde of motor-cars was pressing forwards, kept back only by civil servants armed with sawn-off shot-guns. The noise of their horns was deafening. After the twentieth lap, with an Italian well in the lead, the contestants' shells were growing red-hot with the friction. Large ants scurried here and there. The heat was terrible. There was a sudden cry of "Fire!" as the tortoises burst one by one into flame. Fire-fighting insects ran to fetch soda-siphons, women screamed; everything was chaos. The official deputation from the School withdrew prudently from its vantage-point on a nearby grave, leaving us alone with the mob. The motor-cars, gathering strength, broke through the civil servants and swept remorselessly forwards, some bursting into flames as they reached the fire in the centre, some avoiding it, only to be smashed against each other. Very few survived. Heartrending shrieks rose amid the cloud of thick black smoke.

Reverently we gathered up the mutilated remains of Denbigh-Feveringham and bore them solemnly home on our shoulders in a slow penny-farthing procession. He was buried next day in a tortoise-shell coffin. The earlier part of the meeting was shewn on the news-reels.

B.F.B.

“ JEU DES PETITS GENTILHOMMES ”

A small Stoic in rugger change peered into the room.

“ Where’s Soandso ? ” he enquired.

The other Stoic looked up from his book. “ Dead,” he replied solemnly, and then, as if by way of explanation, “ Rugger.”

The first Stoic paled visibly, but was evidently not satisfied.

“ How did it happen ? ” he asked nervously.

The other Stoic lowered his book again and said slowly, “ He fell on the ball. It wasn’t till the scrum had heeled his left leg . . . ” Here he broke off abruptly, while a rugger ball sailed with a resounding crash through the window. When he had sufficiently recovered, he shook his head sadly, and continued, “ And it wasn’t till they had passed it out to the fly-half, that they realised what had happened. Then it was too late.”

“ Too late ? ”

“ Yes. By then the other side had got his . . . ”

“ But where was the ball ? ” interrupted the first Stoic.

“ Lying on the touch-line—abandoned,” replied the other.

“ And the referee ? What about him ? ” persisted the first Stoic. “ Didn’t he do anything about it ? ”

“ No,” replied the other Stoic. “ He couldn’t. You see, he was dead too. I believe colours objected to some free-kick . . . ”

The first Stoic had now collapsed into a chair, and was breathing heavily, but the other did not appear to notice.

“ Ah well,” he continued pensively, “ if they persist in amusing themselves with these blood-sports . . . ” and with a sigh he returned to his book.

A minute later, he glanced up, and finding the first Stoic was still there, he demanded irritably, “ Well, what are you waiting for ? Aren’t you going for your rugger practice ? ”

“ No,” said the first Stoic shakily, “ No, I don’t think I am.”

A.P.H.

FRUIT SALAD

Apples belong to Adam. With him, and therefore with them, begin all articles of faith—such as is this, for it was rejected in proof. If Adam’s apple stuck in his gullet, that is a warning to over-expectant readers. Bananas, in these days, are known but to the young : to their seniors the association is architectural. Cherries speak of the sun and have no place in the cold days of December. But Damsons, which usher in the school year, give a sharp reminder of what is to come ; albeit the sweetness of summer holidays still softens the bitter taste of work resumed.

Alphabetical progression brings us to Elderberries. Does one who has left us, whose ‘ elders obtained a good report,’ still brew his beverages for youthful mathe-

maticians ? Figs know not the bounds of human intercourse ; they are either singular and discourteous or plural and over-syrupy. And as to Gooseberries, their superfluity may excuse us from mention of them.

H, I, J, K ; the search is fruitless. But Lemons ; why, they lend a flavour to most things—their taste is clean and gives us a fresh start. Melons, to begin with, are the reverse.

Nuts, when mishandled, are deprecatory : but give them their desserts and they are a different thing. To linger over them brings us too near port before our voyage is done—we must get cracking. Oranges are rotund, self-sufficient and mellow : with a bath to hand they also make good eating. Plums smack of success. Plum on the nail is bad when shaking hands, but more often satisfactory.

Quince, here at least, has its brief day ; it is sold and soon put in its place. Raspberries, however, are more often given. Next, to Strawberries ; they are the fruit to end on, for they conjure memories that will allay impatience. Stand aside and survey the fruits of our toil, the product of our pen. What is the picture ? Still life ? Still a little—but perhaps it were better extinguished.

TRIO

Today, tomorrow and yesterday
are three separate strands of time :
Fibres of minutes, threads of hours
furnish the looms of life
with patterns of three complementary colours,
recording the destinies of men.

Today is a drab and nondescript ochre,
considered the essence of reality ;
yet the isolated present is but the imperfect silhouette
of a squat shadow at noon.

Tomorrow is the reflection of yesterday—
the shadows are of equal length
in the morning and afternoon of life.

The past is an autumn landscape,
contrasting the chestnut red of experience
with the vivid green of youth :

The opaque depths of the pool of the future
mirror the fuller tones of maturity
against the blue background of hope.
Reality is a three-dimensional truth
woven in time in three shades,
today, tomorrow and yesterday.

P.G.P.

NIGHT MUST FALL

The Congreve Club's choice of "Night Must Fall," by Emyln Williams, was a bold one. For, when a play is written by an actor for himself, it is apt to make its production very difficult for an amateur company. The performance, however, justified the choice, though it inevitably fell short towards the end, because a play of this kind demands a great deal of the actors—more in fact than can be expected from boys. But even in the last act the cast put up a brave show and one or two moments were really dramatic on account of their presentation and not merely because the situation happened to be tense; but the last act depends upon sustained tension, which was almost inevitably lacking.

But to begin at the beginning; for what happens to the audience before the curtain rises is of some importance. Many must have found the length of time they were left in pitch darkness irritating rather than dramatic. This is a small point and once the play began the irritation vanished.

One of the demands made upon the actors in this play is that it is the meaning of the dialogue and not the words in which that meaning is expressed that matters; so the speaking of the lines and the picking up of cues must be slick to prevent the play dragging. All the actors could have picked up their cues much more quickly without speaking their lines any faster. Where this was achieved the dialogue had a snap about it which was most refreshing; but it should have been there more often.

Movement combined with speaking was good. There were no long pauses while an actor moved to another part of the stage or stopped to pick up something; a common fault in amateur acting. On the other hand actors were apt to become rather statuesque when not actually speaking or being spoken to. Movement used to emphasise what was being said was not so good. Both Dan and Mrs. Bramson tended to repeat an attitude or a gesture, which, though it might have meant something the first time it was used, certainly did not the third or fourth. Much of the acidity of Mrs. Bramson's remarks was lost through violent wagging of her head or wild gesticulation of her arms. She was often quite convincing when she spoke quietly and kept still and she became almost charming when charmed and soothed by Dan. Mrs. Terence, delightful caricature of the cook, might have been even more effective if she could have thrust her face at Mrs. Bramson rather less often and even made remarks to her without looking at her. Dan's performance in the first act was very good but the part demanded too much of him towards the end. It was a very brave attempt and nearly came off. He never quite convinced me that he could possibly be a murderer; he was too nice. Olivia at times was really good; her stiffness was in a way an advantage, because one could listen to her without being distracted. She was a convincing woman. Hubert had a very difficult task; he must be a bore yet not bore the audience. When at his best he was a delightful simpleton and we could enjoy his performance. Dora was a success and was outstandingly good at getting on and off the stage; the way she popped in and out was lovely and she did it without a shadow of awkwardness.

The Club deserves congratulation upon its production. They held the audience for two hours and provided a great deal of real entertainment. Further congratulation

is due to the Club for producing a cast of so high a standard; there was no obvious weak spot. The cast worked well as a team and their obvious enjoyment of their work contributed greatly to the enjoyment the audience derived from it.

The cast, in order of appearance, was:—

Lord Chief Justice	...	...	...	...	G. H. ROOKE (C)
Mrs. Bramson	...	...	...	...	B. F. BRINDLEY (G)
Olivia Grayne	...	...	...	...	M. J. FENWICK (C)
Hubert Laurie	...	...	...	...	P. A. CULLUM (C)
Nurse Libby	...	...	...	...	M. KELTON (W)
Mrs. Terence	...	...	...	...	E. C. HARDWICKE (C)
Dora Parkoe	...	...	...	...	A. D. BARLOW (T)
Inspector Belsize	...	...	...	...	MR. L. H. REID
Dan	...	...	...	...	R. G. SPARROW (W)

M.J.M.

"TROTTIE TRUE"

To one whose acquaintance with films is that of a spectator in an occasional cinema, the arrival of the J. Arthur Rank organisation at Stowe was an event.

Sundry cryptic notices plastered on trees and on wooden posts had puzzled us for some time. Who or what was "Trottie True"? Several charabancs, vans and lorries provided the answer. Another "epic work" was being performed and this time at Stowe.

Spectators from miles around crowded to Stowe to view their film favourites in action and ecstatic women wandered up and down the North Front pointing out shrinking figures with shrieks of joy and complete inaccuracy.

Stowe was occupied by this organisation for some seven days. During this time three scenes were shot and who shall say what their fate will be at the hands of the cutter? Of these three at least two occupied in the end not more than two minutes each. The two shorter ones took place one on the North and one on the South Front. They depicted (a) the arrival of a male star in a Hansom Cab on the North Front, and (b) a similar arrival of a female star on the South Front in a yellow Daimler, Edwardian vintage.

To this modest end immense preparations were made. Crowds of workmen, lorries, technicians, directors, camera-men, etc., etc., assembled, dispersed, argued, drank tea and perspired. Amidst this crowd drifted men in tight trousers and stiff collars and ladies with bustles and huge head-dresses. The North Hall box was occupied by these exotic beings telephoning, taking tea and giving light conversation.

Attempts were made by hired men to bring back to Stowe the days of the country house. Nottingham lace curtains hung in the rooms on the North Front. Window boxes with artificial flowers bedecked the Housemaster of Temple's study and the Grenville library. Queer statues and greenery appeared on the South Front. The steps on either side were brushed and weeded. The touchline of the Colts' ground was hidden with grass. All this for a take of four minutes which took seven days to do.

The third scene, which took place at the Palladian Bridge, was somewhat longer. A meal was prepared on the grass beside a punt and on the water there rested a huge and very artificial water lily, eventually to be hooked out by a gloomy gentleman with a boat-hook and taken away. On a cloth an "ample repast" was laid—game pie and champagne. The writer licked a hungry lip and cleared a parched throat. Alas, when the chattering throng of Edwardian ladies and knuts had gone, the champagne was water and the pie bounced. It was all bundled into a lorry and taken away.

These seven days showed the difficulty of filming in the open air in England and made more clear the geographers' dictum that in Hollywood the air is so clear and the sun so bright that filming can take place on sixty days out of a hundred.

At Stowe nothing was done for the first four days. The sun would not shine and the stars and their retinue promenaded in vain. It is said that the company cost nine hundred pounds a day. So they departed and returned after a month and then the sun was kinder, but it took three days to get those three scenes in and then powerful lamps had to be used to assist nature. No wonder the studio is preferred.

One is left with the impression of immense effort directed to small results, of artificial aids to reality and generally of a friendly and human company to whom no trouble was too much. The writer welcomed their appearance and regretted their departure—the stars he never saw.

THE LIBRARY

We are grateful for the following presentations this term:—

Wonders of Neptune's Kingdom, by F. Marten Duncan. (Lady Connor.)

The White House Papers of Harry L. Hopkins, by Robert E. Sherwood. (Lady Connor.)

Aganella and Other Poems, by Thomas Thornley. (The Author.)

A Distant Drum, by Capt. J. Pareira. (Anonymous.)

The only new librarian this term was D. N. T. Murray (G). The Catalogue has been checked and the gallery catalogued. The card index has been brought up to date by Miss Trengrouse, who, as in previous terms, has done all the real work herself uncomplainingly.

J.F.M.

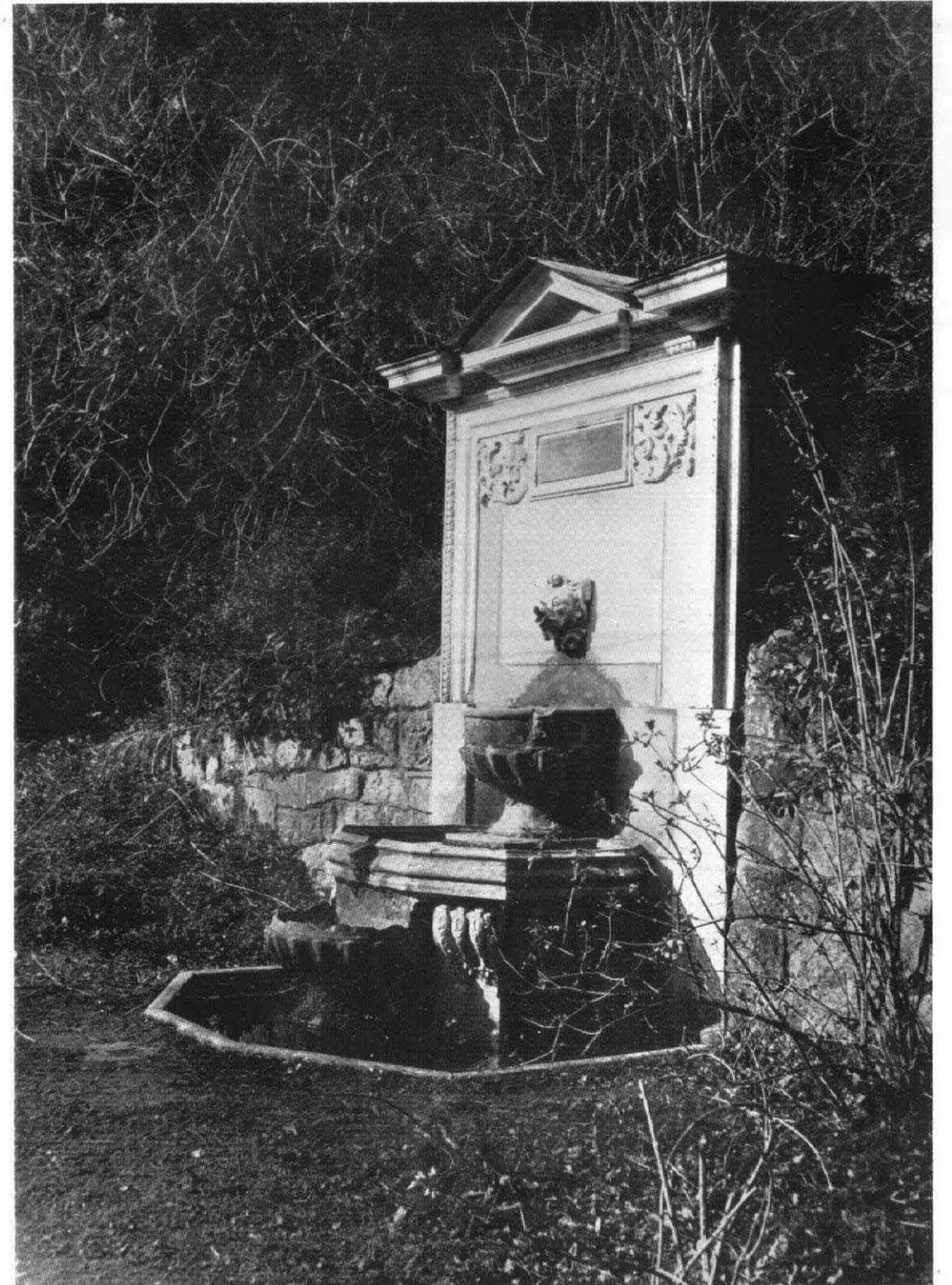


Photo by]

THE SEASONS FOUNTAIN

[J.F.R.]

