



THE STOIC

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THE STOIC

Stoica: N. P. Kaye
Society: A. W. Goodhart
Music: O. W. Richards
Sport: R. G. G. Carr

EDITORIAL

"We're going to construct by being destructive. We're going to teach love, no matter whom we hurt. We're going to be useful, by being useless. We're showing commitment by not being committed. We're going to lead a new social order without a leader. We're going to reject materialism, regardless of how much we have to sponge off our parents. We're showing a new morality, no matter how immoral we have to be to prove it. We want to learn yet we criticise our masters. We're going to clean the world, no matter how dirty we are. We're showing a new purpose by having no purpose. We want to create new rules of no rules. We don't understand our parents' misunderstanding. We reject technology by using the television, the radio, the car, roads, electricity, prepared foods, drugs, drink and cigarettes. We want to be non-productive on someone's production." Now I understand why they don't understand.

The majority of people nowadays put down the younger generation's destructive and critical attitude to education. They want to know more; they want to know why; they want to know how. But surely this is the result of either bad teaching or the wrong sort of education. The new society is such a contradiction of attitudes, ideas and ideals that it can only be the product of a group of remarkably uneducated bigots. Consequently it is not surprising that the older and more experienced generations don't listen to what we have to say — why should they? The majority of it does not make sense and the rest has been said before. Surely before we start to criticise the older generation and their establishments, we should perfect our own? If and when we have succeeded in this, we may then have the right to suggest changes in our parents' and grandparents' way of life. Until then, this criticism is purely hypocritical.

STOICA

School Officials—Spring Term 1970

Prefects:	R. M. Withinshaw	Head of the School and Head of Grafton	
	W. S. Croom-Johnson	Second Prefect	
	H. A. Blair-Imrie	Head of Cobham and Prefect of Gymnasium	
	N. J. A. Davies	Prefect of Hall	
	P. S. H. Frazer	Head of Lyttelton	
	N. A. Geach	Head of Chandos	
	J. W. Goodwin	Head of Walpole	
	G. Klonarides	Prefect of Mess	
	P. J. Lankester	Prefect of Chapel	
	J. C. B. Lucas	Prefect of Library	
	C. J. McCubbin	Head of Chatham	
	M. J. D. Manley	Head of Temple	
	S. D. Moss	Head of Bruce	
	B. B. Scholfield	Head of Grenville	
Hockey:	Captain, I. A. Thomson (C)		Secretary, N. H. Thomlinson (W)
Cross Country:	Captain, D. J. Conran (S)		Secretary, A. M. V. Mann (C)
Squash:	Captain, H. J. A. Smith (T)		Secretary, R. G. L. Cheate (W)
Fencing:	Captain, E. M. Dweck (S)		Secretary, P. J. Lankester (C)
Fives:	Captain, M. E. Shirley-Beavan (G)		Secretary, D. A. H. Wright (T)
Golf:	Captain, S. A. McNair (G)		Secretary, D. R. Wright (C)
Shooting:	Captain, A. S. R. Groves (B)		Secretary, J. W. Kennon (G)
Beagles:	Master, J. Bell-Irving (C)		
Community Service Secretary:	D. J. Cornforth (G)		

Although as I write we are suffering from an onslaught of snow and everything seems to be grinding to a halt, I think it is fair to say that there has been more activity at Stowe this term than there was this time last year.

We welcome three new members of the teaching staff. Mr. Macoun is an Old Graftonian and has taken over as tutor of the Geography Side. Mr. Potter has admirably managed Mr. Nicholl's timetable in his absence and Mr. Symington has been a lively addition to the Physics department. Unfortunately Mr. Brangwin was unable to come as expected this term. Mr. Hale has been of great assistance to the Music Staff during his term here as a student teacher and has conscientiously 'helped out' in many ways, especially at rehearsals for the end of term concert. We wish him every success for the future.

Our congratulations go to the winners of University Awards and places. From the list of awards shown later on, you will see that we are suffering something of a Brain Drain in the Classics line. However, such a record of success can surely offer nothing but encouragement.

Mr. Nicholl has returned from his investigations into the History of the Waldensian Church. So far we have only heard rumours of 'ski-ing' and 'a jolly good time'. Doubtless the discoveries of scholarship will be thrown open to the uninitiated world sooner or later and we are looking forward to hearing about his findings.

On the Sports side this has been a successful term. At the time of writing the 1st XI Hockey team has not lost any school match (unfortunately they did not quite manage to beat a guest side mainly composed of Internationals!) and the Squash team has enjoyed total victory. The Cross Country teams have boldly trudged through snow and sludge and the Colts proved themselves to be one of the most successful teams for many years. We must also congratulate M. J. Guest on reaching the semi-finals of the Junior Evans Squash Rackets Cup.

Another change from the normal Sunday Chapel services was the Solo Dramatic Presentation by John Stuart Anderson in the Roxburgh Hall. This, if nothing else, was a splendid theatrical performance. On the

question of drama, Temple House treated us to "The Thirteen Clocks" by James Thurber, cleverly transposed into a Stowe Pantomime by Mr. Vinen and accompanied by some daring falsetto songs written by Mr. Wiggins. We are looking forward to a presentation by Cobham later in the term.

Dr. Havard gave the whole School some realistic facts about drugs and although he had to speak at at least seven sessions, remained placid and well prepared for attacks of questions. The new tradition of Saturday morning Upper School lectures is well under way now and invites greater extremes of subject. Professor A. R. Gemmell talking on "Biology and Race" was well equipped with a keen sense of logic to provide us with a factual argument on the differences or the lack of differences between races. As a complete contrast three weeks later Robert Spencer transported us into the 16th and 17th centuries with what turned out to be a weekend of lute and guitar music. It was a privilege to be entertained by such a rare expert. Two enthusiastic lecturers have also appeared from our midst: Mr. Rawcliffe on "Byzantine Churches" and Mr. Manly on "Russian Icons".

One of the greatest events of the term which as I write we still have to look forward to, is the performance of the "Missa Solemnis". I am sure Beethoven's climactic offering will not fail to create a powerful impact, for it is in itself the climax of Stowe Music under Mr. Watson's leadership.

Unfortunately omitted from last term's report, was the result of this year's Myles Henry Prize which was won by R. Suri who astonished the adjudicators by the sheer volume of his plans for a comprehensive study of life in the Bernese Oberland. The runner-up was K. J. Saunders who planned to make a survey of wine-making in Northern France.

We are sorry to report the death of Mr. Myron Whitehead, a figure who was well

Oxford and Cambridge Awards

S. R. Barstow (B1969)	Classics Exhibition, Peterhouse, Cambridge.
J. C. B. Lucas (G)	Classics Scholarship, Pembroke College, Cambridge.
J. Moreton (G 1969)	Classics Exhibition, Magdalene College, Cambridge.
D. A. G. Ireland (B 1969)	Classics Scholarship, Trinity College, Cambridge.
R. R. Menzies (S)	Engineering Scholarship, Trinity College, Cambridge.

known to many Old Stoics and masters, who died in January at the age of 86. He had the distinction of being one of the remaining original employees of the School until his retirement as Estate Foreman about ten years ago. Another great Stowe character, Mr. H. A. Garrett, celebrated his eightieth birthday on February 2nd. Mr. Garrett was on the Bursar's staff for many years and has been the master-mind behind the scenes when it comes to organizing the distribution of *The Stoic*. We send him our congratulations and best wishes.

Contacts with the outside world seem to be increasing. Several houses had House Dances this term and an interesting outside contact is that which Stowe has made with nearby Grendon Prison. On a recent 'social' visit where some Stoics were entertained to tea at Grendon, there was talk that they may make an outing to Stowe sometime. This seemed to cause a bit of a stir in some quarters; perhaps someone was afraid of having to arrange an annual exchange visit—after all, as an experimental prison, Grendon is apparently far more luxurious than people would imagine!

Fifth formers and some sixth formers sat professionally arranged Aptitude Tests this term and are still waiting to discover where their real talents lie. As far as the talent of conveying ideas by means of words is concerned, Mr. James discovered that the results from one of his First Aid Tests might well provide a good amateur guide. He went so far as to collate his results and amongst them appear the following:

What are 'Signs' in First Aid?

"A sign is a word used to see if you can find out happened, where it is that happened, what is happening, and what might happen in the future if something is not done."

or:

"... if someone says, 'I'm feeling sick and stomach aches' you can say 'All you've got is tummy rubles.'"

Stowe Entrance Scholarships and Exhibitions

- Major Scholarships:** P. J. Partington (Ashdown House, Forest Row, Sussex)
J. J. Macnamara (Marlborough House, Hawkhurst, Kent)
A. Doble (Spyway, Langton Matravers, Dorset)
- Exhibitions:** A. R. M. Blackburn (Milbourne Lodge Senior School,
Arbrook Lane, Esher, Surrey)
F. B. Watson (Akeley Wood, Nr. Buckingham)
M. C. H. Vey (St. Edmund's School, Hindhead, Surrey)
D. J. Hobson (Dean Close Junior School,
Lansdown Road, Cheltenham)
D. M. Brockwell (Caldicott, Farnham Royal, Bucks)
D. P. Scowsill (St. Edmund's School, Kesgrave, Nr. Ipswich)
M. E. L. Wilsdon (New College, School, Oxford)
- Music Scholarship:** H. F. Richards (Maidwell Hall, Northampton)
- Music Exhibition:** J. B. Kermode (Rose Hill, Wotton-under-Edge, Glos.)

