

THE STOIC



Number Eighty-two

JULY 1950

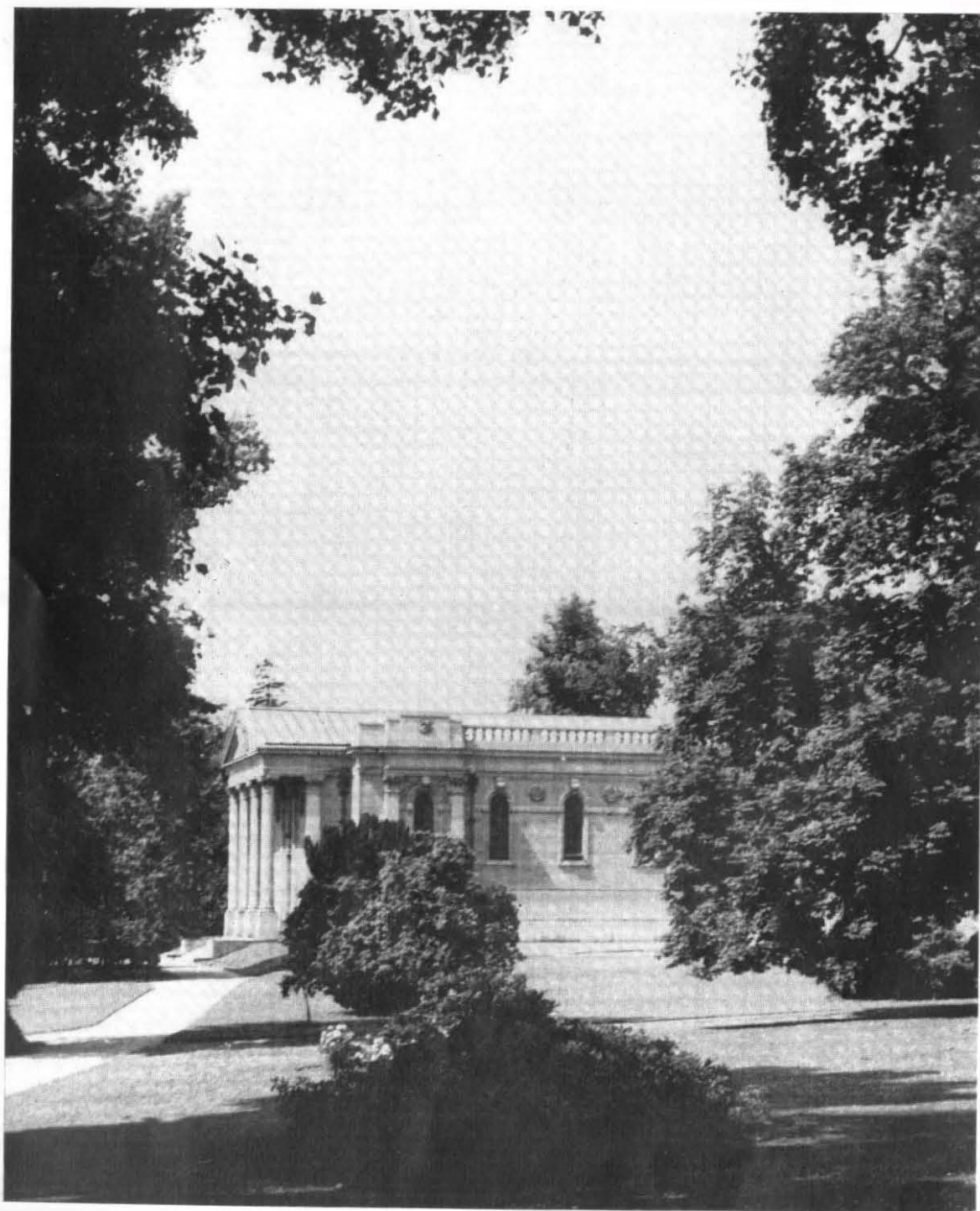


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THE CHAPEL

[P.G.D.

THE STOIC

VOL. XIV

JULY 1950

No. 3

A CAUCUS RACE

“EVERYBODY has won, and all must be given prizes.” Thus spake the Dodo ; but the time has now come (a little earlier than readers will have expected, perhaps) to talk of other things : not of cabbages nor of Kings, but of the shameful truth that absolute authority has slipped from the editorial chair. There exists a Yet Higher Authority who restricts both our topic and our style. With reference to the first of these he has informed us that in the past controversial issues have not always been avoided, and has hinted darkly that upon our success in eliminating them this time depends our tenure of office. In fairness, we admit that if we sacrifice interest for respectability it is not impossible to eschew controversy—that polite word for the multi-tongued fiend called Scandal. But the limitations imposed on our style are more exacting : our standard has to be between that of a good “Punch” article (note the qualification) and a Fourth Leader of “The Times” (no qualification). Yet our modesty is not such that we are induced to lay down our pen ; and in an attempt to comply we have begun with a quotation from “Alice in Wonderland”. All that remains is to relate it to the subject, and, of course, to find a subject to which to relate it.

Possibly the most memorable event of the term has been the School Dance. Though we did not personally attend this function, we occupied the best vantage-point that was, for non-combatants, both legal and accessible. By this means we obtained a first-class view of the back of the drummer, and by looking past his right ear we could discern some shapes which were showing a complete mastery of their dangerous task—dangerous, we hasten to add, only because of the precipitous drop at the edge of the floor. As to who actually *won* the whole affair we are less certain—some might deny that there was ever any question of winning,

and certainly no prizes were given—but on one occasion our close friend the drummer undoubtedly gained a lead of a short crotchet over the Hokey-Cokeysters. From this our thoughts turn easily to the House Instrumental Competitions, in which the same rapidity and similar synchronisation were observable; nor has racing of a more intentional kind been absent from our activities, for we have witnessed belated and intensive practice for the Sports. This has been relegated from last term to this term by the rugger and hockey players, and from the North Front to the Bourbon by the cricket players.

That is all the strictly local racing which we have space to describe, but we cannot end without a mention of the Grand Prix d'Europe at Silverstone in the early part of the term. This was far and away the fastest and most furious racing to have disturbed our tranquil surroundings. What is more, all (all the Alfa Romeos, anyhow) were given prizes; and if you look back to the beginning you will find out what it all has to do with the Dodo.

NIGHT

The sun has set, and the moon is veiled with cloud :
 The lump of the world still turns,
 Coldly climbing the edge of the Universe.
 Passed on has the beam of the sun
 Till it flashes again on this island, this speck :
 And after day, once more will come the darkness.
 By night the waters engulf us and we drown ;
 By day we float on floods of exaltation,
 Watching the magic patchwork of the sky :
 But now it is dark,
 And we pray, to the Unknown God,
 Only that the sun may raise the waters in rainbows,
 That the wind may unveil the moon.

Thus we pray,
 And know not what else we may ask.

C.F.G.

STOICA

School Officials—Summer Term, 1950.

Prefects :—P. G. Shinner (B), Head of the School ; G. T. Laing (B), Second Prefect and Prefect of Gymnasium ; D. S. Duckworth (G), Prefect of Chapel ; R. J. Ruhemann (O), Prefect of Library ; F. R. G. Lowe (G) ; W. J. Grice (T) ; H. W. Gray (W) ; P. M. Rossiter (C) ; C. C. Malden (G) ; D. K. Helm (G) ; G. R. T. Sorley (C).

Cricket :—Captain, H. J. Lloyd (T) ; Secretary, C. H. Lezard (C).

Lawn Tennis :—Captain, J. R. J. Burnham (T) ; Secretary, J. Broom Smith (C).

Athletics :—Captain, P. G. Shinner (B).

Swimming :—Captain, J. D. F. Lockhart (C) ; Secretary, P. G. Shinner (B).

The following visitors have preached in Chapel this term :—Sunday, May 14th, The Lord Bishop of Oxford ; Sunday, May 21st, T. E. B. Howarth, Esq. ; Sunday, May 28th, Father Stephen Lambert, S.S.F. ; Sunday, June 4th, The Rev. Canon Bonhote ; Sunday, June 25th, The Venerable C. H. Ritchie, Archdeacon of Northumberland and Chaplain to H.M. the King ; Sunday, July 9th, The Rev. C. Fernihough, Vicar of Stowe.

Chapel Collections have been as follows :—March 19th, for the Pineapple, £20 os. od. ; May 14th, for The Crippled Children Fund, £26 os. od. ; May 28th, for the Pineapple, £22 14s. 8d. ; July 2nd, for St. Dunstan's, £34 7s. 6d.

The Exeat was from Friday, June 16th, to Monday, June 19th, both days included.

The Oriel Players gave two performances of "Henry the Fifth" in the Gymnasium on Friday, June 23rd.

Old Stoic Day was on Saturday, July 1st. The usual cricket and tennis matches were played. About 150 Old Stoics were present.

In the October Examination for Naval Cadetships, D. N. T. Murray (G) passed first into the Executive Branch.

Recent results in Medical Examinations have been as follows:—
Cambridge First M.B.:—Pt. I, A. J. P. Campbell (C); Pt. II, P. J. Harkness (T), D. M. Makins (C), J. C. M. Shepherd (T); Pts. II and IV, M. A. R. Freeman (T); Pts. III and IV, J. D. G. Sloss (C), P. A. Cullum (C).
Oxford Preliminary:—Pt. I, R. Lush (C), J. D. F. Lockhart (C); Pts. I and III, D. P. Wells (C).

The Basil Williamson Memorial Prize has been awarded to P. G. Shinner (B), and the Bruxner-Randall Memorial Prize to T. Knight (B).

Representative Colours were awarded in March as follows:—

For Hockey:—R. D. Miskin (T), G. R. T. Sorley (C), P. D. Stern (W), W. J. Grice (T).

For Cross-Country:—O. T. Wall (C), M. V. K. Friend (T), D. K. Helm (G), T. E. B. Sopwith (G).

For Squash:—P. G. Harris (G), T. D. Whitson (T), B. C. Harris (C).

For Golf:—P. H. Molloy (C), D. J. H. Birch (C), H. J. Lloyd (T).

School Cricket Colours have been awarded as follows:—

1st XI:—H. R. V. Whitcombe (B), re-awarded; P. H. Molloy (C), P. G. Harris (G), B. C. Harris (C), W. J. Grice (T), R. Lush (C), C. N. H. Hordern (W), C. C. Malden (G), H. R. Herrington (C).

2nd XI:—T. D. Whitson (T), W. D. M. Arnott (W), M. J. Fenwick (C), S. Pendle (G), A. W. Fraser (C), M. J. R. Bannister (W), W. M. Patterson (B), D. C. F. Kimber (B), R. F. Butlin (G).

3rd XI:—J. N. Vinen (W), J. M. Hancox (G), R. Brazil (C), R. Cobham (G), B. J. Calvert (G), C. R. S. Stuart (C), W. D. Wright (W), R. F. Proctor (G), P. M. Salt (G), N. Cleeve (B).

Colts' Caps:—P. L. Morris (C), A. J. Beerbohm (C), D. M. Vance (G), R. C. Withinshaw (C), P. O. S. Marden (G).

School Colours for Lawn Tennis have been awarded to J. R. J. Burnham (T), J. M. Lunn (C), J. S. Yates (C), J. Broom Smith (C).

School Colours for Swimming have been awarded to C. W. Bardeen (C).

IN MEMORIAM

MICHAEL BARNARD LE POER TRENCH

Died as the result of a flying accident on Sunday, April 16th.

Michael Le Poer Trench came to Chatham in September 1941 and left in December 1945. In the four years he was here he came right to the front as a natural leader of men. He was Captain of School Swimming and Secretary of the Fifteen. His enthusiasm for any game he played was quiet but infectiously confident off the field, and blazed into a flame in action. It was clear that he might do very well in the R.A.F., and it gave pleasure, but caused no surprise, to his many friends at Stowe to learn that he had come to the very top at Cranwell, where he had the honour of a seat at the side of H.M. the King on the occasion of the presentation of the Colours in 1949. Of his subsequent career with the 247 Squadron at Odiham, Hants, his Commanding Officer wrote: "He maintained his good start at Cranwell in his squadron here, and for a junior officer his quality was outstanding."

One remembers Michael on his last visit to Stowe, a little quieter, somewhat less exuberant, but clearly a man who had found himself, a first-class officer in the making. His death on the threshold of a most promising career is indeed a tragedy, but in his short life he had given more generously and achieved more gloriously than many who have been granted in abundance the years denied to him.

A.M.

ANNUAL COMPETITION PRIZES 1949-50

BASIL AIMERS PRIZE FOR READING :	J. M. N. Newton (C)
HAYWARD PRIZE FOR READING :	A. M. Gooch (B)
EDWARD HARDING MEMORIAL PRIZE FOR READING (Junior) :	K. A. Henderson (C)
PETERS BONE ENGLISH PRIZE :	S. A. M. Adshead (B)
BRYAN HENSHAW PRIZES FOR ENGLISH SPEECH :	
<i>Senior</i> :	J. R. J. Burnham (T)
<i>Junior</i> :	Not awarded
ROBERT BARBOUR PRIZE FOR SCRIPTURE :	
	S. A. M. Adshead (B) and G. P. H. Chorley (G)
CHARLES LOUDON PRIZE FOR GREEK (Translation) :	
	M. J. Nightingale (G)
QUENTIN BERTRAM PRIZE FOR LATIN (Prose) :	R. J. Ruhemann (C)
ANTHONY PEARCE PRIZE FOR LATIN ORATION :	J. N. Vinen (W)
JOHN WEBSTER MEMORIAL PRIZE FOR MODERN LANGUAGES :	
	J. I. Holt (C)
J. G. RIESS PRIZE FOR MODERN LANGUAGES :	P. R. Cutforth (G)
SYRETT HISTORY PRIZE :	S. N. L. Chaltōn (B)
WALLACE PRIZE FOR GEOGRAPHY :	Not awarded
PETER BATES PRIZE FOR GEOGRAPHY (Middle School) :—for 1949 :	
	R. J. R. Hartley (C)
HUMPHREY FOSTER PRIZE FOR PHYSICS :	Not yet decided
W. B. HARDS PRIZE FOR CHEMISTRY :	Not yet decided
HAYWARD PRIZE FOR CHEMISTRY :	Not Yet decided
H. M. EVANS PRIZE FOR BIOLOGY :	D. P. Wells (C)
STEWART PRIZE FOR MATHEMATICS :	Not awarded
PEARMAN SMITH PRIZE FOR MATHEMATICS (Middle School) :	
	B. S. WESSELY (G)
JAMES MAYNE PRIZE FOR ECONOMICS :	Not awarded

THE SCHOOL DANCE

On the evening of June 15th a School Dance was held for the first time since the beginning of the war. A sprung floor was laid in Assembly, which had very kindly been decorated by Miss Ridley and some house matrons with flowers generously given by certain members of the staff. Subdued lighting was installed in the alcoves and the dome was floodlit. Many gaily-coloured clusters of balloons were hung across Assembly and were let down by an ingenious contrivance. Dick Wise and his band were engaged and they proved themselves worthy by continuous and unflagging playing, which may have been encouraged by the effect of liberal refreshments. During the interval Mr. Stephan nobly consented to entertain us at the piano, but while he was playing the balloons were inadvertently let down, causing chaos on the floor. Mr. Stephan was heralded with great enthusiasm, and it was with regret that we saw him depart. By this time the bar and buffet had opened, and the party was beginning to warm up. Mr. Harris, of the Bell Inn, supplied a wonderful variety of edibles, and his wine-cup had an increasing effect as the evening wore on.

Because the dance was held on a Thursday and Stowe is so awkward a place to reach, it was found that many boys were unable to get partners, and it was necessary to invite a number of "blind dates". The Headmaster kindly arranged this with the Headmistress of a branch of the Monkey Club at Bicester, who sent over a busload of attractive and entertaining young ladies. Soon after their arrival, great amusement was caused by the sight of a white tuxedo wandering towards the lakes.

Throughout the preparatory organisation the Headmaster and the Bursar gave invaluable help and advice, as did many of the masters. The problem of lodging the visitors was successfully overcome by the willing co-operation of the staff, who consented to having their houses invaded.

The dance, which was attended by approximately 100 couples, lasted from 8.30 to 1.0, and there were many who wished that it could have gone on longer. The spirits of the dancers ran so high that even the most shy and recluse couples joined even the most energetic dances, despite the fact that these were delayed until late in the evening. The dance was universally acclaimed a great success; and may it be the fore-runner of similar occasions in future years.

P.G.S.
G.T.L.

OLIM ALUMNI

The yacht race for the Itchenor Gallon, for which forty-two boats competed on July 2nd, was won by M. J. ELLISON (T, 1935) in his yacht "Thor".

J. D. A. LANGLEY (G, 1936) won the English Amateur Golf Championship at Deal in April. It will be remembered that he reached the Final on his only previous appearance in this Championship, a notable occasion in 1936 when he was still a member of the School.

DR. J. C. E. PESHALL (B, 1938) has been appointed Medical Officer of R.R.S. "Discovery II", on a two-year commission to the Antarctic.

G. P. LLOYD (B, 1944) represented Oxford and Cambridge in the Athletic Match against Princeton and Cornell at the White City on July 1st. He finished third in the Quarter Mile.

BIRTHS

To the wife of R. A. BARNES (G, 1938) a son, on June 3rd, 1949; to the wife of C. M. ARGLES (C, 1940) twin sons, on February 5th; to the wife of C. CORNFORD (G, 1931) a son, on February 26th; to the wife of R. LAW (B, 1936) a daughter, on March 18th; to the wife of LIEUTENANT-COLONEL F. A. H. LING, D.S.O. (B, 1933) twin daughters, on March 22nd (in U.S.A.); to the wife of B. C. GADNEY (G, 1928) a son, on March 26th; to the wife of MAJOR C. A. W. DAWES, M.C. (B, 1938) a daughter, on March 29th; to the wife of CAPTAIN B. N. L. FLETCHER (C, 1941) a daughter, on April 3rd; to the wife of J. N. DIXEY (B, 1939) a daughter, on April 4th; to the wife of H. FORBES (T, 1933) a daughter, on April 4th; to the wife of G. J. A. EVANS (C, 1926) a son, on April 5th.

To the wife of CAPTAIN W. W. CHEYNE, M.B.E. (C, 1938) a son, on April 13th; to the wife of J. H. BOURNE (C, 1935) a son, on April 15th (in Southern Rhodesia); to the wife of LIEUTENANT T. L. MARTIN, R.N. (ret.), D.S.C. (G, 1938) a daughter, on April 18th (in Kenya); to the wife of DR. J. ROCHE (T, 1938) a son, on April 20th; to the wife of E. LUXMOORE (B, 1933) a daughter, on April 23rd; to the wife of FLIGHT-LIEUTENANT R. E. W. HARLAND (C, 1938) a son, on April 24th; to the wife of the HON. D. C. GEDDES (T, 1934) a daughter, on April 26th (in Shanghai); to the wife of I. W. MACPHERSON (G, 1931) a daughter, on May 2nd; to the wife of CAPTAIN P. R. H. HASTINGS (T, 1939) a son, on May 2nd; to the wife of R. H. WIDDOWS (C, 1939) a son, on May 3rd.

To the wife of DR. D. M. BAKER (G, 1933) a daughter, on May 12th; to the wife of WING-COMMANDER H. K. DAWSON SHEPHERD, O.B.E. (T, 1930) a son, on May 22nd; to the wife of A. G. DELGADO (C, 1927) a daughter, on May 23rd; to the wife of B. A. J. C. GREGORY (G, 1938) a son, on June 1st; to the wife of H. F. CASSEL (C, 1933) a son, on June 7th; to the wife of B. J. R. MORETON (C, 1936) a son, on June 9th; to the wife of CAPTAIN P. F. GREENWELL, M.C. (G, 1938) a daughter, on June 11th; to the wife of D. M. LEA (C, 1931) a daughter, on June 28th; to the wife of B. N. I. MAUDE-ROXBY (B, 1935) a daughter, on June 29th.

To the wife of MAJOR G. W. THORNTON (B, 1933) a daughter, on June 29th; to the wife of N. WARD (C, 1938) a daughter, on July 2nd; to the wife of C. J. D. RENNY (G, 1928) a daughter, on July 3rd; to the wife of V. R. PARAVICINI (C, 1931) a daughter, on July 11th; to the wife of G. E. WILLIAMSON-NOBLE (T, 1941) a son, on July 13th; to the wife of M. V. NICHOLL (G, 1938) a son, on July 19th; to the wife of A. N. C. BRUCE (B, 1943) a daughter, on July 20th.

MARRIAGES

R. A. BARNES (G, 1938) to Mlle. Y. Hervé, on July 31st, 1948 (in France); D. A. O. DAVIES (T, 1941) to Miss B. Tarras-Wahlberg, on January 13th (in Singapore); A. S. WHEATLAND (G, 1941) to Miss B. E. Strange, on March 18th; R. A. P. TEMPLE, M.C. (T, 1930) to Mrs. O. P. Croom-Johnson, on March 25th; B. D. HENRY (C, 1937) to Miss P. J. Cohen, on March 30th (in Sydney); DR. J. C. E. PESHALL (B, 1938) to Miss P. M. Marshall, on April 6th; M. J. ELLISON (T, 1935) to Miss E. O. Hempson, on April 15th; J. D. F. PENROSE (W, 1937) to Miss A. R. Nicholson, on April 15th; A. A. D. MONTAGUE BROWNE (C, 1941) to Miss N. Arnold-Wallinger, on April 15th; R. P. P. SMYLY (B, 1925) to Miss J. Savile, on April 19th; J. A. WOOD (C, 1943) to Miss A. Burton, on April 20th.

G. V. L. HOLBECH (C, 1936) to Miss E. Harrison, on April 22nd; MAJOR R. H. W. S. HASTINGS, D.S.O., M.C. (T, 1935) to Mrs. J. S. Holbech, on May 25th; P. G. WORS-THORNE (G, 1941) to Mrs. C. Baynham, on June 7th; J. E. C. KENNON (G, 1943) to Miss A. Paton, on June 10th; D. C. LUNN-ROCKCLIFFE (C, 1942) to Miss E. V. Capron, on June 17th; N. G. ANNAN (T, 1935) to Miss G. Ullstein, on June 30th; P. C. HOLDEN (B, 1941) to Miss J. M. Fisher, on July 1st; M. L. GRAEME, M.B., B.Chir. (T, 1938) to Miss P. D. Shurly, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.P. on July 8th.