MUSIC

The Christmas Term is always the best term for musical activities, and this term has been no exception to the rule.

The Orchestra has been fortunate in having the same players as last term, and the improvement in the standard of playing has been noteworthy. Among the works rehearsed has been the Mozart Haffner Symphony, the Handel-Elgar Overture in D Minor and the Casse-Noisette Suite of Tschaikowsky. We shall be sorry to lose H. T. Bowles (T) who has achieved remarkable results on the oboe and has done much to assist Mr. Webb in the J.T.C. Band.

The Choral Society has been rehearsing Bach's "Sleepers, Wake" and the Fantasia on Christmas Carols by Vaughan Williams. The attendance has been very good at all the practices this term, and there are some good new Treble voices.

P. G. Dennison (G), a rapidly improving young pianist, has been rehearsing Bach's Concerto in F Minor with the Orchestra, and will be playing it at the end of term Concert.

The Madrigal Society has been well up to standard, and has given two Carol Concerts.

The only Sunday Concert this term has been a concert by the Music Staff on November 28th which was well attended. A programme is given below.

The School Concert will be held on Wednesday, December 8th, an account of which will appear in the next number of the *Stoic*.

CONCERT BY THE MUSIC STAFF, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28TH.

PROGRAMME

Concerto for three Pianos and Strings in C major Allegro—Adagio—Allegro	...	<i>J. S. Bach</i>
<i>Piano I.—MISS PARKINSON.</i>		
<i>Piano II.—MR. BURKE.</i>		
<i>Piano III.—MRS. NEGUS.</i>		
Quartet for Oboe, Violin, Viola and Cello in F	... ..	<i>Mozart</i>
<i>Oboe—H. T. BOWLES.</i>		
<i>Violin—MRS. SILLER.</i>		
<i>Viola—MR. NEGUS.</i>		
<i>Cello—MRS. CREWDSON.</i>		
Andante from the Octet, arr. Clarinet and Piano	... ..	<i>Schubert</i>
<i>Clarinet—MR. WEBB.</i>		
<i>Piano—DR. HUGGINS.</i>		
Suite for Piano and Strings	... ..	<i>D. Scarlatti arr. Swinstead</i>
<i>Piano—MISS PARKINSON.</i>		

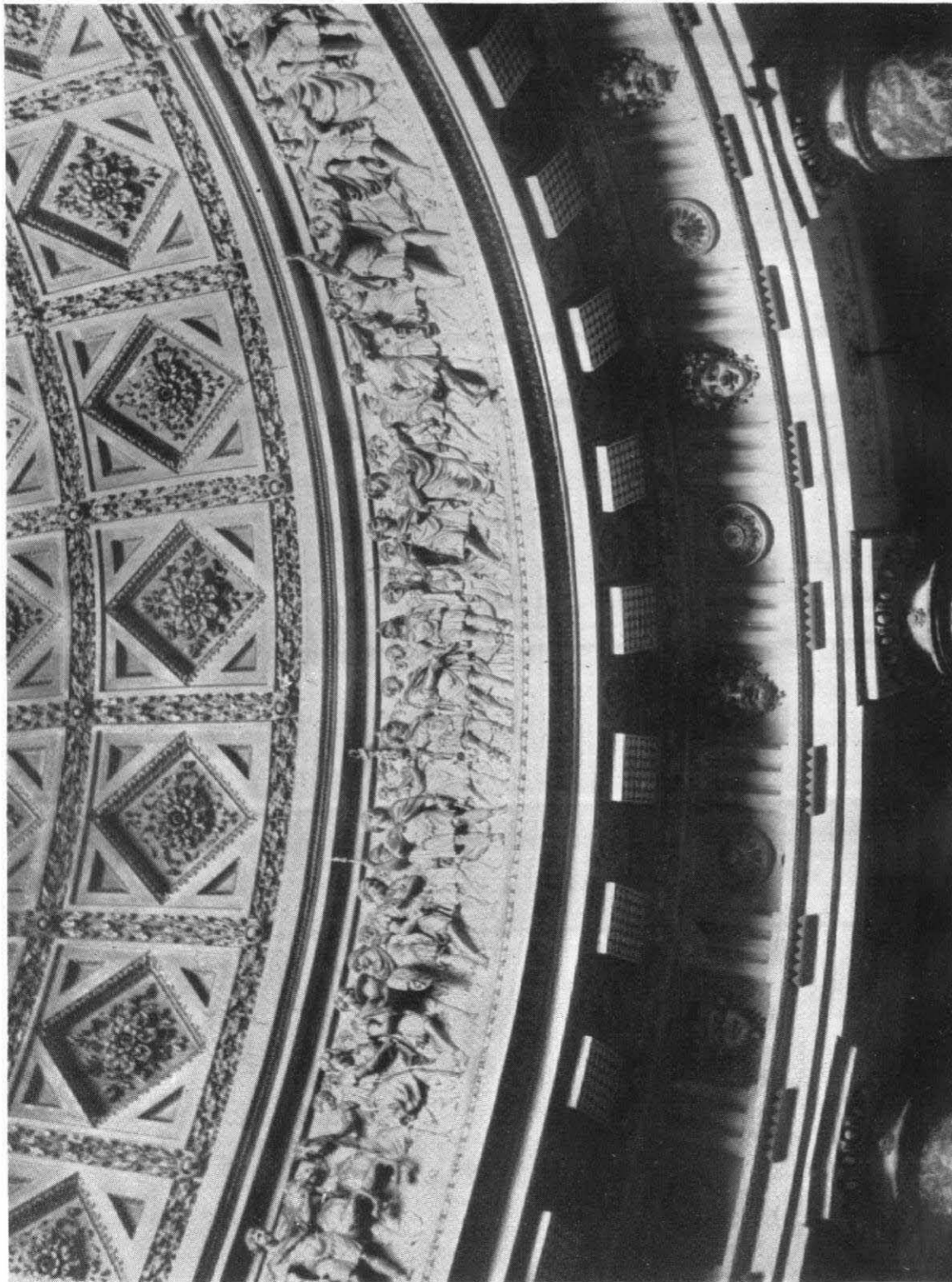


Photo by

VALDRÉ'S FRIEZE

[M.R.D.G.

Andante moderato from the ' Dumky ' Trio	... ..	<i>Dvorak</i>
<i>Violin</i> —MRS. SILLER.		
<i>Cello</i> —MRS. CREWDSON.		
<i>Piano</i> —DR. HUGGINS.		
Cello Solo—Bolero	... ..	<i>Roubiet</i>
MRS. CREWDSON		
Polka for two pianos	... ..	<i>A. A. Negus</i>
MR. AND MRS. NEGUS		
Clog Dance : " Handel in the Strand "	... ..	<i>Percy Grainger</i>
For two Pianos and Strings.		
<i>Piano I</i> .—MISS PARKINSON.		
<i>Piano II</i> .—MR. BURKE.		

CONCERT BY THE MADRIGAL SOCIETY AND ORCHESTRA, WEDNESDAY, JULY 21ST.

PROGRAMME

Concert Version of " Merrie England "	... ..	<i>Edward German</i>
Bessie Throckmorton	... ..	JEAN BUCK
Jill-All-Along	}	MONICA SINCLAIR
Queen Elizabeth		
Sir Walter Raleigh	... ..	NORMAN LILLEY
Earl of Essex	... ..	COLIN GRAHAM-BONNALIE
Long Tom	... ..	JOHN SAUNDERS
Piano Solos—Pastourelle	... ..	<i>Poulenc</i>
Mouvement Perpetuel	... ..	<i>Poulenc</i>
M. A. WELCH		
Soirées Musicales	... ..	<i>Rossini-Britten</i>
Piano Solos—Mazurka in A Minor	... ..	<i>Chopin</i>
Prelude in B Minor	... ..	<i>Chopin</i>
M. BIRKETT		
Jamaican Rumba	... ..	<i>Arthur Benjamin</i>

" Merrie England " was a great success, and almost every number received an encore. The singing of the Madrigal Society was good throughout and particularly in the Male Chorus " Two merry men a-drinking " and the Final Chorus " Robin Hood's Wedding." Monica Sinclair was outstanding in her role of " Jill-All-Along." Jean Buck was particularly pleasing in the solo " She had a letter from her love." Colin Graham-Bonnalie (T) as the Earl of Essex filled the part admirably, especially in " The Yeomen of England." Norman Lilley was not strong enough for the part of Sir Walter Raleigh, and much of his singing was almost inaudible. Mr. Saunders had a small but important role as Long Tom, which he filled admirably. The best piece of

singing was the Quintet " Love is mean to make us glad," in which all the soloists took part. A small part of the Orchestra, ably led by Dorothy Churton, provided an effective and pleasing accompaniment.

M. A. Welch (C) played his two Poulenc pieces with great charm and " verve."

The Orchestra then played three numbers from " Soirées Musicales." The most successful of them was the Bolero.

M. Birkett (T) made his last appearance on the Concert platform at Stowe and delighted us with his Chopin playing.

The Orchestra finished up with a " repeat " performance of the Jamaican Rumba, always a popular favourite.

L.P.H.

THE MUSIC SOCIETY

It is a real pleasure to be able to record that just over sixty per cent of the school have joined the Music Society this term. Not only have all three concerts been packed to overflowing, but they have all been of a very high standard.

The first one was in the Library on Wednesday, October 16th, when we heard a two-piano recital by Joan and Valerie Trimble. The first part of their programme consisted of a Mozart Sonata and the Brahms-Haydn Variations, with a Bach Siciliano to break the ice. Their playing was excellent and they kept together very well, yet in the Mozart their interpretation tended to overlook all those little delicate touches in which Mozart's whole genius lies, and the Brahms lacked the relentless purpose of this very masculine work. The second part was devoted to lighter, more modern, pieces. The Milhaud Suite appeared to descend to pure rag-time in parts, and the Traditional Irish Melodies were lovely if somewhat obscure. After giving several encores, again of light music, the soloists finally retired amidst stupendous applause. The programme of this recital is open to criticism, especially the second part which was altogether too flimsy; yet we feel the recital was a great success, owing to the personal charm and the outstanding technical ability of both the performers.

	I.	
Siciliano	... ..	<i>Bach</i>
Sonata in D major K. 448	... ..	<i>Mozart</i>
Allegro con spirito—Andante—Allegro moto		
Variations on a theme by Haydn	... ..	<i>Brahms</i>
(St. Anthony Chorale)		
	II.	
Suite " Scaramouche "	... ..	<i>Milhaud</i>
Vif—Modere—Braziliere.		
Gartan Mother's Lullaby	}	<i>Traditional Irish arr. Joan Trimble</i>
Heather Glen		
Rondo	... ..	<i>John Field arr. Martin Penny</i>

On Wednesday, November 3rd, a concert was given in the Gymnasium by the Boyd Neel String Orchestra, under their conductor Boyd Neel, and with John Hunt, the celebrated pianist, as soloist. Such a well-disciplined and flexible orchestra as this, fresh from its triumphs at the Edinburgh Festival, could not fail to delight even the most critical of audiences by its delightful playing. John Hunt's rendering of the Bach Piano Concerto was often technically at fault, and his interpretation only managed to make more people realise how inordinately dull Bach can be; this is a great pity, since this particular work, under a more inspired soloist, is a first-class concerto and not in the least dull. In this, and in the other three items, however, the orchestra played magnificently. One might criticize the choice of programme on the grounds of a superabundance of well-known works. Was it really necessary for them to play *Eine Kleine Nachtmusik* once again? This work is all very well, but it should not be forgotten that it was written by Mozart purely as light café music. The first work in the programme, the Handel Concerto Grosso Op. 6, was really beautifully played, especially by the two violin and the 'cello soloists. It was in the Tschaikowsky Serenade for Strings, however, that the orchestra really excelled itself. The perfect orchestration of Tschaikowsky was extremely apparent in their performance, as was the fact that they were in complete accord with their conductor. The two most striking movements were the Walzer—what a contrast to the shoddy pieces in 3-time churned out by our modern dance bands!—and the finale, which was a fitting end to this concert.

I.	
Concerto Grosso Op. 6, No. 5	<i>Handel</i>
Allegro—Presto—Largo—Allegro—Menuet.	
II.	
Eine Kleine Nachtmusik K. 525	<i>Mozart</i>
Allegro—Romanze—Andante—Menuetto—Allegretto— Rondo—Allegro.	
III.	
Concerto for Pianoforte and Strings in D minor	<i>Bach</i>
Allegro—Adagio—Allegro.	
Soloist—JOHN HUNT.	
IV.	
Serenade in C major, Op. 48	<i>Tschaikowsky</i>
Pezzo in Forma di Sonatina—Walzer—Elegie—Finale.	

The last concert of the term took place in the Library on Wednesday, November 17th, when Andres Segovia gave a Guitar Recital. There were many musical people who declined to attend this recital on the grounds that they couldn't bear to listen to a guitar for one and a half hours on end. Memories of Felix Mendelssohn had led them cruelly astray, for nothing was more stimulating and refreshing than this recital. The

very first sound of his guitar made it obvious that here was a virtuoso playing an instrument of vast compass and tonal range, with an amazing agility. The first part of the programme consisted of early XVIIIth Century works, whose dry staccato quality was admirably portrayed. They would have been excessively dull had it not been for Segovia's masterly handling of them. All his skill, however, could not prevent the Bach suite from becoming a trifle tedious, save in the last three movements which were full of melody and intriguing counterpoint.

During the second part of the programme, when the modern Spanish works were played, it was confidently expected by the lovers of lighter music that here would be an occasion for rumbas and tangos. But no; the music was essentially serious and much of it very beautiful indeed. We cannot but admire the balance which Segovia maintained in his choice of programme. The works ranged from the XVIIIth to the XXth Century, each being played in exactly the right manner. The way in which one man and his instrument kept interest alive throughout a long programme, which culminated in several encores, was astounding, and this above all demonstrates what a really great player Segovia is. For these reasons this would seem the best Music Society concert of the term.

I.	
Preamble—Sarabande—Gavotte	<i>Alessandro Scarlatti</i>
Sonata	<i>Domenico Scarlatti</i>
Allegretto	<i>Rameau</i>
Andante and Menuet	<i>Haydn</i>
II.	
Prelude — Fugue — Courante — Sarabande — Bourre — Menuet—Gavotte en Roneau	
<i>Bach</i>	
III.	
Nortena (dedicated to A. Segovia)	<i>G. Crespo</i>
Mazurka (dedicated to A. Segovia)	<i>A. Tansman</i>
Fandanguillo (dedicated to A. Segovia)	<i>J. Turina</i>
Dance in E minor	<i>E. Granados</i>
Sevilla	<i>I. Albeniz</i>

H.T.B.