OLIM ALUMNI

- R. C. Alsop (© 1939) has been appointed an Overseer of the Boston Symphony Orchestra.
The Rev. P. T. Ashton (© 1935) Rector of Sandringham and Domestic Chaplain to the Queen is to be Rector in a team Ministry at Wilcot.
P. M. Beech (© 1931) has been appointed C.B.E.
J. P. Burman (© 1941) has been appointed Statistical Adviser to the Bank of England.
N. H. Burton Carter (© 1965) gained 1st Class Honours in Mechanical Engineering at Sheffield University and was awarded the John Brown Prize for mechanical engineers.
Col. N. A. C. Croft (© 1925) has been awarded an O.B.E.
Lt.-Col. G. L. D. Duckworth (© 1949) has been appointed to command the 2nd Royal Tank Regiment from July 1970.
S. L. Earlam (W 1968) has been awarded a golf Blue at Oxford University.
Air Commodore R. E. W. Harland (© 1938) has been appointed A.O.C. Number 24 Group R.A.F.
J. H. H. Massey Stewart (W 1951) has published an illustrated travel book *Across the Russias*.
R. A. C. Meredith (G 1953) has been appointed Headmaster of Giggleswick School from September 1970.
P. W. I. Rees (T 1944) is the Parliamentary Conservative Candidate for Dover.
R. L. Wiley (© 1959) has been awarded a Ph.D. by the University of London for work on speech perception.

BIRTHS

To the wife of:

- J. M. E. Anderson (© 1957) a son on January 12th 1970.
R. O. Cobham (G 1954) a son on August 3rd 1969.
T. D. Dyke (© 1958) a son on April 9th 1969.
I. M. Haynes (C 1954) sons on May 14th 1963, June 7th 1965 and May 19th 1967.
J. R. Kerr-Muir (C 1959) a son on November 30th 1969.
M. P. Llewellyn (B 1963) a son on July 21st 1968 and a daughter on December 12th 1969.
R. A. Roxburgh (W 1947) a daughter on November 4th 1967.

to play the second, or third, along the line of a small wood. In this in succession towards the green, are the lime (008) that may have caught the long hook, a holm oak (016), some young elms, a small mixed clump of larches and beeches with a single young buttonwood plane (017) on its edge, and then two Scots pines (018) and a holm oak (019) bunched together. This brings you close to the green, but in the open rough on its left there will be some day a cedar (020) and some holm oaks large enough to interfere with the pulled approach.

3rd Hole

From the third tee you have a good view of Chatham Field and can appreciate how in time the holes will be made more difficult by trees and shrubs that have recently been planted. From this tee the long driver goes straight for the green, but the less long will aim for the group of larches (021), now with young beeches beneath them, on the right so as to avoid the marsh. In this are two little hawthorns (022) to add to the penalty of a short shot that has enough trouble in the marsh anyway, and nearer the tee is a young metasequoia (023) that is unlikely to get in the way of any but the worst player. As you walk up to the green have a look, among other trees on the edge of the Eleven-Acre lake, at two old Lombardy poplars (024) with recently planted young ones, ready to catch a hook, and a tulip tree (025) beyond; this last is especially fine in the autumn when its yellow colour stands out so vividly against the groups of common alder (026) along the water's edge. On the left before you reach the green there is a rather interesting triple-stemmed Turkey oak (027). The green has two big trees near it which are well worth looking at, a pedunculate oak (028) to the right and a Turkey oak (029) down the slope to the left. Behind these is an extraordinary coppiced lime (030) on the edge of the wood.

4th Hole

Here you first come near to the lovely purple (copper) beech (031), but it is so far to the right that it will interfere with nothing but the most dreadful shank; nor will the large leaved lime (032) in the same direction. To the right is one of the more recently planted small copses to which I have given the name 'Copse 'C''. To the left are some ornamental crab apples and cherries flanking Queen Caroline's monument. The good golfer may be offended by the mention of these shrubs but on a school course strange things can happen! On the edge of the wood are yews, elms, elders and a holly around the bases of which are masses of snowberry (032). I have heard of as many as ten balls being found here in as many minutes. Beyond the green and to its left, well out of harm's way, is a common beech (034).

5th Hole

This is nearly devoid of trees except for a white poplar (035), a Lombardy poplar (036) and a red oak (037), all young, in a line to the right and of no consequence for many years. A bad shank will clear these three trees now and end up by two weeping willows (038). Just to the left of the tee is a rowan tree (039) and a wild cherry (040), but they will possibly be cut down in the near future so that the tee can be moved to the left, thereby getting some sun and opening up the green. Comfortably beyond the green is a small Indian horse chestnut (041), a Norway maple (042) and a red Norway maple (043).

6th Hole

This is more interesting. In front, and to the left, ready to catch a really poor shot, is an elm (044) with an unfamiliar rounded outline, and beyond it, further to the left, is a southern beech (*Nothofagus*) (045). Neither of these should concern the better player. He will drive between two groups of trees a little further on, keeping nearer the left hand one so as to open up the green. In this left group is a narrow leaved ash (046) that has a peculiar trunk suggesting that it is a graft, beyond it is a purple beech (047), and to their left a holm oak (048) (sadly this tree fell under a great weight of snow on March 4th, 1970) and a cedar (049). Further on in the rough is a solitary young sycamore (050) to catch the slightly hooked shots of Stoics yet to be born. The group to the right is worth more than a cursory glance in passing. Well out of the way is a tulip tree (051), but nearer the fairway are two smooth leaved elms (052) and then a variegated elm (053) which can be better appreciated on the next hole. A slice may have trouble in getting through any of these elms, and even if it does, it may land in the nearby

newly planted copse, letter 'A', that will in time be a serious nuisance. When Lyttelton House was opened it was decided to plant some sizeable trees between it and the park. There are a lime (054), a horse chestnut (055) and an ash (056) all of which were transplanted at heights of about 15 feet.

7th Hole

Before driving off take a look at the plane (067) in the Headmaster's garden and note the peeling bark, and then at the variegated elm (053) on the right which shows up so well against the greener elms behind it. Trouble is in store in years to come, indeed there is some already, for another copse of newly planted trees and shrubs on the left of the fairway and extending up towards the green will become increasingly thick, make the hole more dog-leg and push the drives out towards the elms and the tulip tree (051). This is the long copse, labelled 'B', in which already well developed are a Wych elm (068), two Norway maples (069 and 070), a willow (071), an elm (072), Lawson's cypress (074) and a hairy birch (075). The approach will then be over a nasty bunker and will not be helped by the Indian horse chestnut (041), the Norway maple (042) and the red Norway maple (043) nearby. The alternative route by the 8th fairway, already favoured by many because it opens up the green, will also become more difficult as the trees in the long copse spread their branches to the left. Beyond the green is a beautiful purple beech (031) already seen from the 4th tee, unlikely to bother anyone good or bad. Past the long copse is an Oregon ash (077) then a couple of recently planted trees, purple beech and weeping ash, and finally a mixed copse of western red cedars (078) and cypresses (079) around the pump house. This copse can be devastating to a pulled approach.

8th Hole

The really long driver will aim over the willow leaved pear (080) to carry the corner of the marsh and run up the slope of the fairway beyond. The shorter player who has to press to do this, or who cannot, should aim to the left or he will drop into the marsh and become entangled in the swamp cypress (081) and, in about fifty years, by others that has been planted nearby. Both the Oregon ash (077) and the long copse may catch a drive if playing to the left is overdone. A really accurate player may chance his arm by driving through the larch copse (021) through the gap made to open up the vista from the Rotundo to Queen Caroline's monument in 1968.

Supposing the drive has gone where intended, the shot to the green is of great interest. On the right are a couple of blue spruces (082) which, with the Rotundo, make an alternative route via the 3rd fairway very risky. On the left there will one day be an imposing little copse including a silver lime (083), cedar of Lebanon (085) and a young Monterey cypress to replace the old one in the Headmaster's garden. These together with the adjacent beech (087) will become increasingly troublesome to a second shot from that side. By the green itself there are yews (089) on the left, three holm oaks (090) just beyond to the right and a very young Turkey oak (091) straight past it. It is one of the best shots on the course demanding great care if the ball is to finish on this well guarded green.

9th Hole

Here you can probably ignore the holm oaks (090) beside the 8th green and confine your attention to the pedunculate oak (092), the lime (093), the large European larch (094) and the rather spindly Scots pine (095) in front of it. These wait for the longish hook and there are also two holm oaks (096) to the right. These last are the poorest of those at the four corners of the 'Hog Pond'. A high shot straight between these two groups might keep you on this small and difficult green. Beyond and on the right is the very young cedar (002) which should not bother anyone on this hole nor on the first for many many years.

Thus the walk is complete and I hope that your round, successful or otherwise, has been brightened by learning something of the trees that have surrounded you.

B. A. BARR

THE HISTORY OF STOWE-IX

GILBERT WEST'S WALK THROUGH THE GARDENS IN 1731

*To thee, great Master of the vocal String,
O Pope, of Stowe's Elyzian Scenes I sing:*

*All great, all perfect Works from Genius flow,
The British Iliad hence, and hence the Groves of Stowe.*

In Chapter VII was mentioned a poem descriptive of Stowe by Gilbert West, Lord Cobham's nephew. Maria Temple, Lord Cobham's eldest sister, had married the Revd. Richard West against her brother's wishes and in consequence her issue were not included in the special remainder to the peerage. Her son Gilbert was however on good terms with his uncle, who arranged for him a commission in the cavalry. But the young man was no soldier. He soon resigned and settled down as a pious and scholarly country gentleman, subsisting on slender means until finally he obtained the clerkship to the Privy Council. He translated Pindar and wrote English verse that earned him a place in Doctor Johnson's *Lives of the English Poets*. He wrote his Stowe poem in 1731, submitting it in November of that year to Pope for "correction". Pope thought well of it and in 1732 it was printed, anonymously. It is in fact a versified guide to the gardens, the prototype of the long subsequent series published, though not in verse, by Seeley and others. The guides all follow, more or less, West's route round the gardens. Let us follow this route ourselves and see what we find by the way.

