

# THE STOIC



*Number One Hundred and Thirty-two*

MARCH 1967



T. Reid

# THE STOIC

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## EDITORIAL

It is always a great temptation for a school magazine to talk about itself and to complain of the lack of adequate contributions. To overcome what appears to be a vast intellectual inertia is, or ought to be, one of the functions of a publication of this sort, and perusal of other like journals will soon confirm that this task is necessary not only at Stowe. But we must not complain; several (although still not enough) original efforts have been submitted this term and we hope that more and more members of the School will feel the urge to put pen to paper and reveal that they have opinions to express about, say, the vexed question of privilege and responsibility, the reasons for having compulsory Chapel, or even the incidence of death-watch beetle in their classroom desk. To help this creative process to germinate, the School Shop has kindly offered to donate three prizes of three pounds each for the best prose article, the best poem, and the best photograph, cartoon or illustration suitable for inclusion in next term's issue.

But before you scramble for your pen, read on, for no apology is made for this number and we hope there is something here to interest you.

It is always a great temptation for a school magazine to talk about itself . . . . .

## STOICA

*School Officials—Spring Term, 1967.*

*Prefects* :—B. A. Marshall-Andrew (B), Head of the School; M. R. Edwards (C), Second Prefect and Prefect of Chapel; I. McA. Anderson (T), Prefect of Library; D. M. Cohen, Head of Grafton; H. J. H. Durey, Head of Chandos; M. I. H. B. Forde, Head of Walpole; C. A. Frean, Head of Cobham; M. M. Jeavons, Head of Grenville; J. R. McDonald (C), Prefect of Hall; I. H. Scott-Gall, Head of Temple; A. J. C. Spackman (C), Prefect of Gymnasium; P. D. Walker, Head of Chatham.

*Hockey* :—Captain, B. A. Marshall-Andrew (B); Secretary, K. G. Buchanan (W).

*Cross-Country* :—Captain, E. C. F. G. Hodge (C); Secretary, W. V. E. Waldron (G).

*Squash Rackets* :—Captain, N. J. Shelley (G); Secretary, R. M. Philip (B).

*Fives* :—Captain, A. J. C. Spackman (C); Secretary, S. C. Garnier (T).

*Golf* :—Captain, B. A. Marshall-Andrew (B); Secretary, N. P. Thomas (B).

*Shooting* :—Captain, P. D. Walker (C); Secretary, A. I. Nicholson (G).

## CHAPEL

The following have preached in Chapel this term :—on January 15th, the Headmaster; on January 22nd, the Ven. C. W. J. Bowles, Archdeacon of Swindon; on January 29th, the Chaplain; on February 5th, W. Stewart, Esq., Headmaster of Haileybury College; on February 12th, the Rev. J. E. C. Nicholl; on February 19th, the Rev. S. W. Phipps, Industrial Chaplain to the Diocese of Coventry; on February 26th, the Rev. R. H. Torrens, Vicar of Eaton Socon; on March 5th, the Rev. Canon B. S. Moss, Chief Secretary of the Advisory Council for the Ministry; and on March 12th, the Rev. O. K. de Berry, Rector of St. Aldate's Church, Oxford. Mr. de Berry also gave a series of four Lenten Addresses in the Chapel.

At the special Ash Wednesday Service on February 8th, the preacher was the Rev. H. F. Hodge; and at the Lower School Service in Stowe

Church on February 26th, the Rev. D. T. M. Service (W 1945). (The Rev. D. C. K. Watson, Vicar of St. Cuthbert's Church, York, who had accepted an invitation to preach, was unable through illness to do so.) A service of hymns and readings specially devised for Palm Sunday was held on March 19th.

Collections were taken for the following charities :—the Cheshire Homes, the 'SPARKS' (Sportsmen Pledged to Action for the Relief of Cripples), Shelter, the British Empire Cancer Campaign, the Chapel Lighting Fund, the Pilsdon Community, the Gladys Aylward Orphanage in Formosa, the Pestalozzi Children's Village Trust, and the Shaftesbury Society.

One of this term's innovations was the taking of Chapel on Mondays—this service is generally at 6 p.m.—by members of the School and lay masters. Early next term, on April 30th, the whole school will attend the 10.30 service in Coventry Cathedral. It is hoped that as many parents, friends and Old Stoics as possible will join us at this service.

We record with deep regret the death on January 22nd of Mr. A. B. E. Gibson who retired as Housemaster of Grenville in 1962 and had lately been teaching at Beachborough Preparatory School at Westbury. We offer our sincere sympathy to Mrs. Gibson whose help and support he valued so highly. Mr. Gibson's funeral took place on January 26th at Stowe Church and an obituary notice appears elsewhere in this issue.

We welcome to the staff Mr. P. G. Longhurst as Economics Tutor, and Mr. D. R. Walton-Masters who is with us for a term while completing his Diploma of Education at Oxford.

We say farewell this term to Mr. M. S. R. Cozens, who is to join the Diplomatic Service.

We announce the birth of a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. J. S. M. Morris on December 30th, and a son to Mr. and Mrs. T. James on December 31st.

Six teak benches have been presented to the School in memory of Rosemary Hill by her mother and brother, Mr. Paul Hill. They are at present on the Colonnades but are later to be placed by the Shop tennis courts.

We acknowledge with gratitude the most generous gift of £1,500 which Simon Stuart, recently on the staff, has given for the restoration of the Pebble Alcove; it is hoped to start work on this shortly. An article on the repair programme for the garden temples appears later in this issue.

The Grafton House play was *The Devil's Disciple* by George Bernard Shaw, and the Cobham House play *Angels in Love* by Hugh Mills.

The School Choral Society and an augmented Orchestra and soloists gave a performance of Elgar's *Dream of Gerontius* in Chapel on March 19th.

The Pineapple Ball was held on Thursday, March 9th, at Grosvenor House.

Miss Julie Felix gave a second concert in the Roxburgh Hall on Saturday, March 4th.

Sixth Form Lectures this term were given by Mr. A. J. Abbott on 'Expedition to Eastern Turkey' and by Professor C. A. Coulson entitled 'Is God a Scientist?'

The Woolverstone Hall exchange visit took place from February 5th to the 12th. Reports by members of both parties appear in this issue.

#### UNIVERSITY AWARDS

T. A. CLOVER (C) has been awarded an Exhibition in History at Exeter College, Oxford.

T. J. GEORGE (C) has been awarded an Exhibition in Natural Sciences at Merton College, Oxford.

R. C. PEATFIELD (T) has been awarded an Exhibition in Natural Sciences at Queens' College, Cambridge.

A. P. SAINER (T) has been awarded an Exhibition in Classics at Peterhouse, Cambridge.

J. E. T. TRAININ (C) has been awarded an Open Scholarship in Natural Sciences at Christ Church, Oxford.

#### Mr. A. B. E. GIBSON

*Assistant Master and Housemaster of Grenville, 1936—1962*

When Brian Gibson retired in 1962 *The Stoic* recorded "he is a first-rate schoolmaster," and this was apparent to all who had the good fortune to know him in the Common Room, the classroom, in his House, or on the playing fields.

He came to Stowe in 1936 as Head of the Lower School, and in this capacity he taught every new boy except for the few who started in the Forty or the form now known as 4A. As they were taught Latin, Geography or History, they learnt simultaneously the art of self-discipline. Although lack of aptitude was quickly forgiven, sloppiness in work or appearance was never condoned. Hundreds of Old Stoics must still have vivid memories of tests that began as Mr. Gibson approached the classroom door, of day-dreams shattered by a bunch of keys crashing on their desks, of the sudden terrible quietness of voice which warned them that a most almighty storm was about to break, and of the genuine warmth of praise that greeted a good piece of work. For twenty-four years he governed the Lower School firmly and wisely, and, although small boys tended to be scared of him, his obvious fairness, and his patent desire to help to the utmost those in his care, quickly turned any element of fear to respect and then to affectionate admiration.

Outside the classroom he played many different parts in the life of the School. For some nine years he was master in charge of the Shop which, with the help of his guardianship, was able to return thousands of pounds of profits to the school in the shape of extra equipment for the Roxburgh Hall, a large donation towards the cost of the running track and any amount of games equipment. At various times he coached almost every XV and cricket XI, from the Firsts downwards, and was particularly happy with his many Second XI's who, as he said, were a collection of ageing gentlemen who enjoyed their cricket. None of them, however, enjoyed it as much as he did, for cricket was his real joy. Early in his time at Stowe he took nine wickets for the Masters against the First XI, and, in his last term, captaining A.B.E.G.'s XI against the Seconds, he proved that his bowling had lost little of its skill. As a final gesture to the game at Stowe when he retired he presented his large collection of *Wisden's* to the Pavilion.

But it was as a housemaster that Mr. Gibson made his greatest public impact. Firstly in Bruce and Cobham which he ran during the absence of their regular incumbents on war service, and then for sixteen years in Grenville he looked for, and obtained, whole-heartedness in every out-of-school activity. House teams were not uniformly successful, but, in such events as the Coldstream Cup and the P.T. Competition, that demanded a corporate effort, Grenville had a notable record. Although Grenville House plays each year provided rich entertainment for the audience, this was not their main purpose. His first production of "Arsenic and Old Lace" was probably the most successful play he put on, but his real pride was "Treasure Island," for only three boys in the entire house were not concerned with this in some capacity.

It is not, however, as a public figure, but as a friend and adviser, that Brian Gibson will be remembered longest and most gratefully. To the nervous new-boy, to the "difficult" middle-school boy, to the inexperienced house or school authority, and to the colleague in need of help and guidance he gave unstintingly of his time, encouraging them and pointing the way. His standards were very high, and, if his advice seemed harsh, one came to realise that he was merely asking one to follow his own inflexible principles: a deep love of and belief in Stowe; an enthusiasm for every job that came his way, matched by a tremendous capacity for work; a very clear and carefully thought out sense of values; a steadfast belief in God; and an affection for all members of the human race, whatever their faults or follies.

## OLIM ALUMNI

P. A. G. DIXEY (B 1933) has been elected Deputy Chairman of Lloyds for 1967.

AIR COMMODORE R. E. W. HARLAND (C 1938) has been appointed Director of R.A.F. Aircraft Development.

N. J. DURLACHER (W 1964) was Captain of the Cambridge University Ski-ing Team.

B. R. ARKWRIGHT (B 1940) has been elected into a Fellowship at King's College, Cambridge, from midsummer, 1967.

## BIRTHS

To the wife of:

J. F. ALEXANDER (G 1954) a son on March 3rd, 1966.

W. M. BROWNE (C 1945) a daughter on November 1st 1966.

J. G. V. BURNS (G 1942) a son on July 14th 1966.

B. R. DEWING (C 1954) a daughter on January 6th 1966.

A. S. DURWARD (W 1953) a son on May 19th 1966.

W. T. GRICE (T 1950) a son on November 29th 1966.

M. D. A. HANMER (T 1953) a daughter on September 27th 1965.

C. HUNTER DUNN (T 1946) a daughter on October 2nd 1966.

J. M. KNOWLES (T 1954) a daughter on May 31st 1966.

D. A. R. MURRAY BROWN (C 1951) a daughter on December 20th 1966.

M. DE M. A. STEWART (S 1951) a daughter on December 26th 1966.

G. C. THOMSON (W 1954) a son on December 10th 1966.

J. E. B. THOMPSON (S 1955) a daughter on June 2nd 1966.

A. S. P. WATNEY (C 1954) a son on November 26th 1966.

A. E. C. WHINNEY (C 1957) a son on December 11th 1966.

## MARRIAGES

E. BOTH (B 1959) to Joanna von Seydlitz on March 3rd 1966.

S. W. BOWLES (G 1961) to Sally Parly on March 5th 1966.

W. M. BROWNE (C 1945) to Gillian Vanderplank on January 15th 1966.

N. G. CLAYTON (S 1956) to Julia Mary Thornton on February 24th 1962.

T. J. CROSBIE (S 1963) to Susan Robertson on April 15th 1966 in New Zealand.

A. A. FAIRRIE (C 1952) to Elizabeth Rachel Pryor on April 16th 1966.

M. D. A. HANMER (T 1953) to Judy Carol Fairchild on January 4th 1964.

M. R. Hill (W 1957) to Susan Franklin on April 29th 1966.

J. F. A. HOPE (T 1962) to Rosemarie Ann Covon on October 22nd 1966.

D. K. A. LAWRENCE (W 1959) to Angela Rosemary Wyatt-Warren on September 24th 1966.

K. A. PAUL (C 1956) to Joan Ellis on April 23rd 1966.

A. E. PEREI (T 1959) to Susan Jane Baker on June 11th 1966.

R. W. REID (C 1947) to Mrs. D. J. Kay on October 23rd 1965.

C. M. SCHOLFIELD (C 1962) to Julia Carleton on January 14th 1966.

A. S. P. WATNEY (C 1954) to Lady Katherine Courtenay on January 8th, 1966.

D. N. WHITE (C 1953) to Cherry Ruth Wardroper on July 9th 1966.

Erratum in the December number, for which the Editor apologises, should read:—  
T. G. SHEARER (C 1956) to Felicity Jean Pyke on June 8th 1963.

## DEATHS

C. I. N. KRABBE (B 1949) on February 21st 1967, as a result of a motor accident.

P. J. H. LLOYD (C 1954) in a motor accident.

J. H. NELSON-SMITH (C 1934) on February 5th 1967.

SQUADRON LEADER R. G. WILBERFORCE, D.F.C., A.F.C., R.A.F. (Retd.) (C 1930) on December 11th 1966.

## “ CHIPS WITH EVERYTHING ”

By ARNOLD WESKER

*Presented by the Congreve Club on December 9th and 10th in the Roxburgh Hall.*

CAST.—**Archie Cannibal**, H. G. J. BROOKING (C); **Chas. Wingate**, A. R. CHISHOLM (W); **Pip Thompson**, R. E. Lloyd Morgan (T); **Ginger Seaford**, A. R. M. CRASS (C); **Andrew McClore**, C. G. BAZELEY (G); **Wilfe Richardson**, A. P. A. McDONAGH (S); **Dodger Cohen**, N. P. THOMAS (B); **Dickey Smith**, A. J. L. IMRIE (B); **Smiler Washington**, D. G. LUGG (W); **Corporal Hill**, P. E. BARTHOLOMEW (C); **Wing Commander**, A. H. THOMLINSON (W); **Squadron Leader**, R. C. N. BRANSON (C); **Pilot Officer**, F. C. ST. J. MISKIN (S); **P. T. Instructor**, P. G. ARBUTHNOT (C); **Night Guard**, G. E. S. MORGAN (C); **First Corporal**, R. A. LAMPING (C); **Second Corporal**, N. R. KREITMAN (C); **Airman**, W. G. C. MAXWELL (G).

*Producer*—MR. J. BAIN.

*Chips with Everything* is a play of anger. Wesker shouts out against a society divided between those who are told and those who tell. It is corrupted by the insensitive aimlessness of authority which finds its justification in the exercising of its own power. Wesker's pronounced message leads him into problems of dramatic realism, all of which make this a difficult play to interpret for producer and actor alike; ambitious enough for a school production, which in practice did not altogether succeed too happily.

Throughout the play there keeps recurring the barrack room setting which must represent the living quarters of nine conscripts and their corporal, beds and all. A system to provide a moving front for the hut was ingeniously devised and looked convincing both inside and out, as did all the sets which achieved a high standard of professionalism.

The play itself demands a combination of insane hilarity and a startling comico-reality particularly in the drill scenes and where the recruits are introduced to the camp officers. Perhaps because they were over-acted these crucial scenes never achieved the necessary mounting climax. We did not feel that the officers were preposterous yet powerful, but merely comic; and it was this failure which gave little force to Pip's refusal to bayonet the dummy. Similarly Corporal Hill does not sufficiently command the situation to produce "scorching fast" drill because the recruits can always move faster than he can. Smiler Washington is the only convincing victim of a brutal authoritarianism, and the guardroom scene in which he is subjected to obscenity and punishment

evokes the poignancy which Wesker intended. The tenseness was well maintained in Smiler's desperate monologue. This perhaps was the most moving part of the play as his helplessness—"I'm born that way"—leads him back into the hut.

The "togetherness" of the recruits, a quality which Wesker seems to believe in passionately, develops well through the play and never looks back after the coke-stealing scene, played very convincingly against a moonlight silhouette. This episode demands careful timing and speed and the satisfied gasp from the audience when finally the bucket of coke was filled and away and evidence of theft removed was sufficient proof of its success. Of the group Thomas and Brooking were the most consistently convincing although all became seasoned servicemen.

Pip Thomson is the public school rebel, angry with a society which has faced him with dilemmas on every side; an inability to accept the presumption of his social equals and contemptuous of his fellow recruits for their gullibility. Wesker has made it very difficult for this character not to appear priggish and Lloyd-Morgan did not altogether escape this. Faced with the improbable situation of Pip rescuing his fellows from the scorn of the officers, the production chose a stylistic treatment. This was surprisingly effective except that it left Pip standing on a table with arms outstretched and some of us in doubt whether he was depicting a self-sacrificial Christ figure or a spell-casting Prospero. Pip came off best in his encounters with Charles. Here Chisholm was able to convey a struggling eagerness to learn within the framework of his hero-worship of Pip's superior intelligence and manner. He took us with him in his frustration at not achieving a satisfactory exchange with the man who had drawn from him his earlier intolerance.

Pip in the end capitulates and the last word belongs to the Establishment with the National Anthem. I must admit to a feeling of disappointment that Wesker was only allowed to come through spasmodically in a production which relied too much on contrived humour. To be fair this may be a justifiable interpretation of a play which forces its characters into cliché.

M.P.M.W.

### MUSIC

IN THE CHAPEL

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11th

JENNIFER VYVYAN ( <i>Soprano</i> )	PAULINE STEVENS ( <i>Contralto</i> )
PAUL ESSWOOD ( <i>Counter-Tenor</i> )	ROBERT TEAR ( <i>Tenor</i> )
ROGER STALMAN ( <i>Bass</i> )	
MARY VERNEY ( <i>Harpsichord</i> )	MR. WIGGINS ( <i>Solo Trumpet</i> )

STOWE CHORAL SOCIETY AND AUGMENTED ORCHESTRA  
*Leader*—KELLY ISAACS  
*Conductor*—MR. WATSON

Messiah ... ..	<i>Handel</i>
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December 11th, 1966, will, without doubt, be a most notable day for me, when I was privileged to hear a superb rendering of Handel's Messiah given by the Stowe Choral Society and an augmented orchestra. The Messiah is, I suppose, one of the best known choral compositions and everyone has their own favourite pieces within

the whole work, and although some may have been a little surprised by the pace of Mr. Watson's conducting, one could not fail to be moved by the more meaningful continuity that this provided. Guided by the most prolific programme notes even the most non-musical listeners would, I feel sure, derive a sense of purpose and story from the whole performance.

Once again the Choral Society members were certainly on their toes, and their entries were crisp and clear, with a pleasant tonal balance, the whole effect being only slightly marred by a rather weak contralto line. The contralto part is set rather low and one felt that part of the chorus was rather unhappy in certain parts of the work. The parts sung by the semi-chorus were quite delightful and provided a pleasant foil for the bulk of the chorus. I cannot help feeling that perhaps the balance of the choir could have been slightly improved if they had been more definitely tiered, so that the back row would not have been singing into the heads of the rows in front. This may not be possible in Chapel, but if it could be arranged to have the choir producing a block of sound the effect in the auditorium might be even more forceful.