NATURAL HISTORY

We have added to the museum an upper molar tooth of the Woolly Rhinoceros, *Tichorhinus antiquitatis*, confirmed as such by the authorities at the Natural History Museum, S. Kensington, together with part of a skull and fragments of limb bones, found nearby in the large gravel excavations south of the Buckingham-Stony Stratford road, which belong with reasonable certainty to the same animal. Mr. Jones, of Maids Moreton, discovered these remains, and kindly gave them to Stowe at the suggestion of the rector of his parish.

These sub-fossils do not allow us to say that we might have seen the living animal grazing here at some particular date. For the glacial gravel which entombed them may have been carried from far afield; and the species was common on steppe or tundra from the beginning of the Upper Pleistocene, some 180,000 years ago, until the comparatively recent date of about 23,000 B.C.

The nesting of the Great Crested Grebe on the 11-acre lake in 1948 was a notable event; for there is no record of its having done so since a pair reared two broods in 1923. My first knowledge of their presence came from a view of both old birds two days before the end of the summer term; and four days later there was a lynx-striped nestling riding on the back of one of its parents. No one recorded the mutual displays which must have taken place late in June, perhaps because watchers were on the look-out only when bathers had frightened the birds into the reeds. We must hope for their return next year, and be more observant through May and June.

The old birds stayed till the third week in September, but had gone by the opening day of the Michaelmas term, leaving a three-quarter-grown youngster, still striped on head and neck. It has been amusing to watch this bird swallowing its own feathers, plucking out the loose ones before they were moulted off. Its evening fishing has given ample proof of its true appetite. It stayed till the third week of November, by which time the head tufts were prominent. There are rumours that it may have been shot; but one prefers to think of its enjoying a first taste of sea-fish.

N.A.B.

DEBATING SOCIETY

There have been two debates this term, open to the Middle and Upper Schools, and one Closed Debate is contemplated.

The first Open Debate was held on October 27th. The Motion before the House was: "That this House approves of Sneaks."

N. E. WATES (B) proposed, and compared, with much unction, the popular admiration for the spy and the popular abhorrence for the sneak of the inky Fourths, these two gentlemen being basically of the same calibre.

G. H. ROOKE (C) opposed, and metaphorically danced with glee. A torrent of witticisms poured forth to the effect that a sneak was an acknowledged monstrosity.

T. M. IRVINE (T) spoke third. He pointed out that our judicial system depended for its efficiency upon sneaks.

J. D. NIGHTINGALE (C) spoke fourth and remembered the bloody French Revolution—the Sneak's Paradise.

A moderately successful debate then followed, suffering from an unfortunate paucity of speakers.

The House soon divided.

There voted in the Upper House :	For the Motion	9
	Against - - -	6

with 9 abstentions.

There voted in the Lower House :	For the Motion	36
	Against - - -	24

The Motion was therefore carried in both Houses.

The second Debate of term occurred on Wednesday, November 25th, when the Motion before the House was: "That this House wishes to Emigrate."

G. L. D. DUCKWORTH (C) proposed, and considered that modern housing and rationing difficulties left him with little choice but to emigrate.

G. N. BEVERIDGE (C) opposed, and with admirable clearness shewed how necessary it was that all should stay behind to work for Britain. Only if the population were decreased to some fifteen millions (clearly an impossibility) could we hope to become agriculturally self-supporting.

R. A. HIRD (C) was third speaker. He thought it reasonable, in this age of reason, to fly from the disadvantage of life in modern Britain. He pleaded for a comprehensive de-centralisation of industry.

R. J. MAXWELL-HYSLOP (C) spoke fourth. He delivered a tirade against the mechanisation of Man and Morals in this age. He considered that we could not afford emigration.

A spirited and lengthy debate then followed, with many good speeches and few bad ones. By the end of the debate, one felt that the case for and against emigration had been fairly and exhaustively put.

The House divided as follows:—

There voted in the Upper House :	For the Motion	8
	Against - - -	13

There voted in the Lower House :	For the Motion	54
	Against - - -	45

The Motion was therefore lost in the Upper House and carried in the Lower.

The standard of speeches generally has improved during the term, culminating in a truly excellent debate.

During the term, P. G. Powers (C), C. F. Greenlaw (T), A. J. Macintosh (T), P. J. Nash (C), P. E. Leslie (C), M. G. D. O'Donovan (T) and W. F. Tremayne (C) were elected Members of the Society.

The Officers of the Society this term were:—A. K. Thould (C), Secretary; J. F. Marsden (W), Treasurer; G. L. D. Duckworth (C), Librarian; N. E. Wates (B), Committee-man.

A.K.T.

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

THE ART SCHOOL

The place of the Watts was a most difficult one to fill, and we must indeed be thankful that it is filled so admirably by Mr. and Mrs. Mounsey. They are sympathetic and helpful in all fields, and although one now enters a new art school, there is an atmosphere of efficiency and industry which was not always to be found before. Modelling and architecture are exciting new things to be investigated and oil painting seems to be as popular as ever in spite of only a relatively small array of finished paintings. Scenery and puppets continue to flourish under the valuable assistance of Mr. and Mrs. Mounsey and there are signs of good work being produced everywhere.

D.C.P.

THE PUPPET CLUB

Last term the Club produced "Winnie the Pooh," by A. A. Milne. This was Mrs. Watt's last puppet play; her extraordinary skill had created a most remarkable set of puppets which were the making of the production.

This term we are producing "She Stoops to Conquer," by Oliver Goldsmith. The puppets have been beautifully dressed by Mrs. Knott and three assistants, and the scenery has been designed and painted by P. Jameson (G) in an unconventional manner. At the time of going to press, the few rehearsals we have had give hope that the eventual show will be amusing, without the awful spectacle of a puppet taking to the air, or a string catching in the foliage.

G.S.B.

THE MUSIC CLUB

On November 7th a dozen or so members of the Club went by bus to Oxford to hear the concert in the Town Hall given by the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Furtwangler. Because of a box-office error only fourteen of the thirty seats booked were forthcoming. The performance, which was broadcast, was really thrilling, and the orchestra obviously enjoyed playing the music of Schubert, of which the programme was composed. The first work was the Overture to "Rosamunde," in which the wind distinguished itself particularly. It was interesting to note that Dr. Furtwangler conducts on the "up-beat," which must be confusing to any English orchestra; however, the Berlin Orchestra followed his beat perfectly throughout. The Strings were wonderful in the "Unfinished" Symphony in B minor, and the whole ensemble in the Ninth Symphony in C was inspiring. Christian Action is to be congratulated for sponsoring the present tour of this great orchestra, and thanks are also due to the orchestra itself for so generously donating a large part of the proceeds to the good work which is being done by Christian Action.

The 34th meeting of the Club was held in the Chapel on November 19th when J. D. Nightingale (C) talked, and played, on "The Organ." He told us briefly of the three types of organ, and about their advantages and disadvantages. He went on to talk about the chief composers of organ music, and then disappeared into the organ loft to play us a selection from their works. In a recital of just under an hour he played

a slow movement from one of Handel's concertos, a Fantasia and Fugue by Bach, three movements from a Mendelssohn sonata, and several more modern works, including a Choral improvisation on the theme "Now thank we all our God," by Karg-Elert. As the President said afterwards, it is quite unique for anyone at Stowe to be able to play such a difficult and varied programme with such skill.

A second expedition was held later in the term when about thirty members went to Oxford to hear Pouishnoff playing a programme of Chopin, Schumann and Beethoven.

G.L.D.D.

THE CONGREVE CLUB

Activities this term have been confined to the school play—Emlyn Williams's "Night Must Fall"—which is reviewed elsewhere in this number, and an expedition to Oxford to see J. B. Priestly's new play "Home is Tomorrow," with Leslie Banks. The play, not one of Priestly's best, needed all one's concentration and effectively dealt with U.N.O. busybodies on an undeveloped island in the Carribean. The cast, headed by Leslie Banks and Irene Worth, acted superbly even to the smallest characters, the most praiseworthy being Cecil Trouncer and Alan Wheatley.

A General Meeting was held at the beginning of term at which the Committee was elected.

C.G-B.

THE VITRUVIANS

The Society next year will celebrate its twentieth anniversary. Founded in 1929 to promote and facilitate among Stoics the study and appreciation of architecture, the Society has been in existence ever since. There have been periods of decline, and, after a rather bad one, there has been this term a marked rise in interest. Membership is now more than double what it was last term, and new members were met with the announcement of a good term's programme.

This programme, however, through unavoidable circumstances, did not materialize quite as intended. However, on Sunday, November 21st, we had a very enjoyable bus expedition to Tyringham and Gayhurst, on the far side of Newport Pagnell.

We set off at 1 p.m. and having had lunch in the bus arrived at Gayhurst at 2.15 p.m. Gayhurst was begun in 1597 by Sir Everard Digby. This gentleman met with a bad end later when he was hanged for complicity in the Gunpowder plot. He entertained Guy Fawkes at Gayhurst on more than one occasion. Half the house is now a Preparatory School. The other half is owned by Sir Walter Carlisle. Having been round this stately building we moved on to Tyringham, the objective of a bus expedition some time ago, arriving at 3.30 p.m. Tyringham is one of the finest examples of the work of the renowned Sir John Soane, who began it in 1793. This was one of his favourite works, although actually his other works in the spacious grounds are better examples. After having a very enjoyable day we arrived back in time for evening chapel.

Later on in the term, on Wednesday, December 8th, the well-known writer, Mr. John Harvey, is coming down to give us a lecture on "Mediaeval Architects." This should prove an unusual and extremely good talk as it is a subject on which he is a great authority.

Next term's programme has already partially been fixed, to make up for this term's not turning out as intended. We are having a bus expedition to Charlecote Manor, near Warwick, a 16 mm. sound film show, and two lectures, one by the poet Laurence Whistler, who is an Old Stoic and a great authority on Vanbrugh.

It is hoped that this revival of interest will continue so that this, one of the oldest of Stowe Societies, may continue to thrive.

R.D.S.

THE XII CLUB

The 219th Meeting of the Society was held at Vancouver Lodge at 8.30 on Friday, the 12th of November. The subject of the paper was St. Francis of Assisi, and it was read by G. N. Beveridge (C) in a quiet dignified voice well suited to his subject. He described St. Francis's teaching as a return to the simple precepts of Christ's life. With a quotation from Blake, he illustrated Christ's attempt to replace the Jewish standards of punishment and stern justice with charity and joy, and, with references to Nietzsche and Dostoevsky, the church's decision to replace Christ's over-difficult rule of life by one based on mystery, miracle and authority—the three temptations in the wilderness. The corrupt Church which this policy created by the 13th century was only saved from complete disintegration by the advent of St. Francis within the Church. Beveridge then gave a sympathetic account of St. Francis's life; his conversion, the founding and expansion of the order, the gradual destruction of his ideals of poverty and labour by Ugolini and Brother Elias, and, after his death, the establishment of the order on the bases of power, learning and wealth. The paper ended with St. Francis's beautiful "Canticle of the Sun." The Society paid this worthy paper the rare compliment of discussing it at some length but, as usual, went off on several tangents at once. In one corner medieval theology was expounded in monologue, in another Communism, while in a third several members conducted a sentimental journey through France and Italy. All of the eight new members attended except G. L. D. Duckworth (C) who was indisposed. Papers are expected in the near future from D. J. M. Campion (W) and the Secretary.

P.G.P.

THE CLASSICAL SOCIETY

With the gradual re-growth of the Classical Side it was thought high time to fill up the sadly empty pages of the Classical Society's Minute Book. Mr. Stephan kindly offered the use of his room where on Tuesday, November 15th, the Classical Society celebrated its 101st meeting (the first for some considerable time) with a paper read by the Secretary. He told the story of the "Greek Amateur," the land-owner who farmed for the love of the soil, the potter who painted for the love of beauty, the merchant who traded for the love of travel and the unknown, and finally the whole Greek race who loved life for its own sake and preferred earning money only to starving for lack of it. The discussion that followed, after wandering from Mongolia to Britain, from climate to character, finally concluded—somewhat to the dismay of the reader of the paper whose thirty-minute discourse had been devoted to that subject—in a vain struggle to find some definition of the word "Amateur."

A further paper, from D. J. M. Campion (W), on "Thucydides," was read on Friday, December 3rd, and will be reported next term.

R.A.H.

THE MODERN LANGUAGES SOCIETY

At the first meeting of the Society early in the term, it was found necessary to elect several new members, since there were only three remaining from the previous Easter term. Four new members were soon proposed, and passed the vote, and the Society met a fortnight later to read an excellent comedy by Labiche. It was a very lively and amusing play, and thoroughly enjoyed by all. The second play, by Lesage, was not received quite so warmly, being rather slow and unable to reach the standard of the first in the dialogue, although the plot presented some good opportunities for the typical French comedy. Nevertheless, three more evenings passed by very quickly for those who took part in the play.

Five meetings in all were held this term, which comes up to the average. The custom was, I believe, to wind up with a Spanish play. But this was found impossible this term because only one member, apart from the President and Vice-President, had a sufficient knowledge to enable him to understand and enjoy reading one, and he was unable to attend the last two meetings on account of a public examination.

P.J.R.H.

THE SCIENCE SOCIETY

The Society began early in the term with a very successful visit to the National Physical Laboratory, Teddington, on Wednesday, September 29th. A more detailed description of the expedition appears below.

On Wednesday, October 20th, a meeting was held in the N.L.R. to show two films from the Petroleum Films Bureau. The first, "Prospecting for Oil," showed all the work necessary before the actual drilling could be started. The second film followed on from the first and dealt with the drilling for oil.

On November 27th, Dr. John R. Baker delivered a lecture on "Modern Methods in Microscopy" with practical demonstrations of his apparatus. Later in the term the Hon. Secretary will be lecturing on High Voltage Physics.

A Visit to the National Physical Laboratory

Most of the Science Society's expeditions have been to factories, power-stations and the like. This term, however, we visited a laboratory, the National Physical Laboratory.

The grounds of the Laboratory are fairly extensive (about 50 acres), and avenues, named after famous scientists, link the numerous buildings. The buildings are well spaced out with shrubberies and flower-beds dispersed between them.

The work is mainly in applied research, but a little pure research is undertaken. Consequently many firms send research work to the Laboratory, which they are unable to do themselves. We saw many examples of this, such as testing the hull designs of ships and measurements of aeroplane wing sections.

The Laboratory is divided into ten sections, of which we had time to see only a few. The first to be visited was the Acoustical Section of the Physics Division. There were four odd-shaped rooms; no wall was parallel to another, and the ceilings were tilted at odd angles. This was to make certain that any sounds produced were properly mixed up and distributed throughout the room. These rooms were completely unconnected with each other, the rest of the building being supported on rubber blocks. In one room the walls were smooth and two feet thick, so that a sound reverberated for ten seconds. This made hearing difficult unless one spoke at a funereal pace. One

of the other rooms had, on the other hand, walls of cotton-wool, and one's words were swallowed up almost before they had left one's mouth. This room was used for standardising microphones and amplifiers.