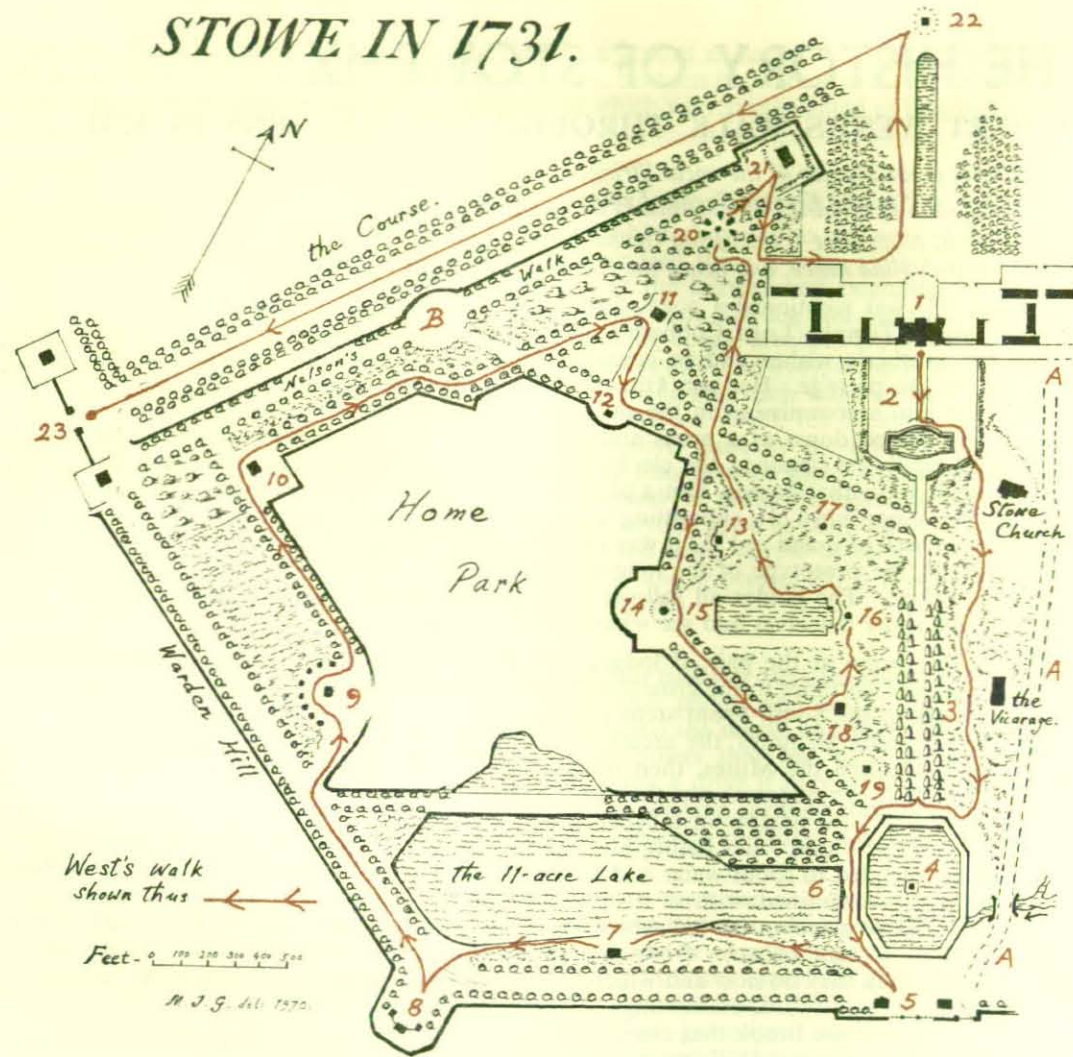
Seeley's guides begin at the pair of lodges now known as the Lake Pavilions, beside which was the sightseers' entrance to the grounds. West, however, as a relation and guest in the house, begins his walk at the South Front steps and proceeds towards the pavilions. Passing through Bridgeman's parterre he notes the arcades of topiary on either hand with the gilt vases and statues of Apollo and the Muses, then turns aside from the garden proper for a moment to look at the church, whose tower was then visible from the parterre. Next he penetrates through the "mazy Wood", the narrow strip between the Abeal Walk and the "highway", until "Lo! the Octagon's clear Flood" lies before him. In the middle of the Octagon stood a "Guglio", a tall obelisk intended to spout water and no doubt designed by Vanbrugh. The overflow from the Octagon was beautified with a rustic arch and statues of river gods and became the "Cascade". After glancing up the Abeal Walk towards the house again, West walks round by the Cascade to halt between "two Dorick Edifices", the Lake Pavilions, then standing closer together than they do now and which, in a footnote, he gives to Vanbrugh. Here he turns to look back north-eastward, exclaiming:

*“ beyond the Brook that creeps below,
Along yon beauteous Hill's green sloping Brow,
The Garden's destin'd Boundaries extend,
Where Cobham's pleasing Toils, tho' late, shall end ”—*

from which we may conclude that his uncle had already told him that he proposed, one day, to take all that eastern parkland into the garden. Ten years later the Gothic Temple was in fact built on the "beauteous Hill".

West now turns south-westward into the newly improved part of the grounds. Vanbrugh's Rotondo had been set up in 1721 on a bastion built out into Home Park, the idea being that a visitor standing there would enjoy the contrast of Art on one side and Nature, represented by the park, on the other. By 1730 fashion was beginning to demand that garden and Nature should merge into one, but Nature called for improvement and the park, from its heavy clay soil, was practically non-improvable. Beyond it, however, a belt of trees might be planted and ornamental buildings set here and there along the belt to form accents in the view. Thus might Home Park, remaining natural, be brought into the garden. Nothing had been done with this region when Lord Perceval paid his visit in 1724, but by 1731 the belt had been planted, buildings set up and the 11-Acre Lake formed below the dam of the Octagon. Apart from visual improvement there was a strong practical reason for creating this defined perimeter to Home

STOWE IN 1731.



- KEY
- 1 Stowe House
 - 2 The Parterre
 - 3 The Abeal Walk
 - 4 The Octagon Basin and Guglio
 - 5 The Lake Pavilions (Vanbrugh)
 - 6 The Cascade
 - 7 The Hermitage (Kent)
 - 8 Kent's Building (later Temple of Venus)
 - 9 Gibbs' Building and the British Worthies (Rysbrack)
 - 10 The Pyramid (Vanbrugh)
 - 11 The Temple of Bacchus (Vanbrugh)
 - 12 Coucher's Obelisk (Vanbrugh ?)

- KEY
- 13 The "Randibus"
 - 14 The Rotondo (Vanbrugh)
 - 15 The "Garden of Venus"
 - 16 The Queen's Statue (Rysbrack ?) and Theatre
 - 17 The King's Statue (Rysbrack ?)
 - 18 The Temple of Sleep (Vanbrugh ?)
 - 19 The Cold Bath (Vanbrugh ?)
 - 20 The Saxon Deities (Rysbrack)
 - 21 Nelson's Seat (Vanbrugh ?)
 - 22 The George I Statue (Van Nost)
 - 23 The Boycott Pavilions (Gibbs) and Gateway (Kent)

AA The "Highway" (This was the old road from Stowe to Buckingham. The making of the Home Park drive made possible the destruction of the highway and the consequent extension of the garden eastward.)

B. Possible first position of the Pyramid.

Note. The plan is redrawn by the author from the western part of the plan published by Sarah Bridgeman in 1739.

Park. Lord Cobham was already proposing to extend his garden eastward, but nothing could be done that way until the highway had been closed and a new approach-road arranged elsewhere. This was done between 1724 and 1731. From the point where the highway passed the Lake Pavilions a straight carriageway was laid along the south shore of the 11-Acre Lake. The drive turned right at the dam of the lake and ran straight again gently up Warden Hill to the top of what is now called the Oxford Hill. Here it turned right again and ran along the Course until finally it reached the North Front of the house. The making of this drive killed, as it were, three birds with one stone. Firstly it released the eastern part of the grounds for development as a garden. Secondly a visitor arriving by carriage, having driven down from the New Inn, now turned sharp left at the Lake Pavilions and enjoyed a tree-shaded journey with a succession of ornamental buildings to divert him all the way round the lake and the park until, properly keyed up and expecting yet greater wonders, he reached the house. Finally, now on foot and arrived at the Rotondo, he could look out at what he had travelled through and seen as a series, all displayed together as a panorama.

No garden accounts whatever have so far been discovered for the 1730s. It is thus impossible to follow the month by month development at this period, as was done in chapter VII for the 1720s. Some time during the 1730s Bridgeman fades from the scene, though exactly when we do not know. He died in 1738 and shortly afterwards his widow published the prints of Rigaud's Stowe views, with a plan dated 1739. The plan of course shows the central and western limbs of the garden, designed by her husband. It also shows the Home Park perimeter, completed by 1731. Further, it shows the eastern area—except the Grecian Valley—exhibited, with minor discrepancies, as it was in fact laid out. This area, however, was not finished until nearly 1750. It may be that Bridgeman had projected it all in outline. But none of the detail, for reasons which will appear, can be his work. Alternatively it may be that he had no hand at all in the eastern area, but that Mrs. Bridgeman sent down her engraver in 1739 to collect the facts as to what had been done by other hands and what was projected, and the plan was thus completed. It seems practically certain, however, that the Home Park perimeter was planned and carried out by Bridgeman. In his perspective view of the garden, discussed in earlier chapters, appears below the dam of the Octagon something that looks like a pair of fishponds. The obvious next step, as soon as the park perimeter was agreed upon, was to enlarge this water into an ornamental lake by making a high dam further down the watercourse. The 11-Acre Lake must surely be Bridgeman's work. It is neither a "canal" in the old style nor quite a "natural" lake like those later designed by Capability Brown, but falls between the two, having straight sides but no particular shape. It is in fact a characteristic ornament of Bridgeman's semi-natural style as he developed it at Stowe at this time. Further, the first leg of the new drive is a prolongation south-westwards of the boundary terrace, the central part of which, fronting the Lake Pavilions, also appears in the perspective view. At the end of this, at the uttermost south-west corner of the enlarged garden, was formed another bastion, as it were a distant outwork to the Rotondo, waiting for another building. Here again, surely, is to be seen the hand of Bridgeman. Moreover, the whole of the Home Park region is shown, one way and another, in Rigaud's views which were made a year or two after the printing of West's verses. The fact that Rigaud came to Stowe at Bridgeman's own invitation, and that he shows in great detail the entire lay-out up to the completion of the park perimeter but nothing of the eastern area, is strong evidence that everything up to 1731 may be credited to Bridgeman, but little or nothing afterwards. Rigaud's views were engraved by himself and Bernard Baron, but the plan of 1739, which was sold with the engravings, was, George Vertue notes, "by another (i.e. a later) graver". Taking all into consideration it seems probable that Bridgeman had severed his connection with Stowe by 1733, which was, according to Vertue, the date of Rigaud's views.

