

# THE STOIC



*Number Eighty*

DECEMBER 1949



MR. E. V. REYNOLDS  
Second Headmaster of Stowe

# THE STOIC

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VOL. XIV

DECEMBER 1949

No. 1

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## DOWN TO EARTH

**S***SOLANUM TUBEROSUM*, the Common Potato, has become increasingly and depressingly familiar to us in its natural state recently. Ours not to reason why these little green plants rise from the clinging earth of the Straight Course in place of the gaunt wind-blasted trees that provided so romantic an approach to the School in former years. Potato-lifting, at any rate, is pleasanter sport than the disinterment and removal of inexplicable fragments of root, twisted into fantastic Daliesque contortions.

An agricultural hour is, anyway, a good opportunity for philosophical musing and quiet thought, in a silence broken only by the gentle clank of spud against bucket and the thud-thud-thud as they are emptied into the waiting sacks. Slowly we make our way along the path where Roman legionaries perhaps trod, unlike them preceded by a machine for spreading earth neatly over any uncovered potatoes and followed by a chugging tractor greedy for our hessian-wrapped thankofferings.

Corvée, forced labour on the roads, was one of the chief grievances of the French revolutionaries, but our forced labour was in no way a cause for revolt, deprived though we were of the pleasure of *throwing* the fruits of our labours, even at masters as they sped past in motors on business of their own; chucking them at each other was equally forbidden and less satisfactory.

And as, at last, we stumble home over the furrows, pail in hand and sweat on brow, to clock out after a period out of school or an afternoon off rugger, we do not trouble to wonder by what mysterious process we lift many hundredweight of potatoes and receive at lunch in return dishes of reconstituted Pom.

## STOICA

*School Officials—Christmas Term, 1949.*

*Prefects* :—A. T. W. Innes (T), Head of the School; P. J. R. Hubert (G), Second Prefect; R. J. Roberts (C), Prefect of Chapel; N. R. Cunningham-Reid (G), Prefect of Library; P. G. Shinner (B); C. P. R. Litchford (C), Prefect of Gymnasium; R. K. Bolton (C); E. H. Trimmingham (W); D. J. M. Champion (W); J. C. Turner (G); M. A. R. Freeman (T); D. D. Kitching (G); G. T. Laing (B).

*Rugby Football* :—Captain, P. G. Shinner (B); Secretary, R. J. Roberts (C).

The following visitors have preached in the Chapel this term :—October 16th, The Rev. H. M. Lloyd; November 13th, J. T. Christie, Esq., Headmaster of Westminster; December 4th, The Rt. Rev. A. Rose, Lord Bishop of Dover.

Chapel Collections this term have been as follows :—October 2nd, for the Pineapple, £18 12s. 9d.; October 23rd, for the Wireless for the Blind Fund, £29 12s. 3d.; November 6th, for the Earl Haig Fund, £61 8s. 4d.

A Confirmation Service was held in the Chapel on Monday, November 28th, when ninety-nine members of the School were confirmed by the Rt. Rev. the Lord Bishop of Oxford.

For the interest of Old Stoics and others who have not yet been able to meet him personally, we publish in this number a photograph of Mr. E. V. Reynolds, Headmaster of Stowe since September.

The annual Old Stoic Dinner was held in London at Grosvenor House on Saturday, November 26th. A hundred and fifty Old Stoics were present. Mr. E. D. O'Brien (C, 1928) took the Chair: the Headmaster and Mr. P. G. Agnew, O.B.E. (C, 1932) also made speeches.

We have pleasure in announcing the birth of a daughter to Mrs. A. J. Chapman on September 29th; of a daughter to Mrs. R. Walker on October 3rd; and of a daughter to Mrs. J. Griffiths on October 24th.

We are indebted to Mr. E. J. Lawrence for a fine series of photographs of birds upon the Stowe Lakes, a few of which are reproduced in this issue of *The Stoic*.

At the May examination for Special Entry to the Navy, K. A. Low (C) passed first into the Executive.

The John Holland Memorial Prize for 1949 for Carpentry and Metal Work is awarded to H. J. Bonning (C).

Representative Colours for Squash have been awarded to J. Broom Smith (C).

School Lawn Tennis Colours were awarded to J. P. D. Heyward (C) after the Public Schools Week at Wimbledon.

Rugby Football Colours have been awarded as follows :—

*1st XV* :—A. T. W. Innes (T) (re-awarded); W. M. Patterson (B), N. E. Wates (B), R. G. Cunningham (T), J. D. F. Lockhart (C), M. S. Turnbull (B), P. A. Cullum (C), G. T. Laing (B), C. C. Malden (G), F. J. Pearce (B), P. M. Salt (G), J. Darnley-Smith (C), S. Pendle (G).

*2nd XV* :—N. E. Wates (B), R. G. Cunningham (T), C. C. Malden (G), J. P. D. Heyward (C), R. D. Miskin (T), J. D. F. Lockhart (C), A. Highwood (B), P. M. Salt (G), M. S. Turnbull (B), P. A. Cullum (C), P. J. Harkness (T), N. Cleeve (B), S. Pendle (G), A. M. Gooch (B), D. C. F. Kimber (B), T. Knight (B), H. R. V. Whitcombe (B), B. J. B. Pike (C), P. D. Stern (W).

*3rd XV* :—D. C. F. Kimber (B), A. M. Gooch (B), B. J. B. Pike (C), J. A. de S. Charlesworth (G), H. R. V. Whitcombe (B), P. D. Stern (W), R. J. Ruhemann (C), R. G. F. Barr (C), J. M. Dillon (C), D. D. Kitching

(♠), H. R. Herrington (♣), P. J. Middleton (♠), P. M. Rossiter (♣), R. A. Lush (♣), W. E. J. Allen (♠), W. G. Rees (♠), B. C. Harris (♣), D. A. R. Murray Brown (♣), H. J. Lloyd (♠), E. C. Hardwicke (♣).

*Colts' Stockings* :—A. W. Fraser (♣), H. J. Gray (♠), M. J. R. Bannister (♠), M. L. Henderson (♣), N. A. Gray (♣), J. A. McConnell (♠), P. L. Morris (♠), J. R. M. Thompson (♠), C. J. S. Cullum (♠), R. F. Butlin (♠), P. Burgess (♠), A. J. P. Campbell (♠), P. G. Harris (♠).

## IN MEMORIAM

DAVID CLOSE GLOVER

Born April 6th, 1932.

Died September 19th, 1949.

David Glover died in hospital just as term was about to begin. His fine physique and habitual cheerfulness fought a tragically brief illness of Poliomyelitis (Infantile Paralysis). He was due to return as a Settler to Grafton, which he entered in 1946, and, as well as showing promise as a "Dolphin," he had gained House rugger colours last season.

David had many friends, for natural charm and a zest for life were essentially of his nature. Yet when confronted by difficulty, his strength of purpose would also become evident. Stowe has lost in him a boy who was happy to play an increasingly responsible part in the life of the place.

## TRIOLET

Cupid lays by his poison'd darts,  
Thy heart he cannot thus transfix,  
And, when he's fac'd with stubborn hearts,  
Cupid lays by his poison'd darts,  
For, when to shoot at them he starts,  
He knows they will not feel the pricks;  
Cupid lays by his poison'd darts,  
Thy heart he cannot thus transfix.

B.F.B.

## OLIM ALUMNI

J. J. HARTLAND-SWANN, B.Litt., Ph. D. (♠, 1926) has been elected to a Fellowship of the Royal Society of Literature.

A. M. QUINTON (♠, 1942) has been elected a Fellow of All Souls.

A. R. BARROWCLOUGH (♠, 1942) passed first of 369 candidates who sat for the Inns of Court Final Examination (Michaelmas). Only two candidates were placed in Class One.

G. P. LLOYD (♠, 1944) is Secretary of the Cambridge University Athletic Club. In the recent inter-University Relays, he helped to set up a new record in the Four Quarters event.

A. F. BARTON (♠, 1948) rowed two in the winning Trial eight at Cambridge.

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## BIRTHS

To the wife of R. H. CALVERT (♠, 1929), on August 23rd, a daughter; to the wife of N. FORBES (♠, 1930), on August 28th, a son; to the wife of D. E. FREAN (♣, 1932), on June 28th, a son; to the wife of CAPTAIN C. A. GOLDINGHAM (♣, 1936), on August 3rd, a son; to the wife of GROUP CAPTAIN G. L. S. GRIFFITH-JONES (♣, 1929), on July 16th, a son; to the wife of E. P. HICKLING (♣, 1941), on July 21st, a daughter; to the wife of I. E. HILLS (♣, 1932), on September 6th, a son; to the wife of C. H. G. KINAHAN (♠, 1933), on August 5th, a son; to the wife of MAJOR C. S. MADDEN (♣, 1933), on July 31st, a son; to the wife of the HON A. L. MAFFEY (♣, 1931), on August 28th, a son; to the wife of DR. L. A. MCAFEE (♠, 1934), on August 19th, a daughter; to the wife of C. M. O'RORKE (♠, 1938), on July 19th, a son; to the wife of R. A. PEARSON (♠, 1937), on August 22nd, a son; to the wife of G. R. C. PEATFIELD (♠, 1931), on September 3rd, a son; to the wife of J. F. SANDBERG (♠, 1936), on July 15th, a son; to the wife of S. M. SOWERBY (♣, 1932), on September 20th, a daughter; to the wife of L. E. W. STOKES-ROBERTS (♣, 1935), on August 10th, a son; to the wife of MAJOR J. G. THYNNE (♣, 1934), on August 23rd, a daughter; to the wife of G. VERDON-ROE (♠, 1936), on July 15th, a daughter; to the wife of C. D. WITTS (♣, 1934), on July 25th, a daughter; to the wife of H. YELLOWLEES (♠, 1937), on July 8th, a daughter; to the wife of A. W. R. DE HORSEY (♠, 1929), on September 28th, a daughter; to the wife of MAJOR P. A. J. GORE-GRAHAM (♣, 1930), on October 12th, a son; to the wife of M. L. CLEMENT-

JONES (C, 1931), on October 26th, a son; to the wife of J. P. E. C. HENNIKER-MAJOR (B, 1934), on September 2nd, a son; to the wife of DR. F. A. WHITLOCK (C, 1934), on September 1st, a son; to the wife of D. R. BLUNDELL (G, 1943), on September 3rd, a daughter; to the wife of G. C. O'FARRELL (C, 1935), on September 7th, a son; to the wife of DR. E. M. M. BESTERMAN (W, 1941), on September 19th, a son; to the wife of DR. J. W. EVANS (C, 1929), on September 22nd, a son.

To the wife of J. D. BUCHANAN, M.B.E. (W, 1935), on October 6th, a daughter; to the wife of D. MORLEY-FLETCHER (T, 1928), on October 5th, a son, in Lagos; to the wife of CAPTAIN J. R. MCCARTHY, M.C. (G, 1940), on October 10th, a son; to the wife of MAJOR P. G. E. DAVIES, M.B.E. (B, 1934), on October 11th, a son; to the wife of C. D. DULLEY (T, 1930), on October 14th, a son; to the wife of MAJOR J. B. SOPPER (C, 1931), on October 15th, a son; to the wife of M. W. G. GREENLEY (W, 1937), on October 21st, a son; to the wife of W. McD. MORISON (W, 1937), on October 31st, a son; to the wife of J. T. HOLMAN (W, 1939), on November 12th, a daughter; to the wife of B. C. BRIANT (B, 1935), on November 24th, a daughter; to the wife of L. U. BORENIUS (G, 1936), on September 4th, a son; to the wife of R. A. NEWBERY (C, 1930) a son, on November 29th; to the wife of R. F. GREGORY (B, 1928) on October 15th, a daughter, in Assam; to the wife of C. G. H. P. SELBY (C, 1940) on October 25th, a son; to the wife of H. W. NORMAN (G, 1929) on October 30th, a daughter; to the wife of C. S. MCCALLIN (C, 1930) on December 4th, a daughter.

### MARRIAGES

C. LYLE (B, 1944) to Miss Margaret Jamieson, on November 1st; B. W. GUEST (B, 1943) to Miss Margaret Rose Henderson, on November 5th; O. A. W. DILKE (B, 1933) to Miss Margaret Sterndale, on August 9th; D. CARNEGIE-ARBUTHNOTT (B, 1943) to Miss Helen Lyell, on August 27th; H. P. RYLAND (G, 1929) to Miss Betty Larom, on September 17th; P. K. WITHINSHAW (C, 1943) to Miss Jillian Margaret Prestwich, on September 17th; G. B. S. OSBORNE (G, 1940) to Miss Viviane Clark, on August 20th; I. GRANGER (C, 1945) to Miss Margaret J. Turner, on August 22nd; G. B. COBB (W, 1936) to Miss Jane Robinson, on October 1st; D. P. CHOYCE (C, 1935) to Mrs. D. Conibear, on September 3rd; MAJOR J. P. SEARIGHT (C, 1934) to Miss C. M. Hanbury, on September 17th; V. J. SYKES (T, 1928) to Miss C. H. Hooper, on July 23rd; G. D. WAUHOPE (C, 1942) to Miss M. N. L. Willson, on October 1st; J. L. WHITEHOUSE (C, 1935) to Miss P. Hamilton, on September 29th, in Johannesburg; P. M. SYRETT (C, 1937) to Miss Y. A. Brender, on November 12th; N. D. CLIVE (T, 1935) to Miss M. J. Tambakopoulou, in November, in Athens.

### DEATHS

A. B. B. MOORE (C, 1928), in Switzerland, as the result of an accident, on June 8th.  
 J. W. CHARTERS (C, 1928), in Canada.  
 G. McN. BOWLE-EVANS (T, 1939), on July 24th.  
 J. E. RICHARDSON (C, 1940), in Italy, on October 22nd.

### OLD STOIC NEWS

The Editors of *The Stoic* desire to record as full a list of Old Stoic Births, Marriages and Deaths as possible; but it is not always easy to obtain the news. If you will send in to us your own news of this kind, you will be greatly assisting us. Even a notice in *The Times* does not always provide an infallible identification.

Other news as well, of a sort suitable for the Olim Alumni page, will be very welcome. That page is designed to record the more laudable achievements of Old Stoics; but even if we do not publish everything, we are interested to hear it and to pass it on to others locally.

### BOOKS OF REMEMBRANCE

Many of those who were unable to attend the Memorial Service in June may like to have a copy of the Book of Remembrance. A number of copies are still available, and may be had on application to The Headmaster's Secretary, Stowe School, Buckingham.

### J. F. ROXBURGH PRESENTATION FUND

Total Donations received amounted to £7,130 10s. 2d. This sum was disposed as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Friends of Stowe Trust ... ..	5000	0	0
Sunbeam Talbot Car (including licence and insurance) ... ..	1048	9	7
Thos. Cook & Sons for foreign travel ... ..	761	10	6
Clock with the Stowe chimes ... ..	185	0	0
EXPENSES:—			
Printing and Stationery ... ..	44	9	5
Postage ... ..	46	0	11
Notices in <i>Times</i> and <i>Telegraph</i> ... ..	14	18	0
Sundries ... ..	30	1	9
		135	10
			2
	£7130	10	2

CHOLMELEY HARRISON,  
 J. R. C. KENYON,  
 Joint Honorary Treasurers.

31st October, 1949.

## STOWE CLUB FOR BOYS

(THE PINEAPPLE)

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

25th November, 1949.

To the Editor of *The Stoic*.

DEAR SIR,

The autumn session at The Pineapple has been one of great interest. The predominating event has been a grand boxing show which was organised to assist the finances of the club. The tournament was held at the Seymour Hall, which is the best in London of its size. The seating accommodation is 1,350, and we practically had a full house. There were twenty bouts altogether and, thanks to the excellent organisation, the evening was a great success as regards the boxing and also financially. The prizes were presented by Sir Thomas Moore, M.P., supported by the Mayor of St. Marylebone and Major H. R. Campian, T.D., R.A.

The usual termly visit to the School for soccer matches was on November 6th, and the school teams won both the games. For the majority of the boys it was their first visit to Stowe, which they thoroughly enjoyed and were sorry that their visit was such a short one.

The senior table-tennis team is doing extremely well and so far has not lost a match in either the Paddington league or the London Federation games.

We have four football teams playing this season—one senior and three junior—but so far the teams have not played up to the usual club standard.