DEATHS

PILOT-OFFICER M. B. LEPOER TRENCH, R.A.F. (C, 1945), on April 16th, as the result of an air accident.

ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIPS 1950

The following awards have been made :—

1. P. R. CASWELL (C. F. C. Letts, Oakley Hall, Cirencester).]
2. W. A. McMULLEN (A. F. Darvall, The Wells House, Malvern Wells, Worcs.).
3. G. M. TETLOW (G. W. Cartwright, Tre-Arddur House School, Anglesey).
4. J. O. B. ROSEDALE (J. A. Olive, Rokeby School, The Downs, Wimbledon, S.W.19).
5. B. H. FINNIMORE (F. Serille Phillips, Nevill Holt, Market Harborough).
6. A. A. Y. RUDOLF (C. M. Smart, Arnold House School, Loudoun Road, London, N.W.8).
7. C. R. P. TYZACK (J. H. Leakey, Dulwich Preparatory School).

THE PINEAPPLE BALL

The Pineapple Ball will be held on Wednesday, 10th January, 1951, at Grosvenor House. This year it will be a Dinner Ball, and tickets (including Dinner) will be two guineas each.

Grosvenor House has been chosen because the ball room is far larger than at the Dorchester, where we reached capacity last January and had to disappoint very many people.

Tommy Kinsman and his band will play for us again, and Mr. H. Gordon Morison is Chairman of the Ball Committee. The Organiser is Miss Pamela Astley-Corbett (whose brother, an Old Stoic, was killed in the war) and both the Chairman and the Organiser were closely connected with the Ball held last January.

The usual application forms will be sent out to Old Stoics and to parents in the late autumn, but so many enquiries have already been received that we give the address of the Organiser, who will accept applications (accompanied by a cheque) at any time :—

THE HON. ORGANISER,
THE PINEAPPLE BALL,
9, THISTLE GROVE, S.W.10.

STOWE CLUB FOR BOYS

Tel. : PADDINGTON 5452.

423a, EDGWARE ROAD,
LONDON, W.2.
8th July, 1950.

To the Editor of *The Stoic*.

The Summer programme is now well under way.

The Senior and Junior Cricket teams are very keen and enthusiastic and the standard of play is higher than in the past few years owing mainly to the excellent coaching given by Mr. Bruce Grey. An innovation this year has been the awarding of caps.

The running, under the tuition of the Hon. M. S. Buckmaster (C, 1938), has improved considerably. For the first time for many years we entered a team of six boys for the London Federation of Boys' Clubs athletic competition. Unfortunately, owing to the very high standard of the competitors, our team did not reach the finals. The boys have also competed in several inter-Club matches. Mr. W. F. K. Goodliffe (W, 1947) has kindly provided the transport for the teams on several occasions.

The Paddington Sports were held this week and our entries represented all the sections of the Club, which was fourth in the final results. The under 14s did very well and were full of enthusiasm.

This session we have had visits from Field-Marshal Sir Claud Auchinleck (President of the L.F.B.C.) and from J. B. Booth (C, 1940), E. V. Hope (T, 1933) (who has kindly agreed to be the Club's medical advisor), J. M. Grice (G, 1933) and H. P. Ryland (G, 1929). The last two are now members of the London Committee.

Our annual camp will again be at Yaverland, Sandown, I.O.W., from 29th July to 12th August. Forty boys are going, many of whom are juniors and will be having their first under-canvas holiday. Any Stoic visiting the Island at that time who would like to call on us would be very welcome.

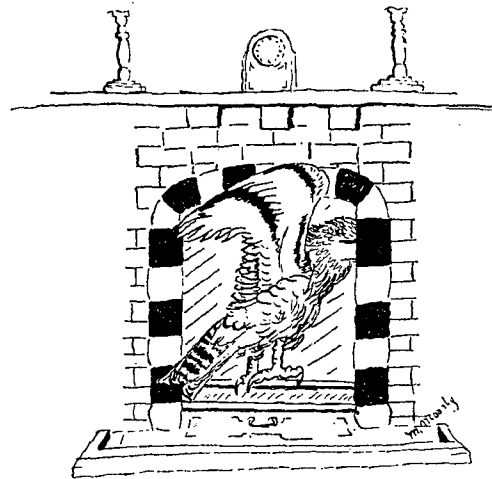
Yours faithfully,

R. W. HONE,

Warden.

THE GHOST WHO COULDN'T QUITE

The Ghost leant forward and tapped me on the knee with a phosphorescent finger. "The White Council," he said, "is clever. There's no doubt about that. Whenever I want to make a journey to the Higher Sphere, which is quite frequently as I



have an uncle in the Supernatural Brotherhood, it toughens the astral plane to such an extent that by the time I get back I've used up all my ectoplasm. And now I've only got half a neophyte of it left."

He was plainly very agitated, and I could see that if I didn't calm him down quickly there was no telling into how many pools of viscous fluid he might dissolve.

"Well, how about using your apportary aura?" I suggested.

"Good heavens no!" The Ghost seemed even more overwrought. "That would be contrary to every kind of spiritual ethic. It's possible, of course, but I'd hate to think of the effect it would have on the White

Council. Only Headless Horrors can do that sort of thing. You see, it's not just a question of effort, but ectoplasm is impossible to get nowadays, and when my present supply has run out I'll never be able to get any more."

He flopped into a chair by my bedside, and let out the moan that had made him famous the Other Side over.

"There, that didn't frighten you in the slightest, did it?" he asked gloomily.

"I'm afraid it didn't" I had to admit, although his plight now seemed desperate.

"There you are, you see. It's even affecting my work. It's not as if I were still a common-or-garden spectre." His voice rose to an hysterical scream.

"How would it be", I suggested wildly, "if I sent out a message to the White Council on my cosmic beam, and you slipped up to the Higher Sphere while they were talking to me, and stole a few neophytes of ectoplasm? Then you could be back by morning, and no-one would be any the wiser, and you wouldn't be waking me up at all hours of the night with ———"

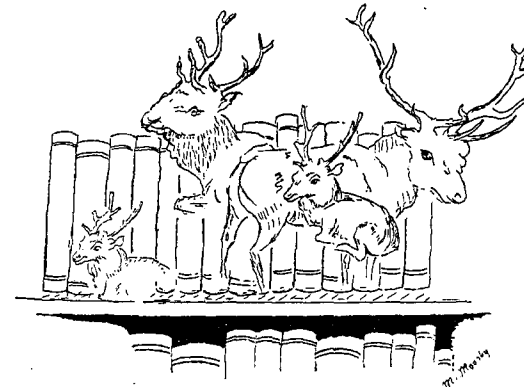
"My dear man, that's it! You've got it! By Jove, why didn't I think of it before?" He was so excited that a shower of ectoplasmic forget-me-nots hurtled down from the ceiling on top of him. "Of course, I'll have to take my jemmy with me", he went on delving into his cloak and waving an iron bar round enthusiastically, "otherwise I shall never be able to break back through the astral plane again, and the White Council will find me in the Higher Sphere when they leave you . . .". With which he changed into a vulture, waved an abstract wing at me, and disappeared up the chimney amidst clouds of soot.

About midnight on the night after I had sent my cosmic message I was just going off to sleep when someone scratched furtively on the pillow close to my left ear. This must be the call-sign of the dreaded White Council.

"Come in" I said, hoping it was the right thing to say.

Nothing else happened for five minutes, when someone began to play Handel's "Largo" softly on a mouth-organ underneath my bed. At the same instant a collection of red and blue bubbles floated down from the ventilator, and three light bulbs crashed into the wall a few inches above me.

"Sons of Madame Blavatsky, come in from all extra-corporeal activities" boomed a deep bass voice in the fireplace.



Four or five reindeer materialized on top of the bookcase.

"No, not you, you fools—the others. Go away."

They disappeared again, but the voice kept on muttering its annoyance.

"Against all the principles of Masdeanism and Zoroastrianism" it intoned monotonously. "Koot Hoomi would be furious if he found out."

Then I saw that the room was seething with High Priests of every denomination, looking at me quietly with limpid grey eyes. The smell of London Tube stations was overpowering . . .

* * * * *

Next morning, as I jumped out of bed, my feet touched something that I had not left on the floor the night before, something that was hard, cold, and metallic . . .

I often wonder what happened to him.

J.R.J.B.



THE MOON : IS IT MADE OF GREEN CHEESE ?

It is early yet for us to make a decision on this problem, and we should be particularly cautious since any action taken with this decision as a basis for it will be irrevocable. Nevertheless, considering the great interest excited by this question, and realizing that ignorance is no less an evil than mis-directed knowledge, I have decided, with the full co-operation of the generally acknowledged authorities on cheese (Stilton) to give some account of the research which has so far been carried out.

It was Shakespeare, I think, who wrote a play about the assassination of a Roman ruler named Julius Caesar. In this work occurs the memorable line: "To be or not to be—that is the question". I cannot recall whether or not this really was the question, but Caesar's plan (happily foiled) to kill Macduff has an obvious connection with the first truly modern inferences of Descartes, as seen in T. E. Lawrence's "On to Jehosaphat". At least, it had seemed obvious until the early years of the last century, when the discovery was made which has revolutionized the progress of this science. This is too well known to need enlarging upon—the fruitless labour on the Equator, the accumulation of seemingly conflicting evidence, the numerous occasions on which the task was nearly abandoned because of the proximity of the Magnetic Pole; and then suddenly that lucky accident when Dr. H. Alfa Moment dropped the globule of crystallized molybdenum on the blue beeswax. This was of course a great blow for the orthodox biologists. Alternative theories each had a run of popularity, particularly T. Wolfgang's suggestion that the phenomenon might be due to three-particle culinary. This had a by no means insignificant influence on the modern "Black Bess" (as it is jocularly called) theory, but it had to be withdrawn when sales began to fall. It appeared that the new propositions could account for everything, whereas the others, though admittedly ingenious, were only partial solutions.

All this led to the experiments which by the beginning of the present century looked like giving a final picture of the matter. Even the nephological psychologists were on the point of accepting the extra-sensory potentialities which were the consequence of deviations from the normal niblick action;—though this involved discrediting the whole idea of Neolithic Man, a step which no-one was ever eager to take. But everything was brought to an abrupt close by the dramatic, if technical, propositions of Julien d'Aratrap. It is as well to remember that the ground-bass portion of them has been seriously questioned, but they will certainly have far-reaching results if they correspond with previous notation. The theory is still in a state of flux, but it looks as though much of the old Carthaginian etymology was after all correct.

The Homogeneous Scheme, confusedly known as the rose-tinted hagnoscope theory, served a good purpose. Though not in itself infallible, it paved the way for a host of investigations of inestimable value. It is my personal opinion, and in this I cautiously presume to differ from that eminent philatelist and choreographer, Professor Santius Arkwright, that we shall be wise if we do not neglect too readily the leitmotif of the

Third Century before its successor is more thoroughly established. One of the most vexed of outstanding questions, as I have already hinted, is concerned with actual lunar composition, and it may be many years before we can assert that our satellite is in reality made of green cheese. . . Meanwhile, we must take every precaution against jumping to conclusions. If we do not, we must expect to reap the conventional Herbert response to the Two Club opening bid.

C.F.G.

EPIGENESIS

The spirit, in my silence, grows pale and overturns
An empty glass.
Bees browse among the bookshelves, copiously noting
Rhododendrons creeping, creeping, creeping
Through the rotting hose and unsuspecting thorn.
And the symbols suck
The embers of the sapless night,
While silver moon-streams wrap themselves
In tangles round the chimney-tops.
Slowly, O how slowly, the purple fig-leaf climbs,
And the shrieking horror
Of centaurs and their booty outspans the bosom
Of the curling globe, copiously noting
Rhododendrons creeping, creeping, creeping
Through the rotting hose and unsuspecting thorn.
Cracked records mourn philosophy
That overtakes an age, and the spirit
Of medieval iniquity.
Yet the infinite is not abysmal,
Nor the scattered corn untarnished, nor their spectacles
Unclouded.
Convolvulus considers unrelieved, the spreading panoply
Of children singing. Neither do the negatives
Evaporate the groaning whirlpools of Antigonous.
Push the prisoner, plucking, plucking, copiously noting
Rhododendrons creeping, creeping, creeping
Through the rotting hose and unsuspecting thorn.

S.A.M.A.
J.R.J.B.
S.N.L.C.

FROM THE "ANTIGONE" OF SOPHOCLES

Man is supreme over all ; many things are wonderful, but none is more wonderful than he. This marvellous being explores the surging ocean, driven on by the stormy South Wind ; he plunges on engulfed by mountainous waves seething around him. What is more, Man even exhausts the divine Earth itself, which is always fecund, never deteriorating ; year in year out, he drives his hardy mules, dragging the glinting plough to and fro till evening falls.

Man has great skill and wit. With his nets, which consist of mere mesh, he traps and carries off the carefree bird, the savage beast roaming in a herd, and the shiny creatures of the sea. By his skill he tames and trains all the beasts of the field ; he breaks to the cruel bit the fiery spirit of the wild and shaggy horse, fresh from roaming the mountains ; he makes the powerful and tireless bullock succumb to the heavy yoke about its swarthy neck.

Man has developed language, lofty thought and social dispositions. He has learnt the means wherewith to shelter from the clear sky that bodes a bitter frost and from the raging storm. Man has a fertile mind which never fails ; he meets nothing unprepared. It is from Death alone that Man cannot escape, for he even contrives to be rid of diseases which know no cure.

Man has an incredible subtlety by way of his ingenious skill, for sometimes he moves in adversity, at others in prosperity. He who always respects the laws of the land and the Justice which by the Gods he swears to observe, he is a true citizen ; but even Man can cause his city's downfall when, thanks to his audacity, an ugly mood does grip him. May one who does such things ne'er approach my hearth nor share my sentiments.

M.J.N.

JOURNEY IN THE DAYTIME

Although it was still early in the morning, the heat in the train leaving Madrid was already almost insufferable. The chatter of the soldiers crowding the corridor mingled strangely with the dull droning of the priests as they recited their breviary—typically of contemporary Spain, where materialism is upheld by an old-fashioned superstition. The whole idea of our journey seemed somehow futile, as we attempted to make ourselves comfortable in the dazzling, hurtful heat. How hot it was ! Scenery slid by meaninglessly : long stretches of brown desert, interspersed occasionally with some wretched farmhouse or wayside station, turned back our eyes again on our impassive travelling companions.

Then, suddenly we no longer listened to the noise of the soldiers or the mutterings of the priests, since before us we could see high golden towers and gaunt castle walls fantastically placed on a series of hills—a world that had previously existed only in books, or paintings, or the imagination. We had made the ultimate pilgrimage for all who travel to Spain, and as we crossed the steel-blue Tagus we knew that Toledo was unchanged since El Greco lived and painted there, hundreds of years ago.

J.L.





Photos by]

" JULIUS CAESAR "
June 30th and July 1st.

[O.T.W.]

CLAPTRAP

Once upon a time, in the spacious days of the Emperor Constantine of blessed memory, there lived in Cappadocia two holy men, named Claptrap and Chrysanthemus. No one, not even the great Athanasius himself, could surpass these men in the sanctity of their lives and the purity of their doctrine. If anyone had destroyed more of the profane works of Cicero than Claptrap, it was Chrysanthemus, and if anyone had written more books *Contra Perniciosum Arium* than Chrysanthemus, that man was the saintly Claptrap. The people of Cappadocia rightly rejoiced in the virtues of their two bishops, and looked forward to the day when their bones might work many a mighty miracle and their shrine bring many a wealthy pilgrim to the province. But that happy day seemed an unconscionable time a-coming and the citizens sent to Claptrap reproaching him for his obituary tardiness and suggesting that, while suicide was indeed unlawful, they might well anticipate the course of nature themselves. Humbly the bishop protested his present unworthiness, saying, however, that his brother Chrysanthemus was a man of real merit, fitter for the next world than this, and that indeed it would be an act of charity to rid him of mortal pains. When they reached the house of Chrysanthemus, that saint praised the humility of his brother bishop, pointing out what excellent evidence it was of Claptrap's superior virtue, since for his own part his eagerness for heaven disqualified him for it. Then said the people: " Since, O most noble bishops, you consider yourselves in danger of damnation, it is surely our duty to kill you unwillingly, for then you will be martyrs and there is hope for your souls yet. By this means you would purchase a reward for which your unworthiness would otherwise unfit you, and at the same time confer riches upon our province".

S.A.M.A.

ON A PAIR OF ORIENTAL INCENSE-BURNERS

I saw them lying on the pavement there
Tarnished gilt-frames and broken cups amid ;
" They'd make nice table lamps "—(May Heav'n forbid !)—
" I'm selling cheap at twelve and six the pair ".
Lightly the dragon handles leapt in air
From the squat bodies with spiked frills beset
Like two old ladies overdressed, and met
Aladdin's-lamp-like trays which incense bear.

Proudly upon my bookcase now they stand,
From the disorder of my desk uprear,
And fingering them, I wonder from what land,
From far Bhutan or Birmingham more near
—Former I hope—they came beneath my hand
To grace my study by their presence here.

S.E.D.

CARMEN

One cannot help feeling a kind of sadness as one begins to write an account of some performance which has given one much pleasure. It seems perilously like composing an obituary notice. As one writes, one knows that the lights are out, the scenery is down, and the stage, once the scene of so much colour and melody, given over to dust and silence, while the players have shed their glory with their greasepaint and become mere ordinary mortals once again. And yet, there is an underlying happiness in moving through one's memories of such a performance as Stowe's "Carmen", crystallising impressions before their edges have become blurred by time, hearing again moments of musical beauty before their echoes have died away. And there is also a sense of privilege in being permitted to associate, even in retrospect, with a venture in which such varied skill and so much hard work were so happily blended.

Last year Mr. Saunders produced the first post-war Stowe opera, Mozart's "The Marriage of Figaro". It was a strikingly successful production, and gave promise of a fine future at Stowe for this peculiarly difficult form of art. At the same time, the choice of Bizet's "Carmen" suggested that this year's task would be even more formidable. "The Marriage of Figaro" is one of the world's greatest works of art, and possesses the simplicity and purity of real greatness, while Mozart in his opera sails serenely along his seas of divinely-inspired song on a remarkably even keel. The general uniformity of character and structure allows one part to help another throughout, and the artificial, if brilliant, plot disarms the would-be critic of the acting, while the consummate greatness of the whole opera encourages and evokes a rising above themselves in those bold enough to attempt it.

Bizet's "Carmen" is a very different kind of work. It is brilliant and erratic. It makes great demands on its singers not only musically, but also dramatically. In "The Marriage of Figaro" the characters all remain much the same throughout, while in "Carmen" the emotions of Don José, Micaela, and particularly of Carmen herself, are constantly varying and swaying. The calls Bizet makes upon his orchestra, with a mighty weight of brass imposed upon the simple string and wood-wind combination of Mozart, and a far more complicated score—rendered on this occasion even more complicated by the large number of cuts used to shorten the work—also add greatly to the production difficulties.

In regard to the individual singers, 'Figaro' has a baritone hero and no full operatic tenor rôle, while in "Carmen" Don José is a part which has called forth their best from the world's greatest tenors: to succeed as Escamillo, a baritone requires a fine presence, complete self-confidence, a large and powerful voice, and great grace of movement, gifts seldom found in combination in anyone of school age: the rôle of Carmen is considered so formidable—being too high for most contraltos and too low for most sopranos—that the task of filling it is the only reason why the opera is not given more frequently. An added difficulty is that the lissom grace and fiery youth essential for the part seldom, alas, wait for the full development of the voice. The fact that Stowe had three singers capable of attempting these rôles was a piece of great good fortune, but it was, of course, clear that all three must sing—one does not expect understudies for parts like these.

Such was the formidable situation which faced Mr. Saunders when he began work on the opera at the start of the Easter term. His first task, a self-appointed one, was to follow last year's example and make a completely fresh translation. His version was charming to sing and delightful to listen to. Perhaps one example might be given to show its superiority to the old—Carmen's first entry, where she warms up her voice with some lovely notes in the middle register before launching into the famous Habanera. Here, then, are the three versions; the original French of Meilhac and Halévy, the normal English version of Hersee, and the one we heard.

Quand je vous aimerai ?
Ma foi, je ne sais pas.
Peut-être jamais ! Peut-être demain !
Mais pas aujourd'hui ; c'est certain.

L'amour est un oiseau rebelle,
Que nul ne peut apprivoiser,
Et c'est bien en vain qu'on l'appelle,
S'il lui convient de refuser.

As I don't know myself,
Of course I cannot say.
Perhaps not at all, tomorrow maybe,
'Twill not be today ; you will see.

Love will like a wild birdling fly,
Careering whither he may choose,
Vainly to him for help we cry,
If 'tis his fancy to refuse.

It would be hard to imagine anything more flat and platitudinous than the first half of the above, while the "careering birdling" seems to typify the inept phraseology of most translators of libretti. It is a relief to turn homewards.

Tell you when I shall love ?
Why ! how should I know ?
Tomorrow perhaps. Next year, who can say ?
But one thing is sure. Not today.

Love's a bird, and you cannot tame him.
You cannot train him to your wrist.
You can whistle and call and name him ;
Unless it suits him, he'll resist.

Here the translation is not only much more apt, it is also more accurate, though in line four it definitely improves on the original by setting the phrases in what is surely the more telling order. It is pleasant to add that the diction of most of the singers, particularly of Carmen, was so good that the beauties of the new translation could be fully appreciated.

Throughout the Easter term work was done on the opera, but all in vain, since the cutting-off of the last week-end meant that "Carmen" had to be postponed until this term. This was, perhaps, no bad thing, since the singers were fresher, while the new Old Stoics, C. Graham-Bonnalie and R. C. Thornton, were resurrected and placed "in statu pupillari" for the occasion. Still, it meant that the innings had, so to speak, been interrupted and the cast had to play itself in all over again. Fortunately all went well, and "Carmen" was performed at Stowe on the nights of the 19th and 20th of May.