From here we went on to see the thirty-foot Whirling Arm, which would have seemed more appropriate in a fair. It revolved at the rate of half a revolution a second, with a pulsating roar. This was part of the Aerodynamics Division and measured yawing and pitching in rotational movement.

Another part of the Aerodynamics Division was a huge fifty-foot-long Compressed-Air Wind Tunnel weighing some 300 tons. The idea behind this is that if you reduce the size of your plane to the dimensions of a small model, and at the same time correspondingly compress the air, you will get exactly the same effects with a model as with a real plane in ordinary conditions. Hence any measurements on the model may be directly applied to the plane. Inside the Tunnel so great is the pressure that two tons of air pass the blower a second.

A fleeting glimpse into the High Voltage Laboratory showed a huge room of large copper spheres and tubing, associated with the Shape of Things to Come.

The equivalent of the Wind Tunnel in the Naval world is the Water Tank. Model Ships are moulded and cut accurately to the required shape, and then towed down one of the two 550 foot tanks by a travelling bridge, from which the measurements are made. Apparatus even exists for making artificial waves.

One of the most interesting things that we just had time to see was a scale model of the Firth of Forth built for the Admiralty. All the sandbanks were faithfully reproduced with genuine silt from the Forth; the rivers flowed in at the correct points and with the correct volume. By means of a large plunger, tides were created and in a month's work a whole century of tides could be run through. Thus the building up of sandbanks and the silting of river estuaries can be accurately studied and preventive methods found.

It was most unfortunate that we had not the time to see many parts of the Laboratory, such as the Electronic Calculator of the Mathematical Division, or the model of the new House of Commons built to study the ventilation of the building. Nevertheless we had an extremely enjoyable and interesting time.

R.R.E.C.

THE RADIO CLUB

Owing to the studied inefficiency of the Secretary, we have so far had only one formal meeting this term, but this deplorable state of affairs is partly excused by the fact that a great deal of serious constructional work has been completed, including several outside orders and the erection of a miniature Droitwich near the Masters' Hostel for the Signals Section.

R. Maxtone-Grahame (C) succeeded A. de F. Mellor (B) in the position of Records Officer. Mellor was one of the founders of the club, and we wish him much success in his career.

It is hoped that towards the end of the term we will have an expedition to Wembley to see for ourselves how electronic valves are made.

W.J.M.G.

B.J.R.H.

THE GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

There has been one meeting of the Society so far this term when G. L. D. Duckworth (C) read an edifying paper on a summer holiday he had spent in the "Outer Hebrides."

It is hoped that it will be possible to hold one more meeting later in the term.

R.E.W.

TOXOPHILITES

At the time of going to press only one meeting of the Club has taken place this term. On October 16th, the 12th meeting was held in the Aurelian Room, when D. N. T. Murray (G) read a paper on "Poaching." In a very interesting paper, which cast an intriguing light on the way in which the author spends his holidays, Murray told us of the kind of men who poach, how they do it, and what fines they are liable to if caught. Salmon, apparently, are the most sought after by poachers, who have devised an incredible number of ingenious traps, snares and other devices for catching them. Next most popular are red-deer, which run the risk of being Sten-gunned from armoured lorries. We heard how grouse, rabbits, hares and trout are caught, to mention only a few. Many thanks are due to Murray for his most interesting and obviously well-informed paper.

At a committee meeting held after this paper it was decided to let all new members of Side 5 join the Club if they wished.

It is hoped that a second meeting will take place near the end of the term at which R. P. L. Kaye (E) will talk to us about "Cinema Projection."

G.L.D.D.

THE SYMPOSIUM

The Society has so far only heard two papers this term, but it is hoped that at least two more will be read before we break up. The 89th meeting of the Society, held on October 16th, was in many respects a rather important occasion in its history. Members of both this year's Society and last were present and the meeting was very pleased to welcome Mr. Macdonald, who read a paper on "Yale and the English Universities." Mr. Macdonald began by telling the Society about the differences which distinguished Yale from Cambridge or its sisters. He compared favourably the American system of more freedom in spare time and great supervision in actual work with the opposite system prevailing in England. In his estimation too, the great professors on the other side of the Atlantic equalled, if they did not surpass, those over here. The paper, admirably written, gave the Society a vivid impression of the great place that is called Yale and left at least one of its members with a desire to go there himself. Afterwards the conversation turned mainly on American football and the strange customs of Brother Jonathan.

On October 29th P. J. Tickell (B) read an excellent, if provocative, paper on "Psi Capacities." In spite of its fearsome title, the paper was less formidable than expected and it was written in an easy non-technical style. Its theme was that, although modern science can tell us much about the world around us, it knows but little of the mysterious workings of our own minds. It went on to describe the experiments and discoveries which seem to prove the certain existence of telepathy, clairvoyance and prophecy, and if the Society remained unconvinced, it was undoubtedly fascinated by the paper and the whole subject. The conversation afterwards ranged over a wide field, touching

on most subjects from Chinese culture to Communism. The paper itself was very well written and extremely interesting; the diction was particularly faultless.

S. E. Digby (W) and P. J. LeVay Lawrence (B) will read papers later this term and it is hoped to have at least one more besides these.

S.A.M.A.

THE EPHEMERALS

There were two meetings of the Ephemerals last term which took place after *The Stoic* had gone to press. At the first, on July 2nd, B. F. Brindley's paper, "The Age of Unreason," which dealt with the period between the two wars, was, in spite of its superficial treatment, extremely well received and provoked some most interesting conversation.

J. R. J. Burnham's "The Occult," which he read on July 23rd, was a very amusing if somewhat plagiarized paper, and Burnham cannot be blamed for the silly discussion and unsuccessful psychical experiments which followed it.

At the eleventh meeting, held on October 22nd, a year all but two days after the first, there was an unusually large complement of new members, who heard J. Lockwood give a paper entitled "Fin-de-Siècle," which was as amusing as it was scholarly, setting a standard all too high to keep up.

In spite of this, R. J. Maxwell-Hyslop's paper on "Tobacco" was as good as any we have ever heard, and dealt with what promised to be an intractable subject in a most amusing way.

We have heard, during this period; poems by Miss Eve Stuart, Crabbe, Lewis Carroll and G. K. Chesterton, and records of Mozart's Bassoon Concerto, Gershwin's "Fascinating Rhythm," Noel Coward's "Stately Homes of England," "Some of these Days," played by Cab Calloway, Leoncavallo's "Pagliacci" and "The Pirates of Penzance," by Gilbert and Sullivan.

This term's members have been, besides Mr. and Mrs. Macdonald, J. F. Marsden (W), R. R. E. Chorley (S), J. Lockwood (W), B. F. Brindley (G), M. A. R. Freeman (T), R. R. Glover (S), C. P. R. Litchford (C), T. M. Irvine (T), R. J. Maxwell-Hyslop (C), C. Graham-Bonnalie (T), M. G. D. O'Donovan (T) and A. J. Macintosh (T).

B.F.B.

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

The activities of the Society have been mainly confined to darkroom work this term, such as printing of photographs taken last term. As a result, the darkroom has always been in a mess, and a great deal of untidiness is caused by certain members. It is hoped to have the darkroom repainted in the holidays, but there has been no promise made yet.

The Society was presented with an excellent opportunity to show its skill by the holding of the R.A.C. Grand Prix at Silverstone, and several members did take the chance offered. Although the results were somewhat disappointing, one must remember that very few members, if any, have ever had any previous experience of this very difficult type of photography. One rather interesting fact that was brought out was that many of the best photographs seen were taken by non-members!

It is to be hoped that next term there will be more out-door activity on the part of the Society, and that the darkroom will be kept tidier!

R.R.G.

THE MODEL RAILWAY CLUB

Thanks to the hard work of a band of enthusiastic railway modellers, the Club got off to a flying start. A dozen would-be members turned up at the first meeting when it was decided that A. T. N. Booth (T) and J. D. Davis (T), who led the movement in the beginning, were to be President and Secretary respectively and M. Moorby (T) Committee-man. Later, however, Booth resigned to make way for R. M. Whitfield (C) who presented a large quantity of Trix equipment to the Club. The Club now has an air-raid shelter in which, thanks to the Headmaster's generous help, electric light has been installed.

J.D.D.

THE JUNIOR DEBATING SOCIETY

So far this term eight meetings have been held by the Society. At the first meeting S. J. F. Harbord (C) was elected Vice-President and D. M. G. Hirst (S) Hon. Secretary.

Among several interesting debates three have been distinguished by excellent speeches. R. I. Lund (C) spoke with great clarity on the motion that "We welcome a car-racing track at Stowe." In another debate concerning the J.T.C., J. G. Scott (C) was equally impressive. When we debated the motion that "We welcome Fleming boys at Stowe," every member present made a speech. The meetings this term have been, on the whole, both amusing and informative.

D.M.G.H.

J.T.C. NOTES

The following promotions and appointments were made this term:—

To *Senior Under-Officer*: Under-Officer O. B. Sayer (T).

To *Under-Officer*: Sergeants A. K. Thould (C), R. G. Macmillan (C), R. H. F. Cox (T).

To *Sergeant*: Corporals R. R. Glover (S), P. P. Patten (C), R. J. Roberts (C), T. J. Greenley (W), R. M. Maxtone-Graham (C), C. H. Bartlett (T), J. N. W. Bridges-Adams (S), D. Read (T).

To *Corporal*: Lance-Corporals G. H. Rooke (C), R. E. Wadsworth (W), M. H. Goodhart (W), P. J. Nash (C), M. G. D. O'Donovan (T), J. R. Filmer (T), A. T. Innes (T), G. S. Baker (T), P. J. R. Hubert (S), R. J. Maxwell-Hyslop (C), J. C. Turner (G), W. Harwood (C), K. R. H. Allen (G), J. B. Makinson (B), G. A. Treherne (C), J. M. Rigg (W), J. F. F. Le Poer Trench (C).

To *Lance-Corporals*: Cadets R. M. Hinde (W), P. E. Leslie (C), D. M. Lilley (S), M. Mulholland (S), A. J. Macintosh (T), A. P. Harris (S), D. D. Kitching (S), J. D. Nightingale (C), M. D. Norris-Hill (S).

The strength of the Corps this term is 996 of whom 48 are recruits. There have been no major changes either of organization or what the Army calls personnel, except that the position of Mr. Osborne, who has been so kindly helping with the signal section, has now been regularised and he will be appearing, it is hoped soon, in naval uniform, to add a touch of distinction to our Parades.

Perhaps the most important innovation of last year was the opportunity provided by Oxford University S.T.C. for some senior cadets to try for Certificate 'B.' This was an unqualified success and at Churn Camp the Stowe Contingent did extremely well. There were 25 candidates for Infantry Certificate 'B' and Stowe secured 7 of the first 9 places, R. G. Macmillan (C) being first and P. J. Nash (C) equal second. Of the gunner detachment 8 of 10 Stowe candidates were successful—S. B. Lloyd (C) being first, J. R. Filmer (T) second and J. B. Makinson (B) equal third. Unfortunately, Certificate 'B' is likely to be abolished and it has not been possible to lay on exactly the same arrangement for this year. O.U.S.T.C., however, are very kindly conducting an advanced Training Squad in all arms which will undoubtedly be of the greatest value to those who form it, both from the point of view of their army service and when they come to function as Instructors with the Corps next year.

We have had one Field Day this term—not a spectacular one in view of various unfortunate incidents last term, but a useful one, in which the various sections of the Corps had an opportunity of carrying out their normal training in rather different country than the familiar Stowe landscape.

All sections of the Corps appear to have been functioning usefully and well this term. The results can only fully be judged after the Certificate 'A' examinations which take place on November 29th and 30th.

The I.C.E. section paid a most successful visit to the Armstrong-Siddeley Motor Works at Coventry on the day of the Field Exercise, and were most royally entertained, as they so often are, thanks to the initiative and enterprise of the Chaplain in organizing such expeditions.

The Band goes on from strength to strength and is giving an ambitious concert at the end of the term.

EMPIRE TEST RESULTS

Winner of Highest Individual score :—Cdt. J. W. Peplow (C).

Numbers exercised ...	...	243
No. of 1st Class Shots ...	...	148
No. of 2nd Class Shots ...	...	72
No. of 3rd Class Shots ...	...	23

J.T.C. BAND

During the last year the standard of playing in the Band has improved tremendously thanks to the exceptional ability of Mr. Webb and to the very great enthusiasm of the players themselves. We are deeply indebted to Major McElwee, whose financial assistance has enabled countless worn-out or battered instruments to be repaired and put into use. The Band has twice played with the J.T.C. and it is hoped that they



Photo by]

BLETCHLEY

[O.T.W.]



By courtesy of]

J.R.J.B.

M.R.D.G.

[Sport & General

ENGLISH SCHOOLBOYS LEAVING FOR AMERICA



Photo by]

BRUCE v. TEMPLE, JULY 1948
No. 3, D. E. Conington; No. 4, J. F. Conington

[J.H.W.]



C.H.B.

J.D.F.L.
P.G.S.

J.L.P.

P.J.N.
M.D.

J.M.S.
P.M.G.

D.C.W.

By courtesy of]

THE DOLPHINS TOUR
August 1948

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will do this far more often in the future. In addition to last term's very successful concert in the Queen's Temple, a programme was played in the Library on Sunday, December 5th.

H.T.B.

SHOOTING

There has been shooting on Sundays, as well as Thursdays, this term.

A Possibles Prize of one guinea was offered under the same conditions as last term and was won by M. W. Gratton-Holt (W). Another was offered under harder conditions and was won by G. F. Appleton (G).

The following represented the School in a postal match against Alleyn's School on October 21st:—R. H. F. Cox (T), G. F. Appleton (G), R. W. S. Gentle (B), M. W. Gratton-Holt (W), C. F. N. Hope (C), A. J. Macintosh (T), J. M. Rigg (W), J. N. Vinen (W). Stowe lost by 51 points with a score of 598 out of 680.

The next match was shot against Whitgift School on November 11th. The team, consisting of R. H. F. Cox (T), G. F. Appleton (G), R. W. S. Gentle (B), M. W. Gratton-Holt (W), C. F. N. Hope (C), J. B. Makinson (B), J. M. Rigg (W), J. N. Vinen (W), scored 627 out of 680, losing by 47 points.

The same team scored 714 out of 808 in the N.S.R.A. Public Schools Match, coming 30th out of 66 schools.

In a postal match against Oundle on November 25th, R. H. F. Cox (T), G. F. Appleton (G), R. W. S. Gentle (B), M. W. Gratton-Holt (W), A. J. Macintosh (T), J. B. Makinson (B), J. M. Rigg (W) and J. N. Vinen (W) scored 638 out of 680. The Oundle score is not yet known.