The annual club party has been arranged for Saturday, 7th January. Old and present Stoics and friends are cordially invited.

Also, parents and Old Stoics wishing to visit the club can do so either during the day or in the evening when the club is open. The telephone number is Paddington 5452.

Yours faithfully,

R. W. HONE (*Warden*).

## THE PINEAPPLE BALL

A final reminder. You know the details already—the Dorchester, on Wednesday, January 11th; and the tickets at only 35/-, with Tommy Kinsman and supper thrown in. You knew also that there will be a Tombola—tickets a shilling, for prizes worth £1, £5 or even £10? And actual pineapples too—200 of them, imported from Nigeria under special licence from the Board of Trade? And, of course, there's dancing too. Last time the Stowe Club received £500. Come along, and make it more.

THE COMMITTEE.

## TWO STOICS IN SWEDEN

A young Swedish couple invited two Stoics to stay with them for a month's holiday. The ostensible object of the visit was to improve their English—whether we did so or not is a debatable point. The young couple, like many others, had two houses. One was in the town and the other by the sea. We stayed in the latter—it was delightfully simple and made almost entirely of light brown wood. One could look down the fjord and see the multi-coloured yachts skimming over the water. The Swedes have short summers and make the most of them in their lovely surroundings.

In Sweden one can eat at almost any time of the day, but if you are wise you confine yourself to two main meals—if you could see the meals you would realize why. When a meal is finished, you stay behind for a few minutes and chat. We found this most restful and also good for the digestion. We visited a church and were most amused by a monstrosity of a gilt clock, the tick of which could be heard throughout the church.

The shops were fascinating—not only because of the displays, but because of the cleanliness. Even the railway stations reminded one of a London hotel. Practically all the cars were American, but there were also an incredible number of bicycles all painted in the most startling colours. The Swedes are very fond of colour—flags can be seen everywhere and they have exotically coloured level crossings.

The Swedes as a race seem remarkably healthy—always swimming, sun-bathing or having a Turkish bath—and they are all tanned a golden brown by the sun. The numbers of blonde people with blue eyes have to be seen to be believed. They are very fond of soccer and tennis, but have never heard of cricket (we had a dreadful time trying to explain it to them). They are also very proud of their grand old king who still goes duck-shooting at ninety-two. I wonder if we will be duck-shooting when we are ninety-two.

H.J.L.

## WALPURGIS

I have seen the Devil. I saw him last Hallow E'en as I came back across the Power House Yard from the Masters' Hostel at about a quarter to ten. It was not very dark, for the moon was nearly full; but an elfin light seemed to have transformed and twisted everything into distorted shapes. The great oil tanks loomed out of the darkness like the heads of a fantastic hydra and their dials and switches were charged into huge staring eyes. A low roaring came from the belly of the beast and a tongue of hot steam leapt out at me as from a dragon's mouth. The trough of water nearby hissed and foamed like liquid fire and there was a faint flavour of sulphur in the vaporous night air. Two screaming shapes ran past me fast pursued by two more. Away in the distance others seemed to be holding high festival with songs and dances and with fearful ears I heard that the name of the deity they were adoring was Love. Then I understood what this monstrous parody of Heaven meant, for I knew I was looking upon a Witches' Sabbath. I had blundered in upon the Devil's revelry and as I looked up towards the sky, half afraid lest the moon had turned to blood, I saw him towering black against the stars, huge and dreadful, his head crowned with a diadem of black smoke.

S.A.M.A.

## SEASONABLE ADVICE

My excuse for writing this is a natural one ; I merely wish to lay out a rough guide for the victim to follow when a report is received and read. Having suffered long under the indignities of these absurd but customary Parthian shots, I feel it almost my duty to advise others, possibly less experienced, of the best ways of dealing with this menace.

First, reports are, of course, of several different kinds. The main divisions are term reports, half-term reports, and housemasters' reports. The last are of too horrific a nature to be dealt with here. There are also good reports, but no advice regarding these is needed. I will consider only form reports. The variety of the methods of attack and ingenuity of the attacker seem at first complex, though closer examination reveals that they are in reality simple things and can be analysed and divided into a few classes.

First, the most brutal attack, and the most difficult to counter. '*He has made no effort whatsoever this term.*' '*He will not try.*' Here one has to fall back on, "Splodger's had a grudge against me for terms," or "Old Sammy hasn't given anyone a decent report since his mother-in-law came to live with him."

'*I am disappointed*' or '*Not up to usual standard.*' The fact that there was once a standard worth not being up to, or a level which the master was disappointed had not been reached again, must be emphasized strongly when this report is read and must be used to the best advantage.

'*His work has been consistently bad.*' '*I see no glimmer of intelligence here.*' '*Bad.*' Those receiving reports similar to the above will have to introduce into the resulting conversation the old, old quibble about the reporter's handwriting as tactfully as possible.

'*After a moderate start, his performance has gone from bad to worse.*' '*He has shown occasional bright sparks, but is too lazy to produce any results.*' Arguments such as the following might be employed: "Starting at the end of the term and working backwards this means that I have improved steadily."

'*His handwriting is disgraceful,*' or '*His spelling needs improvement.*' Fasten your logic quickly onto the obvious inclination behind this type. Plainly the master, 'being that sort,' had to complain about something ; but could find nothing more important than spelling or handwriting. The possessor of this report is fortunate. Its kind has alleviated the gloom of many breakfast tables about a fortnight into the holidays.

'*He is surrounded by an impenetrable barrier of conceit.*' '*He refuses to realise that his ability to hit a piece of leather with a bit of wood will not gain him his School Certificate.*' Indicate the reporter's intense hatred of so and so, who teaches a different subject, and who gave a better report, or that since he dislikes ping-pong or cricket, he grudges a truthful report to anyone who enjoys them. Of course the irremediable snag about this counter is that it requires proficiency in one subject, or reasonable performance at some game.

'*His standard of work has not justified his inclusion in this set any longer.*' '*Greek would be a better subject*' (for a Maths report), or '*Maths would be a better subject*' (for a Greek report). For this, although the type of which I have the greatest experience, I can offer no successful remedy, except to follow the advice indicated.

M.C.C.S.

## GONE TO THE DOGS

"What are beagles?" I asked.

"Animals," he replied, "You follow them. Look, the First have got leave to do it this afternoon. They must be good. What are we doing?"

I could see his eyes light up, and I knew the symptoms well. They were the same that threatened on all free afternoons and other times reserved for leisure. They spelt doom for Cicero or the wireless, and I knew the least with which I could get away would be half-an-hour in a squash court. All excuses were vain ; he was already loosening his tie. Half-an-hour later we were off, plus sandwiches.

It was six o'clock in the evening before we returned, wet, tired, hungry, and having failed to contact the beagles at all, although we had gone the best part of a mile after a piece of white cloth which might have been but wasn't. Of course we saw plenty of hares, though they may have been rabbits, and he nearly succeeded in catching one, on pain of putting the sandwiches in a safe place which he afterwards couldn't find. Being an N.C.O. in the recruits, he scorned my safe but sure method of navigation by paths and signposts, and set off across marshy land unaided by anything save his watch. That, as he explained later, was the trouble, and if there had only been some sun — ! But there wasn't, and it was also the fault of the elements that moss grew on both sides of the tree stumps ; and so it was by pure accident that we finally returned *via* the North Front while aiming for the South.

R.C.T.

## DIFFUGERE NIVES

The English are an incurably romantic race and never more so than in their attitude towards the weather. Though the English gentleman looks at his glass darkly before going in to breakfast, though he taps it or even eyes it stereoscopically through his monocle before deciding that it is unsatisfactory, he retains a curious affection for weather in the abstract. Shakespeare suggests comparing his Lady to a summer's day, though to any foreigner acquainted with our climate this would mean that she looked like thunder ; while Chaucer describes the Squire as being as fresh as is the month of May, which any gardener would interpret as signifying that he gave one a frosty reception. Hostesses perpetuate the Myth of the English Summer by persisting in giving garden parties ; and sportsmen play cricket, a game only suitable for the Australian Desert. As for winter, snow is regarded as the *sine qua non* of Merry England and oxen are still roasted whole on the Thames in the memory of the old and the mendacious. Grandfathers forget the burst pipes in an orgy of Dickensian story telling, and love to remind their sleepy descendants of their young days when Christmases were inevitably white. Truly, it is not the mighty atom but the mighty atmosphere which the English worship.

S.A.M.A.

## POLIKEGYNAIKES

or

## THE POLICEWOMEN

(being a translation of a hitherto-undiscovered fragment of one of Aristophanes' plays)

Characters—TOXYUSA ... .. A Superintendente.  
 ALCIBIADES ... .. A Reporter.  
 LAMACHUS ... .. A Soldier.  
 AMYNIA ... .. A Steeplejill.

Chorus of Policewomen.

CHORUS : When a bold steeple-jack is having a crack  
 At climbing a tower or two,  
 A confident glow is what we all know  
 Soon creeps round your heart as you view ;  
 But we feel rather ill when a small steeple-jill  
 Starts having a bash at his trade,  
 For her arm's not as strong, nor her legs quite as long  
 And just half of his pay is she paid ;  
 No helmet like lead to sit on her head  
 And flatten her locks with its weight,  
 No buttons of brass to polish like glass,  
 No boots like suitcases to hate !

ALCIBIADES : Of all commotions this is quite the worst !  
 The Sunday papers all will want to know,  
 And I would like to get my news in first.

TOXYUSA : Well, I will tell the cause of all this row ;  
 Do you see aught upon yon tower top ?

ALCIBIADES : By Zeus I do—they really make me blush—  
 Whoever put them there has had a cop !

TOXYUSA : And we must get them down from there, so push !

ALCIBIADES : Push where ?

TOXYUSA : Push off ! We do not want you here !

ALCIBIADES : My editor will fire me ; but there—  
 I go. [*Exit.*]

[*Enter AMYNIA.*]

AMYNIA : What is it I am meant to do ?  
 A Steeple-jill am I, and busy, too.

TOXYUSA : To climb this tower you are summoned hence,  
 Whate'er you find to bring us down from thence.

AMYNIA : O.K.

[*Enter LAMACHUS.*]

LAMACHUS : Stop !

AMYNIA : }  
 TOXYUSA : } Why ?

LAMACHUS : I'll tell you in a jiff.

Police advisers have decided, if  
 The Athens County Council will agree,  
 (And you will soon in Station orders see),  
 That women cops find things like those a bore ;  
 And so they need not wear them any more ! . . .

[*Unfortunately, the fragment expires here, and no more information is available.*]

D.L.E.E-H.

## THE MOOR

With great reluctance I left the warm and friendly atmosphere of "The Duke" for a dreary trudge across the barren moors to Old Hall farm.

It was a wild stormy November night, and the moon was obscured by tattered rain-clouds scurrying overhead, as I strode through the wet springy heather, buffeted by sudden flurries of hail and rain.

I was almost half-way there, striding rapidly up a gentle rise, from the crest of which I would be able to see the lights of the farm, when, in the brief lulls between the gusts I began to hear the faintest of jingles from the east, which gradually strengthened into a weird unearthly music.

I knew that the villagers would never venture over the moors after dark, and although I had always treated their fears with derision, I now became a little uneasy. I halted and turned towards the east, vainly hoping for some easy explanation. But hardly had I begun to comb the landscape as best I could through the driving rain, when to my horror I saw a white form rise up over the horizon and move rapidly over the moor towards me.

I panicked and began to run, but my foot caught in a hole and I fell headlong. A desperate attempt to get up and continue was prevented by a sharp stabbing pain up my leg ; so there I lay numb and terrified, my eyes involuntarily fixed on the advancing spectre, and the eerie music, ever becoming louder, ringing in my ears. Suddenly it increased to a mad crescendo, and for one fleeting second I could clearly see a wild white Valkyrie racing over the moorland on the wings of the storm, and then again there was nothing but a receding shape, and a dying tinkle until she disappeared over a distant ridge.

I awoke to find myself sitting on a bench in the cosy interior of "The Duke" with five minutes to go until closing time. In that five minutes I rang up the farm and asked them to send off a stretcher party towards "The Duke" with instructions to look out for a terrified man with a broken ankle.

R.D.T.



## A STRONG CONSTITUTION

"You realize, then, that the Revolution of 1954 brought about a complete reversal of what had gone before. Whereas mentally deficient, minors, convicts, and peers of the realm had previously been the only people who could not vote, after this date they became the only people who could. (No, Jones, I did not say miners. It was decided that they had had quite enough votes already.) Mentally deficient commoners over 21, sane peers over 21, and sane commoners under 21, were each given one vote. Mentally deficient peers over 21, mentally deficient commoners under 21, and sane peers under 21 were each given two votes. Mentally deficient peers under 21 were given three votes. Convicts theoretically were given four votes, but as they were all in gaol they were unable to make use of them.

"This system was not without its advantages, because the worthy sane peers over 21 (they were all Tory, Smith) sometimes influenced minors and mentally deficient in their favour: but unfortunately the sane peers were greatly outnumbered by the mad ones. Following the Revolution, 11 per cent. of the population were registered as insane (without much difficulty), and there was an increase in the number of white-haired youths under 21. Yes. I was coming to the first General Election held in the same year. Although the voting was done largely by mentally deficient, it is an unaccountable fact that the distribution of parties in Parliament remained as before. Since this was exactly what it had been hoped to avoid, the King felt justified in exercising his prerogative. After dissolving Parliament, he created 25,000,000 peers of all ages. The next election astonished everyone by returning the previous parliament unaltered except for a rather large House of Lords. Its first act was to revise the franchise to what it had been before 1954, and to petition the King to declare the new peerages invalid. This he did, and at the third and final election in 1954 the same Parliament was returned.

"As you so rightly insist, Amrose, the only people quite unaffected by the proceedings were the peeresses in their own right, who never had a vote throughout. The whole affair was held to be a triumph for democracy, and everyone was extremely pleased (except the poor peeresses, as you say)".

C.F.G.

## THE WELL

Martin Quinson had always been terrified of wells. This fear was instinctive: it passed before his soul as a shadow passes after the body.

The well he feared most was disused and deserted; the brambles grew over the gaping shaft and the railings rusted round its shallow coping. There was a fascination round this damp spot that was so cold and so silent.

When Quinson was only nine his parents took him to Ceylon, and the old house in Devon decayed in their long absence. Quinson forgot its tall brick walls, its iron bars and smoothed masonry, he forgot the gravel drive, the sculptured fountain, he forgot his nursery and all its toys. But he never forgot the well.

Ten years later Quinson returned to England and visited his old home. To celebrate his arrival he held a party at the village inn. He soon forgot all his manners and buried himself in a keg of ale which he rapidly emptied. At the end of this session he was bubbling and fermenting almost as much as the ale itself.

But even in his drunkenness one shadow still loomed before his mind—the well.

That night he visited it, treading down the weeds, staggering over the neglected paths, and breaking through the brambles round the gates. He came to the well because he was afraid of it, for fear is a fascination and fascination is a danger.

It was too dark to see down the shaft, so he leant over a little further. He slipped; his fingers, grasping the air desperately, caught the edge of the stone coping. Quinson hung on to this coping for nearly an hour until the blood in his hands ran into his heart and the blood in his heart drained into his boots. Above him was the huge vault of heaven, below him the narrow crypt of the well.

At last he managed to utter a cry: it was a long desperate scream that rose into the night air and sank again into the shaft of the well. He listened to see if he had been heard; but no one came.

His limbs slowly gave, his eyes closed, his soul began to die: but the flame of Life still burned gutteringly within him.

He suddenly loosened his grasp, letting his numbed fingers slide over the broken stonework; he fell. But there was no long drop, no splash, no water to freeze his bones, no eternal Darkness. The well had been cemented over five years before.

A.E.W.

## C.C.F. NOTES

We have sustained this term a sad and so far literally irreplaceable loss in the resignation of Mr. Barr who has given long and loyal service to the contingent, but now feels that the Biology plots have a prior call on his time. There are no other major changes to note and so far this has been an uneventful term but on the whole a successful one. A lively whole-day exercise took place on Oct. 10th during which the Cert. "A" Coys, Survey Section and some of the signallers had a lively running fight from Stowe to Silverstone for the possession of a bicycle supposed to represent the Bursar of Stowe, kidnapped by mutineers and pursued by loyalists. As usual in such exercises the directing staff decided that the battle had been drawn. It appeared enjoyable and was certainly both noisy and instructive.

