

THE STOIC



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ACROSS THE OCTAGON

[J.C.A.]

THE STOIC

VOL. XV

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No. 1

END-OF-TERM REPORT

ALL readers of these words will, of course, have been long aware that, on September 2nd, the Headmaster had the misfortune to fall while climbing in the Cuillins. There will, however, doubtless be a number who have not had the opportunity to learn the details of his progress and who will therefore welcome the learning of them now.

The accident was a bad one and Mr. Reynolds's condition was for some days inevitably serious. His injuries, although less grave than was at first feared from some reports in the Press, were none the less considerable: a fractured wrist, a damaged eye, and three cracks in the skull, which fortunately were well away from the area of the brain. He had been carried down to the small hospital at Broadford and remained there in Skye until September 26th, when he was moved to a hospital near Glasgow and placed under Mr. J. Sloan Robertson for "rehabilitation treatment". So quickly did this rehabilitation take place that a further stage was reached in less than another fortnight. On October 8th he was brought South and returned to his own home near London, further treatment being then received from the President of the Royal College of Physicians and from Mr. F. A. Williamson-Noble. At the week-end of October 14th, he was able to make an unobtrusive but vigorous visit to Stowe, and it was seen that he was already well on the way to a remarkable recovery.

A month later, it was difficult, at least on the surface, to controvert his claim to be in very good health indeed. He was, of course, still undergoing some treatment, in particular to correct the vision of his right eye (the actual sight of which was not impaired permanently); but other traces of the accident had almost disappeared. He has confounded all the prognostications of the experts and now expects to be fully fit to resume his duties in January. We may perhaps add to our sense of

pleasure at this unexpectedly early return an expression of our admiration for the strength of will and tenacity of purpose that have made it possible.

During Mr. Reynolds's absence, the whole duties of Headmaster have been undertaken by the Second Master, Mr. A. B. Clifford, to whom we are grateful for his more than competent administration. His strong sense of duty and his deep sincerity have been an example to us all.

It was, without doubt, his unsparing devotion to hard work that so aggravated an old trouble that an emergency operation became necessary shortly before the end of term. This was successfully performed in Oxford early on Saturday, December 1st; and as we go to press Mr. Clifford is reported to be making excellent progress.

STOICA

School Officials—Christmas Term, 1951.

Prefects :—P. J. Tickell (B), Head of the School; R. G. L. McCrone (C), Second Prefect and Prefect of Chapel; P. J. Middleton (T), Prefect of Library; G. F. Appleton (G), Prefect of Gymnasium; A. W. Fraser (C); G. W. A. Kent (C); A. J. P. Campbell (C); M. J. R. Bannister (W); M. J. Fenwick (C); The Viscount Tiverton (B).

Rugby Football :—Captain, N. A. Gray (C); Secretary, P. Burgess (C).

The following visitors have preached in the Chapel this term :—Sunday, October 14th, Dr. R. W. Moore, Headmaster of Harrow; Sunday, November 4th, G. A. Riding, Esq., late Headmaster of Aldenham; Sunday, November 25th, The Rt. Rev. Bishop B. O. F. Heywood; Sunday, December 9th, The Rev. Canon R. W. Howard, Principal of St. Peter's Hall, Oxford.

Chapel Collections have been as follows :—July 29th, for the Returned British Prisoners of War Association, £56 os. od.; October 7th, for The Pineapple, £20 1s. 6d.; October 28th, for the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association, £30 5s. od.; November 11th, for the Earl Haig Fund, £104 10s. od. (not including money collected in boxes); November 25th, for the League of Pity (N.S.P.C.C.), £27 5s. od.

A Memorial Service for the late John Tattersall-Wright (W) was held in the Chapel at 6.45 p.m. on Tuesday, November 6th.

A Confirmation Service was held in the Chapel on Thursday, November 29th, when one hundred and one members of the School were confirmed by the Rt. Rev. the Lord Bishop of Oxford.

The annual Old Stoic Dinner was held in London at Grosvenor House on Saturday, November 3rd. Seventy-eight members of the Society were present. Speeches were made by J. A. Boyd-Carpenter, M.P. (C, 1927), who was in the Chair; by the Acting Headmaster (Mr. A. B. Clifford), by Mr. B. R. Miles, and by E. V. Hope (T, 1933). In accordance with last year's precedent, the Head of the School (P. J. Tickell (B)) was present: he also made a brief speech.

The Grafton Hunt met at Stowe on Saturday, December 8th.

The birth is announced of a son to Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Snell, on September 21st.

Mr. R. C. Pinchbeck and Mr. R. J. Morris have joined the Staff this term. Mr. Morris is an addition, and Mr. Pinchbeck replaces the loss, at the end of last Easter Term, of Mr. N. Aldrich-Blake, whose services in the field of Natural History were of so much value.

J. S. Yates (C) has been awarded a Thomas Bartlett Scholarship of £100 a year for Mathematics, with subsidiary Physics, at Liverpool University.

H. J. Bonning (C) passed first in the written examination, in June, of all candidates for the Navy, Army and Air Force Entrance Examination. He subsequently passed into the Electrical Branch of the Royal Navy on the result of the General Certificate of Education (advanced level).

A. D. J. Cameron (C), T. T. Lunham (C), D. A. R. Murray-Brown (C), J. M. Tulloch (B), and O. B. Worman (C) entered the R.M.A., Sandhurst, in September.

Representative Colours were awarded at the end of last term to :

For Rugby Football :—C. J. S. Cullum (B), H. J. Gray (W), M. L. Henderson (W)—for performance in the Public Schools Seven-a-Side Tournament, they not being 1st XV Colours at the time.

For Cross-Country :—A. J. P. Campbell (C), D. C. Page (T), D. W. Llowarch (W).

For Lawn Tennis :—J. G. Rigg (W).

Football Colours have been awarded as follows :—

1st XV. :—M. J. R. Bannister (W), re-awarded ; H. J. Gray (W), J. A. McConnell (T), P. L. Morris (C), C. J. S. Cullum (B), A. W. Fraser (C), T. R. H. Lewis (B), J. R. M. Thompson (S), A. J. P. Campbell (C), C. N. H. Hordern (W), D. C. Campbell (G), M. B. McKee (C), S. K. Knowles (T).

2nd XV. :—M. Grieve (S), M. D. Beck (W), M. Davis (T), J. G. R. Harding (C), H. G. Fennell (T), D. N. White (C), J. G. Rigg (W), M. J. Nightingale (G), H. D. E. Woods (S), D. S. Gilbert (W), R. M. T. Chetwynd (W), G. A. Catchpole (S).

3rd XV. :—H. Long (B), T. I. Brassey (T), T. S. Wilkinson (S), B. J. Calvert (G), G. H. Mallinson (T), A. S. R. Villar (B), A. J. Beerbohm (C), M. S. P. Gardner (B), C. D. Mullineux (T), W. F. Tremayne (C).

Colts' Stockings :—D. V. Fisher (C), C. W. J. Butler (T), D. G. duB. Dew (C), C. J. Garratt (C), P. E. S. Lilley (C), J. D. Hartland-Swann (B), J. C. Witham (T), J. R. F. Raw (G), R. P. H. Atkins (B), I. C. McLellan (C), J. D. Hill (C), R. J. Fennell (T), N. M. Bates (G), P. G. Fleury (W), B. S. Wessely (G).

STOWE : HOUSE AND SCHOOL

A handbook of rather over one hundred pages, describing the history of Stowe as a family seat and as a school, and illustrated by some forty photographs, has been written by Mr. Alasdair Macdonald, printed by W. S. Cowell, of Ipswich, and privately produced. It may be obtained from The School Shop, Stowe, at the price of 25/- (postage 11d.).

IN MEMORIAM

JOHN RICHARD TATTERSALL TATTERSALL-WRIGHT

“Tatt”, as he was affectionately known to us all, came to Walpole in September 1947. Right from the start he entered fully into the life of House and School and made as full a contribution as he could in every way. He worked his way steadily up the School and for the last four terms had been a Historian working with some promise of being a Scholar.

Always popular and respected, he was just developing his full personality and character and as a Monitor he showed sound judgement and leadership. Though not distinguished as an athlete, he enjoyed his tennis and his rugger more than many and did a good job as Captain of House Leagues. He spent much time in the Art School and showed considerable promise as an artist. The central pictures in a small memorial exhibition of his work showed a pleasing appreciation of tone and of colour ; and his command of technique was clearly growing fast.

His House is the better for his life among us and we shall long remember him with affection and pride. We have lost a true friend with the promise of a full life before him but can take some comfort from the fact that he passed on full of happiness and strong in his religious faith.

He died in the early hours of Monday, October 29th.

ALEXANDER ELLICE

Sandy Ellice came to Stowe in September 1949 and in his quiet way made friends with all his contemporaries in Cobham, who have missed him during his absence in the last few terms. His time at the school was too short to show his true worth either in games or work, but in the latter he tried hard and in the former he showed distinct promise in hockey and tennis. He died at home late in November.

MISS JEAN McGOOKIN

Miss McGookin had been ill for some while ; but it had been hoped that she would soon be returning to Stowe, and the news of her death on Sunday, November 25th, was unexpected. She came first to help out at the Sanatorium in a busy Easter Term six years ago. She would allow no reasonable restriction upon her hours of work, and so devoted was her service to the patients under her care that it seemed unthinkable that with the passing of the crisis she should also go her way. And so,

to our great gain, she stayed and became a much valued assistant to Miss Quennell. Her own generous nature, as might be expected, won her the deep affection of all who were privileged to know her, and she will be greatly missed.

MR. H. WEBB

Mr. Harry Webb died at his home in the early hours of Monday, October 22nd. His heart failure was only to be expected sometime in view of several previous warnings. None the less the whole community at Stowe felt shocked at this sudden passing of one so closely associated with the life of the School and so representative both officially and privately of the friendly and devoted spirit of the place. Nor did he ever fail to enjoy the humour of situation and character.

The loss of Mr. Webb's unobtrusive but constant service and the warm attachment to him felt by all who knew him was summed up in the verse of Cantata Stoica read instead of the Gospel lesson at Assembly the following morning :

“ Who God doth late and early pray
More of his grace than goods to lend,
And walks with man from day to day
As with a brother and a friend ”.

Harry Webb could look back on 18 years of regular and faithful employment at Stowe and all the events and incidents, grave and gay, which make up the life of a great school in whose success he played his full part. He died, as he had wished, in harness and happy to be on call by everybody at any time. We have that consolation to inspire us and are thankful that we appreciated him in his lifetime. He must have known it, but he was the last to dream of seeking it.

MR. FRANK BULL

Mr. Frank Bull became a member of the Pantry Staff at Stowe as long ago as May 1930, and in due course he filled the post of Butler to the School and became a familiar figure to us all. He had been a Prisoner of War for a large part of the First World War, and it was his misfortune to be a Prisoner again for the long years of the Second War. It was evident, when he returned to Stowe, that his experiences had broken his health, and it was not to be wondered at that he could not throw off the consequences of a road accident sustained while riding his bicycle. He died, in Banbury Hospital, at the age of 62, on Saturday, September 29th.

OLIM ALUMNI

At the General Election, held on October 25th, the following Old Stoics were elected as Members of Parliament :

MAJOR T. V. H. BEAMISH, M.C. (T, 1935), Conservative, Lewes ;
J. A. BOYD-CARPENTER (C, 1927), Conservative, Kingston-on-Thames ;
P. B. LUCAS, D.S.O., D.F.C. (G, 1934), Conservative, Brentford and Chiswick ;
S. T. SWINGLER (G, 1930), Labour, Newcastle-under-Lyme.

Beamish and Boyd-Carpenter were both elected in 1945 and 1950 ; Swingler in 1945, but not in 1950 ; and Lucas in 1950. Boyd-Carpenter is Financial Secretary to the Treasury ; and Beamish is a Secretary of the Defence and Foreign Affairs Committees of the Conservative Party.

A. D'A. BELLAIRS (T, 1935) has been appointed Lecturer in Comparative Anatomy to Cambridge University.

R. M. BARTLETT (T, 1947) has been selected to play Rugby Football for Cambridge University in the inter-University match, at Twickenham, on December 11th.

J. D. LLOYD (B, 1948) represented Cambridge University in the inter-University Relay Races held at Cambridge on November 29th.

R. LUSH (C, 1950) played Squash for Oxford University against Cambridge University on November 24th.

BIRTHS

To the wife of J. R. C. WHITE (C, 1935), a son, on July 3rd ; to the wife of T. A. S. CARLYON (C, 1941), a son, on July 22nd ; to the wife of J. W. FRAZER (T, 1935), a son, on July 24th (in Eire) ; to the wife of D. A. L. HOLDEN (B, 1940), a daughter, on July 24th (in Kenya) ; to the wife of G. R. CHEAPE (G, 1930), a son, on July 27th (in N.Z.) ; to the wife of J. D. MILNE (C, 1942), twin sons, on July 28th ; to the wife of F. L. ASHCROFT (C, 1935), a daughter, on August 10th ; to the wife of MAJOR A. D. HUNTER (G, 1934), a son, on August 13th ; to the wife of LIEUTENANT-COLONEL P. F. I. REID (G, 1929), a son, on August 14th ; to the wife of R. N. WARINGTON SMYTH (C, 1929), a son and a daughter, on August 21st ; to the wife of J. G. CLIFF-HODGES (G, 1933), a daughter, on August 28th ; to the wife of P. M. WARD (T, 1941), a daughter, on August 27th ; to the wife of J. F. SANDBERG (W, 1936), a son, on August 30th.

To the wife of MAJOR E. R. FARNELL-WATSON, M.C. (C, 1932), a daughter, on September 4th; to the wife of P. T. BEVAN (W, 1946), a daughter, on September 8th (in Kenya); to the wife of A. F. KERR (C, 1928), a son, on September 12th; to the wife of G. A. S. COX (W, 1940), a son, on September 14th; to the wife of J. K. HAY (C, 1934), a son, on September 14th; to the wife of R. P. FARRER, M.C. (B, 1940), a daughter, on September 26th (in Tanganyika); to the wife of CAPTAIN J. F. L. ROBINSON, M.C. (W, 1941), a daughter, on September 28th.

To the wife of DR. M. S. ADAMS (B, 1939), a son, on October 1st; to the wife of WING COMMANDER J. D. BLOIS (B, 1933), a daughter, on October 2nd; to the wife of F. W. BLAIR-IMRIE (C, 1927), a son, on October 2nd; to the wife of R. A. P. TEMPLE, M.C. (T, 1930), a daughter, on October 12th (in Jamaica); to the wife of LIEUTENANT-COLONEL H. D. NELSON SMITH, M.C. (C, 1932), a son, on October 20th; to the wife of J. T. HOLMAN (W, 1939), a daughter, on October 21st; to the wife of J. G. V. BURNS (G, 1942), a daughter, on October 23rd; to the wife of R. G. C. KINAHAN (T, 1934), a daughter, on October 24th.

To the wife of D. H. G. BEAMAN (T, 1941), a son, on November 11th; to the wife of DR. J. M. STOWERS (C, 1937), a daughter, on November 19th; to the wife of M. J. ELLISON (T, 1935), a son, on November 21st; to the wife of C. C. CHESHIRE (C, 1937), a daughter, on December 2nd (in Alexandria).