The standard of .22 shooting is at present higher than it has been recently and the VIII hope to make a fair showing in the *Country Life* competition next term.

R.H.F.C.

THE 1948 CORPS CAMP

Those members of the J.T.C. who had not decided to have their holiday abroad during the first week of the school holidays or had not thought up a good reason why they should miss Camp, paraded on the North Front at 0900 hrs. the day before the term ended, in Mills equipment with rifles. Haversack rations were issued and stowed away, and after a short delay, while the C.O. helped to shove the sandwiches even further into the sponge-bag of a rather senior cadet, the Contingent marched off to Buckingham.

As last year, it was a very hot day, and by the time that we reached the station we were quite glad to sit down in our reserved carriages. Going *via* Bletchley and Cambridge we arrived at Harling Road Station near Thetford in Norfolk. After forming up as a contingent once more we marched about half a mile to the camp which is set in very open country surrounded by large areas of bracken.

This year we were not under canvas, having had four dormitory huts and one store hut allotted to us. This was voted by everyone, especially by those who had waged night warfare with earwigs, spiders and other insects in the tents at Colchester last year, to be an excellent plan—all, that is, except the officers. The training was done under our own officers with Lt. Archer as the chief schemer. The main criticism of last year's training was that it was almost entirely from the Cert. 'A' Pt. II syllabus; this year it was a different story. The first three days were spent in learning and practising movement by night and night-patrolling, all of which led up to a grand climax in the form of a 24-hour exercise.

The weather was perfect as the contingent, divided up into one platoon of 'Chindits' and two of 'Japs,' set off in the afternoon of the fourth day at camp to take up their positions. Patrolling and skirmishes continued until 2 a.m., by which time the 'Chindits' were to be across a road which represented the Irrawaddy River. There was then a temporary truce during which both sides bivouacked under the stars until 5.30 a.m. A mobile breakfast arrived, fresh orders were issued and the new battle was started. By mid-day we were back in camp, exhausted, thirsty (having drunk the contents of one waterbottle only throughout the exercise) and hungry. The whole thing was planned with great ingenuity by the C.O., Capt. Uttley and Lt. Archer and was, I think, enjoyed by all.

The following day there was an inter-platoon competition in map-reading, weapon-training and fieldcraft. The winning platoon staged a Reveille race and members of the section that had all its men fully dressed first were awarded a prize. A Temple section won after a close finish with the Chandos section. The next morning was spent on the open ranges, where both Bren and rifles were used at one and two hundred yards. About half a dozen people obtained four-inch groups.

In the evenings bathing was available in a river nearby, or one could go into East Harling or Thetford, but the majority stayed in camp where there was always something arranged for their amusement. A Stowe team, only one member of which had ever played before, surprised everyone including themselves by reaching the final of an inter-school basket ball competition. However, they lost in the final to Berkhamsted by 4—3. We did not do so well in the "Potted Sports," though.

Two Stoics performed at a concert one night given by cadets, M. Bredin (B) playing some Grieg and accompanying C. Graham-Bonnalie (T) who sang "The Yeomen of England," from "Merrie England."

We had in camp some expert cooks from the A.C.C. and the food was nearly always excellent.

Camp ended in the early hours of Tuesday, August 3rd; all the huts were emptied and swept, kitbags were loaded onto a lorry and the contingent marched down to the Station. So ended another Corps camp, and may the next be as successful.

G.L.D.D.

RUGBY FOOTBALL

1ST XV.

It was thought before the term started that the team would be a pretty good one with a useful smattering of backs and forwards left over from the previous year. In the backs there were the Conington twins and the two halves Roberts and Shinner; in the forwards Macmillan, Paxton and Paravicini. These did provide a good nucleus on which to build the team and they were all re-awarded their colours within a short time.

Up to the time of writing, in all the matches Stowe has lost six and won five; in School matches it is even, three each. Had it not been for the unfortunate cancelling of the Harrow match it is confidently thought that it would have been 4—3 in Stowe's favour. There has been only one fault with the team: there was not enough scoring power. And as someone said, "it is difficult to win matches without scoring." However, the team has not suffered heavy defeat at the hands of anyone, even the redoubtable Oundle and Greyhound teams only winning each by 19—3, whereas Oundle took about forty points each off Rugby and Uppingham. And Bedford, again one of the best School sides of the year, only won by a narrow margin. Against Radley, St. Edward's and Cheltenham, Stowe played sound rugger without much attacking skill being shown by anyone.

Of the backs, J. Conington's punting has been an outstanding feature: he was inclined to hurry his kicks and force them, but now he has settled down into being able to find certain touch with either foot thirty to forty yards away with only a couple of paces run. His defence has not been quite as good as last year, but I think the worries of captaincy have made him hesitant. The halves have not worked together well, having confidence neither in themselves nor in each other. Individually they have played well and done much good work. The threequarters have not been fed as they should have been, but their attack has been, with the exception of the Oundle and Radley games, slow and cumbersome. In the two mentioned games they executed swift cut-throughs which might easily have led to tries. In defence the halves and threequarters

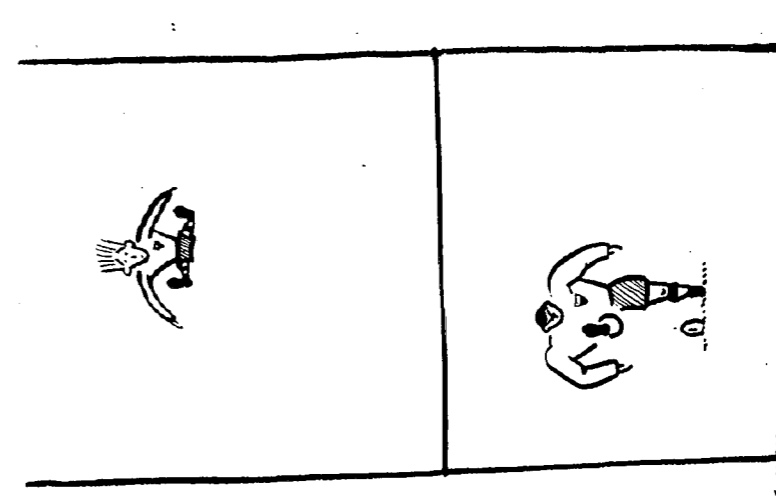
have done heroic work and to hold Oundle and the Greyhounds to nineteen points were great achievements of which they may well be proud.

The pack was one of the best Stowe has ever had, but they have been sadly handicapped by lack of weight. However, they gave a huge Bedford pack a run for their money and ten minutes before the end had the Bedford eight on their knees. They had their off days, one in particular standing out in my memory—Radley. Here they were against a much lighter pack and could have had their will of it, but the Radley pack won the day. I heard it said: "When Paravicini plays well, they all play well," and this was true. When he really bestirred his huge frame the pack became inspired. The hooking of the front row was well above average and they are to be congratulated too on their wonderful shoving powers despite their lack of weight. The second row, Paravicini and Grossmark, pushed hard, if a little high, and both did good work in the line-outs. The back row were very good: they knew their jobs thoroughly and did them most efficiently. Short got better and better on the blind side and played his best game at Cheltenham: Bartlett was consistently good and Paxton saved many certain tries by his corner flagging and tackling. Paravicini's sense of positioning was good and on many occasions he was back to assist the full-back.

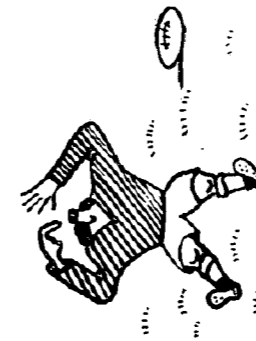
The punting of the majority of the team was excellent and improved steadily throughout the term, but it is to be hoped that every back in the school will learn by example from J. Conington, surely one of the most accurate kickers there has been at Stowe for very many years. Note also that he can kick equally well with either foot. D. Conington has taken all the place kicks and must have scored nearly half of the team's points by himself.

The forwards have worked consistently well as a pack and have managed to do so to a large extent without a leader. They got things down to a fine art with everyone acting as one man without being told what to do. By concerted effort and steam-roller tactics they scored half of the tries in School matches by push-overs.

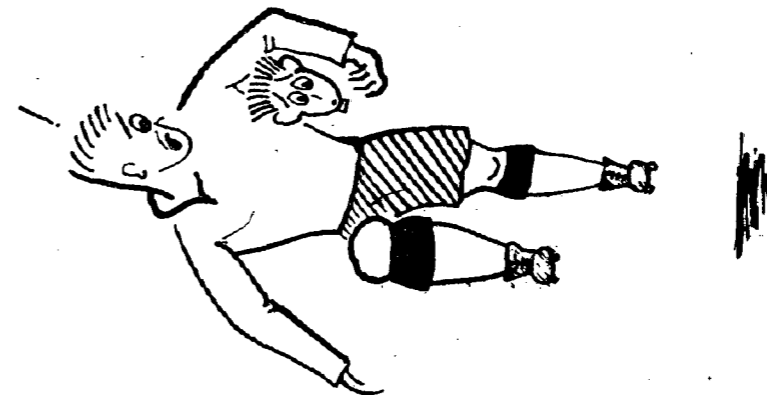
In conclusion I would like to add that never have I had a more pleasant and willing lot to coach. They have not needed American-football-coach methods to stir them to action: they have given themselves unstintingly to the game and Stowe without any urging from me. The season has been thoroughly enjoyed by all.



[A.P.H.]



TWO INEXCUSABLE ERRORS



Cartoons by]

THE SCHOOL *v.* BEDFORD

Played at Bedford on Saturday, October 16th, Bedford winning by 8 points to nil.

Rain had fallen persistently for some hours before the game began, thus ensuring a greasy ball and a forward battle. The weather cleared just before the game began and the rain held off for the duration of play.

It was obvious from the kick-off that Stowe would be up against it throughout, Bedford having the much heftier pack, and had it not been for resolute defence for the first ten minutes the score might have been much higher against us. After these first few minutes were over the game was in no way one-sided territorially, but Bedford always held the advantage of weight, which meant that each Stowe forward had to exert much more energy than his opposite number.

After twenty minutes of play, Bedford, having been unlucky with one dribble over the Stowe line, scored after a kick ahead by their stand-off half. The Stowe three-quarters were very slow in turning to retrieve this kick ahead and the full-back was out of position. Not many minutes later Stowe attacked and a bad Bedford pass landed in Bradley's arms; he raced through the centre and kicked over the full-back's head; the ball was rolling peacefully over the line between the posts, Bradley dived right over the ball, missed it, and Bedford touched down. Half-time: Bedford 5, Stowe 0.

In the second half Bedford scored after half-a-dozen Stowe players had tried to fall on the ball, which by now was like a cake of soap. But really I think that Stowe did as much attacking and on occasions might easily have scored: in fact I think Stowe was as good as Bedford for this half. It was a ding-dong battle with both sides defending heroically and all thirty players giving of their best. At one stage, ten minutes from time, Stowe attacked with a dribble half the length of the field and were within inches of the line and Bedford just managed to summon up enough energy to clear the line, but the game settled down for five minutes ten yards from the Bedford line, neither side having the strength to move in either direction. The game finished in the middle of the field with Bedford pressing slightly. There is no doubt that Bedford were the better side but the score should have been perhaps 8—5 in their favour.

J. Conington played a cool game in difficult circumstances; his brother played extremely well in defence and attack. Dixon defended heroically. Of the forwards, Bartlett was very good, but Macmillan was an inspiration to the others in determination and perseverance. Paxton played an excellent game, but perhaps it is wrong to single out forwards from a pack all of whom did their very best.

Team:—J. F. Conington (B); C. H. Bradley (B), G. J. E. Dixon (T), D. E. Conington (B), A. T. W. Innes (T); R. J. Roberts (C), P. G. Shinner (B); R. G. Macmillan (C), T. R. Lambert (C), J. E. Gilbey (C), D. S. Paravicini (C), T. P. Grossmark (C), W. R. G. Short (C), J. L. Paxton (C), C. H. Bartlett (T).

THE SCHOOL *v.* RUGBY

Played at Rugby on Saturday, October 23rd, Rugby winning by 6 points to 3.

It could not possibly have been a better afternoon, either for players or spectators. The sun shone throughout the match but not in such a way as to upset the game: there was a slight breeze but again of no consequence. The pitch itself was in perfect condition.

Rugby kicked off and pressed for the first ten minutes but at no time looked dangerous. This encouraged the Stowe team who went to the attack and after a couple of penetrations by Roberts on the blind side, either or both of which might have led to tries, a penalty was awarded. D. Conington converted without difficulty. At this point Stowe seemed to suffer from over-confidence, which was soon shattered when the Rugby left-wing intercepted, rounded the full-back and scored not far from the posts. The kick failed. This was not, however, to end Rugby's effort. The ball was passed quickly to the right wing, who cut inside Bradley and swung out again. J. Conington, to the amazement of the spectators clawed at his opponent's trousers and failed to stop him in his flight for the goal-line. Another unconverted try resulted. Half-time: Rugby 6, Stowe 3.

The next half was a sad story for Stowe. Their forwards dominated play and kept the strong-running Rugby backs quiet. Stowe got the ball from nearly every loose scrum and line-out but the backs didn't seem to want it. Shinner, at scrum-half, hesitated, Roberts stood stock still; if it got as far as the centres they walked and the wings never got it. However, the defence when Rugby got the ball was resolute. On one occasion, Rugby nearly scored an opportunist try but J. Conington just managed to get there first and kick the ball dead. The game finished up with Stowe pressing; two drop kicks failed to rise, a push-over try was touched down by Rugby.

On the whole it was a fair result to a game which might easily have gone either way.

The forwards were magnificent as a pack and completely outplayed Rugby. Bartlett was outstanding as he had been the week before at Bedford. The less said about the whole back division the better.

Team:—J. F. Conington (B); C. H. Bradley (B), G. J. E. Dixon (T), D. E. Conington (B), A. T. W. Innes (T); R. J. Roberts (C), P. G. Shinner (B); R. G. Macmillan (C), T. R. Lambert (C), B. A. Platt (C), D. S. Paravicini (C), T. P. Grossmark (C), W. R. G. Short (C), J. L. Paxton (C), C. H. Bartlett (T).

THE SCHOOL *v.* ST. EDWARD'S

Played at Oxford on Wednesday, October 27th, the School winning by 6 points to 3.

We were all hoping for a win in this match, our third away fixture running, but it was known that St. Edward's had a good team, who had soundly beaten both Radley and Wellington, and we were a little apprehensive. Again it was a glorious day with the sun shining but with fog threatening when the sun went down.

D. Conington kicked off for Stowe and within a minute he was awarded a penalty kick for foot-up in a favourable position. He got it over. This was encouraging and I must say St. Edward's never looked dangerous, except when the stand-off passed back to a powerful wing-forward, but the pass was always forward. Roberts had two good penetrating cut-throughs, one of which should have led to a try. Bradley got the ball with only the full-back to beat. He made the criminal error of going inside the full-back and was smeared by the covering forward. This should have been five points. A minute from half-time, with a scrum on the St. Edward's line, Stowe put in, the St. Edward's scrum moving backwards the ball was heeled perfectly; whereas a push-over try would have been a gift of three points, the ball went loose and the half-time whistle went. Stowe 3, St. Edward's 0.