The I.C.E. Section went to Abingdon for a pleasant and instructive day going over the Riley and M.G. works, while the Air Section visited Upper Heyford and returned by plane to inspect the School from overhead during the afternoon. The day closed with a really outstanding Lecture to the whole Contingent on operations in occupied France in 1941-4 by Capt. Peter Churchill, D.S.O., who had himself played a prominent part in them.

Cert. "A" results have been satisfactory and above average, though less spectacular than on several recent occasions. There is a welcome movement to raise the standard of the examination and no doubt training will adjust itself to meet the rising demand next term. Actually results were:—

Part I. Number of Candidates, 49; Number passed, 43.

Part II. Number of Candidates, 47; Number passed, 39.

The Signal Classification Tests on the other hand, so disappointing last term, this term produced a triumph, 7 candidates out of 8 qualifying as Classified Signallers, while Cadet D. F. D. Pope obtained a grading as 'Excellent'. The general level was described as 'Very Good'. At the same time our only two candidates for the Morse Test qualified for the Cadet Wireless Signals Badge.

The total strength of the Corps is 292—a fair average for this time of the year.

The following appointments and promotions have been made this term:—

To *Under Officer*: Sergeants M. G. D. O'Donovan (T), A. T. W. Innes (T), G. S. Baker (T), P. J. R. Hubert (G).

To *Sergeant*: Corporals J. R. Banks (G), M. A. R. Freeman (T), T. M. Irvine (T), C. P. R. Litchford (C), P. E. Leslie (C), K. D. L. Mitchell (G).

To *Corporal*: Lance-Corporals N. E. Wates (B), R. Brazil (C), J. Broom Smith (C), J. Burrows-Watson (G), F. J. Pearce (B), W. J. Grice (T), J. D. G. Sloss (C).

To *Lance-Corporal*: Cadets M. Colston (G), D. N. T. Murray (G), P. R. Antrobus (C), J. P. Arnold (G), D. J. C. Makins (C), D. C. Part (B), R. B. de Zouche (G), E. H. Trimmingham (W), P. J. Harkness (T), R. K. Bolton (C), R. D. Miskin (T), D. K. Helm (G), R. F. Proctor (G), A. M. Whitty (T), M. J. Lloyd (C), J. M. Harrop (C), M. S. Turnbull (B), J. K. Hirst (G), J. G. Tulloch (B), C. Graham-Bonnalie (T), P. G. Shinner (B), J. I. Holt (C), F. R. G. Lowe (G), R. C. Thornton (W), P. M. Rossiter (C), G. T. Laing (B).

#### THE BAND

This term's concert was held on Sunday, November 13th, in the Queen's Temple. Largely owing to the wide publicity that Mr. Webb, the bandmaster, gave it throughout the school, there was a considerably greater audience for the concert than we have ever known during our four years in the band. We dispensed with last term's concert so that we might have more rehearsals for a really good performance this term.

The programme consisted of four items for the complete band, some of which, such as the Air from Handel's Water Music suite, were highly ambitious for a school band. These were interspersed by short pieces of music played by small groups of musicians drawn from the band.

On the whole it can safely be said that this is the best concert the band has ever given, thanks to Mr. Webb, and we only hope our audience shared this view.

K.D.L.M.

J.A.B-W.





Photo by ]

THE SWANS

[ E.J.L.



Photo by ]

THE SHEPHERD'S COTE

[ J.F.R.



Photo by

STOWE v. OUNDLE  
At Oundle, November 8th

O.T.W.

## SHOOTING

Last term Stowe entered for the Bucks County R.A. Junior League. Each round consisted of a match shot against another club under N.S.R.A. conditions by a team of four firers. Our final position was sixth, with four matches won and a total aggregate of 3224. During this series, the following represented the School:—G. F. Appleton (G), J. A. S. Eccles (G), M. W. Grattan Holt (W), P. J. Harkness (T), C. F. N. Hope (C), A. J. Macintosh (T), J. M. Rigg (W), R. G. Sparrow (W), J. N. Vinen (W).

Walpole won the House Challenge Cup for the Empire Test with the record average of 65.32 out of a possible 70. The standard of shooting in the Individual Championship was also very high. M. W. Grattan Holt (W) was the winner, dropping only one point out of a maximum 120, while J. N. Vinen (W) was runner-up with only a point less. The Casualty Cup was won by Temple "B" team.

This term there has again been no "Possibles" Prize, as we have been concentrating so far on S.M.R.C. 5-bull targets for the Public Schools' Staniforth Cup. The first postal match v. Oundle School, however, was shot under *Country Life* (less landscape) conditions on Thursday, October 6th. The team, J. N. Vinen (W), G. F. Appleton (G), R. W. S. Gentle (B), M. W. Grattan Holt (W), P. J. Harkness (T), C. F. N. Hope (C), J. G. Rigg (W) and E. H. Trimingham (W) scored 515 out of a possible 680. Oundle School scored 605 and the match was lost by 90 points.

On Thursday, November 3rd, there was a postal match v. Bradfield College, under N.S.R.A. conditions. The team was the same as before, except that H. W. Gray (W) replaced E. H. Trimingham (W) who unfortunately was unable to shoot again this term. The match was narrowly lost, Stowe scoring 694 against our opponent's 718.

The first round of the Staniforth Cup was shot on Thursday, November 10th. The team, J. N. Vinen (W), G. F. Appleton (G), R. W. S. Gentle (B), M. W. Grattan Holt (W), H. W. Gray (W), P. J. Harkness (T), C. F. N. Hope (C) and J. A. Pearman (W), had a poor shoot on the whole, scoring only 680 out of 800. Stowe was placed 40th in the first stage, and did not therefore qualify for the finals.

The next postal match under similar conditions was fired on Thursday, November 17th, against All Hallows' School, whose "A" team were 1st in the Staniforth Cup. Our team, G. F. Appleton (G), R. W. S. Gentle (B), M. W. Grattan Holt (W), H. W. Gray (W), P. J. Harkness (T), C. F. N. Hope (C), J. A. Pearman (W) and J. G. Rigg (W) scored 687 against All Hallows' 774 and lost the match by 87 points.

Our last fixture is the postal match against Cranleigh School under *Country Life* conditions, but it is hoped to arrange a shoulder-to-shoulder match with the Bucks Police before the end of the term.

The standard of shooting has not been as high as expected, and the consequent results disappointing. This is because only one practice a week including matches has been permitted and our present rifles leave much to be desired. The new members of the Club have improved considerably, but it would be a great help if more of the school's good shots would offer their services.

J.N.V.

## THE LIBRARY

Whilst no spectacular improvements or innovations have been made this term, the Library has been running smoothly and well, Miss Trengrouse doing all the real work. The Library has opened somewhat erratically on Sundays, as well as weekdays; and the books on loan from the Buckinghamshire County Library have proved popular, through their wide range of subjects.

The following presentations have been made:—

From Lady Connor:

*Glass in Antiquity*, by Frederic Neuburg.

*Trees Have Names*, by Adrian Hill.

*Masterpieces of Greek Coinage*, by Charles Seltman.

*Jacob's Ladder: A Bible Picture Book from Anglo-Saxon and 12th Century English MSS.*, by Nicolette Gray.

From the Author:

*The World's Room*, being the collected poems of Laurence Whistler (G, 1930), with decorations by Rex Whistler.

Anonymously:

*Trees in Britain*, by L. F. Brimble.

*The Floral Year*, by L. F. Brimble.

*Birds in Action*, by Eric Hosking and Cyril Newberry.

*Elizabethan House of Commons*, by J. E. Neale.

D. H. Livermore (C) and R. W. K. Reeves (G) have been appointed librarians.

J.L.

## NATURAL HISTORY

### THE SYCAMORE MORTALITY

There has been a marked death rate among sycamore trees throughout the school grounds this summer. The bark of all the victims is invariably found to be stripped, and a little observation has proved that the stripping is the primary cause of death. The bark is not only stripped near the ground, but in some cases up to considerable heights. There are very pronounced teeth marks on many of the victims, which narrows down the possible causes of death to an animal of some sort.

The most likely animal is the grey squirrel. It has never been seen eating the bark, but the Bursar has seen squirrels on these trees. Presumably it has recently discovered the possibilities of this bark as food. Nevertheless it is peculiar that they have taken so long to find it out, unless they were forced to eat something on account of a shortage of some more favourite diet.

The sycamore has not been attacked for about two months. It is possible that, as many types of nuts have been available, the squirrel has not found any need to make a diet on sycamores.

The death of these trees has caused some relief to many tree lovers, because of their alarming predominance hitherto. It is therefore hoped that the sycamore will continue to serve as food for the squirrel in the future.

Next summer the question will be studied much more closely, so that we may know with complete certainty who our new friend may be.

T.W.E.R.

## DEBATING SOCIETY

At the time of writing there have been two debates this term and a third is contemplated. The standard of off-the-paper speeches is steadily rising, although there is still a tendency to read essays rather than to make speeches.

The first debate was held on October 26th, when S. A. M. ADSHEAD (B) proposed the Motion "That fun and games are not the same thing." If fun were games, he said, then there could be no fun without games—and went on to prove that fun was not to be had by games alone.

J. R. J. BURNHAM (T) then showed, with Six Points and a devastating disregard of logic, that fun and games were the same thing, and remarked that the game of life was fun, and concluded that games were too.

These were points which F. J. PEARCE (B) found it not hard to refute: which done, he maintained that masters had either forgotten the ends or confused them with the means of athletic activities.

F. R. G. LOWE (G) based his argument on the rather inconclusive fact that compulsion is no factor in the games of the Outside World, and that since so many play them, they must be fun.

In the exhaustive debate which followed, the Speakers made up in quantity what they lacked in quality, M. G. D. O'DONOVAN (T) providing the only real debating speech.

When the House finally divided, there voted :

In the Upper House : For the Motion	12
Against	9
In the Lower House : For the Motion	45
Against	67

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

At the Second Debate, on November 9th, Mr. Fox proposed the Motion that " Heard melodies are sweet, but those unheard are sweeter " with the promise that he would be not only metaphysical but dull—nevertheless his was the most logical and persuasive speech of the evening.

MR. SULLIVAN remarked that those eternal silences terrified him, and challenged the Proposition to show the courage of their convictions and remain silent.

B. F. BRINDLEY (G) then supplied that seasoning of wit hitherto so conspicuous by its absence, and, if his speech did little to convert his audience, it did much to wake them up.

C. F. GREENLAW (T) had never heard of anyone who had heard of an unheard melody and altered the hymn to " Hark, not a sound is too divine for hearing."

There followed a lively debate in which, in the Secretary's eyes, the truth of the motion was proved right up to the hilt, and when the House divided, there voted :

In the Upper House : For the Motion	13
Against	10
In the Lower House : For the Motion	76
Against	25

The Motion was therefore carried in both Houses.

During the term A. T. W. Innes (T), M. S. Turnbull (B), D. G. du B. Dew (C), D. S. Duckworth (G), J. G. Tulloch (B) and C. P. R. Litchford (C) were elected members of the Society.

The Officers this term were :—N. E. Wates (B), Secretary ; J. R. J. Burnham (T), ex-Secretary ; T. M. Irvine (T), Treasurer ; and S. A. M. Adshead (B), Librarian.

N.E.W.

## MUSIC

### THE ORCHESTRA

The Orchestra has been rehearsing a varied programme which has included Beethoven's Egmont Overture and the first movement from the 8th Symphony, the Hänsel and Gretel Overture by Humperdinck in F, with P. R. Cutforth (G) as soloist, De Falla's El Amor Brujo Suite, and Glazounov's Serenade Espagnole.

The playing has varied considerably from week to week, and there has been a number of absentees at most of the rehearsals owing to the encroachment of other Thursday afternoon activities.

### THE MADRIGAL SOCIETY

The Madrigal Society has given four performances of Christmas Carols interspersed with Solos from Handel's Messiah. The first was at Helmdon Parish Church, where a large audience from the surrounding country turned up. An even larger audience turned up for the second performance at Cosgrove Parish Church. In each case the Society was hospitably entertained, first by Mrs. Lees at Falcutt House, and later by Mrs. Atkinson at Cosgrove Priory.

Another recital was given in Dadford Village Hall and there was the annual performance in Assembly.

#### CHRISTMAS MUSIC FROM HANDEL'S MESSIAH, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4th.

This was on similar lines to the performance given two years ago, except that all the soloists were members of the school. The whole school took part in five of the choruses. The Hallelujah Chorus and " For unto us a Child is born " went particularly well. The Amen chorus, far in a way the most difficult of all the choruses, went surprisingly well, except for a slight disagreement at the end as to the tempo of the last few bars. The Choral Society sang a number of choruses on their own, of which " Surely He hath borne our griefs " and the four short choruses starting with " Since by man came death " were particularly well sung.

The Strings from the School Orchestra provided admirable support, and we were fortunate to have Mr. Harry Gabb, sub-organist of St. Paul's Cathedral, at the organ.

C. Graham-Bonnalie (T) was in good form in the difficult solo " But who may abide the day of his coming " and his enunciation was admirably clear.

K. A. Henderson (C) gave us an admirable performance of " He shall feed his flock."

J. A. Burrows-Watson (G) sang " The Trumpet shall sound " with great feeling and musical interpretation, though his voice was not quite strong enough to fill the chapel. M. Bredin (B) played the Trumpet Obligato with outstanding success.

### SUNDAY CONCERTS

Two Sunday Concerts have been held during the term.

At the first, on October 16th, Mr. and Mrs. Negus gave a two-piano and viola recital. The programme included Brahms' Haydn Variations and Mendelssohn's Rondo Capriccioso arranged for two pianos. The programme was much appreciated by the audience.

At the second, on November 27th, all the pianists gave very creditable performances. The Minuet and Trio from the Mozart Clarinet Quintet, in which Melvin played the solo part, was the most successful item on the programme. P. R. Cutforth gave a polished performance of the Mozart Piano Concerto in F.

## PROGRAMME.

1. Piano Solo : To the spring ... .. Grieg  
J. M. BREMNER (C).
2. Minuet and Trio from Clarinet Quintet ... .. Mozart  
Clarinet—J. R. MELVIN (C).  
1st Violin—C. M. MUNCASTER (G).  
2nd Violin—P. G. DENNISON (G).  
Viola—J. A. BURROWS-WATSON (G).  
Cello—R. M. S. HAMER (G).
3. Piano Solo : La Cathédrale Engloutie ... .. Debussy  
C. J. CHEESEMAN (C).
4. Trio for two Oboes and Clarinet ... .. Vogt  
Oboe I.—MR. WEBB.  
Oboe II.—P. R. CUTFORTH (G).  
Clarinet—J. R. MELVIN (C).
5. Piano Solo : Reflets dans l'Eau ... .. Debussy
6. Pastorale, Rigaudon and Sarabande, from a Masque ... Handel  
Violins—D. P. WELLS (C), J. R. ARNOLD (G).  
Viola—J. A. BURROWS-WATSON (G).  
Cello—R. M. S. HAMER (G).
7. Piano Solo : The Golliwog's Cakewalk ... .. Debussy  
R. A. BOLTON (C).
8. Piano Concerto in F, first movement ... .. Mozart  
P. R. CUTFORTH (G).

CONCERT BY THE CHORAL SOCIETY AND ORCHESTRA, WEDNESDAY, JULY 20TH, 1949

Mr. Negus and Dr. Huggins shared the conducting at this concert. The Freischutz Overture and the Haydn Symphony were both very creditably played by the orchestra.

G. L. D. Duckworth gave a polished performance of the Mozart Concerto; and J. D. Nightingale also did well, though his playing was somewhat heavy in tone.

The Intermezzo from the "Hari Janos" Suite was a novelty which was much appreciated.

The Madrigal Society performed four "Just So" songs at rather short notice. Though lively, the singing was not so polished as usual, owing to lack of rehearsal.

The Choral Society evidently enjoyed singing Strauss' "Tales of the Vienna Forest," and all entered into the swing and gaiety of the waltzes.