The Stowe Orchestra, augmented by a rather large number of professionals, played quite delightfully. It seems to me that it is rather a pity to import quite such a large contingent of outside players when there is such talent within the school, but the sheer size and complexity of the work did justify the necessity for a professional backbone.

The solo voice parts were delightfully rendered and I particularly liked the singing of Pauline Stephens and Roger Stalman.

The danger of bringing in professional soloists is that the purely amateur chorus may appear weak in contrast; this certainly was not the case, and I feel that to achieve such a high standard in the short space of one term demands the highest praise to Mr. Watson and the whole of the Stowe Choral Society.

J.B.D.

CONCERT BY MUSIC SCHOLARS AND SENIOR MUSICIANS

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16th

IN THE ROXBURGH HALL

*Flute*—D. N. WESTON (C); *Oboe*—J. B. WINTLE (C); *Bassoon*—D. H. LONGMAN (C); *Violas*—R. E. LLOYD-MORGAN (T), A. P. SAINER (T); *Celli*—T. P. BESTERMAN (W), K. D. FRAZER (T), N. G. F. GETHIN (C); *Singers*—D. H. LONGMAN (C), R. E. LLOYD-MORGAN (T), R. R. TOMLINSON (C); *Pianists*—A. J. BOLTON (C), N. G. F. GETHIN (C), B. L. J. MURRAY (C), F. N. REED (W), CHARLES J. SMITH (C), N. B. S. STEWART (W), R. R. TOMLINSON (C).

Brandenburg Concerto No. 6	... ..	J. S. Bach
Allegro; Adagio ma non tanto; Allegro.		
Prelude in B minor (for Piano)	... ..	Rachmaninov
Kol Nidrei (for 'Cello and Piano)	... ..	Max Bruch
Sonata for flute, oboe, bassoon and piano	... ..	Telemann
Carols: 'The snow lies thick upon the earth'	... ..	A. J. Bolton
'Sweet was the song the Virgin sang'	... ..	B. L. J. Murray
Dithyrambic Fantasia for piano	... ..	B. L. J. Murray
Movement for flute, 'cello and piano	... ..	A. J. Bolton
Trio for clarinet, violin and piano	... ..	Mozart
Andante; Minuet and Trio; Allegretto.		

This concert was something of an innovation at Stowe. Obviously a great deal of hard work had been put into every item well before the performance stage and this professional approach to their music does great credit to our music scholars and senior musicians. There were no concessions to youth and inexperience in the choice of pieces and a full complement of players tackled the Brandenburg No. 6 with enthusiasm and a great deal of musicianship. Pieces by Rachmaninov for piano and Max Bruch for 'cello and piano were most expertly performed and a delightful sonata by Telemann for flute, oboe, bassoon and piano completed the first half of the concert.

When the programme contains not only performances but also compositions by members of the School then there really is a feeling of achievement; the contributions by Bolton and Murray to the second half were no mean feat, and I feel that the carols particularly came off very well. And to show further versatility, in the final work, a trio for clarinet, viola and piano, we heard some fine clarinet and violin playing from a 'cellist and choral exhibitor respectively.

This was a truly worthwhile concert—let us hope that it will be an annual event.

M.A.B.K.

RECITAL IN CHAPEL  
SUNDAY, JANUARY 29th

MR. WIGGINS ( <i>Trumpet</i> )	MR. JAMES ( <i>Organ</i> )
Prelude and Fugue in A minor (The Great)	... .. <i>Bach</i>
Sinfonia for trumpet and organ	... .. <i>Torelli</i>
Basse de trompette	... .. <i>le Bègue</i>
Heroic Music	... .. <i>Telemann</i>
Meditation and Scherzo	... .. <i>Peter Hurford</i>
Prayer of St. Gregory	... .. <i>Alan Hovhaness</i>
Psalm-prelude, Opus 32, No. 1	... .. <i>Howells</i>
Concertino for trumpet	... .. <i>Lars-Erik Larson</i>
Toccata and Fugue in D minor and D major	... .. <i>Reger</i>

The programme began with a dazzling performance of Bach's Prelude and Fugue in A minor, a very demanding opening piece. Unfortunately parts of the fugue were somewhat blurred, owing to the acoustic difficulties of the Chapel. The trumpet made a dazzling entrance with the Torelli, its brilliant, clear tone making up for the cloudy registration on the organ. In the last movement, the trumpet and organ seemed to be a fraction of a second out at times. The Bègue, although very short, was very precisely played, and provided an excellent opportunity for the organ's trumpets to be displayed to full advantage. The trumpet part in the Telemann was very well handled and expressed although slightly marred by the accompaniment on the positive organ in the second movement. The two movements for organ by Hurford were played with great feeling, as was the Herbert Howells Prelude, a little later on in the programme. Both the Hovhaness and the Larson were executed with great feeling and clarity of tone, both very sensitively accompanied. The recital ended with a very fine performance of the Reger Prelude and Fugue in D minor and D major.

F.N.R.

CONCERT BY THE MILITARY BAND  
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5th, IN THE ROXBURGH HALL

Conductor—MR. WIGGINS

Trumpet Voluntary ... .. *Purcell, arr. Sir Henry Wood*

Trumpets—R. A. S. OSBAND (T), S. E. BURRETT (C),  
C. S. EDWARDS (W), P. J. LANKESTER (C).

Overture : 'Sun Valley Mountains' ... .. *Gene Ogden*

'The Green Leaves of Summer' ... .. *Dimitri Tiomkin*

Bassoon solo : 'Introduction and Hornpipe' ... .. *Galliard*

Bassoon—D. H. LONGMAN (C)

A Norwegian Suite ... .. *Erik Hansen*

'Night Piece' ... .. *John Klein*

Piano—N. B. S. STEWART (W)

Minuet from 'Terpsichore' ... .. *Handel*

Waltz Theme from 'Serenade for Strings' ... .. *Tchaikowsky*

Flute solo : Minuet from 'L'Arlésienne' ... .. *Bizet*

Flute—D. N. WESTON (C)

'Moonlight Serenade' ... .. *Glen Miller*

Selection from 'The Sound of Music' ... .. *Richard Rogers*

Although the overall standard of this concert was not very high, it was very encouraging to see so many participants.

The concert began well, Osband and the other trumpets playing with an authoritative, clean tone in the Purcell. We had some good technique from Stewart who played his cadenza with panache. But in both these pieces one felt a certain lack of any rapport between soloists and orchestra. All of us present, who knew of his musicianship, were sorry that Weston was unable to play his flute solo. This was, however, compensated for by a very musical and most enjoyable performance by Longman.

The playing of the band by itself had a lack of colour perhaps due to the thickness of the scoring. They seemed most at home, and produced the best sound, when playing lively rhythmic passages as in the middle section of the Gene Ogden Overture and the Norwegian Suite. In the Dimitri Tiomkin there was some musical playing from the horns, with, unfortunately, rather lifeless support from the woodwind. There was some good phrasing and tonal colouring in the Handel Minuet. The Tchaikowsky Waltz, I felt, did not really lend itself to an arrangement for band. By the time we had reached the Miller Serenade and Rogers' selection from "The Sound of Music" the band was playing much more musically as an integrated body, and gave an enthusiastic and convincing performance of these.

Mr. Wiggins deserves considerable credit for this performance, since he has taught most of the players from scratch. The average age of the performers was very low, and so I look forward to the next concert when, I am sure, the general standard will be much higher.

T.P.B.

## MUSIC IN THE ROXBURGH HALL

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19th

MARY VERNEY (*Piano*)MR. WATSON (*Violin*)ELIZABETH WATSON (*Viola*)MR. EDMONDS (*Cello*)ALISON WATSON (*Double Bass*)

Piano Trio in C major, K. 548	... ..	Mozart
Allegro; Andante cantabile; Allegro		
Piano Quartet in C minor, Op. 15	... ..	Fauré
Allegro molto moderato; Scherzo; Adagio; Allegro molto		
Piano Quintet in A major, 'The Trout'	... ..	Schubert
Allegro vivace; Andante; Scherzo and trio; Theme and variations; Finale		

We have come to expect the highest standards from our musicians, but on this occasion, with Mr. Watson's illness in mind, we might have been tempted to fear minor blemishes or signs of under-rehearsal. An unwarranted and inexcusable fear, of course, for no trace of any such thing was apparent from first to last. It is hard, indeed, to remember an evening when one was less aware of the technical difficulties, so closely and sympathetically integrated were the instruments. We are then, triply grateful, not only that the concert could take place at all, but also for superlative playing and for a delightful choice of programme.

This was an evening of civilised, melodious music, undemanding on the ear, music for relaxation and sheer enjoyment. The Mozart trio, dating as it does from the year of the three last symphonies, was far more than the curtain-raiser which at least one member of the audience attempted to miss. The conventions are observed, but the ingenious development of the first movement, the broad cantilena of the Andante and the rococo grace and elegance of the last movement are far from merely conventional.

With Fauré's first piano quartet we are immediately swept into a new world. Without any preamble the music soars away on the strings in a far-ranging theme to syncopated chords on the piano. Throughout the movement themes and rhythms float on, weaving in a gorgeous flood. No trace of academics here. The music seems to come of itself, self-perpetuating, self-rejuvenating. There is excitement and certainly passion, but with them there is restraint and reticence and above all sheer beauty of sound. The scherzo is a miracle. Against pizzicato strings the piano trips through a graceful hopping dance. The roles are soon reversed and in the muted trio Fauré's progressions seem to move through every key. In these two movements as in the hauntingly lovely Adagio, sensual and so nearly sentimental, and the intensely rhythmical finale where again the themes are intricately blended, the performance was as fine as anything we have heard at Stowe. The balance between piano and strings was exquisite, and particularly memorable was Mary Verney's playing of the harp-like piano score with its arpeggios and broken figures, its delicacy and its restrained fire.

The Trout quintet was written on holiday for the particular group of instruments available, hence the double-bass. But whereas the latter has a rather uninspired part, it allows the piano to concentrate on the upper registers and this limpid piano part we heard to perfection. In the first movement the strings seemed strangely subdued, and

though this perhaps led smoothly to the serene Andante, it rather split the work into two halves. With the Scherzo, however, true lyrical gaiety burst out and lasted through the Theme and Variations (or, rather, decorations) to the exuberant and inconsequential finale.

Once again a large audience was drawn to the Roxburgh Hall to be rewarded by performances of great warmth and integrity and by a programme which offered not a superfluous note or an unkind phrase; nothing, in short, but delight.

J.M.T.

## THE ART SCHOOL

## EXHIBITION OF BRASS RUBBINGS

By DORIS E. POOLE

(in the Art School from the 14th to the 25th of February).

In the course of eighteen months, Mrs. Poole has travelled from her home in Adstock to many country towns and villages throughout England, spending many enjoyable hours searching out and rubbing brasses, working solely with paper and wax crayon.

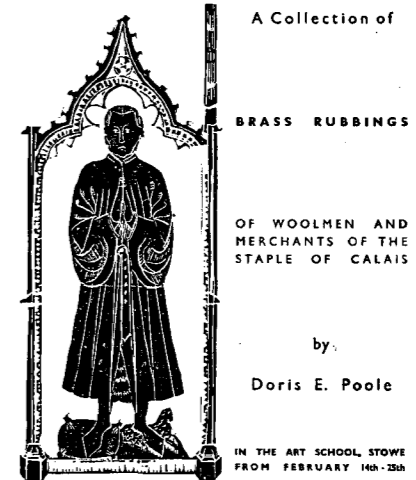
Her interest in the mediaeval wool trade led to visits to some of the famous wool churches in the Cotswolds, and to the discovery of their magnificent monumental brasses. Having been interested for some time in monumental brasses, she decided to combine the two subjects and make a collection of rubbings of brasses laid down to the woolmen and merchants of the Staple of Calais, distributed throughout the country. The collection did not include all the known wool merchants, but simply those to whom the brasses were laid.

Three types of rubbings were evident in the exhibition, those rubbed on lining paper and subsequently mounted on cartridge paper, others rubbed on detail paper and mounted on cartridge paper and some rubbings made on detail paper and shown unmounted.

It is interesting to note how frequently the woolman rests his feet on a woolpack and/or a sheep, and a lady has a little dog, wearing a bell collar, nestling in the folds of her dress. Most woolmen are depicted in civil dress and only occasionally in armour. On many brasses may be seen the merchant's mark. This symbol was a source of considerable pride to the owner and was a guarantee of his goods and transactions.

We are very grateful to Mrs. Poole, and to Mr. Poole, for giving many hours of their time to arrange this very interesting exhibition.

P.L.A.





## REPAIRS TO THE GARDEN BUILDINGS

by Mr. Hugh Creighton, A.R.I.B.A., architect responsible for the restoration programme

When the founders of the school bought Stowe they did not only save the house from imminent destruction and its grounds from dereliction; they also assumed a very heavy burden in maintaining them, and the garden buildings have perhaps been the most difficult part of this burden. The canonical list numbers 32, but pairs are counted as one; on the other hand some are not properly 'buildings' at all, but statues, columns, cascades. They were already in a dilapidated state at the time of the sale; not many could be put to any practical use by the school; their isolated situations render them specially vulnerable to the attacks of nature and of vandals, among whom one must include Sir Robert Lorimer. Trees drip on leaking roofs, drop boughs, and establish roots in crumbling stonework; lightning strikes the Cobham Monument, though it would have been harmless had not neglect or interference severed the conductor. During the past two years lead has been stolen from the roofs of the temples of Ancient Virtue, British Worthies and Venus, plasterwork in the Lake Pavilions has been deliberately smashed, parts of the ceiling in the Temple of Concord have been destroyed, and two urns on the Oxford Bridge have been tipped into the water.

The Governors have never been able to devote to the garden buildings the money necessary to put them all into good repair and to maintain them so. During the past fifteen years or so great help has been received from the Historic Buildings Council, the body which administers Exchequer grants for the preservation of important buildings, and with this assistance the Corinthian Arch, the Rotondo, the Boycott Pavilions, and the Temple of Venus have been thoroughly repaired and first aid work has been done to some others. Nevertheless, such grants always cover a proportion only, not the whole, of the cost, and it became increasingly difficult for the school to find its contribution. Against the background of increasing deterioration, rising building costs, and the prospect of very large expenditure on repairs to the main buildings, it became clear to the Governors that the sums which they were justified in spending out of their ordinary resources on the garden buildings would never be sufficient, and that some other method of financing the work must be devised. The responsibility for doing so was placed on the Landscape Committee, and this body, which had been dormant for some years, has taken on a new and vigorous lease of life. Under the chairmanship of Major Ralph Verney,\* the committee includes a second Governor, Mr. George Cansdale; Mr. Christopher Hussey and Mr. Lawrence Whistler; the Headmaster; Mr. Mounsey and Mr. Clarke.

In order to establish the extent of the task an inspection was made during the summer of 1965 of the condition of all the buildings, and a report was submitted containing proposals for their repair with approximate estimates of cost. Such a report must necessarily be based on certain assumptions about the reasons for preservation and the sort of result which the repairs aim at achieving. The present garden buildings are the survivors of many more which have existed at one time or another at Stowe. For each successive revolution in the gardens during the eighteenth century there are records

In the eighteenth century the Verneys of the neighbouring estate of Claydon were rash enough to extend rivalry with the Temples and Grenvilles from the sphere of politics to that of building; at least this is said to have been part of the motive for re-building Claydon House. It resulted in bankruptcy for the second Earl Verney before the house was finished, and the surviving 18th century wing at Claydon is less than a third of what was intended.

of the demolition of temples, obelisks, pyramids, gazebos, and of the construction of new ones; others have perished in later years, some during the memory of the school. Some of those that remain are distinguished architecture in their own right, some are oddities, and some are in themselves insignificant; the *raison d'être* of all of them lies in their relation to the landscape and it is as parts of the whole that they merit preservation. Consequently, just as much, or more, importance attaches to the preservation and where necessary rehabilitation of the landscape. It is true that there are a few buildings whose loss could from this point of view be contemplated with equanimity, but they are either valuable in themselves or so small that their repair is not a large addition to the whole. The only significant exception is the Bourbon Tower, which is not seen at all from the main gardens, and it has for the present been omitted from the repair programme.

It follows from what has been said that the aim of the work is emphatically not to restore the buildings to their pristine condition nor to attempt to undo the work of 200 years. It is, in general, to make them structurally sound in their present state, to keep out the weather, and to arrest further deterioration. What precisely this means in practice is sometimes difficult to decide—for example in the cases of the Temples of Concord and of Friendship—but the descriptions given below of work which is already in progress or planned will give an idea of how it is to be interpreted.

The estimated cost of the whole programme amounts to £75,000. The Historic Buildings Council has promised continued support and negotiations are in progress on the terms of future grants. Still, a very large sum is required on behalf of the school, all of which must come from outside sources. The response in the fairly short time since the scheme was launched has been encouraging and has enabled the following work to be put in hand.

### COBHAM MONUMENT

The sum of £4,000 was given a few years ago by the Pilgrim Trust for the repair of the Cobham Monument.

The monument was struck by lightning in 1957; the statue of Lord Cobham was destroyed, only his head being recovered intact, and the cupola on which it stood severely damaged; a subsequent storm brought down more of the cupola, so that only a small portion remained standing. The top was therefore ruinous and the capital much decayed; the shaft was sound, but the base considerably damaged, and of four lions which lay on its corners only one remains and that is broken.

There were differing opinions about how to repair the top. All were agreed that it would not be practicable to renew the statue. One school of thought went on from this to say that neither the column nor the cupola was a particularly successful piece of architectural design, and that the simplest and most economical solution was the best—namely to make the top of the capital sound and place a bronze railing on it to enable people to stand there. Others objected that a column supporting nothing was an absurdity, that the cupola could quite well be reconstructed exactly, and that instead of the statue it could be finished with a finial. It is typical of the problems which arise at Stowe that there was considerable uncertainty whether the cupola and statue were in fact part of Gibbs's original design (the base has certainly been altered and enlarged); the balance of evidence, which is interesting but too lengthy to give here, seemed to be that they were. The reconstructionists won the day.

At the time of writing the capital has been repaired and weathered in copper as before; it is awaiting a cupola in artificial stone and a dome and finial in resin and glass fibre to match the stonework. The finial has been copied, at a reduced scale, from the urns on the corners of the Boycott Pavilions, which were also designed by Gibbs. The use of such substitute materials on old buildings is often viewed with suspicion, and rightly so. Their advantages are, of course, greatly reduced cost, and for the dome less weight, as compared with natural stone. The justification in this case is that they will only be seen at a great distance and against the sky in silhouette, so that only their general colour and texture will be appreciable. When the scaffolding has been removed the base will be repaired and it is hoped to replace the lions, probably also cast in resin and glass fibre from the surviving example.

#### QUEEN'S TEMPLE

A start on repairs to the Queen's Temple has been made possible by a contribution of £2,000 from the Buckinghamshire County Council.

This temple appears to have been very derelict when it came into the hands of the school; it was renovated by Old Stoics in 1933-4 for use as music rooms and has consequently received more maintenance than most; for example, the whole of the slate roof was repaired recently. Nevertheless, a complete section of the ceiling had fallen and the plaster entablatures between the internal columns were insecure. Investigation has shown that decay of the timbers due to former leaks had not been dealt with and in particular that the bases of the posts inside the four columns were rotten and had allowed the whole ceiling structure which they support to drop. Two of these posts needed renewal and proper concrete bases have been constructed under all of them.