ADOPTION

Of a son by MAJOR R. A. SIMPSON (C, 1934), born on April 11th (announcement on August 4th).

MARRIAGES

P. G. SHEPHERD (C, 1942) to Miss H. E. Roberts, on January 12th, 1950; J. MCTURK (B, 1932) to Miss S. P. Flynn, on April 7th (in Kenya); T. J. THRACKRAH (B, 1943) to Miss M. McGraw, on July 21st (in Nairobi); W. M. LANYON (T, 1937) to Miss S. A. Borthwick, on August 1st; THE REVEREND A. A. H. RADICE (T, 1933) to Miss A. M. Guillaume, on August 2nd; E. F. G. GOSLING (C, 1939) to Miss E. J. Rest, on August 4th; J. B. MORE (C, 1946) to Miss S. C. Hull, on August 9th; A. J. ROWNTREE (T, 1945) to Miss E. U. Wilkinson, on August 11th; R. P. D. TREHERNE (C, 1943) to Miss I. Haig-Thomas, on August 20th; J. R. B. WILLIAMS-ELLIS (T, 1941) to Miss M. D. Charlton, on August 25th; P. W. KEMMIS (C, 1935) to Miss A. L. Nicholson, on August 31st.

THE LORD STRATHSPEY (T, 1929) to Miss O. Grant, on September 1st; MAJOR P. J. DIGGLE (C, 1939) to Contesse I. E. von Kalnein, on September 6th (in Switzerland); A. M. MITCHELL (C, 1940) to Miss A. V. Hardy, on September 8th; P. C. WASON (W, 1942) to Miss M. V. Salberg, on September 8th; THE HONOURABLE C. W. H. ALLENBY (C, 1928) to Miss B. M. Hall, on September 11th; MAJOR D. A. H. TOLER, M.C. (G, 1939) to Miss J. Garden, on September 11th; M. P. FORSYTH-FORREST (T,

1940) to Miss R. J. Grosvenor, on September 19th; C. G. DEALTRY (B, 1945) to Miss J. T. J. Berry, on September 22nd.

J. V. R. BIRCHALL (T, 1937) to Miss J. Kemp, on October 25th; C. C. D. SHORT (G, 1928) to Miss J. Seymour, on October 30th; THE HONOURABLE J. RODNEY (W, 1938) to Mlle. R. P. d'Opdorp, on November 3rd (in Brussels); H. W. SANSOM (B, 1942) to Miss S. D. Ward, on December 1st (in Nairobi); P. H. GUEST (B, 1944) to Miss J. M. James, on December 8th.

DEATHS

C. A. HANCOX (G, 1946), on August 2nd, at home after a long illness; A. L. H. SINCLAIR (C, 1927), early in November, after an operation.

DECORATIONS

MAJOR C. H. MITCHELL (C, 1934), Royal Northumberland Fusiliers, was awarded the D.S.O. for gallantry in action in Korea, in May 1951.

CASUALTIES

WOUNDED

MAJOR C. H. MITCHELL, D.S.O. (C, 1934), Royal Northumberland Fusiliers, in Korea.

PRISONER OF WAR

CAPTAIN G. D. E. LUTYENS-HUMFREY (C, 1945), Gloucestershire Regiment, in Korea. (Previously reported Missing.)

THE ALDER RIVER

The proposed lake between the Grotto and the Shell Bridge has not risen much this term, mainly owing to water leaking through the mole holes in the bank. However, since some of the bank has been covered with clay it has risen satisfactorily. Mr. Capel Cure has spent much time in planting a variety of flowers around the bottom of the lake, which should give a pleasant display in the summer.

J.D.

STOWE CLUB FOR BOYS

Tel. : PADddington 5452.

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

20th November, 1951

To the Editor of *The Stoic*.

SIR,

Through the kindness of the Headmaster we were able to hold our annual camp in the grounds of the school this year. There were thirty boys in camp who, in spite of being rather overawed by the quiet and loneliness of the site, quickly adapted themselves to their surroundings and the air soon resounded with the noise and bustle of a boys' camp.

Many happy hours were spent in the bathing pool and full use was made of the rubber dinghy. We were also able to use the Bourbon Field for our games and the cricket matches played against Dadford Youth Club were very enjoyable. Visits were made to Oxford and the surrounding countryside. Unfortunately the weather did not come up to Sandown standards, but the boys thoroughly enjoyed their holiday. We were indeed grateful to Mr. Clifford and Mr. Adams and to the Bursar and his staff for all the necessary arrangements made for the camp.

For the first time for many years we were able to enter a swimming team in the London Federation of Boys' Clubs swimming competitions, which were held in September in the York Hall Baths, Bethnal Green. The results were very satisfactory and the boys were well placed, viz., 1st in the 100 yds. Junior (66.5 secs.), 2nd in the 1-length (19.0 secs.), and 3rd in the Junior team race (1m. 20 secs.). In the under-14 section they were 3rd in the 1-length and 2nd in the team relay. As a reward for this effort the boys received medals and the Club a cup.

The cricket season was very successful. Two boys played at Lords in the Federation team against the M.C.C. Young Professionals. The senior team was beaten in the closing rounds of the London Federation Cup competition, and the Juniors managed to get through to the finals, but were then well and truly beaten by the Oxford Bermondsey Club.

Another successful boxing tournament was held on November 5th at the Seymour Hall and in spite of its being a very wet evening more than a thousand people turned up to watch the boxing. Our thanks are again due to the Old Boys of the Club for organising the show.

Three football teams have been entered in the London Federation League this year and so far none of the teams has lost a league game.

Our visit to the School on Sunday, October 21st, was made in summer-like weather. Two Club teams played against the School XIs, when the honours were even. The Old Boys won their match against a Staff team. It was a very enjoyable day and we appreciate all that was done to make our visit such a pleasant one.

We were sorry to hear of the Headmaster's serious accident when on holiday and are very pleased to know that he is now home and making good progress.

Yours faithfully,

R. W. HONE,
Warden.

THE FIRE

Dr. Ian McGuire would never have thought to describe himself as anything but an ordinary man. Now he could see that he was nearing the end of his highly successful, if unspectacular, career as a doctor in a lucrative practice on the outskirts of Edinburgh, he began to look back over his life, and to wonder whether he had missed anything; whether life had cheated him.

It was a disturbing, nagging thought, and it kept him awake long that night. His life had been amply comfortable; superbly conditioned from all the shocks and misfortunes that men with less perspicacity are heir to. His marriage had been a polite and well-ordered success; his two sons had grown up successfully; he had always treated his poorer relations with the patronising but sincere generosity that he wore so well; and he was greatly respected by the parish priest. But like many quiet, greying men who have led their lives honourably and with restraint, he felt a little cheated, a little commonplace.

That night, to the strenuous rhythm of his wife's breathing, his thoughts turned to insurance. He had always been heavily insured; had accepted its necessity ever since the dimly-remembered day when his father had given him his going-out-into-the-world lecture; and whether because he had taken ample precautions, or simply because life had favoured him, he had never had cause to collect. At the time this seemed to represent his whole life, of which he had expended a large part in taking precautions, all of which had proved unnecessary. He had indeed missed something; there was no longer any doubt. But it could be remedied. Thinking of the remedy he fell asleep, and in the morning woke with the light of determination shining in his usually sallow face.

He had decided to burn his house down. He was sick of it anyway; sick of its size, its solidity, its furnishings and, above all, of its air of desiccated gloom. There was nothing of great value in it, but the compensation from the insurance company would enable him to buy a smaller, more comfortable house. He even entertained thoughts of a week abroad, of violent parties, wild excursions. Lost for a moment in happy rebellious dreams, he nevertheless decided that the chances of being found out were negligible; who would suspect Dr. McGuire? His mind made up now, he formed his plan.

"It must be simple," he thought, "and clever. But not too clever . . . , not too clever . . .".

The plan centred on a large room on the east side of the house. It had been Robert's study. Robert was the younger of the two sons, a sturdy boy whose great ambition had been to collect enough stuffed birds to make a museum. As he grew older, his enthusiasm waned, till finally, on his marriage, he had left his young love behind. The birds were still there, heaped round the walls, dry, in their boxes. The room had been unused for several years, and lay under dust. Here the fire could be started, and

the west wind would fan it. The next afternoon was warm, and Dr. McGuire's wife, as was her custom on warm days, would spend the first part of the afternoon sitting under a tree in the garden. The gardener would be at work, and so there would be no one in the house. All was ready for him to act.

There was no hesitation in his mind. He looked around the house for the last time and took out nothing but an old shotgun which he treasured. He returned with a tin of petrol. In a moment he had stacked the boxes in the middle of the room and soaked them with petrol. He even took the precaution of sprinkling petrol all the way up the back-stairs to hasten the burning. At the top he found the attic door open. Absently he shut it and returned downstairs almost in a trance. The smell of petrol seemed to go to his head like wine. Jubilantly he touched off the pile of boxes and stepped back. For a few seconds it smouldered, hesitating, then as he reached the door it burst into flame with a dull thump.

The fresh air after the dust clarified his mind, and he stood back to get a better view.

"Wonderful sight," he breathed; "haven't enjoyed a fire so much for years".

He was happy now, exhilarated and proud, like a small boy with a bonfire; but more happy, because he was having his revenge. Gleefully he stood, reddened by the flames, his hands rubbing themselves together behind his back.

In twenty minutes the fire-brigade arrived—too late to save the house. Dr. McGuire was standing, quite calm, but preoccupied, talking to one of the firemen.

". . . Not that I don't think you were lucky not to have been in it yourself", observed the fireman consolingly.

"Lucky? What do you mean . . . ? Oh! oh! yes, I see. My life. Yes, very lucky—very lucky indeed".

At that moment two firemen came round the house, holding between them the struggling form of the gardener.

"Caught 'im trying to git into the flames, guv. Says something about yer wife".

For a moment the Doctor was seized by panic. In the excitement he had forgotten her. But no need to panic. She was in the garden—or was she? He could not think, but only ask with the icy calm of fear in his voice:

"Where is she?"

"The attic, the attic. She . . .".

The frenzied voice of the old gardener beat on his ears, but he was not listening; and although he watched the blackened contorted face shouting at him, he heard nothing. Instead words spun round and round in his brain, and he could hear only:

". . . too clever . . . too clever . . . too clever . . .".

B.J.C.

MUSIC

As only three players left at the end of the Summer term, the Orchestra has been able to rehearse a somewhat ambitious programme, which has included Beethoven's Coriolan Overture, Mendelssohn's Midsummer Night's Dream Overture, Bizet's L'Arlésienne Suite, Offenbach's Orpheus in the Underworld music, and Bach's Piano Concerto in D minor, with P. R. Cutforth as solo pianist.

The junior string players have had weekly rehearsals with Mr. Negus.

The Choral Society has rehearsed a series of choruses by Beethoven, Bach, Mendelssohn and Handel together with Stanford's Magnificat in B flat, which will be performed in Chapel on December 9th.

The Madrigal Society has given two performances of carols and Christmas music in neighbouring churches, at Tingewick and Wicken, and gave a similar performance in Assembly on December 6th.

There have been two Sunday concerts organized and performed by members of the School. A very enjoyable Organ recital was given by J. D. Nightingale (C, 1949) on Sunday, December 2nd.

CONCERT: SUNDAY, JULY 29TH.

This concert was performed in Assembly in lieu of evening chapel. A large number of parents who had stayed on after Speech Day the previous day were present.

The concert was well up to standard. Special mention must be made of J. R. Melvin's feat in playing a Piano Concerto and a Clarinet Sonata in the same concert.

PROGRAMME .

Overture—"Samson"	Handel
Andante—Allegro Moderato—Minuet.	
March—Gavotte	Correlli
THE JUNIOR STRING PLAYERS	
Piano Concerto No. 1 in C major	Beethoven
Allegro con brio.	
Piano—J. R. MELVIN (C)	
Overture—"Rosamunde"	Schubert
Andante—Allegro Vivace.	
Madrigal—"Love is meant to make us glad" . . .	Edward German
Solo—"She had a letter from her love."	
Treble Solo—A. D. OSBORN (C)	

- Quartet—"In England, Merrie England"
 Solo—"The English Rose"
Tenor Solo—C. N. H. HORDERN (W)
 Song and Trio—"When Cupid first this old world trod"
Baritone Solo—G. W. A. KENT (C)
 Intermezzo for 'Cello from Concerto Grosso in D minor ... *Vivaldi*
 Alman (16th Century) *Craxton*
'Cello—R. J. RUHEMANN (C)
 "Nimrod", from Enigma Variations *Elgar*
 Andante and Rondo from Divertimento *Haydn*
 for Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Horn and Bassoon.
Flute—M. DAVIS (T)
Oboe—P. R. CUTFORTH (S)
Clarinet—J. R. MELVIN (C)
Horn—M. J. SLATER (T)
Bassoon—M. C. G. KILLINGBECK (B)
 Italian Symphony *Mendelssohn*
 Andante con Moto.
 Sonata for Clarinet and Piano in F minor *Brahms*
 Allegretto Grazioso.
Clarinet—J. R. MELVIN (C)
Piano—MR. M. T. BURKE.
 Overture—"Russlan and Ludmilla" *Glinka*
Leader of the Orchestra—MISS DOROTHY CHURTON
Conductor—DR. L. P. HUGGINS.

THE MUSIC SOCIETY

There have been four meetings of the Music Society this term, all of which have been very successful. The standard of the performances has been outstandingly high.

PIANOFORTE RECITAL GIVEN BY KENDALL TAYLOR ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17TH.

- I.
 Chromatic Fantasia and Fugue *J. S. Bach*
 Sonata in C minor, Op. 111 *Beethoven*
 II.
 Island Spell *John Ireland*
 Balkan Dances (Jugoslav) *Tcajelic*

- L'Alouette *Glinka, arr. Balakeriev*
 Prelude in C *Prokofiev*
 L'Isle Joyeuse *Debussy*

III.

- Three "Etudes" *Chopin*
 Op. 10, No. 12 in C minor (Revolutionary); Op. 25, in C sharp
 minor; Op. 10, No. 5 in G flat.
 Polonaise in A flat *Chopin*

In some ways this recital was a trifle disappointing. For some reason it seemed to become less and less interesting as it went on; it may have been the fault of the pianist, but more likely it was because the programme was not well chosen; it seemed to be designed to exhibit the ability of the pianist rather than to impress the audience with its beauty. The first work was played best; that and the Beethoven Sonata were by far the most enjoyable pieces of the evening.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 31ST, AT 8 P.M. IN THE LIBRARY.

ROSEMARY RAPAPORT—*Violin*

ELSE CROSS—*Piano*.

- Sonata for Violin and Piano in E flat *Mozart*
 Allegro Molto—Adagio—Allegretto.
 Sonata for Violin and Piano in G major (op. 78) *Brahms*
 Vivace—Adagio—Allegro.
 Sonata for Violin and Piano in C major (op. 23) *Hauptmann*
 Allegro—Andante—Rondo.

On the whole this was an enjoyable evening. The first piece was well played; the second seemed to lack warmth; the third, though of no very great merit as a piece, was interesting and extremely well played.

CONCERT GIVEN BY THE CAPRIOL STRING ORCHESTRA ON NOVEMBER 7TH.