Two of the many things necessary for success in this work are a good performance by the orchestra of the Preludes which precede each Act, and really effective scenery when the curtains rise on each occasion. Thus through ear and eye the Spanish atmosphere is created. Here Mr. Negus, with his orchestra, and Mr. Mounsey, with his scenery, rose nobly to the occasion. The haunting little melodies of the Preludes, particularly the Flute and Clarinet solos so well played by J. M. Bremner (C) and J. R. Melvin (C), prepared us admirably for the riot of warm colour which followed them. The four Acts are admirably contrasted—the sunshine of the Square in Seville followed by Lillas Pastia's Inn, with the moonlight filling the back-stage; and then the dusk scene amid the rocks of the Smugglers' Den, with the wheel coming full circle in the last Act at the Bull Ring in the blazing Spanish afternoon. All four sets were eminently successful, but the last scene was the most striking. By means of the most adroit perspective we had a view through a Spanish grille of the massed terracing of the bull-ring—a full two hundred yards away it seemed—with its rows of flags bravely silhouetted against a deep blue sky.

The costumes, like the lighting and the scenery, were brilliantly colourful, and must have given the singers enormous confidence. Certainly the choruses were very much in the right tradition. A grand opera chorus should be a great warm wind of sound; one should almost be able to feel it as well as hear it. This virtually happened in the last Act, and there was also a very impressive finale to the second as the smugglers departed with their captives.

And so to the more important rôles. R. J. Ruhemann (C) as Lieutenant Zuniga had only a bar or two to sing, but a fine dry humour and a most admirably audible voice gave personality to that somewhat glamorous officer. A. G. Clark (G) and I. J. Moir (C) did excellent work as Mercedes and Frasquita, and performed their parts valiantly in the Act II Quintet and the famous Card scene in Act III. G. W. A. Kent (C) and B. J. Calvert (G), as Dancairo and Remendado, sang really well, and their confidence and acting ability were a joy to the audience and an enormous help on the stage. They made the Quintet by far the best piece of combined singing in the opera. J. R. Warden (T) as Micaela sang better than he acted, but looked most suitably doll-like. He gave us some very lovely notes in the Letter Duet in Act I.

The three principals made a most interesting trio. C. Graham-Bonnalie (T) gave a notably fresh and original interpretation of the Toreador. Escamillo is generally given as a tremendous swashbuckling fellow who frequently emerges as something of a, quite unintentionally, pompous ass. Graham-Bonnalie seemed to take his cue from Bizet's note at the beginning of the chorus of the Toreador's Song, 'avec fatuité', and sang the rôle throughout as a very mannered and affected, if suitably courageous and colourful, young man, thus instilling a healthy draught of humour into a part which often becomes lamentably dry. We laughed with him instead of at him. He

has never been in better voice, and his singing of the Toreador Song gained enormously by his skill of movement in such moments as his tossing of the empty cup to the chorus, and his sweep of the Lieutenant's sword out of its scabbard for the final verse. His whole performance was very finished and seemed to electrify his fellow-players as well as his audience. His post-dated swan-song was a fitting end to a fine musical career at Stowe.

C. N. H. Hordern (W), as Don José, had undoubtedly the hardest rôle of the evening, because he had to sing a part not covered completely by his voice. To reach the high As and Bs in an operatic tenor part requires years of practice superimposed on a full maturity of voice. This meant that Hordern was compelled to sing them falsetto, involving a somewhat complicated vocal gear-change in the more strenuous moments of his arias. When singing within his compass he revealed a warm and pleasant tenor voice, and he succeeded in achieving his top-notes without breaking continuity or failing to give a consistent pattern of the whole song. His acting in a rather ungrateful part improved steadily, and his success in overcoming the great difficulties of his part did almost more than anything to make the performance possible.

But the triumph of the night was undoubtedly K. A. Henderson's (C) interpretation of Carmen. He had already shown us what he could do as Susanna in "Figaro", a part in which he had sung with a beautiful spontaneity, and acted with great naturalness and charm. All the same, Carmen remained Carmen—a rôle of the most exacting kind both in range—top C to bottom B flat—and interpretation. He attacked it with supreme confidence, and scored a remarkable personal success. His voice had gained considerably in quality and power since last year, his diction was quite impeccable, and his very fine musicianship and hard work on the part was evident in his ability to overcome all its latent difficulties. His extreme youth gave him a freshness notably absent from some of the more famous Carmens, and his acting was up to the standard of his singing. They combined beautifully in the lovely ending of the second act, where Carmen stakes everything in her final effort to win José. This is the great testing scene, greater even than the Card scene and the Finale, and Henderson rose to it magnificently. This scene was the high-light of the evening, but throughout the whole of his difficult part he never fell below a very high level of achievement, and the ovation he received at the end was a well-deserved tribute to one of the best individual performances ever seen at Stowe.

Bizet's "Carmen" was performed for the first time in Paris in 1875. It was a complete failure, and that failure broke its composer's heart. He died three months later, just a month before the first of a long series of successful performances of the opera. One feels that if his unhappy spirit, still haunted by his inexplicable disgrace, could have wandered out of the May night into our Stowe "Carmen" he would have been interested, charmed, and perhaps a little comforted.

A.M.

JULIUS CAESAR

Julius Caesar is not an easy play; its difficulties are not those of the great tragedies, but on the other hand it has no character of the compelling stature of a Macbeth, a Hamlet, or an Othello to sustain its interest to the end; its titular "hero" dies half way through the play. Who then is the hero? What is the conflict? This problem Mr. McElwee and his fellow producers refused to solve, preferring to present the play without undue stresses of interpretation and to give their audience the novel experience of thinking for itself; they invited us to choose for ourselves Caesar, or Brutus, or Cassius as our hero. Such an approach involved the risk of confusion, but a skilful and balanced production wove the various strands of conflict into a coherent pattern.

Personal taste may quarrel with the cutting (could we not have kept Cinna the poet?) but the reduction into three Acts justified itself on both practical and aesthetic grounds. Granted the need for compression, the simplified framework gave a heightened emphasis to the main stages of the tragedy, and the fact that the lowering of pitch after the tremendous emotional strain of the central scenes led to no flagging of interest was in itself a proof of the success of the whole conception. No less masterly were the details of the production; the careful grouping on and round the steps of the Queen's Temple (an ideal setting for the early part of the play), the nice adjustment of speed and dignity, the magnificent organization of the crowd scenes, the drilled economy and clarity of even the minor characters, the technical excellence of the assassination and the ghost—always a problem for any producer—the harmony of costume, lighting, and music—the cumulative effect was a polished and wholly absorbing performance.

The weaknesses, apart from the odd verbal slip and such controversial points as the treatment of the battle scenes, sprang inevitably from the very immaturity of the cast. J. R. J. Burnham (T), the most experienced actor on the stage, made a somewhat colourless Antony; magnificent in his lament over Caesar's body—in his hands perhaps the most moving speech in the play—he seemed ingenuous and unsubtle in his conversation with the conspirators, hardly the man to frighten Cassius or start a counter-revolution; nor, despite the effectiveness of the scene as a whole, did voice or posture do justice to his subsequent harangues.

Brutus and Cassius were fortunately splendidly cast; S. A. M. Adshead (B), frustrated, jealous, sinister, clearly revelled in his part as Cassius; every look, every gesture spoke; his querulous rhetoric rang out all the more sharply against the dispassionate calm of Brutus; as a politician pre-eminent, he was less convincing as a soldier, and his tone in the quarrel scene was a shade too hysterical; his was a first-class performance none the less. Of like calibre was P. J. Tickell's (B) Brutus, though his diction could have been a little crisper. It is a difficult part for a boy, and much of the depth and inner stress were absent, but the intellectual patriotism, the tranquil assumption of authority, the qualified bitterness of the end, these were well within his range. A. M. Gooch (B) as young Octavius was a little incongruous beside Burnham's Antony but carried his part with dignity and firmness, already hinting to Antony the shape of things to come. As for Caesar himself, few great men can have been so ignominiously treated as Caesar by Shakespeare, and R. Jameson's (G) portrayal of the vain, arrogant, fickle, weak-minded tyrant was admirable. Outstanding among a host of very competent minor characters was S. N. L. Chalton (B), who gave a spirited performance as the boorish Casca, and

there were brief but sympathetic character studies by J. H. Hughes (B) and J. W. L. Adams (B) as the two tribunes and T. D. W. Slater (B) as Lucius.

There were, as there must always be, subtleties which an outdoor performance loses; but only an indoor production of extraordinary brilliance could compensate for the perfect setting, the sense of spaciousness and vitality, and the gathering twilight which made more poignant the tragedy of the closing scenes.

B.S.S.

MUSIC

The first three weeks of the term were taken up with rehearsals for "Carmen", postponed from last term, an account of which appears elsewhere.

Since then, the Choral Society and the Orchestra have been rehearsing Bach's Peasant Cantata and the Prince Igor Dances by Borodin. Both works, although so dissimilar in style, have proved popular and will be performed at the School Concert on Wednesday, July 26th. In addition the Orchestra has been rehearsing the first movement of Dvorak's New World Symphony, and Mozart's Piano Concerto in B flat, with P. G. Dennison (G) at the piano. The Trebles in the Choral Society will be reviving Handel's "Let the bright Seraphim", which was performed here two years ago. M. Bredin (B) will again be playing the Trumpet Obligato.

A matter of great concern as far as the Orchestra is concerned is the present lack of String players. The Wind always tends to overbalance the Strings, and this will become more pronounced than ever unless more String players are forthcoming.

HOUSE MUSIC COMPETITIONS

The Singing Cup was won by Walpole, the set-piece being Sullivan's "Strange Adventure". Chandos was a close second. The standard this year was not high, and all the Quartets except one lost pitch.

The Instrumental Cup was won by Cobham, who put up a very creditable programme which included Bach's Concerto for Three Pianos in C and Offenbach's Barcarolle. Grenville was second with a programme which included the Minuet from "Samson" by Handel, an arrangement of Balfour Gardiner's "Noël," for Two Pianos, and some Recorder Solos with Organ accompaniment.

The Music Prizes were won by the following:—

Gilling-Lax—Senior—S. A. M. Adshead (B).

Junior—C. J. Cheesman (C).

Piano Prize (Senior)—1st, P. G. Dennison (G).
2nd, J. Broom Smith (C).

Piano Prize (Junior)—C. J. Cheesman (C).

Strings Prize—1st, C. M. Muncaster (G).
2nd, R. F. S. Hamer (G).

Woodwind Prize—G. P. H. Chorley (G).

Brass Prize—M. Bredin (B).

Organ Prize—C. J. Cheesman (C).

Mr. Dussek, Precentor of Radley College, was the Adjudicator.

THE MUSIC SOCIETY

CONCERT GIVEN ON WEDNESDAY, 7TH JUNE.

NONA LIDDELL (*Violin*)DAPHNE IBBOTT (*Piano*)

Passacaglia	...	...	...	...	...	Handel arr. Harty
Allegro animosamente	...	...	...	...	...	Tartini arr. Elman
Sonata in G, Op. 96	...	...	...	...	...	Beethoven
Introduction and Allegro for Solo Violin	...	...	...	...	...	Lennox Berkeley
Quasi Ballata, Op. 17, No. 1	...	...	...	...	...	Suk
Notturmo Tarantella, Op. 28, No. 1	...	...	...	...	...	Szymanowski

This concert was not outstanding, but it was played with skill and feeling by both artists and was certainly enjoyable. The first half of the programme was a little disappointing; the Beethoven Sonata is not one of his greater works and is a little too long, while the works by Tartini and Handel, although pleasant, held little of real musical value.

The modern section proved to be of far more interest. Lennox Berkeley's work for solo violin was an original and thoughtful piece which would stand considerable repetition; and the other two modern works, while unfamiliar, were nevertheless exciting and dramatic.

Miss Liddell's playing was accurate and her tone was good, while Miss Ibbott accompanied well. The balance was always good.

A PIANO RECITAL GIVEN BY KATHLEEN LONG ON WEDNESDAY, 5TH JULY.

The programme was as follows:—

Three Sonatas	...	...	...	...	...	Scarlatti
C Minor						
E flat Major						
D Major						
Variations on "Unser Dummer Poebel Meint"	...	...	...	...	...	Mozart
Romance in F sharp Major	...	...	...	...	...	Schumann
Novelette in F sharp Minor	...	...	...	...	...	Schumann
Sonata in B Minor	...	...	...	...	...	Chopin
Allegro Maestoso						
Scherzo, Molto vivace						
Largo						
Presto non tanto						

Miss Long gave a very good recital indeed. Her playing was thoroughly musical and sensitive, her technique excellent. She gave out short descriptions of the less well-known pieces she played which added greatly to the interest and also made the recital far less formal. The three Scarlatti Sonatas were each perfect in themselves and were full of lovely tonal contrasts, making a good trio. Miss Long is famed for her Mozart; and her playing of the light-hearted variations was indeed excellent although a little marred by the curiously large number of little slips she made. The two beautiful Schumann works were most pleasing and the Novelette required just the vigour which Miss Long gave to it.

The Chopin Sonata was played without sentiment and in such a way that it was the best item in a good programme; the last movement was magnificent.

Two encores she played should be mentioned: a lovely Fauré Nocturne, and a French arrangement of Bach's famous aria "Sheep may Safely Graze"; both were above criticism, and the melodic line in the latter was played most beautifully. The recital was indeed a fine one.

M.B.

THE ART SCHOOL

Work done during the Easter term has been up in the Art School most of this term. On the whole the impression one got was that the form work was not of so high a standard as usual nor was there so much of it. However what there was was vigorous and interesting, especially a set of winter trees from Upper IVb. There was some good work amongst the oils by T. S. Savery (W) and J. K. Hirst (G). Savery's work gains by being unlike anything else—an entirely original way of seeing things; Hirst's work is competent and shows considerable promise. J. R. T. Tattersall-Wright (W) had a very creditable set of pastels. They were initially extremely attractive but after a little time one became conscious of the fact that their colour lacked enterprise and was really rather dull; they were good ground work for a pastel drawing which should have been taken a great deal further. However, they are a great credit to him and there is every reason to hope he may soon be doing work far ahead of this; it will be interesting to see what happens. R. P. A. F. Williams (B) had a number of ornithological pictures which are interesting. The setting in which the birds are seen is seldom as well painted as the bird.

At the end of term we hope to have an exhibition of work done out-of-doors or from drawings done outside. As all the forms have been to the same area not far from the Art School, the exhibition will have the added interest of comparing the different vision of the numerous artists represented. It may even help some to realise that the most faithful depiction of the thing seen does not necessarily produce the best painting.

THE DEBATING SOCIETY

The summer term, occupied as it is with cricket, the Historians' play, and athletics, is not one for the greatest activity on the part of the Society, but, despite all diversions, two public debates have taken place, while a third and a closed debate are being planned.

On May 24th, C. F. GREENLAW (T) proposed the motion "That this House disapproves of Democracy". If Democracy existed, he said, then the electorate should be consulted on every issue, and a decision taken before breakfast would be reversed by the sluggish vote at lunch-time. To remedy this chaos, the Honorable Gentleman proposed an intellectual aristocracy based on Plato and the Public Schools.

S. A. M. ADSHEAD (B), opposing the motion, defined Democracy as the British Constitution, claimed Mr. Disraeli as a democrat, and called on all Tories to defend the status quo.

S. E. DIGBY (W) spoke third and wanted exciting government. Let Mr. Attlee emulate the example of the Yugoslav Prime Minister who threw a dagger on the floor of his Parliament and picked off the opposition front bench with a tommy-gun.

F. R. G. LOWE (G) spoke fourth, eloquently attacking a socialist oligarchy.

During the debate which followed, S. N. L. CHALTON (B) said that democracy really meant rule by the fat, of which he thoroughly approved.

The motion was lost by 3 votes in the Upper House, and by 20 in the Lower House.

On June 14th, during Private Business, the Society passed a resolution calling upon the Committee to take steps to obtain a tie for the use of members of the Society. Proceeding then to Public Business, S. N. L. CHALTON (B), in a philosophical and learned speech, proposed that "The purpose of Life is Work rather than Leisure".

J. M. N. NEWTON (C) opposed the motion in a speech which was unashamedly front-bench in manner. He claimed that "daily bread" was a corrupt rendering of "daily loaf", and that anyway half a loaf was better than no bread. Loafing and leisure were the objects of life.

P. J. TICKELL (B) spoke third, and said that even the most slothful pleasure involved some work.

F. R. G. LOWE (G) quoted from Omar Khayyam and accused his opponents of a middle-class outlook.

The debate which followed was remarkable for a speech and a recantation from C. F. GREENLAW (T).

The motion was lost in the Upper House by 7 votes, and in the Lower House by 20 votes.

Members of the Committee this term were:—S. A. M. Adshead (B), Secretary; J. R. J. Burnham (T), ex-Secretary; F. R. G. Lowe (G), Treasurer; and C. F. Greenlaw (T), Librarian.

R. Atkins (B), R. M. Tulloch (B), E. S. M. Cameron (C), T. A. Trimmingham (W), and C. H. Rutter (G), have been elected to the Society this term.

S.A.M.A.

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

THE MUSIC CLUB

From a musical point of view the early part of the term was almost entirely occupied with the production of "Carmen", in which almost every member of the Club was involved in some capacity.

On June 3rd a bus-load of us, our interest in opera already immensely increased by the activities of the preceding month, went to see the Sadler's Wells production of "Cavalleria Rusticana" and "Pagliacci" in Oxford. In "Cavalleria" the outstanding performance was that of Amy Shuard as Santuzza, whose combination of dramatic and purely musical abilities was impressive. She lost none of the opportunities Mascagni has provided and her Santuzza was a figure of real tragedy. Hervey Alan as Alfio deserves praise, while James McKenna as Turiddu, though he lacked colour in the early part of the Opera, came out very well in his famous farewell to his mother.

After the excellence of "Cavalleria", "Pagliacci" was faintly disappointing, though it is difficult to know just why. Perhaps "Cavalleria" is a better opera intrinsically, and certainly one missed something of its passion and vividness in "Pagliacci". Frank Sale as Canio seemed to lack power and the great passages seemed to be rather an effort for him. On the other hand, Frederick Sharp was superb as Tonio the Clown, and his Prologue was better than the perhaps more famous "Vesti la giubba". Minnie Bower gave a good performance in the rather uninteresting part of Nedda.

It is perhaps a mistake to allot marks to operas, but on the whole, despite Frederick Sharp, the honours of the evening rested with Amy Shuard and "Cavalleria Rusticana". The Club must express its deepest thanks to Mr. Negus for obtaining us the tickets.

On July 14th the Club heard three short papers, from the Secretary, J. K. Hirst (G) and M. Bredin (B). M. Bredin had taken as his subject "The Music of Sir Arthur Bliss", and his paper was really an attempt to convert us to his own love for his subject. The Club is rightly a conservative body and a little suspicious of modern music, but we were forced to admit that there might be something in Bliss. Bredin played us numerous extracts, both on the gramophone and on the piano. Although much was discordant, much else was immediately attractive, and we shall probably treat Bliss with greater respect in the future.

Hirst's paper on "Aida" was a scholarly work which proved its author's immense acquaintance with this opera. It succeeded in making the plot crystal clear, and for any lover of Verdi, Hirst's examples were a joy to hear. It was perhaps a pity that his records were taken chiefly from the third act and that we had almost nothing from the first two, but lack of time is probably the explanation. Altogether, it was a paper which could appeal to learned and learners alike.

S.A.M.A.

The Secretary read a paper on Bach's B minor Mass which was everything a paper should be: clear, informative and interesting; he ably augmented this with records, which, alas, were not of the same quality as his paper. Nevertheless they did convey in some measure the quality of this extraordinary work; the whole paper aroused our interest and enthusiasm and it was a great pity that there was not more time for a fuller lecture.

M.B.

THE EPHEMERALS

After a somewhat worrying period at the beginning of term when the Ephemerals were reduced to a single member, the Society soon regained its normal proportions and carried on as usual. Mr. Macdonald read a paper on "Hector Berlioz" which was of medium length and intensely interesting. He skimmed the cream of Berlioz's autobiography and brought to us with great vividness the dynamic personality of its author, his red hair, his ironic humour, and his great artistry. A. M. Gooch (B) read a paper on "What is Poetry?", and we hope that F. R. G. Lowe (G) will read a paper later in the term.

New members this term were:—P. H. Molloy (C), F. R. G. Lowe (G), J. W. L. Adams (B), D. P. Wells (C), N. Cleeve (B), D. A. R. Murray Brown (C), J. M. Bremner (C), J. N. Vinen (W), R. Lush (C), M. J. O'Neill (C) and J. D. F. Lockhart (C).

A.M.G.

THE CONGREVE CLUB

The 26th General Meeting of the Club was held in the Aurelian Room on Sunday, 21st May. There was a discussion on the term's activities. Thirteen new members were elected and membership temporarily increased by two.

On Wednesday, 31st May, there was a play-reading of Shaw's *Pygmalion* at the Vice-President's house in Dadford, remarkable for its large attendance. The President himself took part for some of the time.

An expedition to "Ring round the Moon" at the Globe Theatre in London has been arranged for later in the term.

P.J.T.

THE SYMPOSIUM

Having three more members this year than usual, the Society has been very rushed for meetings, although the Higher and School Certificates and "Julius Caesar", together with such things as the President's Russian classes, have conspired to stop them. There will be inevitably one or two meetings next term, though normally this term marks the end of one year's Symposium.

Last term's Symposium notes became mixed up with the editor's army medical exam., and were mysteriously torn up. There were, however, some most interesting papers, notably M. J. Nightingale's (G) and R. Jameson's (G) papers on "Romantic Music" and "Romantic Poetry" respectively. B. J. Calvert (G) also read an amusing paper on "Potatoes". This term, M. J. Slater's (T) paper on "Gramophone Records" was one of the best of the year. In the course of it he produced a Chinese record, a plastic one, and one of the new long-playing American records. H. J. Bonning (C) also held forth long and learnedly on "Radar". There are still M. J. Fenwick (C), J. H. H. Massey Stewart (W), J. C. M. Shepherd (T) and A. W. Fraser (C) to read papers.