To return now to Gilbert West. He walks down beside the Cascade and along the south shore of the lake. Passing the Hermitage he comes to the south-west bastion where he sees the building now called the Temple of Venus. This, he says, is the work of "Kent's judicious hands". The Hermitage, though he does not say so, is almost certainly Kent's too. At least, West says he sees these buildings. If he did in fact set eyes on them they must be among the earliest, if not the very earliest, of William Kent's buildings anywhere. Kent began life as a painter and

did not begin to practise architecture before 1730. It therefore seems likely that all West saw was men digging foundations, if anything at all. But he could have seen Kent's drawings and described what would exist by the time his verses came to be printed. His description of the temple corresponds closely to the engraving published by Isaac Ware a few years later (Plate 1), more closely indeed than the finished building may have done. And there is another reason for thinking that West is here anticipating. He is an accurate guide to Stowe. All his attributions have been proved right by recent research. But here he seems to make a mistake, saying that the Hermitage has decorative paintings inside. It was in fact the temple that was painted, with the story of Hellinore and Malbecco from Spenser's *Faerie Queene*. West gives the subject correctly, but if the temple was not yet built, then again he can only have known that this subject would be painted when the time came. The apparent mistake about the venue of the paintings may merely have been indecision on his uncle's part at this early stage. The paintings, according to all subsequent guides, were by Francesco Sleter, whose other numerous works at Stowe all dated from the 1740s. The Spenserian tale was salacious, and on the ceiling Sleter painted a "Naked Venus". It was doubtless this erotic scheme that later gave the name of Venus to this temple, superseding the Rotondo, which, with its gilt copy of the Venus de' Medici, had hitherto been the shrine of that goddess at Stowe. West in 1731 does not link her name with Kent's building.

Here at the new Temple of Venus Kent and Bridgeman meet, Kent building on Bridgeman's foundation. If Bridgeman was not already gone by this time, Kent's next commission, the garden-design for the Elysian Fields, was probably the signal for Bridgeman to bid adieu to Stowe. Turning his back on Venus meanwhile West proceeds up Warden Hill, coming upon buildings which were already there before Kent arrived at Stowe. Diverging a little from the carriageway he comes first to what for long was known merely as "Gibbs' Building" (Plate 4), the name suggesting that it was James Gibbs' first work at Stowe. Later it was named the "Belvidere". It was an open pavilion roofed with a steep cupola. It stood where Queen Caroline is now and below it was an icehouse. Around it were eight busts on pedestals, by Rysbrack, a set of "British Worthies", of whom more later.

At the top of the hill West arrives at the most curious of all Lord Cobham's garden ornaments, Vanbrugh's Pyramid—

"Lamented Vanbrugh! This thy last design".

Lord Perceval described the Pyramid in his letter of 1724. But there exists a bill for "ye foundation digging for ye Piramid" dated November 1726. What are we to make of this discrepancy? Can the Pyramid have been moved? If it was always where West found it, at the west corner of Home Park, then it stood in 1724 well outside the garden at that time, which seems unlikely. However, Bridgeman's 1719/20 view shows at the extreme western point of the garden as then proposed a large empty plinth, obviously intended for some important feature. Possibly the Pyramid stood here and here Lord Perceval saw it. When Nelson's Walk was extended to the Boycott Pavilions, as must have been done by the time West wrote, then the Pyramid, blocking the walk, may have been taken down and rebuilt in the corner of the park (Plate 3). It stood sixty feet high and was rather narrow for its height, a typical Vanbrugh capriccio, and must have made an imposing corner-piece to the grounds. It is a matter for regret that it no longer exists.

West now begins to walk back towards the house and comes to Vanbrugh's Temple of Bacchus of 1719. This was a fine and simple building, of brick but later stuccoed. It was wholly characteristic of Vanbrugh and its destruction to make way for the school chapel was a grievous event. Inside were Bacchic subjects painted by Francis Nollekens, father of the more famous sculptor. West here breaks off to tell a somewhat improper story featuring a pretty girl on a swing and "Blank", who, seeing rather more than he ought to have seen when the swing went up, frightened the poor girl away and chased her to a "private grotto", which West strangely calls the "Randibus". The puzzle is solved by a copy of the poem now in the Princetown University Library, where an eighteenth century hand has filled in the blanks with the name Rand; who was, alas, the vicar of Stowe at that time. Rand, says West, is so good-humoured that he will not mind this tale's being told about him. What the girl thought about it is not



Vanbrugh's Temple of Bacchus; destroyed 1926

recorded. Running towards the private grotto she passed "Coucher's Obelisk", a monument to the Revd. Robert Coucher ("an intimate of Rand's" says a ms. note in the Princetown copy) who had been chaplain to Cobham's Dragoons. This obelisk, like the Guglio, was no doubt Vanbrugh's. The grotto, one gathers from West, was fairly near the Rotondo and was probably the small building later known as Dido's Cave.

Now arrived at the Rotondo West gazes with admiration at the "Garden of Venus", as Lord Perceval had called it, with the formal pool that had been the hog-pond, the Queen's Theatre, and the King's and Queen's statues on their tall pedestals. These last had been set up while the persons represented were still Prince and Princess of Wales. The King's statue has left Stowe but Queen Caroline remains in her later position where Gibbs' Building formerly stood. The sculptor of the statues was almost certainly Rysbrack. West goes on as far as the Temple of Sleep (or Sleeping Parlour),

"A peaceful Fabrick, for Repose design'd".

It was comfortably furnished inside and it seems that exhausted sightseers really were invited to doze there. West gives no designer's name but the building resembled, in a simplified form, the Temple of the Winds at Castle Howard and may be assigned to Vanbrugh.

West now turns back again and skirting the western outworks of the house arrives, just short of Nelson's Walk and approximately where the school sanatorium now stands, at the Circle of Saxon Deities: Sunna, Mona, Tiw, Woden, Thuner, Friga and Seatern, uncouth stone figures carved by Rysbrack, stood or sat on rude pedestals probably designed by Vanbrugh. This region, between the Temple of Bacchus and Nelson's Seat, was then furnished with huge old oaks, perhaps survivors of primaeval forest. Their Druidical shade was no doubt thought congenial to the mythical ancestors of the British race. A few paces farther and "Lo! Nelson's airy Seat" exclaims West as he comes upon one of the earliest of the garden buildings, which, standing high, commanded a view north-eastwards over the deer-park. Again he names no designer but again we may reasonably assume it was Vanbrugh¹. West now moves out into the open beyond the North Front and halts to admire the statue of the "Good old King" (George I) on horseback, standing on its mound. This life-sized figure, cast in lead, was made by John van Nost. It is the oldest surviving of the garden ornaments, a replica of a figure made by van Nost in 1717 for the Essex Bridge in Dublin². The Stowe version was no doubt intended by Lord Cobham as an act of gratitude to the House of Hanover for his peerage, though it was not set up until 1729. The Prince's and Princess' statues to the south of the house continued the same loyal theme.

1. See Laurence Whistler, *The Imagination of Vanbrugh and his Fellow Artists*, p.185, plate 95.
2. Now at the Barber Institute, Birmingham.

Turning away, West glances complacently at the "lowly Huts" of the "peaceful Hinds" at Dadford and strolls off down the Course, reaching at the top of the Oxford Hill what he calls an "ample Arch". There is some mystery here. The plan of 1739 shows merely a pair of gateposts set close together, nor is there any subsequent knowledge of an arch in this position. West is a conscientious guide and the arch may have existed, but it seems remarkable that an "ample" arch should vanish without trace so quickly. What in fact appears to have existed was a gateway designed by Kent (Plate 2). The side arches, far from ample, have long since been destroyed, but the gatepiers are evidently those later moved across the water to the present Oxford gate. The gate (or arch?) led out to nothing in particular. It was not until thirty years later that the bridge was built and the Oxford drive laid down. Finally West mentions Gibbs' Boycott Pavilions, standing on either side the drive and in line with the gate. Gibbs gave the pavilions steep, pyramidal roofs, making their appearance very different from what it has been since the pyramids were replaced with domes. The south-east pavilion, standing exactly at the end of the lengthened Nelson's Walk, was perhaps intended, with its lesser pyramid, to replace Vanbrugh's that had been moved to the corner of the park. The pavilions were indeed Vanbrughian, so much so that later guide books, forgetting Gibbs, ascribed them to Vanbrugh. Gibbs' however they are and appear in his *Book of Architecture* of 1728 (Plate 5).

* * *

In 1727 Gilbert West's cousin George Lyttelton, while still an undergraduate at Oxford, had written a poem descriptive of Blenheim. It may have been this that in the first place gave Gilbert the idea of writing about Stowe, which he did in a style, topographically and poetically, much superior to George's youthful effort. By 1731 the Stowe garden was big enough and full enough to deserve a guide, and this is perhaps why West wrote his poem just when he did. It came, though this no doubt was not apparent at the time, at an interesting moment, a turning-point in garden history. Even up to this moment there had been echoes at Stowe from Chantilly and Versailles, but now the semi-formal, semi-Baroque manner of Bridgeman/Vanbrugh/Rysbrack was to give way to the picturesque manner of William Kent, who was already on the scene. There was however a theme connecting the earlier manner with the later, at Stowe and indeed elsewhere³, a theme neither aesthetic nor horticultural, but political, ideological. The theme was expressed at Stowe by the British Worthies. Gibbs' Building with its fringe of Rysbrack busts was a pleasing ornament, but its purpose was ideological. Among the eight Worthies were two sovereigns, and you might suppose that one of them would have been Queen Anne, for whom Lord Cobham had fought so stoutly and who had promoted him from colonel to lieutenant-general. But no, with all her virtues Queen Anne was a Stuart. She was left out. The sovereigns were the great patriot Elizabeth, last before the Stuarts, with her poet Shakespeare; and William III, supplanter of the Stuarts, with his philosopher John Locke. Between was John Hampden, the local patriot from Aylesbury, who had drawn his sword against the Stuarts and died for the Parliament. There were also Bacon and Newton, who had clearly shown that Truth, though not of course its Divine Origin, was to be found by intellectual process and not by listening to what the priests had to say. There was no priest of any kind among the Worthies. Finally there was Milton. He was there because he had written sublime poetry, but it was open to anyone to point out that he had also written letters for Oliver Cromwell. In short, the theme was "1688", Dutch William receiving by acclaim the title of British Worthy. The theme was anti-Stuart and anti-clerical and was carried on if anything in a stronger style by the Saxon Deities, who were anti-classical. The Worthies were anti-Catholic, the Deities anti-Roman.