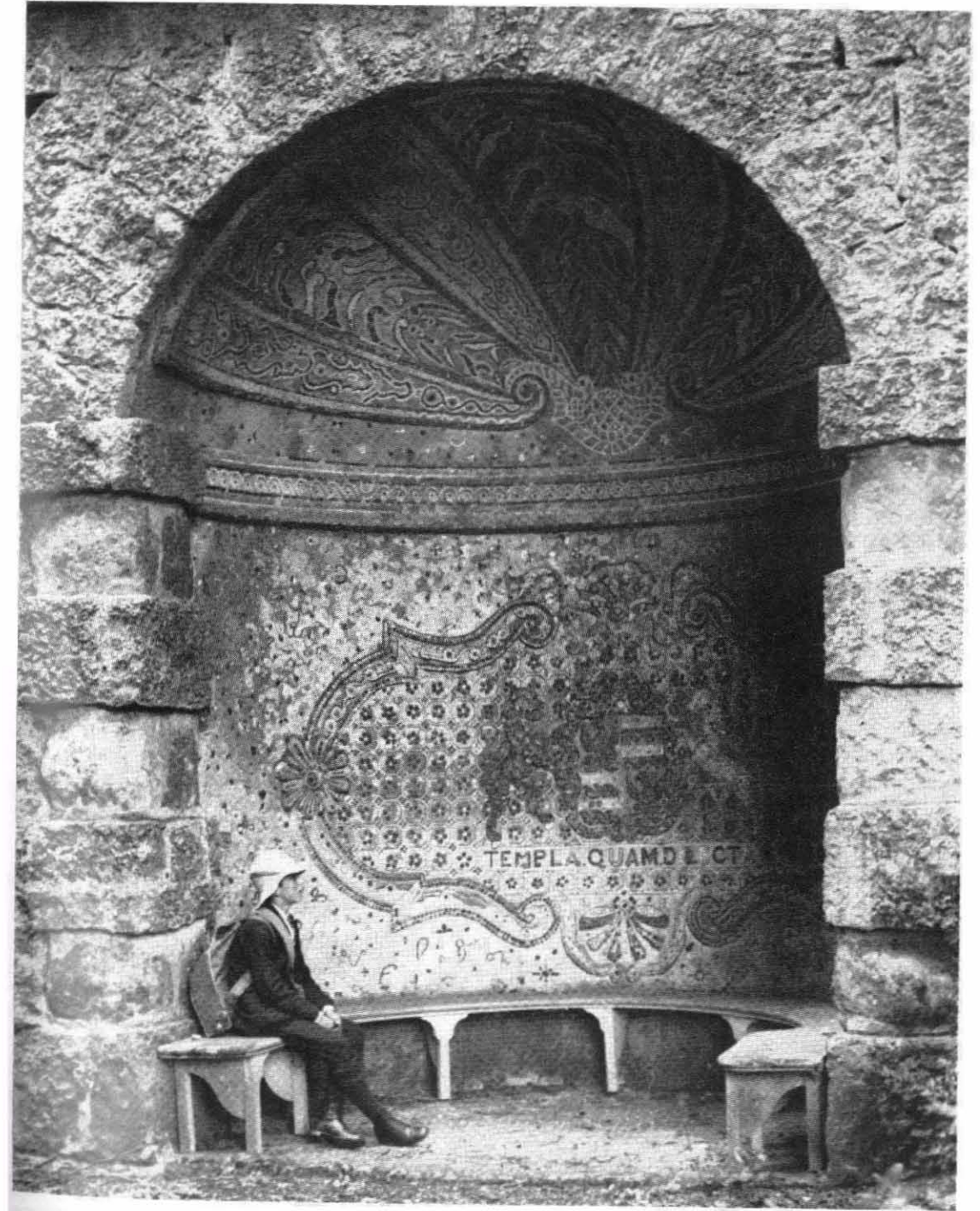
Externally the roof balustrade and cornice need extensive repair, as can be seen from the yew trees growing in them. A section of the balustrade to the terrace is missing and the remainder is in poor condition. This balustrade seems to have had a chequered career. It is very likely that it came originally from a staircase on the South Front which was demolished when the present portico was built; old photographs of the Temple show sometimes one, sometimes another portion of it missing; so it has been much reconstructed. In fact the whole temple was rebuilt or altered several times during the eighteenth century and its successive transformations are difficult to trace.

The work is at present confined to the interior. The plasterwork will be made good throughout and the room will be repainted. The columns and pilasters were originally scagliola of the same colour as those in the Assembly and will be renewed to match them.

#### GOTHIC TEMPLE

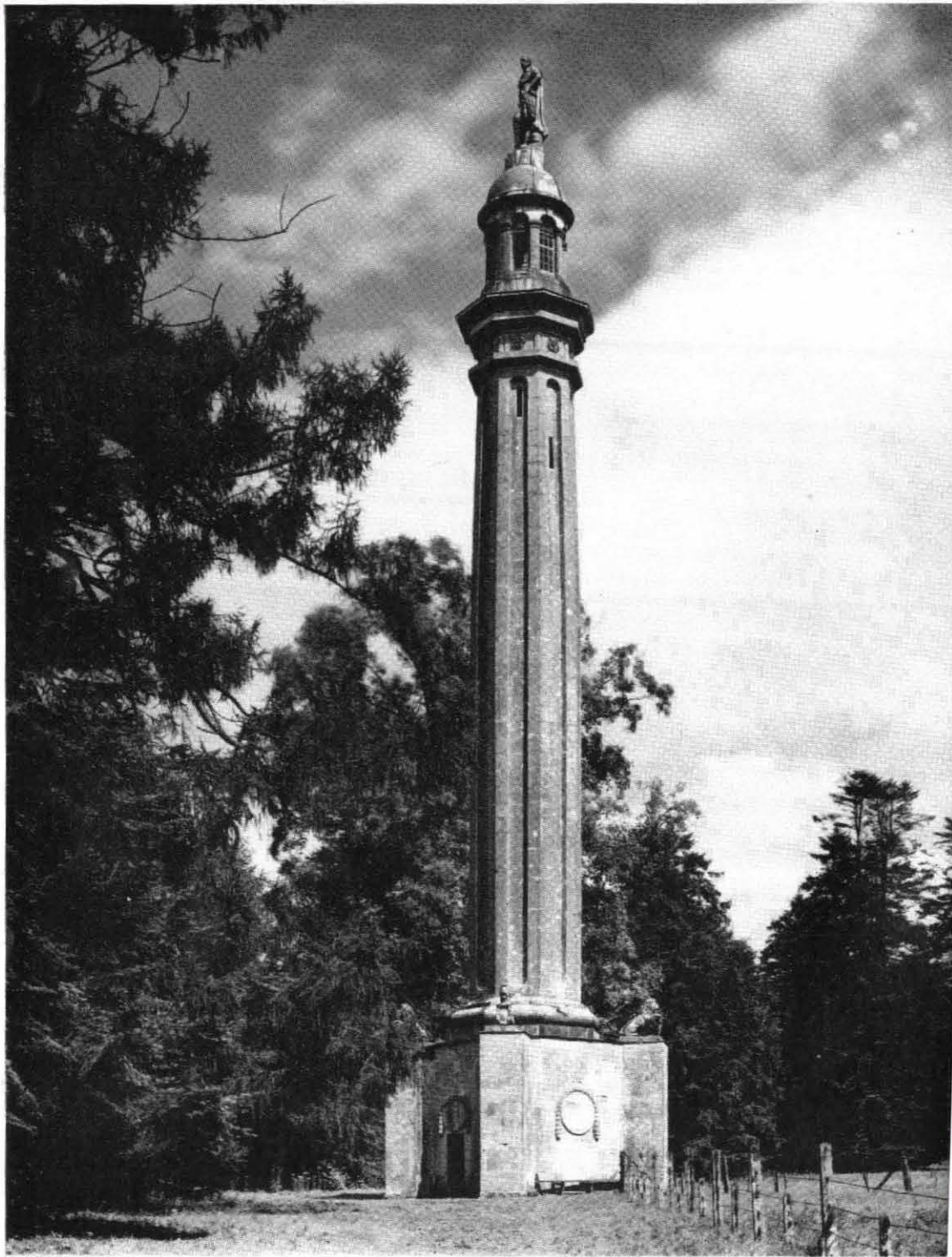
The Landmark Trust has undertaken to bear the whole cost of repair and conversion of the Gothic Temple. The Trust has already carried out similar schemes at a number of small isolated buildings elsewhere which deserve preservation and would be unlikely otherwise to receive it; they have been converted to living accommodation, which is let for short periods to people in search of quiet and relaxation in beautiful surroundings.

The Gothic Temple is well suited to this treatment; it should clearly be put to some use, yet is too eccentric and too inaccessible for permanent occupation. As envisaged it will provide a central living space on the ground floor, with kitchen and



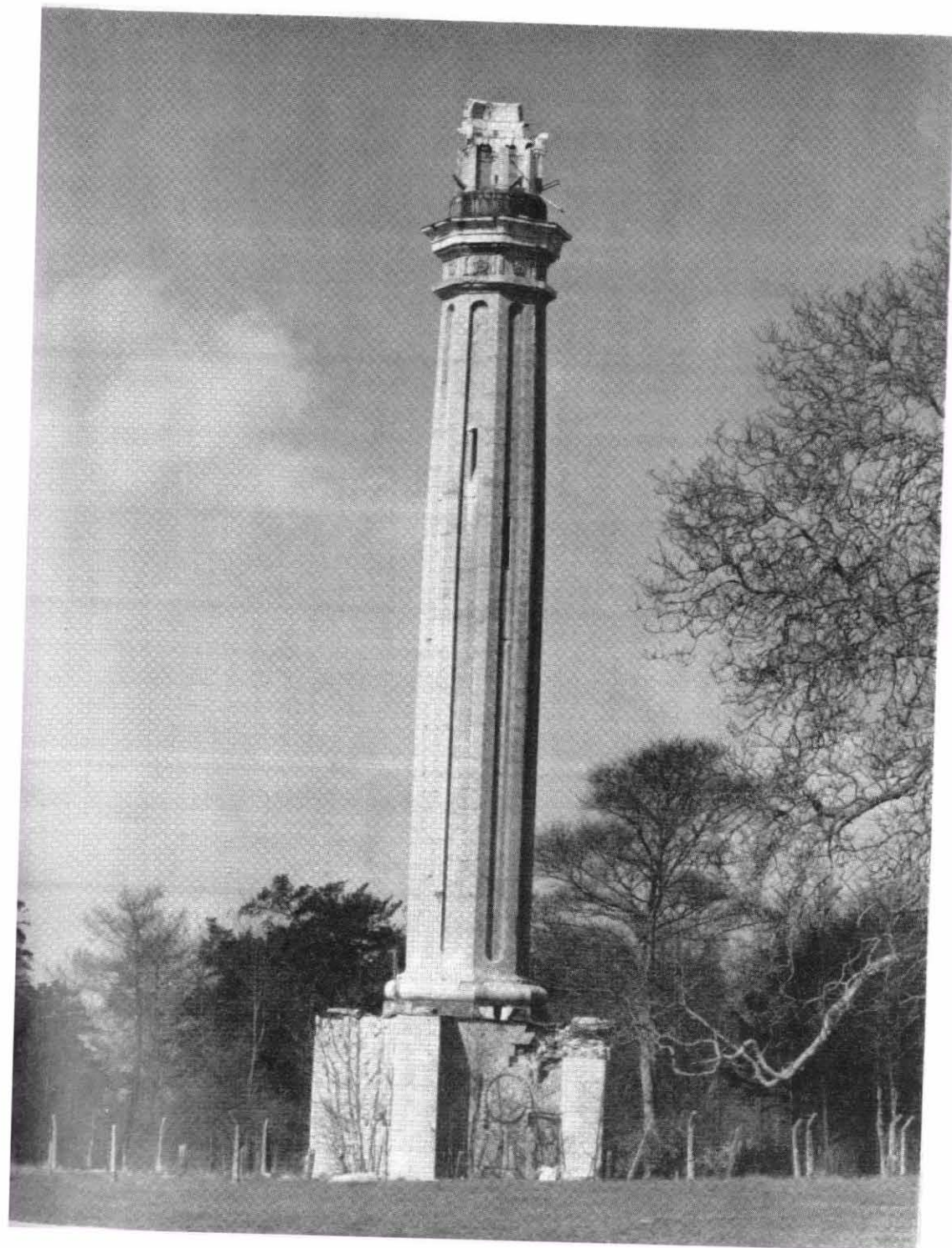
THE PEBBLE ALCOVE

J. H. Gough



THE COBHAM PILLAR 1920

*J. H. Gough*



THE COBHAM PILLAR 1961

*R. & H. Chapman*



J. R. Prestwich

THE TEMPLE OF FRIENDSHIP

bathroom in the two closets opening off it, and two small bedrooms in the corresponding rooms reached from the gallery.

This scheme will be put in hand as soon as a new armoury has been built and the temple has been vacated by the C.C.F.

#### PEBBLE ALCOVE

The sum of £1,500 has been given by the Hon. Simon Stuart, who was recently a master at Stowe, for the repair of the Pebble Alcove.

This building is one of the very few survivors of the little temples which Lord Cobham dotted round his gardens, and its restoration is essential on these grounds alone. But it is not specially important to the landscape and might consequently have had to wait until very much later in the programme, by which time a great deal more of its decoration, which is, of course, what most deserves preservation, would have perished. Most of the pebble-work on the semi-dome remains; on the wall the marks of the design are still there and photographs exist showing what it was like. But it will be quite impossible to replace it exactly as it was. The new will be a reproduction following the same lines and in the same style as the original, so that an artist is required for the job, and moreover one familiar with the byways of eighteenth century taste and prepared to try his hand at a strange medium. Fortunately there is an Old Stoic with all these qualifications, Ben Gibbon (G 1929), and he has undertaken to do the work.

The structure itself has been very much weakened by the weather and by tree roots in the stonework; the slate roof was ruinous. All this will have to be repaired with as little disturbance as possible. Nearby is the Congreve Monument, which has lost the monkey's arm and mirror; a piece of the arm was found recently in the lake and it is hoped that the rest may be recovered and re-fixed.

#### TEMPLE OF FRIENDSHIP

The Temple of Friendship has not yet found a benefactor, but its need is more urgent than that of any other of the buildings. Its roof is thought to have been destroyed by fire over a hundred years ago and the rest of the structure has slowly become more and more ruinous ever since. This process could culminate in a major collapse at any time, and then one of the chief pivots of the landscape design would be lost for ever, for the temple stands in a key position in the eastern bastion of the ha-ha and at the end of the vista from the Queen's Temple.

It is highly picturesque in its present ruined condition and the proposal is to make it secure as it stands rather than attempt any reconstruction of the rooms, but the roof and plasterwork of the portico would be replaced. The cost involved is in the region of £5,000. Its name and its desperate condition make it a peculiarly appropriate object for the generosity of friends of Stowe, and as a stimulus towards this it is hoped this summer to hold a special concert, the proceeds of which will be devoted to a fund for the temple.

The work on the garden buildings is being co-ordinated with the much larger programme of repairs to the main buildings; this results in economies on both programmes and enables the contractors (Messrs. Norman Collison of Bicester) to keep a nucleus of skilled men constantly employed at Stowe. They have already become familiar to members of the school and staff and will, no doubt, become increasingly so—they have many more years' work to do.

## THE HISTORY OF STOWE—I

### ANCIENT AND MEDIÆVAL STOWE

"On the shore where Time casts up its stray wreckage, we gather corks and broken planks, whence much indeed may be argued and more guessed; but what the great ship was that has gone down into the deep, that we shall never see."

These words of G. M. Trevelyan are a salutary reminder to anyone who sets out to write the history of the remote past, but the historian of Stowe needs a further warning. For he is tempted to project Georgian grandeur backwards through time, investing earlier periods with the glamour of Stowe's later fame. When the Temple family had established itself here and was building up its social and political position generation by generation, Stowe too grew in importance, reflecting the increasing prestige of its owners, until in the eighteenth century it was acknowledged as a centre of national politics and the most influential landscape garden in Europe. But before the Temples came, the truth is that it was a mean little place. Situated on the northern fringe of the Home Counties and hemmed in between the sour clays of the Ouse valley and the Midland forests, it was of no significance. The relics of its early days may evoke local enthusiasm, but they are of small intrinsic interest, and although their historian must faithfully record them, his real business is rather different. For at Stowe Trevelyan's 'great ship' has not gone down into the deep but is still afloat—looted and somewhat battered, it is true, but easily recognizable and not beyond repair: the eighteenth century house and gardens, with the majority of the temples, are still in existence and still, in their main lines, intact. But precisely how they came into existence is only partially known. Who or what dictated the site of the house, what factors controlled its shape and growth, why the lines of the avenues and walks were laid out as they were and not otherwise, whether their designers imposed these things arbitrarily on the place, or adapted what they found, or were restricted by existing features which could not be altered—these and similar questions are the crucial ones to ask about Stowe, and to attempt an answer to them must be the main task of Stowe's historian.<sup>1</sup>

The most pervasive influence on the development of Stowe has been the nature of the soil itself. Not far below the surface lies a bed of oolitic limestone, but on top of this is a mass of debris—sand and gravel, clay and mud—which was deposited unevenly by torrential rivers flowing southwards from the receding ice sheet of the Pleistocene Age and was worn into its present shape by the subsequent action of water. Along the western boundary is a great promontory of gravel, running from the high ground of the North Front down to the Oxford Bridge; another one, rather broader and flatter, runs south to the Octagon. The gravel is often only an inch or two below the surface, so that it grates against the prongs of a fork and moles throw up as much pebble as earth. These two promontories drain easily, except where the ground has been made up, but between them is a basin of thick clay. This area has never been built on, and it was not even included in the formal garden but left as Home Park, an unimproved enclave inside the perimeter walks. Now part of the golf course, it taxes the patience of player and groundsman alike. When a trench was dug from near Chatham House to the marsh, a section of the long slope was exposed about a foot deep; on top was a thin layer of earth, but underneath—apart from two stones—there was nothing but clay. The patchiness of the soil was even more strikingly shown by the three test shafts that were sunk in 1965 on the site of Lyttelton House. Dug within thirty

yards of each other, they all passed through gravel, clay and more gravel; but the belt of clay was encountered at different depths and varied in thickness, and the colour of the gravel differed at opposite ends of the site.