R.J.V.R.

THE TWELVE CLUB

A meeting worthy of note which has so far remained unreported in *The Stoic* is that which was held towards the end of last term, when Mr. Christopher Morris read a paper on "Defoe's Journal of the Plague and the Bacteriology of it".

In one of the most able and erudite papers the Society has heard for a long time, he told how during the plague Pepys announced that he was "frighted to see how the level of the ground in the churchyards had risen by a clear three feet". All who could, including the Court, the nobles, and the Royal Society, migrated to the country. Places

such as Argentina, Brazil, and the West coast of America, still suffer to a greater or lesser degree from the plague, but in the main it has been stamped out by increased personal cleanliness, and the substitution of bricks for wood in the construction of houses. Defoe, as the chronicler of such a catastrophe, was inclined to be journalistic, but accurate; he went to the original sources, and was at all times careful to avoid the purple patch.

On June 2nd, S. A. M. Adshead (B) read a paper on "The Battle of Jutland". With the aid of a number of home-made maps, at first merely of artistic value but later somewhat more comprehensible, he described, manoeuvre by manoeuvre, one of the greatest sea-battles of all time. German strategy was concerned mainly with leading off sections of the British fleet and engaging them in minor skirmishes; the British policy was to make use of their superiority of numbers by means of a decisive full-scale action. Von Hipper, in charge of the first scouting group of German battle-cruisers, therefore managed to lure Admiral Beatty, commanding the British battle-cruisers, away from the main British fleet under Jellicoe, and towards Von Scheer and the main German fleet. For various reasons, the inefficiency of the British signalling system and the inferiority of the British armour-plating being conspicuous among them, Beatty's ships suffered severe damage at the hands of the Germans in the opening stages of the battle; but when Jellicoe joined Beatty with the High Seas Fleet the advantage swung to the British, and Scheer's battleships received a terrible hammering from the leading British ships. The German fleet was saved from total destruction only by a desperate charge through the British destroyers as night was falling, the result of which was that the Germans never again in the First World War risked an open naval engagement.

For one reason or another, there will be only one more meeting this term, at which it is hoped J. Lockwood (W) will read a paper on "Russian Ballet" or some kindred subject.

New members this term were:—C. C. Malden (G), J. I. Holt (C), C. F. Greenlaw (T), M. C. Caiger-Smith (T), S. N. L. Chalton (B), T. Knight (B), D. S. Duckworth (G), S. E. Digby (W), and R. J. Ruhemann (C).

J.R.J.B.

THE TOXOPHILITES

There have been two meetings of the Society so far this term, and there will be a further meeting near the end of term.

At the first meeting, on 27th May, the term's committee was elected. Mr. R. Walker was elected President, J. S. Yates (C) Vice-President, H. J. Bonning (C) Caterer, and the Secretary was re-elected. J. D. Davis (T) then read his paper entitled "Radar". The speaker traced the history of radar from the first experiments performed by Dr. Watson Watt in 1933, and then explained some of the apparatus used during the war. These included the Cat and Mouse system, Oboe stations, and H₂S sets. Unfortunately the technicalities of this very interesting paper rather limited the following discussion.

The second meeting was held on 22nd June, when C. D. Mullineux (T) read a paper on "Cotton Spinning". He described a typical cotton spinning factory, and the many machines which wash, comb, brush, pull, and wind the cotton. The speaker produced exhibits of cotton from the various stages of the process, and the Society was able to compare the dirty, matted, crude cotton with the final thin, strong, thread. His paper was extremely interesting.

A.M.V.

THE VITRUVIAN SOCIETY

The last two terms have been busy and successful ones for the Vitruvians. Membership has very nearly reached a hundred and our expeditions have been blessed with fine weather. On February 25th the Society went to Althorp to see the magnificent collection of pictures. We were most hospitably received and conducted by Lord Spencer, and the Society must record its gratitude for the time and trouble he took in showing us round. The pictures, in particular those of Vandyck and Reynolds, surpassed all expectation, and we shall look back on our visit to Althorp as one of our most pleasant expeditions.

On March 22nd, the Society had a lecture from Mr. G. A. Kolkhorst, with the attractive title of "A Pot-pourri of Nostalgias". Mr. Kolkhorst presented us with a mixed bag of Persian carpets, anecdotes of Shah Abbas, and criticisms of Greek architecture. Mr. Kolkhorst's lecture was interesting if provocative, amusing if occasionally irrelevant, and he left us with an invitation to visit his collection of carpets, and a feeling that we had had a pleasant, if hardly Vitruvian, evening.

On March 25th there was an expedition to see Lillingstone Dayrell and Lillingstone Lovell churches and to visit Lord Hesketh's home, Easton Neston. We were not able to go inside the house but the impressive formal gardens were adequate compensation.

The first meeting of the Summer term, and the 75th meeting of the Society, was a visit to Luton Hoo. Like Mr. Kolkhorst's lecture, Luton Hoo was a pot-pourri, and although we admired particularly the collection of china, it savoured too much of a general museum to be of particular interest to Vitruvians, and the Adam mansion retains few of its original features.

On July 8th there was an expedition to see the outside of Blenheim Palace and to visit Yarnton Manor, in response to Mr. Kolkhorst's invitation. The Manor house, an early Jacobean building, was a refreshing change after Vanbrugh's excessive pile, and contained a superlative collection of early Persian carpets. Mr. Kolkhorst's hospitality culminated in a most excellent tea.

On Wednesday, July 12th, the Society was host to some fifty members of the Northampton Architectural Society.

The Committee was:—Secretary, J. M. N. Newton (C); Treasurer, S. A. M. Adshead (B); Librarian, P. J. Tickell (B). S. N. L. Chalton (B) and G. P. H. Chorley (S) were co-opted members.

J.M.N.N.

THE JUNIOR DEBATING SOCIETY

At the beginning of this term H. R. Champion (C) was elected Vice-President, the Hon. A. P. Moynihan (S) Secretary, and F. L. Sanderson (C) Committee Man. M. G. M. Haines (C) took over Sanderson's office in his absence.

Among the better debates this term have been "that Britain's road to recovery lies through agriculture" (lost); "that this house approves of the National Health Scheme" (lost); and "that the British Empire should be incorporated with the U.S.A." (lost).

Although a slight decline has taken place in the number of members of the Society a definite increase has been noted in the capability of members to debate better subjects more fluently. Two notable examples of this are P. B. C. Fenwick (C) and D. D. Thompson-Schwab (T).

A.P.M.

THE CLASSICAL SOCIETY

The 106th meeting of the Society was held in Mr. Stephan's room on March 28th, when the Secretary read a paper on "Greek Medicine". This term Mr. Balsdon was due to have come from Oxford to talk to us in support of "Gaius Caligula", but unfortunately had to postpone his visit.

We have had one paper this term, from R. J. Ruhemann (C) on "Odysseus", on July 7th; and on July 12th we listened to a B.B.C. performance of the "Agamemnon" of Aeschylus.

D.S.D.

THE GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

Although it had been hoped to have a few meetings early in the term, the claims of the Higher Certificate proved too great to permit of papers being prepared by members before the date on which this is being written. The annual expedition, however, which this year was to Birch Coppice Colliery, near Atherstone, Warwickshire, took place as planned on July 13th, and proved every bit as great an experience as had been hoped. Birch Coppice Colliery is a small coal-field which has only recently seen the inauguration of a number of modern improvements. Nevertheless it is now on a very firm footing, and one of the facts which so impressed members was the cheerful and pleasant demeanour of the men, nearly all of whom seemed very satisfied with their work.

Our tour of the mine itself took place in the morning. After being precipitated 650 ft. in so short a time that our stomachs felt decidedly unsteady, we proceeded, properly equipped with helmets and lamps, to inspect nearly two miles of mine-working, a good part of which was only three or four feet high. It was in these latter parts, while we ourselves were crouched in uncomfortable positions, that we saw most of the miners at work. All of these men had to be prepared to mine coal in extremely awkward places, and to perform skilfully any job that might be necessary to alter or maintain the sides of the workings. At length, very struck with the strength and endurance of the miners as well as with their coolness in face of possible danger, we returned to the surface, worn out with our long and rather severe scramble, to eat an excellent light lunch provided by the N.C.B. After lunch we inspected the steam, electrical, and coal-grading plant, and then returned to Stowe after one of the Society's most successful expeditions.

It is expected that F. R. G. Lowe (G) and J. A. Pearman (W) will read papers in the near future on "Captain J. Cook" and "Bermuda" respectively.

F.R.G.L.

THE SAILING CLUB

We were successful, at the beginning of the season, in having passed several amendments to the rules concerning sailing. It has now been made possible for boys who have not had a chance to pass their "B" Test to sail during the first few weeks before swimming starts; nor do we have to waste the first half-hour of an afternoon by waiting for the arrival of the master to take swimming.

The two new boats were supposed to arrive for the opening of the season, but did not until June. They have been beautifully built by Burnham Motor Boats, Ltd., but seem to have rather too little sail for the light winds of Stowe. It has been suggested that a larger Bermudan mainsail might be an improvement. This, however, would be

very expensive as it would require two new masts. Many thanks are due to Major Haworth for the time and trouble spent in finding the boats for us.

The annual match against Eton was sailed on June 8th at Bourne End. The races were sailed in two Fireflies and two Cadets, under a system of two duels sailed simultaneously. Stowe won the first two with W. M. Peacock (G) and R. C. Withinshaw (C) in the Firefly, and J. M. Hancox (G) and R. Jameson (G) in the Cadet. (First mentioned was the helmsman.) In the second race helmsman and crew changed places, and Withinshaw and Peacock won in a Cadet, and Jameson and Hancox lost in a Firefly. Stowe, therefore, won three races out of four.

R.J.

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

The Summer term is always a very crowded one and consequently members of the Society have been unable to carry out much photographic work in the darkroom.

However, several very reasonable prints, produced by various members of the Society, were despatched during the earlier part of the term in the "Public Schools' Portfolio". This is a system which enables members of a number of schools to exchange photographs for criticism.

Negotiations with the Bursar have been entered into by the Vice-President, Mr. Dewing, and it is hoped that the darkroom will soon be re-decorated and that several improvements in the general lay-out will be made at the same time.

Next term it is intended to re-introduce the "Stowe Film Unit" for the purpose of producing a Stowe Newsreel to be shown at the Saturday cinemas. We should be very grateful if any Old Stoics who have any work of the pre-war Cine-Group in their possession, which they might be willing to lend, could inform Mr. R. V. P. Adams, as it would be of great interest to the present members of the School if some of these films could also be shown.

It is hoped that Mr. Parke, who has had the advantage of much photographic experience, will be able to undertake photographic work for members of the School next term.

H.W.G.

RHYTHM RAMBLERS JAZZ CLUB

In 1949 the original members of what has now become the Rhythm Ramblers Jazz Club formed a small group interested in jazz and swing. It consisted of two clarinets, piano, bass and drums.

After a small concert had been given during the Christmas Term, under the title of the "Hallelujah Boys", they decided to form the present club at the beginning of the Easter term 1950.

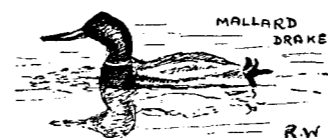
During that term a concert was given at the Queen's Temple and a further performance was conducted before the showing of the film at the end-of-term cinema.

This term a still larger club has continued its activities, making several recordings and progressing with another concert which it is hoped to have in the gym before the end of the term.

The members of the club, this term, are:—*Alto-Saxophones*: R. M. Nicholson (B), N. A. Ostrer (C). *Clarinets*: J. R. Melvin (C), M. J. R. Padmore (C). *Trumpets*: M. Bredin (B), P. J. Nicholson (C). *Accordions*: H. W. Gray (W), C. A. Hart-Leverton (G), M. S. P. Gardner (B). *Piano*: A. S. Jackson (G). *Bass*: R. V. Jaques (C). *Drums*: R. P. Hewitt (C).

BIRD NOTES

Perhaps the most remarkable event of the term for those interested in bird-watching has been the recording of the Black Tern over the Eleven-Acre Lake at the beginning of June. The Black Tern is rare at all times, but particularly uncommon as early as this.

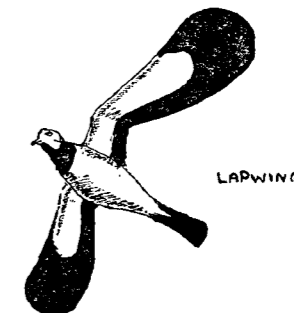


It appeared for about an hour in the afternoon and was seen by a number of people when it was diving for flies over the bathing-enclosure. Several times it dived right into the water and almost submerged itself, probably in an attempt to catch small fish or Water Nymphs.

The other event of interest is the successful breeding of the Dabchick. Fairly late in the term (July) a Dabchick was seen with a brood of young at the Palladian Bridge and has been identified several times since. It is easily recognized by its brown plumage and rufous neck and cheeks, by its complete lack of tail, and by the fact that it is just slightly smaller than a Moorhen. It is a charming and beautiful bird when seen closely. At Stowe these birds are very secretive, but their cry can be heard in the reeds. It is amazing that no-one suspected their presence until the breeding cycle had been completed.

At the beginning of term the young Great Crested Grebe could be seen on the Eleven-Acre, and since then another brood has been raised. Apart from the numerous Coots and Moorhens, there has been at least one successful brood of Mallard, and probably more, as four drakes and three ducks are regularly seen around the Octagon.

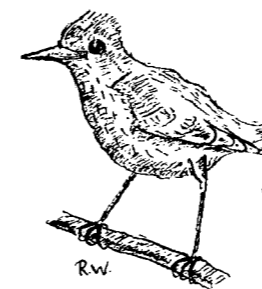
Tawny Owls are on the increase at Stowe, and several nests have been found; but unfortunately the Barn Owl seems to be decreasing, as in several places where they have nested for the last two years there is now no sign of them. This is probably because nests of potential breeders were destroyed last year.



LAPWING.

R.W.

The Redstarts have raised at least two successful families in Woody Park. On July 2nd what was presumed to be a combined family of them was watched. There were about five or six young birds, just able to fly, sitting on a thorn-tree chirping away, with two hen birds flashing backwards and forwards feeding them, the sun every now and then catching their tails and making them glint like a streak of flame.



BABY REDSTART.

R.W.

Not quite as many nests have been destroyed this year as last, but there are still a fair number being ruined by thoughtless people who would rather destroy life than watch it. P. A. Campbell Fraser (B) and the Viscount Tiverton (B) are to be thanked for the help and information they have given.

R.P.A.F.W.

THE LIBRARY

Mr. Gilbert is master in charge of the Library during Mr. Saunders' absence. There have been three new Librarians this term: S. L. Chalton (B), J. F. G. Gornall (C) and J. I. Holt (O). In the Library itself, bound copies of *The Stoic* have been placed in the open reference shelves, and bird books formerly in the Biological Library have been added to our shelves. The new edition of Chambers' Encyclopaedia has already proved useful, though its expense has necessarily reduced the number of new books. Cataloguing the gallery is now almost completed, and once again Miss Trengrouse has done all the real work.

The following presentations have been made:—

From Lady Connor:

- The Yellow Wagtail* (Stuart Smith).
- The Kon-Tiki Expedition* (Thor Heyerdahl).
- University Slang* (Morris Marples).
- The Way West* (A. B. Guthrie, Jr.).
- A History of England* (Keith Feiling).

From Mrs. S. B. Williamson:

- British Adventure* (edited by W. J. Turner).
- Impressions of English Literature* (edited by W. J. Turner).

From J. A. Chatwin (C):

- English Manuscripts of the 14th Century* (edited by Rev. Canon F. Harrison).

From D. H. Livermore (C):

- Practical Make-up for the Stage* (T. W. Bamford).

From R. W. K. Reeves (S):

- Down the Garden Path* (Beverley Nichols).

Anonymously:

- Elephant Bill* (Lt.-Col. J. H. Williams).

J.L.

C.C.F. NOTES

This has been a somewhat crowded and confused term in which the chief problem has been to find enough time for normal Certificate "A" training. It was disappointing that we had, in consequence, to devote the whole-day exercise to normal training and that it was not possible to fit in a second exercise and have the usual summer free-for-all battle. The situation has been further complicated by the tercentenary of the Coldstream Guards, which has compelled them to alter various dates. At the time of going to press neither Certificate "A" nor the Coldstream Cup Drill Competition have taken place, and all Corps activity has been concentrated for some time on preparation for these two events.

We are going this summer to Camp at Warminster and there is every sign that the Army is taking a lot of trouble to provide what we want. For once numbers seem likely to exceed expectation and Stowe will have no difficulty in forming a complete Company to itself.

Specialized post-Certificate "A" training has continued along the same lines. The Air Section is vigorously preparing for its proficiency examination and has had one outing of shameless pleasure—a visit to the Farnborough Air Display. The I.C.E. Section had its usual outing on the whole-day exercise and went to visit the Morris Works at Oxford. Most of its training this summer has been concerned with motor bicycles; so far nobody has killed himself.

There has been a welcome addition to the Officer strength in the person of Mr. Fox, who has been looking after the Musketry Class, though remaining firmly dressed as an R.A.F. Officer. Next term he will be able to feel more at home when he takes over the Air Section on the much regretted departure of Mr. Griffiths.

Promotions and appointments this term have been as follows:—

To *Under-Officer*: W. J. Grice (T), R. Brazil (C).

To *Sergeant*: M. Colston (G), G. T. Laing (B), P. M. Rossiter (C), P. G. Shinner (B), P. J. Harkness (T), J. K. Hirst (S), R. B. de Zouche (S), M. Bredin (B).

To *Corporal*: R. F. Proctor (G), S. J. Twist (G), P. J. Tickell (B), J. P. Arnold (S), C. H. Lezard (C), F. F. Graham (W), A. M. Whitty (T), M. J. Lloyd (C), F. R. G. Lowe (G), D. S. Duckworth (S), J. M. Harrop (C), R. M. Posnett (C), H. A. C. Fenwick (C), C. F. N. Hope (C), D. K. Helm (G), G. D. L. Adams (B).

To *Lance-Corporal*: J. W. L. Adams (B), T. Knight (B), A. M. Vinen (W), T. W. E. Robinson (T), T. E. B. Sopwith (G), R. Jameson (G), J. M. Lunn (C), S. A. Abbott (C), M. V. Benthall (S), E. M. R. Critchley (C), R. J. Ruhemann (C), H. R. Herrington (C), C. B. F. Rathbone (C), J. A. Y. French (C), J. S. Yates (C), H. J. Bonning (C), G. W. A. Kent (C), B. J. Calvert (G), J. P. D. Heyward (C), C. C. Malden (S), C. A. Little (S), G. F. Appleton (G), M. K. Gregory (C), R. H. de L. Hulton Harrop (C), M. J. Slater (T), S. Pendle (G).

SHOOTING

Last term the 1950 *Country Life* competition, for which we had been practising, was shot on Thursday, March 16th. The team, consisting of J. N. Vinen (W), M. W. Gratton Holt (W), H. W. Gray (W), C. F. N. Hope (C), G. R. T. Sorley (C), P. J. Harkness (T), G. F. Appleton (G), J. G. Rigg (W) and D. V. Fanshawe (W), scored 688 out of the possible 972, making Stowe 75th out of over 100 schools. The scores were the worst that term in the Group, Rapid, and Snap practices. A chief cause of this was the discouraging behaviour of the Mossberg rifles, which misfired and mis-ejected even more persistently than usual. The team was saved from complete ignominy by some excellent shooting on the landscape target, in which practice we were 27th equal, largely thanks to Hope's capable fire-orders.

On Thursday, March 9th, the VIII fired a postal match against Lancing College, and scored 588 out of 720. No score, however, was received from our opponents.

On the Saturday after the *Country Life* debacle, the VIII made their best total of the season, 608, in a postal match against Whitgift School, who none the less won by 32 points.

In the postal match the following week against Cranleigh School, Stowe again shot well, and were this time rewarded by a 10-point victory.

We were perhaps rather fortunate in that torrential rain on our open range prevented us from replying to Radley's fine total of 658.

It is regretted that no-one succeeded in winning either of the two Possibles Prizes, which seem to have asked too much of our present members.

No matches have been fixed this term, but regular practices have been attended by those who have been able to spare the time from more muscular activities. Some of the junior members of the club have shown promise, notably T. J. H. Downing (C), whose grouping on one occasion was almost too good to be believed.

It is hoped that next term the full complement of senior members will be present regularly, and that rifles will prove more amenable to maintenance. If both these conditions are fulfilled the fixture-list that has been arranged should provide victories as well as enjoyment.

J.N.V.

PHYSICAL TRAINING

The Inter-House P.T. Competition was held on Friday, 30th June, and resulted as follows:—

House	Seniors	Juniors	Aggregate.
Bruce	180	173	353
Temple	176½	175½	352
Chatham	170½	172	342½
Grenville	178½	151½	330
Chandos	166½	160½	327
Grafton	173	149	322
Cobham	164½	156	320½
Walpole	169½	151	320½

CRICKET

The results of 1st XI matches were as follows:—Played 14; Won 1; Drawn 9; Lost 4.

The season has been a most enjoyable one, and the XI has shown much better form than was anticipated. The batting improved considerably, as is borne out by the averages, and the side only once failed to run up a respectable total. Its weakest features were clumsy ground fielding, and the lack of a match-winning bowler. On the whole the catching was reasonably good.

Certainly only one match was won, but not more than four were lost, and of the drawn games a number might be claimed as favourable draws. The win against Buckingham, a local Derby, gave general satisfaction.

In inter-school matches the side was easily beaten by Radley, and lost to Oundle by 7 runs, racing against the clock in an effort to win. Drawn matches were played against Malvern, Bedford, St. Edward's and Bradfield.