## PROGRAMME.

1. Overture to the Opera "Der Freischutz" ... .. Weber
2. Piano Concerto in A major ... .. Mozart  
First Movement.  
Piano—G. L. D. DUCKWORTH (C).
3. Symphony No. 4 in D (The Clock Symphony) ... .. Haydn  
Minuet and Trio.  
Allegro vivace.
4. Choral Waltz : Tales of the Vienna Forest ... .. Johann Strauss  
Arr. Julius Harrison
5. Piano Concerto in A minor—First Movement ... .. Schumann  
Piano—J. D. NIGHTINGALE (C).
6. Intermezzo from "Hari Janos" Suite ... .. Kodaly
7. Four "Just So" Songs by Kipling, set to music by ... Edward German  
(a) When the cabin port-holes are dark and green.  
(b) I keep six honest serving-men.  
(c) Merrow Down.  
(d) The Riddle.  
THE MADRIGAL SOCIETY.
8. Sonata in G minor for two Violins and Piano ... .. Handel  
Andante—Allegro.  
Violins—G. L. D. DUCKWORTH (C).  
J. A. BURROWS-WATSON (G).  
Piano—J. D. NIGHTINGALE (C).
9. Hungarian Dance in G minor, No. 3 ... .. Brahms

It is with great regret that we shall be saying good-bye to R. K. Bolton (C), J. A. Burrows-Watson (G) and C. P. R. Litchford (C).

R. K. Bolton has been a most efficient Secretary of the Music Society, and has helped much in the Choral Society and Orchestra.

J. A. Burrows-Watson thought nothing of playing first violin in one item, tuba in another, and singing bass in the Madrigal Society, all at the same concert.

C. P. R. Litchford has wielded the sticks on the Tympani with great effect, notably in the recent performance of the "Messiah."

CONCERT BY THE MUSIC STAFF, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19TH.

The Library was full to overflowing for the first concert of the term. The performance opened with a concerto for two pianos and strings by Bach. The two pianos were played by Miss Parkinson and Mr. Burke, who both gave versatile and spirited performances. Mrs. Negus then played the piano, in a charming way, in a Piano Quartet by Brahms. As last year, Miss Parkinson played a Suite for piano and strings by Scarlatti. This was just as popular as on the previous occasion, if not more so. Then the Misses Dorothy and Edith Churton demonstrated in turn how lucky we are to have

such good String teachers. Mr. and Mrs. Negus then played the quaint Polka by Mr. Negus. Mr. Webb played in a grand style and with great verve the clarinet for his solo item. The concert ended with a repeat of the ever-popular Clog Dance "Handel in the Strand," the pianos being played by Miss Parkinson and Mr. Burke. Our thanks are due to Dr. Huggins for arranging and conducting this concert and to the whole Music Staff for the work they put into the practising of the programme so as to produce this excellent and enjoyable feast of music.

R.K.B.

#### THE MUSIC SOCIETY

It is a real pleasure to be able to say that just under 65 per cent. of the School have joined the Music Society this term. There have been three concerts.

The first concert was in the Library on Wednesday, November 2nd, when we heard a piano recital by Nikita Magaloff. He opened the programme with two Chorals by Bach, "Sleepers awake" and "Jesu, Joy," both transcribed by Dame Myra Hess. They were played with the greatest possible clarity and control, though the melody was too prominent. Then followed three Sonatas by Scarlatti. Here the phrasing was excellent and the tone superb. Then, instead of the well-known Moonlight Sonata, Magaloff played the Apache Sonata which has more melodies and is in many ways a more pleasing work. After the interval there followed three studies of three Waltzes by Chopin, all extremely well-played with admirable expression. Last on the advertised programme was Petrouchka. From this he played three movements almost faultlessly. Even in the fast passages it was possible to detect all the notes. His control and technique and his musical chiaroscuro has put him in the highest rank of pianists in Europe.

The second concert was given by Gwendolen Mason (harp), Gareth Morris (flute), Frederick Thurston (clarinet) and the Martin String Quartet in the Library on Wednesday, November 16th.

As when Gwendolen Mason came down to Stowe several years ago, the programme began and ended with the Ravel Septet. It was much more enjoyable on the second rendering when its intricate time and parts could be more appreciated. The Martin String Quartet played an Italian Serenade by Hugo Wolf and the Matador's Prayer by Turina. This Quartet indicated to us how good they were in these items. Their time is excellent and the way they listened to each other's playing enabled them to get a perfect balance in everything that they played. The slow movement of the concerto for flute and harp by Mozart was smoothly and brilliantly played by Gareth Morris and Gwendolen Mason. The theme and variations from the Clarinet Quintet by Brahms some thought nothing out of the ordinary, though Frederick Thurston's playing was marvellous. Then came a rather uninspiring piece by Jongen and two attractive pieces by Inghelbrecht for flute and harp. The flute solo by Gareth Morris, "The Dance of the Goat," was a beautifully polished solo and appeared to put some people into a trance. The chorus by the modern Brazilian composer Villa Lobos appealed to some, but possibly not to many. Gwendolen Mason played three harp solos, of which "Bruyères" by Debussy showed us how well his music sounds on the harp. After all the shuffling and whispering at the back had ceased, one could let one's imagination wander to a favourite country spot for the last of these three solos, "Vers la source dans les Bois."

This most varied and entertaining programme ended with a repeat performance of Ravel's Septet.

A third concert, by Frederick Woodhouse and the Intimate Opera company, took place on November 23rd and will be reviewed later.

R.K.B.

## THE TAMING OF THE SHREW

The producer, it is told, had decided that as a safety measure the play should be treated not as a comedy, but as farce, for then there would be no danger of its failing to please. Now pure farce requires slick timing, tempo, and a certain sophistication, and, especially with a young cast, the precipice of slap-stick always yawns near at hand. But the question was whether the producer, with few experienced actors, and several indeed new-hatched this very term, could provide a single rounded brand of entertainment. In fact, his elastic skill achieved something more interesting. A pure farce would have been lightly enjoyable, but not interesting or memorable; this production managed to be all three. It is idle to say whether this happy outcome was due more to the author, the producer (Mr. A. A. Dams), or to the Congreve Club. Of the first, only let it be said that here as always he is an inexhaustible mine of stage-craft; of the second, that his worth is known, though his height is not yet taken.

It is on the players that one wishes to dwell most. On the night they were all with us at once in a rout. Doubly disguised in their dominoes they danced Sellinger's Round on the dim uncurtained stage, swinging lanterns, wheeling darkly under the sign of the King's Head, merrily talking and shouting. What was it all about? There was silence as Christopher Sly, a drink-sodden tinker, tottered and stumbled between their ranks and finally fell asleep on the ground. (This part was played by Johann Brennenschinken, a fine character actor hitherto unknown in the school.) When he awoke he was strangely transmuted into a lord, and sat in a nightshirt and a four-poster bed, about to watch the real play, which is of course *The Taming of the Shrew* itself. But when this play began, the audience was surprised to see the figure on the bed still further transmogrified. He was older, slighter, beakier. Who could this second unkempt unknown be, who enjoyed himself hugely in this most intimate of stage boxes, who drank goblets of sack, ogled the ladies and guffawed at a doubtful joke? Could it be the Headmaster himself, the whisper went round, fresh from his make-up desk, having finally practised on himself?

Such masquerades and manoeuvres were, of course, well in keeping with the spirit of the play, which in its sub-plots is as involved, artificial and neat as an Agatha Christie story. The audience enjoyed them, chiefly because the players did. But the main plot, the Taming, was not only enjoyable; it was impressive to watch. This was where the play moved away from the precipice edge of farce onto the sunny downs of real comedy. One felt from the beginning not only that Catherine would resist her subjection tooth and nail, but that she was worth subjecting, and that Petruchio, by the quiet mastery with which he broke her—as opposed to the violence and contempt with which he treated all others—was actually doing her good. The interpretations of both these parts was highly successful. In their first and crucial scene alone they both showed such stage competence that a somewhat 'stiff-shirted' second night audience, which had remained unthawed by a whole act of farce, at last relaxed in sheer admiration; while the most obtuse must have been stirred by as good a face-slap as this reviewer has seen in the theatre. Catherine, who gave it, was played by K. A. Henderson (C)



with fine intensity and sense of words, and with an inner passion that made up for a certain stiffness of movements and poverty of facial expression. But she was never merely sullen. When she was being starved, and her clothes countermanded and cut up, and even the honesty of her eyes called in question, she made her misery extremely compelling. Petruchio, who received her slap with huge and happy disdain, was played by J. R. J. Burnham (T). He conducted the taming with mastery and ease. His fault, a good one, was underacting. His clothes, his figure, and his fine make-up, well became the part: one felt that he had indeed heard lions and cannon roar. But he was perhaps too much within himself, and did not allow Catherine to exhaust him sufficiently. In addition he was the strange Brennenschinken and his double effort was easily the outstanding performance of the evening.

The rest of the players, acted with considerable verve and at a rare tempo. There was a general steadiness in performance too, due to good casting and even production throughout. Lucentio (C. Graham-Bonnalie (T)) made a pleasant ballet of his successful wooing of Catherine's sister Bianca, played by M. E. Llowarch (W), who looked the picture of coquettish innocence, but also most capable of her final disobedience. The hopeless predicament of Baptista, the father of two such girls, being the butt of one and the dupe of the other, was well conveyed by S. L. Chalton (B). Of the three other suitors, Gremio (E. C. Hardwicke (C)) had the competence which makes middle-aged tiresomeness interesting, though he did not vary his voice and gestures sufficiently; Hortensio (A. M. Gooch (B)), making a notable début, was so delighted with the ludicrous side of his part, as well as with his moustache, that one was almost relieved when he was given the further disguise of a music-master's heavy black-beard; while Tranio (B. J. B. Pike (C)) played with great gusto.

Among the more farcical roles, Grumio (C. F. N. Hope (C)) must be singled out for a fine piece of controlled buffoonery; indeed his by-play was so good that he sometimes stole the principal's thunder. Mr. Pedant (D. M. Livermore (C)) and Biondello (R. M. Nicholson (B)) also entered fully into the fun of their parts. Let it be said in final commendation that the limited scenery and settings were effective; that the management of the open stage, no easy matter, never for a moment made the audience impatient; that the lighting after one hitch was perfectly satisfactory; that costumes and make-up were both excellent. In conclusion, the production was a great success from many points of view. It combined efficiency with delight, slickness with charm.

When all was over and the players had donned their dominoes again, and again danced Sellinger's Round, coming forward to take their modest bows and the short bursts of applause that an enthusiastic audience was allowed, and when Catherine and Petruchio had left the stage empty, Sly tottered from his bed, made his own bow, and departed. His reeling cannot have been unspontaneous, for few pleasures are more gratifying to a producer than intense relief.

B.S.

## CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

### THE SCIENCE SOCIETY

The Society reassembled this term after a long period of dormancy that lasted throughout the summer. At a meeting early in the term, M. C. Caiger-Smith (T) was elected Secretary, and B. J. R. Hodge (T) Treasurer.

On Wednesday, October 5th, an expedition was arranged to the British Thomson-Houston Works at Rugby. Members spent the whole of the afternoon and much of the evening watching the manufacture of articles varying from steam turbines to electric light bulbs.

On October 26th, Dr. C. F. Cullis (W, 1941) gave a lecture on Isotopic indicators. Introducing Dr. Cullis, the President, Mr. Griffiths, remarked that this was probably the first occasion that the Society had been addressed by an Old Stoic. The lecturer, in a most interesting paper, showed how radio-active isotopes of the common elements are employed for following the courses of chemical reactions, and how the sensitive Geiger Counter can be used to detect minute quantities of radio-active substances. A vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. Llowarch.

It is hoped that the Treasurer will read a paper later in the term.

M.C.C.-S.

### THE JUNIOR DEBATING SOCIETY

At the first meeting of our Society this term, R. D. M. Mann (C) was voted Vice-President; H. R. Champion (C) Secretary; and A. R. Williams (C) the Committee-man. Amongst some of the better debates this term were: "That this House thinks that it is preferable to be in the Sixth Form than in the 1st XV"; "That this House thinks there should not be a Colour Bar"; and "That in the opinion of this House it is better to be a pessimist than an optimist." Although there were many new members of the Society, the standard of speaking was comparatively high.

H.R.C.

### THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

At the beginning of this term, Brigadier L. Manton kindly presented the Society with a vertical enlarger which will, no doubt, improve the standard of work of members considerably. The enlarger is sturdily designed and should last the Society many years. Members are very grateful for this gift.

The Rugby, Uppingham, Oundle and Stowe societies have started a postal portfolio criticism scheme, details of which had been drawn up last term. Briefly the idea is that a portfolio is circulated round the societies concerned and six members of each society contribute each a photograph and, at the same time, criticisms of the photographs belonging to other schools. Thus each photograph receives eighteen criticisms. The purpose of the portfolio is for members of the respective societies to learn from the

artistic ideas, technical abilities and errors of the prints submitted, how to criticise and benefit from criticism.

It appears, from the difficulty encountered in raising six photographs and original criticisms from members, that Stowe is the least photographically minded of the four schools; yet the photographs that were eventually contributed were well up to the standard of the other photographs and Stowe, perhaps, was second to Oundle in submitting the best group.

O.T.W.

#### THE SYMPOSIUM

The Society this term has consisted entirely of new members. So far only two meetings have been held; the first on October 20th, when P. G. Rivière (C) read a paper on "The History of some Selected Sports," the second on November 10th, when E. C. Hardwicke (C) read a paper on "Anglo-American Relations."

It is hoped that P. R. Cutforth (S) and R. J. V. Robinson (W) will read papers in the near future.

J.M.B.

#### THE MODERN LANGUAGES SOCIETY

Now that Mr. Hart Dyke, our President, has returned, the Society has regained its normal flourishing condition. After a preliminary meeting on October 2nd, the membership was revealed as:—The Headmaster, Mr. Hart Dyke (President), Mr. Capel Cure, M. Thill, P. M. Rossiter (C) (Secretary), P. J. R. Hubert (S) (Committeeman), J. I. Holt (C), J. R. Banks (S), P. H. Molloy (C) and D. D. Kitching (S).

To date, four meetings have been held on Sunday evenings, and we hope to have at least another one before the end of the term. We have read "Les Boulinard," by Ordonneau, Valabrègue and Kéroul. This is an old friend of the Society, and, as such, was received with normal approval. After that we read "L'illusion Comique," by Corneille. This play, while cleverly written and contrived, was found a little difficult to follow, and a little too slow in its development. It was not, therefore, appreciated as much as had been hoped.

We intend to read "La Grammaire," a one act comedy by Labiche, before the term closes.

P.M.R.

#### THE TOXOPHILITES

There have been two meetings of the Society so far this term and it is hoped to have another later on, with R. P. L. Kaye (S) reading a paper entitled "Farming."

The term's first meeting was on October 6th, when C. F. N. Hope (C) read a paper entitled "Motor Racing." His interesting paper dealt with Grand Prix racing as a whole, but especially with the season 1934-39 when motor racing reached its highest standard. Most members present agreed that this was a far from *hopeless* paper, the speaker obviously knowing all the answers.

The second meeting was on November 3rd, when D. W. Ash (S) read a paper on "Yachting." The paper was written in a text-book style and was rather difficult to follow; however, a lively discussion followed, the Society showing a shocking ignorance of all things nautical. All new mathematicians this term have been elected members.

A.M.V.

#### THE EPHEMERALS

Two meetings have so far been held this term. The first one, on October 18th, was rather unusual, in that it was the first occasion upon which a guest from outside has read a paper to the Society. We were, in fact, exceedingly fortunate, for Mr. R. E. J. Davis kindly consented, at very short notice, to read us his paper entitled "Some Aspects of the English Character." This was the outcome of a series of discussions between Mr. Davis and a Dutchman in Paris before the war. We were most amused by his criticism of the English character, and were then told about the English ritualistic character—namely the "Christian Gentleman" of Dr. Arnold, of Rugby. The paper had the double merit of being both amusing and profound at the same time, for there was a great deal underlying many seemingly flippant remarks. We were provided with much food for thought, and also provoked to considerable discussion. Our thanks are due to Mr. Davis for this welcome thought-stimulant.

The second meeting took place on November 8th, when S. A. M. Adshead (B) read a paper on "St. Thomas Aquinas." In this most interesting and thoughtful paper, Adshead gave us a general survey of philosophical thought in relation to Christianity from the time of the Apostles to that of the Reformation, with special reference to St. Thomas Aquinas. Adshead was obliged to pass rather quickly over several important questions, as time was naturally limited, but he did not shirk any problem. He also managed to bring to somewhat simpler terms many complex theological theories. This paper also stimulated an interesting discussion.