But if the local geology has been a limiting factor on settlement, its variety has provided Stowe's occupiers with plenty of building material. The neighbourhood is dotted with gravel pits, some of them still in use, and abundant clay is available. Within living memory a kiln was operating by the Dadford road not far from Boycott Manor, and the deep gullies near the Oxford Lodge are probably pits from which clay was dug to make bricks. Stone too was conveniently accessible, for where the Stowe streams converge with the Dad brook at the bottom of Paper Mill Hill, the glacial debris has been scoured away and the limestone is exposed. Most of the material for the later building at Stowe came from further afield, but the Boycott quarry was still in use in the nineteenth century and was certainly of reasonable quality, since some of the facing stone for the Corinthian Arch came from it in the 1760's. Timber was also plentiful. The existing woodlands were planted as part of the landscape design, but previously the area must have been covered with forest trees. In 1708—9 Sir Richard Temple sold a lot of timber to Blenheim, and though this did not necessarily come from his estate at Stowe, there is other evidence that it was well wooded. The Boycott wood was explicitly recorded in Domesday Book, and Vanbrugh's Pyramid, which stood near the Field Houses, was described as appearing "to great Advantage amongst those venerable oaks." With gravel, clay, stone and wood available inside the parish boundary Stowe's inhabitants had all the essential materials close at hand.<sup>2</sup>

### PREHISTORIC AND ROMAN STOWE

Although the relics of early man are scanty, they are enough to suggest that he moved freely over the well drained uplands north of the Ouse and settled intermittently in the area. A Neolithic axe, made of stone from Great Langdale, has recently come to light at Shalstone, two miles to the south-west; and at Radstone, north of Brackley, aerial photography has revealed a 'ring' ditch, which must be a ploughed-up barrow or some sort of enclosure. The nearest evidence on the eastern side is at Foscott, where an Iron Age stone quern of mill-grit was found during work on the new reservoir, and traces of a circular enclosure, probably also of the Iron Age, survive in fields nearby. As a substantial building existed at Foscott during the Roman period, the occupation of the site may have been continuous, but there is no certain evidence. At Stowe itself nothing has turned up, except three flint implements of doubtful authenticity which were found in a gravel pit by the third Duke and have since disappeared.<sup>3</sup>

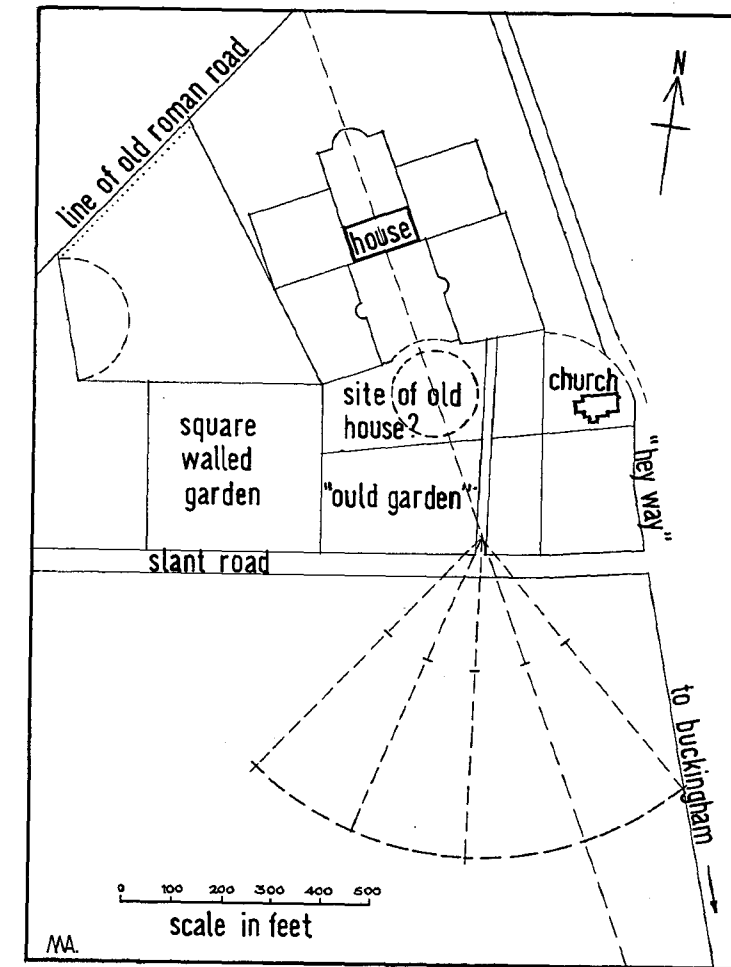
With the Romans firm ground is reached, for certainly one Roman road, and possibly a second, crossed the park. During the years following the occupation in 43 A.D. a network of military roads was built to establish communications and hold down the country. The trunk road from London to the north-west, through St. Albans, Bletchley and Towcester, is still in use as A5 and known by its Saxon name of Watling Street. A secondary road ran north from Dorchester-on-Thames, across Otmoor to Bicester, and thence in a north-easterly direction to join Watling Street at Towcester. Called 'Bogilde Street' by the Saxons—and corrupted to 'Buggerode' by 1300 A.D.—its line is followed by the modern road from Bicester to Finmere and picked up again through the village of Water Stratford. Until 1939 it was assumed that its northward extension lay along the avenue from the Brackley Lodge and up the main approach drive to Stowe, and this seemed to be confirmed by a coin of Alexander Severus (222—235 A.D.) which was found in a spring near the cross-roads at the Oxford Lodge.

But aerial photography during the War showed that its actual course was paralld to and a little east of this line, along Nelson's Walk and Sequoia Avenue into the field beyond, where it altered course and ran almost due north across Woody Park. This was confirmed in the winter of 1954—5, when the field was deep-ploughed for the first time and the foundation stones of the road broke the plough; and during the summer which followed a swath of dry stone, whitening in the hot sun, lay across the surface of the soil. It seems likely that the Roman army surveyors, realising that the direct route from Bicester to the high ground at Whittlebury would be troublesome, deviated slightly to the east in order to exploit the ford across the Ouse at Water Stratford and the well-drained gravel promontory at Stowe. Once safely up on the plateau they changed direction back again and aligned the next leg on their original target of Whittlebury.

How long this road remained in use no one can say, but like so many Roman roads it provided a convenient demarcation line for later Saxon settlers. Further south it still marks the boundary between parishes and even counties, and garden plans of c.1680, recently found in the Huntington Library, strongly suggest that this was the case here too and that it divided the lands of Stowe from those of Boycott (see plan). The seventeenth century gardens of Sir Richard Temple seem to have extended to the western edge of his property, where his son, Lord Cobham, laid out Nelson's Walk, using the estate boundary as the western perimeter of his enlarged gardens. By purchasing the Boycott estate Cobham was able to make a grand approach to the house further out, planting a double avenue of noble trees and placing the Boycott Pavilions as sentinels at the brow of the hill. Naturally he aligned it parallel to Nelson's Walk and therefore also parallel to the old military road.

The other road is ancient, but there is no clear evidence that it is of Roman origin. In the last twenty years many new settlements of the Roman period, including a religious centre near Thornborough, have been discovered along the upper Ouse valley, and the area must have been more developed than was previously realised. The line of a possible road has been traced from the eastern side of Buckingham to Chackmore and thence to the hill by the Corinthian Arch. Across Stowe Park there is nothing to be seen, but its track has been picked up on the hill west of Dadford and followed past Biddlesden Abbey to High Cross, on the road from Brackley to Towcester. Again the 1680 plans may provide corroborating evidence, for they show that the main approach to Stowe then lay on the eastern side, the 'hey way' from Buckingham running along the edge of the little valley that became the Elysian Fields. This in itself does not prove that it is Roman in origin, but the fact that the mediaeval church is built on the line of the road, which goes round it, perhaps suggests that the road antedated the church and had fallen into disuse at the time the church was built. The inference is that the road is of Roman construction, but the point can only be settled by excavation, and this is a project which could suitably be undertaken by the School Archaeological Society.<sup>4</sup>

There is no other evidence of Roman occupation in the park (the mosaic pavement in the Queen's Temple was brought there from Foscott in 1840), though it is possible that there was a settlement here. Presumably the old tracks led Saxon settlers later to the site, but the essential importance of these two roads for the future development of Stowe is that they governed the width of the eighteenth century gardens. On the west flank, as has been shown, the line of the military road became the perimeter walk; on the east the highway blocked any extension of the garden on that side of the main vista, and until Cobham had built a new approach road elsewhere and could dispense



*An estate plan of c. 1680, labelled and redrawn from the original, which is reproduced by permission of the Huntington Library, San Marino, California*

with the old one, his gardens were bound to be lopsided and asymmetrical. It is an intriguing thought that the 'irregularity' of Stowe's landscape gardens, so much admired and copied in the eighteenth century, may have been dictated by the decisions of Roman surveyors more than fifteen hundred years earlier. But it would be closer to the truth to say that the garden designers, faced with these 'site irregularities', were prompted to think out a novel way of solving their problems. That is how revolutions in taste often come about.

#### THE SAXON SETTLEMENT

Over a thousand years separated the first Saxon immigrations from the Dissolution of the Monasteries, during which time forty generations lived and died at Stowe. By the end of this period the pattern of settlement is recognizable on a modern map, and about half way through it Domesday Book provides information that will be invaluable when it can be properly analysed. But apart from the Domesday survey the only available facts are a handful of scattered references and the uncertain evidence of place-names. Faced by such dense obscurity over so great a stretch of time, the historian has to fall back on conjecture and must move warily.

By the end of the sixteenth century the parish of 'Stowe cum Membris', as it is called in the parish register, comprised Stowe itself and the hamlets round it: Lamport, Boycott, Dadford and probably most of Luffield. Though there is some hint of a chapel at Dadford, the church—and therefore presumably the parish centre—was always at Stowe. As the present building dates from the thirteenth century, it may have been founded at that time by Oseney Abbey, which owned the whole manor of Stowe and part of Lamport. More probably it was a rebuilding, the previous and much older church being demolished in the process. There is some support for this theory from the place-name. For 'Stowe', in addition to meaning 'place' or 'place of assembly', could also mean 'holy place', in which sense a saint's name was often attached to it (as in 'Felixstowe', for example). So it is possible that the site of the church may already have been regarded for centuries as sacred ground. But it is perhaps more likely that Stowe gained its name as the assembly place for the local district, which was organized as the Hundred of Stodfold in late Saxon times; if Stowe indeed lay by a Roman road junction, it would be a natural meeting place to choose. Close by was Lamport (or Langport), the 'long town' or 'long market', and it could well be that meetings of the hundred merged conveniently into market days. At such a local centre a church would have existed from an early date, and there is no need to assume any particular holiness about the site.

Of the original Saxon settlements there is no trace, but three early settlers or family groups seem to have left their names on the map, at Luffield ('Luffa's Feld'), Dadford ('Dodda's Ford') and Boycott ('Boia's Cottage' or 'Shelter'). No doubt Luffa had cleared an open space in the forest north of Black Pit and close to the Roman road, while Dodda's and Boia's settlements were at the side of the river valley, where the gravel meets the clay and there is a line of springs. If, as seems likely, Boycott was near the Oxford Water, both were placed under the lea of a hill which sheltered them from the north-east wind. Much the same factors also governed the position of Stowe, but it was a better site. Clustered round the church the village stood on well drained soil with water available in springs nearby; it was high enough to be clear of the frost pockets and mists of the valleys, while the crest of the hill and a bank of forest trees protected it from the winter wind; the main field lay on the wide, southward-facing slope which runs down to the Octagon.

But although they had a promising site and almost all the raw materials they needed, the Saxon inhabitants must have led a precarious existence. Pestilence and crop failure were a perpetual threat to survival, and the geographical position of Stowe made it vulnerable to attack. For in the conditions of Saxon England no power based on London or the Midlands could exert effective control over this area, with the result that it was exposed to raids from every freebooting warlord; and normal life must have been completely disrupted in the Danish wars of the ninth and tenth centuries, when Stowe lay in no man's land between the Danish fortress at Northampton and the Saxon one at Buckingham. The evidence of Domesday Book shows that this part of Buckinghamshire was impoverished and underpopulated, and implies that it had recently been plundered. When Stowe came into Norman hands it was 'waste'—that is, it had been deliberately devastated. Twenty years later, in 1087, it had partially recovered, but shortage of manpower or draught animals was keeping agricultural production down to 30 per cent. of the estate's capacity. While there is no record of devastation in Lamport or Dadford, and Lamport seems to have suffered little, in 1087 Dadford was even worse off than Stowe, with production down to a mere 25 per cent. Similar disasters must have overtaken Stowe before, but on this occasion it happened that the king's valuation experts assessed and recorded the damage.<sup>5</sup>

#### THE MIDDLE AGES

After the Norman conquest Stowe had five different owners in about eighty years. The king gave the confiscated manor, like many others in Buckinghamshire, to his half brother, Bishop Odo, and when he quarrelled with Odo, granted it to two of his Norman followers, Richard d'Ivri and Robert d'Oilly. They founded St. George's church in the castle at Oxford and made Stowe part of its endowment. Not long afterwards d'Oilly's grandson gave St. George's and its possessions to the Abbey of Oseney, newly established on the outskirts of Oxford. This succession of absentee landlords cannot have made life easier for the inhabitants of Stowe, but their experience was not untypical. What such estates desperately needed was efficient management and the injection of new capital. So it was probably lucky that Stowe belonged to Oseney for the four centuries from 1149 to the Dissolution, since the abbey was one of the wealthiest and best disciplined of the religious houses in Oxfordshire. During the thirteenth century Oseney ran a banking business in Oxford, investing the depositors' money in house property, and if the abbey lands were managed with the same skill, Stowe and the other estates must have benefited. It was in this century that the present church was built, and improvements are likely to have been made to the rest of the property at about the same time.

But when it comes to details, almost nothing has yet been found out about the place or the people who lived here in the Middle Ages. The worn effigy of a person in civilian dress stands upright outside the south porch of the church; in the chancel is a brass of the mid-fifteenth century to Alice Saundres; and the will of Sir Richard Halley, Vicar of Stowe from 1494 to 1520, was discovered by Brown Willis, the pioneer antiquarian. But apart from these isolated facts nothing has been recorded. It is not even known whether the Black Death had much effect, though the monks at Luffield Abbey are reported to have been wiped out by the pestilence.<sup>6</sup>

In the past year, however, two fresh pieces of evidence have appeared. The library at Stowe contains a manuscript book of some fifty pages, unbound but very well preserved, which was made for Sir Peter Temple in 1633. It is a survey of all his estates and appears to include information collected forty years earlier. In it every parcel of

land is described, with its size and value, and the name of the tenant. At the very least it will reveal the names of people and places. But as leasing arrangements had changed relatively little for several centuries, it should enable scholars to reconstruct many of the details of the mediaeval estate. The other new evidence is the 1680 plan, previously mentioned, which may prove a useful complement to the survey. For on it a hint of the mediaeval lay-out is preserved. If the Restoration house is removed from the top of the plan and the square garden from the left-hand side, the centre of the estate can be stripped of its seventeenth century additions, and what is left is the bones of the earlier lay-out. The slant road leading west from the highway looks like a lane along the top edge of the open fields, and next to the "ould garden" must have stood the old house, which was lived in for a century by the Temple family before being demolished in the 1670's. This house had probably been enlarged and partly rebuilt, but it presumably stood on the site of the mediaeval farmhouse built by Oseney Abbey. The question can only be settled by excavation, which the school authorities are not likely to encourage, since the mediaeval foundations, if they exist, must lie under the cricket square on the South Front.

The history of the neighbouring hamlets followed much the same pattern as Stowe's, except for part of Lamport, which had a lay owner throughout the Middle Ages, finally coming into the possession of the Dayrell family, who kept it until the nineteenth century. All the others had monastic landlords. Biddlesden Abbey held the two manors in Dadford and the manor of Boycott; Oseney Abbey held the other manor in Lamport, as well as Stowe, and also had some interest in Boycott; Luffield Abbey held Water Stratford. By the fifteenth century all were in decline, and Luffield was in such straits by 1503 that it was handed over to the Abbey of Westminster. At the Dissolution of the Monasteries in 1539, when monastic property was nationalized, all but the Dayrells' Lamport estate became crown-land, and much of it was used to endow the new Bishopric of Oxford in 1547. The estate cannot have been very prosperous, and no doubt in the worsening inflation the owners hoped to enclose the fields and convert arable land to pasture; but as most estates were encumbered with long leases, it was a difficult change to make. Only a dynamic man, shrewd and not too scrupulous, could force it through. Such was Peter Temple, an ambitious younger son who had his way to make in the world; he had useful contacts in the wool business and was ready to speculate in land. In 1554 he gained his first foothold in the district by buying some property in Buckingham, and within a generation his family had gained firm possession of Stowe.<sup>7</sup>

G.B.C.

#### REFERENCES

- <sup>1</sup> Professor G. M. Trevelyan, Inaugural Lecture (1927); throughout this article use has been made of *Some Notes on the History of Stowe*, an unpublished typescript by G. G. Gilling-Lax in the Library at Stowe.
- <sup>2</sup> Stowe building accounts in the Huntington Library; letter of Vanbrugh to his agent at Blenheim; *Dialogue on the Gardens at Stowe* (1748).
- <sup>3</sup> Information from Mr. C. N. Gowing, Curator of the County Museum at Aylesbury; lecture by the third Duke, *Records of Bucks V.*
- <sup>4</sup> Information from Mr. C. N. Gowing and Mr. C. W. Green; *Roman Roads in the S.-E. Midlands*, by the Viatore; *Records of Bucks XVII.*
- <sup>5</sup> Royal Commission on Historical Monuments, *North Buckinghamshire*; E. Ekwall, *The Concise Oxford Dictionary of English Place-Names*; Victoria County History, *Buckinghamshire*.
- <sup>6</sup> V.C.H., *Oxfordshire*; V.C.H., *Buckinghamshire*; *Records of Bucks XIII.*
- <sup>7</sup> V.C.H., *Buckinghamshire*.

(The second article in the series, on 'The Rise of the Temple Family', will be printed in the July number of 'The Stoic'.)

## GRAFTON HOUSE PLAY

"THE DEVIL'S DISCIPLE" by George Bernard Shaw

Presented in the Roxburgh Hall on February 24th and 25th

With the taste for Shaw, even in schools, at its present low ebb, the choice of *The Devil's Disciple* was a bold one. The earnest and blatant philosophising has limited appeal to a schoolboy audience, and the smug tidiness of Shaw's plots irritates rather than satisfies. The choice was justifiable, however, since the cast is very large and mostly male, and this suits the conception of these productions as group therapy for a house, rather than as genuine dramatic experience. Quality is bound to suffer when the majority of a house is involved in a production, and the play will cease to be a dramatic experience for the audience, and possibly the actors. As a 'house activity' Grafton's play was no mean success. As drama, it failed.

One hesitates to concentrate on small points, but to talk broadly about interpretation would be nonsense. Firstly the self-consciousness of the boys playing women's parts to a sophisticated television-watching audience. Are girls really so impossible to find, in these days of sexual emancipation for schoolchildren? Certainly the boys were doing their best, and Chilver in particular, as Mrs. Dudgeon, used his voice well, although he moved badly; but who wants to be damned with such faint praise.

Miskin as the Rev. Anderson, and Richardson as Richard Dudgeon achieved a reasonable level of characterisation, and Richardson seemed aware of the relationship between stage and audience. A few minor characters projected themselves a little as caricatures. Most of the cast, one felt, were doing what they had been told, and had not been told to do enough. The play was not one which was likely to produce spontaneity in acting, and the costumes, colourful though some of them were, seemed to breed self-consciousness rather than confidence. Inadequate or unconvincing props sometimes added to the embarrassment of the actors. Grouping, except in the final scene, was sadly neglected, and characters remained stationary, often seated, for unnecessarily long periods. The most obvious details were ignored (what does one do when coming in from the rain?), and the dramatic potential of the changes from wit to seriousness was seldom realised.