"Hail! Gods of our renown'd Fore-Fathers, hail!
Ador'd Protectors once of England's Weal.
Gods, of a Nation, valiant, wise, and free,
Who conquer'd to establish Liberty!"

No cringing to Cato here, no adulation of Augustus! Julius Caesar is repudiated. So is William the Conqueror. Englishmen descend from the heroes of Asgard and never shall be slaves!

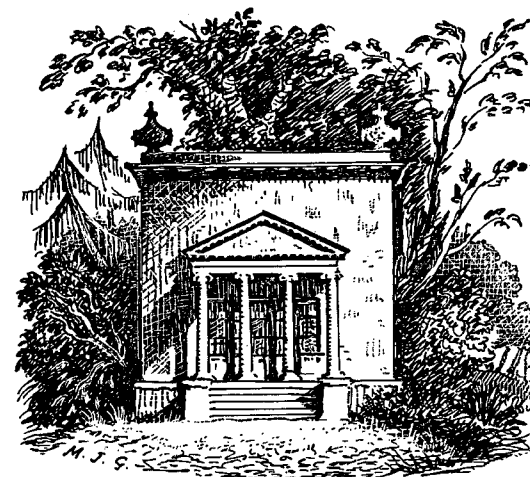
"Nor e'er indignant may you blush to see
The Shame of your corrupted Progeny!"

3. See *The Making of the Saltram Landscape*, by John Cornforth, in *Country Life*, September 14th, 1967.

is West's parting salutation as he walks away. He was a thoughtful and scholarly man, much interested in the "Gothic" past, and it is more than likely that it was he who suggested to his uncle a temple of Saxon Deities.

It would not be right of course to impute to Lord Cobham precisely the ideas expressed above, but something very like them must have been in his head. Were they his own ideas or did he collect them from elsewhere and turn them to his own purpose? In Gibbs' Building he set up a tablet with a four-line quotation from the sixth book of the *Aeneid*, praising heroes, by way of a text for the Worthies. Rome at least supplied this, but it was not left exactly as Virgil had written it. There were in fact five lines, but the fifth, praising priests, was omitted. In view of Lord Cobham's known dislike of all sorts of priests except the English sub-species represented by Rand and Coucher it has naturally been supposed that he made the excision himself. But in fact the same quotation, with the same line omitted, had appeared in the *Tatler* on October 15th, 1709, in a paper by Addison and Steele. Just one month earlier Swift had published an essay also in the *Tatler* where he put forward the idea of a "Chamber of Fame" in which were to be lay heroes only. "Sacred Persons", who "move upon greater Motives than that of Fame", were not to be admitted. Did the idea of the British Worthies come straight out of the *Tatler*? If so there is irony in it, for Swift was an arch-Tory, and he and Cobham had been very much on opposite sides at the crisis of 1714. But things had simmered down a great deal during twelve years or so and Cobham had, after all, many Tory friends in private life. At Midsummer 1726 his account-book shows that he paid for a night's lodging at Aylesbury for three Tory men of letters—Swift, Pope and Gay. It may be presumed that the following day Pope brought the other two over to look at the Stowe garden. Possibly this visit had more influence than an out-of-date copy of the *Tatler*. It took place three months after Vanbrugh's death and three months before Gibbs was called in to design his "Building". Can it be that Lord Cobham, taking his guests for a walk round Home Park and explaining what he was doing there, came to a halt at the ice-house and said that here he intended a temple, and that Swift then and there proposed a Chamber of Fame, or Temple of British Worthies? Perhaps we may carry conjecture a step farther. Gibbs was a Scot and a Tory, hitherto patronised mainly by Jacobite notables. It seems a little unlikely that Lord Cobham, a "Revolution Whig", would have thought of Gibbs for Stowe without some prompting and encouragement. Perhaps this was supplied by the three Tories present on that June day in 1726.

M. J. GIBBON



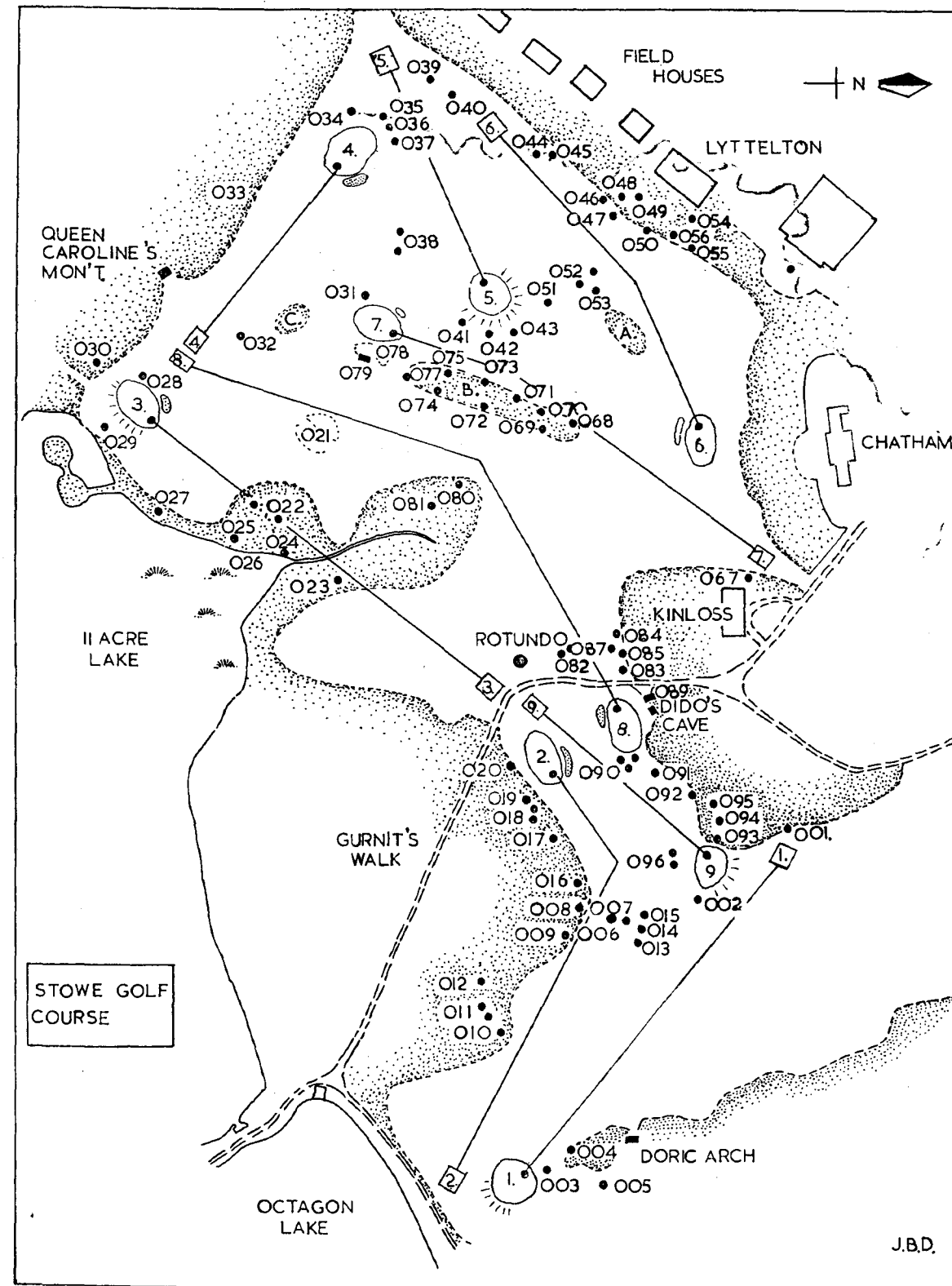
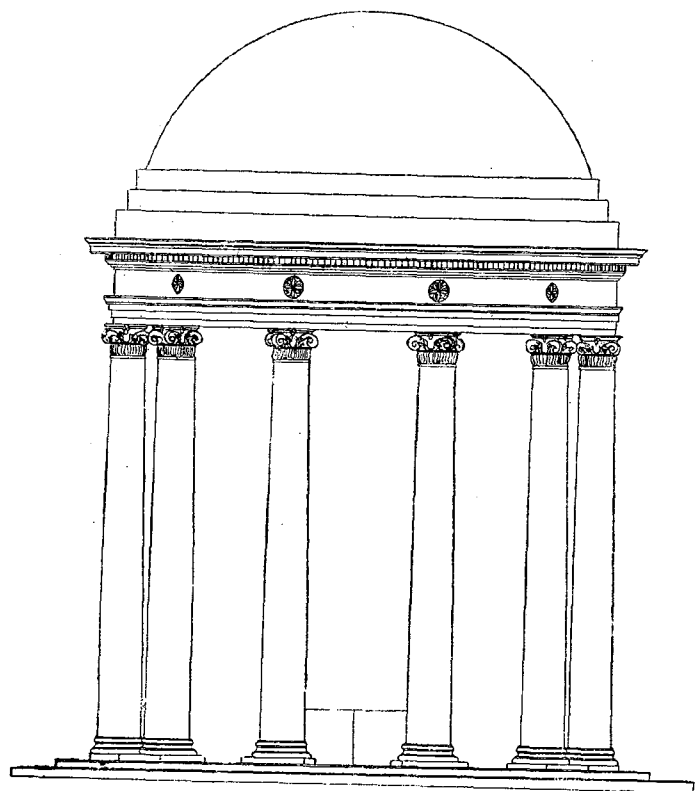
*The Temple of Sleep, probably by Vanbrugh;
destroyed c. 1760*

Acknowledgments

I have to thank the Huntington Library for permission to quote from the Stowe Papers in their keeping, and Dr. Peter Willis for allowing me to use his notes on the same papers. Also the R.I.B.A. for leave to reproduce plates I, II and V; and the Trustees of the British Museum, for plates III and IV.