The Stowe forwards were excellent in the second half and got the ball persistently in line-out, loose and set scrums; the backs who were moving much better than against Rugby didn't make any openings but occasional kicks made useful ground. Again there should have been a push-over try. On another occasion, it looked as if Paravicini had scored from one line-out when he caught the ball and fell over the line, but a '25' was awarded. Paravicini did, however, get his try; Shinner was nearly over but when held he passed and Paravicini dropped over. D. Conington failed from far out to convert. This was ten minutes from the end. Lack of experience nearly cost Stowe the game: instead of being cool and collected and making sure of kicking to touch, the backs fumbled and passed wildly and St. Edward's nearly squared the game, but a '25' was given, thus relieving the pressure until the end.

The forwards were again magnificent with Short particularly good. Grossmark was outstanding in the line-outs. The backs were greatly improved. Roberts and Shinner played their best game of the year and D. Conington did some constructive work.

Team:—J. F. Conington (B); C. H. Bradly (B), G. J. E. Dixon (T), D. E. Conington (B), A. T. W. Innes (T); R. J. Roberts (C), P. G. Shinner (B); J. E. Gilbey (S), T. R. Lambert (S), B. A. Platt (C), D. S. Paravicini (C), T. P. Grossmark (C), W. R. G. Short (S), J. L. Paxton (C), C. H. Bartlett (T).

THE SCHOOL v. RADLEY

Played at Stowe on Wednesday, November 3rd, the School winning by 6 points to 3.

It had seemed earlier in the day that there would be a vicious wind from the pavilion end, but it died down to a gentle breeze by 2.30. The ground was dry and the day was if anything too warm: however, it could be described as a perfect day for a game.

From the previous results of both teams it seemed as if Stowe should win comfortably. This was not the case and the result might easily have been reversed.

For the first time this season the Stowe backs played up to form and it was indeed unfortunate that the forwards should choose this day to play easily their worst game. The forwards seemed lethargic from the kick-off until about ten minutes from the end. The Radley pack were formed up ready seconds before Stowe: there were usually three heads showing above the Stowe pack in loose scrums: the forwards seemed to wander aimlessly across the field and eventually arrive late for the loose scrum. As a Radley master said after the game, if the Stowe backs had been behind the Radley pack the score would have been a large one.

Stowe pressed for most of the first half playing against the breeze. At this stage, we were getting a fair share of the ball and penetrations were fairly numerous in the centre. D. Conington made two very fine openings and on one occasion ruined what seemed to be a certain try by attempting a kick instead of passing to Wadsworth who should have scored. Dixon sold the dummy once, went through the gap, passed to Conington, who on reaching the full-back transferred to Wadsworth, who launched himself at the corner flag and scored the only try of the match. On another occasion Dixon cut through but sold too many dummies instead of passing to Innes who might easily have scored. Not long from the start D. Conington attempted what seemed to be a kick of impossible length against the breeze; it just failed, dropping beside the post. Half-time: Stowe 3, Radley 0.

The second half was a sad story. The Radley pack took a real grip on affairs and outplayed their opponents in every phase of the game. Roberts, at stand-off half, only got the ball twice in the first twenty minutes. It was a case of dour defence against a not very offensive set of Radley backs. The home line held out but a penalty was awarded to Radley in front of the posts making the score 3—3. This penalty was offset by one awarded to Stowe about forty yards out and D. Conington put it over with consummate ease. A very fine kick. Radley attacked vigorously but the Stowe line held out until the final whistle. Why it did few of the spectators knew.

Only two forwards played up to form, Lambert and Grossmark, and they were awarded their colours. All the backs played well, with Wadsworth's tackling a decided weakness.

Team:—J. F. Conington (B); R. E. Wadsworth (W), G. J. E. Dixon (T), D. E. Conington (B), A. T. W. Innes (T); R. J. Roberts (C), P. G. Shinner (B); R. G. Macmillan (C), T. R. Lambert (S), B. A. Platt (C), D. S. Paravicini (C), T. P. Grossmark (C), W. R. G. Short (S), J. L. Paxton (C), C. H. Bartlett (T).

THE SCHOOL v. OUNDLE

The Fifteen this year took the field against Oundle, on Wednesday, November 10th, with honours easy in school matches. They had beaten St. Edward's and Radley, both by narrow margins, and had lost to Bedford 0—8 and Rugby 3—6. Bedford had already defeated Oundle by 11—9, and so there was every chance of a hard game with the odds on an Oundle victory fairly comfortable. The Stowe team had a fine pack of experienced forwards with a more than averagely good hooker in Lambert, and the backs could be relied on to defend well though they had suffered throughout the term from a weakness at half-back which gave them little chance to develop as an attacking force. The big match of the season was pretty sure to show up our weaknesses as well as to display our strengths, and it looked as though, since we could not hope to reach double figures against what would undoubtedly be a strong defence, the result of the match would mainly depend on what we could do to keep down the Oundle score.

We should have preferred a wet day in the interests of pure utilitarianism, but the Oundle match always seems to be played in a small golden oasis in the middle of a dreary desert of wet and windy November days, and this year was typical, with absolutely ideal rugger weather; the ground was as dry as the Autumn dew would allow it to be, the light was brilliant, and there was enough life in the air to stimulate both sides to the fullest measure of activity.

David Conington kicked off into the sun, and immediately things started happening. The Stowe side seemed nervous, and Oundle put enormous punch into their first attacks. Practically from the kick-off they were hammering away on their left wing, finishing a fine passing movement with an inside-pass and a long kick-ahead which John Conington gathered and saved, but slowly and without conviction. From the scrum following the line-out after this kick Shinner found touch well, but a moment later was so slow in clearing that he let himself be jostled to the extent of missing the ball completely when he tried to kick. A quick scrum followed, the ball came back like a flash on the Oundle side, their halves got it out as though it burnt their fingers, there was a break through the centre, and Brook, the Oundle right-centre and captain, scored their first try. Wildsmith, last year's full-back, now playing at left-centre, converted the try, and Stowe was five points down in the same number of minutes. Oundle continued to attack, and only a desperate tackle by John Conington saved a certain score. Just when

Stowe appeared to be waking up, the elusive Brook once again burst through the centre and scored another try for Oundle exactly five minutes after the first. This try was not converted, but all supporters of Stowe might be forgiven for feeling decidedly apprehensive at being eight points down in the first ten minutes, particularly since they knew that our own powers of reply were distinctly limited.

Fortunately things went rather better from then on; Shinner defended well, and Bartlett went off on a little private raid of his own which forced a touch-down. There were some free-kicks awarded to Stowe for that most venial of offences 'foot up,' and indeed the whole game was remarkable for the almost complete absence of free-kicks for any other cause. Bradly followed Bartlett's example by making a long expedition into enemy territory, and shortly afterwards distinguished himself by bringing off a breath-taking tackle on Brook when all hope seemed lost. That he did this on the right wing, where, properly speaking, he had no right to be, showed that he realised that a fast wing can and should have something of a roving commission in defence. At this point in the game Stowe began to gain a temporary ascendancy which eventually led to three scrums on the Oundle line, any of which might have led to a shove-over try, since on each occasion the ball was heeled by Stowe. This was tragically interrupted by a brilliant solo-run down the Oundle right wing by Jordan starting from a quick throw out of touch on the enemy line. Bradly chased him past 'George' for a full fifty yards, in a manner strongly reminiscent of Achilles pursuing Hector round the walls of Troy, but his final tackle could do no more than touch him, and the swift-footed Jordan scored between the posts. The gigantic Wildsmith surprisingly missed the kick, but the score was now 0—11, and Oundle had shown that they could score snap tries as well as the more orthodox variety.

The Oundle forwards were well matched by the Stowe pack in all departments of the game except one—the line-out. There they seemed to be much quicker in forming up and throwing the ball in, and this constantly gave their backs the chance to get moving. The Stowe tackling, however, was fairly sound, and, if one of their centres did succeed in getting past Dixon or David Conington, he was generally caught by the forwards. At this point we were given a tantalising glimpse of the might-have-been. Roberts, for the first and only time in the game, took a pass from the scrum when moving at speed. Immediately the whole line leapt into life. Dixon went through a gap like a miniature greyhound, Bradly outside him really looked like the sprinter he is, and, but for a forward pass, a try seemed truly in the making. But the glory departed, the dream faded, and a moment later Roberts had knocked on a pass taken in a completely stationary position. And Oundle continued to attack. At one moment Wildsmith broke right through, and his inside-pass just failed to lead to a try. Seery, their left wing, caught a kick-across while moving really fast, kept inside the touch-line by mincing down it like a ballet-dancer, straightened, and gave John Conington a situation which took coolness and skill to counter. Once again a threatening move on our line was saved by Oundle being penalised for 'foot-up,' and a moment later Paxton showed that there was still fight in the forwards by emerging like a blonde bomb-shell from the Oundle side of the scrum and kicking to touch. Half-time followed almost immediately.

The second half opened with Paravicini adroitly poaching the kick-off and finding touch. Stowe began to attack, and Bradly kicked ahead skilfully enough to force Wildsmith to mark. After a period of ding-dong play in the course of which Bartlett showed how well some forwards can tackle, and Brisbane, Oundle's dangerous wing-forward, broke away and very nearly scored, Stowe followed up a long kick by David Conington by launching a really determined attack on the Oundle line. Paxton was

very nearly in, and then the scrum succeeded in scoring a shove-over try. This fine demonstration of superiority by a pack whose efforts had been mainly responsible for holding Oundle in check was much appreciated by the crowd, and seemed to put new life into the team just when it was most needed. 3—11 was scarcely within striking distance, but at least there was something in the account.

The next quarter of an hour was all Oundle, and it says much for the Stowe defence that their next try had to wait until the very end of this period. Attack followed attack, and we had more than sufficient opportunity to study the skilful technique of the Oundle back-division. Their scrum-half, Pearson, had a very long pass for a sixteen-year-old, and an excellent understanding with his strong and capable partner Brooks, while both centres, Brook and Wildsmith, passed well in front of their men, thus drawing them on to the ball with the maximum speed, so that they gave the impression of being even faster than they were. Incidents one remembers in this phase include a really superb tackle by Paravicini in the Pavilion corner, when Oundle seemed to have one man safely over, a marvellous one-handed scoop off the ground by Wildsmith by which he picked up the ball for all the world like The Flying Scotsman taking on water when travelling at top speed, and a grim desperate five minutes on our line which seemed quite endless, as the Oundle forwards strove for a shove-over try, as a reply to Stowe's successful effort, on the very spot where they had scored a similar try to win the match two years ago. The Oundle score, when it came, was the result of a copy-book movement in which really quick passing led to an over-lap on the left wing where Seery scored an unconverted try. (3—14.) Stowe, however, refused to break. Bartlett took a running-dive at Glossop, the Oundle full-back, and pinned him to the ground, Bradly just missed the bounce of the ball after a well-placed kick-ahead by Roberts, and the forwards produced a really beautifully controlled shove and wheel with Paravicini in the van. Such a movement at that stage of the game showed that they still possessed what they had always had, the measure of the Oundle pack. But, unfortunately, all was in vain, and the game ended as it began with a try by the Oundle captain, the third he had scored in a match which must have been for him something of a personal triumph. Another of their really swift passing movements, this time on the right wing, saw Brook go over comfortably with his unmarked wing outside him, and the kick was successful. (3—19.) Shortly afterwards the whistle blew.

It had been a most interesting game to watch, a game which Stowe could not possibly have won, since Oundle had a quite definitely superior side, but which might easily have been lost by a far greater margin. The difference between the quality of a three-quarter line served by a moving fly-half, and one which had to begin almost every movement from a standing start, was amply demonstrated, and David Conington and Dixon are much to be congratulated on the fact that they never allowed their inevitable and pardonable failures in attack to affect the quality of their defence. The forwards played really well, both individually and as a pack, and it was their heroic efforts that turned what might have been a rout into an honourable defeat. If one considers that the score in the second half, when, if the break had come, the damage would have been done and the points started piling up, was only 8—3 against us, it seems clear that the side did as well as could possibly be expected, and it takes real greatness to do more than that.

Team:—J. F. Conington (B); C. H. Bradly (B), G. J. E. Dixon (T), D. E. Conington (B), A. T. W. Innes (T); R. J. Roberts (C), P. G. Shinner (B); R. G. Macmillan (C), T. R. Lambert (C), B. A. Platt (C), D. S. Paravicini (C), T. P. Grossmark (C), W. R. G. Short (C), J. L. Paxton (C), C. H. Bartlett (T).

THE SCHOOL v. CHELTENHAM

Played at Cheltenham on Saturday, November 27th, the School winning by 10 points to 6.

It was good to have renewed as a permanency what was for one year a war-time fixture. The day was thoroughly enjoyed before, during and after the game. The Stowe team as a whole took quite a natural liking for Cheltenham and its boys from the very start.

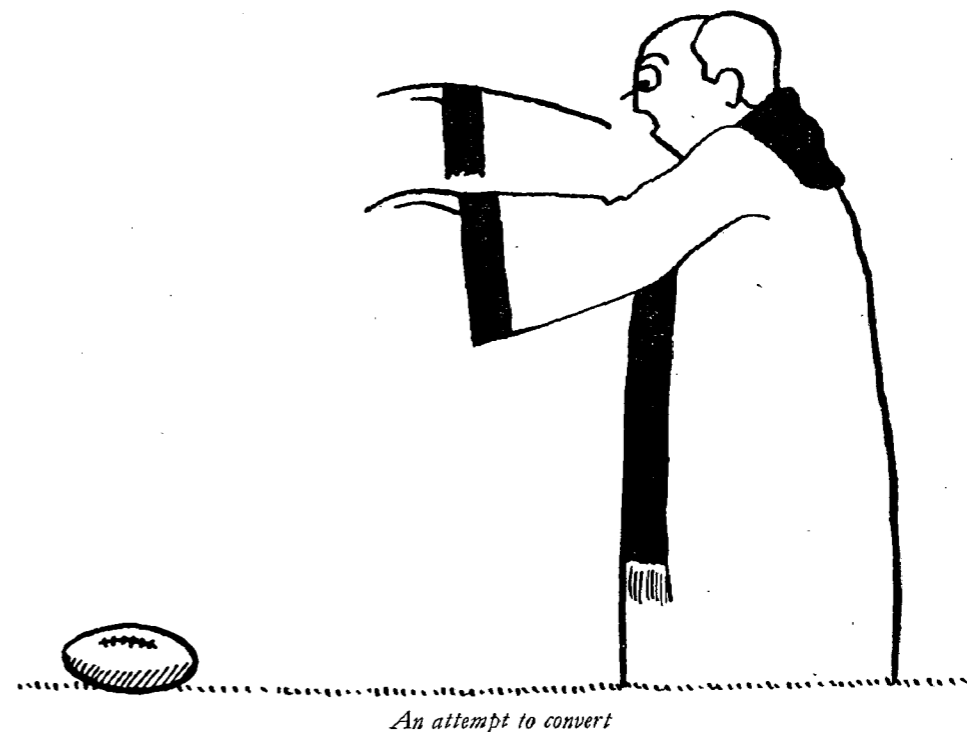
It was obviously going to be a greasy ball for, although it was a perfect day, the grass was still soaking from the previous night's dew.