On the credit side, the final set was ambitious and effective; its lighting and costumes were good, and the scene lost its impact only through the weakness of much of what had gone before. The efficiency of the scene-shifting was impressive, in view of the cumbersome nature of the first two sets. These unfortunately emphasised the horizontal on a stage already disproportionately wide.

Of course, 'it was only a house play' (and I am told, better than many have been), but schoolboy drama suffers too much from the generosity of parents and teachers. The group experience was probably valuable for those who took part, but drama is more important in schools than the general condescending approval of this production indicated.

P.J.P.



## BOOK REVIEW

## "THE STORY OF THE CHANNEL ISLANDS"

by JOHN UTTLEY (*Faber 30/-*)*(J. C. T. Uttley was on the Staff from 1947 to 1960)*

This history of the Channel Islands, by the previous housemaster of Walpole, makes an interesting addition to a well-established Faber series. More significantly, it is the first general study of the Islands' social evolution and presents a readable version of a complex background from earliest times. In fact, the early history is rather protracted for all its bearing on later developments except in its portrayal of the land tenure system and establishment of a hierarchy of influential families, many of whom still live there.

From the mid-seventeenth century begins to emerge a sequence of events which leads clearly up to the modern era. The chapter on the French Wars shows, with particular interest, how that period in the reign of George III was a turning point in the fortune of the Islands which gained in prosperity from the English garrison. Insofar as the Islands today have much visible evidence in the architecture of that period, it is a pity that this section of the book could not have been more fully treated.

Fundamentally the modern pattern of life in the Channel Islands has its roots in the early nineteenth century more than in the twentieth. For this reason the last chapter on the effect of the two World Wars is something of a postscript rather than a climax.

The value of this book lies in its impartial comprehension of time and it will whet the appetite of the reader for a deeper study of specific periods.

J.M.H.

## THE LIBRARY

Of the 161 books added to the Library this term no less than 150 are gifts and for these we are indeed grateful. These presentations have been made by J. T. McConnell (T 1966), *Philosophy and the Historical Understanding* (by W. B. Gallie); *The History of Materialism* (by F. A. Lange); *Some Main Problems of Philosophy* (by G. E. Moore); *The Metaphysics of Descartes* (by L. J. Beck); Immanuel Kant's *Critique of Pure Reason* (translated by N. Kemp Smith); *Logic and Reality in Leibniz's Metaphysics* (by G. H. R. Parkinson); *Wittgenstein and Modern Philosophy* (by J. Hartnack), *The Stuart Constitution* (by J. P. Kenyon); *The Great Rebellion 1642-1660* (by I. Roots) and *The Origins of Prussia* (by F. L. Carsten); by Judge Clover, whose son T. A. Clover (C) also left last term, *Sir Francis Dashwood: an 18th Century Independent* (by B. Kemp); *The Evolution of British Historiography* (by J. R. Hale); *The Growth of Political Stability in England 1685-1725* (by J. H. Plumb); *The Decline and Fall of Lloyd George* (by Lord Beaverbrook), and *The Thirties* (by M. Muggeridge); by Mrs. M. Edmonds, *The Corridors of Time* in 10 volumes (by H. Peake and H. J. Fleure); by the Regimental History Fund of the 3rd Carabineers (Prince of Wales' Dragoon Guards), *I Serve: a History of the Regiment* (by Lieut. Colonel L. B. Oatts, D.S.O.); by Cobham House, *Our Man in Havana* (by Graham Greene); and by Grafton House, 56 of the *Waverley Novels* (by Sir Walter Scott), 17 of Charles Dickens' works, 23 by Thomas Hardy, 13 of Rudyard Kipling's Stories, 11 Novels by H. Seton Merriman, 2 by Sir Arthur Quiller Couch and 1 by S. H.

Munro (Saki). While some of the classics given by Grafton duplicate copies already in the Library they are in constant demand and will therefore prove a useful addition.

For the Stowe Collection, we have acquired an exceptionally good copy of the 1820 Seeley Guide—an edition we had not previously in the collection.

The Prefect of Library has been I. McA. Anderson (T) and the House Monitors were J. C. Gordon-Finlayson (B), J. L. G. Newmark (T), K. B. Ramchand (G), D. W. Cheyne (C), R. G. Davis (C), G. M. Yatsevitch (C), A. P. A. McDonagh (G) and N. C. Ollivant (W).

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

Much of the former negative attitude to community service has gone, thanks to the initial pioneer work by J. V. Doubleday (C 1964) and J. T. McConnell (T 1966), and we now find ourselves in the healthy position of having too many volunteers for too few jobs. Nevertheless the scope for positive action and the need for more volunteers is constantly expanding.

Buckingham and Winslow provide us with an impressive series of addresses and jobs. There is work to suit all tastes: the artistic, painting private houses or the Toc H centre; the outdoor man, gardening; the muscle man, coal-heaving, wood chopping or window cleaning; the domesticated, shopping; the sociable, talking to and cheering up lonely people. Redfield, the old people's home near Winslow, provides a wide range of varied occupations for the volunteers from Temple, Cobham and Chandos. There is always a great welcome from the old people who genuinely appreciate Stoics coming to visit them. Anything from window cleaning to washing-up, shoe cleaning to engraving, playing the guitar or just being talkative, so long as it is a help and not a hindrance it is carried out.

The young, in the form of orphans from Evenly Hall, are also catered for. On their regular visits to Stowe they are well entertained, whether it be in the squash courts or the gymnasium, with G. L. Harvey (G) acting as host. The 'Stowe Shovellers', Grafton's faithful band of five, are doing a splendid job maintaining Stowe churchyard (they are at present, among other jobs, laying a new path) while their counterparts, the 'Dadford Diggers', the Cobham group, maintain the Dadford cemetery and garden.

*House Representatives*:—R. E. W. Wainwright (B), R. D. Kinahan (T), G. L. Harvey (G), E. N. L. Silver (C), P. J. Spicer (C), G. M. Yatsevitch (C), D. S. Everall (G), F. N. Reed (W).

D.S.E.  
R.D.K.  
P.J.S.

## THE TROUT HATCHERY

The idea to operate a small trout hatchery at Stowe was first born in March 1966. A site was chosen and the plans were subsequently approved by the Landscape Committee in June. Since then we have completed the brick-work of a bunker-like construction, below the Oxford Water dam. This particular site was chosen because it is below the level of the Oxford Water, and so running water, essential to trout rearing, may be readily obtained.

As a purely non-commercial hatchery, its aims are to study the development of trout in conjunction with the Natural History Society, and to introduce the semi-mature trout into the Oxford Water for the benefit of the Fly Fishing Society. It will become operational this autumn and we hope to rear a thousand trout next year.

We have received help and advice from many quarters, in particular L. R. Peart (Berkshire Trout Farm), P. R. T. Stratford (Accessories Ltd., London), P. N. Fletcher (Unilever Fisheries Section), and Mr. A. Black, to all of whom we are very grateful.

In addition to these, thanks are due to all those who have assisted with construction work and planning and also to one parent who has offered to supply aluminium hatching troughs.

In conclusion, assistance from boys and parents interested in this enterprise would be very much appreciated.

D.E.R.

### ICELAND 1966

*(The writer of this article was last year's winner of the Myles Henry prize, which enabled him to make a study of the country.)*

Although Iceland is only two and a half days by sea from Great Britain, it is amazing to find that very few people know anything about the country. Apart from vague ideas of a land of volcanoes and glaciers, together with isolated news items about several incidents that had arisen over the infringement of Icelandic territorial waters by British trawlers, I also knew very little, and it was thus curiosity that prompted me to take this opportunity to visit this rather obscure country.

Iceland is a small country, situated in mid-Atlantic just south of the Arctic Circle. It has an area of approximately forty thousand square miles, only five per cent of which is habitable, and a population of only two hundred thousand people, over half of whom live in the capital city of Reykjavik. The language is of Scandinavian origin, and is a very pure dialect, having remained virtually unchanged since the first Norwegian settlers landed in Iceland in the middle of the ninth century. On account of its dependence on foreign supplies of essential goods, namely food and ships, Iceland was unable to break away from either Norway, whose colony she was for many years, or Denmark, to whom she was ceded later on in history. In 1918 Iceland was granted home rule, and in 1944 complete independence was achieved, a republican form of government being chosen. In spite of the fact that Iceland is one of the most northerly countries in the world, it enjoys a mild climate on account of the effect of the Gulf Stream; however it is nevertheless unable to satisfy more than a small proportion of its food requirements, which explains the type and development of the country's economy.

Every fortnight in summer, the m.s. *Gullfoss* sets sail from Leith, and being the only ship to make a regular run between Britain and Iceland it is usually very crowded. Two days later, one sees a smudge on the horizon that is the first glimpse of this 'Land of Ice and Fire.' Between the mountains pour forth tongues of melting ice from the largest glacier in Europe, Vatnajokull, rivers from which flow through a sparsely inhabited coastal belt of green pastures before reaching the sea. All round the ship are tossing small fishing ketches from the nearby port of the Westmann islands, while ahead lies the new volcanic island of Surtsey, whose cauldron of fire surmounted by a lofty pillar of smoke standing stark against the evening sky is visible for miles around. This island, about which there has been so much publicity, is unique in that it is the only volcanic island whose growth has been continuously followed by scientists and geologists since the day it first broke the surface of the sea. For this reason, landing on it (a dangerous venture at the best of times, for it is in a state of continuous, if irregular, eruption) is strictly forbidden to all who do not possess special permits.

By the middle of the following morning, one is ashore in Reykjavik on the shore of

what must be the most beautiful harbour in the world. Despite the fact that the translation of the city's name is 'Smoky Bay,' the whole area is unpolluted by the industrial smog that is so characteristic of the cities of Western Europe, for the country has no natural resources of coal, oil, or even firewood. Instead of these conventional forms of heating, Iceland has developed its supply of natural hot water from the thermal springs that surround the city to the extent that the entire city has this 'natural' heating. Visibility is amazingly good, one can see over forty miles to the north the ice-clad mountain of Snaefell, while inland one can trace the course of a five-mile-wide lava flow for thirty miles before it is lost in the hills. In comparison with other Icelandic towns, Reykjavik is extremely large, with a population over ten times the size of the northern port of Akureyri, the second largest town. Unlike most towns and cities in Europe, it has little that was built before the twentieth century, and conveys the impression of being very new. The city appears to have no real form, and looks somewhat like a pioneer city with its half-built blocks of flats jostling with the sprawls of pre-fabricated bungalows along earth roads. Progress is the key-note of this city, for all around development is going on at a rapid rate. A dual carriageway to carry the city's twenty thousand cars and lorries has just been completed, as have three skyscraper blocks of flats. All around are symbols of an increased standard of living: Coca-Cola advertisements, American cigarettes, Chevrolets, Saabs, Volkswagens, Mercedes and Land-Rovers, television aerials, Olympic swimming-pools, football stadiums, cinemas, super-markets and hotels. The only industry is that of fish-processing, which is conducted at the harbourside in the southern half of the city, and whenever there is a southerly wind blowing the entire population of Reykjavik is reminded of this by the overpowering stench that hangs about the streets in the main shopping area. The transition from town to country is very abrupt, and once one has crossed the city boundary one immediately leaves both the metalled road and the clusters of houses behind. Much of the surrounding land has been left uncultivated, for the difficulty of the lava-covered terrain coupled with the adverse climate has rendered systematic farming impractical, and thus within a very short space of time one is in the bleak and desolate wilds of the interior.

Thirty miles to the north-east lies the lake of Thingvellir, the site of the first 'Althing,' or parliamentary assembly, chosen by the early settlers as being the most beautiful place in the country. Here the people came from all over Iceland each year in order to hear the laws read, the proclamations made and the criminals tried. Justice was rough, for if the defendant was found guilty he was led to an ice-cold river only a hundred yards away and there drowned in front of the assembled crowds. For this reason it became a local tradition to toss a silver coin into this river every time one crossed it, so that now it has a thick layer of money along its bed where an old bridge crosses it. So deep and so cold is this river that nobody has yet been able to salvage any of these coins, which must date back to the early middle ages. Now that the 'Althing' has been moved to Reykjavik, Thingvellir is now of importance only to tourists, and the whole village includes but a church, a summer hotel, the 'King's residence,' dating back to the time when Iceland was a Danish colony, and a farm. To the south flows the river Sog, the importance of which lies in the new hydro-electric power station that has just been brought into use. This development has been of the utmost importance to Iceland, for now over ninety-five per cent of the houses and farms in the country have both a telephone service and electric lighting and heating.

Agriculture in Iceland is very limited in scope, for the climate allows little in the way of arable farming to be successfully carried out. Special types of oats have been

experimented with, but none have really proved an economical possibility, and thus the only crop of any importance is hay. Pastoral farming is about the only significant agricultural activity and includes cows, horses (the Iceland pony was for many years the only form of transport in the country and was of equal importance to the Icelander as the reindeer is to the Lapp or the husky is to the Eskimo) and sheep. Iceland is virtually self-sufficient in dairy products, but has however to import much of its meat from Denmark; in wool it has a surplus, some of which it exports to Britain as fleeces. All vegetables have to be imported from abroad with the exception of a very small amount that are grown in thermally heated green-houses in the town of Hveragerthi, about thirty miles to the south-east of Reykjavik. This town is situated in a region of very intensive thermal activity, with hot springs and geysers coming out of the ground all over the place. Originally a medical centre, it has lately developed its potential as an agricultural area, and now are grown there cucumbers, tomatoes, oranges, grapes and even bananas, catering partly for the local demand of the hospitals and partly for the tourists.

Between these three areas, Reykjavik, Thingvellir and Hveragerthi, communication is regarded as being very good, but the roads have to be seen to be believed. Pitted with ruts and covered with boulders that fall on them every Spring, these roads wind their tortuous ways across ranges of barren mountains and fields of folded and broken lava, going through countryside completely bare of vegetation. In order to distinguish the roads from the surrounding countryside the Icelanders have a number of machines that scrape the larger stones out of the way and lay a surface of crushed lava, making what are hopefully termed 'all-weather' roads. Outside the main towns there are, in fact, no metalled roads with the exception of a concrete dual carriageway running from Reykjavik to the United States Air Force base at Keflavik, about twenty miles away. Iceland is a member of N.A.T.O., but having no standing army it has allowed the United States to have a military base in the country as a forward defensive line against possible attacks from the U.S.S.R. The presence of the Americans has had a considerable effect on the Icelandic way of life, for with the Americans has come television. True to the American tradition, the base has been equipped with a transmission station, and although no programmes are broadcast in Icelandic, nearly every household in Reykjavik has its own television set. This accounts for the fact that almost all those who live in Reykjavik speak quite fluent English.

Despite the fact that the Icelanders have allowed the Americans to maintain a base in the country, they are very individualistic. Having won their independence from Denmark after eight hundred years of subservience, they have no intention of holding on to anybody else's apron strings. As the government insists on keeping a majority holding in any project that makes use of foreign finance, and as there are only about one hundred and thirty thousand taxable people to pay for all the government expenditure, (which includes the development of the telephone system, the distribution of electricity, not to mention the cost of building the power-station, maintaining the best part of three thousand miles of 'road,' and running bus services, airlines and social services like the police force) it is a miracle that Iceland has achieved its present high level of development. Taxes are necessarily very high, a levy of two hundred per cent is raised on all imported luxury goods such as cars and televisions, and thus the cost of living is very high also. Plans are already afoot to build an aluminium smelting works near Reykjavik, using electricity brought from a proposed generating station in the south-west of the country, and a sulphur extraction factory at Myvatn in the north of Iceland. Both these projects require sums of money far beyond the means

of the Icelanders, and so it has been decided to allow Switzerland to provide the capital. The result of this investment will be to correct the phenomenal bias towards the fishing industry, which at the moment employs over ninety per cent of the working population, and provides over ninety per cent of the exports. For the last ten years the fishing catch has been extremely large, but it is being realised that the shoals are in danger of being depleted and that just one year's bad catch could wreak havoc in Iceland's already unstable economy. Further, the world demand for fish and fish products seems unlikely to expand any more, and it is imperative that the country should aim at broadening its fields of production. Iceland is heavily hampered by her small population, for not only does it create a burden when it comes to governmental finance, but it also means that there is an acute shortage of labour. Wages are thus very high in order to attract men to jobs, and prices rise in order to cover the cost of these wages. Inflation is present, and is growing at the rate of ten per cent a year.

Although farming is of little importance, many of the people who live outside Reykjavik indulge in it, for land is both cheap and plentiful. As one goes north from the capital, one notices the efforts that have been made to improve the pastoral land. Miles from the nearest town it is not unusual to come across a machine digging trenches in order to improve the drainage, which is naturally poor on account of the volcanic nature of the underlying rock. Villages are small, few and far between, and usually consist of a filling-station-cum-grocery and several farmhouses. The countryside becomes progressively bleaker and more desolate the further north one goes, and whereas in the south there are at least a few stunted trees, in the north the land is absolutely bare. The scenery is completely different from that found in any other country, the mountains are capped with a perpetual layer of snow, and vast tracts of land show no evidence of having been tampered with by man.

In my all too brief stay, I was able to learn a great deal about the land and its people. Much of this was due to the fact that I was able to make several very useful contacts in Reykjavik, one of them being the private assistant to the Icelandic Prime Minister, from whom I learnt a great deal about the attitude of the people to their country. Being of very pure stock, national pride is shown by every person to a much greater extent than we do in Great Britain, and it is the love of their own country that explains so much of the impression that one receives when one visits Iceland. Despite the fact that they show on the surface a friendship with other countries, they are very conscious of their precarious economic situation and their dependence on other countries for the necessities of life, and having only just gained independence, they are determined to show the rest of the world that they are well able to survive.

Tourists are not encouraged, for although the Icelanders have scenery to equal any to be found in Europe, they have not the resources to cater for the demands that tourists would impose on them, and in any case they are a very introvert race, for, feeling that the world has up to now been cheating them, they trust only themselves. Thus the acceptance of United States troops on their territory is a major sacrifice, especially after the indignities they suffered in the hands of the British during the second world war.

However, for anybody who would like to see a country that is at all out of the ordinary, I would recommend Iceland without hesitation—it is a truly magnificent country.

D. G. St.M. MILLS (T 1966).

## IN THE LIBRARY

Nothing to do. Nothing, that is, except gaze at the covers of books. Books all over the place, and not a good one anywhere: 'English Historical Documents,' 'Old and New London' vols. 1-6. Look at that ceiling! Made out of icing sugar. Wish I could get up there and eat it. I wonder how long it would take to finish; not long if you got the whole school at it—say two square feet each, taking ten minutes an ornament. But wait, how thick is it? Oh, I give up.

I wish the floor would stop creaking and that boy over there would refrain from tapping his foot on the floor with such monotonous regularity. Don't those strip lights buzz a lot. I wonder what makes them do that?

Look at the sky, a pale dark blue. As if somebody had spilt a bottle of watery ink over some white paper.

Why doesn't the ceiling fall down?

I'd like to throw something through that window over there. The glass is old and has ripples in it. Shall I scream? Or take my clothes off? Or run round turning all the desks over? Gosh, how I would like to cause a sensation! I think I'm going slowly mad. I must be.

Why do the walls get closer when I look upside-down at the fire-place? Those statues holding up the mantelpiece are beautiful. I wish they'd come to life.