H. J. Lloyd (T) proved to be a calm and unruffled captain, maintaining an excellent spirit in his side throughout the season, and setting a fine example in the field. He used the bowlers at his disposal to the best advantage, but did not have sufficient variety at his command. A good leg-break bowler or slow left-hander is badly needed. As a batsman, he started the season in great form with scores of 54, 52, 5, 94 and 84. He was unable to maintain so hot a pace, but will be available to captain the side again next year, and may then continue the good work, with the advantage of a year's valuable experience.

The most reliable and attractive batsman has been C. H. Lezard (C), who has played a number of valiant innings when things have not been going well, and has topped the batting averages. He has a wide range of strokes, but has often had to curb his natural instinct to score quickly, in the interest of safety. B. C. Harris (C) has improved considerably as a batsman, and with a wonderful eye and powerful arms, he has smitten the bowling well and truly on numerous occasions. H. R. V. Whitcombe (B) was regarded as a bowler at the beginning of the season; but

as his bowling deserted him his batting improved, and on being promoted to No. 3 he proceeded to become one of the chief run-scorers. He believes in hitting the ball hard, and if he can recover his bowling should be a very useful all-rounder next year. He is, in addition, a safe catch in the deep field.

A late arrival in the side, C. N. H. Hordern (W) started with 32 not out against Oundle at a rather critical moment, and followed this up with a forceful 50 not out against the Old Stoics. When he reached his hundredth run not out in the next match he received a small ovation. He finished with an average of 64.5 for 4 innings, which was very creditable. He is a good field, and, if he can develop his left-hand bowling, should be very useful next year. R. Lush (C) played a number of valuable innings, when he stayed at the wicket for long periods while his partner scored the runs. His fielding at cover-point was always alert, but was sometimes marred by poor throwing. H. R. Herrington (C) played several good innings, but was inconsistent, and C. C. Malden (S) never showed what a good batsman he can be.

Lack of a good slow bowler was the side's great weakness. H. J. Lloyd and R. Lush did what they could to provide variety, and each took useful wickets, but neither can yet be considered a good bowler. Lloyd is too inclined to under-estimate his ability, and could, with serious practice, become really useful. The main burden was borne by P. H. Molloy (C) and P. G. Harris (S), each of whom took 31 wickets, backed up by B. C. Harris, who took 20, but all three are much of a type. Molloy bowled very well at the start of the season, but met with less success later on, whereas both the Harrisès improved as the season advanced. P. G. Harris was very steady for so young a player, and made the ball go both ways off the seam. He was occasionally asked to bowl an unusually large number of overs, and was probably tired by the end of the season.

Lloyd, Whitcombe, Harris, Hordern and possibly Lezard will be available to form the nucleus of a new side next year, and there is plenty of promising material lower down.

STOWE v. THE CRYPTICS

Played at Stowe on Saturday, May 13th. Match drawn.

THE CRYPTICS					STOWE				
G. A. Wheatley, c Lloyd, b Molloy	61				H. J. Lloyd, c Newman, b Wimperis	54			
P. F. Kendle, st Grice, b Lloyd	114				H. R. Herrington, c Wheatley, b Chamberlain	42			
P. A. G. Chappel, b Molloy	29				C. C. Malden, st Wheatley, b Thornby-Taylor	4			
H. A. Cocking, b Lloyd	10				C. H. Lezard, not out	59			
W. R. F. Chamberlain, b Molloy	5				A. W. Fraser, b Wimperis	20			
T. T. Thornby-Taylor, not out	2				M. J. Fenwick, st Wheatley, b Wimperis	1			
Col. H. E. M. Newman, not out	3				R. Lush, not out	8			
L. M. T. Castle, C. E. Salaman, D. Mennim and E. J. Wimperis did not bat.					B. C. Harris, H. R. V. Whitcombe, P. H. Molloy, W. J. Grice did not bat.				
Extras	5				Extras	3			
Total (for 5 wks. dec.)	229				Total (for 5 wks.)	191			
	O.	M.	R.	W.		O.	M.	R.	W.
Molloy	21	3	78	3	Wimperis	25	8	79	3
Whitcombe	11	2	50	0	Thornby-Taylor	15	3	45	1
Harris (B. C.)	6	0	38	0	Chamberlain	11	2	24	1
Fenwick	3	0	18	0	Mennim	7	3	14	0
Lloyd	8	1	40	2	Chappel	6	1	26	0

STOWE v. OXFORD UNIVERSITY AUTHENTICS

Played at Stowe on Wednesday, May 17th. The Authentics won by 62 runs.

AUTHENTICS					STOWE				
P. S. R. Gifford, c Lloyd, b Molloy	4				H. J. Lloyd, c Henderson, b Wollcombe	52			
A. Chadwick, lbw, b Molloy	0				H. R. Herrington, run out	9			
J. C. Marshall, b Whitcombe	0				C. C. Malden, b Horrocks	0			
S. D. Evans, c Grice, b Molloy	7				C. H. Lezard, lbw, b Horrocks	7			
H. R. S. Rhys, b Fenwick	23				A. W. Fraser, c Horrocks, b Wollcombe	10			
A. Benthall, b Molloy	2				R. Lush, c Hooper, b Wollcombe	17			
P. R. Lloyd Morgan, c Grice, b Whitcombe	35				M. J. Fenwick, c Ll. Morgan, b Wollcombe	0			
R. H. Wollcombe, st Grice, b Fenwick	34				B. C. Harris, lbw, b Wollcombe	2			
R. Henderson, b Harris	56				H. R. V. Whitcombe, not out	20			
L. Horrocks, c Molloy, b Fenwick	15				P. H. Molloy, c Gifford, b Chadwick	2			
M. Hooper, not out	7				W. J. Grice, b Horrocks	0			
Extras	11				Extras	13			
Total	194				Total	132			
	O.	M.	R.	W.		O.	M.	R.	W.
Molloy	14	4	26	4	Hooper	8	2	15	0
Whitcombe	16	0	52	2	Horrocks	12.3	5	26	3
Harris (B. C.)	12	0	40	1	Lloyd Morgan	9	0	28	0
Lloyd	2	0	12	0	Wollcombe	12	2	35	5
Fenwick	12.5	1	53	3	Henderson	6	1	15	0
					Chadwick	1	1	0	1

STOWE v. MALVERN

Played at Malvern on Saturday, May 20th. Match drawn.

When the bus left Stowe, at 8.15 a.m., the sky was dark and a thin rain was falling, but the wireless had said that better weather would spread across the country from the south-west, and we pinned our hopes on this. At Stratford it was raining really hard, and there appeared to be little prospect of any play, but as we neared Malvern conditions improved, though the sun still refused to appear.

On arrival it was decided that we should have an early lunch and start play at 1.30, but eventually play began at 1.55. Stowe won the toss and Lloyd and Herrington went in to bat on a very wet wicket. Conditions were all in favour of the bat, but Lloyd was well caught at short leg off the first ball of the second over of the match, with the score at 5. Lush, who was being tried at number 3 for the first time, played a sharply rising ball off the shoulder of his bat before he had scored, and was smartly caught by first slip. This was a bad start, but Lezard and Herrington now batted very soundly, and began to look perfectly happy, and the wicket played easily.

Soon the Malvern captain made a double bowling change, and Herrington, playing back to a well pitched up ball, chopped it into his stumps when the score had reached 41. His 28 had been made in a most competent manner. Fraser and Harris were quickly dismissed, and Stowe had lost five wickets for 48 runs. Lezard, who was batting very soundly, was now joined by Whitcombe, and these two began to retrieve the situation. The Malvern fielding, which had been good up to this point, now deteriorated sadly, and suddenly, for no apparent reason, both Lezard and Whitcombe began to push the ball gently into the air, but were for a time preserved from disaster by Providence. At 90 Whitcombe was caught, and B. C. Harris, who now joined Lezard, opened his score with a perfect off-drive for 4 off his second ball. Lezard had now settled down again, and was batting very comfortably, and had been farming the bowling very skilfully. Harris hit the ball hard, though not always discreetly. Fortune was, however, on his side, and his 34 runs were a most valuable contribution. When he was eventually bowled, Fenwick joined Lezard and contrived to play back to the slow bowlers, as he had been advised to do. In an attempt to steal the bowling Lezard called for a run where there clearly was none, and, being sent back, was run out when his wicket was thrown down. Fenwick now unfortunately decided to rush down the pitch to a ball well short of a length, and was stumped a long way from home. Molloy, who had despatched his first ball fiercely to the leg boundary and had added a useful 10, was joined by Grice, who executed one perfect off-drive for 4, and several extremely unorthodox strokes, the last of which sent the ball gently up into the middle of the pitch, where the bowler made an easy catch, and so the Stowe innings ended at 168.

The Malvern innings began sensationally, Molloy bowling Dowdeswell with the second ball of the innings. He clean bowled Chadder in his next over, with the score at 10, and then had Pegley caught at the wicket. Gregory, the Malvern captain, did not stay long, being easily caught by Fenwick off Whitcombe. Malvern had then lost 4

wickets for a mere 10 runs, and a Stowe victory seemed well in sight. Molloy and Whitcombe were both changed after a further two overs each, and were replaced by Fenwick, slow leg breaks, and B.C. Harris, medium. Fenwick's first over was very erratic and costly, and Harris did not trouble Brough and Macmillan, who began to settle down, though scoring very slowly at first. Another double bowling change was soon made, Lloyd and Lush replacing Fenwick and Harris. Both these bowlers kept a steady length, and Lloyd failed to hold a difficult catch off his own bowling. Lush had not been used as a bowler in previous matches, but he managed to break up the partnership by having Brough well caught by Fraser at deep mid-on. This seemed to be the moment to bring Molloy back to the attack. He had taken the first three wickets and had had a good rest, but Lloyd preferred to persevere with Lush, and then gave P. G. Harris a try. Harris bowled very steadily, and had three catches dropped off his bowling, two difficult chances by himself, and one not so difficult by silly point. Interest in any result had vanished by this time, and the score gradually crept up with Macmillan and French batting very steadily and taking no chances. Molloy had a further six overs, but did not manage to dislodge either batsman, and so the game ended rather tamely after each side had begun in a breath-taking manner.

STOWE					MALVERN				
H. J. Lloyd, c Ross, b Gregory.....				5	R. H. Chadder, b Molloy.....				6
H. R. Herrington, b Pegley.....				28	A. A. Dowdeswell, b Molloy				0
R. Lush, c Rust, b French.....				0	A. A. Gregory, c Fenwick, b Whitcombe				4
C. H. Lezard, run out.....				65	B. J. C. E. Pegley, c Grice, b Molloy.....				0
A. W. Fraser, c Summers, b Pegley.....				0	D. W. T. Brough, c Fraser, b Lush.....				34
P. G. Harris, c Erskine, b Rust.....				0	T. R. A. Macmillan, not out.....				52
H. R. V. Whitcombe, c Chadder, b French				10	D. French, not out.....				15
B. C. Harris, b Brough.....				34	D. R. L. Erskine, W. J. T. Ross, J. O.				
M. J. Fenwick, st Summers, b Rust.....				4	Rust, and C. M. de S. Summers did				
P. H. Molloy, not out.....				10	not bat.				
W. J. Grice, c and b Brough.....				4					
Extras				8	Extras				7
Total				168	Total (for 5 wkts.).....				118

	O.	M.	R.	W.		O.	M.	R.	W.
French	10	3	29	2	Molloy	11	2	24	3
Gregory	9	1	25	1	Whitcombe	7	2	22	1
Pegley	8	2	30	2	Fenwick.....	3	1	14	0
Rust	14	2	44	2	Harris (B. C.)	3	1	8	0
Ross	3	0	3	0	Lush	6	0	19	1
Chadder	4	0	21	0	Lloyd	4	0	9	0
Brough	8.5	3	8	2	Harris (P. G.)	5	2	15	0

STOWE v. BEDFORD

This match was played at Bedford on Saturday, June 10th, and resulted in a draw.

On arrival at Bedford there appeared to be every prospect of an unusually hot day, and the wicket was absolutely plumb. The winning of the toss would be an important factor, as the side fielding first would probably have to bat after a long and tiring day in the field.

Lloyd had already had the misfortune to lose the toss six times out of seven, and he lost it again against Bedford, who decided to bat. Into the field again went Stowe, but things began to happen very quickly, and hopes of not so long a day in the field began to fill our minds. P. G. Harris and Molloy opened the bowling, and in Harris's second over, with the score at 7, Wall held on to a good catch at first slip. Lloyd set an attacking field with a silly short leg and silly point for both bowlers. He now added another short leg for Molloy, and the fieldsman put down a fairly easy chance off the very next ball. The same batsman, Miller, had a narrow escape in the slips shortly afterwards, and Stowe supporters wondered whether things would go right after all. However, both bowlers were accurate, and soon Meeson gave Lush a simple catch at short leg off P. G. Harris. Meeson had been top scorer for Bedford in the previous year, and Stowe was pleased to see him go. Wynn-Williams and Miller took the score from 12 to 43 by steady batting, and Wynn-Williams then chopped a ball from P. G. Harris into his stumps. Almost at once Miller was bowled by P. G. Harris with a ball which the batsman left entirely alone. Lush and Lloyd bowled an over or two of slower stuff, and then B. C. Harris came on, and in his fourth over bowled Briggs. Bedford had by now lost 5 wickets for 58 and Hogg and Cartwright set about retrieving the situation. Both batted well and at lunch the score had advanced to 77 for 5. Stowe's bowling had been excellent and fielding satisfactory. P. G. Harris kept a beautiful length, and made the ball go both ways on a hard wicket. He had taken the first four wickets, and Lloyd awarded him his colours during the interval.

Off the first over or two after lunch runs came rather quickly, and the score had reached 92 before Hogg was bowled by P. G. Harris. Allen began to dig himself in, and played extremely well. Stowe's bowling never became at all loose, but it began to look a little tired. The side's fielding maintained a satisfactory standard, but more runs would have been saved if silly point had been moved back to extra cover when the batsmen had played themselves in.

At 114 B. C. Harris had Cartwright easily caught at short leg by Whitcombe, and Mounfield was caught at the wicket by Grice off P. G. Harris. Allen and F. S. Steven added a further 23 runs for the ninth wicket and kept the Stowe side longer in the sun, but at last Allen offered a very difficult catch off B. C. Harris to P. G. Harris at slip, and it was snapped up. Now the last two were in, and we had been assured that neither had made any runs previously. Surely the innings must end soon! But it was not to be until 27 valuable runs had been added without any chance being offered. The end came at about 4 o'clock with a considerable misunderstanding between the batsmen, which resulted in one being run out by a number of yards. Lloyd captained the side well, but 31 overs was perhaps rather a tax on the strength of so young a player as P. G. Harris. All stuck to their task well and never relaxed, but 173 was a fair score after 58 for 5 wickets.

Tea was taken between the innings and Stowe was left with approximately 135 minutes to get 174 runs to win, but a long and hot day in the field had taken the edge off the batting before the innings began. Wall flicked at a rising ball outside his off stump and was easily caught at the wicket when the score had reached 15. Herrington fell to a well-known weakness, and was caught at short leg reaching too far forward. Lezard now joined Lloyd and one felt that there was no reason why these two should not alter the situation entirely—but a major disaster now occurred. Lloyd called for what appeared to be an easy run, then changed his mind and tried to send Lezard back. Lezard had gone too far and could not turn, and so Lloyd made for the opposite end, and was even then only run out by a small margin. All chance of victory had now disappeared, and defeat seemed quite probable, but Lezard took the situation in hand, and farmed the bowling with considerable skill. Whether he was right to refuse to hit anything, half-volley or full toss, is to be questioned, but stay he had to, and stay he did. Whitson, Lush and Whitcombe failed to remain for long, and with the score showing 54 for 6 wickets, the outlook was indeed bleak, and about an hour's play remained.

B. C. Harris now joined Lezard and these two played out time in a heroic manner. At first they refused to take the remotest chance, and patted the ball about with infinite caution, but as the minutes ticked away they began to open out, and treated the spectators to some lovely drives. The Bedford bowling was decidedly good, and was backed up by keen fielding. Mounfield made the ball go away a great deal at medium pace, and Allen bowled slow left-hand with great accuracy and considerable guile. What a blessing to a side such a bowler is!

BEDFORD					STOWE				
D. A. W. Evans, c Wall, b P. G. Harris				4	H. J. Lloyd, run out				17
M. S. Meeson, c Lush, b P. G. Harris				7	O. T. Wall, c F. S. Steven, b Mounfield				10
C. D. Miller, b P. G. Harris				19	H. R. Herrington, c Meeson, b Cartwright				1
D. R. Wynn-Williams, b P. G. Harris				15	C. H. Lezard, not out				51
D. A. Briggs, b B. C. Harris				6	T. D. Whitson, c Meeson, b Allen				0
R. I. T. Hogg, b P. G. Harris				25	R. Lush, b Mounfield				2
R. L. Cartwright, c Whitcombe, b B. C. Harris				24	H. R. V. Whitcombe, c Wynn-Williams, b Allen				2
M. H. J. Allen, c P. G. Harris, b B. C. Harris				29	B. C. Harris, not out				38
P. A. Mounfield, c Grice, b P. G. Harris				8	P. G. Harris, P. H. Molloy and W. J. Grice did not bat.				
F. S. Steven, not out				24					
J. S. Steven, run out				8					
Extras				4					7
Total				173					128
	O.	M.	R.	W.		O.	M.	R.	W.
Molloy	17	3	46	0	Mounfield	13	3	31	2
Harris (P. G.)	31	9	60	6	Steven (J. S.)	3	0	9	0
Lush	5	2	18	0	Cartwright	16	4	33	1
Lloyd	2	0	6	0	Allen	20	4	33	2
Harris (B. C.)	15.1	5	38	3	Meeson	3	0	7	0
Whitcombe	2	1	1	0	Briggs	2	0	8	0

STOWE v. RADLEY

This match was played at Radley on Tuesday, June 13th, and was lost by 120 runs.

Owing to having to sit for an examination at Cambridge Lloyd was unable to captain the side in this match, and Lezard deputised for him. He emulated the captain in the matter of the toss, losing for the eighth time in nine matches, and Stowe had to field.

The weather was decidedly cool after the recent hot spell, and there was a distinct smell of rain in the air. The wicket, however, was rocklike, and looked as if the ball might possibly lift off it.

Molloy and P. G. Harris opened the bowling and met with early success, Molloy causing Cocks to play a ball onto his wicket, and Harris had Walton well caught at cover point by Lush. Britten, who was getting the ball well into the middle of his bat, was now joined by Dexter, who was eligible for the Junior Colts (under 15) at the beginning of the term, and these two took the score to 75 by very competent batting. Lezard switched his bowlers about a good deal, and tried Whitcombe rather earlier than usual. His first over resulted in 8 runs and 4 byes, and he did not look dangerous, bowling far too much on the leg side. Lush replaced Whitcombe and clean bowled Britten in his first over. Hughes, who had made a century against the Free Foresters, came in next, and he and Dexter took the score along at a fair pace, never failing to punish anything loose, particularly on the leg side, and they were given rather too many opportunities to do this. B. C. Harris bowled with plenty of life, and reasonable accuracy, and made the ball lift, but, though the batsmen often played at the off ball, they did not offer a catch. P. G. Harris did not have the life in his bowling that he had had at Bedford, and was possibly still feeling the effects of his efforts there. Lush was brought on once more at the opposite end to his previous spell, and again got a wicket in his first over, having Britten caught at mid-on off a mishit. Whitcombe was tried again, and off his second ball, a long hop, Molloy made an excellent catch off a hard hit to short leg, to dismiss Dexter, who had made a very good 73 runs. Merrick and Patten now added 64 by good cricket before Merrick was well caught by B. C. Harris off P. G. Harris, high up at second slip. The next man shared the same fate, and Grice caught the next man behind the wicket. Radley declared at 251 for 9 wickets, leaving Stowe sufficient time to get the runs.

Stowe's batting was undistinguished. The Radley bowling, apart from J. D. Dexter, who was rather faster than our side had previously encountered, was no more than moderate, and could not be held entirely responsible for Stowe's downfall. After Wall and Herrington had been quickly dismissed, Lezard joined Whitcombe, but on this occasion he could not retrieve a poor start. After shaping to hit the ball hard over the bowler's head, he changed his mind and offered him a simple catch. Bannister, in his first match for the school, was faced with a nasty situation, coming in with the score at 31 for 3 wickets. However, he was not overawed, and helped to add 40 runs before he was caught. Whitcombe, who had been promoted from No. 7 to No. 3, batted very well, but he eventually fell to the fast bowler. Apart from B. C. Harris, the remaining Stowe batsmen offered little resistance, and the side was all out for 131 runs. As at Bedford, B. C. Harris batted splendidly, and hit the ball some resounding blows. At one time it looked even possible that he might play out time by some judicious farming of the bowling, but it was not to be, and Radley won for the third year in succession.

RADLEY					STOWE				
J. R. M. Britten, b Lush				20	O. T. Wall, lbw, b J. D. Dexter				3
M. G. Cocks, b Molloy				3	H. R. Herrington, c J. Dexter, b E. Dexter				14
A. C. Walton, c Lush, b P. G. Harris				5	H. R. V. Whitcombe, lbw, b J. D. Dexter				23
E. R. Dexter, c Molloy, b Whitcombe				73	C. H. Lezard, c and b Walton				2
J. de C. Hughes, c Whitcombe, b Lush				24	M. J. R. Bannister, c Hughes, b Collings				23
P. J. M. Patten, b Molloy				37	B. C. Harris, not out				49
A. J. M. Merrick, c B. C. Harris, b P. G. Harris				38	R. Lush, c Dexter, b Walton				1
A. V. Moore, c B. C. Harris, b P. G. Harris				9	T. D. Whitson, b Walton				7
R. W. Napier, c Grice, b B. C. Harris				11	P. G. Harris, c and b Walton				0
E. M. Collings, not out				10	P. H. Molloy, c E. R. Dexter, b Walton				0
J. D. Dexter, not out				8	W. J. Grice, c and b Walton				2
Extras				13	Extras				7
Total (for 9 wkts. dec.)				251	Total				131
	O.	M.	R.	W.		O.	M.	R.	W.
Molloy	11	2	42	2	Dexter (J.D.)	18	5	56	2
Harris (P. G.)	17	2	66	3	Collings	9	2	15	1
Harris (B. C.)	16	3	49	1	Dexter (E. R.)	8	2	23	1
Whitcombe	7	2	26	1	Walton	12.5	3	30	6
Lush	12	0	55	2					

STOWE v. ST. EDWARD'S, OXFORD

This match was played at Stowe on Wednesday, June 21st, and ended in a draw.