Conductor—ROY BUDDEN

Leader of the Orchestra—REGINALD MORLEY.

- Concerto Grosso in C minor, Op. 2, No. 2 *Geminiani*
 Adagio—Allegro—Adagio—Allegro.
 Cowkeeper's Tune and Country Dance *Grieg*
 Divertimento in F (K.138) *Mozart*
 Allegro Andante—Presto.
 Sinfonietta, Op. 52 *Roussel*
 Allegro—Andante—Allegro.

- "Capriol" Suite for Strings *Peter Warlock*
 Basse-Dance ; Pavane ; Tordion ; Bransles ; Pieds-en-Pair ; Mat-
 tachins.
 Londonderry Air *arr. Percy Grainger*
 Mock Morris *Percy Grainger*
 Introduction and Allegro for Strings *Elgar*
Solo Quartet—REGINALD MORLEY (*Violin*).
 BETTY SLOAN (*Violin*).
 HAROLD HARRIOTT (*Viola*).
 MARGARET PIGGOTT (*Violoncello*).

This concert was held in the Gymnasium, as are most Orchestral Concerts, and the attendance was on the whole good. The concert was very successful and members of the Society were not disappointed.

The programme became more interesting as it progressed, finally ending up with Elgar's Introduction and Allegro for Strings, which was without doubt the best played work of the evening.

RECITAL GIVEN BY ALAN LOVEDAY (*Violin*) AND LEONARD CASSINI (*Piano*) ON
 WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21ST.

- Sonata No. 4 (K. 304), in E minor *Mozart*
 Allegro—Tempo di Menuetto.
 Pianoforte Solos :
 Four Preludes *Chopin*
 (a) G Minor ; (b) G sharp minor ; (c) F major ; (d) D minor.
 Violin Solos :
 Praeludium and Allegro *Kreisler*
 Hora-staccato *Dinicieu*
 Sonata in A major (Kreutzer) *Beethoven*
 Adagio con sostenuto. Presto—Andante con variazione—
 Presto.

This recital was the best we have had at Stowe for several years and the sort we are not likely to have again for some time. From the very start it was clear that the recital was to be good ; the Mozart Sonata was played extremely well. The pianoforte solos too were well played, but when Alan Loveday reached the end of the Hora-Staccato the audience applauded as they have not applauded at Stowe for some years ; they were simply spellbound. The rendering of the Kreutzer Sonata was excellent ; so much so that the Prokofiev sonata, which they also played, came as rather an anticlimax though it was played well by ordinary standards.

R.G.L.McC.



MR. HARRY WEBB



JOHN TATTERSALL-WRIGHT

DEBATING SOCIETY

Hitherto there have been two debates. At the first, on October 24th, the Motion "That this House believes that good manners are now out of date" was proposed by the Secretary, P. J. TICKELL (B), and opposed by the Librarian, R. JAMESON (G). The co-opted member, P. H. KRUSIN (B), spoke third, and R. P. H. ATKINS (B) spoke fourth. A spirited debate followed; it was a pity that the best and most amusing speeches were seldom about good manners. The Motion was won by two votes in the Upper House, and lost by thirteen in the Lower.

At the second, on November 28th, the President was unavoidably detained, and Mr. Fox consented to be in the chair and was therefore elected Vice-President for the evening. The Motion "That this House believes that rearmament makes a permanent peace impossible" was proposed by the Treasurer, B. J. CALVERT (G), and opposed by R. M. TULLOCH (B). C. F. McK. COX (B) spoke third and R. F. S. HAMER (G) spoke fourth. The debate which followed was somewhat serious, and the efforts to make it a Communist putsch were a dismal and ignominious failure. The Motion was won by five votes in the Upper House and lost by fifteen in the Lower.

New members this term have been G. W. A. Kent (C), M. B. McKee (C), D. M. Vance (G), D. E. Stewart (B), A. J. Lumsden-Cook (B), and P. G. Corbett (G).

P.J.T.

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

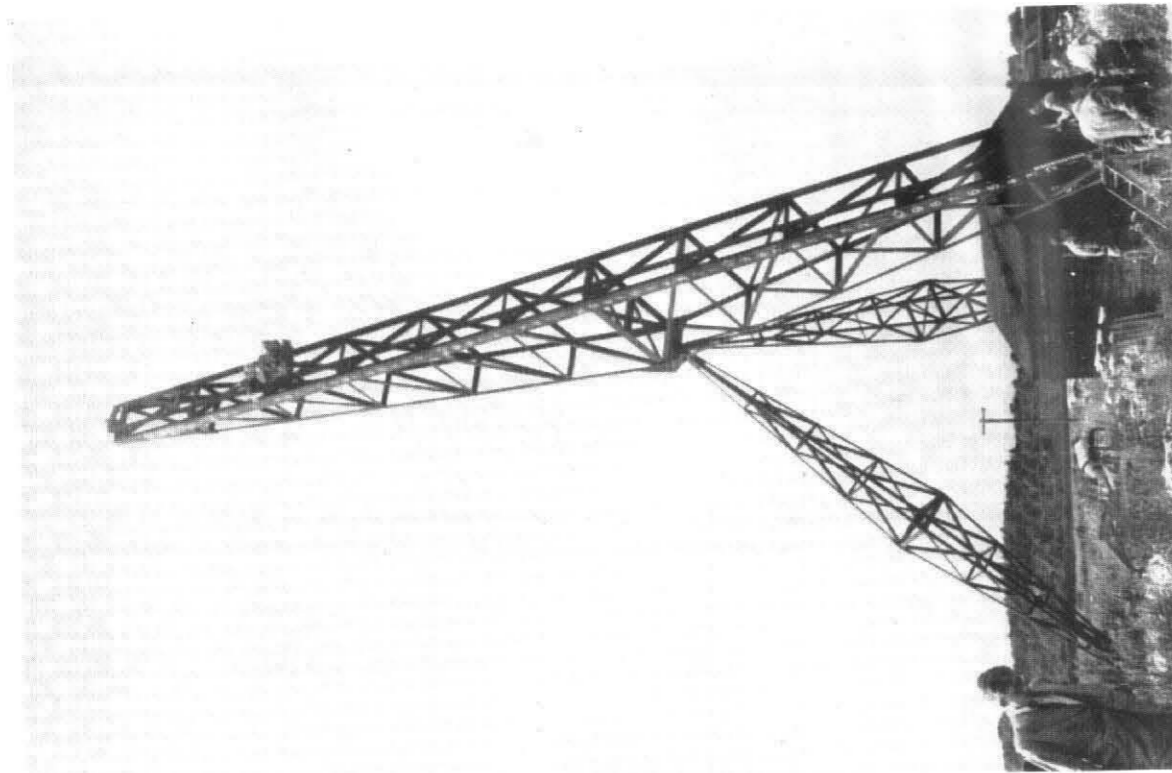
THE TWELVE CLUB

So far there has only been one meeting this term. On Friday, November 2nd, P. J. LeVay Lawrence (B) read a paper on the "Ottoman Menace". This paper, with detail and analysis, proved that the Ottoman menace to Europe was of the same nature as the present Communist threat: both, through their inherent qualities, were doomed to failure from the very moment of their inception. Mr. Lawrence's paper was one of the best the Club has recently heard, and the solid relevance of his facts and conclusions was alleviated by amusing anecdote. Conversation took some time to get going, but members eventually got down to Morality, Disease and ritualistic pig burnings in Dadford.

It is hoped R. G. L. McCrone (G) will read a paper to the Club on December 7th.

New members this term have been: J. C. Brown (G), M. J. Nightingale (G), R. G. L. McCrone (G), R. Jameson (G), J. N. L. Chalton (B), C. D. Mullineux (T), The Viscount Tiverton (B), G. F. Appleton (G), J. C. M. Shepherd (T), and as a permanent guest, D. E. Stewart (B).

P.J.T.



By courtesy of []
EJECTION SEAT TRAINING TOWER
(Martin-Baker Aircraft Co.
(Geographical Society Expedition))



Photo by []
RADAR WITH SOUND-WAVES
(E.S.P.
(Science Exhibition, July 1951))

THE MUSIC CLUB

So far we have had two expeditions to Oxford this term but no other meetings. The membership of the club is still very large though it is less than it has been for a year, there being forty-one members now as opposed to fifty last term.

The first of the two expeditions was to the Sheldonian Theatre, where we heard the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Sir Thomas Beecham. In spite of the Sheldonian seats the concert proved to be the most enjoyable we have heard for over a year.

The second expedition took the form of a double expedition to the New Theatre to see a ballet. Some members went by taxi to a Wednesday matinée, while the main party went to the evening performance on Saturday. The expedition was very successful and, in spite of different opinions here and there, everyone enjoyed it very much.

R.G.L.McC.

THE CLASSICAL SOCIETY

The 112th meeting of the Society was held in Mr. Stephan's room on November 13th when K. A. Henderson (C) read a well-informed and instructive paper entitled "Drama at the City Dionysia in the 5th Century B.C.". He dealt lucidly with all the relevant points and the Society benefited considerably from his talk. W. A. Robertson (W) and D. J. Feathers (G) read 'extracts' and the Secretary read the wrong minutes.

On December 4th, J. R. Warden (T) read a well-constructed and interesting paper on "Ancient Manuscripts and Textual Criticism". J. C. Witham (T) and A. J. Clarke (C) read 'extracts'.

M.J.N.

THE VITRUVIAN SOCIETY

To date, there have been three meetings of the Society. The first was an expedition to Stonor Park on October 17th. Only six people were invited; the house was well worth seeing. Architecturally it was a maze of patterns and a harmony of styles; but the main interest was inside. The flamboyant chimney-piece, the Stubbsses and the Rembrandts, the rich and original furnishing, and the ubiquitous Gothic revival detail reflected the character and charm of the owner. Noticing with delight a herd of deer, the party embussed and returned.

On October 27th, there was a general meeting of the Society, called to read a collection of unread minutes and to decide on the future.

On November 10th, there was a 'bus expedition to Oxford. The Vice-President was unfortunately ill, but the Second Master nevertheless allowed the plan to take effect. Arrived at Oxford, the party split up into three groups under three Old Stoic undergraduates and was shown the architectural 'musts', such as Christ Church and Magdalen Bridge, as well as the architectural 'must nots,' such as Keble College Chapel or the Museum. The party reassembled for a substantial tea at the Angel Café, and returned to Stowe uneventfully.

The Librarian, N. L. M. Boulbee (G), is proposing to read a paper on Decorated Architecture.

P.J.T.

THE SYMPOSIUM

With a fortnight to go until the end of the Summer Term there were still two papers to be read. B. S. Wessely (G) read, on July 16th, his paper on "Ballooning", in which he outlined the history of balloons from the first public ascent by the Montgolfier brothers in 1783 up to the days of the zeppelins. On July 24th, D. G. du B. Dew (C), the out-going Secretary, read a paper on "Astrology", which, though somewhat bewildering in its complexity, successfully rounded off an altogether successful year.

So far this term there have been only three papers. On October 9th, R. D. M. Mann (G) read a paper on "Some Miscarriages of Justice", which was followed by a stormy political discussion. Three weeks later the Secretary, P. G. Corbett (G), read a paper on "Numismatics, or the Study of Coins", which gave a brief summary of coinage from the seventh century B.C. up to the present day. On November 23rd M. Grieve (G) read his very interesting paper on "Some Wonderful Escapes from the Sea", which contained several fascinating, if sometimes gruesome, examples. It is hoped that J. R. Morriss (C) will read a further paper towards the end of the term.

P.G.C.

THE SCIENCE SOCIETY

The main activity of the Society last term was the Exhibition, which was held at the week-end of Speech Day. Owing to the early date of the G.C.E. examinations, it was possible to spend a longer time than usual in the preparation of the demonstrations and the efforts of the demonstrators were amply rewarded by the large attendance.

Previously in the term, the 129th meeting was held when Dr. J. M. Fletcher, of Harwell, assisted by Mr. Mandeburg, came to give a lecture on some of the aspects of Atomic Energy. The meeting was well attended and the lecture extremely interesting.

For the 130th meeting, a film entitled "The Principles of Flight" was shown.

This term we have had one lecture, which was given by the President on "Sun Spots and the Zeeman Effect". Later on in the term we are hoping to have a lecture on "Loudspeakers" from D. B. Haig (G) and the Secretary.

K.L.W.

THE RIDING CLUB

This term the Stowe Riding Club has been revived. The aims of this Club, as they were stated at the inaugural meeting, are "to co-ordinate all riding activities at Stowe, to stimulate and encourage an interest in horses and riding, and to organise an occasional expedition". Dr. Huggins has kindly consented to act as Patron, and Mr. McElwee as President.

The first meeting, on Sunday, October 7th, proved lively; and great enthusiasm was shown. Officers were elected, and the Club now has a membership of over forty. An expedition to the Grafton Hunt Kennels is to take place on December 9th, and a lecture may be arranged at Stowe later in the term.

It is hoped that there may again be a large number of Stoics mounted at the Stowe Meet.

B.J.C.

THE YOUNG FARMERS' CLUB

The Young Farmers' Club has been far from inactive this term.

The first meeting of the Club was held on October 10th, and our membership was increased to thirty-two. M. E. P. Cross (G) was elected Chairman for the second year; P. G. Corbett (S), last year's Secretary, was elected Vice-Chairman; G. H. Mallinson (T), Secretary; J. D. Jackson (S) as Treasurer for the second year; and P. M. Prior-Wandesforde (T) to the Committee.

The second meeting was held on November 14th, when M. Fraser-Allen (C) gave us a very instructive lecture on "Pig Keeping", which he illustrated by showing us on the epidiascope pictures of the various breeds.

The third meeting of the Club was held on November 21st, when a representative from the Esso Petroleum Company showed us three very interesting films: the first was called "Farm Review", and showed us a variety of farm activities, including a Young Farmers' Club Rally. The second explained the Diesel engine to us and also showed the different oils which should be used. The third was entitled "Grass-drying", and we learnt that there were three different types of grass-driers in use to-day, one being portable. He ended up this excellent show with a very short Esso cartoon.

Another meeting was held on November 28th, when a Ferguson representative showed us a film on "The Ferguson System".

On December 5th there is to be a 'bus expedition to London, when thirty-one members will visit the Smithfield Machinery and Fatstock Show.

G.H.M.

THE CONGREVE CLUB

As always in the Winter term, the main activities of the Club have been directed towards the production of the School Play, and the one chosen for this term was "Escape" by John Galsworthy. Nevertheless, a private party, headed by the Vice-President, went to see a performance of "The Tempest" at the Memorial Theatre, Stratford, on Wednesday, October 28th. A second expedition, to Oxford, had unfortunately to be postponed.

It seemed at first that the Club would find it difficult to realise the necessary talent for so ambitious a play. Actors were few, and those members who volunteered to co-operate either on or off the stage as actors or technicians, had to contend with dangerous electrical equipment, thick fog, the absence of enough scenery for the ten scenes involved, and the diplomatic problems encountered when borrowing properties. However, from this maze of unco-ordinated and seemingly fruitless activities, "Escape" finally emerged as an artistic whole. A review of the play would be unseemly from a member of the Club behind the scenes, and only the varied help given by members at considerable inconvenience to themselves can be described. "Escape" has in fact been the product of the whole club, from the lowest usher to the most polished actor.