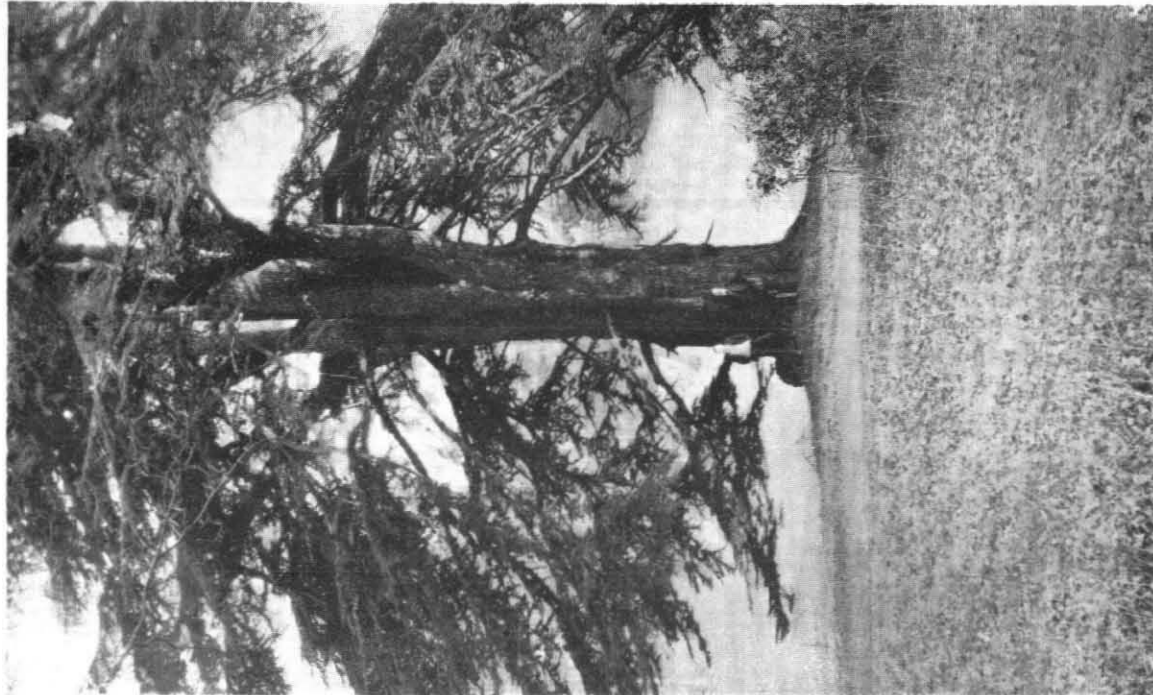
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 "Gibbs' Building"—1.47.a; Boycott Pavilion—1.52.a.





The Doric Arch, showing Box tree on the right



Cedar of Lebanon, replaced by young tree (001)

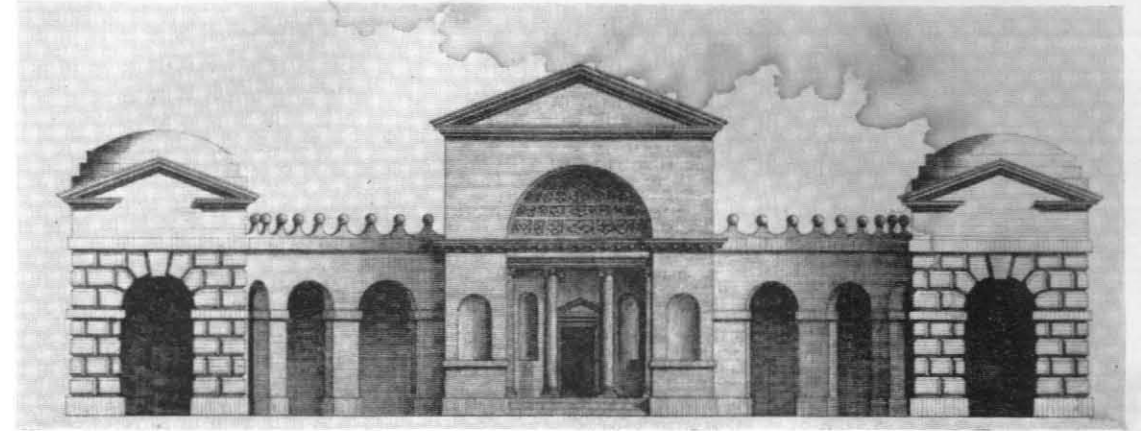


Plate 1—Kent's Temple of Venus; from Isaac Ware's *Designs of Inigo Jones and others*, second edition (1743)

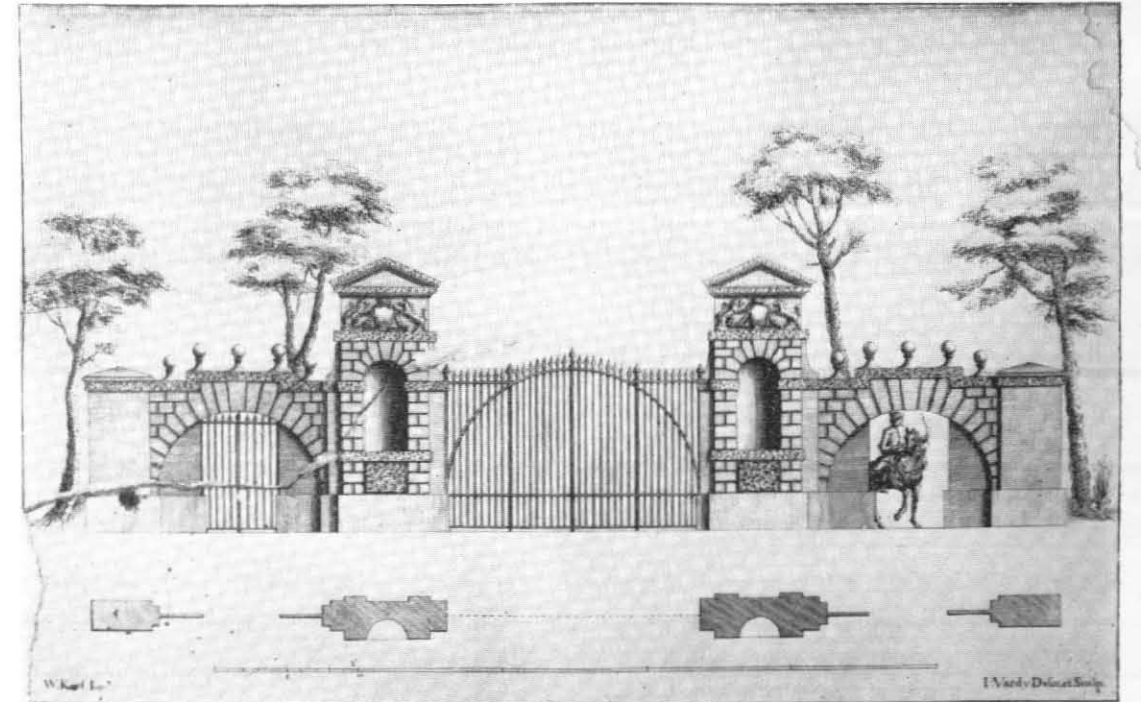


Plate 2—The Gate between the Boycott Pavilions: "A gateway and its plan for Lord Cobham", plate 50 from *Some Designs of Mr. Inigo Jones and Mr. William Kent*, by John Vardy (1744)

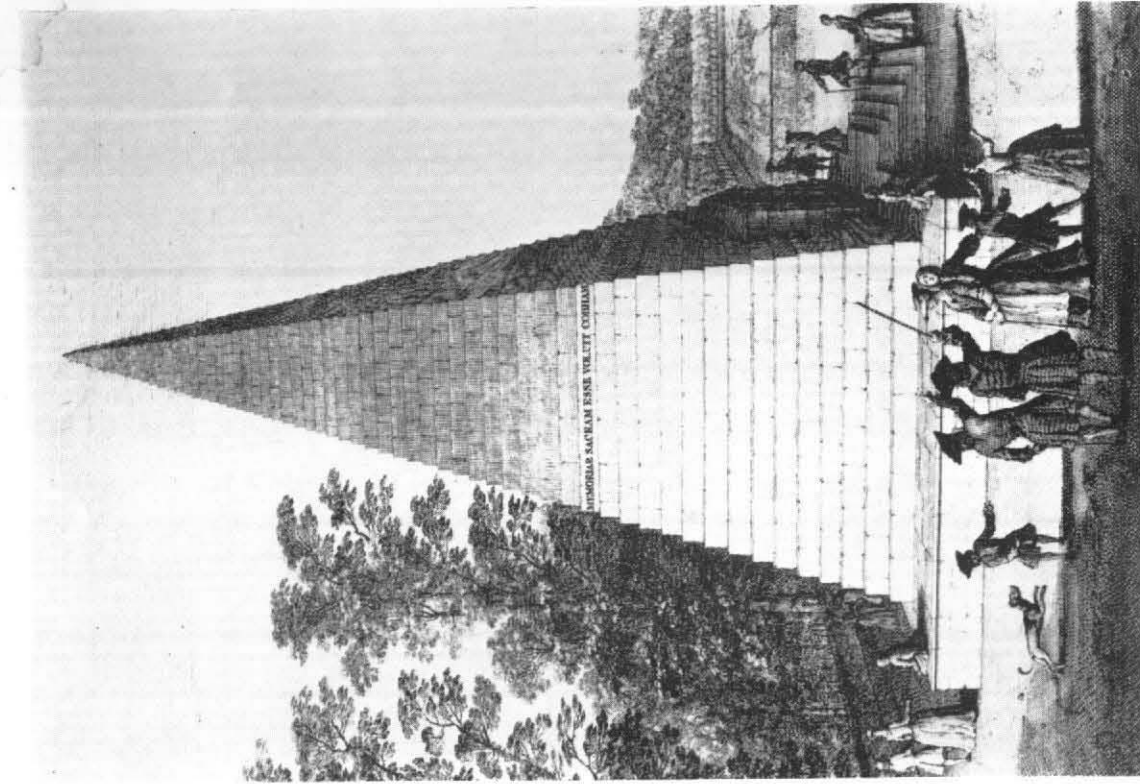


Plate 3 Vanbrugh's Pyramid, dedicated to him by Cobham; Rigaud's engraving (c. 1733)