Where has that old sword gone that used to be in a glass case? I would like to use it to cut my insides out, and then sit there contemplating them for a day as the Japanese do. I wonder if that would be fun. I think it would if you had not got anything to live for. But I have, I'm going out tomorrow. Perhaps I'll do it on Monday morning.

Why doesn't the hand of that clock move more quickly? I'm sure those clicks are five minutes apart.

I hate these ugly desks. They give me claustrophobia. I wonder if anybody can see me? No they can't. Shall I light up? No they would smell the smoke. It would be one way of getting sacked though. No, if I was caught smoking, it would have to be a foot long cigar. Must remember to get one at *The Chocolate Box*. I'd light it, and then walk into the H.M.'s study. I wonder what he'd do?

Is the clock never going to reach six? Why doesn't the bell ring? I hate it in here.

R.R.T.

## IMPRESSIONS OF WOOLVERSTONE HALL

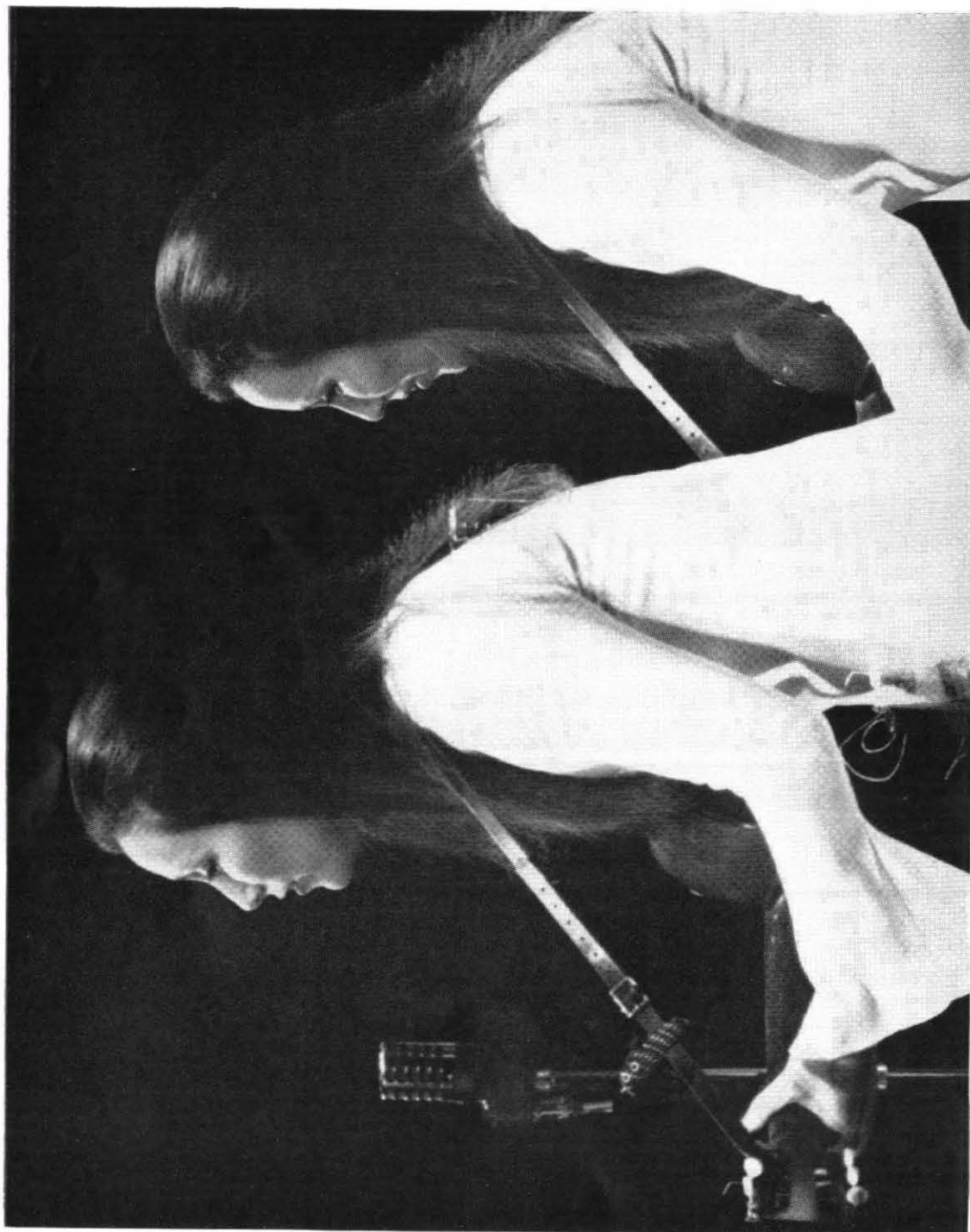
The first thing that struck me as soon as I arrived at Woolverstone Hall was the friendly unstrained atmosphere of the place. On our arrival there we were briefly greeted by the Headmaster and then escorted to our respective houses (one unfortunate Stoic was not prepared for a fifteen minute walk to his house after a cramped three and a half hour journey!). Apart from this one house all the others were in close proximity to each other.

Everyone at Woolverstone is very much aware that their school is unique, and therefore there is a great deal of spirit and pride in the school. Whereas a Stoic will often agree with a criticism of Stowe, it is not so with a Woolverstonian who will nearly always back up his school.



THE TROUT HATCHERY  
*Two Stages during the laying of the foundations*





T. Reid

JULIE FELIX IN THE ROXBURGH HALL.

Discipline is virtually non-existent and even the prefects are ineffective. They have no house officials but the sixth formers have a rota system for house duties. The discipline in each house is enforced mainly by the housemaster who is very much 'king of his castle'.

The sixth formers have a great deal of liberty and can easily be distinguished from any other boy as they have a free choice of dress. They also have other privileges such as late nights in Ipswich.

Work is treated in a casual manner but not half-heartedly. That is to say they all do their work without having it pushed into them by the masters. The size of the classes is far smaller than at Stowe and this enables masters and boys to know each other better. The idea of a friendly relationship between master and boy is encouraged a great deal and every other week sixth formers attend tutorials. A tutorial does not involve working in the evening with your tutor but going to a master's house with a small group of boys and having an informal discussion with him and his wife.

The sports facilities are very limited and boys are only able to play games twice a week. However, when they do play games they all have team spirit and they have managed to produce a very good 1st XV rugby side which has been unbeaten for the last three seasons.

Religion at Woolverstone plays a very small part in their everyday life and their services are held in a large hall which also serves as a theatre. There is an orchestra, but on the whole music and the arts are not taken very seriously.

One thing that stands out very much is that boys in different houses mix far more than they do at Stowe and this seems to create a more friendly atmosphere.

I think that we all thought our visit to Woolverstone Hall was very beneficial and enjoyable. These visits enable both schools to compare themselves with each other and perhaps improve themselves by discovering each other's good and bad points.

P.J.O.

### IMPRESSIONS OF STOWE

*(This contribution was submitted by two Woolverstonians after the annual exchange visit)*

The misapprehensions concerning class differences which many people entertain today are a great hindrance to England's progress; this is the main reason for the Stowe—Woolverstone exchange. On arrival we were asked, in the auspicious surroundings of the Headmaster's study, to approach Stoics with an open mind. We did so, and, naturally, each of us ended up with differing view points. This article is a combination of the views of just two of us.

One of the first things that struck us was the basic difference in temperament between Woolverstonians and Stoics. In general, we found that conversation at Stowe was on a higher level than at Woolverstone. We attribute this to both the isolation of the school and the more academic atmosphere. Another manifestation of this difference was the very helpful nature of almost all Stoics. For instance, on numerous occasions

we were helped in our bewilderment of classrooms by people who were obviously in a hurry, but were quite willing to risk a master's displeasure to show us the way. We realize that at first we may have been faced with an artificial front, but by the end of the week we were convinced that this attitude was, in fact, only second nature to Stoics.

One of Stowe's greatest assets is its tremendous range of facilities for both sport and education. The vast grounds, numerous games courts, the well equipped laboratories, and the wireless room are just a few examples of Stowe's superiority over Woolverstone in this respect.

Perhaps Stowe's most unfortunate detriment is its position. The fact that the nearest vestige of civilization is a long journey away from the School, and that when reached, Buckingham hardly merits the effort, produces an adverse effect on Stowe which tends to turn inward on itself, ignoring to a great extent the outside world and all its obvious trappings. We feel that Stowe's isolated position warrants less internal restrictions to compensate for the lack of contact with the relative freedom encountered in later life. This seems to us very necessary for the additional reason that there is not enough opportunity for independent development at Stowe, as nearly all free time is closely organised.

The next comment may have arisen because of our unnatural position as guests; but we did notice a considerable number of small gaps in the school's routine—those between lessons and supper, and prep and bed-time in particular. Although such breaks are necessary, we feel that they should be consolidated into one long period of free time. From our admittedly superficial view-point, we feel that supper ought to begin as soon as possible after afternoon lessons, enabling prep to begin at about six-thirty. The evening would thus not be so broken up, and the longer periods of free time after prep would possibly be of more use.

Our last adverse criticism of Stowe concerns the manner in which sixth-formers are treated. Some are given a considerable amount of responsibility in their rôles as prefects, monitors, and settlers, but the rest of the sixth-form appear to be on the same level and are treated like juniors. We found this very hard to accept since at Woolverstone all sixth-formers are given a basic amount of responsibility, regardless of academic ability. In this way, even in the lower sixth one gains a measure of respect; and this respect is increased by the way sixth-formers are punished, mainly by masters instead of, at Stowe, by fellow sixth-formers.

Despite these differences we found at least two obvious similarities, the first of which is academic ability. Although the respective teaching methods seemed at first sight different, the end result appeared to be much the same. Stoics' scholastic and domestic environment does not seem to have made their fundamental attitude different from that of Woolverstonians, especially towards work.

As can be seen above, this visit has raised many interesting issues, as it was meant to. We therefore feel that it has been a success, and in conclusion we, and on behalf of the rest of our party, would like to thank Mr. Drayson, his staff, and the School, for making our visit such an entertaining experience.

P. J. HAYES  
D. HOWARD

## VERSE

### TREES

The huge great oaks hide from the eye,  
The little elms which newly lie,  
In their sweet bed of mud and leaves,  
There they stand, the little trees.

Beyond and further on I see,  
The frail and speckled hornbeam tree,  
Small compared with the height of the elm,  
Ancient and bold in the elm tree realm.

A little over to the right  
I can see in the morning light,  
A stately, fine upstanding beech,  
Whose lowest leaves I cannot reach.

And further on and up the hill,  
I can see the trees so still,  
They do not move, for there's no breeze,  
But stand unmoved and at their ease.

N.P.K.

### SONNET

Tonight I held a volume of Brooke's verse,  
And knew that all my dreams to be a poet  
Are only hopeless dreams. The unyielding curse  
Of trivial words possesses me, I know it.  
I know again that there is some great thing  
I'll never have, a youth of seventeen—  
The age when transcendental Brooke could sing  
Of any knowledge he had felt or seen,  
I am a child who thought that he possessed  
That thing: Perception? Must I always think?  
I only know I have a futile zest  
To scribble worthless nonsenses in ink.

But then, as evening settled into night,  
I thought again of Brooke, and had to write.

P.E.L.

## BALLAD OF THE SUN

Where the sun sets pink  
 On an ocean of blue  
 And the painted clouds  
 Form unknown lands dying on the horizon,  
 Scenes to be set at heart, set apart  
 From the realm of daily thoughts,  
 There is infinity.

Let 'two for infinity' be a cry,  
 Our sigh as the tears fall  
 And men crawl in their existence, alone.  
 The tone of this is more perfected,  
 Turned in time to a mist of silk,  
 Spun in fate, elated on our journey  
 There is no turning back.

Silver vespers play silent on the ear,  
 In the light so faint, so far,  
 Made timeless in eternity.  
 In some other corner bare  
 Beyond the sky, who knows?  
 But—the sun shivers on the water,  
 Just 'two for infinity'.

A.J.B.

## WAITING

Thought: Time to talk of love  
 And wait for the years to turn,  
 Undisturbed. The hour to long for  
 And expect what is wanted  
 To arrive, untouched.

Time to speak to friends  
 And to sit in the realm of thoughts,  
 Unrelated to heart and soul;  
 To wander in the garden  
 Of resting, unspoilt.

Time to fly away,  
 To turn from the deeds of men,  
 Uninspired. To sip the casked wine  
 Of tempered ages, holders  
 Of merit, unconcealed.

Afterthought: Time to rise but fall,  
 To find all the sounds of life,  
 Unfounded. To laugh at deeds  
 That seem to you to be true,  
 Yet also, untrue.

A.J.B.

## BONDAGE

A tree in a furrowed field stretched bare  
 Spikish branches in agony  
 Towards the mocking air  
 In vain. All thoughts of free,  
 Careless wanderings were hopeless:  
 Rooted to the niggard body of the Earth  
 Which stretched its ravenous claws around the roots,  
 That tree, given birth  
 By illusory Spring, must now abide  
 January venom, and wait for  
 A May resurrection—  
 When the bitterness of slavery is forgotten.

P.E.L.

## CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

## THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

The society has now some seventy members, even though, this term being so short, there has been only one lecture from our Director and a short expedition to Oxford.

*The Stowe Journal* which now has a circulation of some 200 copies, increased its sales last term by some 30 per cent—we hope for further increase. The next number (No. 3, Vol. 1) will deal mainly with Egypt. Special reference has been made to Tutankhamen's tomb as the illustrations are of the treasures discovered there.

Where and what the society will be excavating next term is as yet uncertain, but it seems likely that some of the season may be spent on a cross-section of a Roman road.

The Florence Fund that we started last term has reached a total of £25 and any further donations will be gratefully welcomed. For information or donations for the Florence Fund please send to P. I. Bellew, Hon. Secretary Stowe Archaeological Society, Bruce House, Stowe.

P.I.B.

## SCIENCE SOCIETY

This short term has not been filled with many activities. There have, however, been two interesting lectures; one on 'Spectroscopy' and another on 'Helicopter Propulsion' by Mr. N. A. Tait, of Bristol Siddeley Engines. There have also been the film showings for the more junior members of the society. These were in some cases extremely good and were the best selection of films that the Society has had for some time.

D.S.E.

## THE JOHN BUNYAN SOCIETY

The last two meetings of the Society have been a debate with the Historians on the subject: "Were the origins of the English Reformation primarily political and economic, or religious and spiritual?" Members enjoyed the sight of the Chaplain and Mr. Cozens locked in academic, if not mortal conflict. More recently, on February 14th, a disappointingly thin meeting listened to and then debated the question: "Has Christianity caused more suffering than happiness?" N. J. S. Murray (C) produced a stimulating and provocative paper to get the ball rolling.

M.R.E.

## THE PATRICIANS

Owing to the shortness of the term and the trial examinations, the activities of the Society have been somewhat curtailed. However, early in the term we heard an excellent talk by Mr. Dennien on "Science and Christianity," which sparked off some interesting discussion. On February 26th the visiting preacher, the Rev. R. F. Torrens, talked on "Peter—the plain man's saint." The Society is hoping to make an expedition to London later in the term to see Sheridan's "The Rivals."

R.A.J. &amp; C.C.D.

## THE AUGUSTINIANS

The Society has been refounded this term, and has had two meetings at the time of going to press. At the first the Chaplain explained the purpose of the Society, and after a time of discussion when members suggested ideas for future activities, showed us a variety of colour slides. The Rev. P. C. J. Marshall came on February 26th and talked about some of the Christian work going on in Borstals and Approved Schools. We are hoping to organize an expedition to Oxford later in the term.

R.G.G.C.

## GRAMOPHONE SOCIETY

This term has seen several changes in the Gramophone Society. The record library has been re-catalogued and re-housed, record covers have been repaired or renewed, and plans are being made to replace the various old recordings which are in poor condition. Not surprisingly the task of reorganising the record library has meant that its availability to members has been limited. However, any inconvenience this has caused should be amply made up for by increased efficiency in the future.

The other notable change is Mr. Burke's retirement as master in charge of the Society. He has been in charge of it since it began almost thirteen years ago, and it is largely through his untiring efforts that it has acquired such a large and varied selection of records, and maintained a healthy state financially. We are fortunate in having another member of the music staff, Mr. James, who is prepared to take charge of the Society. It has been through his inspiration and work that the library has been reorganised and we are sure that the Society will continue to flourish under his guidance.

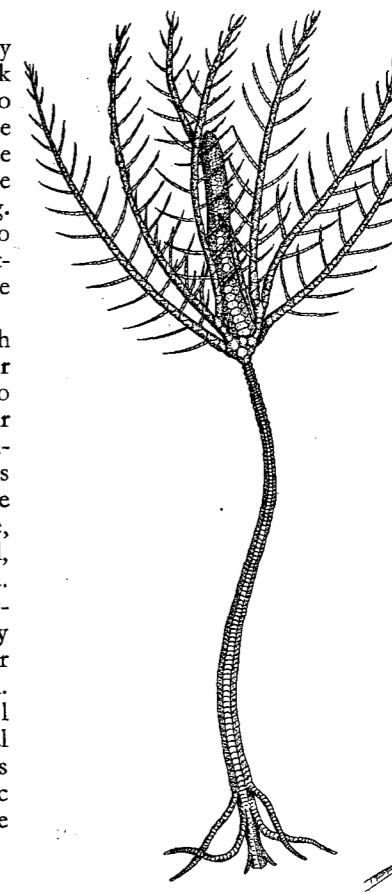
It has therefore been an uneventful term. We hope to add more exciting recordings to our large collection during the term, and this, together with the reorganisation should ensure that the Society not only maintains its popularity but makes an even wider appeal.

H.C.F.

## NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

The Society has once again been very busy with several projects, not least of which is the work on a newly discovered badger sett quite close to Stowe where we hope to be able to do some watching when the weather improves. We were rather disappointed earlier in the term when the first batch of trout eggs died soon after hatching. We have tried a second lot however, and seem to be having more success with them; the trout hatchery itself is also making good progress (see separate article and photographs).

Several other projects are under way on both Monday afternoons and Thursday evenings for the exhibition on Speech Day. We are hoping to publish a Natural History Magazine in the near future and I should be pleased to accept any contributions, preferably illustrated by line drawings or photographs, from anyone in the School. The line drawing by T. P. Besterman (W), shown here, is that of a plant-like organism, in fact a crinoid, an animal belonging to the phylum Echinodermata. The crinoids, or "sea-lilies," related to the starfishes, brittle stars and sea urchins, are entirely marine, and anchor themselves to the sea-floor by the root-like processes at the base of the stem. Alive today, they comprise a class whose fossil remains are to be found in all the geological periods since the Ordovician, 450 million years ago. Fossilized stem segments of the Jurassic crinoid (150 million years old), pentacrinites, have been found in the Stowe gravel pits.



J.B.D.

## THE BRIDGE CLUB

The club has had a certain amount of activity this term. A new captain, C. R. F. Kremer (C) and secretary R. J. Cooper (G) were appointed as the former secretary left last term.

Unfortunately two matches had to be cancelled earlier this term, one against St. Edward's and the other against Radley, but prospective fixtures for next term have been arranged against these teams. We hope to be able to attend in the latter half of this term matches against M.C.S. Oxford, The Ladies and The Masters.

Many of the younger boys in the school are beginning to become interested in this activity so the club appears to have some future.

The other members of the team are P. A. Cardiff (G) and N. P. Thomas (B).