Mr. Clarke and one or two keen members have organised several play-readings, which on the whole have been enjoyed by all who attended them. Many non-members

have been present and were very welcome, and this opportunity is taken to invite any other interested members of the school to these play-readings in the future.

J.D.D.

THE FILM SOCIETY

After a lapse of several years, the Stowe Film Society has been revived. This has been made possible by the co-operation of Dr. Zetl and by the fact that the school has recently acquired some new projection equipment. Most members of the Upper School have joined and the meetings have also been attended by many masters and matrons.

The first film of the term was a French film entitled "Quai des Brumes", of a somewhat sombre mood. It traced, with some realism, the experiences and emotions of a deserter. This film only partially effected its object of teaching the Society French, for the sub-titles were left mostly to the imagination.

The next film suffered from no such disadvantage: what it lacked in educational, it made up in moral value. Called simply "Monsieur Vincent", the film dealt with the life, the energy, the piety and the simplicity of St. Vincent de Paul. Perhaps the situations were a little too obviously drawn for real life, for Good and Evil strove very patently for mastery; but the dramatic structure and emotional appeal of the film were both effective.

At the third and last meeting of the term, on December 5th, the Italian film "Vivere in Pace" will be shown.

Financially the Society is firmly grounded!

J.D.D.

THE MODERN LANGUAGES SOCIETY

When the Society reassembled this term, only one member was left. We have read with considerable enjoyment and doubtless great improvement in our appreciation of French theatre, "Docteur Knock" by Jules Romains, Molière's "Le Médecin malgré lui" and "La Grammaire" by Labiche. The members of the Society, who were as usual under the benevolent eyes of the President and Mr. Capel Cure, were P. J. LeVay Lawrence (B), T. M. Molossi (G), R. A. C. Meredith (G), A. J. Beerbohm (C) and M. J. R. Padmore (C).

P.J.L.L.

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

At a meeting at the beginning of the term R. A. Nicholson (C) was elected Secretary, J. E. Moody (S) Curator, and J. A. Soar (C) was re-elected Treasurer. It was also decided that the Society needed a Vice-President, and Mr. Haigh consented to fill this office.

The Bursar has agreed to give us the materials to do up the darkroom. In the near future we are also going to buy a new enlarger.

As the darkroom is in such a bad state, it has been out of use, and as a result we were unable to enter any prints for the Public Schools Portfolio this term.

R.A.N.

THE RHYTHM RAMBLERS JAZZ CLUB

The activities of the Club so far this term have been confined to a film preceded by a short concert by the band in the Gymnasium on Wednesday, November 28th.

The film was an Irving Berlin musical, starring Bing Crosby and Fred Astaire. It was well received by a big audience. Many thanks are due to The Honourable A. P. Moynihan for procuring the film.

The band itself is much reduced and this term consists of: A. S. Jackson (G), piano; C. A. Hart-Leverton (G), piano accordion; M. J. R. Padmore (C), clarinet; and R. F. S. Hamer (G), 'cello.

C.A.H-L.

THE EPHEMERALS

So far this term there have been two meetings. On November 2nd, at the Society's 35th meeting, G. W. A. Kent (C) read a paper on "The Significance of Dreams". In this he followed a theory put forward by Mr. J. W. Dunne, dealing with dreams about actual future living events.

On November 20th, A. W. Fraser (C) related the events and experiences of three journeys he had made personally during the last few years; firstly, from Durban to Kisumu; secondly, from Kenya down the Nile to Cairo, and then to London; and thirdly, from London to Hong Kong. As most of the Society had seldom, if ever, made comparable journeys, the paper was very interesting.

We hope to hear from N. A. Gray (C) on December 11th, on a subject not yet ascertained.

The members this term are as follows:—A. J. P. Campbell (C), G. W. A. Kent (C), R. J. R. Hartley (C), P. J. Middleton (T), A. W. Fraser (C), R. J. V. Robinson (W), D. S. Gilbert (W), N. A. Gray (C), A. J. Beerbohm (C), P. G. Rivière (C), M. J. Fenwick (C).

M.J.F.

THE REEL CLUB

After a lapse of several years, enthusiasm is sufficiently high to re-form this club. The number of members will be considerably greater than in previous years, and although there has been no meeting yet it is hoped that the club will be in full swing later this term.

A.T.

THE TOXOPHILITES

There have been no meetings of the Club so far this term.

J.D.D.

C.C.F. NOTES

Apart from a change of command, referred to later, the C.C.F. has pursued an even tenor, and there is not much to report. The contingent is 327 strong, including a Naval Section (formed in June) of 15 and an Air Section of 23.

At the Certificate "A" examination on 17th July there were 48 candidates for Part II and 15 for Part I, of whom 40 and 14 respectively passed. There were 2 Credits in Part II and 3 in Part I.

At a similar examination on 3rd December the results were:—Part II, 71 candidates, 64 passed, 2 credits; Part I, 60 candidates, 58 passed, 6 credits.

There is a separate report on the Camp at Warminster.

At the beginning of this term Lt.-Col. W. L. McElwee, M.C., T.D., handed over command to Major J. C. Saunders. Col. McElwee has held command of the contingent since January 1946; and generations of Stoics from the pre-war years also have in their time applied in action what they learned from him as a junior officer. His war experience included command of a company in battle, instruction at an O.C.T.U., and work on the Staff, and he brought a refreshingly realistic note to the Corps, which is always in danger of being pamphlet-ridden. His example will be very hard to live up to.

The following promotions were made this term:—

To *Under-Officer*: Sgts. R. Jameson (G), S. H. G. Twining (T).

To *Sergeant*: Cpls. R. G. L. McCrone (G), D. S. Gilbert (W), P. J. Middleton (T), R. M. T. Chetwynd (W), J. G. Soar (C), K. L. Walker (G), N. M. L. Boulbee (G), J. A. McConnell (T), A. J. P. Campbell (C), M. J. R. Bannister (W), P. R. Cutforth (G), J. G. R. Harding (C).

To *Acting Leading Seaman*: B. J. Calvert (G), R. C. Withinshaw (C), The Viscount Tiverton (B).

To *Corporal*: L/Cpls. A. S. Jackson (G), C. P. Nuttall (B), P. G. Rivière (C), E. F. Williamson (C), M. H. Spence (C), T. A. Trimmingham (W), C. J. S. Cullum (B), N. Broackes (C), J. C. M. Shepherd (T), A. W. Fraser (C), M. J. Fenwick (C), C. D. Mullineux (T).

Appointed *Lance-Corporal*: Cadets T. S. S. Walley (G), T. R. H. Lewis (B), M. J. R. Forman (C), A. M. Watson (G), R. I. Lund (C), S. F. N. Waley (W), J. N. L. Chalton (B), D. M. Vance (G), A. J. Beerbohm (C), P. D. Levitt (W), W. F. Tremayne (C), A. A. Fairrie (C), M. D. Beck (W), J. A. Chatwin (C), R. Blaker (C), M. Davis (T), P. Burgess (G).

J.C.S.

C.C.F. CAMP

This year's summer Camp was again held at Warminster. There were 105 cadets present, a somewhat smaller total than last year, but in addition to the R.A.F. camp at Cranwell there were R.N.V.R. and R.M.F.V.R. camps at Chatham and the Isle of Wight respectively. Although the food was noticeably an improvement on last year, it was rather spoilt by our having to wait so long for it. The demonstrations were excellent and on varied subjects, but unfortunately were rather familiar to anyone

who had attended last year's camp. We had, however, far more .303 shooting, which, since we lack open range facilities at Stowe, was much appreciated, and the intersection competition was keenly contested. The night exercise showed promise of being very interesting and instructive, but the English climate intervened and it had to be abandoned in the early hours of the morning. All must have learnt the difficulties of intercommunication, on a really dark night, without broadcasting your whereabouts to all enemy patrols within miles.

G.F.A.

BOOK REVIEWS

“LESLIE STEPHEN: HIS THOUGHT AND CHARACTER IN RELATION TO HIS TIME”

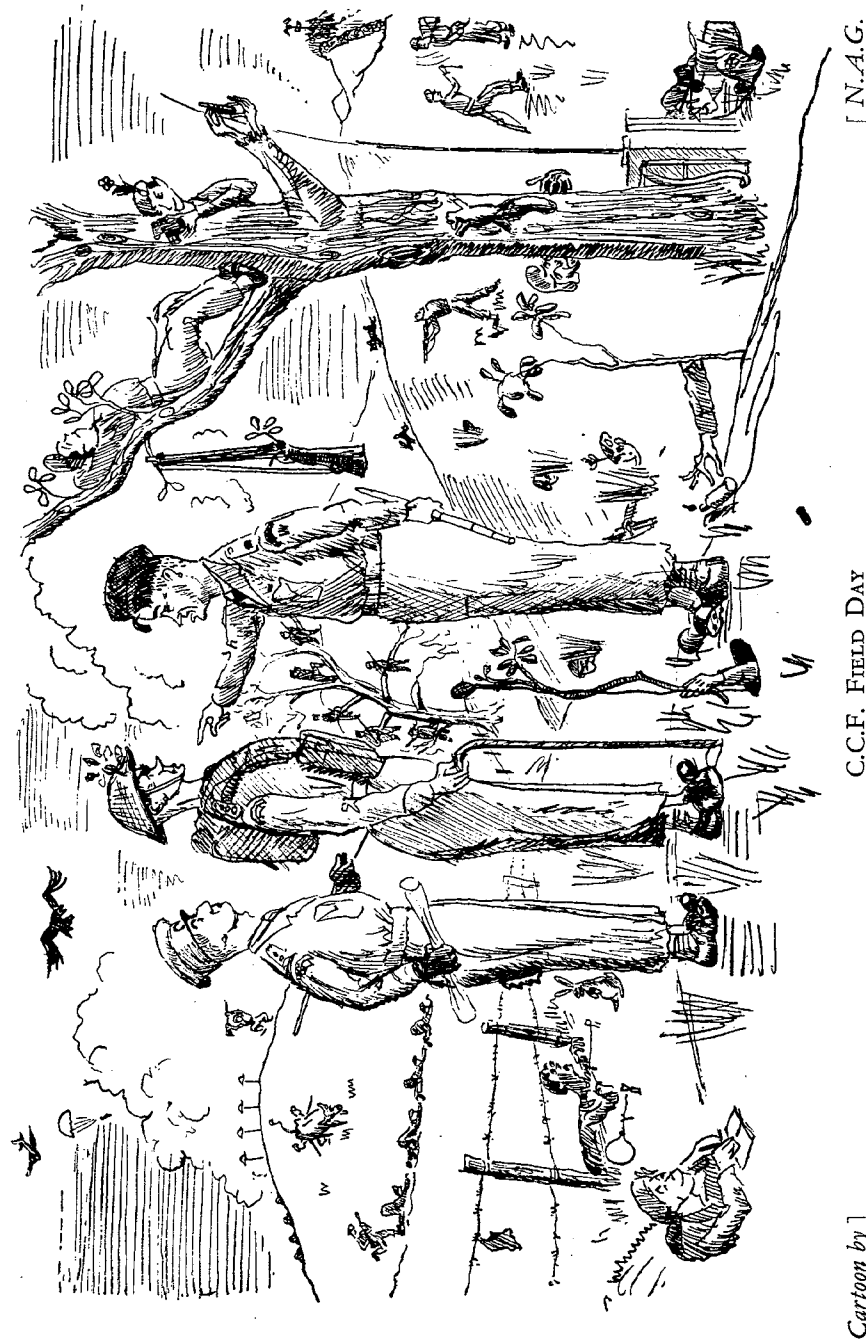
by NOEL ANNAN. (*Macgibbon and Kee*, 25/-.)

Mr. Annan's book is more interesting than its subject.

Leslie Stephen was certainly in some ways a remarkable man and his life was filled to the brim with productive effort. At Cambridge, besides being a wrangler, a Fellow of his College and (until he gave up his Orders) a devoted Tutor, he was the founder of the Sports and a mighty rowing coach. Later he sought distraction and found fame among the Alps, becoming one of the pioneers of “Alpinism” among the English upper classes, while his immense literary output included much that is of value today. Among other things he was the original editor of the *Dictionary of National Biography* and produced its first twenty-six volumes. As a thinker he was one of those brave men who have been willing to sacrifice their careers to their convictions, and for a full forty years he kept the ideas of our late-Victorian forebears in healthy movement. He was a friend of Meredith, Morley and Henry James—and by begetting Virginia Woolf he became a parent of the “Bloomsbury” group. Of his writing, thinking and talking Mr. Annan says:—“*Stephen did more than his share to establish that consensus of opinion about numerous topics which is held by most educated men*”—and that seems a fair enough summing up of a man whose gifts and achievements everyone must respect. But was he an interesting man?—or rather how interesting is he now, fifty years after his death? Only as interesting as Mr. Annan makes him. His temperament was certainly unusual and Mr. Annan's study of it is interesting, but only in the sense that a psychologist's report on most of us would be of more interest to our friends than we are ourselves. The best of his thought has long been absorbed into our common stock of ideas, and what is most interesting (and most important) in Mr. Annan's book is his description of how that common stock was built up. Externally his life was unexciting, and the fascination of Mr. Annan's account of it lies largely in his picture of the background against which it was lived.

When telling of Stephen's origin and upbringing and the events of his career Mr. Annan reveals a wide knowledge of contemporary England which his light and skilful handling makes only the more remarkable.

When describing the intellectual conflicts in which Stephen took part, at first within himself and then as a contributor to the great debates of his time, Mr. Annan writes



[N.A.G.]

C.C.F. FIELD DAY

Cartoon by]

as a profound student of Nineteenth Century thought and sets out the views of the mighty contestants with a rare combination of sympathy and detachment. His chapters on Evangelicalism, Cambridge Rationalism, Agnosticism, the theory of The Moral Society and finally on English Literary Criticism are long but will repay many re-readings—though one may perhaps question whether Stephen's views on "Moral and Immoral Man" deserve quite so full an exegesis. This, the second and undoubtedly more important, part of the book will not make so wide an appeal as the first part, in which are described with humour and in delightful detail some aspects of Eton in the forties, Cambridge (and incidentally Oxford) in the fifties and literary London in the sixties. Mr. Annan is particularly happy in his discussions and descriptions of the Universities. He shows us Stephen at Cambridge not only as an earnest Tutor and would-be reformer but as the first of those clerical rowing coaches who have been the terror of the tow path ever since.

"Clad in a filthy shirt and grey flannel trousers with a large purple patch in the seat, and damning the eyes of any cox on the river who did not give way, the Rev. Leslie Stephen was a sight to make Victorian eyes blink".