Another meeting is to be held on November 25th, when J. I. Holt (C) will read a paper entitled "Balzac en Pantoufles."

Members this term were:—Mr. Macdonald (President) and Mrs. Macdonald; P. M. Rossiter (C) (Secretary); C. P. R. Litchford (C), J. Lockwood (W), C. Graham-Bonnalie (T), J. I. Holt (C), M. G. D. O'Donovan (T), D. B. Holt (B), M. C. Caiger-Smith (T), D. F. D. Pope (C) and R. E. Hichens (C).

D. B. Holt (B) has unfortunately been obliged to resign owing to pressure of work, and C. F. Greenlaw (T) has been elected in his stead.

P.M.R.

#### THE VITRUVIANS

Despite the loss of a very active President and founder of the Society and the resignation of Mr. Reid, the Vice-President, the Vitruvian Society is now flourishing with a record membership of 86. The Headmaster has very kindly consented to become the new President and Mr. Mounsey has filled the position of Vice-President.

This term the 70th meeting of the Society was held in the Aurelian Room when Mr. Clough Williams-Ellis, the well-known architect who was in charge of converting

the house of Stowe into a school at its opening and designed Chatham and a number of the other modern buildings, gave an amusing autobiographical talk.

In November, Mr. D. M. Sullivan, an authority on Chinese culture, gave a most vivid and interesting talk on "Archaeology in China." Later in the term there is to be a Business meeting and possibly a showing of some architectural films.

D.C.P.

#### THE CLASSICAL SOCIETY

Two meetings have been held this term, at each of which the paper was on philosophy. Fortunately for the Society neither of them was obscure. The first meeting at which the Secretary read a paper on "Pre-Socratic Philosophy" was held in Mr. Stephan's room. The paper dealt with the origins of philosophy and its history up to the time of the Sophists, explaining how the early Greek philosophers corresponded with our higher mathematicians in their interests; for they concerned themselves with the material cause of things: that is, the underlying system of the cosmos. Later, with the Sophists, the interest changed to one in man and his qualities and philosophy became more like what we now consider it.

The second meeting was held in the Aurelian Room, as Mr. Stephan's room was found rather too small for the large size of the Society. The Junior Debating Society very kindly consented to meet in the Library instead. The paper read by F. J. Pearce (B) was on "Plato and his Republic." In this he represented Socrates as a man with practical ends in mind, and Plato as an idealist converted to practice by his master—both views which the Society questioned afterwards. Plato's youth he suggested was a period of idealism, his middle age one of practical attempts, his old age one of disillusionment. He claimed that the Republic was a direct attempt to form a new city state. To a point the Society believed him, but when he claimed that Socrates went to death because he knew he had failed, they disagreed with him; and a lively argument ensued which ranged over the whole subject of fascism and communism.

Next term it is hoped to have an outside paper.

T.M.I.

#### THE TWELVE CLUB

The Twelve Club achieved its full quota of four meetings this term. On October 5th J. D. Nightingale (C, 1949) came down to read his paper on "The Portuguese Adventurers." He concentrated on the famous voyage of Vasco da Gama by which the oceanic route to India was discovered. The scene was set by a description of the impetus given by Prince Henry the Navigator to Portuguese ventures down the coast of Africa to look for "Christians and Spices" in the southern and eastern seas. The culmination of their efforts was da Gama's voyage to Malindi and Calicut, which Nightingale followed in perhaps excessive detail. He concluded his paper with the end of the purely adventurous period of the Portuguese Empire.

On October 28th, J. R. J. Burnham (T) read a paper entitled "There and Back in Twenty-five Days," describing his trip across America in a Ford car with three young Americans. The Society was amused by a variety of incidents and listened with interest

to his descriptions of the places he passed through in the course of his travels. Brushes with the police and the sheriff's office, observation of the peculiarities of American advertising and showmanship, and appreciation of the different types of country he saw, gave Burnham's paper a liveliness that ensured enjoyment. This was no mere catalogue, as it well might have been, of the points of interest on an American tour—Pittsburgh, St. Louis, Hollywood, San Francisco and Salt Lake City. Burnham illustrated his remarks with a number of photographs.

On November 17th, D. L. E. Evan-Hughes (C) read a paper on "Music in the Sighing of a Reed," in which he traced the history of flutes, pipes and recorders from the earliest times. He explained the basic principle of the vibrational wind instrument—for in fact his paper was not concerned with the reed pipe—and passed round specimens of various kinds, including a modern flute with all its complicated keys and holes. The use of fifes in war, and the curious legends attached to flutes and other such instruments, came within the scope of Evan-Hughes' paper as well, but the Society was not held for long by the subject of music, when the time came for discussion. The absence of musicians was presumably the reason.

On November 25th, Mr. R. H. S. Crossman, M.P., discoursed to the Society on the subject: "Can a Politician be Honest?" Speaking without notes, Mr. Crossman soon gripped the Society's attention, and, if he failed to make many converts to Socialism, he was able to give a great deal of inside information on Parliamentary tactics and on politics in general. The question of whether a politician was justified in doing violence to his feelings in the interests of his party was the chief problem, but Mr. Crossman also gave instances of the vastly different ethical outlook of a Tory and a Socialist, a Trade Unionist and an "intellectual." He came to the alarming conclusion that the oligarchic government of the 18th century was coming back to-day, with the leader of class or trade "blocs" in the place of the old hereditary aristocrats. If this is so, the blame, it must be inferred from Mr. Crossman's definition of Socialist ethics, lies with the regimentation of political opinion imposed by that party, an example which the Tories will be obliged to follow in self-defence. Mr. Crossman's visit was much appreciated by the Society, as providing the most stimulating meeting held for some time.

New members were A. T. W. Innes (T), J. R. J. Burnham (T) and M. A. R. Freeman (T). There were also two new permanent guests, G. S. Baker (T) and N. E. Wates (B).  
D.J.M.C.

#### THE CONGREVE CLUB

Most of the energies of the Club have, this term, been centred around the school play—Shakespeare's "The Taming of The Shrew"—of which a review appears elsewhere in this issue.

Miss Trengrouse organised a play-reading at the beginning of term with great success: to her room one Sunday afternoon flocked an enthusiastic, if young, crowd to read Norman Ginsbury's "The First Gentleman," and to partake of the succulent tea Miss Trengrouse so kindly provided.

The Headmaster has graciously consented to become President of the Club.

C.G-B.

## THE MUSIC CLUB

The Club was lucky enough to be able to attend two of the Oxford Subscription Concerts this term. The first, which involved missing afternoon school, was a concert given by Sir Thomas Beecham and the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. Sir Thomas had had an exhausting concert the night before at the Albert Hall, and it was hardly surprising that he was not his usual witty self; however, his command of the orchestra was, as usual, complete, and both he and the players gave a most polished performance of some little heard works.

The second was a piano recital by Dame Myra Hess. To a packed Sheldonian she played a Mozart Fantasia and Sonata, followed by that gloomy sonata of Chopin's that includes his Marche Funèbre. It was significant, perhaps, that a large lady in the more expensive seats passed out half-way through and had to be carried out to its doleful strains. To conclude, Myra Hess played one of Beethoven's later and rather inconclusive sonatas which, in spite of her superb performance, left one with a feeling of dissatisfaction. Throughout Dame Myra's playing was superlative, but, after the deliciously light-hearted Mozart pieces in the first half of the programme, the two dismal pieces in the second half were disappointing. This expedition was something in the nature of an experiment, as we had to be back in time for afternoon school; as it turned out, the experiment was successful, since we also heard two encores, and it is nice to know that it can be done again.

On Friday, November 18th, Frank Howes, the music critic of *The Times*, gave an extremely interesting and amusing lecture on "The Psychology of Listening" to a surprisingly, for the occasion, large audience in the library. Soon after the beginning of his lecture, Mr. Howes held his audience completely in his sway and, when he came to his "Rhythm Test" Parlour Game, it was most co-operative.

It is hoped that there will be one other meeting towards the end of term, when a member of the Club will read a paper.

C.G.B.

## DIE FAUSTRUNDE

The Faustrunde, now under the Presidency of Dr. Zettl, has, so far this term, met only once, but is its hoped to hold a second meeting before the end of term.

The meeting was devoted entirely to a general discussion on contemporary events in Germany, the actual subject for discussion being: "Is Western Germany a liability or an asset to us?"

J.I.H.



Photos by]

SCENES FROM 'THE TAMING OF THE SHREW'  
Congreve Club Production

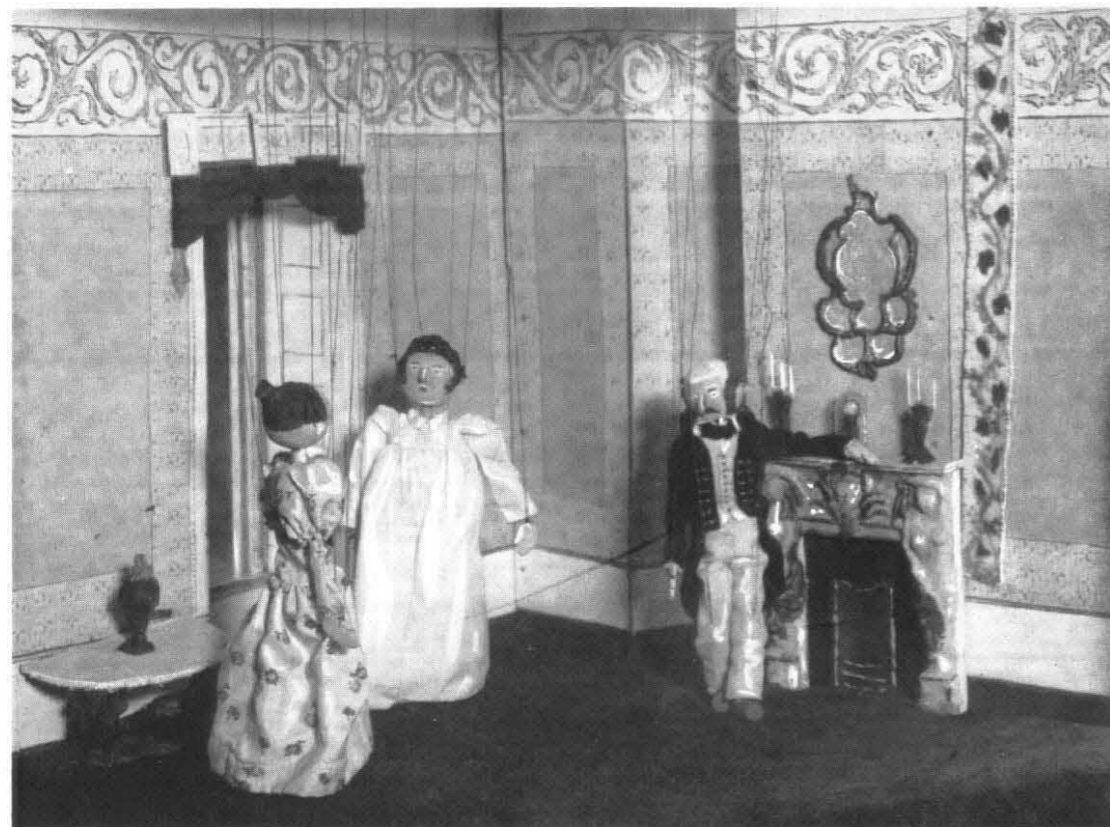
[P.A.C.]

## RUGBY FOOTBALL

1ST XV.

With Shinner, Roberts, Innes and Dixon back and with Patterson, Darnley-Smith, Malden and Cunningham as prospective members of the pack it seemed as if it might be possible to build up a more than useful team. However, 'the best laid schemes of mice and men gang aft a-gley.' Dixon, potentially the most constructive footballer in the school, suffered a cracked vertebra in the very first match. This dislocated the backs to such an extent that they have never recovered.

Taking the season as a whole it has not been an inspiring one, but what can be said in the team's favour is that even in the Oundle match, when things went against them, they never gave up trying. Against club sides some good defence was shown and it was no disgrace to be beaten by the Wasps, Greyhounds and Richmond, who included Tommy Kemp and his partner for 13 years, Cockburn. Of the school matches the only disaster was at Oundle and it would take many maturer sides than Stowe to find one which would recover from three penalties in the first ten minutes. Stowe did hold this strong side for twenty minutes or more and during that time scored one of the best tries of the day. Rugby were too quick in thought and action and never looked like losing after half-time when the score was equal at nil all. In the Bedford match Stowe played some of the best ruggie ever seen, but only for about ten minutes, during which time they might have scored five tries, but they did not and another Bedford match was lost. The game against St. Edward's was played under atrocious conditions of rain and wind; it was undoubtedly won by their scrum-half and pack who gradually gained ascendancy over ours until we were overrun. Their scrum half scored two tries and made the third. Defence on the blind side was non-existent and things were made easy for him. Against Radley the luck turned and the game was just won, a game which, from the spectators' viewpoint, looked more like a glorified league match than a 1st XV. However, there was one particularly good movement by our backs which was rewarded with a try. There were high hopes of winning at Harrow, but these were slightly dashed by the unsympathetic conditions. However, the team battled against the elements in the first half and managed to prevent Harrow



Photos by

PUPPETS: 'ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS' OFFRETTA  
 Script by B. F. Brindley (G); Music by R. Jameson (G).

[R. &amp; H. Chapman

scoring. In the second half Roberts continued to evade his opposite number on every occasion and it seemed as if a try would result every time Stowe got the ball. This was not to be, but victory was assured with two tries. There was a most unprecedented game against King's School, played for the most part by spectres with a phantom ball and watched by invisible but vociferous spectators. Stowe had the advantage in that they could keep themselves orientated by an occasional glimpse of George. Against Cheltenham both sides were below strength through injury, the conditions were not conducive to good rugby, but the game was played in the right spirit and Stowe eventually ran out the winners by a small margin. It finished off the school match season satisfactorily by making it four all in wins and losses.

Shinner's captaincy has improved steadily throughout the term in difficult circumstances. His punting has been invaluable to his team. Otherwise he has not made the hard-running, penetrating centre it had been hoped for. Roberts has improved his defence and kicking, while his attack has for the last few matches been quite scintillating. Innes has been the most improved player in the team and finished off as a most determined and elusive runner with good hands; his tackling was outstanding. Laing made good progress after his promotion to the 1st XV and in the matches used his speed and head to great advantage. Turnbull had his good and bad days, but he usually managed to combine well with his fly-half Salt, who performed the difficult job of filling Dixon's boots more than adequately. Pearce played pluckily, but was too inclined to let the ball bounce before taking it.

The pack was not nearly as good as had been anticipated. They failed to see the importance of the quick heel from the loose scrum and many opportunities of tries were thus lost. Quickness of thought and spontaneous action were lacking. They rarely struck out on their own and preferred to stick together as a slow-moving huddle. This is not to say that they did not try. They gave of their best, except against St. Edward's, but their efforts were misdirected. Of the individuals, Wates got quite a lot out of his forwards by theatrical methods. He played well himself and set a good example for others to follow. Cunningham and Malden were the best in the line-out. Lockhart was the only dashing forward in the loose rushes. Patterson hooked well, and Cullum blocked up the blind side better than his predecessors.

#### THE SCHOOL *v.* BEDFORD

Played at Stowe on Saturday, October 15th, Bedford winning by 6 points to nil.

Weather conditions could hardly have been better when Bedford won the toss and decided to defend the Pavilion end with the wind in their favour and the sun behind them.

For the first ten minutes Bedford pressed hard without ever penetrating the Stowe defences, but they held the advantage territorially. However, after a quick heel from a loose scrum Roberts found an opening and he went through the gap so fast that, with Shinner and Innes outside him and only the full back to beat, a try seemed inevitable: the pass went astray. Bedford returned to the attack and were awarded a penalty in the Stowe '25', which was converted. This roused Stowe to a tremendous effort and the team produced the best ten minutes' rugby ever witnessed by George. Heyward had a good run on the right wing. This was followed by a wide break by Turnbull, who passed to Shinner, who was stopped five yards short by good covering. The ball went loose and was touched down. The '25' kick was charged down and Miskin dribbled towards the line but was held up a foot short. A penalty relieved the pressure, but the forwards came back again and were stopped inches short of the line. Another penalty relieved the pressure. From a loose scrum another quick heel gave Roberts his chance: he cut through and the ball reached Innes, who, when in full cry for the line was tackled beautifully two feet short. Indeed one of the fullest and most exciting ten minutes in Stowe's football history. Half-time: Stowe 0, Bedford 3.