The wireless had predicted that the weather would be cloudy, but did not envisage much rain. Nevertheless there was a good deal of rain, much of which was ignored by both sides, who were determined to do all they could to obtain a result. The umpires were the greatest sufferers, being compelled to remain exposed to the weather for longer than anyone else.

The Stowe innings mainly consisted of a magnificent effort by Lezard, who took charge of an unpromising situation, and by delightful batting and good management eventually gave Stowe a chance of victory. Up to lunch time nobody managed to stay with him for long, and in practically every case the batsmen contributed largely to their own downfall. Lloyd tried to turn a ball to leg, and was caught off the edge of his bat; Malden played back to a well pitched-up ball; Herrington was caught off a full-toss; and Whitcombe was bowled by one. B. C. Harris then joined Lezard, and great things were expected of him after his innings in the recent Bedford and Radley matches. He too refused to allow the bowlers to fail, and took a highly agricultural mow at the last ball before lunch, and was caught in the slips. 61 for 6 at lunch time was far from good, but was reminiscent of the last match played between St. Edward's and Stowe on the Stowe ground, and Stowe had won on that occasion!

Soon after lunch play was stopped by heavy rain for about half an hour, and when it was resumed Lush gave Lezard some valuable support. He did not score much, but there he stayed for a considerable time, and when he was eventually run out, calling for an unlikely run, the total had risen to 106 for 7 wickets. P. G. Harris carried on the

THE STOIC

good work and played his best innings so far this season. At 157 Lezard was caught at deep mid-off failing to get hold of an off drive, and soon after a whirlwind 13 by Molloy Stowe's innings ended at 165. St. Edward's had fielded through some distinctly heavy rain without showing the slightest inclination to return to the pavilion, and managed to bowl and field with reasonable accuracy in very trying conditions.

In order to win St. Edward's had to score 166 runs in 106 minutes, that is at a rate of a little over 90 an hour. Their opening batsmen soon settled down and began to look very safe, but they did not manage to score very fast at first. They were, however, laying a good foundation, and with the score at 60 for no wicket they appeared to have a chance of victory if the later batsmen could increase the rate of scoring. At 61, M. E. Thorne played a ball from P. G. Harris onto his wicket, and soon afterwards Jackson was out in much the same way, the ball going from his glove onto the stumps. Stowe had had the better of conditions in the field, but had to field through some light rain. Now quite a strong breeze arose from the north west, and this assisted B. C. Harris to bowl rather faster than usual from the north end. First he had Brockman well held at slip by P. G. Harris, and clean bowled four others, finishing with the good figures of 5 wickets for 31. At the close of play, St. Edward's were still 48 runs behind with three wickets in hand.

STOWE					ST. EDWARDS				
H. J. Lloyd, c and b McCaig				11	M. E. Thorne, b P. G. Harris				24
C. C. Malden, b McCaig				13	P. W. H. Jackson, b P. G. Harris				37
O. T. Wall, c Gilbert-Smith, b Currey				0	A. Brockman, c P. G. Harris, b B. C. Harris				5
C. H. Lezard, c M. E. Thorne, b Currey				75	R. Lock, b B. C. Harris				7
H. R. Herrington, c and b Lock				3	J. S. Smith, not out				24
H. R. V. Whitcombe, b Lock				7	D. C. Thorne, b B. C. Harris				0
B. C. Harris, c Temple, b D. C. Thorne				8	D. K. Gardiner, b B. C. Harris				14
R. Lush, run out				9	D. S. Gilbert-Smith, b B. C. Harris				1
P. G. Harris, b Smith				19	D. Temple, not out				3
P. H. Molloy, c Currey, b Smith				13	J. N. McCaig and J. D. Currey did not bat.				
J. W. Grice, not out				2	Extras				2
Extras				5	Total (for 7 wkts.)				117
Total				165					

	O.	M.	R.	W.		O.	M.	R.	W.
McCaig	10	3	25	2	Molloy	6	1	16	0
Currey	15	2	35	2	Harris (P. G.)	11	1	37	2
Lock	15	6	19	2	Harris (B. C.)	12	5	31	5
Gardiner	19	3	42	0	Lush	5	0	31	0
Smith	6.2	2	22	2					
Thorne (D. C.)	7	1	17	1					

STOWE v. OUNDLE

Played at Stowe on Saturday, June 24th. Oundle won by 7 runs.

Oundle won the toss and decided to bat on a firm easy-paced wicket. Molloy and P. G. Harris, who opened the bowling, gave nothing away, and only 11 runs were scored off the first eight overs. Lloyd then brought on B. C. Harris in place of Molloy. He opened with two maiden overs, and then P. G. Harris had Massey well caught at



ESCAMILLO



Photos by]

DON JOSÉ AND CARMEN
"CARMEN"
May 19th and 20th

[O.T.W.]

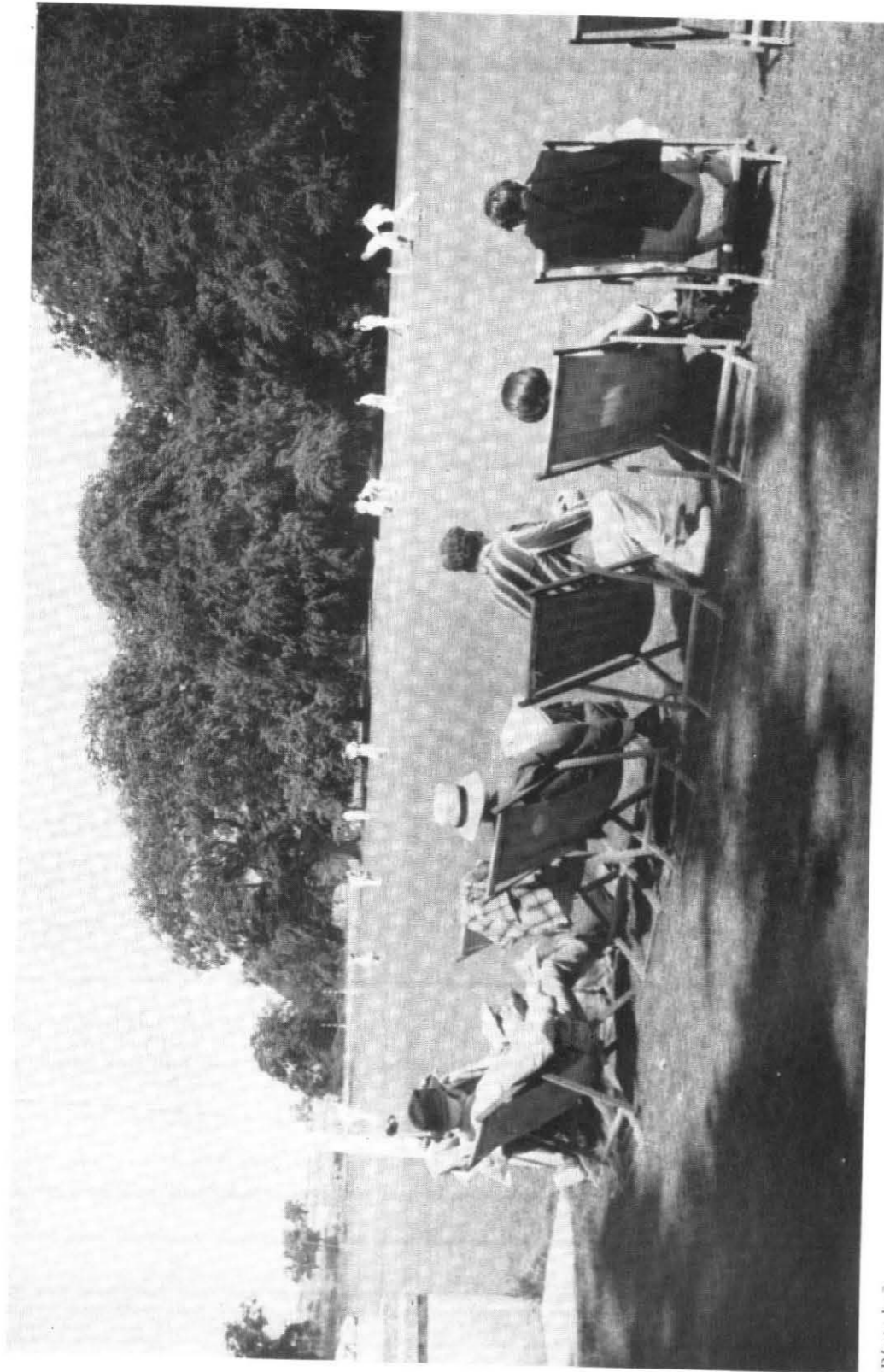


Photo by]

STOWE v. ETON RAMBLERS
July 8th

[O.T.W.]

slip by Molloy, with the score at 17. Milligan now joined Price, who was batting well and who was likely to be Oundle's best run-getter. Soon P. G. Harris was rested and Lush came on with slow off-breaks. This change of pace was immediately successful, as Milligan was caught on the boundary by Malden when the score had reached 39. Skliros and Price then came together and were unseparated at lunch.

After lunch, when the score had reached 83, Price deflected a ball on the leg side from P. G. Harris, and was well taken by Grice standing back. Remembering his 97 of the previous year Stowe's supporters were relieved to see him go, but he had batted well for his 41, which proved to be the top score on the Oundle side. In P. G. Harris's next over, Lowe, the Oundle captain, conscious perhaps of the gaze of his parents, received an off break which clean bowled him after he had scored one. Woodhouse and Skliros added 22 for the next wicket, and then three wickets fell in quick succession, two to B.C. Harris in one over, and one to P. G. Harris. The score now read 117 for 7 and the Stowe side had every reason to feel pleased with itself. But Oundle were not to be finished off yet. Fetherston and Botwood contributed a further 30 runs for the eighth wicket before Fetherston was easily run out. Nineteen runs later, Botwood was very smartly stumped by Grice off Lloyd's bowling, and with Lloyd also claiming the last wicket the Oundle innings closed at 3.30 for 170 runs.

This was a score well within Stowe's capacity, and the side's work in the field is to be commended, particularly the bowling of P. G. Harris, who took 4 for 52 in 25 overs. However, shocks were in store, and the spectators did not have to wait long to receive them. Lloyd scored one off the fourth ball of the innings, and Malden, leaving the first ball he received entirely alone, was out lbw. In Armitage's second over Lloyd tried to turn a ball to leg, and was caught by slip when he skied it straight up off the edge of his bat. Two wickets were now down for 6 runs, and Lezard joined Whitcombe, who promptly offered mid-off a simple catch, which he failed to accept. These two now began to settle down, and Stowe's supporters began to breathe more easily, but the tea interval intervened and might well have proved their undoing.

Tea did not appear to upset the batsmen, and when the score had reached 60 without further loss, the writer decided to take the Oundle cricket master to look at the Colts game on the South Front. When returning to the North Front after a brief inspection of the Colts, the Oundle master supposed that the score would probably be 80 or so for 2, and the Stowe master jocularly hazarded that it might well be 80 for 5. To his horror he found that it was actually 72 for 5! Lezard had been bowled after making a valuable 28, and Fraser and B. C. Harris had been dismissed by Lowe in one over.

Hordern, playing in his first school match, joined Whitcombe at a nasty moment, and these two staged a recovery by good batting, and took the score to 108, when Whitcombe was out. After his early escape he played an excellent innings, and his 60 runs were invaluable. Lush now joined Hordern, and a further 38 runs were added by calm and sensible play. This brought Stowe within striking distance, for when Lush was out three wickets remained and 25 runs were needed to win. The clock was creeping round to 7, and the Stowe captain decided that it was to be neck or nothing, and sent in Molloy, hoping for quick runs from a few of his fierce sweeps. But this gamble failed, and P. G. Harris joined Hordern. Neither are really fast scorers, but both did their best to bustle the score along, and the Oundle bowling was beginning to look tired. With a minute or two to go and 7 runs still to be made P. G. Harris took a rather

rustic swing at the ball, and was caught. Grice, last man in, came to the wicket, and the policy was still "hit to win"; but it was not to be, and he was caught in the gully off the second ball of the last over, as the clock was striking seven, and Oundle had won.

OUNDE	
M. J. O. Massey, c Molloy, b P. G. Harris	6
F. S. Price, c Grice, b P. G. Harris	41
N. W. Milligan, c Malden, b Lush	6
M. P. Skliros, b B. C. Harris	34
C. M. Lowe, b P. G. Harris	1
A. J. P. Woodhouse, b P. G. Harris	17
J. M. Pickard, lbw, b B. C. Harris	0
J. M. Fetherston, run out	14
R. P. Botwood, st Grice, b Lloyd	24
A. R. Armitage, c Whitcombe, b Lloyd	6
A. L. Whittle, not out	3
Extras	18
Total	170

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Molloy	9	1	22	0
Harris (P. G.)	25	6	52	4
Harris (B. C.)	19	4	39	2
Lush	6	0	26	1
Lloyd	5	0	13	2

STOWE	
H. J. Lloyd, c Pickard, b Armitage	6
C. C. Malden, lbw, b Armitage	0
H. R. V. Whitcombe, c Skliros, b Armitage	60
C. H. Lezard, b Pickard	28
A. W. Fraser, b Lowe	1
B. C. Harris, b Lowe	0
C. N. H. Hordern, not out	32
R. Lush, c Price, b Armitage	21
P. G. Harris, c Armitage, b Lowe	6
P. H. Molloy, c Skliros, b Armitage	0
W. J. Grice, c Skliros, b Armitage	0
Extras	9
Total	163

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Armitage	31	8	64	6
Lowe	22	4	42	3
Whittle	8	3	16	0
Botwood	2	0	7	0
Woodhouse	2	0	8	0
Pickard	14	2	17	1

STOWE v. OLD STOICS

Played at Stowe on Saturday, July 1st. Match drawn.

STOWE	
C. C. Malden, b Loup	24
O. T. Wall, lbw, b Crossley	4
H. R. V. Whitcombe, b Crossley	18
C. H. Lezard, c Arnold, b Short	91
H. J. Lloyd, c Arnold, b Loup	19
H. R. Herrington, run out	6
C. N. H. Hordern, not out	50
B. C. Harris, not out	13
P. G. Harris, P. H. Molloy and W. J. Grice did not bat.	
Extras	28
Total (for 6 wkts. dec.)	253

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Crossley	18	2	50	2
Short	16	3	48	1
Connell	12	1	55	0
Loup	11	2	48	2
Stewart	4	1	9	0
Struthers	3	0	15	0

OLD STOICS	
A. J. Struthers, b Molloy	4
M. D. T. Loup, b Molloy	16
R. H. G. Carr, c Grice, b P. G. Harris	68
N. Barling, c Herrington, b Lloyd	57
D. A. Connell, not out	77
J. M. Connell, b B. C. Harris	9
C. E. Salamon, run out	0
W. R. G. Short, not out	7
J. J. Crossley, E. M. Arnold and B. A. Stewart did not bat.	
Extras	12
Total (for 6 wkts.)	250

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Molloy	12	1	44	2
Harris (P. G.)	19	2	72	1
Harris (B. C.)	6	0	33	1
Lloyd	9	1	47	1
Herrington	3	0	22	0
Lezard	2	0	20	0

STOWE v. BRADFIELD

Played at Stowe on Wednesday, July 5th. Match drawn.

Lloyd contrived to lose the toss again, and Stowe once more took the field, on a rather heavy day with threatening clouds about. Quarrington was soon out to a good slip catch by Molloy off P. G. Harris, but then ensued a distressing series of missed opportunities, when Lee might have been dismissed for a small score. None of the catches were easy, but all catchable, and when three had gone to ground things looked black for Stowe with 60 for 1 on the board. Then, however, Hordern brought off a most spectacular catch at leg slip, falling sideways to hold on to a hard hit that he could scarcely have had time to see, and Featherstonehaugh was out. Taylor stayed with Lee for the addition of 30 runs before Lush caught him, making 3 for 95. Denham and Lee took part in a long stand before Lloyd, at silly point, threw himself right across the pitch to catch Denham of P. G. Harris for 40, and two runs later Harris clean bowled Lee. Lee had been distinctly lucky to make 101, having been missed several times, but he hit some very good shots, particularly straight drives. He was, perhaps, assisted by some rather unimaginative field-placing to start with; one slip being obviously insufficient for the faster bowlers. Chaffer was very well caught and bowled by B. C. Harris, and Laimbier left almost immediately, clean bowled by the same bowler. D. J. Kerr was caught by Grice off Molloy at 234, having scored 38, and Bradfield declared at 4 o'clock, when tea was taken.

It was at this moment that we were informed that Bradfield had a particularly strong bowling side, having ten possible bowlers, three of them really good, and that Lancing had recently been dismissed by them for 25 runs. When Malden and Herrington opened it seemed that something of the sort was to occur again, as Malden was dropped almost at once, and then bowled by Lee with the score at 3, whilst Whitcombe, after hitting one or two good shots, was caught by Laimbier off Beauford, and Herrington followed rapidly, clean bowled by Short. Lezard and Hordern retrieved the situation with some good steady batting, both remaining in for over an hour before Lezard was caught scooping up the ball to Beauford after scoring 24. During this stand Hordern got a round of applause for scoring his hundredth run for the school without being out. Lloyd only remained for two minutes, being out lbw not attempting to play a ball which appeared to be an unexpected off break, which struck his pads firmly. Hordern was next out, being rather unlucky to play a ball from Taylor onto his wicket, and with 6 down for 84, and nearly an hour to go, things looked grim once more, particularly as the light was very bad. However, B. C. Harris looked confident and hit the ball hard, scoring 59 in 55 minutes, and Lush did not appear at all troubled after his first ball or two. These two appeared quite capable of staying for ever, and scoring all the runs required, but stumps were drawn at 7 with the score at 158 for 6. Bradfield had tried 7 of their 10 bowlers, all of whom bowled fairly steadily, and placed the field well. Their ground fielding deteriorated a little towards the end, and they had not the opportunity to bring off the startling catches which Stowe rejoiced in, nor to miss the easier ones which were put down in the sad pre-lunch period.

BRADFIELD			
J. L. Quarrington, c Molloy, b P. G. Harris			1
C. B. R. Featherstonehaugh, c Hordern, b P. G. Harris			27
C. J. Lee, b P. G. Harris	101		
M. E. Taylor, c Lush, b Lloyd			7
N. L. Denham, c Lloyd, b P. G. Harris			40
J. M. Chaffer, c and b B. C. Harris			8
D. J. Kerr, c Grice, b Molloy			38
W. Laimbier, b B. C. Harris			0
J. J. Broad, not out			2
M. Beauford and P. P. Short did not bat.			
Extras			8

Total (for 8 wkts. dec.) 232

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Molloy	21	2	3	84
Harris (P. G.)	23	4	6	1
Lloyd	8	0	30	1
Harris (B. C.)	14	5	29	3
Lush	3	0	20	0

STOWE			
C. C. Malden, b Lee			3
H. R. Herrington, b Short			9
H. R. V. Whitcombe, c Laimbier, b Beauford			15
C. H. Lezard, c Beauford, b Broad			24
H. J. Lloyd, lbw, b Taylor			0
C. N. H. Hordern, b Taylor			23
B. C. Harris, not out			59
R. Lush, not out			23
P. G. Harris, P. H. Molloy and W. J. Grice did not bat.			
Extras			2

Total (for 6 wkts.) 158

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Beauford	12	6	19	1
Lee	11	4	19	1
Quarrington	8	0	20	0
Short	12	2	38	1
Broad	5	1	10	1
Taylor	11	0	47	2
Kerr	1	0	3	0

STOWE v. ETON RAMBLERS

Played at Stowe on Saturday, July 8th. Match drawn.

ETON RAMBLERS			
O. T. Wall, b Molloy			0
N. Dunne, b Lush			31
O. Fiennes, c and b Whitcombe			82
P. G. G. Chappell, c B. C. Harris, b Molloy			51
C. T. Keyser, not out			44
M. J. R. Bannister, lbw, b P. G. Harris			0
E. J. B. Wynyard, b Molloy			7
W. H. Bradshaw, b B. C. Harris			17
J. A. Whitmore, not out			6
B. J. Calvert and S. Pendle did not bat.			
Extras			7

Total (for 7 wkts. dec.) 245

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Molloy	18	1	62	3
Harris (P. G.)	17	3	45	1
Lush	12	0	60	1
Harris (B. C.)	10	0	47	1
Whitcombe	4	0	18	1
Lloyd	2	0	6	0

STOWE			
H. J. Lloyd, c Bradshaw, b Chappell			39
H. R. Herrington, st Calvert, b Chappell			39
H. R. V. Whitcombe, b Bradshaw			52
C. H. Lezard, b Chappell			2
C. C. Malden, c Bannister, b Whitmore			19
C. N. H. Hordern, st Calvert, b Chappell			24
B. C. Harris, b Chappell			1
P. G. Harris, c Fiennes, b Bradshaw			0
R. Lush, not out			3
P. H. Molloy, b Chappell			2
W. J. Grice, not out			0
Extras			12

Total (for 9 wkts.) 193

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Dunne	7	0	26	0
Bradshaw	17	4	35	2
Chappell	16	2	52	6
Pendle	6	0	23	0
Whitmore	5	0	19	1
Keyser	4	0	26	0

2ND XI

Played 12 ; Won 5 ; Drawn 5 ; Lost 2.

The team had a thoroughly successful season and one that was enjoyed by all members to the full. Good aggressive cricket was played and most of the drawn games saw our opponents in a muddle and playing out time.

The batting was fairly sound ; someone always seemed to come to the rescue when things got out of hand. Only twice did we score under a hundred runs, and one of those games was won. The only occasion when the batting really broke down was against Bedford—one of the worst teams we played. The team then gave a quite inept performance, and the efforts of the members to play a very ordinary slow bowler would have been funny if they had not been tragic. Generally the last few batsmen did not get an innings, and so the Captain, our number 9, promoted himself to No. 1 and proved astonishingly efficient. Nos. 10 and 11 were with difficulty prevented from doing the same and so order was restored. The tail came into its own against Rugby when Nos. 9 and 10 made the odd thirty-five runs in singles to gain a mighty victory.