He gives an entertaining description, too, of the old Mathematical Tripos, which had become one of the sporting events of the year, with its rival coaches, its students of "form" and its overworked candidates who would "totter into the examination room with flasks of ether or brandy in their pockets". Then, everyone will enjoy both his tales of unregenerate Cambridge Dons and his comments on Oxford as Jowett found it and left it, while Cambridge men at any rate will enjoy his little excursus on the feelings of a Cambridge visitor to Oxford. "No Cambridge man", he says, "can ever compete at Oxford"; he is too conscious of his "bobnail boots". The reasons given for this reaction are based on Stephen's own opinions and are not the less serious for the charm and wit with which Mr. Annan overstates them. Later, in refreshing contrast to the academic world, Mr. Annan tells us of the Alpine peaks in the years following the arrival of the railway at their base. Here Stephen found a great opportunity and took it. "Stephen went to the Alps to climb and for no other reason", says Mr. Annan. Ruskin, on the contrary, went for other reasons and not to climb. In fact he deplored the vulgarity of the mountaineers rushing home "red with cutaneous eruption of conceit". Now in London Stephen admits that he was intimidated by Ruskin. But in the Alps he regarded him with amused contempt. For in the Alps Stephen was a great figure, intimidated by no one, the conqueror of numerous peaks, a master of both rocks and snow and a formulator of the doctrines which were to become the new orthodoxy of the Alpinist. "That is to say", remarks Mr. Annan, "he loudly condemned climbers racing each other up mountains—and frequently did it himself".

When all the tale is told—Stephen's life described and his work assessed—Mr. Annan sums up with candour and also with eloquence. "Stephen", he says, "was not a seminal mind", but he has increased knowledge, helped "even theologians" to think more clearly and taught all scholars in his field some valuable lessons in English style. In addition he was a lovable man, courageous, humble and one of a certain unworldly type which good judges have thought to be associated in a peculiar way with Cambridge.

He has now become the subject of one of the most interesting biographies that have appeared in England in recent years.

J.F.R.

(Note.—Mr. Annan was at Stowe from 1930 to 1935 and was Head of the School in 1935. He is now a Fellow of King's College, Cambridge, and a Governor of Stowe.)

"THE RIFLE BRIGADE IN THE SECOND WORLD WAR, 1939—1945"

by MAJOR R. H. W. S. HASTINGS, D.S.O., O.B.E., M.C. (T, 1935) (475 pp.,

Gale & Polden, 25/-)

Between the wars there was an idea current at the War Office that, as the Rifle Brigade was noted for its skill with weapons, it would be the appropriate thing to reconstitute it into Machine Gun Battalions. How lucky it was that this plan, which would have reduced the regiment to a kind of small-bore artillery, was superseded by the really far-sighted one of training the Riflemen as Motor Battalions to fight alongside Armoured Regiments. When the 95th Rifles were first formed, during the Peninsular War, their role was to exploit the possibilities of their new weapon, and to act as skirmishers and not as a body of infantry. The Motor Battalion, with its tasks of finding the enemy, of keeping contact in a pursuit, of protecting a flank or seizing and holding a strong point, was still in the tradition that Sir John Moore had envisaged—the elusive and inquisitive "little strip of green at the end of the thin red line". Constantly in this book one is reminded of the continuity of history. In 1812 Edward Costello, of the 95th, was in the Forlorn Hopes at both Ciudad Rodrigo and Badajoz, and was given a medal specially struck for him alone; in 1942 Charles Calistan was awarded the Military Medal in the desert, was recommended for the Victoria Cross after the Snipe action at Alamein (he had knocked out twelve tanks with his 6-pounder, performing a hat-trick with the last three rounds), was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal, was commissioned in the Regiment, and was killed in Italy in 1944. The Rifle Brigade fought in every phase of the war in Europe, was essential to the decisive victories of Sidi Saleh and the Snipe position, and suffered a defeat—the Defence of Calais—which was as glorious as Thermopylae.

Robin Hastings' account deals necessarily with the varying fortunes of the separate battalions, and suffers from having to compress six histories into one volume: but within these limitations he has woven the threads together very skilfully. His method is a personal one; he writes as though he himself were present and there is a minimum of quotation from official documents. Some readers may not like his very frequent use of Christian names, but it is difficult to see what else he could have done without destroying the reminiscent and unofficial tone of the book. By this means he can give us the atmosphere of each battalion and each action, the musketeer dash of the desert columns, the colonel at Snipe acting as a loader (he was later awarded the Victoria Cross which the 2nd Battalion had earned), the exasperating advance against a stonewalling enemy in Italy, the hide-and-seek of the Normandy bocage, the Low Countries with always one more river to cross. It is a fascinating cross-section of the fighting from Egypt to the Baltic.

Personally I had the greatest difficulty in reading this book straight through; my eye was perpetually straying through the index and picking up the dropped threads of the war years. In fact I wonder who, if anyone, reads a regimental history from cover to cover and is not tempted into browsing. But the general reader should read at least the accounts of the Defence of Calais, the pursuit to Sidi Saleh, the Snipe action, the tragic gamble of Tossignano, and the break-out from the Caen bridgehead; and local piety should impel the Stoic reader to consult, if only in index or appendix, the names of M. I. Atkin-Berry, St. J. C. Bally, the Bassets, G. N. Bell, D. A. O. Davies, A. P. de Pass, T. L. Dewhurst, P. T. Hayman, J. P. E. C. Henniker-Major, J. A. Hunter, R. C. Hurley, J. C. M. Leyland, K. O. Mackenzie, A. N. Miall, J. E. B. Naumann, J. D. G. Niven, the Pritties, M. H. A. Robinson, C. K. Simond, C. R. C. Weld-Forester, P. A. L. Wright—and of course of that very distinguished Old Stoic and Rifleman, the author of this book.

J.C.S.

“ OTHELLO ”

A good way to collect ideas for reviewing a play is to listen to the remarks of the audience as it disperses. A production on the steps of the Queen's Temple lends itself very well to this method. The Grecian Valley is acoustically sympathetic. Add to this a little dawdling in the bushes and soon one has a splendid collection of remarks and exclamations. For example :

- (a) “ It was her own fault. She was a fool to marry the nigger ”.
- (b) “ Can't think why Shakespeare called it *Othello, or the Moor of Venice* ”.
“ What else could he have called it ? ”.
“ *Iago, or How to hate* ”.
- (c) (from a woman) “ I'm terrified of losing my handkerchief now ! ”.
- (d) “ It was jolly good, but far too difficult. I ask you ! How can chaps, even

Historians, act a play which is outside the range of their emotional experiences ? ”.
Trivial as they may sound, I think that all those remarks are pertinent. They show that the play can be interpreted in several ways ; they illustrate the dramatic power of triviality like the loss of a handkerchief ; they suggest an interest in personal identification with the theme.

What is the theme of *Othello* ? According to the notes on the programme, the theme is “ perverted delinquency ”. It was on that theme that this production was based. It could have been based on other themes : jealousy, racial colour in marriage, obsession ; but the real theme is, I believe, the tragedy of domestic life. I say “ real ” because of the play's intense reality. It is a modern play, a play founded on incidents which are happening to someone every day. The fact that Othello is a Moor does not lessen its sense of reality. Today black men do sometimes marry white girls and many letters are written to *The Times* about the unjust consequences. Today murders are sometimes committed because of marital jealousy. Even in a respectable institution like a school there is sometimes malicious scheming behind the scenes by some “ honest Iago ”. Even the youngest public school boy must have experienced jealousy in some form or other.

The programme reminded us that there were no ghosts or witches in the play to heighten or to blacken the tragedy. Indeed it is a most colourful play with bright Venetian dresses, bright swords, bright lights. The Moor himself is colourful in appearance and in action. If there is blackness in the play it is symbolic. Iago is the real black devil who overshadows everybody with his cunning, evil tricks. As he is so powerful, most productions tend to put him more in the picture than the Moor, and we therefore become far more interested in the fate of Iago than in the fate of Othello. Moreover Iago is so wittily and so cleverly successful and Othello is so notoriously abused that our frail human nature is more easily attracted to the poison of the victorious villain than to the pain of the heroic victim. Our fascination in evil success may partly explain our interest in crime nowadays. In Iago then we see some of our evil heroism. We know that crime does not pay, but we sometimes wish it did !

I never think that Iago is quite so black as most critics of Shakespeare paint him. George Gordon, who wrote an admirable book called *Shakespearean Comedy*, said, “ Iago grows steadily more bitter and self-revealing, and we begin already to suspect what is indeed the truth, that, quite apart from his specific grievance against Cassio and Othello,

he *bates happiness* . . . Show him two people together and his first idea is how enjoyable it would be to sow suspicion between them, to poison their bliss ; and, best fun of all, to do it while passing as their friend ”.

We like Iago because we are sure he is right. How can the marriage work ? Desdemona was asking for trouble. It was all very well for Othello to say that she was inspired by the story of his life ; but is that a sound basis for marriage ?

She loved me for the dangers I had passed

And I loved her that she did pity them.

Are we entirely convinced ? Don't we murmur, “ I wonder ! ” ? Our doubts keep company with our confident belief in Iago's success.

Anyone, of course, can start a new fetish about Shakespeare, and, if he is cunning, he can write a book and become a synthetic god called an expert. However, I believe that Shakespeare would be very bored with these experts. His aim was to write a good play in fine language rather than to feed the problem-hunters of today. By all means let us have our private interpretations, but let us also try to preserve a little orthodoxy to mix with them. It is so easy to murder a play by dissecting it, instead of keeping in mind the simple rules of dramatic construction which demand a beginning, a middle and an end. In *Othello* we have a perfect beginning, a perfect middle, a perfect end. One might conclude that it was a perfect play to produce and a paradise for actors ; but, on the contrary, that is not so.

The Historians' production was not my *Othello*, but that does not mean that it was wrong. Obviously it had to be cut, but did it have to be butchered ? If a play can only be done when it is ruthlessly cut it would be better not to do it at all. I think the cutting may have affected the players, some of whom did not appear to understand what the play was about.

I wish I could say that the lines were spoken well ; but I know that I expect far too much. Very few professional players can bring out the poetic grandeur of a play in verse ; very few have any feeling for words. So I shall say no more about verse-speaking ; but what about voice-acting ? Why, for instance, did the Duke of Venice (P. J. Tickell (B)) and Brabantio (P. J. Le Vay Lawrence (B)) try to speak and act like old men ? It is difficult for a boy to play an old man because hardly any boys are very much in sympathy with old men. Age in modern dress is easily betrayed by one's personal appearance. To a boy, a man who is grey-haired or bald-headed is an old man. I think boys make a mistake in this limited deduction. True, a father or a boss is always referred to as The Old Man, and even Othello said :

Most potent, grave and reverend signiors,

My very noble and approved good masters,

That I have taken away this old man's daughter,

It is most true ; true I have married her.

But I do not think Brabantio was so old that he had to speak in a squeak and walk in a totter.

Would it not be more effective if boys, in playing the parts of old men, acted within their range instead of trying to be old ? Their age could be determined by their make-up and their costumes.

In acting, there is always a danger of over-acting, particularly as a beginner. Mr. Noel Coward gives an excellent example of this in his book, *Present Indicative*, when he describes his small part as a page boy. He only had one line to say, but he delivered it with such hyperbolic effusion that Charles Hawtrey told the stage manager that he never wanted to see the boy again.

Othello (T. Manville Hales (C)) looked well, but he seemed to be unhappy in the part. He bore a heavy load bravely. I hope he will treasure an experience which defeats a number of talented actors. The fact that he could play the part is in itself a note of praise. If his performance did not soar to great heights at least it achieved consistency at its own level.

The female characters were not quite up to the usual standards of school acting; but the ruthless cutting deprived the play of many of the lines which enable us to know the woman well. Desdemona (D. N. Wilson (B)) did not appear to be quite aware of her problems as the Moor's wife. After all Brabantio did not conceal his doubts, and one imagines her with a less complacent attitude to the rumpus. It is easy to talk openly about one's respect for one's father in an awkward situation such as Desdemona's; but Brabantio's answer, "I had rather adopt a child than get it" does not suggest that the father-daughter relationship was quite a hundred per cent delightful. Indeed my own guess is that Desdemona married the Moor partly to spite her Dad; but that perhaps is conjecture on a somewhat low level.

Emilia (R. A. Opperman (B)) failed to take advantage of the climax in the final scenes. I think an actress, if offered the choice, would choose to play Emilia rather than Desdemona; for in Emilia the range is wider. Emilia can argue; Desdemona cannot. Emilia is active; Desdemona is passive. In cricket jargon, I thought that R. A. Opperman could have used a bowler's wicket to better advantage; but in saying that I am not forgetting a performance which was painstaking and competent.

I give pride of place to Iago (S. N. L. Chalton (B)) and to Cassio (B. J. Calvert (G)). Both gave the impression of having profited by previous experience of acting; they both got inside their characters and they acted extremely well when they were together. Watching them, I had the same sort of confidence as I have when I am watching a Test Match when England's score is 32 for 2 (Hutton not out 25) and Compton (D.) is strolling to the wicket. So, when there were distinct signs of revelry by night and when Iago decided to "fasten but one cup" upon Cassio we saw the best performances of the evening. S. N. L. Chalton was an effective Spartan dog, but it was a pity that his bark gave the impression of a mongrel rather than an exhibit from Crufts. He may, of course, be right. Pistol, one of Falstaff's associates, a braggart with a fine command of bombastic language, was an ancient too. It is possible that ancients were always a little coarse; but I am more inclined to suspect the influence of tradition. I should have preferred a more refined Iago, someone more on the same social level as Cassio, "the fellow who never set a squadron in the field"; but this is a small point about a performance which would have been a credit to a professional production.

Cassio had (one was told) the easiest part to play; but I believe his good acting made it look easy. He could have exceeded the limits of the stage drunkard; but, instead, he kept the right balance in standing and in speaking.

The whole production was a delight to the eye, although the steps of the Queen's Temple are not quite perfect for *Othello*, especially in the final scenes. The murder of Desdemona with Othello silhouetted by the bed was most effective symbolically. The end was near, the light would soon be out. The world was black and white. The Moor, so black with jealousy, so blind with fury, could not see to embrace the white living Desdemona in his arms as the other part of his life. He could only accept the whiteness in the peace of death.

C.S.D.M.

“ ESCAPE ”

This year's Congreve Club play was both original and topical. It was kept in the news by being accompanied through rehearsal by a genuine escape from Dartmoor which was considerably more successful, incidentally, than poor Matt Denant's, and two more convicts were actually at large during the performance. It was the most original play the Club have staged, and its episodic quality made heavy demands on the scenery painters and scene-shifters, though there were compensations in the very large field it gave for parts of every kind. It was, in fact, an admirable training-ground for actors, since only the leading character has a full-length part.

For these reasons "Escape" was a useful play to produce, but it is by no means a great play. Galsworthy has begged the question by making Matt Denant everything that he should be, adventurous, romantic, charming, and a convict only by the sheerest bad luck. One's sympathies are therefore with him from start to finish, as are those of all the perceptive people whom he meets, and this takes strength from the play. It is, in fact, good theatre rather than good drama.

The Prologue in the park, introduced by a flicker of Elgar's "Cockaigne" Overture, was atmospherically very successful, and I. D. Sutherland (C) gave the play a good start as the Girl of the Town, while our American guest of the year, J. C. Brown (G), made a most successful English Plain Clothes Man. M. J. Fenwick's (C) opening was not as good as the rest of his performance: he appeared restless and as though he was already foreseeing the unhappy future ahead. This was his only normal appearance in the play, and this difference might have been more marked.

The escape scene was well done, and the fog was most convincingly contrived. W. F. Tremayne (C) as the Fellow Convict made a good foil, with his simple, cynically humorous attitude to prison-life, to the unfortunate Denant with his nerves stretched by captivity to breaking-point.