Now with the wind and the sun behind it was generally imagined that Stowe could win quite comfortably, but this was not to be the case. Bedford adopted defensive tactics and Stowe slackened off. Then when things were found to be going not so well they got hurried and flustered: this led to bad passing and fumbling generally and constructive movements were non-existent. Patterson had an excellent penalty kick which hit the underside of the cross-bar and Shinner had one particularly good spin-kick down to Cobham corner. Five minutes before the end, a sturdy Bedford centre cut through and scored far out. This was not converted.

Shinner and Roberts played well and were given a good send-off by Salt at stand-off. Turnbull played well individually, but did not combine well. The forwards played a great game, with Wates, Cunningham, Highwood and Miskin outstanding.

*Team*:—N. R. Cunningham-Reid (G); J. P. D. Heyward (C), R. J. Roberts (C), P. G. Shinner (B), A. T. W. Innes (T); P. M. Salt (G), M. S. Turnbull (B); J. D. F. Lockhart (C), W. M. Patterson (B), R. D. Miskin (T), A. Highwood (B), R. G. Cunningham (T), C. C. Malden (G), N. E. Wates (B), P. J. R. Hubert (G).

#### THE SCHOOL *v.* RUGBY

Played at Stowe on Saturday, October 22nd, Rugby winning by 11 points to nil.

Despite heavy showers in the morning, the ground and weather were perfect. Shinner lost the toss, but was given the slight wind to play with in defending the Pavilion end.

For the first ten minutes, play was dominated by Rugby, who got the ball cleanly from every scrum set and loose. Luckily the passing of the Rugby backs was not up to standard and many chances went astray. Very suddenly the Stowe pack, roused to Herculean efforts by Wates, got the ascendancy and from that moment got more than

their fair share of the ball and got it extremely well. At times good attacks developed from both sides, but no tries resulted. On one occasion, after a very quick heel from a loose scrum, the ball went to Salt, who failed to pass out to three unmarked men with only twenty yards to go. On two occasions the Stowe line was saved by good tackling by Shinner and Cunningham-Reid. Half-time: Stowe 0, Rugby 0.

For the first five minutes the Rugby left-winger changed places with his centre. This surprised Roberts so much that the first time he got the ball he was allowed to score untouched and was allowed to run behind the posts unhindered. This was five points up to Rugby in as many minutes. Stowe came back to the attack, however, and on two occasions particularly it seemed as if they must score. On one occasion Roberts had a beautiful cut-through and Shinner was only stopped a yard from the line: on the other Heyward stepped out of his opponent's grasp and jazzed his way to within a few feet, when he was hurled back by three heavyweights. When Stowe were pressing hard in the '25' a Rugby centre was allowed to break through and an unconverted try resulted. Not many minutes before the end Innes executed a beautiful tackle, but the Rugby wing got up and dribbled over the line; Stowe failed to touch down properly and Rugby gained another three points.

On the whole it was no disgrace to be beaten by a lively and clever Rugby team, who passed quickly and enterprisingly. Their quickness in thought and action showed up the Stowe XV in their comparatively laboured efforts. Stowe's forwards are to be congratulated on an heroic effort and it would be invidious to single out any particular member of the pack. There were gaps in the centre of the three-quarters' defence which led to two tries. Turnbull did many good things but was too often tackled in possession with men on either side of him. Salt gave and took his passes well. Innes tackled extremely efficiently. Cunningham-Reid played his best game at full-back, but was too often caught out of position.

One outstanding feature on both sides was the punting: Shinner's and Cunningham-Reid's for Stowe, and Gardiner's and Kittermaster's for Rugby. Another was the full-back display of Gardiner: he has a good kick with either foot, an uncanny sense of position, and a sound tackle: he might well go far.

*Team*:—N. R. Cunningham-Reid (G); J. P. D. Heyward (C), R. J. Roberts (C), P. G. Shinner (B), A. T. W. Innes (T); P. M. Salt (G), M. S. Turnbull (B); J. D. F. Lockhart (C), W. M. Patterson (B), R. D. Miskin (T), A. Highwood (B), R. G. Cunningham (T), C. C. Malden (G), N. E. Wates (B), P. J. R. Hubert (G).

#### THE SCHOOL v. ST. EDWARD'S

Played at Stowe on Wednesday, October 26th, St. Edward's winning by 11 points to 3 points.

The game was played in unpleasant conditions, with driving rain and a bitter wind blowing diagonally across the ground.

Shinner lost the toss and St. Edward's took the advantage of the wind. From the start Stowe had most of the ball from scrums and line-outs, but the backs were not able to hold the ball, which was a disaster, as it was obvious that Shinner, Roberts and Innes had the legs of their opposite numbers. The St. Edward's fly-half began to use the wind and Stowe were soon penned in their '25.' The St. Edward's open-side wing forward and scrum half were obviously dangerous, the latter nearly scoring when he dribbled away from a scrum. A moment later, Salt kicked ahead straight into the

centre's hands, who broke through but was well tackled by Herrington. Stowe had their most dangerous attacking moment when the St. Edward's full-back was fielding a hat and Shinner kicked ahead, but he had time to put both hat and ball safely into touch. Five minutes before half-time, St. Edward's heeled from a loose scrum and the scrum-half went away on the blind side and scored an unopposed try in the corner, which was converted with a very good kick.

At half-time, Stowe still had a good chance of winning if they used the wind, but the display of the team was very poor. There was a fatal hesitation in falling on the ball and low tackling was particularly lacking; although Stowe had more of the ball, it was often a St. Edward's forward who dribbled it away or booted it into touch; no advantage was taken of the wind, and after spending the first twenty minutes in the Stowe half, the St. Edward's scrum half once more slipped away on the blind side for an unconverted try. Turnbull now began to send out a very good service to his backs, better than he had previously done on dry days, but the backs generally dithered or knocked on; but twice there were glimpses of what might have been done; once a knock-on spoiled a perfect overlap for Innes; and a moment later the ball went straight out to him, he rounded his man, but was brilliantly tackled by the wing forward just short of the line. Stowe were awarded a penalty which Patterson converted; 8—3. With ten minutes to go and a marked superiority of the Stowe backs on the left, the ball should have been sent out at all costs, but no one seemed to realize that we were within striking distance. To rub it in, the St. Edward's scrum half broke away on the open side, passed inside for the wing forward to dive over the line.

Stowe did not deserve to win on their performance. St. Edward's had a big advantage in their wing forwards, who constantly harassed Turnbull and Salt, at full-back and with a fly-half who could kick; their forwards were always that fraction of a second quicker on the ball or man; above all Stowe forgot to tackle low.

*Team*:—H. R. Herrington (C); J. P. D. Heyward (C), R. J. Roberts (C), P. G. Shinner (B), A. T. W. Innes (T); P. M. Salt (G), M. S. Turnbull (B); R. D. Miskin (T), W. M. Patterson (B), J. D. F. Lockhart (C), A. Highwood (B), R. G. Cunningham (T), C. C. Malden (G), N. E. Wates (B), P. J. R. Hubert (G).

#### THE SCHOOL v. RADLEY

Played at Radley on Wednesday, November 2nd, the School winning by 6 points to 3 points.

Shinner won the toss and decided to play with the hill and against a slight breeze. The day was perfect for an open game but there were not more than a few passing movements all day.

The first half was particularly dull to watch. The Stowe backs lost any confidence they had by dropping the ball three times in the first three minutes. After that the forwards rarely gave a quick enough heel to enable Salt and Turnbull to outwit fast breaking forwards. Both sides gained ground only by forward rushes or by kicking. Wates put in some good defence and Lockhart some good bustling rushes. However, after a quick Radley heel the scrum half went over for an unconverted try. Not long after, Patterson put over a good penalty to level the scores before half-time.

The second half saw a much better game. The tempo quickened, the forward rushes had more devil in them, and the backs developed some thrust and penetration. Roberts played particularly well this half and did sterling work in attack and defence.

On a few occasions he evaded his opposite number and sent Innes off at full speed for the line: only good tackling kept him out. However, later their efforts were rewarded; Roberts executed a 'Marble Arch' and the ball was whisked out to Innes, who had an easy run in. The kick was missed. For the last ten minutes Radley stormed at the Stowe line, but solid and perhaps lucky defence kept them out.

Wates and Roberts were our best players; Shinner punted beautifully, but ran at half speed; Turnbull played well although constantly harassed; Pearce had a good day and would be a perfect full-back if he were faster; Innes always looked dangerous.

*Team*:—F. J. Pearce (B); A. T. W. Innes (T), P. G. Shinner (B), R. J. Roberts (C), J. P. D. Heyward (C); P. M. Salt (G), M. S. Turnbull (B); P. J. Harkness (B), W. M. Patterson (B), J. D. F. Lockhart (C), A. Highwood (B), R. G. Cunningham (B); N. Cleeve (B), J. C. Turner (G), N. E. Wates (B).

#### THE SCHOOL *v.* OUNDLE

Played at Oundle on Tuesday, November 8th, Oundle winning by 36 points to 3 points.

When you play Oundle it is as well to have a well-balanced team, because, otherwise, chances of success are virtually non-existent. Previous experience of Oundle matches has shown that one can count on meeting eight tough and resourceful forwards, and at least one potential match-winner behind them—generally two, or even three. On this occasion we knew that they had a very fine scrum-half in Pearson, and, though we found out on arrival at Oundle that, most unfortunately, they were without the services of their captain, Brook, who had played such a large part in our last year's defeat, we had an unhappy feeling, later to be only too completely justified, that they would find a suitable substitute. In fact prospects were far from bright this year. Instead of the well-balanced side essential for this match, we had one of the most ill-balanced back-divisions ever to represent the school. As a result of Dixon's injury early on in the season we had Salt, a scrum-half, at fly-half; one of the all-important centre three-quarters was Shinner, last year's scrum-half, and the other was Roberts, his former partner at half-back. As a triangle they were the best available, but it is not easy to learn to play first-class school football in a new position in one season. Fortunately the forwards had up to date played well, and, though we had lost to Bedford, Rugby, and St. Edward's, and beaten Radley by only a very narrow margin, the fifteen had, so far, always succeeded in keeping the scores against them to manageable proportions. Since Bedford had beaten us by 6—0 and Oundle had inflicted a defeat on them by the same margin, it seemed as though we should probably be beaten, but not by more than fifteen or sixteen points. All seemed to depend on whether the forwards could hold the Oundle eight, but we knew that the Stowe backs were not a combination, and that we could not look to them for more than a very few tries. All that being so, the fact that Oundle beat Stowe by 36—3 cannot be explained away, but it can to some extent be explained.

This match, then, was played at Oundle on Tuesday, November 8th. The weather, which always does its best for this game, had tactfully sandwiched a bright clear sunny day between two of the pestilential periods so typical of November at its worst, and, apart from a biting wind which bothered the spectators infinitely more than it did the players, conditions were good when Oundle kicked off into the sun on the pitch where

Stowe had fought them to a draw two years ago. On that occasion play started dramatically with a try in the first minute by our Bartlett. This game began by jockeying for position with an Oundle attack which ended in two free-kicks to Stowe inside their own twenty-five and a promising run thereafter by our three-quarters in which Innes eventually knocked on, and then produced a three-act tragedy for Stowe which altered the whole course of the game. Just after an Oundle thrust Roberts received the ball in his own twenty-five, was well and truly tackled in front of the posts, and then rose up on his knees and passed the ball to Shinner. T. N. Pearce's whistle could have been heard at the Talbot Arms. Lowe, of Oundle, doubtless murmuring, "Corban—it is a gift!", took the kick from under the posts and the score was 3—0 to Oundle. From the kick-off they stormed back into our twenty-five and Shinner was found to be off-side through lying too far up in defence. Another penalty straight in front was converted into a quietly efficient goal by Lowe, and Stowe were six points down. They struggled desperately to restore morale and Innes had one good run, but Shinner showed a tendency to kick when what the three-quarters wanted more than anything was some hard running in the centre and some attempt to get the ball to Innes and Laing who both appeared to be faster than their opposite numbers. The next break-through came from Milligan, the Oundle fly-half, who cut through finely and then passed in to his forwards in the middle of the field. The situation was stabilised, but from the ensuing scrum Hubert was offside, and Lowe, though the kick was further away than his first two, was now in practice and made it look simple.

Three penalties in less than ten minutes! The team clearly felt like a boxer who has had three heavy punches under the heart in the first round, while Oundle with nine points to play with must have had the exhilarating feeling of a batsman who has been given three full-tosses in his first over and can see a lot of runs ahead. In fact during a short period of fairly natural grogginess after this third penalty goal Stowe suffered the indignity of having a try scored against them by the Oundle full-back. Glossop arrived outside his right-wing, Hirst, travelling at speed and managed to cut inside Pearce to score in the corner. This time the kick was too far out for Lowe to convert and the score was 12—0.

Oundle were now right on their toes and playing very good football. Their forwards were brisk and bustling in the loose and they handled surely and safely. The mantle of the absent Brook had apparently fallen on Millington, their right-centre, who from now on began to play better and better. He used the inside cut-through with great effect and always found his forwards up and ready to take his inside pass. It was from one of his breaks-through that they got down to our twenty-five, and from a wheeling scrum on the line Culshaw, a back-row forward, scored in almost the same spot as Glossop. Again the long kick was unsuccessful. (15—0.) Almost immediately afterwards Millington cut through in much the same way, but this time turned the attack outwards and enable Mirosevic-Sorgo on the left wing to clutch the ball to him in a somewhat unorthodox manner and just beat Pearce for the corner. The kick, this time from the other touch-line, again fell short. (18—0.) Oundle now appeared to be doing everything twice as quickly as Stowe, and Pearson at the base of their scrum was passing really beautifully to Milligan and giving his three-quarters abundant time in which to develop their attacks. It came as no surprise when Millington swept through yet again and gave Hirst a long run to our left corner-flag, from which dangerous



position one of their forwards, Haggas, forced his way over for an unconverted try. (21—0.) And then all of a sudden Stowe struck back. It was a classically perfect try with a fine break-through by Roberts, a well-timed pass to Shinner who handed on to Innes about twenty yards out. Innes used his weight and speed to force himself over, getting the touch just before he swung round on to the corner-flag. Patterson's kick was a good one but not quite good enough. (21—3.) Half-time followed immediately.

The second half proved to be for most of its length what we had hoped the first half might have been. Stowe did not show any sign of scoring, but they did succeed in keeping Oundle out until at the very end they tired and the trouble started again. It was dull stuff during this period, but then the Stowe attack had always lacked brilliance: the best it could do was to check it in others. And there was some brilliance to check. Pearson was certainly the man of the second half, and dominated it as Millington had done the first. He began by scoring a try which was disallowed on account of a previous infringement, and thereafter he gave a most exhilarating display, varying his model passes from the scrum with dashes away from it, kicks-ahead, reverse-passes, and all the repertoire of a really good scrum-half. On one occasion he passed out from a loose-scrum under our posts to three-quarters who appeared to have our line completely at their mercy only to have his pass dropped. On another he stole round the blind side and gave Mirosevic-Sorgo a most reasonable chance to increase his bag to two, but again the chance was missed.

There was a good deal of touch-kicking and fly-hacking in the middle of this half and the fire of the game was allowed temporarily to die down. At one point we were sufficiently far into their territory to allow Laing to have a shot at goal, but the distance proved to be too great. Millington continued to exploit the inside cut-through, and, surely, if one may be petulantly technical for a moment, that should have been stopped. A centre-threequarter may be beaten by speed as his opposite number swerves away from him in the outside cut-through, but the stopping of the inside cut-through is entirely a matter of positioning, since the attacker must be running towards the defence instead of away from it. Our defence had plenty of practice in stopping Millington, but in this case practice was very far from achieving perfection. This weakness in the centre combined with a sudden resurgence of energy in the Oundle pack produced three more tries all of which were converted. The first was scored by Millington, but all the work had been already done by Pearson who cork-screwed his way into a strong striking position and then handed on to Millington for the kill. (26—3.) The next was Culshaw's second and was, as far as one could see, a repetition of his first. A wheeling movement of the scrum, a quick dash, and a red head rising from the ground amid tumultuous cheers from the serried ranks along the terraced side of the field. Lowe's kicks were perfectly executed and the score was now 31—3. It might well have remained so, but Millington set the seal on a fine afternoon's work by bursting through the centre once again, and, breaking back inside the weary Pearce into country where Stowe forwards might have been but were not, thumped the ball down between the posts. Lowe treated the easy kick with the contempt it deserved and nudged the ball neatly over to score his fifteenth point in the match and enable his side to win by 36—3.