The game began quietly, not much headway being made by either side and neither looking at all dangerous. However, after quarter of an hour, with J. Conington out of position, a Cheltenham forward broke away at a dribble from a line-out on the Stowe '25' and was awarded the touch-down. The kick narrowly missed. After this set-back the Stowe pack woke up, Cheltenham responded and the game became a really good one with not much between the two packs; but Stowe held the ascendancy in the backs and particularly at full-back, where J. Conington played his best game of the season. To return to the detail, from a long kick-ahead the Cheltenham full-back was caught in possession near his own line; a scrum was awarded and with steam-roller tactics Stowe scored a push-over try, which D. Conington converted. This livened the game up still more and both packs kept at it hammer and tongs, any ground gained by Cheltenham being usually lost through a return kick of J. Conington's over the heads of their forwards. Half-time: Stowe 5, Cheltenham 3.

The same type of battle raged in the second half, the only ground gained by Stowe being made by J. Conington's kicks, a forward rush or kicks ahead. Any ground made by Cheltenham was by dribbling or by their captain and left wing, the only star in either three-quarter line. At times he was positively dangerous. On the whole the play was more in the Cheltenham half than Stowe's but neither side looked really dangerous, all the centre threequarters slowing up instead of accelerating after receiving their passes. On a few occasions Stowe stormed the Cheltenham line and on one of these from a loose scrum the forwards forced their way over with Paxton in the van to score a try. This was also converted by D. Conington. Stowe played calmly and collectedly to retain their seven points lead, but this was reduced to four points after the award of a mysterious penalty in front of the posts. Cheltenham continued to do everything in their power to score, but their attack was not strong enough. Final score 10-6.

J. Conington won the match for Stowe by simply wonderful kicking. On very many occasions he caught the ball within inches of the touch-line, took a couple of strides out before finding touch thirty to forty yards away; this kicking took much of the stuffing out of the Cheltenham pack. The forwards played a grand game with Bartlett and Paravicini showing in the loose, Grossmark in the line-outs and Lambert in his hooking, ably assisted by Macmillan and Platt. Short and Paxton both played good constructive rugby and were invaluable to their side. Perhaps the less said about the halves and threequarters in attack the better, but it must be admitted that the ball was like a greased pig: their defence was excellent.

Team:—J. F. Conington (B); A. T. W. Innes (T), G. J. E. Dixon (T), D. E. Conington (B), C. H. Bradley (B); R. J. Roberts (C), P. G. Shinner (B); R. G. Macmillan (C), T. R. Lambert (C), B. A. Platt (C), D. S. Paravicini (C), T. P. Grossmark (C), W. R. G. Short (C), J. L. Paxton (C), C. H. Bartlett (T).



Cartoons by]

[A.P.H.]

Other results were as follows :—

Sat., Oct. 2.	v. WASPS "A" XV. (Home).	Lost	8—20
Wed., Oct. 13.	v. R.A.F., HALTON (Home).	Won	11—0
Sat., Oct. 30.	v. LONDON SCOTTISH "A" XV. (Home).	Lost	0—11
Sat., Nov. 6.	v. RICHMOND "A" XV. (Home).	Won	18—6
Wed., Nov. 17.	v. OXFORD UNIVERSITY GREYHOUNDS "A" (Home).	Lost	3—19
Sat., Dec. 4.	v. ROSSLYN PARK "A" XV. (Home).	Won	22—3

THE SECOND FIFTEEN

With a record of 8 wins to 4 defeats and one match to play, it has been a useful season for the Second Fifteen. They settled down quickly into a toughish, bustling team, and have shown a good spirit, keeping going hard when winning, and fighting back when losing. Their only serious defeat was at High Wycombe where the redoubtable Woodward mesmerised them; otherwise they lost to Bedford by a goal, to Halton by a try, and to Oundle by a point. The forwards, well led by P. M. Horley (B), have been the backbone of the side, with J. Darnley-Smith (C), M. H. Goodhart (W) and R. G. Cunningham (T) useful in line-out and rushes, W. M. Patterson (B) very skilful as hooker and J. C. Turner (G) producing a fine knack of falling on the ball over the opponent's line. There have been more changes in the backs through injury, illness, and the demands of the First Fifteen, and there has not been much thrust until recent matches when the return of G. L. D. Duckworth (C) and G. W. Scott (C) added much-needed punch. But R. E. Wadsworth (W) has run very hard at times, A. M. Whitty (T) has been sound in defence, C. C. McNeil (T) has steadily improved at full-back, and G. W. A. Downing (T) though his service tends to be slow, has kept at it and put in many useful breakaways and kicks.

Results :—

Sat., Oct. 2.	v. BLOXHAM 1ST XV. (Home).	Won	18—11
Sat., Oct. 16.	v. BEDFORD SCHOOL (Home).	Lost	6—11
Tues., Oct. 26.	v. OUNDLE SCHOOL (Away).	Lost	8—9
Sat., Oct. 30.	v. ST. EDWARD'S SCHOOL, OXFORD (Away).	Won	14—5
Wed., Nov. 3.	v. RADLEY SCHOOL (Away).	Won	22—3
Sat., Nov. 6.	v. ROYAL G.S., HIGH WYCOMBE 1ST XV. (Away).	Lost	3—22
Wed., Nov. 10.	v. R.A.F., HALTON (Home).	Lost	0—3
Wed., Nov. 17.	v. NORTHAMPTON G.S. 1ST XV. (Home).	Won	9—5
Sat., Nov. 20.	v. ABINGDON SCHOOL 1ST XV. (Home).	Won	27—3
Wed., Nov. 24.	v. BERKHAMSTED SCHOOL (Home).	Won	23—0
Sat., Nov. 27.	v. UNIVERSITY COLLEGE SCHOOL (Home).	Won	11—0
Sat., Dec. 4.	v. BUCKINGHAM (Home).	Won	12—0

THE THIRD FIFTEEN

The strength of the Third Fifteen has throughout the season lain in its forwards; an abundance of good front-row and back-row players in particular made competition very keen, and the composition of the pack soon became more or less fixed; from a hard-working group one may perhaps single out as especially valuable D. Read (T) for his leadership, P. A. Cullum (C) for his hooking, and P. J. R. Hubert (C) for his reliable tackling and offensive opportunism. Behind the scrum there has been less consistency; P. J. Upton (C) as fly-half and J. R. Perring (G) in the centre have held their places throughout the term; otherwise the formation has been somewhat fluid, though lately G. T. Laing (B) and W. Lloyd (C) have come on steadily and done good work on the wings. The main weakness of the side has been defence; too much has been left to the forwards and the plucky tackling of the full-back, G. D. L. Adams (B). On the whole, however, the season has been a successful one, with eight victories against two defeats; the closest and most interesting games were with Radley and Bedford; in the latter—the last game of the season—Bedford were leading 6—3 for a long time, but by the end of the game a combination of forward rushes and enterprising three-quarter movements had brought the score up to 11—6 in Stowe's favour—a satisfying conclusion to a vigorous term's Rugby.

Results :—

Wed., Oct. 6.	v. BLOXHAM 2ND XV. (Away).	Won,	21—6
Sat., Oct. 9.	v. R.G.S., HIGH WYCOMBE (Away).	Won	11—9
Wed., Oct. 13.	v. BERKHAMSTED (Away).	Won	42—0
Sat., Oct. 23.	v. MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL, OXFORD (Away).	Lost	9—14
Wed., Oct. 27.	v. WELLINGBOROUGH G.S. (Home).	Lost	3—25
Sat., Oct. 30.	v. ST. EDWARD'S, OXFORD (Home).	Won	22—6
Wed., Nov. 3.	v. RADLEY (Away).	Won	8—6
Sat., Nov. 6.	v. R.G.S., HIGH WYCOMBE (Home).	Won	15—3
Wed., Nov. 17.	v. ABINGDON 2ND XV. (Away).	Won	18—0
Sat., Nov. 20.	v. BEDFORD (Away).	Won	11—6

THE FOURTH FIFTEEN

The Fourth Fifteen has played three matches this term, against Banbury G.S., Kettering G.S., and Bedford. In the Kettering game the side was hopelessly out-classed by a strong set of backs and played a creditable defensive game; the matches with Banbury G.S. and Bedford should both have ended in a victory for Stowe, but in the former the team went to pieces in the second half after being ahead in the first, and in the Bedford match—a keen game between two even sides—the opportunities provided by good forward play were thrown away by the backs, whose defence also was lamentably weak. The forwards have done well throughout the term, often in practice games showing themselves a match for the Third Fifteen forwards; the backs have been effective only in attack. It is of course only fair to admit that the side is inevitably a variable body with little chance of achieving much coherence.

Sat., Oct. 9.	v. BANBURY G.S. 1ST XV. (Home).	Lost	11—22
Wed., Nov. 10.	v. KETTERING G.S. 1ST XV. (Away).	Lost	3—46
Sat., Nov. 20.	v. BEDFORD (Home).	Lost	6—14

THE COLTS' FIFTEEN

For a side which promised so fair at the start of the season results have been singularly disappointing. To a certain extent only this has been due to loss through injury and illness from time to time; we have never, for instance, since the Bedford match fielded the complete side. The real handicap, however, has been—what it always has been for the last five years—a most unconvincing back division. Apart from Salt, who has been a most capable and rapidly improving scrum-half and has captained his side admirably, there has never been any real thrust and determination and, at times, a lamentable absence of tackling amongst the centres. On the whole the tackling has been good, but over and over again it has taken the backs too long to wake up. This was most apparent in the disastrous match against Rugby. At half-time the score stood at 26-nil to Rugby; simply because the backs were dawdling and not really going for their vis-à-vis. After much criticism at half-time they succeeded in keeping the score down to 8—3 in the second half.

Once again we have had a really good pack of forwards, pluckily, if somewhat too loudly, led by Hammond. But however good a pack of forwards may be it is useless unless we can have some three-quarters who, added to real ability, also possess the will to win.

The Club as a whole has been keen and played hard; many of them should do well in the future. It would be invidious to single out any individual forward for praise as they have all played really well. Williams, the hooker, however, does deserve special mention; he is possibly the best of the forwards and is still only a Junior Colt.

Of the backs, Knight at fly-half has undoubtedly improved and when he has gained more confidence should do well. Goldfinger, another Junior Colt, has ability and is improving; he should be a tower of strength to the Colts next year. He is at last realising that as a centre he must get the ball out to his wing and is getting out of the habit of running in to the centre so often. It has been unfortunate that our most promising wing three-quarter, Holt, should have been off for so long through injury. He is a very good defensive player, full of pluck and resourcefulness and a strong runner.

It would be unfair to conclude without a word of praise and thanks to those members of the Club who never quite made the grade for the fifteen. It was good to know that we always had a very sound reserve hooker in J. W. L. Adams. Perhaps the most pleasing feature of all was the sporting way in which he always played so hard and cheerfully knowing that unless Williams was injured he had no hope of getting into the side. The same can be said of many others affected in the same way, especially A. M. Vinen, P. A. G. Brown, W. E. J. Allen, Harbord and Hancox. It was most unfortunate that for the match against University College School (when, for one reason or another, seven of the team were unable to play) these others who, at last, had got their chance to play were unable to do so because the fog prevented the side from ever getting to its destination. J. A. de S. Charlesworth has been such a useful forward that, although not in the actual fifteen, he has been awarded "Colts' stockings" for the season's play. There has been very little to choose between him and Cleeve.

Team:—J. M. Bremner (C); J. I. Holt (C), J. P. G. Goldfinger (G), G. R. T. Sorley (C), J. P. D. Heyward (C); T. Knight (B), P. M. Salt (G), H. J. Lloyd (T), E. B. J. Williams (T), S. Pendle (G), A. Highwood (B), R. J. Ruhemann (C), C. T. A. Hammond (C), A. M. Gooch (B), N. Cleeve (B).

Results :—

Wed., Oct. 6.	v. MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL, BRACKLEY (Home).	Won	18—8
Wed., Oct. 13.	v. BERKHAMSTED (Away).	Won	27—3
Sat., Oct. 16.	v. BEDFORD (Away).	Drawn	3—3
Wed., Oct. 20.	v. BEDFORD MODERN (Home).	Won	17—0
Sat., Oct. 30.	v. ST. EDWARD'S, OXFORD (Away).	Lost	0—22
Wed., Nov. 3.	v. RADLEY (Home).	Lost	6—13
Wed., Nov. 10.	v. OUNDLE (Home).	Lost	11—22
Sat., Nov. 20.	v. RUGBY (Away).	Lost	3—34
Wed., Nov. 24.	v. DOUAI (Away).	Won	9—5

THE JUNIOR COLTS' FIFTEEN

Apart from a disappointing display at Radley, the Junior Colts have justified our expectations at the beginning of the term, and their record of 9 won, 2 lost and 1 drawn is a creditable one.

The improvement has been most noticeable amongst the forwards, who have recently developed a welcome liveliness and a greater appreciation of co-ordinated effort. The three-quarters, too, have had their moments, but the lack of fast, hard-running wings has been a very obvious factor in restricting the potentialities of our back division.

The mainstay and inspiration of the team has undoubtedly been the play of M. J. R. Bannister (W), captain and scrum-half. His efforts have never flagged and the general level of his play has reached a high standard. Possessing a convincing service and a powerful kick, he not only gives his threes plenty of opportunities, but bears the brunt of the defence with zeal and skill.

P. G. Harris (G) at fly-half is a neat player with a useful pair of hands and possesses plenty of aptitude for this important position. In spite of hesitancy when pressed, he has played many skilful games and should improve as he grows bigger.

At full-back, P. Burgess (G) has acquitted himself with resolution and grit. His indefatigable energy and his ability to make an opening seem to indicate that his future lies somewhere in the three-quarter line. Whenever he has played in the centre he has shown a power of penetration which suggests that he might usefully develop into an attacking player of considerable promise. C. N. H. Hordern (W), our reserve full-back, is new to the game but has many promising qualities and is developing along sound lines. P. J. Middleton (T) has proved himself the most effective of the wings tried, and makes up for lack of speed by enthusiastic endeavour. R. H. Lloyd (C) has also played quite well when called upon for the other wing.

N. A. Gray (C) and M. L. Henderson (W) are centres of a most interesting type. Gray has any amount of football ability and gets through a lot of work in the course of the game. When he can improve his finishing powers, he will be an asset to any side he plays in, as his covering and defence are reliable complements to his attack. M. L. Henderson is easily the most dangerous of our three-quarters. When he sees an opening he can burst through in a most powerful manner. Nevertheless he is still uncertain, and we have yet to see him at his best.