After this the scene on the road came as something of an anti-climax: there was no apparent contrast between the warders, their tempo was too slow, and their knowledge of the lines was not as good as it might have been.

It was a relief to be back in civilisation in the Inn bedroom with the glow of morning sunshine to make a bridge passage between the night and the fog and the bright beauty of the scenes on the moor. R. Dacey (C) as the Young Lady was delightful and charming to look at, but seemed on the young side to possess that most useful figure the absentee fisherman husband. Fenwick was at his best in this scene, as indeed he always was when personal charm was called for.

In the next scene he had to play second fiddle to the Old Gentleman who was portrayed adequately, if a little dully, by T. A. Trimmingham (W). A Judge ought to have been able to use his voice less monotonously, and it was not always easy to hear his words. His gestures, however, and movements were good.

The picnic-party on the moor was excellently grouped and acted, with a fine display of Wellsian vulgarity by M. R. Millbourn (T), who looked extremely like Mr. Polly, and a magnificent sea-captain in W. F. Tremayne (C). They quickly forfeited our potential sympathy for the loss of their car.

The husband and wife on the road-side next found themselves unexpectedly called upon to show us their reactions to a meeting with an escaped convict. They contributed mainly comedy, a little overdone by T. J. Lea (W), as the husband, but admirably controlled in G. D. Morrison (G), as the wife. An unintentional fillip was given to the end of this scene by the stolen car, which started on its own and caused the general exodus to be more precipitate even than intended.

By now the chase was closing in, and three fine scenes ended the play. The little drama in the Gravel-pit—another fine piece of scenery—was acted very well indeed. D. N. Dixon (W) as the high-principled and unsympathetic Farmer gave one of the best performances of the night: D. S. Rowe-Beddoe (C) made a most promising début in his first term—he has a definite sense of movement; while P. R. Engelmann (W), as Miss Elizabeth, was quite enchanting and called out all the best in Fenwick.

As the contrasted sisters Miss Grace and Miss Dora, B. R. Williams (C) and J. O. B. Rosedale (T) fought most convincingly over the intruding convict. The firmness and restraint of Williams' acting of the puritanical and bigoted Miss Grace made an effective background for the fluttering eager excitement of Miss Dora. This too was a good scene.

The difficult finale in the Church was made more difficult by a good deal of ill-timed and most ill-directed laughter at its opening, which was less than fair to the actors and producer. G. W. A. Kent (C) played the Parson with simplicity and sincerity, while another fine performance by D. N. Dixon as the Farmer gave strength to the painful but inevitable dénouement.

Fenwick is to be congratulated on giving a most sympathetic and intelligent interpretation of the leading part. If he necessarily looked rather young to have already escaped from a German prisoner of war camp, he had all the breeding and chivalrous charm which are so much a part of Matt Denant. He used his voice well, and his considerable experience of acting helped his movements and timing, and, by making it easy for others to act with him, held the play together from start to finish.

A special word of praise is due to the scene-shifters who had a very heavy evening's work and did it well, and particularly to P. S. Ashton (C) on whom the main burden of painting the scenery had fallen without the help latterly of Mr. Mounsey who was unfortunately laid low in the final stages. His sets were most successful in a play of rapidly changing scenes.

"Escape" may not be a great play, but it is a simple and a moving one, and we were all very grateful to Mr. Dams and the Congreve Club for playing it so effectively. They made us stop and think next morning as the remote impersonal voice of the eight o'clock news announced, "The two escaped convicts have been recaptured".

A.M.

RUGBY FOOTBALL

THE 1ST XV

With only three of last year's team back it was not anticipated that this season would be one of the best. It was considered that the pack would be mediocre and that the backs would be below standard. However, hopes were to be raised and hopes dashed before the season proved itself to have been better than expected on the whole.

The team began with a good and comfortable win over the Wasps, usually to be considered a good tough side: this gave some encouragement. They lost the next two games, against Halton and Kemp's XV, but they obviously learnt a lot in the process. The forwards were simply magnificent against Bedford and St. Edward's. The ball was greasy: any dropped passes were pounced upon and a counter-attack was developed. Gray's try in the Bedford match will be remembered by all. These two quick results gave the whole school heart, and hopes for the future were raised to a level unmatched for some years. However, it was not to be known that Radley, Oundle and Harrow were going to play their best games of the season against us. Radley had their best side for years, and with a pack in full cry their centres with long raking strides demoralised our defence for an all-important ten minutes. Oundle had had a series of poor results, for them, and it looked as if Stowe might possibly register their first win for some time, but Oundle struck a very good day and our small pack was overwhelmed by eight highly-trained, fast-moving juggernauts. It was unfortunate that we should have to meet Harrow in the mud, but after their converted try in the first minute, which was worth fifteen points, Stowe had the better of the game and might easily have won had the conditions been better underfoot. Then came our first game for some time at home and it was hoped that we might get a win, but try as we might we could not cross the line or land a penalty. What a magnificent attack Stowe put up against Rugby in the first twenty minutes: rarely has the like of it been seen at Stowe. The ball came out regularly from loose and tight and the backs gave all they had, and it seemed that if we had had Bannister (no discredit to Middleton, who played well) with his long passes and his penetrating runs we would have been bound to score.

The forwards, except when completely outweighed, always played well and undoubtedly proved themselves to be one of the best packs for years, being in many respects better than last year's. H. J. Gray has been outstanding in the line-outs and has shoved well in the second

row. Burgess, who has been playing under the handicap of a damaged foot for most of the term, and McConnell were devastating and ruthless on wet days, particularly in breaking up the attacks of the opposing halves and setting up counter-attacks. A. J. P. Campbell improved very suddenly and has done some valuable defensive work. Lewis, always a good forward, turned himself into a more than useful hooker and in the loose did some fine tackling and falling. Thompson and Morris as prop-men always worked hard in loose and tight: they have both proved themselves good defensive and counter-offensive players. Knowles shoved well in the second row, but as a forward has not developed as well as some of the others: he is handicapped by bad eye-sight.

The backs have always done their level best both in attack and defence, but their powers of penetration have been decidedly limited, except when up against a weak opposition. Fraser began the season with fast running and confusing swerves, but has degenerated into a mediocre straight-running easy-to-tackle wing. His place-kicking has also gone off. Cullum has always played well without ever getting much of a chance. N. A. Gray, always useful for his accurate constructive kicking, has not proved to be a penetrative player, but he has done useful work throughout and played particularly well against Cheltenham. McKee and Grieve have both worked hard, but in very different ways. Grieve has a solid defence and takes and gives his passes well: McKee is more mercurial, makes his cuts-through, but finishes badly. McKee played a brilliant game against the Old Stoics. Hordern has improved his play enormously. He kicks a good length with either foot and has compensated for his lack of speed by better anticipation. D. C. Campbell has played steadily throughout and has made the very occasional break, but his strength has lain in his ability to catch and pass any sort of slippery ball: his covering tackling has been sound. Bannister is the most improved player on the side. (What a pity he broke his finger against Harrow!). He has by assiduous practice by himself and with his partner learnt to pass long accurate and speedy passes and has developed a virtually unstoppable break-away from the base of the scrum. We could well have done with him against Cheltenham and Rugby. His tactical kicking and his general covering have improved greatly.

As captain, Gray has always been easy to deal with and has got on well with his team, getting the best out of them on all occasions. He found them co-operative and they have all put in a deal of practice voluntarily. It may not have been a star fifteen, but they have thoroughly enjoyed playing and are only sorry from a school point of view that they have not had better results. They have gone out to play attractive attacking rugby, win or lose, and certainly they have done it.

THE SCHOOL v. BEDFORD

Played at Stowe on Saturday, October 20th, Stowe winning by 9 points to three.

First of all it must be admitted that we all feel very pleased when we beat Bedford; not that any animosity exists, but there is an inward glow of pride at having overcome one of the schools with the highest reputation on the rugby field.

Knowing of old and to our usual cost the size and bustle of the Bedford pack, it was decided to pick the toughest and horniest eight at Stowe, and there is little doubt that it paid a good dividend. From the first whistle they got going and only for a short time in the second half did it seem as if Bedford might gain the superiority. In the set scrums the honours were even, but in the loose, the loose scrums and line-outs, Stowe was better. H. J. Gray was particularly good in the latter.

Rumours having been heard of the strength of the Bedford centres, much practice was put in in defensive covering by the halves and forwards. This again paid well and rarely did they look dangerous.

As a spectacle the game was of low class, but it bore all the marks of long-established school rugby tradition. The tackling was rugged and ruthless, while the vigour shown was thrilling. There were good foot rushes with the boot to the ball and all opposition thrust aside. Oh, it was good to see! The backs on both sides had a poor day. Respectable passes from the base of the scrum were carpeted with monotonous regularity, but the wings eagerly accepted the few stray chances which came their way.

There were certain incidents which will live in the minds of players and spectators alike. One such was when N. A. Gray intercepted in his own half; he went off like a scalded cat, punted over the full-back, accelerated like a Meteor and beat considerable opposition for the touch. Another was when McConnell, Burgess and Morris with a fine rush drove the enemy into their '25': in a flash the ball was out: Harding held it: it went to Gray, to Grieve, and finally to Fraser, who swung viciously outside and tried to force his way over in the Power-House corner. The touch-judge wavered in his decision and the referee was unsighted as to where the ball had been grounded. Touch was finally given and Stowe was driven back.

Tries were scored for Stowe by the pack *en masse* and also by Gray. Fraser got a penalty goal. Bedford's try came from a scramble near the line when Coley dropped over.

Everyone in the pack did his job magnificently and the close tackling was something not seen at Stowe for some time. H. J. Gray was outstanding in the line-outs; Burgess, McConnell and Morris in the loose; Lewis and Thompson for falling and tackling; Campbell for his covering defence, and Knowles for solid donkey work.

In the backs, N. A. Gray and Grieve showed sterling tackling and the former good tactical defensive kicking. Hordern was safe and dependable. Fraser and Cullum always looked dangerous. Bannister played his best game of the season.

Team:—C. N. H. Hordern (W); C. J. S. Cullum (B), M. Grieve (S), N. A. Gray (C), A. W. Fraser (C); J. G. R. Harding (C), M. J. R. Bannister (W); P. L. Morris (C), T. R. H. Lewis (B), J. R. M. Thompson (S), S. K. Knowles (T), H. J. Gray (W), P. Burgess (S), A. J. P. Campbell (C), J. A. McConnell (T).

THE SCHOOL v. ST. EDWARD'S

Played at Stowe on Wednesday, October 31st, Stowe winning by 20 points to 3.

The forecast northerly air stream brought icy rain with it during the morning, but fortunately this ceased before play began. It was, however, most unpleasantly cold, and the ball got heavier and colder as the game progressed, until at the end it seemed as if the tired players were too weak to cope with it.

The first half began with rousing attacks by St. Edward's, rushes by the forwards, breaks by the centres, and at any moment it seemed as if a try might result, but the covering defence stood firm. However, during this period Burgess got off-side and a very good kick earned three points. This set the match alight and for the next fifty minutes the Stowe flame increased in strength. The counter-attack began with a kick-ahead by Campbell, which was gathered by Cullum: he was tackled a yard short. A moment later Burgess with a dribble was back on the line; then a kick over the line by Gray was touched down in the nick of time; a penalty by Fraser narrowly missed and he just failed to score tries on two occasions. If this pressure was to be kept up the defence must crumble. It was, and it did. From a loose scrum a quick heel left no visible wing-forwards, and Bannister went off like a startled deer, dashed twenty yards, took off and landed literally *ventre à terre*. Then came Fraser's turn: after breaks and good passing by Gray and Grieve, two more tries were quickly added. This finished the spate of scoring, but St. Edward's went very near with a penalty; it hit the post, then the bar, and finally rebounded into play, when it was well cleared.

In the second half St. Edward's only looked really dangerous on two occasions, but neither of these led to tries. On the other hand, Stowe pressed most of the time, and the St. Edward's full-back was often in difficulty with kicks-ahead and far-reaching dribbles; he played a plucky game. The ball and ground got too slimy and heavy for constructive play, but all chances were accepted and three tries were scored. The first one was by McConnell; a miskick unexpectedly became lodged in his stomach and it was some time before he realised that he had only to move forward a foot to increase the lead by three points. Next Cullum scored from another miskick which rebounded over the line. Finally Fraser picked up a loose ball and dropped over. This was the only try to be converted.

After the first ten minutes or so the forwards played a good game in the loose. They were very quick onto mistakes and gave the defence little time to extricate themselves from the tangle. Gray was good in the line-out as usual. The shoving in the tight was not up to standard. Considering the conditions the backs played well, with Grieve and Cullum doing good work in defence and attack. Hordern again played a sound game.

Team:—C. N. H. Hordern (W); C. J. S. Cullum (B), M. Grieve (G), N. A. Gray (C), A. W. Fraser (C); D. C. Campbell (G), M. J. R. Bannister (W); P. L. Morris (C), T. R. H. Lewis (B), J. R. M. Thompson (G), H. J. Gray (W), S. K. Knowles (T), J. A. McConnell (T), A. J. P. Campbell (C), P. Burgess (G).

THE SCHOOL v. RADLEY

Played at Radley on Wednesday, November 7th, Radley winning by 17 points to five.

Early morning rain following on consecutive wet days left the field in a very wet, and in places boggy, condition.

Honours go to Radley for a very spirited and competent all-round display reaching an unassailable peak in the middle of the second half. Praise, however, must go to Stowe for never giving in and putting in one of the best finishes ever seen by the writer in school rigger.

Stowe had the better of the first half, although they got the ball only seven times in twenty-nine tight scrums. Stowe's try was a copy-book one: following a foot-rush by Burgess and McConnell, there was a quick heel: the ball was whipped out to Fraser who swung out and ran between the posts to make sure of the extra points. This was not Stowe's only attack. A kick-ahead by Gray led to a loose scrum. D. C. Campbell went blind-side, and when diving for the line was thrust into touch. On other occasions kicks-ahead led us into enemy territory, and once H. J. Gray was over; but he was hauled back for an infringement and again Fraser missed a reasonably easy penalty. During this half, the Radley team was not quiet. Several thrusts were made near to the Stowe line and on one of these occasions a goal was dropped. Stowe 5, Radley 3.

In the second half the forward superiority in weight and height told its tale. The ball for a quarter of an hour came out regularly and the Stowe backs tired visibly; they could not cope with the speed and size of their opposite numbers and three tries resulted from breaks in the centre. Then came Stowe's great moment: a loud cheer from the Colts' XV, who had just finished their game, acted like a blood transfusion. For a glorious ten minutes the Stowe forwards battered at the Radley line: pushes-over, scrum-fives, twenty-fives and line-outs on the line. Bannister was at his best ever. He had one glorious break-away and on he went thrusting all opposition aside until outweighed by three opponents just short of the line. Later he marked a twenty-five kick and narrowly missed at goal. There was another kick and he repeated the performance. Just before time Radley cleared their line and forty yards out were awarded a penalty when the concussed A. J. P. Campbell got off-side: this resulted in another three points for Radley.

Congratulations, Radley; and well played, Stowe.

Team:—C. N. H. Hordern (W); C. J. S. Cullum (B), N. A. Gray (C), M. Grieve (G), A. W. Fraser (C); D. C. Campbell (G), M. J. R. Bannister (W); P. L. Morris (C), T. R. H. Lewis (B), J. R. M. Thompson (G), H. J. Gray (W), S. K. Knowles (T), J. A. McConnell (T), A. J. P. Campbell (C), P. Burgess (G).