This heavy defeat was caused partly by the ill-balanced back-division with its fatal weakness in the centre and its inability to combine in attack, and no doubt those three

penalty goals in the first ten minutes had something to do with it, though they can scarcely be regarded as extenuating circumstances; but the real foundation for our defeat and Oundle's victory was laid by their forwards. They played, except for a short period in the second half, superbly well. Their passing was up to the standard of most back-divisions, their positioning was imaginative and consequently deadly, and they did all their work with the speed that saves those fractions of seconds which mean everything in rugby. And behind them they had Pearson and Millington. One may suppose that Brook, had he been playing, might have played better than Millington, but one imagines that in that worst of positions for a captain, on the touch-line, he was at least satisfied with the performance of his substitute. The worst that can be said of Stowe is that they were completely outplayed by Oundle, who were quicker in every department of the game; the best, that at least they never gave in and continued to show courage and a spirit of endeavour throughout the game, but you need considerably more than that if you want to beat Oundle.

*Team*:—F. J. Pearce (B); G. T. Laing (B), R. J. Roberts (C), P. G. Shinner (B), A. T. W. Innes (T); P. M. Salt (G), M. S. Turnbull (B); P. J. Harkness (T), W. M. Patterson (B), J. D. F. Lockhart (C), R. G. Cunningham (T), A. Highwood (B), P. A. Cullum (C), N. E. Wates (B), P. J. R. Hubert (G).

#### THE SCHOOL *v.* HARROW

Played at Harrow on Saturday, November 12th, the School winning by 8 points to nil.

When we arrived at Harrow we were warned that the ground was in poor condition following the recent rains. Twenty minutes before the game started, sleet fell fast and furious for a quarter of an hour leaving the ground in pools of liquid mud. However, the sky cleared and overhead conditions were passable, with a heavy wind blowing down the pitch.

Stowe lost the toss and had to play uphill against the wind. Harrow made good use of the wind and occasionally had Stowe in difficulties, but Pearce usually managed to get the ball as far as the touch line. On one occasion Pearce was caught in the scrum: Laing with great foresight dropped back to receive the Harrow kick ahead and found a good useful touch. Any back play there was came from Stowe. On three occasions Roberts evaded his man and tries were only averted by a good covering defence. On one occasion Innes was only a couple of yards from the line and Pearce got within a yard. Just before half-time, Stowe pressed hard and were indulging in a scrum a foot from the Harrow line when the whistle went for half-time with no score yet achieved by either side.

It seemed obvious that Stowe with the help of the wind and superior backs should win, but the wind dropped. However, the forwards played a grand game in the second half and gave the backs every chance, while Harrow rarely looked dangerous. Roberts contrived to dominate the play, making openings whenever he desired. Occasionally he passed it out, but Innes was always very well tackled. After a Roberts attack on the right, Turnbull followed up by another and succeeded in getting over the line, but a '25' was awarded. The ball was rushed back again in the same spot and the Stowe pack scored from a push-over try; the kick was disallowed for handling after having been put down. Not many minutes later Roberts broke through and when a yard from the line passed to Shinner: Laing converted to make the score 8—0.

Despite the sea of mud Roberts swerved and jinked amazingly and always had his opposite number baffled. Had it been a dry day he would inevitably have scored a few tries or made them for others. The handling of all the backs was exceptionally good and Turnbull sent out a magnificent service. The forwards played their best game and developed confidence as time progressed. Malden played a good defensive game from the middle of the back row. The shoving in loose and tight was much better and Stowe got more than their fair share of the ball.

*Team*:—F. J. Pearce (B); G. T. Laing (B), R. J. Roberts (C), P. G. Shinner (B), A. T. W. Innes (B); P. M. Salt (G), M. S. Turnbull (B); J. D. F. Lockhart (C), W. M. Patterson (B), J. Darnley-Smith (C), R. G. Cunningham (T), A. Highwood (B), P. A. Cullum (C), C. C. Malden (G), N. E. Wates (B).

#### THE SCHOOL v. KING'S SCHOOL, CANTERBURY

Played at Stowe on Saturday, November 19th, the School winning by 12 points to 3 points.

It had been foggy in the earlier part of the day, but it cleared at noon and the sun came through. With the grass dry and the ground bathed in sunshine the whistle went for the kick-off, Stowe defending the pavilion end.

Within a very short time Shinner had dribbled through to the '25' line, a scrum formed, a forward got off-side and Patterson landed three points. King's attacked strongly, and against the run of play Laing picked up a stray pass, ran seventy-five yards and scored in the corner. The kick was missed. King's continued to attack and made some headway, but rarely got within striking distance. Within what seemed like a moment the fog, and at that a very thick one, had descended. It was so thick that the outside centre rarely saw the forwards scrummaging. At this juncture Stowe took the initiative and never lost it. The heeling was still sluggish, but the pack got the ball fairly regularly. Had it not been for an ankle injury to Roberts the score might have been larger. From a scrum near the opponents' line Shinner burst through a tackle, evaded another two and dropped over the line. The kick was unaccountably missed from an easy position. Just before half-time the King's scrum half had to leave the field and did not return. Half-time score 9—3.

Stowe maintained the attack throughout the second half and it was only resolute defence by the opposition that kept the score down, and perhaps the injury to Roberts. Shinner kicked intelligently, but the bounce was never quite right for Laing, who narrowly missed scoring on a few occasions. Innes had one or two good runs on the left, but could not get over the line. Not long before time Laing kicked a very good penalty into the deep gloom and that was the only score of the second half.

Not much can be written of this game, as little was seen, but it appeared as if the Stowe pack allowed themselves to be dominated to begin with by a smaller eight and only gained supremacy when the opposition lost a man. The backs showed little penetrative power, but quite a lot of intelligence in dealing with the unusual conditions. Pearce was too slow at full back and lost many valuable yards on occasions by hesitating.

*Team*:—F. J. Pearce (B); A. T. W. Innes (T), R. J. Roberts (C), P. G. Shinner (B), G. T. Laing (B); P. M. Salt (G), M. S. Turnbull (B); J. Darnley-Smith (C), W. M. Patterson (B), J. D. F. Lockhart (C), A. Highwood (B), C. C. Malden (G), N. E. Wates (B), S. Pendle (G), P. A. Cullum (C).

#### THE SCHOOL v. CHELTENHAM

Played at Stowe on Saturday, November 26th, the School winning by 6 points to 3 points.

Following a week of wet weather it was decided to play this match on the Bourbon in preference to the North Front. It had drizzled earlier in the day and the ball was bound to be as slippery as an eel on any field, but the under-foot conditions were better on the Bourbon.

The game began with great Stowe pressure and within a minute Innes rounded his opposite number to be grandly tackled just short of the line. From that moment the Stowe offensive diminished in its intensity and to such an extent at moments that it seemed that Cheltenham must win. However, on a few occasions Cheltenham were forced to touch down and on numerous occasions attempts at penalties were missed owing to the heavy and slippery ball. The best effort was by Laing who just failed to carry the bar from the ten-yard line. This half the Stowe try-line was rarely threatened: it was once, when Burgess, the Cheltenham fly-half, broke through but a pass was knocked on. Although the score at half-time was 0—0, play was definitely in favour of Stowe.

The second half began disastrously for Stowe and Cheltenham put in a continuous attack for about five minutes: time and time again it seemed as if they must score and only good tackling kept them out. Suddenly the defence failed and the Cheltenham centre literally walked through to score beside the posts, without a hand being laid on him. The kick was, despite the conditions, unaccountably missed. This try rallied Stowe to great efforts and repeated attacks and good kicking by Shinner frequently took them into the Cheltenham '25'. On one of these sorties Patterson took a penalty from an easy position and brought the scores level.

Cheltenham fought back on occasions, but only Burgess looked dangerous and he was always tackled by Salt, who played a plucky game against a dangerous opponent. However, it was a Cheltenham attack which led to the match-winning try. The ball was intercepted by Goldfinger, who dribbled up to the full-back, Shinner carried on and touched down too far out for it to be converted.

Pearce played a sound game at full back: Shinner did some invaluable kicking: Salt tackled and took his passes well: the forwards played hard, without much inspiration. Of the pack Malden and Patterson were outstanding.

*Team*:—F. J. Pearce (B); A. T. W. Innes (T), J. P. G. Goldfinger (G), P. G. Shinner (B), G. T. Laing (B); P. M. Salt (G), M. S. Turnbull (B); J. Darnley-Smith (C), W. M. Patterson (B), J. D. F. Lockhart (C), A. Highwood (B), C. C. Malden (G), N. E. Wates (B), S. Pendle (G), P. A. Cullum (C).

Other results were as follows:—

Sat., Oct. 1.	v. WASPS "A" XV. (Home).	Lost	0—15
Wed., Oct. 12.	v. R.A.F., HALTON (Home).	Won	14—9
Sat., Oct. 29.	v. LONDON SCOTTISH "A" XV. (Home).	Lost	6—9
Sat., Nov. 5.	v. RICHMOND "A" XV. (Home).	Lost	3—14
Wed., Nov. 16.	v. OXFORD UNIVERSITY GREYHOUNDS 'A' (Home).	Lost	0—12
Sat., Dec. 3.	v. ROSSLYN PARK "A" XV. (Home).	Lost	10—11

THE SECOND FIFTEEN

Owing to injuries, the demands of the 1st XV and the need to eliminate the faint-hearted, the 2nd XV has not settled down nor had a successful season. Out of a fixture list of thirteen matches, 4 have been won, 1 drawn and 8 lost. In earlier matches the tackling, covering and falling was generally poor, and the kicks lacked any thrust. The later matches were much more even; for the pack improved considerably and Kimber and Middleton as halves added some penetration and made more use of the speed of Pike and Heyward. But the play has remained rather "gentlemanly," and only against Northampton G.S. did one see real devil, and the backing up which makes tries. Turner has worked hard as captain and leader, and Cleeve in the loose and Gooch in the line-out have been very useful. After the promotion of Laing, the place-kicking was very unreliable.

Results :—

Sat., Oct. 1.	v. WELLINGBOROUGH G.S. (Home).	Lost	6—25
Wed., Oct. 5.	v. BLOXHAM SCHOOL 1ST XV (Away).	Drawn	8—8
Sat., Oct. 15.	v. BEDFORD SCHOOL (Away).	Lost	6—18
Wed., Oct. 26.	v. OUNDLE SCHOOL (Home).	Lost	5—11
Sat., Oct. 29.	v. ST. EDWARD'S, OXFORD (Home).	Won	9—6
Wed., Nov. 2.	v. RADLEY COLLEGE (Home).	Lost	6—8
Sat., Nov. 5.	v. ROYAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL, HIGH WYCOMBE (Home).	Lost	3—6
Wed., Nov. 9.	v. R.A.F., HALTON (Home).	Won	8—3
Sat., Nov. 12.	v. HARROW (Home).	Won	12—10
Wed., Nov. 16.	v. NORTHAMPTON G.S. 1ST XV. (Away).	Lost	8—13
Wed., Nov. 23.	v. BERKHAMSTED (Away).	Won	3—0
Sat., Nov. 26.	v. BUCKINGHAM (Home).	Lost	0—8
Sat., Dec. 3.	v. OLD OXFORD CITIZENS (Away).	Lost	3—6

THE THIRD FIFTEEN

The Third Fifteen has suffered unusually heavily this term from injuries in its own ranks and in the 1st and 2nd XV's, particularly in the back division; the early disappearance of Proctor and Burrows-Watson robbed the side of a plucky, clever fly-half and a sound full-back, neither of whom has been really satisfactorily replaced. The shortage of backs has indeed been such that forwards have had to be turned into three-quarters, with necessarily mixed results, and the three-quarter line has never been the same long enough to achieve much unity or mutual understanding. Despite this the backs have played well on occasions and their handling and passing have been pleasant to watch; Lush, eventually fetching up as fly-half, has had the nimbleness to make up for Allen's rather late service from the scrum, and though indifferent in defence, as indeed have been all the other backs, has done good work both individually and in originating movements. Of the other backs only W. G. Rees, fast but not reliable, has played throughout the season; B. C. Harris, an ex-forward and not very skilful, has had the weight and speed to make a dangerous winger. The forwards have been almost as shifting a quantity; Rossiter, too much of an individualist at times, has captained the side well and never succumbed to the defeatism which has in some games swept over the others; Stern, until transferred late in the season to the 2nd, was a



[N. A. Gray (C)]

Ab — Now that you put it that way, Gentlemen, perhaps.....

Cartoon by]

hard-working forward in loose and tight scrums, and Kitching and Ruhemann would have been welcome additions earlier in the term. In general the forwards have played with dash and enterprise when probable victory has given them confidence; their performance against stronger sides has hardly been worthy of the same team. The season has in fact been on the whole rather poor; there was some good attacking Rugger in the games against Bloxham, Towcester G.S. and Berkhamsted, but the Bedford game, usually a close and spirited needle match, showed how easily the team could be discouraged by even moderate opposition.

Results :—

Wed., Oct. 5. v. BLOXHAM 2ND XV. (Home).	Won	28—8
Wed., Oct. 12. v. MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL, OXFORD (Home).	Lost	0—39
Wed., Oct. 19. v. KETTERING G.S. 1ST XV. (Home).	Lost	3—15
Sat., Oct. 29. v. ST. EDWARD'S (Away).	Lost	0—8
Wed., Nov. 2. v. RADLEY (Home).	Won	14—8
Sat., Nov. 5. v. ROYAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL, HIGH WYCOMBE (Home).	Won	12—5
Sat., Nov. 12. v. HARROW (Home).	Won	16—6
Wed., Nov. 16. v. BERKHAMSTED (Home).	Won	35—3
Sat., Nov. 19. v. BEDFORD (Away).	Lost	0—20
Wed., Nov. 23. v. TOWCESTER G.S.	Won	27—11
Sat., Nov. 26. v. NORTHAMPTON G.S. (Home).	Won	3—0

#### THE FOURTH FIFTEEN

On the Fourth Fifteen injuries have naturally had an even more disastrous effect than on the Third; in practice games many of the forwards have as usual been little inferior to the Thirds, but behind the scrum there has been for the most part such a lack of talent and determination that defeat has been almost inevitable, and in each of its three matches the team has been severely trounced.

Results :—

Sat., Oct. 8. v. BANBURY G.S. (Away).	Lost	0—28
Sat., Nov. 5. v. BEDFORD (Home).	Lost	0—17
Sat., Nov. 12. v. OUNDLE. (Home).	Lost	5—35

#### THE COLTS' FIFTEEN

The Colts have had a particularly good season, and up to the time of writing have won seven of the nine games played.

In E. B. J. Williams they had a first class captain who contributed greatly to the spirit of the side, which was a major factor in the team's success. He was fortunate to have J. P. G. Goldfinger, another old 'stocking' to lead the backs. There were remarkably few injuries throughout the term and as a result of this the side has combined well. Indeed, the outstanding feature of their play has been the backing up of the whole team. The tackling, after a very shaky start, due probably to the hard grounds, improved; but one would still like to see opponents come down with a greater thump.

The real strength of the side was at forward where the Captain was a great inspiration both in the tight and in the loose. The set scrumming was first-class and in no game were they beaten for the ball, not even against the gigantic pack at Oundle. The loose scrumming improved as the term went on and the value of real honest pushing in the loose was amply demonstrated at Harrow where they swept the rather elderly looking Harrovians off their feet in that memorable second half. The line-out play could have been much better and only H. J. Gray came up to the Stowe standard. The others were all capable of jumping but seemed weighed down by very heavy boots. The covering and backing-up were first rate with the back row, J. A. McConnell, A. W. Fraser and P. Burgess outstanding. Of the others not yet mentioned, J. R. M. Thompson, P. Morris and A. J. P. Campbell were noticed for their solid scrummaging throughout the term.