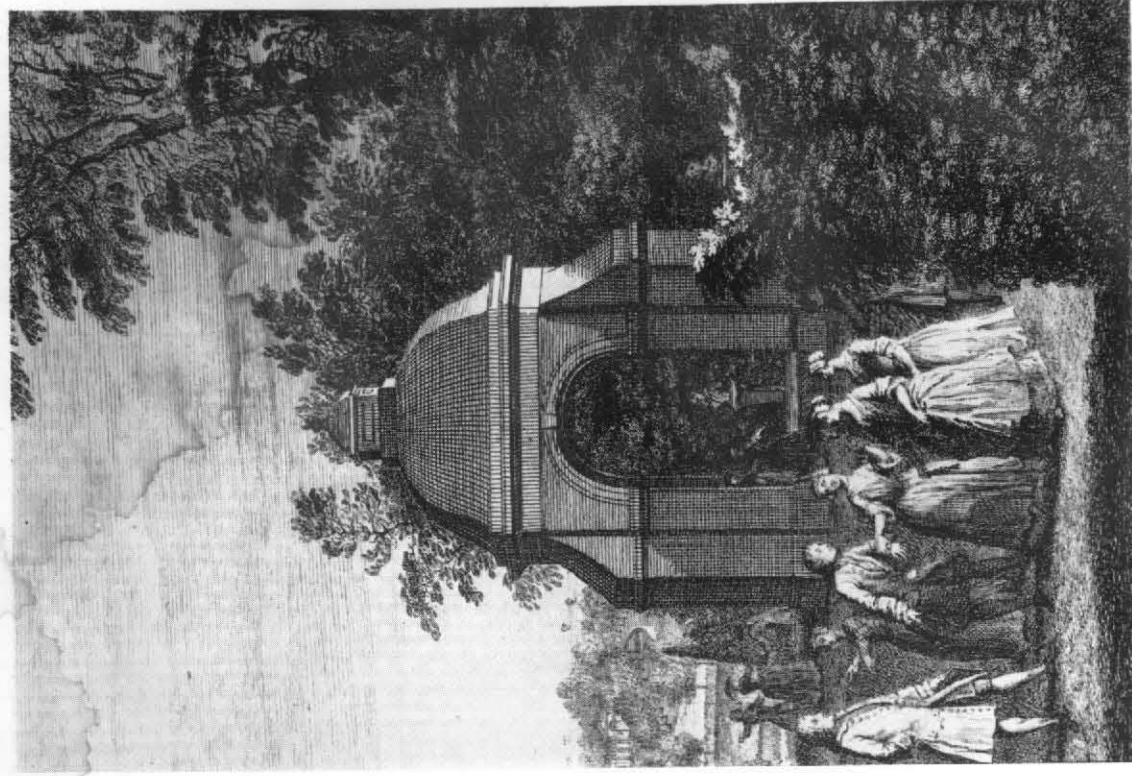


Plate 4 "Gibbs' Building" and the Worthies' busts; Rigaud's engraving (c. 1733)

THE MYLES HENRY PRIZE 1969 THE BULLFIGHT

(C. G. N. Barclay (C) was the 1969 prizewinner)

In December of 1968 the board of the Myles Henry Prize awarded me £80 in order to investigate allegations of cruelty in bullfighting, and to assess the whole and very controversial subject of the bullfight. The aim was to compile a comprehensive folio of photographs, and undertake a small amount of filming at the same time.

Before setting out we had been in contact with the two major anti-bullfighting organisations in this country and in Spain. They had clarified their main allegations, and given us a certain number of details. We had also been in contact with the major Taurine Club in this country. We set out in the middle of March from Southampton, on board the Southampton—Bilboa car ferry. On our arrival in Spain we travelled directly to Madrid, where we were to base ourselves. We spent a total of three weeks based in Madrid, the first week having to be put aside for gathering information and making contact with the numerous people to whom we had introductions. I feel I should add at this juncture that the whole investigation would have been quite impracticable without the rather old fashioned system of formal, written introductions, which exists in Spain today. On presentation of an introduction from a friend, we were given every assistance possible, and also a number of other introductions to other people connected with the bullfight. In this manner the whole thing snowballed to such an extent that we did not in fact have the time to cover the ground available to us.

During our three weeks in Madrid we gained a vast amount of knowledge, and photographs. We visited a number of the ranches where the fighting bulls are bred and reared. We interviewed a number of 'Aspirantes', who are the teenage urchins whose sole ambition is to become a matadore. They hitch-hike around the country, and sleep in the porches of the larger bullrings in the hope of finding themselves a benefactor. We travelled out of Madrid to the surrounding towns and saw a number of smaller corridas (bullfights).

We also obtained an interview with Marciel Lalander, one of the greatest pre-civil-war fighters, who has not given an interview since he gave up fighting in the 1930's. His views are particularly interesting because he was one of the few fighters working before and after the civil war, and this was the great turning point for the bullfight.

Having gained a considerable knowledge of the bullfight in Madrid, we moved south to Sevilla where the April feria was about to begin. It was here that we were to really appreciate the bullfight, during a week of intensive fighting by the best of Spain's matadores. While based in Sevilla we interviewed a large number of people connected with the bullfight. These included the veterinary surgeons who inspect the bulls for horn shaving, drugging, etc. It is against these people that many allegations of corruption and bribery have been made, but in this particular instance they were quite unfounded. We interviewed two well-known matadores and their managers. After leaving Sevilla at the end of the feria, we returned to England by train, with some five hundred photographs and a quantity of film and tape-recordings—also some new ideas regarding the bullfight.

When I set out from England, I suspected that I should disapprove of the bullfight as a whole. This I think was due to the very effective but extremely biased propaganda given to us by the 'anti' organisations in this country. From the time I arrived in Spain and started work, I began to appreciate more and more of what the bullfight was all about, and consequently came to like it more and more.

And as regards cruelty? The fact that a bull is killed for a man's pleasure may or may not be regarded as cruel. The death of the bull is as a general rule quick and less painful than it might be imagined, the pain being masked by the bull's natural instinct of aggression. Before I am condemned for this rejection of the cruelty involved, may I ask how many readers of this have ever shot, hunted, fished, stalked, etc.? I suspect, a fair number.

The art and the aesthetic value of the bullfight I personally consider to be magnificent, and I am prepared to accept the death of the bull as part, and a necessary part of the art. It is, as is often said, completely a matter of personal opinion, but I do beg of you not to condemn it out of hand without having had considerable experience of it.

C. G. N. BARCLAY

CORRESPONDENCE

To the Editor of *The Stoic*

Chapel — For Christ or Discipline ?

Sir,

The consensus of opinion is that compulsory chapel is derogatory to one's belief in Christ and all that He stands for. But why is this ?

Here are some of the main arguments against compulsory chapel, and also some alternatives to replace it, or to aid a voluntary service.

Compulsory religion makes the whole thing become something that has to be done, and so it becomes a task. 'Oh, not chapel' is the usual comment. The whole point of chapel is that people can go and talk to God. If you come to loathe going to chapel at an early age, then it is highly unlikely that you will ever go to church when you leave school, and surely the whole point is to show how going to church can be helpful and very satisfying, something that will become precious to you and not a 'drag'.

If people do regard going to chapel as a bore, as some do, then they create an atmosphere in which it is impossible to pray or even think about something that you want to bring before God. With a voluntary service, only people who wanted to go would go, and an atmosphere would be created in which you could talk to God more easily. Then you would feel that the service had been worth while, and not just a time-consuming nuisance. The feeling that you have told your worries to God, who is in a sense a captive audience, and that He understood your feelings, is the most heart-warming thing I know.

If a good atmosphere was created, and people found that chapel was a time when you could ease your mind on some subject and that you really 'got' something from a service, then the word should spread, and as with the Christians of old, more and more people would 'try' it, and if they too found that they 'gained' something from it, then they would go more often, and if not, then nothing lost.

Right, so now I have 'knocked' compulsory chapel enough. I have tried to show the thoughts of people who want to learn about God, and how to communicate with Him, but are put off by the way religion is 'pushed down our throats'. So here are some constructive suggestions. They may not be practical, but I hope they will be taken seriously.

Suggestions for Alternatives to a Compulsory Chapel Service

1. I think that having a 'Two days voluntary and the rest compulsory' sort of idea would fail. People would not go to the voluntary services because they had been to the other services, the 'Oh, I've done my stint' sort of thing. I think that it will have to be all or nothing. Either total voluntary chapel or don't bother. Any other system would be doomed to failure. By the way, let me say here and now that chapel on Sundays does not come into this argument. That should stay as it is.

2. In the Fourths, and perhaps the Thirds, the present Divinity lesson could be more of the Christian discussion type. In it boys could talk about Christian morals, their application today and any other points which they may feel strongly about, with the master taking them. In this way any haziness about Christianity could be cleared up, and any questions answered. I also think that this could be carried into the chapel itself, in this way. There should be less 'Bible-bashing sermons', and more of the type where a subject was discussed, either as a straight extract from a book or in the form of a discussion between two imaginary people,

with two boys reading the parts. This would be more realistic, apart from being more interesting.

3. Discussion groups could be set up, meeting perhaps once a week, in which members could talk about their own religious points of view. The groups should have a master in them, not there as a 'master' but to give their views as members of an older generation, and should be informal, giving the whole thing a more relaxed atmosphere.

So, to sum up. With voluntary chapel, people who really want to go to a chapel service will be able to go and communicate with God, with other people who want to do the same. The discipline of the School has got nothing to do with chapel. The idea of chapel is to be able to pray in an atmosphere of sincere worship. If people feel that they can't be bothered, then they won't come and they will not be missed, as it is they who destroy the atmosphere of a service.