THE SCHOOL v. OUNDLE

Played at Oundle on Tuesday, November 13th, Oundle winning by 15 points to six.

This year it really seemed on paper as though Stowe had as strong a chance as they have ever had of beating Oundle. We had defeated Bedford and St. Edward's, both by comfortable scores, and both had been victorious over Oundle. Admittedly the team had been well and truly defeated by Radley on the previous Wednesday, and this game, as well as inevitably causing a lowering of morale, had deprived us of the

services of N. A. Gray, the captain and main source of inspiration to the back-division in particular and the whole team in general, and of A. J. P. Campbell, a steadily improving back-row forward. Nevertheless, in spite of all this and the fact that the day of the match fell on November 13th, it was felt that the chances of victory were reasonably good. The side had played very well in previous matches—the forwards had been the quickest Stowe pack for many seasons, while the half-backs were developing into an effective combination and the wing three-quarters were the fastest pair we had had for years: the centres, too, had succeeded in giving them a sufficiency of chances. In fact, but for a weakness at full-back, the fifteen seemed a well-balanced and capable one, and yet it went down by a score of 6—15 in a game it never looked like winning.

The match was played at Oundle on their top ground—a new one to Stowe—at the summit of a mountain, and underneath a leaden sky which constantly threatened rain and then withheld it. Stowe kicked off, and were at once on the attack with Fraser very nearly repeating his performance of the Radley match and opening the scoring. Both wings got away only to be caught and tackled—always a bad omen when one trusts in the speed of the wings. Oundle then relieved the position with a fine kick up field. Thereafter both sides indulged in some scrambling ineffective play about the centre of the field, but a free-kick against Stowe for off-side led to Boggon kicking a good and extremely valuable goal to put Oundle ahead. (0—3). From that moment they began to settle down: they had an enormous preponderance of the ball, and they used it in an increasingly dangerous way. They put Stowe firmly on the defensive and kept them there. We occasionally did good things, but they were isolated incoherent incidents, while Oundle combined better and better as the game went on. They had a very fast and elusive left wing three-quarter in Jackson who was destined to score three tries in the match, and about this time he scored the first of them after running with fine speed and determination from the twenty-five-yard line. (0—6). Boggon missed the kick, but very nearly scored a try on his own shortly afterwards with a skilful kick-ahead and follow-up. Stowe very rarely saw the ball for attacking purposes, and when they did succeed in heeling it Bannister tended to run into the forwards, or, if he had it out, Campbell would kick it straight to Claxton, the very sound Oundle full-back. And most of the time their three-quarters were being given plenty of passing practice and making steadily better use of it. When tackled, they always seemed to have someone up in attendance, and this fact led to their second try as Moore came up outside the right wing to make an extra man and crash over in the corner, eluding a rather tame tackle by Burgess. (0—9.) Shortly after the kick-off Burgess redeemed himself to some extent by a long personal and private forward-rush, and we were thus within range when Oundle were penalised for handling in the scrum. Fraser made no mistake with the kick, (3—9), and we had, at least, something on the board; but Oundle continued to get the ball in almost every scrum until half-time.

The second half was very much a repetition of the first. Oundle scored two tries through Jackson, and Fraser kicked a second penalty for Stowe. The Oundle pack continued to outplay the Stowe eight and to give their backs more and more of the ball. It was interesting, in a purely academic way, to watch the effect of this tremendous service from the forwards on the play of the backs. The halves, Millar and Wates, began to clip from their respective tasks those vital fractions of seconds which mean so much to the men behind them, who in their turn used the time thus saved to position themselves better, and to produce some excellent backing-up movements. The fact that they scored only two more tries is a tribute to the Stowe defence, which never gave up, and which continued obstinately to die in the last ditch, but which was clearly

somewhat bemused and shaken by the necessity to go on defending and defending, so that they seemed incapable of turning to effective attack on the rare occasions when they had the chance to do so. One's recollection of the second half, in fact, is of Oundle movements and Stowe incidents, and these incidents were all connected with defence—a fine kick by Bannister, a peculiarly murderous tackle of their full-back by Morris, and a pluckily blocked kick by Thompson. Jackson's second try was, as a matter of fact, also rather an incident. He got hold of the ball after an Oundle fumble and went straight through our forwards who appeared to be waiting for the whistle. His third try was the conclusion of a well-executed three-quarter movement. The game ended with two heavy attacks—the first by Oundle who were only kept out by some very stout play, and the second by Stowe who can at least be said to have ended the game in their opponents' twenty-five.

Oundle most thoroughly deserved to win. They played very well indeed, and showed most conclusively how, if you can call the tune, the other side will always look inferior. While it would be an exaggeration to use of Stowe the favourite scathing phrase of one of Scotland's greatest three-quarters that "they couldn't have scored a try against a blind girls' school", it is certainly true to say that, after the first five minutes, they never looked like scoring a try against Oundle. The most that can be said for them, and it does redound to their credit, is that with less than ten per cent of the ball they held Oundle to four tries in seventy minutes. Considering the number and the strength of the Oundle attacks that may be called fairly efficient defence, but it was a great deal less than we—or they—had hoped for.

Team:—R. F. Butlin (G); A. W. Fraser (C), M. Grieve (S), M. B. McKee (C), C. J. S. Cullum (B); D. C. Campbell (G), M. J. R. Bannister (W); J. R. M. Thompson (S), T. R. H. Lewis (B), P. L. Morris (C), S. K. Knowles (T), H. J. Gray (W), J. A. McConnell (T), H. D. E. Woods, (S), P. Burgess (S).

THE SCHOOL v. HARROW

Played at Harrow on Saturday, November 17th, Harrow winning by 5 points to 3.

The Sixth Form ground at Harrow, despite the efforts of the artificial mole, was what we would have "deemed unplayable". However, Harrow won the toss and decided to play against the sun, hill and tide.

Harrow won the match in the first minute. The scrum-half broke on the blind side and then confronted by Hordern threw a long pass in to the fastest man on the field, who raced home from fifty yards. The kicker got the ball over at the second attempt. From that moment until the end of the half, Stowe was lodged in their opponents' half and more than often in their '25'. However, it was only possible to score once. Bannister made half a break and passed to Campbell, who shot his neck out and dived over. The kick was too far out for Fraser, who later went very near with a penalty from the ten-yards line.

In the second half Harrow spent twenty minutes bashing away at the Stowe line without success. Stowe put in some good counter-offensive moves and spent most of the last quarter up on the smooth water at the shallow end, and looked dangerous on two occasions.

Hordern played a good game at full-back, fielding and kicking admirably. Bannister and Campbell did well and constituted the only danger to Harrow in the backs. Most of the forwards revelled in the conditions and it was only possible to distinguish Harrow

from Stowe by the directional movements. It was nigh impossible to distinguish individual forwards, except perhaps McConnell by his feline pounces and Davis by his general blackness.

In the awful conditions everyone did his best and a draw would have been a fair result.

Team :—C. N. H. Hordern (W); C. J. S. Cullum (B), M. B. McKee (C), M. Grieve (G), A. W. Fraser (C); D. C. Campbell (G), M. J. R. Bannister (W); P. L. Morris (C), T. R. H. Lewis (B), J. R. M. Thompson (G), S. K. Knowles (T), H. J. Gray (W), M. Davis (T), P. Burgess (G), J. A. McConnell (T).

THE SCHOOL v. CHELTENHAM

Played at Stowe on Saturday, November 24th, the result being a draw 0—0.

Steady rain throughout the day was obviously going to make it difficult for the backs and good fun for the forwards. N. A. Gray, who had to move in at short notice to an unaccustomed position at stand-off, made every effort to get his threes going and on many occasions they looked dangerous. His kicking was thoughtful and at times devastating. McKee was on the top of his form and he was always cropping up either to fall on the ball or start an attack. On two occasions he was all but over after long runs. All the forwards played well and on the day they beat a pack who had only a few days before been superior to the formidable Radley eight.

In the first half Stowe kicked off against the wind and rarely did Cheltenham look dangerous. However, at one of the few times they threatened the home line a penalty hit the upright and rebounded into play. After this Cullum made some penetrating runs, well backed up by McKee. Fraser went near with two penalties and hit the corner flag when diving for the line.

In the second half, Stowe always looked dangerous. Gray played particularly well, catching the ball with great consistency and varying his kicks-ahead with great skill. The ball bounced kindly for Cheltenham and they managed to keep their line intact.

Team :—C. N. H. Hordern (W); C. J. S. Cullum (B), M. B. McKee (C), M. Grieve (G), A. W. Fraser (C); N. A. Gray (C), P. J. Middleton (T); J. R. M. Thompson (G), T. R. H. Lewis (B), H. G. Fennell (T), H. J. Gray (W), S. K. Knowles (T), P. Burgess (G), A. J. P. Campbell (C), J. A. McConnell (T).

THE SCHOOL v. RUGBY

Played at Stowe on Wednesday, November 28th, Rugby winning by 14 points to nil.

On one of few such occasions this term the game was played with a dry ball, but there was a cold wind blowing diagonally across the field towards Cobham Arch.

Rugby was known to be a good side and it gave Stowe great heart to be attacking continuously for the first twenty minutes. The forwards got the ball regularly from the loose, the tight and the line-outs, and the backs attacked with everything they had. They passed it out to the wings, they bashed away in the centre, they kicked across, high and blind, but the Rugby defence did not waver. This spell ended abruptly with Gray half concussed. Rugby got the ball and the centre went through the gap in his own '25' and a try was obtained, Cullum tackling the scorer just not in time.

So, against the run of play, Rugby was three points up and Stowe morale was slightly shattered. However, they never gave up, but their attacks from this moment on had lost any sting they had in the first twenty minutes.

In the second half, Rugby were pressed back regularly by Stowe's magnificent pack, but the former retaliated with long kicks down wind which always gained ground. Rugby began to get a regular supply of the ball, and with good running and passing, assisted by disorganised and half-hearted defence, three tries were scored and one converted.

The forwards were in great form and they surely deserved a better fate than to be beaten by fourteen points. For the most part their tackling was severe and ruthless, their scrummaging was first class and the ball came shooting out of loose and tight. It was only in the last quarter of an hour that they lost the superiority: it is depressing to go on getting the ball for the backs and see them do little with it. The backs missed Bannister badly, both for his long passes and his breaks-away. McKee and Gray played pluckily, but Fraser was well below form both with his kicking and general defence.

Team :—C. N. H. Hordern (W); A. W. Fraser (C), N. A. Gray (C), M. B. McKee (C), C. J. S. Cullum (B); D. C. Campbell (G), P. J. Middleton (T); P. L. Morris (C), T. R. H. Lewis (B), J. R. M. Thompson (G), S. K. Knowles (T), H. J. Gray (W), J. A. McConnell (T), A. J. P. Campbell (C), P. Burgess (G).

Other results were as follows :—

Sat., Oct. 6th.	v. WASPS (Home).	Won	19—9
Wed., Oct. 10th.	v. R.A.F., HALTON (Home).	Lost	3—13
Sat., Oct. 13th.	v. T. A. KEMP'S XV. (Home).	Lost	8—22
Sat., Oct. 27th.	v. LONDON SCOTTISH (Home).	Won	33—0
Sat., Nov. 10th.	v. RICHMOND (Home).	Drawn	11—11
Sat., Dec. 1st.	v. OLD STOICS (Home).	Won	11—3
Sat., Dec. 8th.	v. KING'S SCHOOL, CANTERBURY (Home).	Drawn	0—0

THE SECOND FIFTEEN

The Second Fifteen has had another good season. Out of twelve games, they have played eleven so far, winning eight, drawing one and losing two. Apart from an off-day against Wellingborough, they have played consistently hard and often quite skilful football, and their defence has been steady. Injuries have caused some trouble, but the recruits have fitted in well; only in the defeat by Harrow did the injury to Harding and the bustle of the Harrow forwards prove too much for them. In a back division faster and more skilful than usual, Middleton and Rigg have combined well at half and opened out the game; Grieve, Harding and Butlin have been thrustful centres; and White and Chetwynd have run well at times. White's goal-kicking has been invaluable. In a light pack, Davis, Woods and Fennell have broken, backed-up and covered quickly, and Beck and Nightingale have done good work in the line-out. Only in the loose-scrums have the forwards been disappointing, heeling slowly, not really binding and looking for the ball.

Team :—R. F. Butlin (G); D. N. White (C), M. Grieve (C), J. G. R. Harding (C), R. M. T. Chetwynd (W); J. G. Rigg (W), P. J. Middleton (T); W. F. Tremayne (C), G. A. Catchpole (C), M. J. Nightingale (G), M. D. Beck (W), D. S. Gilbert (W), H. G. Fennell (T), H. D. E. Woods (C), M. Davis (T).

Results :—

Sat., Oct. 6th.	v. BEDFORD (Away).	Won	16—8
Wed., Oct. 10th.	v. BLOXHAM (Away).	Won	8—3
Sat., Oct. 13th.	v. BUCKINGHAM (Home).	Drawn	0—0
Wed., Oct. 17th.	v. R.A.F., HALTON (Home).	Won	40—5
Wed., Oct. 24th.	v. R.G.S., HIGH WYCOMBE (Home).	Won	8—6
Wed., Oct. 31st.	v. ST. EDWARD'S, OXFORD (Home).	Won	9—6
Wed., Nov. 7th.	v. RADLEY (Home).	Won	13—0
Wed., Nov. 14th.	v. OUNDLE (Home).	Won	11—0
Sat., Nov. 17th.	v. HARROW (Home).	Lost	5—15
Wed., Nov. 21st.	v. WELLINGBOROUGH (Home).	Lost	5—15
Wed., Nov. 28th.	v. BERKHAMSTED (Away).	Won	20—5

THE THIRD FIFTEEN

The opening match against Bloxham was a fast, spirited game in which the team played as a team; but hopes of a good season to follow soon proved illusory. The disorganisation caused by the unusually large number of injuries in the higher reaches of School Rugby cannot, by itself, explain the series of dismal routs in the middle of the term; the Oundle, Bedford, and Magdalen College School (Oxford) sides were admittedly better at all points, but only the sorriest defence can have made possible such mountainous piling up of points; in the more even games against Kettering and St. Edward's a little more determination could easily have turned the scale. Things have been better lately; a victory over Radley dispelled some of the gloom and the Harrow match was a credit to everyone.

After the departure of two captains, A. R. Griffith (C) and the Viscount Tiverton (B), B. J. Calvert (G) has led the team well and saved a good many points by his soundness as full-back; of the other backs, T. I. Brassey (T) has been the most reliable in attack and defence. T. S. Wilkinson (C), A. J. Beerbohm (C) and M. S. P. Gardner (B) have all improved during the term. A. S. R. Villar (C) has done good service as a deputy for the plucky but erratic scrum-half J. D. Turnbull (B) and on the wing. Of the forwards C. D. Mullineux (T), H. Long (B) and R. J. W. Utley (C) have usually worked hard, but the honours go to the indefatigable G. H. Mallinson (T).