Useful scores were made by C. C. Malden (6), whose fifty against Radley in forty minutes was the best innings of the season, M. J. Fenwick (C), O. T. Wall (C), M. J. R. Bannister (W), W. M. Patterson (B) and A. W. Fraser (C). T. D. Whitson (T) came to us late and made several good scores. The hard hitting of R. F. Butlin (G) pulled the side out of several nasty holes and often gave the Captain a chance to declare at an early hour.

The bowling was largely in the hands of S. Pendle (G) and W. D. M. Arnott (W). The latter was the steadier and the former the more deadly over a short period. At times Arnott bowled extremely well and made the ball do a lot in the air and off the ground. Pendle was quite quick, and will be good when he gets full command of length and direction. He bowled really well at Oundle. As a whole the team missed a steady length bowler to back up the first pair. Butlin failed to strike form, and spinners were not altogether a success, though Fenwick and Fraser had one or two good matches.

The fielding was sometimes very good and always adequate. Patterson was an intimidating short leg and J. M. Hancox (G) useful in the slips.

The Captain, M. V. Benthall (G), not only held his side together well, but he set a high standard of stumping and was a useful bat. His greatest gift was either to win the toss or to have the ability to persuade the opposition that it would be better for Stowe to bat first. The latter argues not only brilliant captaincy, but also a high degree of low cunning.

The writer would thank the team for an extremely enjoyable and humorous season, which he feels ended too soon. Anyone who watched the match against Emmanuel College on the South Front saw cricket as it should be played.

3RD XI

The 3rd XI have been a keen and competent team, and have ended up their season of eight fixtures with the useful record of four wins, two draws and two losses. Under the steady captaincy of Sorley, the fielding has been generally good, Cleeve in particular snapping them up at silly mid-on, and Calvert's wicket-keeping has been sound. All of the bowlers have had good days, but C. Stuart and Cobham have been the most consistent and dangerous. The batting has been less dependable; while Wright, Brazil, Cleeve, Vinen and Sorley have made useful scores, only Kimber has really looked safe and on each occasion he has been run out.

Results :—

- May 17th. *v.* BLOXHAM 2ND XI (Home). Drawn.
Stowe, 145 (Cleeve 45).
Bloxham, 74 for 6 wkts.
- May 20th. *v.* HARROW (Home). Lost.
Stowe, 112 (Bannister 33).
Harrow, 118 for 4 wkts.
- May 27th. *v.* BLAKESLEY (Home). Won.
Blakesley, 23 (C. Stuart 5 for 8).
Stowe, 55 for 7 wkts.
- May 31st. *v.* LATYMER UPPER SCHOOL 2ND XI. (Home). Drawn.
Stowe, 79 for 9 wkts., dec.
Latymer, 75 for 5 wkts.
- June 3rd. *v.* TWYFORD (Away). Won.
Stowe, 105 (Brazil 34 not out).
Twyford, 72 (Wright 6 for 14).
- June 10th. *v.* BEDFORD (Home). Lost.
Stowe, 43 (Kimber 26).
Bedford, 50 for 6 wkts.
- June 13th. *v.* RADLEY (Home). Won.
Radley, 145 for 8 wkts. dec., (Cobham 4 for 38).
Stowe, 154 for 3 wkts. (Cleeve 52, Vinen 72 not out).
- June 21st. *v.* ST. EDWARD'S (Away). Won.
Stowe, 84 (Sorley 20 not out).
St. Edward's, 52 (Cobham 5 for 10).

Team :—G. R. T. Sorley (C), D. C. F. Kimber (B), J. N. Vinen (W), C. R. S. Stuart (C), R. Cobham (G), N. Cleeve (B), W. D. Wright (W), B. J. Calvert (G), R. Brazil (C), R. F. Proctor (G), P. M. Salt (G).

THE COLTS

The Colts had a very lean season from a results point of view, and the fact that only five Caps were awarded gives some indication of the individual performances of the side. There appeared to be a great dearth of players of the required standard, but nevertheless those members of the Club who completed the XI tried hard and at all times looked a cricket side in the field. Some would say that the dropping of the old system of a club with twenty-five members did not help the cause; but the writer maintains that real cricket ability was confined to very few players eligible for this age-group.

Under the circumstances M. R. J. Forman (C) did well as Captain, placing his field with a good understanding of the game. His wicket-keeping improved as the term went on, keeping particularly well to Morris on the leg side. He must, however, be more alert when a stumping chance presents itself.

Quite outstanding was the bowling of P. L. Morris (C) who took 29 wickets for 262 runs. Bowling left-handed above medium pace and being able to go on for long spells he was a problem for most opponents. R. C. Withinshaw (C) was his chief supporter and he, too, was able to bowl with accuracy for long spells.

The batting was left almost entirely to the Captain, A. J. Beerbohm (C), and P. O. S. Marden (C), although E. S. M. Cameron (C) played a couple of useful innings in his own unorthodox style. D. M. Vance (G) played beautifully in the nets but only once did he show that form in the middle.

The fielding throughout the term was good, with Vance always excelling at cover-point.

The following matches have been played :—

- May 20th. *v.* HARROW (Away). Lost.
Colts, 76 (Forman 44).
Harrow, 79 for 4 wkts. (Morris 3 for 23).
- June 3rd. *v.* RUGBY (Home). Lost.
Rugby, 139 for 7 wkts., dec. (Morris 4 for 31).
Colts, 59 (Marden 30).
- June 10th. *v.* BEDFORD (Away). Drawn.
Bedford, 124 for 7 wkts., dec. (Morris 6 for 45).
Colts, 82 for 5 wkts. (Beerbohm 46 not out).
- June 13th. *v.* RADLEY (Away). Lost.
Radley, 121 for 7 wkts., dec. (Morris 4 for 27).
Colts, 77 (Cameron 24 not out).
- June 21st. *v.* ST. EDWARD'S (Home). Drawn.
Colts, 91 for 8 wkts., dec. (Beerbohm 44 not out).
St. Edward's, 52 for 1 wkt.
- June 24th. *v.* OUNDLE (Home). Won.
Oundle, 86 (Morris 6 for 38).
Colts, 87 for 4 wkts. (Beerbohm 42 not out).

- July 5th. *v.* BRADFELD (Home). Drawn.
Bradfield, 132 for 6 wkts., dec.
Colts, 113 for 6 wkts. (Vance 37).
- July 8th. *v.* ETON (Away). Lost.
Eton, 146 for 8 wkts., dec. (Morris 4 for 59).
Colts, 91 (Marden 44).

THE JUNIOR COLTS

Matches :—Won 6 ; Lost 2.

The Junior Colts have had an encouraging season. Not only have results been good, but the team has not had to rely on only a few players for their successes : the general standard of the Club has been high and there has been little to choose between the sixteen who have played in the team. Another good sign is that seven of these will be of Junior age next year. There have been no débâcles, and all the wins were convincing ; Eton and Rugby had much larger and more powerful players in comparison with our rather diminutive side and this makes a big difference at this age. Dew has captained the side capably and has kept wicket very well, bringing off several class stumps.

We opened the season with a good win over Harrow. Stowe batted first and Witham and Hart made a fine stand of 70. In Harrow's innings Day and Allerton bowled steadily, Allerton taking 3 wickets in an over.

Against Rugby, only Hart of the early batsmen played well and we were 40 for 7 ; Dew played a fine Captain's innings and with Hill doubled the score for the 8th wicket. After losing a quick wicket Rugby were always on top.

Bedford recovered to make 117 after a bad start. Lilley bowled very steadily ; his first nine overs only cost one run. Hart and Witham had another good stand, but at one time a collapse threatened. Taylor and Crombie batted sensibly and later hit the ball very hard.

Radley, after making a good start, collapsed against some good bowling by Turnbull, Day and Hill. Stowe were very slow in making the runs, but Duncan and Taylor batted steadily and we had a comfortable win.

The St. Edward's match was played through rain, with the ball often flying ; Day and Allerton took advantage of these conditions and we were left 1¼ hours to make 69. Against some steady bowling Witham and Duncan could only make 12 in half an hour, but then Crombie, Dew and Allerton hit well and 60 runs were added in the next half hour.

The Oundle match was played on a wicket where the ball often rose dangerously. After three quick wickets had been lost, Hart batted pluckily and was given good support by Crombie and Opperman. In the Oundle innings Day, Lilley and Hill all kept a good length and Lilley just missed a hat-trick. When Oundle seemed likely to save the match, Witham polished off the tail.

Against Bloxham, Hill bowled particularly well, taking 5 for 29 in 17 overs ; and Duncan, Witham, Taylor and Jenkyn-Jones all showed good form with the bat.

After playing on some wet wickets at Stowe, we arrived at Eton to find the fastest wicket of the season. After a wicket in each of the first two overs, Eton were on top of the bowling ; Hill bowled the best without having any luck. Most of the team were uneasy against some good fast bowling ; but Witham played particularly well, square cutting very strongly. Opperman gave him good support, using his feet well to the slow bowling. At one time it seemed as if Hill might save the game, but, with ten minutes to go and 60 runs to make, the situation became one that would need a Robertson-Glasgow to do it justice. We seemed intent on running ourselves out, while Eton seemed equally determined that we should not ; once their wicket-keeper kicked over the stumps with one batsman yards out ; we took a run to first slip who missed the wickets at both ends ; finally in the last over Hill took a single, remembered he should have kept the bowling, and was just run out.

Results :—

- May 20th. *v.* HARROW (Away). Won by 21 runs.
Stowe, 125 for 6 wkts. dec. (Witham 47, Hart 32).
Harrow, 104 (Allerton 4 for 32, Day 3 for 24).
- June 3rd. *v.* RUGBY (Home). Lost by 6 wickets.
Stowe, 89 (Dew 33 not out, Hart 23).
Rugby, 109 for 6 wkts.
- June 10th. *v.* BEDFORD (Away). Won by 4 wickets.
Bedford, 116 (Lilley 3 for 18, Witham 3 for 10).
Stowe, 157 for 7 wkts. (Witham 35, Hart 20, Taylor 30, Crombie 31 not out).
- June 13th. *v.* RADLEY (Away). Won by 5 wickets.
Radley, 64 (Turnbull 4 for 22, Hill 2 for 12, Lilley 2 for 13).
Stowe, 66 for 5 wkts. (Duncan 22, Taylor 19).
- June 21st. *v.* ST. EDWARD'S (Home). Won by 7 wickets.
St. Edward's, 68 (Allerton 4 for 18, Day 3 for 11).
Stowe, 70 for 3 wkts.
- June 24th. *v.* OUNDLE (Away). Won by 44 runs.
Stowe, 132 (Hart 47, Opperman 32).
Oundle, 88 (Day 3 for 11, Hill 2 for 11, Witham 2 for 3).
- June 28th. "A" XI. *v.* BLOXHAM (Away). Won by 4 wickets.
Bloxham, 82 (Day 3 for 28, Hill 5 for 29).
Stowe, 117 for 8 wkts. (Witham 18, Duncan 22, Taylor 32, Jenkyn-Jones 26).
- July 8th. *v.* ETON "LOWER SIXPENNY" (Away). Lost by 65 runs.
Eton, 170 for 5 wkts. dec.
Stowe, 105 (Witham 33, Opperman 24).

The following have played :—D. G. du B. Dew (C), R. A. Duncan (C), D. H. Hart (C), J. C. Witham (T), F. J. B. Taylor (C), A. P. Hill (B), J. R. F. Crombie (C), R. A. B. Day (T), R. A. Opperman (B), P. E. S. Lilley (C), R. C. Allerton (G), J. D. Turnbull (B), W. A. Jenkyn-Jones (C), N. G. Gambier (T), M. Grieve (G), N. M. Bates (G), D. C. Johnson (G), P. A. T. Loup (T), I. C. McClellan (C), J. Hawtrey Woore (B).

THE CRICKET LEAGUES

In an endeavour to continue the improvement which has been evident in the later rounds of leagues in previous years, the programme was this year extended to two complete series of matches. In addition, members of the 3rd XI and Colts and Junior Colts reserves have played in many of the matches and helped to raise the standard. Judged by its results the experiment has been fairly successful. The programme proved rather arduous, but with the help of fine weather it was carried through. The quality of the cricket was better than in previous years, though there was very little variety in the bowling and the batsmen were sometimes flattered by casual fielding. The B League teams were generally disappointing, since they were chosen from the best of the Under 16s and yet managed to include batsmen who dangled their bats, bowlers who had difficulty in completing an over because of the number of wides and no-balls, and fielders who considered discretion the better part of valour. However, as the season advanced these evils abated and interest grew in the progress of the competition.

Throughout, the Grenville A League team shewed itself superior to any other side and, with rather poor support from its B team, went into the lead, with Grafton second. Grafton were strong in B and comparatively weak in A, but, with a good C League, they managed at one point to equal Grenville's score. This provided some excitement, especially when Grenville A were almost beaten by Temple, but Grafton fell away and Grenville steadily improved. There was little to choose between the other houses, though Bruce and Chatham were clearly weak. Among the captains, Salt led Grenville and Chorley Grafton, and each in his way was adequate, nor indeed were there any bad captains in A League. In B, things were different and there was an obvious lack of leadership. C League was so mixed in its composition that age and experience frequently told against youthful enthusiasm, though bearded gentlemen were often put out by striplings half their size. The general spirit of the games was pleasant and good-humoured, and even under trying conditions some excellent games were seen.

LEAGUE CRICKET CHAMPIONSHIP

(No. of rounds 14 : 8 pts. for a win in A or B League, 4 pts. for a win in C.)

	A.				B.				C.				Total		
	W.	D.	L.	Pts.	W.	D.	L.	Pts.	W.	D.	L.	Pts.			
Grenville	13	0	1	104	7	0	7	56	10	0	4	40	200
Grafton	7	0	7	56	12	0	2	96	7	1	6	30	182
Chandos	7	0	7	56	10	0	4	80	4	0	10	16	152
Cobham	6	1	7	52	7	0	7	56	7	1	6	30	138
Temple	9	0	7	72	5	0	9	40	6	0	8	24	136
Walpole	5	1	8	44	5	0	9	40	1	0	3	44	128
Bruce	5	1	8	44	3	0	11	24	8	0	6	32	100
Chatham	2	1	11	20	7	0	7	56	2	0	12	8	84

1ST XI AVERAGES

BATTING

	No. of Innings	Not Out	Runs	Highest Score	Average
C. H. Lezard (C)	14	3	468	91	42.54
B. C. Harris (C)	12	6	225	59*	37.50
H. J. Lloyd (T)	13	0	400	94	30.77
H. R. V. Whitcombe (B)	12	2	218	60	21.80
H. R. Herrington (C)	13	0	234	65	18.00
R. Lush (C)	11	4	104	23*	14.86
C. C. Malden (B)	7	0	63	24	9.00
P. G. Harris (B)	7	1	37	19	6.17
P. H. Molloy (C)	7	1	27	13	4.50
W. J. Grice (T)	7	2	8	4	1.60
<i>(Less than 6 innings)</i>					
C. N. H. Hordern (W)	4	2	129	50*	64.50

Also batted :—M. J. R. Bannister (W), 1, 0, 23, 23, 23.00 ; O. T. Wall (C), 8, 0, 100, 40, 12.50 ; T. D. Whitson (T), 6, 1, 60, 28, 12.00 ; A. W. Fraser (C), 4, 0, 31, 20, 7.75 ; M. J. Fenwick (C), 3, 0, 5, 4, 1.67.

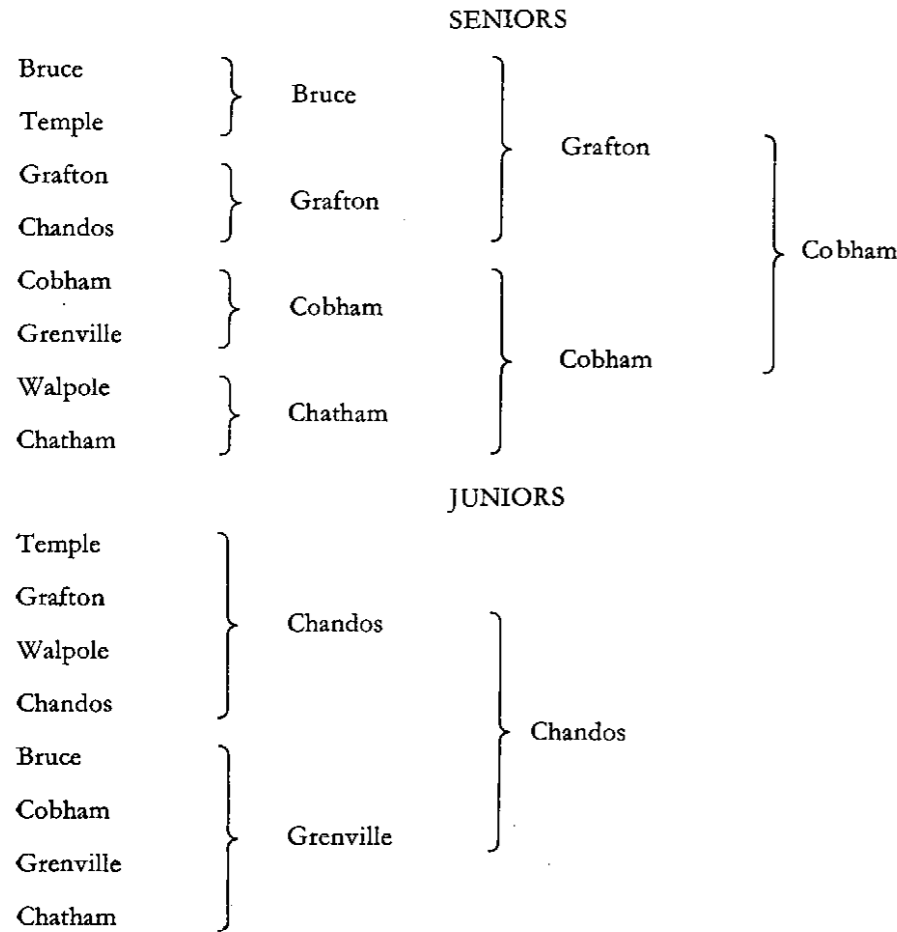
* Not out innings.

BOWLING

	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average
P. G. Harris (B)	201.3	33	574	31	18.53
B. C. Harris (C)	134.4	24	415	20	20.75
P. H. Molloy (C)	212.2	26	708	31	22.84
H. J. Lloyd (T)	62	3	262	9	29.11
H. R. V. Whitcombe (B)	66	10	237	6	39.50
R. Lush (C)	60	3	281	6	46.83

Also bowled :—M. J. Fenwick (C), 18.5, 2, 84, 3, 28.00.

The draw for Cricket House Matches was as follows :



GOLF

Last term a present of three golf-clubs was made to the School by D. R. Foster, D.S.O., D.S.C. (C, 1938). It was decided to award these clubs on the result of a competition, and H. J. Lloyd (T) and W. D. Wright (W) both returned totals of 87 on the Buckingham course. In a play-off Lloyd eventually won the clubs, beating Wright 3 and 2.

P.H.M.

LAWN TENNIS

When term began, the strength of the Tennis VI was largely a matter for conjecture, for although some preliminary spade-work was done last term by aspirants to the team, only J. P. D. Heyward (C) of last year's successful VI was still in the School, and he was comparatively inexperienced. Even the Captain, J. R. J. Burnham (T) had not represented Stowe before (he was in America last season), but it was soon obvious that at least he would not have to act as non-playing captain. Unless there really are dark horses among the cricketers (and we hope so) he is quite definitely the best player in Stowe, and should win the Mornington Singles with ease.

With a programme of some twenty matches arranged, a settled VI had to be created, and quickly. The up-shot of various trials was that we started off with Burnham and Heyward as first pair, J. Broom Smith (C) and J. M. Lunn (C) as Second Pair, and J. S. Yates (Q) and G. T. Laing (B) as Third Pair. This arrangement soon proved unsatisfactory. Heyward, Broom Smith and Laing in particular were most erratic, at one time playing very well indeed and then unaccountably lapsing into complete ineptitude. G. R. T. Sorley (C), who promised well last term, and who gave up cricket to try to get into the VI, was tried too, but he never lived up to promise and wisely returned to the cricket field. We experimented with various combinations, and not for some weeks was the final VI decided upon. In recent matches the team has been Burnham and Lunn, Yates and Broom Smith, and J. G. Rigg (W) and Laing; and whilst this is the best VI at present available, we shall have to search diligently among the cricketers as soon as their season is over for one or two players to strengthen the Second and Third Pairs for the final of the Glanvill Cup competition.

Burnham and Lunn have, at times, played excellent doubles, and their matches against the First Pairs of Dallington, P.S.O.B.L.T.A. and Cranwell were delightful to watch. They have, however, an unfortunate tendency to lose to quite inferior pairs after having won their own key match.

Yates has played well too, and is very promising. Had it been possible to find him a stronger partner, we should have had a good Second Pair. But neither Heyward, who played with him in the earlier matches, nor Broom Smith, who later joined him, was steady enough to make a winning combination.

Rigg is a promising junior, with the virtue of being able to return the ball into the court with great regularity, and often into an awkward place (for his opponents). He does not, as yet, hit hard, except when he is at the net; but he will one day, and he has been the mainstay of the Third Pair. Heyward, Broom Smith and Laing have all partnered him, the latter having eventually gained the place permanently. Laing, playing at the top of his form, is very good indeed, but he is more erratic than most people.

The really disappointing features of the season have been the inability of Heyward, Broom Smith, Laing and Sorley to produce the high standard of tennis of which they were thought to be capable, and the unaccountable inconsistency of the VI as a whole; in losing to opponents quite obviously weaker whilst winning against others who might reasonably have beaten them. A knowledgeable and well-known Stowe tennis player says "They lack match temperament". Maybe that accounts for it. At any rate, by and large we have done quite well; the only School to have beaten us so far is K.C.S., in a match played in squally rain (and in the remaining School matches only Eton can really hope to); and we did begin the season with a new VI. Next year, with Yates and

Rigg still at Stowe . . . But this year is not yet over. We are in the final of the Glanvill and are playing in "Wimbledon Week". (Latest: Stowe won Glanvill Cup).