R.J.C.



## THE CHESS CLUB

So far this term there have been three matches with three more to come. The first match this term was an away one against Haileybury. The result was a complete failure on Stowe's part with the third to sixth boards inclusive all losing. The first two boards did not finish their games but P. E. Schneider playing on board two lost on the adjudication and on board one, R. C. Unwin was given a draw.

The second match was a home one against Bradfield College, this time on four boards. D. C. B. Lake and P. E. Schneider playing on the third and second boards respectively won their games and P. C. Sessler lost closely at no. 4 string. R. C. Unwin did not finish his game but the adjudication fell against him, and his opponent was given the game.

The third match was an away one against Radley on six boards. This time the first four boards all won, the first one on an adjudication.

The following have played in the chess team this term:—R. C. Unwin (C), P. E. Schneider (♙), D. C. B. Lake (♙), P. A. Saper (C), K. H. Ghazzaoui (C), D. A. Keeling (C), C. J. G. Henniker-Major (♙), P. C. Sessler (W), R. W. Whittinghill (♙), R. J. Cooper (♙), J. G. Cahill (♙).

P.E.S.

## THE FILM SOCIETY

The Film Society has shown three films this term. All of them have been based on well known novels, one from the 18th century, one from the 19th, and one from the 20th. The first was the most recently made: "Lord of the Flies" from William Golding's novel. It describes the predicament of a 'plane load of young boys left to fend for themselves on a desert island after a crash. Without the structure of their normal civilisation some of the boys develop the characteristics of primitives. The Director, Peter Brook, brilliantly conveyed the increasing tension as one by one the boys forsook the 'rules' and became hunters, even of their own group.

The second film was based on Dostoevsky's book "The Brothers Karamazov" considered by some to be one of the greatest novels ever written. It deals dramatically with the fundamental issues of religion and freedom within the structure of Russian family intrigue. Directed by Richard Brooks, it starred Yul Brynner and Clair Bloom.

Finally, "Tom Jones", the hero of Henry Fielding's story of 18th century society. Perhaps this film least of the three follows its original. The wanderings of a love-seeking young man provide the theme to a story which takes us from gracious living in the countryside of England through tavern frolics to the busy and involved round of London. Albert Finney ideally suited the part of Tom with his mischievous abandon and Susannah York was the perfect English rose. Hugh Griffith nearly steals the show with his portrayal of Squire Western, the rough-living, rough-speaking, hard-drinking, scandalous father of the heroine. Tony Richardson directs.

M.P.M.W.

## THE STUDY GROUP

The Study Group has enjoyed another active term with a regular attendance of members at the weekly meetings on Sundays. The programme is designed to help a fuller understanding of the Christian faith and new members are always welcome. Among the speakers this term have been the Headmaster and Mr. P. Millward, who spoke about his experiences in East Africa, and the experiment of an 'away fixture' at Wycliffe Hall, in Oxford, was voted a success.

D.S.E.

## STOWE PRESS

With the income from the last two years, several fonts of type were bought at the end of last term. These were necessary for the printing of the fixture card for the summer which will include all seven of the major sports. A small quantity of the fragile Palace Script was bought at the same time and has already been used on the invitations to the Commemoration Dinner in April.

As before we printed tickets for the concert given by Julie Felix, which was the first time cards as small as two-by-three inches were used. This salmon-coloured card was part of the gift donated last term. We shall also print, on the same size card, tickets for the Cobham House Play *Angels in Love*. Some magazine and newspaper chits were printed for the Bookshop but at the moment we cannot manage the phenomenal 40,000 chits required each term, so shall not be doing any more for the time being.

We experimented for the first time with a simple lino-cut which proved very useful in the printing of the Lenten prayer-folder used in Chapel. Soon after this Mr. Dady produced another excellent lino-cut of a wool merchant for use on the cover to the Catalogue of Brass Rubbings on exhibition in the Art School.

As usual we will be printing the cover to the Archaeological Society's magazine 'The Stowe Journal'. Because even the fixture card is really more than the Society can print in one term, the only order executed for an individual was some cards advertising the pop-group 'Muzbak'.

J.N.T.

## C.C.F.

This term has seen the introduction of a new section on the suggestion of one or two senior boys. Captain The Rev. J. E. C. Nicholl, M.C., has returned to the colours to take over this Special Training Platoon. The purpose of the platoon is that senior boys of all sections who have passed their respective proficiencies should receive advanced training in map reading, weapon training, assault course, unarmed combat, night fighting, etc.; they are training towards weekend exercises with Reserve units (for example it is hoped to be able to take a few next term to observe a parachute drop over Norfolk) and in particular Arduous Training. A number of battles have taken place in the grounds and they have fired machine guns at Bicester; some of them are coming to Arduous Training in Glencoe after Easter. It is hoped to hold this course each year in future.

The R.N. Section training has followed the usual pattern. On Field Day there was an advanced proficiency examination. Forty boys went to Wakefield Lodge for rigging over the lake, and to assault the Special Training Platoon.

The Army Section this year has seen hard work on the specialist sections; the M.T. Section held an examination last term, and the R.E. and Royal Signals Sections held examinations on Field Day. The 1st Battalion Coldstream Guards sent down a Proficiency Board on Field Day, and a party of Junior Leaders went with some cadets from Buckingham to the Guards Depot at Pirbright. Captain G. A. Philippi (C 1956) was a member of the Proficiency Board.

Thirty members of the R.A.F. Section on Field Day went to the U.S. air base at Upper Heyford; the remainder went to R.A.F. Abingdon. Among the Old Stoic speakers on Friday evenings have been Hugh Northey (C 1965), now at Cranwell,

Flight Lieutenant Colin Butler (T 1954) and Air Commodore J. M. N. Pike, C.B., D.S.O., D.F.C. (C 1934).

EXAMINATION RESULTS :—

		Passed	Failed
Royal Engineers :		20	0
Royal Signals :	December	9	9
	Instructors	1	0
Motor Transport :		12	7
Army Proficiency :			
	December	31 (1 credit)	21
	March	57 (7 credits)	4

The following promotions and appointments were made this term :—

R.N. SECTION.

Promoted *Coxswain* : J. S. Aiken (C).

Promoted *Leading Seamen* : J. G. Bibra (C), J. M. Burnell-Nugent (S), E. C. F. G. Hodge (C), P. C. M. Madden (C), J. C. de la T. Mallett (S).

Appointed *Acting Leading Seaman* : H. G. J. Brooking (C), G. R. Burman (W), I. P. Haussauer (C), J. N. Temple (T), R. R. Tomlinson (W).

ARMY SECTION TRAINING COMPANY.

Appointed *Under-Officer* : B. A. Marshall-Andrew (B).

Promoted *C.S.M.* : J. C. Gordon-Finlayson (B).

Promoted *Sergeant* : J. Miller (C), N. J. S. Murray (C).

Promoted *Corporal* : C. C. Ashcroft (C), M. M. Carter (C), D. A. R. Dekker (T), J. A. C. Heaslop (W), C. J. G. Henniker-Major (C), N. C. Ingram (S), A. T. McNiece (B), N. P. Mawer (C), J. R. Priestley (C), S. W. Shepherd (S), N. W. H. Taylor (C), R. G. G. Thynne (C), C. J. G. Thwaites (B).

Appointed *Lance-Corporal* : N. D. Jamieson (G), I. A. R. Jenkins (B), H. B. J. Ormrod (C), T. M. Patrick (C), C. T. S. Prestwich (T), A. R. Richardson (S), D. F. M. Stileman (C), M. T. von Bergen (C), M. W. Whitton (B).

Appointed *Acting Lance-Corporal* : J. E. Hood (B).

HEADQUARTER COMPANY.

Promoted *Colour Sergeant* : H. C. Frazer (T).

Promoted *Sergeant* : P. E. Dawson (W), P. J. Elliott (C), B. J. R. Karen (W), H. R. Thornley (W).

Promoted *Acting Corporal* : C. J. Wells (T).

Appointed *Lance-Corporal* : C. G. Bazeley (G), J. Choyce (C), A. D. Mayfield (G), R. H. J. de C. Moore (B), L. A. Nassim (B), T. N. A. Telford (C), T. C. Thompson-Royds (C), D. C. Trussler (B), R. C. Unwin (C).

Appointed *Acting Lance-Corporal* : W. M. Crabb (G), C. R. S. Manson (C), A. G. Mitchell (B).

R.A.F. SECTION.

Promoted *Sergeant* : R. D. Kinahan (T), J. R. Macdonald (C), P. Reid (B).

Appointed *Junior Corporal* : S. M. Argles (C), R. E. Gamble (C), S. S. How (C), R. H. B. Stephens (T), R. J. Cooper (C), The Hon. B. W. H. P. Croft (S), C. J. English (C), D. B. Jones (C), R. A. Kennon (G).

## VENTURE SCOUTS

We have had a steady term of work on the new syllabus and Nurse Matthews has been giving lectures on First Aid so that we can work towards the instructors' certificate of the St. John's Ambulance Brigade. We hope to have some practical experience in an Oxford hospital next term.

At the time of writing we are preparing for a visit to the No. 1 Parachute Training School at Abingdon and look forward to jumping on the simulator from fifty feet!

This is mainly an indoor term because of the weather but we have a programme of camping and expeditions planned for next term.

## HOCKEY

A full account, summary and results of the 1967 Hockey Season will appear in the next number of *The Stoic*.

### THE SCHOOL v. ALDENHAM

Played at Aldenham on Saturday, February 4th. Lost 0—3.

Stowe's first game of the season was played at Aldenham, on a pitch that was far faster than the heavy clay surfaces that our early practice sessions had been held on, and at a pace and vigour that surprised the young and inexperienced Stowe XI. The goals came at regular intervals, being the result of a direct, hard hitting approach, and the thorough use of the through pass that too often found Hills and Simmonds, the Stowe backs, standing square. Bullock and Buchanan tried all they knew to put Stowe back in the game, but Stowe's attack lacked cohesion—one man being left to do the work of five.

We learned two important lessons at Aldenham. One, that positional play is the basis of a sound defence, the other that success is bred of determination, speed and urgency that gives a side superior possession of the ball.

*Team* :—S. S. How (C); P. J. G. Simmons (C), T. M. Hills (B); M. I. H. B. Forde (W), S. L. Earlam (W), B. A. Marshall-Andrew (B); M. W. Whitton (B), A. M. A. Simpson (W), P. C. Bullock (B), C. A. McDonald (C), K. G. Buchanan (W).

### THE SCHOOL v. THE LEYS

Played at The Leys on Saturday, February 11th. Drawn 1—1.

This game, played at Cambridge, was an exciting encounter, during which play swung repeatedly from end to end. Although both sides might claim to have been unlucky, a draw was a fair result.

Stowe were almost swept aside in the opening minutes. The Leys hit the ball hard and moved off the ball effectively on their fine dry pitch, and it was only due to poor shooting that the home team didn't build up a commanding lead. Gradually though, Stowe began to find their feet and worked their way back into the game, but at half time neither side had managed to score.

After the break, although Stowe began to look more effective, The Leys took the lead when a weak clearance was picked up by their right wing. His crisp centre was

deflected into goal, leaving goalkeeper How rather flat-footed and the rest of the defence open-mouthed in surprise.

However, Stowe stirred themselves to greater efforts. They began to move the ball quicker and more accurately, at the same time containing the dangerous Leys for wards. The equaliser came after prolonged pressure on The Leys goal, McDonald being on hand to force the ball into the net from a goalmouth mêlée.

All things considered this was an encouraging result against a highly rated Leys XI. How showed that he could become a competent goalkeeper, and Marshall-Andrew and Forde were in fine form at wing half. For the forwards Buchanan, Bullock and McDonald all did useful things—and seemed to be learning that the ball must always be moved fast, and accurately, as attacks build up.

*Team* :—Unchanged.

#### THE SCHOOL v. BRADFIELD

Played at Bradfield on Saturday, February 25th. Drawn 1—1.

After some interval of time since the last match the side began well. Conditions were fairly soft, but the first half saw some good hockey against some shaky Bradfield defence. Mallett was well but perhaps under used on the right wing, and his speed and control saw him through several times. Stowe's goal, after ten minutes or so, came from a centre from the left which flew up off a defender's stick and was neatly driven into the net by Bullock.

After half-time the pace of the two sides was reversed, so that Bradfield dictated the play and it was Stowe who were slow on to the ball and caught square in defence. Bradfield's goal came much as the other had done, from a fast combining movement on the left. The game ended with tussles around each circle, but neither side being direct enough to score a winning goal.

*Team* :—Unchanged.

#### OTHER RESULT

Thur., February 9th. v. CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY WANDERERS Lost 0—4

## CROSS-COUNTRY

Prospects for the Cross-Country Club this season were good, for of last year's regulars four old colours remained—E. C. F. G. Hodge (C), W. V. E. Waldron (G), G. R. Burman (W), and R. M. F. Gransden (G). Since these had inevitably played an important part in the success of the previous year, it was hoped that we would not miss too much the prowess of the recently departed. If illness could be avoided, there was no reason why the Club should not have a good season. In fact illness, in the form of 'flu, only struck once, effectively putting Burman out of action for our last three matches. Unfortunately though, our Secretary, Waldron, was *hors de combat* for virtually every match—the result of a leg injury—though he did hobble around the last few runs.

Taken from any viewpoint, the season's results must be considered to have been less successful than in recent years. There are two immediate reasons for this: the

first is that we have badly missed not having a front runner, for though Gransden and G. G. Wright (G) both gave of their best on all occasions, neither ever got out in front and stayed there, and there can be no doubt that this had its effect on our other runners. The second reason is that all our matches were away from Stowe. Although this should be no real reason, the psychological disadvantage of not knowing the course is very great especially at school level.

The aspect of running that we have been trying to cultivate is that of 'bunching', and in this we have really been quite successful, even though the various 'bunches' have been too low in the field. Success here can largely be laid at the door of our Captain, Hodge, who must take much of the credit for our victory against Radley and Cheltenham. The Club has been very fortunate in having such a Captain, whose leadership has really been of an extremely high standard both in training and in matches. His personal example has certainly helped all members of the Club. Stowe's early season front runner was Gransden, who was a better performer than perhaps he thought. The standard of Burman's running before he contracted 'flu was showing signs of bearing out the promise of two years ago. Of the other regulars in the team, Wright has been the one who has shown most improvement and promise. In his first year in the Senior Team he has come through most impressively, and led the Stowe VIII in the last three matches. J. H. Dalrymple-White (G), S. M. Argles (C) and N. S. McGuigan (T) each turned in some very good performances, with Dalrymple-White being the most consistent of the three. McGuigan obviously found his full season in the first VIII hard work; being a Junior he has done very well.

The 2nd VIII was led by H. G. J. Brooking (C), A. J. L. Imrie (B) and R. D. Kinahan (T), the last two of whom also filled in for the 1st team when required. Although on paper not a particularly strong side, they agreeably surprised us by winning two of the three fixtures, with all its members running very well. The Colts team has been the most successful VIII, scoring resounding victories over Haileybury and Felsted, and St. Edward's, Oxford, and Uppingham, though they rather surprisingly lost to Rugby. Competition at this level has been very keen, with C. N. Rainer (C) emerging as the most successful runner, closely followed by J. W. A. Kenrick (W), J. Moreton (G) and R. W. Heyman (T). In their turn, these were very competently supported by the other four members of the team. If present form is maintained Stowe should again be a force to be reckoned with in the near future.

There is little to say of the matches themselves. The season began well with victories over Marlborough, Radley and Cheltenham, but against Haileybury and later Rugby and Uppingham we received thrashings such as could have been recorded but rarely in the annals of Stowe's Cross-Country history. Our school fixtures ended with lesser defeats at the hands of St. Edward's, Oxford and Oundle. Once again we entered two teams for the Oxford Road Relays, which came 11th and 21st respectively.

The record has been a disappointing one this year, but spirits have none the less kept encouragingly high. It has been proved that we are capable of having a poor season, and it is up to us to see that it does not happen again in the too immediate future.

With the Colts that we have at the moment, at any rate, the future looks promising. 1st VIII Colours for the 1967 season have been awarded to :—Hodge, Gransden, Burman, Wright, Dalrymple-White and Argles.

2nd VIII Colours have been awarded to :—McGuigan, Kinahan, Imrie, Brooking, Rainer, Kenrick, Moreton and Heyman.

*Results :—*

## 1ST VIII.

- v.* Thames Hare & Hounds and Marlborough, at Roehampton.  
1, Thames B, 38 pts. 2, Thames A, 61 pts. 3, Stowe, 104 pts. 4, Marlborough, 109 pts.
- v.* Radley and Cheltenham, at Radley.  
1, Stowe, 40 pts. 2, Radley, 47 pts. 3, Cheltenham, 94 pts.
- v.* Haileybury & I.S.C. and Felsted, at Haileybury.  
1, Haileybury, 36 pts. 2, Stowe, 55 pts. 3, Felsted, 98 pts.
- v.* Rugby and Uppingham, at Rugby.  
1, Uppingham, 32 pts. 2, Rugby, 51 pts. 3, Stowe, 99 pts.
- v.* St. Edward's, Oxford, at Oxford.  
1, St. Edward's, 30 pts. 2, Stowe, 48 pts.
- v.* Oundle, at Oundle.  
1, Oundle, 32 pts. 2, Stowe, 54 pts.

## 2ND VIII.

- v.* Haileybury & I.S.C., at Haileybury.  
1, Stowe, 34 pts. 2, Haileybury, 47 pts.
- v.* Rugby and Uppingham, at Rugby.  
1, Uppingham, 48 pts. 2, Rugby, 62 pts. 3, Stowe, 67 pts.
- v.* Oundle, at Oundle.  
1, Stowe, 106 pts. 2, Oundle, 130 pts.

## COLTS VIII.

- v.* Haileybury & I.S.C. and Felsted, at Haileybury.  
1, Stowe, 44 pts. 2, Haileybury, 63 pts. 3, Felsted, 80 pts.
- v.* Rugby and Uppingham, at Rugby.  
1, Rugby, 34 pts. 2, Stowe, 50 pts. 3, Uppingham, 98 pts.
- v.* St. Edward's, Oxford, at Oxford.  
1, Stowe, 23 pts. 2, St. Edward's, 62 pts.

## INTER-HOUSE CROSS-COUNTRY RACES

Once again the Inter-House Cross-Country was held early in the term, this year in appalling conditions. It had rained virtually non-stop for ten days, and the conditions under foot had to be experienced to be believed. The day itself was fine enough, though slightly gusty and with a brief shower after the start of the junior race.

There was much speculation as to who would be the individual winner of the Senior competition, and it was R. M. F. Gransden (G) who came in the comparatively easy winner in a time of 26 mins. He was followed home by E. C. F. G. Hodge (C) and J. H. Dalrymple-White (G) was third. Chatham was the winning house, over Grafton, though the latter put up a stiff challenge.

N. S. McGuigan (T) was the winner of the junior race and he also led Temple to a house victory. The second man home was J. W. A. Kenrick (W), who narrowly defeated J. Moreton (G) with the latter closing all the time.

*Results :—*

SENIOR (4½ miles).—1, Chatham, 150 pts. ; 2, Grafton, 180 pts. ; 3, Walpole, 215 pts. ; 4, Bruce, 257 pts. ; 5, Cobham, 300 pts. ; 6, Temple, 323 pts. ; 7, Grenville, 346 pts. ; 8, Chandos, 434 pts. Individual Winner:—R. M. F. Gransden (G), 26 mins.