The backs as a whole were good, but lacked thrust at the key position—fly-half. Two players, P. G. Harris and P. J. Middleton, were tried but the former gained the position because of his superior handling. His partner, M. J. R. Bannister, was a tower of strength and his defensive kicking was a great asset to the side. The cleverness of J. P. G. Goldfinger and the thrust of M. L. Henderson provided many chances for their wings, R. F. Butlin and C. J. S. Cullum. Both of these players ran well but the latter under-estimates his speed and should go harder for the corner flag.

The experiment of playing N. A. Gray at full-back was a great success and with normal progress he should develop into a first-class player.

Both defeats were in much closer games than the scores suggest. The result at Radley was extraordinary, for although Stowe had eighty per cent of the game they lost by twelve points to nil. At Oundle both sides had an equal share of the play, but the home side made better use of their opportunities.

Team :—N. A. Gray (C); R. F. Butlin (G), M. L. Henderson (W), J. P. G. Goldfinger (S), C. J. S. Cullum (B); P. G. Harris (S), M. J. R. Bannister (W); P. L. Morris (C), E. B. J. Williams (T), J. R. M. Thompson (S), H. J. Gray (W), A. J. P. Campbell (C), J. A. McConnell (T), A. W. Fraser (C), P. Burgess (S).

Results :—

Wed., Oct. 5. v. MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL, BRACKLEY (Away).	Won	34—9
Sat., Oct. 15. v. BEDFORD (Home).	Won	8—3
Wed., Oct. 19. v. BEDFORD MODERN (Home).	Won	25—5
Sat., Oct. 29. v. ST. EDWARD'S, OXFORD (Home).	Won	21—0
Wed., Nov. 2. v. RADLEY (Away).	Lost	0—12
Tues., Nov. 8. v. OUNDLE (Away).	Lost	3—14
Sat., Nov. 12. v. HARROW (Away).	Won	8—0
Sat., Nov. 19. v. RUGBY (Home).	Won	11—5
Wed., Nov. 23. v. DOUAI (Home).	Won	12—0

#### THE JUNIOR COLTS' FIFTEEN

Apart from being a satisfactory season, it has also been a most interesting one. We started the term with an experimental side and we soon discovered our strength and our weakness. Our strength was in our forwards, but this was offset by disconcerting gaps on our wings. When we had succeeded in blocking up these holes, the side got together, improved beyond recognition, and with steady determination welded itself into a most successful combination.

All through the term our forwards have succeeded in dominating the game, with one solitary exception—the match against Oundle. Even against Bedford, when our wings failed to cope with their opposite numbers, the pack maintained its ascendancy till the end of the game, only to have the mortifying experience of having battled to no avail. All its members have played with dash, resolution and abandon. Liveliness and keen marking have made up for lack of weight and many spirited and convincing displays have been the result. It is not easy to pick out individuals under such circumstances and it must suffice to name the nine forwards who served us most efficiently. With T. R. H. Lewis (B) as the leader, they were: T. M. Molossi (G), M. C. G. Killingbeck (B), E. S. M. Cameron (C), R. J. W. Utley (C), M. D. Beck (W), W. F. Tremayne (C), M. Davis (T) and H. D. E. Woods (S). All of them deserve the highest praise for their whole-hearted efforts.

At the base of the scrum, we are well-served by A. S. R. Villar (C). A robust and sturdy player with an eye for an opening, he frequently outplayed his opposing scrum half, and sent out a steady stream of passes to S. F. N. Waley (W) who figured at fly-half. The latter, although slow, was reliable and took the ball well, even if he did not take it at the requisite speed. His kicking was always good.

The outstanding player in the threequarter line was the Captain, J. R. G. Harding (C). As a centre, he possessed heaps of pluck and resolution for one so small, and was always seeking to penetrate the enemy's defences with constant dummies and feints. When he has eradicated his tendency to cut away from the rest of the 'threes' in attack, he will be an asset to any team in his own age-group.

Our other centre, M. Grieve (S), was also a distinct success, in spite of his size. Like Harding, he possesses a useful dummy and knows when to cut through. He seems a very promising player and obviously knows the game. R. H. Lloyd (C) on the right wing has been a most determined runner and has now overcome his hesitancy to go all out. His try against Rugby when he was 'airborne' for four or five yards was a most spectacular affair.

On the other wing, after one or two unhappy experiences, we ended up with J. M. Briers (S) who proved to be the solution of a very worrying problem. Although not fast, he went hard and also added that certainty in defence which had been so badly lacking in his predecessors' play. And lastly, we come to the full-back. D. G. du B. Dew (C) played pluckily here, but is still rather slow in his approach to the ball, while his kicking has not improved so speedily as we hoped.

In conclusion be it said, that if this side plays as hard next year, it will need a very good team to defeat it.

#### Results :—

Sat., Oct. 8. v. BANBURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL (Away).	Won	39—3
Wed., Oct. 12. v. MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL, BRACKLEY (Away).	Won	15—11
Sat., Oct. 15. v. BEDFORD SCHOOL (Away).	Lost	3—18
Wed., Oct. 19. v. BLOXHAM SCHOOL (Home).	Won	26—3
Wed., Oct. 26. v. OUNDLE SCHOOL (Home).	Lost	3—13
Sat., Oct. 29. v. ST. EDWARD'S SCHOOL, OXFORD (Away).	Won	6—0
Wed., Nov. 2. v. RADLEY COLLEGE (Home).	Won	6—0
Wed., Nov. 9. v. MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL, BRACKLEY (Home).	Won	21—0
Sat., Nov. 19. v. RUGBY SCHOOL (Home).	Won	17—6
Wed., Nov. 23. v. BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL (Away).	Won	6—3

#### UNDER 14

This season's Under 14 has more than maintained the reputation of its predecessors and has emerged unbeaten from seven matches. It has been a large side compared with previous years and the scrum has averaged over nine stones per man, but it has not relied on weight alone to win its games, and on the two occasions when it encountered teams of similar size it won by superior skill.

The team's record of 162 points against 19 was earned mainly in matches against small schools, but it is to the credit of the latter that in no case was a runaway victory permitted, not even when, as at Bloxham, the ball was heeled only once by the home team's scrum. But the real test was provided by old rivals, who came with unbeaten teams—Radley, whose last defeat was at Stowe's hands two years ago, and Bedford, who had kept the same side intact for three years without a single reverse. The fact that both these matches were played within three days of each other redounds even more to the credit of the team, which defeated Radley by two goals and a penalty goal to a penalty goal, and Bedford by a goal and a try to a penalty.

The success of the side was due mainly to three factors—to quick heeling from the loose scrums, to the resource of the backs, and to the exceptionally good covering in defence. In C. W. J. Butler (T) and J. D. Hartland-Swann (B) it possessed two centres of unusual penetrating power, the one aggressive, the other evasive. The wings, C. J. Garratt (C) and P. G. Fleury (W) were dangerous, but both will need greater speed to be really first-class. The halves, J. C. Witham (T) and W. A. Jenkyn-Jones (C) combined brilliantly and were very sure with their passing. Finally in the pack, J. D. Hill (C) showed great promise as captain and leader and was strongly supported by D. V. Fisher (C) and I. C. McLellan (C), by B. S. Wessely (C) and H. W. Bannister (W) in the second row, and by B. R. Waddilove (S), who always produced something out of the hat. D. Provan (C) outhooked all his opponents and laid the foundations of every victory, and late in the day G. M. Corbett (T) discovered himself as a full-back and completed a very useful side.

Throughout the season one has felt that this team had something in hand. May it prove to be so in the stiffer battles which lie ahead.

#### Results :—

Wed., Oct. 12. v. MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL, BRACKLEY (Away).	Won	32—0
Sat., Oct. 22. v. MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL, OXFORD (Home).	Won	23—3
Sat., Oct. 29. "A" XV. v. DRAGONS SCHOOL, OXFORD (Away).	Won	13—8
Wed., Nov. 2. v. RADLEY COLLEGE (Home).	Won	13—3
Sat., Nov. 5. v. BEDFORD SCHOOL (Home).	Won	8—3
Sat., Nov. 12. v. BLOXHAM (Away).	Won	38—0
Wed., Nov. 16. v. MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL, BRACKLEY (Home).	Won	35—0

## SQUASH

Although this term's results have not been as spectacular as last year, the standard of squash, with the exception of the Harrow match, has been equally high. In many matches the full team has been unable to play. The Buccaneers and Jesters sent down two very strong sides from which the team gained useful experience.

N. R. Cunningham-Reid (G) has been ill for most of the term but, although not reaching his last year's standard, played very well against Gerald Pawle, who came down for the Buccaneers. R. Lush (C) has played some of the best squash, but unfortunately had an off day against Harrow. R. C. Page (C) has played well on occasions but sometimes is apt to lose an advantage, which lost us the Wimbledon and Tring matches. J. Broom Smith (C) has improved very much in stamina and has often come up from behind to win matches. After this there were four of much the same standard, when playing one another, but P. G. Harris (G), the best stroke player, proved to be superior to the others in match play.

Considering that four of the team had been playing last year when Harrow were beaten 5-0, this year's result was a disappointment. The standard of squash in this match was surprisingly low, with the exception of the fifth string match where P. G. Harris was just beaten in the final game; Harrow won the match by superior service. Broom Smith made a great recovery from being two games down and 1-8 in the third to win 3-2. Page played very well and easily beat his opponent. Cunningham-Reid seemed to have his game well in hand when he was leading 2-0, but against a persistent opponent he failed to press home his advantage. At the start of the final match it looked as if Lush had the measure of his opponent, but then he lost his touch and, with the score at 2 games all, both players hit the ball hard and high across the court, and not unnaturally the Harrow second string, a rackets player, just won.

Results :—

Sunday, October 9th v. HENLEY. Home. Won 4-1 (Cunningham-Reid 3-2; Lush 3-0; Page 3-1; P. G. Harris 1-3; Broom Smith 3-0).

Saturday, October 15th v. WIMBLEDON. Away. Lost 2-4 (Lush 3-0; Page 2-3; Broom Smith 1-3; J. R. J. Burnham (T) 3-2; M. Deeley (B) 0-3; B. C. Harris (C) 1-3.)

Saturday, October 22nd v. OLD PAULINES. Away. Won 4-1 (Lush 3-0; Page 3-0; Broom Smith 3-0; Burnham 2-3; P. G. Harris 3-0).

Sunday, October 23rd v. BUCCANEERS. Home. Lost 2-3 (Cunningham-Reid 1-3; Lush 1-3; Page 3-0; Broom Smith 3-1; Burnham 2-3).

Wednesday, October 26th v. KING'S COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE. Home. Won 3-2. (Lush 3-0; Page 3-1; Broom Smith 3-2; P. G. Harris 1-3; T. D. Whitson (T) 2-3).

Sunday, November 6th v. THE JESTERS. Home. Lost 1-4 (Lush 0-3; Page 1-3; Broom Smith 3-2; M. A. R. Freeman (T) 0-3; P. G. Harris 2-3).

Tuesday, November 22nd v. HARROW. Home. Lost 2-3 (Cunningham-Reid 2-3; Lush 2-3; Page 3-1; Broom Smith 3-2; P. G. Harris 2-3).

Saturday, November 26th v. TRING. Away. Lost 2-3 (Page 2-3; Broom Smith 3-2; Whitson 0-3; D. M. Vance (G) 1-3; J. A. Y. French (C) 3-2).

School Squash Colours have been awarded to J. Broom Smith.

## TENNIS

The Tennis VI were decidedly unlucky in having to play the final of the Glanvill Cup competition and the whole of the competition for the Youll Cup ("Wimbledon Week") without their No. 1 player, N. R. Cunningham-Reid (G), who was down with mumps.

The Glanvill Cup was lost at Hurlingham on July 25th, to King's College School, Wimbledon. We actually beat K.C.S. by one game (even games are added up in this competition), but we dropped one more set than they did against the other finalists—Sherborne and Stockport Grammar School. The standard of play was not so high as usual (probably owing to the method of scoring) and it was sometimes hard to believe, when watching Stowe, that a VI which had hitherto played excellent tennis, could, in the final, lose to opponents whom they would normally have beaten quite easily.

At Wimbledon (July 26th—29th), Stowe played well to reach the final for the second year running. Once again the opponents were Eton, and once again Eton won a really gruelling final, but only by the narrowest of margins. At one stage we led by two matches to one, and were 5-3 up (with G. W. Scott (C) to serve) in the final set of the remaining doubles match; but we lost the set 10-12, a set which left players and spectators alike very weak, and so Eton squared the match. Scott was by then limping (having pulled a muscle in the semi-final) and J. W. A. Downing (T) therefore played the deciding single against A. W. Kimpton and was beaten 5-7, 4-6, after putting up a very good fight.

The VI maintained a high standard throughout Wimbledon Week, and J. P. D. Heyward (C), who because of Cunningham-Reid's absence was called in at the last moment to play in the second pair with R. C. Page (C), did remarkably well against more experienced opponents and well deserved the Colours awarded to him by Downing after the match.

The Mornington Singles was won by G. W. Scott (C) after a good match against W. Lloyd (C).

The Open Doubles final was won by R. C. Page (C) and J. P. D. Heyward (C) who, rather surprisingly, outplayed Scott and Lloyd.

## FENCING

The main event of the term was the foil and sabre match against Rugby on October 22nd. This was our first School match for two years and although it was lost by 11-14, the result was quite encouraging. The team consisted of C. P. R. Litchford (C) (Capt.), J. M. N. Newton (C) (Hon. Secretary), D. A. R. Murray Brown (C) and C. J. Cleugh (C). Murray Brown won 2 foil and 3 sabre, Newton 1 foil and 3 sabre, and Litchford 1 foil and 1 sabre.

The President this term was Major W. L. McElwee, who kindly arranged for an Army coach to visit Stowe for a week. Later in the term there will be a match against R.A.F., Halton.

J.M.N.N.

## BOOK REVIEW

"SHADOWS IN THE SUN,"

by DR. S. J. L. TAYLOR, M.P. (C, 1927). (*Harrap*, 15/-.)

Books on tropical medicine I find embarrassing. As a doctor one knows so little about the subject in this country. I suppose that the remedying of this defect was one of the advantages of being in the Forces East of Suez, and it makes a book such as this a pleasure to read. Stephen Taylor has ranged far and wide over the tropics to select his material, and he does show what has been done to overcome disease there and the amount of work that remains. In Britain we vaguely think of malaria as an unpleasant condition that people abroad suffer from, little realising that the death rate from it alone is as great as the death rate in Europe and America from all causes put together—old age, accident and disease. In fact, supposing malaria were to be conquered completely in Africa, in India and in the Far East, a further population problem would arise, for malaria is one of the natural solutions of the vast birth rate there. The place of malaria as a cause of death would be taken by yet more starvation, and already lack of food is responsible for enough deaths. Such a disease has to be considered sociologically as well as medically; therefore it is no use removing one cause of ill-health and death, if it is immediately to be replaced by another. Stephen Taylor stresses the importance of this necessary parallelism of social and medical services in his account of the malaria epidemic in Ceylon and in the chapter on yaws.

This is not just a book for medical folk. It is enjoyable for anyone with a desire to fill the gaps in his knowledge, if any such Stoic there be, and especially for those with an interest in the future of tropical countries. Of the side effects of the recent war in the Far East one has been the increased curiosity about these lands on the part of people who, but for the war, would never have gone there; and another is the increase in the knowledge of their diseases, for control of them was essential in order to defeat the enemy. Few people know that in the final advance down Burma Lord Mountbatten deliberately chose the most malarious valley because we had malaria under control and the Japanese had not.

The book is pleasantly printed and has good pictures. It is a thought too statistical, so that one is inevitably reminded of the classification of untruths into the three grades. The diagrams are attractively coloured, but have an annoying habit of being in irrelevant parts of the book. These are small points, however, and the sum total is much to the credit of Stephen Taylor.

J.R. (T, 1938).

The following other books by Old Stoics have recently been published:—

"THE WORLD'S ROOM," Collected Poems of LAURENCE WHISTLER  
(G, 1930), *Heinemann*, 15/-.

"ON A DARK NIGHT," by ANTHONY WEST (T, 1931),  
*Eyre and Spottiswood*, 10/6.

"LORD HIGHPORT DROPPED AT DAWN," by ROWLAND WINN  
(T, 1933), *Cassell*, 8/6.

"THE IMPOSSIBLE SHORE," by ROBERT KEE (G, 1937), *Eyre and Spottiswood*, 9/6.

It is hoped to publish reviews of some of these at a later date.