The forwards have proved themselves at last. To get them together at the beginning of the term presented difficulties, but they are now going hard and show plenty of enthusiasm. J. A. McConnell (T) and A. W. Fraser (C) have been the outstanding players. McConnell, a wing forward who plays with abandon and energy, never seems to tire; while the speed, strength and accurate kicking of Fraser have been a great aid to victory on many occasions. Our front row of P. L. Morris (C), H. J. Gray (W) and S. C. Fenwick (C) is now playing well together, while A. J. P. Campbell (C) has combined most effectively with Fraser in the second row. I. K. Cameron-Swan (T) and A. R. Griffith (C) have occupied positions in the back row, but Cameron-Swan is the more versatile of the two.

Altogether a happy and successful season has been experienced, and the whole team is to be congratulated on its endeavours.

Results :—

Sat., Oct. 9.	v. MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL, OXFORD (Home).	Won	23—9
Wed., Oct. 13.	v. MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL, BRACKLEY (Home).	Won	27—0
Sat., Oct. 16.	v. BEDFORD SCHOOL (Home).	Won	12—0
Wed., Oct. 20.	v. BLOXHAM SCHOOL (Away).	Won	37—0
Tues., Oct. 26.	v. OUNDLE SCHOOL (Away).	Lost	3—11
Sat., Oct. 30.	v. ST. EDWARD'S SCHOOL, OXFORD (Home).	Won	19—8
Wed., Nov. 3.	v. RADLEY SCHOOL (Away).	Lost	3—22
Wed., Nov. 10.	v. MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL, BRACKLEY (Away).	Won	11—8
Sat., Nov. 20.	v. RUGBY SCHOOL (Away).	Drawn	3—3
Wed., Nov. 24.	v. BERKHAMSTED SCHOOL (Home).	Won	45—0
Sat., Nov. 27.	v. UNIVERSITY COLLEGE SCHOOL (Home).	Won	22—5
Sat., Dec. 4.	v. ST. EDWARD'S SCHOOL, OXFORD (Away).	Won	23—3

UNDER 14

The Under-14s have again had a successful season, winning five matches out of seven and losing the remaining two by the narrowest of margins. It has been a small side, not noticeably larger than the prep-school teams it has met, but there has been no lack of courage and its play has at times been that of a 1st XV in miniature.

As might be expected, our best matches were those against public school sides. At Radley, our opponents were a little better behind the scrum, particularly at fly-half, where they had, in Dexter, a player of unusual merit. Radley were first to score, from a loose maul ten minutes from time; Villar immediately retaliated with a try for us, but Radley settled the issue with a try one minute from time. Against Bedford, we were without Hill, Tremayne and Lloyd, but the team played magnificently, despite its lack of cohesion behind the scrum. Again, there was no score until the last few minutes, when Bedford took advantage of injuries to our right wing to cross for two unconverted tries.

The pack was quick and resourceful, heeled well in the tight and loose and was particularly skilful in defence. The outstanding forwards were T. D. R. Lewis (B), E. S. M. Cameron (C) and J. D. Hill (C). They were well supported by R. J. W. Utley (C) and M. D. Beck (W) and by the wing-forwards H. D. E. Woods (C) and

A. C. Macintosh (T). We were a long time finding a hooker, but M. C. G. Killingbeck (B) finally filled the bill, besides being an energetic forward in the loose.

Behind the scrum, our best player was undoubtedly J. G. R. Harding (C), who played in several positions and was the inspiration of his side. The wings, M. S. P. Gardner (B) and S. I. Lewis (C) both scored many tries, but were a little too cautious at times. The halves, A. S. R. Villar (C) and S. F. N. Waley (W) were competent but inclined to be slow, and last, but by no means least, our full-back, D. G. duB. Dew (C) earned the admiration of all by his fearless tackling. Like its predecessor, this was a very promising side and one which should develop well as it goes up the school.

Results :—

Wed., Oct. 13.	v. MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL, BRACKLEY (Home).	Won	22—0
Wed., Oct. 20.	v. RADLEY (Away).	Lost	3—8
Sat., Oct. 30.	v. DRAGON SCHOOL, OXFORD (Away).	Won	34—0
Wed., Nov. 3.	v. WINCHESTER HOUSE, BRACKLEY (Away).	Won	31—6
Wed., Nov. 17.	v. MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL, BRACKLEY (Away).	Won	15—3
Sat., Nov. 20.	v. BEDFORD (Home).	Lost	0—6
Sat., Dec. 4.	v. MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL, OXFORD (Away).	Won	38—0

SQUASH

Up to the present date the squash team has had a successful season. After a narrow defeat by Wimbledon S.R.C. in the opening match, the remaining matches have been won.

One of the main strengths of the team was that there was little difference between the last four strings, and if the two Coningtons had been available, the choice would have been very difficult.

A 5—0 defeat of Harrow was particularly convincing and demonstrated the great improvement in the variety of strokes played by the team. In previous years, Harrow, who tend to play a hard-hitting and retrieving game, have been allowed to dictate the run of the play. This looked as if it might again be the case when the Harrow Captain won the first game against N. R. Cunningham-Reid (G), but then the latter began to play very good squash and by varying his pace won seventeen points in one hand, and was on top for the rest of the match. R. A. Hird (C) played particularly well in beating a player who had easily defeated him last Easter. R. C. Page (C) played very good squash to beat an energetic opponent. T. J. Greenley (W) showed determination in defeating an opponent who seemed likely to make a recovery, and R. Lush (C), although not up to form, retrieved well.

Cunningham-Reid, the most accomplished player, has played very well and particularly against the Oriel College first string, an experienced player, whom he just failed to beat having been at match-ball. Hird has shown very good powers of recovery and has also considerably extended his range of strokes. Page, an attractive stroke

player, has shown a great improvement in stamina and has won all his matches at number 3. Greenley has been a very strong No. 4, for at this position his good stroke play has made up for his previous failures to meet a counter-attack. Lush was disappointing at the start of the season, but has recently come on very well and has increased his attacking shots.

Results :—

- v. WIMBLEDON S.R.C. Lost 2—3 (Cunningham-Reid 0—3 ; Greenley 2—3 ; Hird 3—2 ; Page 3—0 ; Lush 2—3).
- v. BUCCANEERS. Won 3—2 (Cunningham-Reid 0—3 ; Greenley 0—3 ; Hird 3—1 ; Page 3—0 ; Conington, D.E. 3—1).
- v. HARROW. Won 5—0 (Cunningham-Reid 3—1 ; Hird 3—1 ; Page 3—0 ; Greenley 3—1 ; Lush 3—2).
- v. ORIEL COLLEGE. Won 3—2 (Cunningham-Reid 2—3 ; Hird 0—3 ; Page 3—0 ; Greenley 3—1 ; Lush 3—0).
- v. TRING S.R.C. Won 5—0 (Cunningham-Reid 3—0 ; Hird 3—1 ; Page 3—0 ; Greenley 3—0 ; Lush 3—0).
- v. K.C.S., WIMBLEDON. Won 4—1 (Hird 3—0 ; Page 3—0 ; Greenley 3—0 ; Lush 3—0 ; Wall 1—3).

It is hoped that the Exhibition Match between the World Champion Mahmoud el Karim and C. J. Owen will take place next term when Karim comes over from Egypt. The match against Eton is still to be played.

LAWN TENNIS

Stowe won the Glanvill Cup for the second time by beating Downside, U.C.S. and Stockport Grammar School in the final at Hurlingham on July 26th. On the whole, the VI played well. The first pair, J. W. A. Downing (T) and N. R. Cunningham-Reid (G) won their three matches. The second pair won two and lost one, which, considering R. N. Langley's (G) uncertain display, reflects great credit on his partner, G. W. Scott (C). The third pair, D. R. Stickland (B) and T. J. Greenley (W) also won three matches, with the loss of only one set, and much credit is due to them for the part they played in the winning of the Cup.

Wimbledon Week began, for Stowe, on July 29th, Downing and Cunningham-Reid (1st Pair) and Scott and Langley (2nd Pair) representing the School. We beat Felsted 3—1 and Rossall 4—0 to reach the final of our section. U.C.S. were the other section-finalists and we just beat them 3—1 after a nerve-racking match between the first pairs, which Downing and Cunningham-Reid won in spite of the fact that at one time U.C.S. had two match-points. Our pair played beautifully and the Wimbledon authorities were most complimentary about the standard reached in this match.

Eton won their section of the competition and we met them in the deciding match for the Youll Cup on Friday, July 30th. Having beaten them earlier in the season, we hoped to do so again. But it was not to be. Downing, perhaps feeling the strain

of earlier matches, was completely off form, and although Cunningham-Reid played heroically he could not save the 1st Pair match against the Eton 1st Pair. Eton 1st Pair also beat our 2nd, and as both our pairs beat Eton 2nd Pair the score was two all, and a singles to play. Cunningham-Reid lost the first set against Kimpton 6—1, but was leading 4—1 and playing well in the second when seized by cramp. He struggled on gamely, but hope of victory quickly disappeared, for he could hardly move on the court and was even finding it difficult to hold his racquet. He lost the set 7—5, and the match, Eton took the Cup and we left Wimbledon disappointed. But at least we had reached the final—and we did win the Glanvill Cup. Perhaps next year we shall do even better.

THE DOLPHINS' TOUR

The Stowe team that went to play Water Polo in the Channel Islands did well to win more matches than it lost. The exact total was 6—3. We only played two matches in Jersey, both of which we lost rather badly 6—2, 9—3. There we lived in a delightful old-world barn which was kindly lent to us by the Wheatley family. Although it lacked one or two of the usual conveniences, it did, however, possess a large barrel of cider which was left at our disposal.

The original plan for us in Guernsey was that we should live in tents, but fortunately for us they were blown out to sea in a gale before we arrived—so the story goes. As things turned out, eventually we lived in the comfortable hall of a boys' club (but this time we were without cider). We fared very well there and the local inhabitants were extremely good to us. We played the last seven of our matches in St. Peter's Port, Guernsey, and only lost one of them.

As a rule we played the island's junior teams, but since we could beat them too easily they used to strengthen them with several members of their senior teams. The last match of real importance was played at the swimming gala; but on this occasion we were beaten, before a large audience which numbered over a thousand. We usually played our matches in the harbour, and in all weathers. The lowest temperature that we had to play in was 56° F. and we unanimously agreed that it was a bit too cold.

Towards the end of our visit the Guernsey Swimming Club gave us a dinner at which we were all presented with cigarette cases as mementoes. We also had our photos taken, which were later printed in the local newspapers, together with several very complimentary write-ups.

We all owe our most enjoyable holiday to M. Doyle (C), who organized it with great competence; and it was through him that we managed to win most of our matches.

The team that Stowe usually played was as follows :—*Forwards* : J. D. F. Lockhart (C), P. G. Shinner (B), P. M. Gibbs (C); *Centre* : M. Doyle (C); *Backs* : J. M. Shinner (B), P. J. Nash (C); *Goal* : J. L. Paxton (C). *Reserves* : M. H. Goodhart (W), C. H. Bartlett (T), D. C. Williamson (C).

P.J.N.

BOOK REVIEW

“REX WHISTLER, HIS LIFE AND HIS DRAWINGS,”

by LAURENCE WHISTLER (G, 1930). (*Art and Technics*, 12/6.)

As a recent correspondence in *The Spectator* has shown, Laurence Whistler's book is but the first of a series to deal with all aspects of his brother's work. Nevertheless, the first impression after perusing it is one of incomplete satisfaction. To this incompleteness we give no more than a passing mention, for indeed the title indicates a limited scope. We therefore lament not a fault, but that we have only an *hors d'oeuvre* which stimulates the appetite. Yet, for all this, the book is a very treasure-house of lovely pictures. The best, perhaps, are the large illustrations to *Gulliver's Travels* and to *Königsmark* (these commissioned privately by A. E. W. Mason and hitherto unpublished), although, in the former, some may think that the borders overpower the actual pictures and that, in the latter, the perfection of technique leads almost to decadence and preciousness of style. We would rather have more of these and less of the head-pieces and tail-pieces which, in spite of their purity of style, lack the rococo charm of his more ambitious drawings.

There are one or two examples of his designs for book-jackets, which betray the same easy draughtsmanship as the cover-design which he drew for *The Epicurean*, a former contemporary and, as its title shows, rival of *The Stoic*, which is here reproduced. This delightful composition is somewhat similar in its dilettantism to his chinoise book-plate for Sir Osbert Sitwell and calls to mind the whimsical trophies he so often drew composed, not of arms, but of sports kit, chemical apparatus and other more common-place objects. It was this element of the unexpected which usually turned what might have been merely precious into something positive and characteristic.

That we have said more of the subject of this monograph, who was not a Stoic, than of the author, who was, is due not only to the many pages of Rex Whistler's drawings, but also to the judgement and the self-effacement of Laurence Whistler's text. The affectionate sincerity of his tribute itself presents to us the artist's character as convincingly as do the facts related. We see not only the eighteenth-century dreamer but the whole-hearted contriver (at his last Christmas) of 200 children's happiness and the soldier who could inspire such devotion in his men; and we know that this picture is as true as that. Here was no mere escapist.

The author tells, among other things, how his brother came to visit him at Stowe and here first received his inspiration to draw Palladio-Baroque architecture, an inspiration he never lost, although he later supplemented it with Gothic, Chinoise and even Late Victorian. It may be added that on one such visit Rex Whistler revealed the speed at which he could work in a large composition in classroom chalks upon a classroom blackboard. In a less perishable form, besides the cover for *The Epicurean* already referred to, he also designed a card for Stowe's Vitruvian Society. And finally attention should be drawn to the design, on p. 75 of the book, for 'The Children of Hertha.' For 'The Children of Hertha' was Laurence Whistler's first volume of poems,



COVER DESIGN BY REX WHISTLER FOR 'THE EPICUREAN'

and the main work in it was submitted by him, in the late 'twenties, for the Peters Bone Prize, surely the most ambitious and the most successful composition ever entered for one of our School Prizes.

We would not say that the book we have reviewed is one everyone should buy, but it is a book which everyone would be glad to have and whose pages might be turned over for ever to reveal new delights in its interpretation of a forgotten age.

LATE NEWS

LIBRARY

Two further presentations have been made by Lady Connor. They are *A History of Musical Thought*, by Donald N. Ferguson, and *Dogs in Britain*, by Clifford Hubbard.

RUGBY FOOTBALL

The Inter-House Rugger League Cup has been won by Cobham. In "A" League, 8 points were awarded for a win, and 4 for a draw. In "B" League there were 4 for a win, and 2 for a draw. The results were as follows:—

	"A" LEAGUE.		"B" LEAGUE	Total.
	1st round.	2nd round		
1. Cobham ...	56	56	26	138
2. Grafton ...	44	44	26	114
3. Temple ...	44	36	12	92
4. Chandos ...	32	24	20	76
5. Chatham ...	24	16	8	48
6. { Walpole ...	12	20	8	40
{ Bruce ...	12	20	8	40
8. Grenville ...	0	8	4	12



Cartoon by]

A.G.A.

[A.P.H.

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