Wed., Oct. 10th.	v. BLOXHAM (Home).	Won	15—0
Sat., Oct. 20th.	v. BEDFORD (Away).	Lost	0—36
Wed., Oct. 24th.	v. KETTERING G.S. (Home).	Lost	8—11
Wed., Oct. 31st.	v. ST. EDWARD'S (Away).	Lost	0—11
Sat., Nov. 3rd.	v. OUNDLE (Home).	Lost	0—36
Wed., Nov. 7th.	v. RADLEY (Home).	Won	16—3

Sat., Nov. 10th.	v. BERKHAMSTED (Home).	Won	27—0
Sat., Nov. 17th.	v. HARROW (Home).	Won	6—0
Wed., Nov. 21st.	v. MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL, OXFORD (Away).	Lost	0—23
Sat., Nov. 24th.	v. NORTHAMPTON G.S. (Home).	Won	8—3

THE FOURTH FIFTEEN

Some of the individual members of the 4th XV have been little inferior to those of the 3rd, but poor team-work and lack of resolution in defence led to heavy defeats at the hands of Kingham Hill (0—22, away, October 20th) and Oundle (0—62, home, November 3rd); only in its last match of the term did the side pull itself together, beating Bedford 15—0 at Stowe on November 10th.

THE COLTS' FIFTEEN

In spite of three losses, the Colts were a strong side. Against Radley, without our fly-half, we only lost by a penalty, and at Oundle we scored three tries to their two. However, there is no doubt that we had the backs to win all the matches, but it often took the forwards half the game to warm up. In games before the Harrow one, of fifteen tries fourteen were scored in the second half; in this game, the forwards by quick heels from the loose enabled the backs to score twice in the first five minutes, and in the second half did splendidly to hold the Harrow forwards. The best performance was in the return match against Magdalen College 'School (Brackley) 1st XV; the forwards dominated the game and gave the backs plenty of opportunities.

The forwards went hard enough, but for a long time were lacking in speed and intelligence. With no tall player to dominate the line-out, it was especially important to get onto the ball quickly and win it in the loose; as a rule this did not happen, but when it did, in the second half against St. Edward's, six tries were scored. To speed up the back row, Bates, a centre, moved to lock where his covering has been a great asset. Raw and McClellan have been quick in attack, but have allowed too many tries round the scrum. In the second row, Atkins has worked hard and has improved as a line-out jumper, while Wessely has shoved his weight. Hill, Fennell and Fisher have made a solid front row and have won the ball in a good share of the set scrums. Fisher has captained the side well and improved as leader of the forwards.

The backs, when given their chances, were a strong attacking force. At half, Witham's passes were quick and accurate and he tackled well; Lilley's good handling and speed off the mark gave his centres the maximum of opportunity. The mark of a good centre is that his wing should be given scoring opportunities; and that the wings have scored considerably more than half the tries was, in large measure, due to Butler and Hartland-Swann. Both are greatly improved players. Butler, who has eradicated a bad tendency to cut inside, is a powerful thruster; Hartland-Swann, with increasing confidence, has become an elusive runner. On the wings Garratt ran with determination and has tackled, fallen and covered splendidly; while Fleury has shown increased football sense, but must improve his defence. Dew's falling and fielding have been invaluable and his whole-hearted tackling has kept the San. well supplied with haematoma.

Among the reserves W. P. Cooper (C), N. G. Gambier (T) and R. J. Nettleship (C) might well have gained places in another year. M. A. Rushton (G) deputized capably in Lilley's absence.

Team :—D. V. Fisher (C), C. W. J. Butler (T), D. G. du B. Dew (C), C. J. Garratt (C), P. E. S. Lilley (C), J. D. Hartland-Swann (B), J. C. Witham (T), J. R. F. Raw (G), R. P. H. Atkins (B), I. C. McClellan (C), J. D. Hill (C), R. J. Fennell (T), N. M. Bates (G), P. G. Fleury (W), B. S. Wessely (G).

Results :—

Wed., Oct. 17th.	v. BEDFORD MODERN SCHOOL (Home).	Won	15—0
Sat., Oct. 20th.	v. BEDFORD SCHOOL (Home).	Drawn	3—3
Wed., Oct. 24th.	v. MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL, BRACKLEY, 1st XV.	Lost	3—9
	(Away).		
Wed., Oct. 31st.	v. ST. EDWARD'S, OXFORD (Home).	Won	23—0
Wed., Nov. 7th.	v. RADLEY COLLEGE (Away).	Lost	5—6
Tues., Nov. 13th.	v. OUNDLE SCHOOL (Away).	Lost	9—11
Sat., Nov. 17th.	v. HARROW SCHOOL (Away).	Won	9—6
Wed., Nov. 28th.	v. MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL, BRACKLEY, 1st XV.	Won	11—3
	(Home).		
Sat., Dec. 1st.	v. NORTHAMPTON G.S. (Home).	Won	39—0
Wed., Dec. 5th.	v. RUGBY (Home).	Won	8—5

THE JUNIOR COLTS' FIFTEEN

The team this season has been unsuccessful. This is largely explained by their comparative lack of weight and height. Time and again they have had to concede many pounds per man, and, as often as not, speed as well. It is to their credit that they tried hard even in the face of heavy defeat.

The backs have lacked a penetrating runner, and though D. D. McIntyre (C) looks likely to develop into a fast wing, he seldom got the ball at the right time. The team was improved during the latter part of the term by the infusion of R. E. Shelley (G) at fly-half. He has much to learn but shows just that dash and acceleration which is missing elsewhere. M. J. Burrows (C) has improved quickly in the scrum-half position.

The chief lack among the forwards has been the ability to work as a unit. Eight hard-fighting individuals who do not bind in the loose are never likely to be a successful combination. R. A. B. Day (T), M. A. Home (C) and H. Boden Bladon (G) were the most useful forwards, and Bladon captained the side enthusiastically.

Results :—

Wed., Oct. 17th.	v. BEDFORD MODERN SCHOOL (Home).	Lost	3—6
Sat., Oct. 20th.	v. BEDFORD SCHOOL (Away).	Lost	0—38
Wed., Oct. 24th.	v. M.C.S., BRACKLEY (Home).	Won	17—0
Wed., Oct. 31st.	v. ST. EDWARD'S SCHOOL, OXFORD (Away).	Lost	0—21
Sat., Nov. 3rd.	v. HARROW SCHOOL (Away).	Lost	0—47

Wed., Nov. 7th.	v. RADLEY COLLEGE (Home).	Lost	3—28
Sat., Nov. 10th.	v. BERKHAMSTED SCHOOL (Away).	Lost	6—8
Wed., Nov. 14th.	v. OUNDLE SCHOOL (Home).	Lost	0—24
Wed., Nov. 21st.	v. M.C.S., OXFORD (Away).	Won	29—0
Wed., Nov. 28th.	v. M.C.S., BRACKLEY (Away).	Lost	0—35
Sat., Dec. 1st.	v. R.G.S., HIGH WYCOMBE (Away).	Won	15—6
Wed., Dec. 5th.	v. RUGBY SCHOOL (Home).		

UNDER FOURTEEN XV

This has been a good Under 14 team—perhaps the best yet. The forwards were heavy but lively for their weight, and led by D. S. Rowe-Beddoe (C), who after losing a stone still weighed 12 st. 8 lbs., they gave their backs a good service regularly. Behind the scrum were a good pair of halves, J. L. H. Stisted (B) and W. J. C. Ford (G), and a very dangerous right-wing, R. T. C. A. Hall (C) and D. Cameron (B), from which came most of the tries. On the left-wing several players served, but the most successful was M. K. Ridley (C). A most encouraging feature of the season was the quality of the 2nd team, which can be seen from the fact that twenty-eight boys took part in the eight matches.

The best matches were those against Magdalen College School, Brackley, who surprised us on our own ground, but were beaten on theirs more decisively than the score suggests. As usual, we met Bedford too early in the season and so only drew with a team which later we should probably have beaten.

Results :—

Wed., Oct. 17th.	v. MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL, OXFORD (Away).	Won	16—3
Sat., Oct. 20th.	v. BEDFORD SCHOOL (Home).	Drawn	3—3
Wed., Oct. 24th.	v. MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL, BRACKLEY (Home).	Lost	6—8
Sat., Oct. 27th.	"A" Team v. DRAGON SCHOOL (Home).	Won	11—0
Wed., Oct. 31st.	v. ST. EDWARD'S, OXFORD (Away).	Won	14—0
Wed., Nov. 7th.	v. RADLEY (Home).	Won	11—3
Wed., Nov. 21st.	"A" Team v. DRAGON SCHOOL (Away).	Won	11—5
Wed., Nov. 28th.	v. M.C.S., BRACKLEY (Away).	Won	6—3
Wed., Dec. 5th.	v. ST. EDWARD'S SCHOOL, OXFORD (Home).	Won	28—8

2ND XV MATCHES

Sat., Dec. 1st.	v. BLOXHAM (Home).	Lost	0—8
Wed., Dec. 5th.	v. ST. EDWARD'S SCHOOL, OXFORD (Home).	Won	35—3

GOLF

v. BRADFELD, at Buckingham, November 30th.

It was with the greatest difficulty that this match, against Bradfield, the first for several years, was arranged; but it turned out that the enjoyment obtained from it, despite the rather lop-sided result, quite justified our asking them to come 50 miles to play. The captains agreed that instead of seven eighteen-hole singles there should be three foursomes and six singles over nine holes, while the odd players should play an eighteen-hole match; and except that one would have preferred the rather close top match to be eighteen holes, this system worked remarkably well. Stowe began by winning all the foursomes fairly comfortably and only three of the singles were ever in doubt. Horswell just won at the eighteenth after being one down with two to play, and Wright was also taken to the last hole; but Pearman had the best game, which he eventually halved by taking one putt to their captain's three at the eighth and by holing out from twelve feet on the last green. The School has already been offered a return match on their course at the first opportunity.

Singles (9 holes)

R. S. L. Pearman (W), all square.

W. D. Wright (W), won 2 up.

M. H. Spence (C), won 4 and 2.

M. B. McKee (C), won 3 and 2.

R. C. Withinshaw (C) won 5 and 3.

F. J. R. Boddy (C), won 5 and 4.

Foursomes (9 holes)

Pearman and Wright, won 4 and 3.

Spence and Boddy, won 3 and 2.

McKee and Withinshaw, won 4 and 2.

Single (18 holes)

D. G. N. Horswell (C), won 1 up.

FENCING

The results to date have been disappointing, but the club has had great difficulty owing to the lack of personnel and time for practice caused by other sports. The results were as follows:—

v. RUGBY.

Foil.—J. G. Nash (C), won 1, lost 2; R. A. Nicholson (C), won 0, lost 3; J. Briggs (C), won 1, lost 2.

Sabre.—J. G. Nash won 0, lost 3; R. A. Nicholson, won 1, lost 2; J. Briggs, won 1, lost 2.

Lost 4—14.

v. BEDFORD.

Foil.—J. G. Nash, won 3, lost 0; R. A. Nicholson won 1, lost 2; A. M. Crawford (G), won 0, lost 3.

Lost 4—5.

v. BEDFORD MODERN.

Foil.—J. G. Nash, won 4, lost 0; R. A. Nicholson, won 0, lost 4; J. Briggs, won 0, lost 4; A. M. Crawford, won 1, lost 3.

Lost 5—11.

J. Briggs won all three individual weapon competitions.

J.G.N.

CRICKET

FINAL HOUSE MATCHES

Rarely can two such exciting finishes have taken place in final house matches played on the same day.

On the South Front, Grenville, in the Junior Final, with all wickets in hand had 34 runs to make in their second innings to defeat Temple. They lost 6 wickets in achieving this total amid great excitement. The fall of wickets was as follows: 1-5, 2-5, 3-17, 4-19, 5-30, 6-30. For Temple, J. C. Witham took 4 wickets for 12 runs; and R. C. Allerton's 17 not out for Grenville probably won the day for his side.

On the North Front, in the Senior Final, Chandos, who had defeated Grenville by 1 run in the first round, were playing Grafton. Left with 126 runs to make in their second innings, they lost 3 wickets for 4 runs, 4 for 18 and 7 for 89.

Excellent fighting innings by E. S. M. Cameron (47 run out) and J. G. Soar (21) carried them within sight of victory, and eventually with the last two men in and four balls to go one run was still required. This was achieved with a very short single off the third ball of the last over.

SENIOR HOUSE MATCHES

Played on a basis of 80 overs per side, per match of two innings. Results:—

First Round.—Walpole (114 for 8 and 96) beat Cobham (56 and 111) by 53 runs; Chandos (111 and 74) beat Grenville (87 for 9 and 97) by 1 run; Chatham (96 and 135 for 3) beat Bruce (142 and 88) by 7 wickets; Grafton (132 and 72 for 5) beat Temple (103 and 100) by 5 wickets.

Second Round.—Chandos (176 for 7 dec.) beat Walpole (61 and 82) by an innings and 33 runs; Grafton (157 and 127) beat Chatham (123 and 120) by 41 runs.

Final.—Chandos (152 and 126 for 9) beat Grafton (192 and 85) by 1 wicket.

JUNIOR HOUSE MATCHES

Results :—

First Round.—Cobham (161 for 7 and 104) beat Walpole (62 and 106) by 97 runs ; Grenville (248 for 9 dec.) beat Chandos (114 for 9 and 57) by an innings and 77 runs ; Chatham (82 and 125) beat Bruce (70 and 60) by 77 runs ; Temple (136 for 6 dec. and 172) beat Grafton (131 and 70) by 107 runs.

Second Round.—Grenville (138 for 8 dec. and 66 for 4) beat Cobham (52 and 141) by 6 wickets ; Temple (209 and 111) beat Chatham (191 and 112) by 17 runs.

Final.—Grenville (141 for 9 dec. and 35 for 6) beat Temple (89 and 85) by 4 wickets.

SAILING CLUB

At the beginning of last term the following were elected officers of the Club :— Commodore, R. Jameson (G) ; Boatswain, B. J. Calvert (G) ; Hon. Secretary, R. P. A. F. Williams (B). Our President, Mr. Macdonald, called a meeting at the beginning of the term, during which plans for the year were discussed.

The House matches were sailed off shortly after the Exeat. Grenville won after an exciting race with Chandos in the finals.

We have had three matches with other Schools this term. The first was held against Rugby, at Stowe. On a day of light winds, Stowe won decisively in each of two races. The second half of this match was sailed in some fast prams at Rugby on Naseby reservoir. Repton was also present and in fact easily won the match on points. Stowe had some misfortune with gear breaking and lost this half of the match. The total result of the two halves of the Rugby-Stowe match was a win for Stowe.

Later in the term we went over to Repton and sailed an exciting match in Cadets on a gravel-pit. Repton won fairly easily. A Stowe boat, however, won the second of the two races after a hard tussle.

The term's sailing has been much hampered by weeds on the lake. But there have been stronger breezes than usual and people have sailed almost every day.

Teams :—

STOWE v. RUGBY : *1st Boat*, R. Jameson (G), B. J. Calvert (G) ; *2nd Boat*, R. P. A. F. Williams (B), H. J. Bonning (C).

STOWE v. REPTON : *1st Boat*, R. Jameson, B. J. Calvert ; *2nd Boat*, R. P. A. F. Williams, C. J. S. Cullum (B).

R.P.A.F.W.