Besides those mentioned above, the following have been in "The Ten":— E. B. J. Williams (T), J. A. Y. French (C), T. S. S. Walley (G), H. J. Gray (W), M. V. K. Friend (T) and M. S. P. Gardner (B). French and Gardner have been chosen for the "A" VI for the Wellingborough match.

The Leagues were won by Grafton, Cobham being runners-up. Cobham beat Chatham 3—0 in the Final of the House Matches.

Results of matches. (The scores shown after each pair are the results of their matches against the opponents' First, Second and Third Pairs respectively.)

- May 10. *v.* MR. SHEPHERD-BARRON'S VI. Lost, 3—6.
First Pair, 6—1, 7—5; 3—6, 6—2, 6—2; 2—6, 12—14.
Second Pair, 4—6, 5—7; 2—6, 1—6; 0—6, 2—6.
Third Pair, 6—1, 2—6, 4—6; 2—6, 9—7, 6—0; 4—6, 0—6.
- May 13. *v.* AYLESBURY L.T.C. Lost, 1—8.
First Pair, 1—6, 6—2, 1—6; 3—6, 3—6; 3—6, 4—6.
Second Pair, 0—6, 0—6; 2—6, 4—6; 0—6, 4—6.
Third Pair, 0—6, 0—6; 2—6, 4—6; 6—4, 5—7, 6—4.
- May 17. *v.* ORIEL COLLEGE, OXFORD. Won, 7—2.
First Pair, 6—4, 6—1; 7—5, 7—5; 8—6, 0—6, 3—6.
Second Pair, 6—0, 6—1; 6—3, 7—5; 5—7, 3—6.
Third Pair, 6—2, 6—4; 0—6, 6—4, 6—4; 6—1, 4—6, 6—4.
- May 20. *v.* DALLINGTON L.T.C. Won, 6—3.
First Pair, 6—3, 10—8; 2—6, 6—3, 6—4; 6—1, 6—2.
Second Pair, 6—3, 4—6, 2—6; 7—5, 4—6, 5—7; 6—3, 6—0.
Third Pair, 0—6, 1—6; 6—3, 1—6, 6—3; 6—4, 5—7, 9—7.
- May 27. *v.* MISS PARKINSON'S VI. Match abandoned.
First Pair, 6—3, 6—2; 6—3, 3—6, 6—4; —.
Second Pair, —; 6—3, 6—8, 4—6; 12—10, 0—4.
Third Pair, 3—6, 3—6; —; 3—6, 6—3, 8—10.
- May 31. STOWE beat BEMROSE 3—0 in a Glanvill Cup match.
Scores: 6—2, 6—0; 6—3, 6—0; 6—1, 6—3.
- June 3. *v.* P.S.O.B.L.T.A. Lost, 4—5.
First Pair, 6—1, 4—6, 6—1; 4—6, 6—1, 6—3; 6—3, 6—2.
Second Pair, 4—6, 3—6; 6—2, 6—3; 4—6, 6—2, 2—6.
Third Pair, 1—6, 1—6; 4—6, 4—6; 4—6, 2—6.
- June 7. *v.* UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LEICESTER. Won, 7—2.
First Pair, 6—2, 6—2; 6—1, 6—2; 6—3, 6—1.
Second Pair, 3—6, 3—6; 8—6, 6—4; 6—4, 6—2.
Third Pair, 3—6, 1—6; 6—2, 6—3; 6—2, 6—2.

- June 10. *v.* COOMBE WOOD L.T.C. Lost, 1—6 with two matches unfinished.
First Pair, 7—9, 8—6, —; 3—6, 6—4, —; 6—4, 6—4.
Second Pair, 3—6, 2—6; 2—6, 3—6; 3—6, 2—6.
Third Pair, 2—6, 1—6; 3—6, 0—6; 0—6, 6—2, 4—6.
- June 13. *v.* U.C.S. Won, 8—1.
First Pair, 6—1, 6—0; 6—2, 6—1; 6—1, 6—2.
Second Pair, 6—4, 6—2; 6—4, 7—9, 6—3; 6—2, 6—3.
Third Pair, 6—3, 7—5; 5—7, 3—6; 6—4, 8—6.
- June 21. *v.* K.C.S., WIMBLEDON. Lost, 0—9.
First Pair, 3—6, 3—6; 4—6, 5—7; 5—7, 1—6.
Second Pair, 4—6, 4—6; 1—6, 4—6; 0—6, 6—3, 5—7.
Third Pair, 3—6, 3—6; 0—6, 3—6; 4—6, 5—7.
- June 24. STOWE beat LEYS SCHOOL 2—1, WALSALL GRAMMAR SCHOOL 3—0, and NORTHAMPTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL 2½—½ to enter the final for the Glanvill Cup.
- June 28. *v.* CRANWELL. Lost, 4—5.
First Pair, 8—6, 4—6, 6—2; 1—6, 6—2, 2—6; 6—1, 6—1.
Second Pair, 3—6, 3—6; 9—7, 5—7, 3—6; 4—6, 6—3, 6—3.
Third Pair, 1—6, 2—6; 2—6, 2—6; 6—2, 6—2.
- July 1. *v.* OLD STOICS. Lost, 1—8.
The Old Stoics' team was:—B. J. G. Kaye (G, 1938) and J. D. Farmiloe (G, 1926) (First Pair); J. J. Asbury-Bailey (W, 1947) and R. J. Broadley (W, 1946) (Second Pair); C. M. Mosselmans (C, 1947) and J. W. A. Downing (T, 1949) (Third Pair). J. A. Shepherd-Barron (W, 1943) played instead of Farmiloe against the School Third Pair.
First Pair, 6—3, 1—6, 4—6; 4—6, 3—6; 6—3, 6—8, 6—1.
Second Pair, 4—6, 2—6; 4—6, 3—6; 5—7, 2—6.
Third Pair, 1—6, 1—6; 3—6, 6—8; 2—6, 4—6.

Subsequent matches have been won, against Wellingborough 7—2, Eton 5—4, Westminster 6—0 (three unfinished), and Mill Hill 7—2.

CROSS-COUNTRY

STOWE *v.* OLD STOICS

A team consisting of four Old Stoics, one Stoic and three others ran against the First VIII on Saturday, March 18th. For a scratch VIII, they gave us a good race. The score (Stowe 35, Old Stoics 49) just about measured the school's superiority, but it was evident that those few years make a big difference to the strength of a runner, provided he has kept fit. O. T. Wall (C) having led all the way was challenged by G. P. Tobin and could not fight him off.

The Old Stoics competing were :—G. P. Tobin (G, 1947), I. B. Calkin (W, 1947), D. S. Howard (G, 1946) and H. A. Chapple (C, 1946).

STOWE v. BLOXHAM

The last match of the season was run at home on Wednesday, March 22nd. An entirely new course was tried, which proved to have more spectator-value and was congenial to the runners as well. After a circuit of the North Front, the teams did road and track work to the Boycott Pavilions and around the lakes until they approached Bell Gate. Here they crossed the wall and ran across the field to the Corinthian Arch, in full view from the South Front steps all the way. From the Corinthian Arch to Stowe Castle was the next leg, and the return was made across the fields to Lampport Lodge, the Armoury and the lower part of the Grecian Valley, with a final circuit of the North Front.

The course proved a little longer and a little tougher than the Black Pit course, and the change was universally welcomed.

O. T. Wall (C) again ran a fine race and won comfortably from C. J. S. Marler (G), with D. K. Helm (G) third. The first Bloxham competitor came fifth—a good effort on a strange course, for this was Bloxham's first match.

Stowe won the match easily by 23 points to 65 points.

SWIMMING

The weather this year has only been kind in patches. The beginning of the term was so cold that practice could not start till very late in May, only very shortly before our first fixture, v. Northampton Grammar School. Since then we have met three other schools with varied fortune. The last fixture, v. St. Edward's, Oxford, is due on July 22nd, and it is hoped to insert the result of this later. Easy victories were gained over Northampton and Bloxham. Against Harrow both Seniors and Juniors had tight matches, and the final result in each case depended on the last event. Bedford Modern were, as they so often are, too strong for us. As everyone knows, they swim all the year round, and have other special advantages. If the results of these matches shew nothing very distinguished, there are two other angles on the Swimming which are of interest.

At the Bath Club Public Schools Relays on June 21st, we had a better balanced team than last year, and did a much faster time, winning our own heat without much difficulty; but the times all round were a good deal faster, and records were again broken. In these conditions, to be 10th out of 30 schools was a creditable performance. All those above us on the list (as well as several below) get more swimming than we do.

In the matter of Dolphin Tests there has been more than the usual keenness, with the result that the total number of Dolphins, and in particular of Dolphins under 16, is the largest for several years.

Results :—

May 31st.	v. NORTHAMPTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL	Won, 25—11.
July 1st.	v. HARROW— <i>Seniors</i>	Lost, 15—19.
	<i>Juniors</i>	Won, 16½—11½.
July 5th.	v. BEDFORD MODERN— <i>Seniors</i>	Lost, 10—28.
	<i>Juniors</i>	Lost, 13—19.
July 6th.	v. BLOXHAM	Won, 28—12.

SWIMMING AND DIVING DISPLAY

On Sunday, 9th July, there was a display of swimming and diving. Once again weather conditions were perfect and we were fortunate in having Miss Elizabeth Church and Miss Barbara Bishop to show us how breast-stroke and back-stroke should be done. These two ladies, both champions in their own class, made these strokes look just too easy. Miss Audrey Andrews, a Northampton swimmer, gave a demonstration of bilateral breathing in doing free-style. Racing dives, swift turns, and training speeds were also shown.

Then there followed a medley relay race between the three ladies and the School trio consisting of J. D. F. Lockhart (C), P. G. Shinner (B) and C. W. Bardeen (C). There is no doubt that this race would have been won by the boys if the last swimmer had not cut diagonally across the bath in his apparent eagerness to prevent Miss Andrews from reaching the end, but it was a good race anyway.

Finally there was a free-style race between Miss Church, Miss Andrews, Lockhart and Bardeen. This was won by the boys. It is rather bad luck on the ladies that the boys won't risk more than 50 yards against them; there is no doubt at all that if a 200 metre race were undertaken the winners would be the ladies every time; the boys would be left gasping after about the first 75 yards.

Now followed a display of diving by Shinner and N. M. Bates (G). Shinner did a couple of neat dives from the side, and a backward dive which was well executed; he also showed us how *not* to do a forward somersault.

Bates' diving is a real pleasure to watch; he appears to be able to do almost anything required from any position or height. Such complete control of the body from take-off to entry is not easy to acquire. If anyone thinks it is easy, well—try it; the result achieved, if any, will not be without much toil and considerable pain. You may take off alright but what will the flight of your body be like in the air and, I say, "what was that that hit the water?"

Altogether a very happy display which we hope to repeat next year. We are much indebted to the three ladies, who have promised to come again; we are told they enjoyed it as much as we did.

LIFE SAVING

On Thursday, June 29th, Mr. Stanford of the Royal Life Saving Society examined the following boys in the Bronze Medallion test.

S. K. Knowles (T), T. F. M. Sinton (T), R. M. Nicholson (B), P. J. de Roos (B), B. J. Calvert (G), M. J. Nightingale (G), J. D. F. Lockhart (C), T. S. Wilkinson (G), J. A. Pearman (W), M. L. Henderson (W), R. S. L. Pearman (W), T. A. Trimmingham (W), R. M. Hinds (W), E. Harvey (W).

The Examiner expressed himself as very satisfied, especially with the work in the water. Everyone passed. There will be a further examination on 27th July.

FOOTBALL FIXTURES 1950

1ST XV

Sat., Oct. 14.—Wasps "A"	Home.
Wed., Oct. 18.—R.A.F., Halton	Home.
Sat., Oct. 21.—BEDFORD SCHOOL	Away. ✓
Sat., Oct. 28.—London Scottish	Home.
Wed., Nov. 1.—ST. EDWARD'S SCHOOL, OXFORD	Away. ✓
Sat., Nov. 4.—T. A. Kemp's XV	Home.
Wed., Nov. 8.—RADLEY COLLEGE	Home.
Sat., Nov. 11.—Richmond.	Home.
Wed., Nov. 15.—OUNDLE SCHOOL	Home.
Sat., Nov. 18.—HARROW SCHOOL	Home.
Sat., Nov. 25.—CHELTENHAM COLLEGE	Away. ✓
Wed., Nov. 29.—RUGBY SCHOOL	Away. ✓
Sat., Dec. 2.—KING'S SCHOOL, CANTERBURY	Home.
Sat., Dec. 9.—Old Stoics	Home.
Sat., Dec. 16.—Rosslyn Park	Home.

2ND XV

Wed., Oct. 11.—Bloxham	Home.
Sat., Oct. 21.—Bedford	Home.
Wed., Oct. 25.—St. Edward's	Away. ✓
Sat., Oct. 28.—Royal Grammar School, High Wycombe	Away. ✓
Wed., Nov. 1.—Wellingborough Grammar School	Away. ✓
Sat., Nov. 4.—Old Oxford Citizens	Home.
Wed., Nov. 8.—Radley	Away. ✓
Tues., Nov. 14.—Oundle	Away. ✓
Sat., Nov. 18.—Harrow	Away. ✓
Wed., Nov. 29.—Berkhamsted	Away. ✓
Wed., Dec. 6.—Northampton Grammar School	Home.
Wed., Dec. 13.—Abingdon School	Home.

3RD XV

Wed., Oct. 11.—Bloxham	Away. ✓
Sat., Oct. 14.—Bedford	Home.
Wed., Oct. 18.—Magdalen College School, Oxford	Home.
Wed., Oct. 25.—Kettering Grammar School	Away. ✓
Sat., Oct. 28.—Royal Grammar School, High Wycombe	Away. ✓
Wed., Nov. 1.—St. Edward's	Home.
Sat., Nov. 4.—Oundle	Away. ✓
Wed., Nov. 8.—Radley	Away. ✓
Wed., Nov. 15.—Northampton Grammar School	Away. ✓
Sat., Nov. 18.—Harrow	Away. ✓
Wed., Nov. 29.—Berkhamsted	Away. ✓

4TH XV

Sat., Oct. 14.—Banbury Grammar School	Home.
Sat., Nov. 4.—Oundle	Away. ✓
Sat., Nov. 11.—Bedford	Away. ✓

COLTS' XV

Wed., Oct. 18.—Bedford Modern	Away. ✓
Sat., Oct. 21.—Bedford	Away. ✓
Sat., Oct. 28.—Magdalen College School, Brackley	Away. ✓
Wed., Nov. 1.—St. Edward's	Away. ✓
Wed., Nov. 8.—Radley	Home.
Wed., Nov. 15.—Oundle	Home.
Sat., Nov. 18.—Harrow	Home.
Wed., Nov. 29.—Douai	Home.
Tues., Dec. 5.—Rugby	Away. ✓
Sat., Dec. 9.—Northampton Grammar School	Away. ✓

JUNIOR COLTS XV

*Wed., Oct. 18.—Bedford Modern	Away. ✓
Sat., Oct. 21.—Bedford	Home.
*Sat., Oct. 28.—Royal Grammar School, High Wycombe	Home.
Wed., Nov. 1.—St. Edward's	Home.
Sat., Nov. 4.—Harrow	Home.
Wed., Nov. 8.—Radley	Away. ✓
Tues., Nov. 14.—Oundle	Away. ✓
*Sat., Nov. 18.—Bloxham	Home.
*Wed., Nov. 22.—Magdalen College School, Oxford	Home.
*Sat., Nov. 25.—Magdalen College School, Brackley	Away. ✓
*Wed., Nov. 29.—Berkhamsted	Home.
Tues., Dec. 5.—Rugby	Away. ✓

* Junior Colts "A" XV.

UNDER FOURTEEN XV

Wed., Oct. 18.—Magdalen College School, Oxford	Home.
Sat., Oct. 28.—Magdalen College School, Brackley	Away. ✓
Wed., Nov. 8.—Radley.	Away. ✓
Sat., Nov. 11.—Bedford	Away. ✓
Wed., Nov. 15.—St. Edward's	Home.
Sat., Nov. 18.—Bloxham	Home.
Sat., Nov. 25.—Magdalen College School, Brackley	Away. ✓

BOOK REVIEW

"PRIDE OF PLACE"

by PATIENCE McELWEE (*Faber & Faber*, 10/6)

In her earlier novels Mrs. McElwee was largely concerned with the froth and bubble of country-house life. In their own world, the characters of *Roman Holiday* and *Love or Money* lived convincingly enough, but we saw only one side of them and were given no good reason to suppose they had another. *Pride of Place* goes far deeper.

This contemporary story, with its background of a great public school, is inherently improbable. A young schoolmaster, Andrew Crichton, returns from the war to find himself given a house, of which his younger brother, Simon, whose guardian he is, is a member. During Andrew's absence abroad Simon has fallen under the evil influence of his tutor, and the book is concerned with his rescue and with Andrew's own escape from the possessive and ambitious affection of the Headmaster's daughter. The atmosphere throughout is of continual and heartbreaking crisis, and in consequence the characters, considered individually and dispassionately, seem overdrawn and the situations strained. It is hard to imagine even a double-dyed villain like Rudy Fischer, the tutor, trying, for sheer cruelty, to persuade Andrew that his brother has attempted to kill himself, or to believe that anyone, however murky his background, who has spent some years at a public school could ask: "What boy in his senses would venture onto ice he knew was unsafe to rescue a puppy?"

There is also a deal too much ruffling of hair.

In spite of all this and whether we like it or not, Mrs. McElwee's characters are utterly convincing. We may despair that they should have got themselves into such situations, but our own disbelief that the situations could exist is quite suspended. The story is beautifully written and moves at a good pace. The author's powers of observation and comment do not flag, from the smoky, crowded, deadly cocktail party which is Andrew Crichton's introduction to post-war London, to the cups of tea and brown linoleum of the school sanatorium where Simon is fighting for his life; and the final house match worthily earns a place among the great cricket matches of fiction.

The women, though equally convincing, are more lightly drawn than the men, with the exception of Caroline Grey, who is a really fine piece of characterization, as eternal a man-eating careerist as ever hid behind the mask of a sweet English Rose. Her selfishness is complete. Andrew, whose efforts to furnish a house and educate Simon have left him with little to live on, had bought, for Simon's delight, a pair of Victorian lustres.

"He glanced at the red and white lustres on the mantelpiece and saw that Caroline was looking at them too.

"Don't feel a conscience about those" she said quickly. "After all, we weren't engaged then".

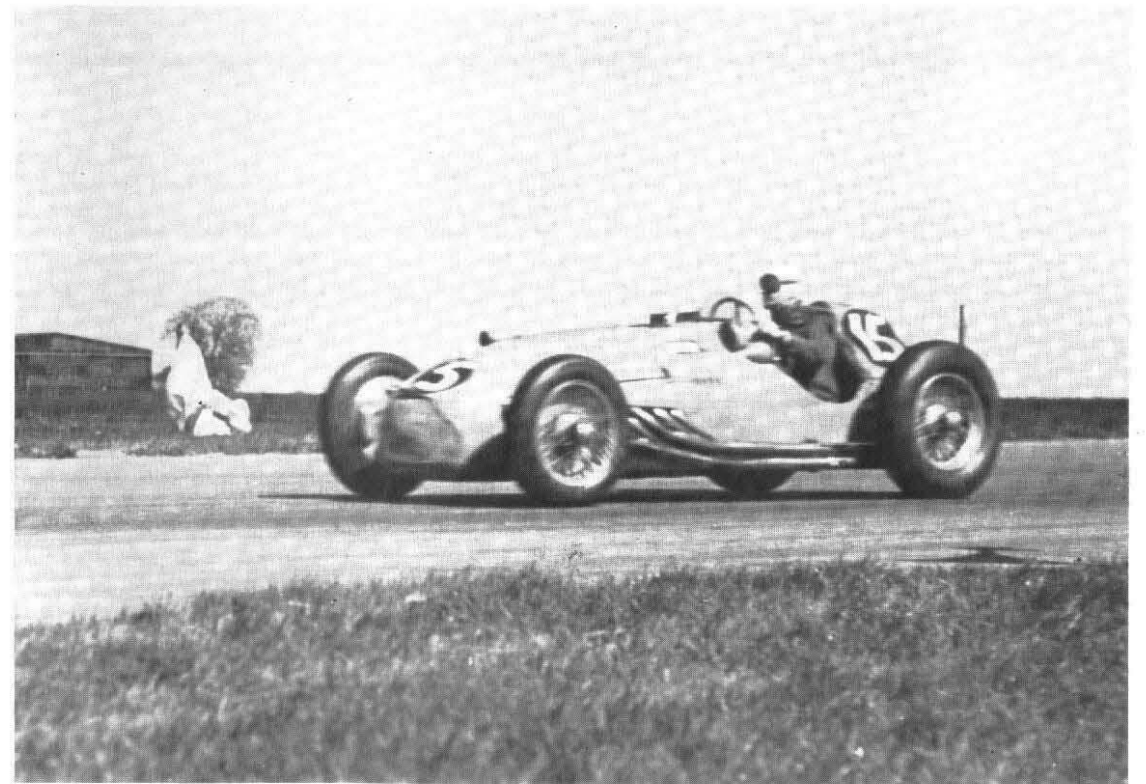
Pride of Place is not, of course, a parable, to point out the dangerous collapse of moral standards in the world since the war. But there are lessons to be learned from good stories, and Mrs. McElwee will have done a very good turn to any reader of her book who pauses before committing matrimony with one of the many Caroline Greys of this world.

Finally Mrs. McElwee is to be congratulated on her publishers, who have produced a book which, from its print and binding, could be mistaken neither for a wild western nor for a German grammar.

S.J.W. (C, 1939).



THE RHYTHM RAMBLERS



Photos by]

AT SILVERSTONE
May 1950

[O.T.W.

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