JUNIOR (3 miles).—1, Temple, 128 pts. ; 2, Cobham, 155 pts. ; 3, Grenville, 219 pts. ; 4, Chatham, 245 pts. ; 5, Walpole, 303 pts. ; 6, Chandos, 319 pts. ; 7, Bruce, 381 pts. ; 8, Grafton, 499 pts. Individual Winner:—N. S. McGuigan (T), 17 mins. 58 secs.

## FIVES

This term has been a rather happier one for the Fives team, with many less problems about obtaining players who were demanded by other activities. The results list is not impressive, but I believe that the fives was more generally enjoyed and promised good things for next year.

It is still true that we only beat the poorer schools, while King Edward's, Birmingham, Harrow and the Clubs are always too strong for us. Perhaps this is because Stowe fives is rather a minor activity played after hockey or rugger, should there be enough time to fit it in. However, there seemed to be much more serious practice than last term, and with four of those who played in the School team remaining for next year, I believe the standard will improve.

It was a great pity for the team and A. J. Spackman (C) that the latter was unable to play throughout the season because of back trouble. Without him, it meant re-shuffling the side, so that everyone moved up one place, which meant everyone was playing one place higher than his ability warranted. This had the greatest effect in the bottom pairs, where Colts players were moved up higher than their ability could match.

P. C. Bullock (B) is much improved and now really looks a formidable player. Against King Edward's, Birmingham, with S. C. Garnier (T), he gave a most impressive display against a very well tried pair. Garnier has also improved, but perhaps plays rather better up on the step, than at the back, where he sometimes looks indecisive. This pair was well supported by I. H. Scott-Gall (T), R. A. Lamping (C) and R. H. Moore (B), who all played enthusiastically at times. One felt that all these three were guilty of playing too many aimless shots, merely to keep the ball in play. Concentration on playing winners into the pepper pot and keeping shots from the back as low as possible might have reduced the number of chances that were given for the opposition to make outright winners.

The Colts players all played well up to their capabilities, and should all fit into Senior Fives next year. However, we are short of Juniors, and any newcomer to the school could do well to take up the game seriously, since we have a dearth of good under-fifteen players.

*Teams :—*1st pair : S. C. Garnier (T), P. C. Bullock (B) ; 2nd pair : I. H. Scott-Gall (T), R. A. Lamping (C) ; and R. H. Moore (B) also played.

*Colts :—*R. H. Stephens (T), M. W. Whitton (B) ; J. F. Rothwell (T) and N. D. Colebrook (T) also played.

## Results:—

v. OLD OLAVIANS	Lost	0—2	Home
v. KING EDWARD'S, FIVEWAYS	Won	2—0	Home
v. OAKHAM	Won	2—1	Away
v. MILL HILL	Lost	0—3	Away
v. KING EDWARD'S, BIRMINGHAM	Lost	0—2	Home
v. OLD CITIZENS	Lost	0—3	Home

## SQUASH RACKETS

With the majority of this term's matches still to come it is difficult to give any coherent report on the team's performance. Certainly there has been a considerable improvement on last term as far as effort and enthusiasm go, and possibly skill as well. Shelley, the captain, has acquired a more confident approach, and is better able to dominate the court. Philip, since he became Secretary, has begun to play a far more intelligent game, and his determination to win is a considerable asset to the team. Of the other players, Crabb has been perhaps a little disappointing, and has shown a tendency simply to hit hard when under pressure. The rest of the team have shown enthusiasm, and, with careful practice, promise well for the future.

## Results:—

v. ST. EDWARD'S	Won	3—2
v. TRING	Lost	2—3
v. OLD PAULINES	Lost	2—3

Team from:—N. J. Shelley (G), R. M. Philip (B), C. J. G. Henniker-Major (C), W. M. Crabb (G), R. A. J. Bennett (G), C. L. K. Graham (C), J. G. Treadwell (C).

## RUGBY FOOTBALL

## SENIOR HOUSE MATCHES

The matches were characterised by the equality of the eight houses. No side scored more than ten points and the final ended in a draw. In the first round, Temple, who had an unfortunate number of absentees, were held to a draw by the unfancied Chandos, and only won the replay in extra time. Walpole, with five 1st XV players, were also forced into extra time by Bruce. This was repeated in the semi-final when Randsley's try for Walpole was countered by one by Ashcroft, but as neither was converted it was left to Lugg to draw Edwards off-side for Forde to kick the penalty goal. In the other match Chatham were clearly too good for a further depleted Temple.

The final was well fought, but lacked the stimulus of any outstanding individual or combined pieces of play. Walpole kicked off with the wind behind them. Chatham missed a penalty and were then caught off-side in front of their posts for Forde to kick a penalty. Chatham continued to have more possession but were unable to use it until a fine break by Clover took play within striking distance of the line and Avory got the ball to Forbes who scored. Again the kick failed. O'Farrell then kicked ahead dangerously and managed to score a try within minutes of half-time.

In the second half the Chatham forwards were caught off-side and Forde kicked another penalty. And there, despite everything, including three more missed penalties, the matter rested with the final whistle. And there, after an extra ten minutes each way and with the imminent approach of darkness, the matter still rested. The magnanimous

gesture of the Chatham captain in foregoing the repetition of a replay and accepting a draw was appreciated most of all by Walpole who had suffered most from injuries.

Temple	} Temple 3—0 (after replay and extra time)	} Chatham 10—0	} Chatham 6 Walpole 6 (after extra time)
Chandos			
Chatham	} Chatham 9—3	} Walpole 6—3 (after extra time)	
Grafton			
Walpole	} Walpole 6—3 (after extra time)	} Cobham 9—3	
Bruce			
Cobham	} Cobham 9—3	} Walpole 6—3 (after extra time)	
Grenville			

Teams.—Chatham:—J. G. Neilson; R. E. K. Thornley, G. R. I. Feldman, T. A. Clover, R. J. Charlton; C. G. O'Farrell, C. A. Macdonald; P. D. Walker, J. P. Maclaren, J. J. Forbes, R. E. A. Hope, M. J. Avory, E. C. F. G. Hodge, M. T. von Bergen, J. R. Macdonald.

Walpole:—S. E. Smith; A. R. Chisholm, G. R. Burman, K. G. Buchanan, A. H. Thomlinson; H. R. Thornley, D. G. Lugg; R. M. Hunter-Jones, M. I. H. B. Forde, M. J. P. Martin, J. A. C. Heaslop, W. C. D. Landa, M. C. Walton, W. P. Durlacher, T. P. Randsley.

## JUNIOR HOUSE MATCHES

The eventual finalists, Bruce and Temple, showed their superiority in the first round. Both owed their success to a powerful pack. Cobham scored in the first half minute, but were nearly surprised by Chatham's late rally. Grenville, with an exceptionally young side, did well both to beat Walpole and to hold Temple.

The final was hardly an epic one. The greater weight of the Bruce pack made the result a foregone conclusion. The only question was the manner of it. Keal, the Bruce scrum half, scored the first try and later added two more. Diesbach also scored for Bruce, and Temple's only response was a penalty by Dunipace.

Grafton	} Temple 31—3	} Temple 9—0	} Bruce 12—3
Temple			
Grenville	} Grenville 14—0	} Bruce 12—6	
Walpole			
Chandos	} Bruce 46—3	} Cobham 13—11	
Bruce			
Chatham	} Cobham 13—11	} Bruce 12—6	
Cobham			

Teams.—Bruce:—A. J. V. Doherty; R. D. G. Carter, R. G. A. Westlake, C. J. Kingsland, R. A. Nassim; C. H. D. Earle, A. C. Keal; D. A. G. Ireland, D. C. Trussler, J. P. W. Yerburgh, P. H. Guest, J. E. Hood, R. W. Moyle, I. A. R. Jenkins (Capt.), J. N. R. Diesbach.

Temple:—P. M. G. Hudson; I. C. S. Ritchie, R. C. B. Anderson, P. J. P. Olofson, A. J. M. Russell, D. A. H. Wright, M. J. Brain; N. J. Walker, W. S. Croom-Johnson, J. M. Spanton, N. S. McGuigan, M. A. M. Davies, P. S. H. Frazer, M. J. D. Manley, P. M. C. Dunipace (Capt.).

## GOLF

The short term and the early publication date of *The Stoic* have combined to set your golfing correspondent a tricky task; no sooner have the Stowe golfers emerged from their winter hibernation than the Editor of *The Stoic* requests a report on their activities! Some, alas, have been temporarily seduced by the attractions of a moving target and have hardly been seen at all on the Queen's Theatre, but other nobler souls have braved the unreliable weather and engaged in a long series of trials. These suggested that it would be impossible to field a Golf Twelve this term, but that we could muster a pretty useful Golf Eight, and the accuracy of this forecast was verified by the results of the first two matches. In the first we scored a good win over Berkhamsted School, and in the second we did well to hold the redoubtable members of Ellesborough Golf Club to a draw on their own course. A new fixture is to be played against the R.A.F. at Bicester, who, it is suspected, will try to gain unfair advantage by using guided missiles, and later in the term the Old Stoics will bring down an uncomfortably strong-looking 'side' to play at Stowe. As always, the Selection Committee has been out looking for a team to win the Micklem Cup at Woking in April, in which Stowe has been drawn against Rugby in the first round.

Results:—

v. BERKHAMSTED SCHOOL	Won	4—2
v. ELLESBOROUGH G.C.	Halved	2—2

Team:—N. P. Thomas (B), N. R. Kreitman (C), S. R. Barstow (B), D. M. Cohen (B), D. C. B. Lake (B), J. R. Green (W), P. Reid (B), J. G. Treadwell (C).

## FENCING

There has been less competitive fencing than last term, as two matches had to be postponed. As a result there has been no competitive sabre or épée. We have had one match only, a triangular match against Rugby and Uppingham, where we avenged last term's defeat by coming first. Shepherd and Richardson fenced effectively and lost only one bout between them of the twelve fought.

We entered six members for the Berks-Bucks-Oxon Schools foil championships, and though they had small success useful experience was gained. Shepherd and Richardson and P. A. Viton (C) went through the first round, but could only muster two wins between them in the semi-final. It is at this level of competition that our limited technique and lack of speed show themselves.

Some of our experienced fencers have stopped fencing this term, regrettably, but several new members have joined the club, and seem to have begun well.

Colours have been awarded to S. W. Shepherd (B) and A. R. Richardson (B).

Results:—

v. RUGBY AND UPPINGHAM:	STOWE	13 wins
	RUGBY	8 wins
	UPPINGHAM	6 wins

## SHOOTING

The winter weather has been against us, but we have managed to shoot a couple of postal matches, although the scores were not particularly good owing to an inexperienced 2nd VIII. A team of eight R.A.F. cadets has been entered for the Assagai Trophy—their actual skill is as yet rather an unknown quantity but hopes are high.

## THE STOWE BEAGLES

Hounds were taken to his home in Somerset by the Master, S. M. Moreton (G), for ten days during the Christmas holidays and they had four days hunting in the School of Infantry Beagles country around Bruton.

Sport since Christmas has been quite good with two outstanding days hunting at Lillingstone Lovell and at Shalstone. To date the hounds have accounted for ten and a half brace of hares but since Christmas the hunting has not been of such a high standard as before because of the greatly increased number of hares which we have found.

Because of various difficulties the builders have not yet been able to carry out the improvements and extensions to the kennels; however these improvements, financed from the Rosemary Hill Memorial fund, will be completed by Speech Day next term.

We are very pleased to have attracted the interest of a number of new followers from the School this term and are particularly grateful to R. M. Barker (G), J. Bell-Irving (C), J. B. Johnson (W), A. J. E. Preston (W) and R. C. Willcock (B) for their help at the kennels.

Our annual Hunt Ball and Puppy Show will be held at Stowe on Saturday, July 22nd.

## EGRESSI 1966

\* Prefect † Son of Old Stoic

BRUCE—(Summer) J. Austin†, J. N. Dixey\*†, D. F. Hill, J. A. G. Johnson, G. E. Laird-Craig, P. Y. Rapelye, R. B. Swanston, R. A. Syms, C. J. Wilson; (Autumn) R. G. Burwood-Taylor, J. P. N. Sykes, J. R. Hartland-Swann†.

TEMPLE—(Summer) N. R. Carr, G. F. Collard, S. P. B. Cooper, M. C. Farquharson, R. S. Fox\*, R. J. Grantham, P. J. S. Gray, A. P. Greig, L. M. Higham, I. F. MacMaster, S. T. D. Ritchie, W. S. Sewell; (Autumn) J. B. J. Dunipace, K. D. Frazer†, R. E. Lloyd-Morgan, J. T. McConnell\*, D. G. St. M. Mills, J. R. A. Nisbet, D. M. G. Pearce, R. C. Peatfield†, A. P. Sainer, S. C. Wills.

GRENVILLE—(Summer) A. R. M. Baker\*†, D. H. T. Balfour†, T. D. Everett, J. R. S. Greenstreet, C. Honeyman Brown, R. J. Horwitz, D. G. Jones, L. V. S. Lane, P. J. H. McCarthy†, J. R. Raish, M. Reed, R. A. Stormont†, P. E. Williams\*, J. R. Beilby; (Autumn) P. G. Austin, T. Bassett\*†, V. A. Lownes.

CHANDOS—(Summer) W. Barclay†, W. A. Daniel, W. R. Dunn, P. N. J. Durey\*, B. Gray, J. R. Hallam\*, B. R. Lawrence, R. G. Nash†, D. R. Rubin, D. H. I. Silver, T. R. Stephens†; (Autumn) G. C. S. Gates, R. L. Rome †, J. E. T. Trainin, P. E. Bartholomew, D. P. Williams.

COBHAM—(Summer) D. M. A. Ashton, N. I. A. Bartholomew†, H. D. Breese†, M. E. T. Davies†, T. Edwards, J. E. V. Fleetwood, J. G. G. Hanley, D. R. Henniker†, R. L. B. Marcus, N. G. Rossi\*, C. A. Whitlock†; (Autumn) A. J. Downing, D. R. Gale.

CHATHAM—(Spring) P. E. Pilkington; (Summer) P. R. Cheshire†, R. J. K. Cooke, G. N. Crass, C. R. Dimpfl, J. A. Fingleton, R. R. Hartley, D. A. Lawson†, M. G. M. McIntyre, M. T. Weston\*†, G. M. Wolfson\*, R. J. P. Houseman†; (Autumn) M. J. Ivory†, T. A. Clover\*, G. R. I. Feldman\*, J. B. Wintle, T. J. George, R. E. Warburg.

- GRAFTON—(*Summer*) C. J. R. Black†, M. A. Burton†, B. S. Davies, J. M. Earle†, M. P. J. Fielding, P. B. Fisher\*, R. E. Flanagan, J. Greenwood†, J. P. Raw, R. A. Rayner, G. M. Schicht, J. D. W. Seaver, G. M. Sturges, A. C. Wolfe†; (*Autumn*) C. J. Watkin.
- WALPOLE—(*Spring*) J. A. Bath; (*Summer*) I. F. Buchanan\*, B. G. Claridge, S. R. Edwards, C. C. Foote, W. S. Johnstone, C. S. Livermore, N. J. L. Martin\*†, R. M. Porter, M. E. Robinson, C. C. G. Sharp, S. A. Stock, C. Walker, G. R. C. Walton†; (*Autumn*) W. P. Durlacher\*† (*Head of School*), J. L. Seccombe†.

## INGRESSI 1966

‡ Son of Old Stoic N Nugent

- BRUCE—(*Spring*) J. N. R. Diesbach, R. W. Moyle, R. J. M. Wood, S. D. Moss (N), R. A. Nassim (N); (*Summer*) R. D. G. Carter (N), R. A. E. Cleaves (N), P. H. Guest (N)†; (*Autumn*) D. J. Carnegie-Arbuthnott†, P. F. Elvins, A. S. R. Groves, A. N. d'E. Darby, J. A. Walker, C. K. Allen (N), R. L. Edwards (N).
- TEMPLE—(*Spring*) R. S. Colebrook; (*Summer*) W. S. Croom-Johnson†, G. H. Josselyn†, J. A. P. Methuen-Campbell; (*Autumn*) M. J. Brain, R. B. Lewis, D. A. Macdonald, M. J. D. Manley†, A. J. B. Moore, A. M. Pearce, I. C. S. Ritchie†, J. M. Spanton, D. A. H. Wright, P. M. G. Hudson, R. M. Long (N), J. A. Corbin (N).
- GRENVILLE—(*Spring*) R. T. B. Eades, S. A. D. Morse (N), N. J. Randall (N), J. N. R. Welch (N)†; (*Summer*) A. W. P. Comber (N), S. C. Eve (N)†, A. J. Macpherson (N), S. A. McNair (N); (*Autumn*) M. B. Creighton, S. M. B. Dixey†, The Hon. P. V. Fisher†, N. H. Harvey†, P. M. Slowe, N. J. Gilhead (N), N. P. Kaye (N)†, S. A. Kingwell (N).
- CHANDOS—(*Spring*) C. G. N. Barclay†, J. H. R. Cridland, C. S. Ellis, T. J. R. Horner†, J. A. Jenkinson†; (*Summer*) J. B. Farrer, I. L. Foux, G. J. M. Lucas, R. J. Pratt, J. C. Prince†, J. G. Rowe; (*Autumn*) T. W. Bird, A. L. Bristow, M. J. Chesshire, S. G. Knight, H. G. F. Laity, F. M. M. O'Brien†, T. R. Reel, C. C. K. Rooke, S. M. Scott, A. P. Selby†, B. L.-P. Yuen.
- COBHAM—(*Spring*) R. G. G. Burdon, C. M. Goldingham†, J. R. C. Naumann†; (*Summer*) A. J. Breakspear, A. S. Crabbe†, J. E. V. Fleetwood, A. I. J. McGregor; (*Autumn*) W. G. Ashcroft (N), N. A. Bass (N), D. F. McDonough (N), J. R. Trelawny (N).
- CHATHAM—(*Spring*) D. B. Unerman; (*Summer*) M. W. H. Hamilton-Deane, A. G. Henry†, A. M. Thomas, A. E. Verdon-Roe†; (*Autumn*) R. G. G. Carr†, J. A. Clarfelt, R. E. A. Hope, D. H. Longman, T. E. Maclaren†, J. K. Nelson-Smith†, M. F. W. Platt†, I. A. Thomson†, P. W. Warburg, R. G. Sessler.
- GRAFTON—(*Spring*) R. R. Menzies; (*Summer*) L. P. Dalton (N), I. N. Macmillan (N), A. D. Shackleton (N), M. J. Wolfe† (N), R. F. Wraith (N); (*Autumn*) P. H. Abadjian, C. M. Black, S. J. Brough, T. M. Heron, C. J. Wiley, W. S. Millar (N), A. Shalson (N).
- WALPOLE—(*Spring*) S. M. Binns; (*Summer*) A. C. G. Walker, A. J. M. Carmichael (N)†, M. H. R. Cobb (N)†, M. C. Delahooke (N); (*Autumn*) D. M. Bevan†, T. J. T. Holman†, A. J. B. McKay Forbes, E. C. E. Peshall†, P. C. Sessler, C. J. Tate†, N. H. Thomlinson†, N. A. Tubbs.