After all, forceful conversion of the 'heathens' stopped years ago didn't it ?

Yours etc.,

JEREMY SCUSE

MUSIC

Both the Summer and Autumn terms mark the end of a year. The first is the end of the academic and the second, the end of the calendar year, but the Spring term is by no means the least important of the three. Besides other things it is the climax of the musical year. Beethoven's *Missa Solemnis* is now the focus of attraction and possibly taxes the capabilities of both singers and orchestra more than the *Verdi Requiem* did this time last year. Concerts of all forms, shapes and sizes have continued to flourish though I have heard it said that Stoic manners towards outsiders at these occasions have deteriorated of late. The School is still producing musicians of high calibre, and I hope that we will continue to surge along on the wavecrest. But how long we will remain in this state of Utopia is a completely different question. The news of Mr. Watson's departure has shaken the system at its foundations and it is difficult to assess how much our success has been purely due to the efforts of one man. I cannot imagine that normally apathetic Stoics would have got this far without a ball of fire in their midst. Perhaps now that the stone has started rolling through this field of music it will gather no moss, but who knows ? The situation is still very much on a finely balanced set of scales, and it has only been recently that I, for one, have realised how excellent concerts are, here. It is so easy to sit back and take the good things of life for granted, without giving a thought to the work and organisation behind them.

The Gramophone Society and Music Club are in the process of, or have seen radical changes. The former has acquired new "apparatus" and although the reproduction on some of the older recordings may not be up to the machine's capabilities, the library is still being expanded and replaced where necessary ! The Music Club has also decided that the wind of change must not forget this corner of the musical world, but the bloom of prosperity is still very much with us, even though the first signs of withering have appeared. Perhaps there will be a second flowering ?

OLIVER RICHARDS

THE MUSIC SOCIETY

A CONCERT FOR CHRISTMAS

In the Roxburgh Hall, on Saturday, December 13th, 1969

THE STOWE CHORAL SOCIETY, CHAMBER ORCHESTRA AND ORCHESTRA

Conducted by Angus Watson

Symphony No. 5

Preamble (R. M. T. Gibson, *piano*)

La Cathédrale Englouée (N. R. Spurrier, *piano*)

Invitation to the Waltz (N. B. S. Stewart, *piano*)

El Amor Brujo

Folk Songs (S. D. Moss, S. A. McNair, J. P. W. Yerburgh)

Three Motets

Three Carols

Schubert

J. S. Bach

Debussy

Weber

De Falla

Mozart

Warlock

This year's Christmas Concert was probably the most varied ever; whether it proved amenable to some of the more conservative members of the audience is debatable. The chamber orchestra gave a convincing opening to the evening and in spite of an early lack of quality in the woodwind intonation, the last movement was particularly well interpreted and a very attentive audience saw fit to offer applause at a rather conclusive cadence in the middle of the movement! Three excellent pianists displayed their individual talent: Titus Gibson made an accurate rendering of Bach's 'Preamble', which is a difficult study-like piece; Neil Spurrier's interpretation of the Debussy was so poignant and mystical that it held the audience in mute admiration, and Nigel Stewart played 'Invitation to the Waltz' with great panache.

The greatest achievement of the concert was, indeed, the performance of Manuel de Falla's suite 'El Amor Brujo'. This is a very large score for a school orchestra, which overcame its difficulties very well; for this reason players can be excused for missing one or two entries early in the work. The necessary fiery atmosphere was well-created in the three dances, and in the complexities of the last movement the orchestra really showed its ability.

The second half of the evening introduced us to folk songs, which called for a rapid and perhaps slightly unwelcome change of mood, but the orchestra and choral society came out of the limelight to produce a very pleasing performance of the Mozart Motets, although there was a certain lack of balance within the chorus in the first piece. The last Motet, 'Regina Coeli', was the most competently managed, with both orchestra and chorus making full use of its very bright timbre. The programme sadly ended with three Carols by Peter Warlock, all of which contained a pastoral element. Warlock had a remarkable talent for writing songs and these carols are a good example. All were very enjoyable, and immaculately played and sung.

It is a great temptation to eulogise when writing up a concert, and in the writing of this a critical viewpoint has been retained. It is, however, impossible to overlook the extremely high standard maintained by each and every performer, particularly amongst the orchestras. It was also pleasant to see so many people involved with Stowe actually playing; there were very few visitors. Finally, I would like to offer my sincere congratulations to Mr. Watson, and I look forward to an even greater success when the Beethoven 'Missa Solemnis' is performed in March.

BRET JOHNSON

In Chapel, on Sunday, January 11th, 1970

AN ORGAN RECITAL BY RICHARD POPPLEWELL

Fantasia and Fugue in G minor (The Great)	<i>J. S. Bach</i>
Echo	<i>Scheidt</i>
L'Ascension — Quatre Meditations Symphoniques	<i>Messiaen</i>
Toccata Giocosa	<i>Mathias</i>
Sonata on the ninety-fourth Psalm	<i>Reubke</i>

Bach is probably best known as a composer for the organ, and his "great" organ pieces are not only notable as music but are also vast in proportions. This Fantasia and Fugue is one of the more virtuoso show pieces in the organ repertoire, and Mr. Popplewell played it with much feeling though apprehension seemed to have made the bass rhythm a trifle unstable. Such a work, however, cannot arise out of a musical desert and "Echo", the next piece in the recital, was written by one of Bach's predecessors, Samuel Scheidt. The century in between had seen immense changes and this was almost mediaeval with its open harmonies and echo effects between the different sections of the organ. Olivier Messiaen's "L'Ascension" should really have been played in a Baroque Cathedral but nevertheless Mr. Popplewell all but transposed the Chapel, and bathed it in a Catholic mysticism which comes hand in hand with incense. Each section of the work was made to comply remarkably well with the text describing it, not only in the volume level and dynamics, but also in the gorgeous harmonies and, as they would have been labelled a century ago, discords. The "Toccata Giocosa" started mainly with chords but like the Reubke version of a rather vengeful Ninety-Fourth Psalm, developed into some very lively passages both rhythmically and otherwise, and displayed Mr. Popplewell as a mirror image of intense energy.

In the Roxburgh Hall, on Sunday, February 8th, 1970

A CONCERT BY STOWE MUSIC SCHOLARS AND SENIOR MUSICIANS

Music for Queen Mary's Funeral (P. J. Lankester, D. A. Pugh, B. J. Emrys-Roberts, M. B. Creighton and a section of the Chapel Choir)	<i>Purcell</i>
The Creel (R. M. T. Gibson, J. P. Guilford)	<i>Rawsthorne</i>
Concerto for two violins and strings in D minor (N. A. Bass, H. J. A. Joslin, O. W. Richards, A. J. W., D. H. Longman, N.H.)	<i>J. S. Bach</i>
Two Folk Songs (S. D. Moss, J. P. W. Yerburch)	
Sonatine for Piano (D. H. Longman)	<i>Ravel</i>
Cantata for Baritone, oboe, violin and continuo (I. C. S. Ritchie, J. C. B. Lucas, O. W. Richards, A. R. Pears, D. H. Longman)	<i>Butner</i>
Quintet for piano and wind, K.452 (1st movement) (J. C. B. Lucas, A. F. Scott, M. B. Creighton, B. J. Emrys-Roberts, N. B. S. Stewart)	<i>Mozart</i>

This concert promised, from the programme alone, to be one of the most interesting and important concerts of the term and it certainly turned out to be one with a high standard of musical performance. The Purcell Funeral Music, although not the gayest of works with which to open a concert, provided a contrast of vocal passion and rich clear-cut wind tone.

Titus Gibson and Jonathan Guilford, with a picturesque series of little variations by Rawsthorne, displayed both panache and precision and showed us that Stowe possesses two very promising young pianists.

The Bach Double Violin Concerto was a highlight. The interesting musical chairs effect gave us a little insight into the styles of our three virtuosi violinists without destroying the unity of the work. The boldness of the first movement, (and I think that the start was particularly impressive), balanced well with the more intimate lyricism of the slow movement. The third movement, with its well-moving tempo, was played with all the vivacity and colour that it requires. To be honest, after such an emotive performance of a very inspiring work, it was hard to completely transform oneself to the relaxed medium of the folk song. Two of the songs were written by members of the School, the tunes of which were effective but the lyrics trite. The pair added a much more convincing "Summertime".

As far as solo virtuosity is concerned, Derek Longman transported us into the dreamy magic of French Impressionism with a very mature performance of Ravel's Sonatine for Piano. The work offers the pianist greater freedom of interpretation than one would expect in a less abstract work and his full command of this "Sonatine" despite its wide range, was outstanding and praiseworthy.

The Bütner Cantata and the Mozart Wind Quintet gave an accomplished sense of ensemble as well as a demonstration of technical skill. Ian Ritchie sang with intensity which balanced well with the woodwind and string accompaniment. The Mozart, with its colourful oboe gaiety and bouncy bassoonerie was a positive, appealing ending to a programme of variety and a performance full of vitality.

RUPERT WOOD
NICHOLAS KAYE

In the Roxburgh Hall, on Sunday, February 15th, 1970

ROBERT SPENCER (tenor, lute and guitar)

STOWE CHAMBER ENSEMBLE

Angus Watson and Stephen Srawley (violins)	Simon Whistler (viola)
Michael Edmonds (cello)	Terence James (organ)
Trio Sonata for violin, 'cello and lute	<i>Purcell</i>
Lute Songs and Solos	<i>Dowland</i>
Cassation for lute, violin and 'cello	<i>Haydn</i>
L'Inverno (Winter) Concerto from "The Seasons"	<i>Vivaldi</i>
Entracte for violin and guitar	<i>Ibert</i>
Guitar Solo and Songs	
Quartet for violin, viola, 'cello and guitar	<i>Schubert/Matiegka</i>

As the evening progressed, Robert Spencer certainly showed himself to be a musician and performer of distinction, but special tribute should, I feel, be paid to our Stowe musicians who showed themselves to be very much on form throughout the evening.

Right from the start the features which were to point out this concert as something of exceptional standard were established in the Purcell—notably, good balance. This is particularly difficult to achieve when a lute is played, as this instrument has not kept pace with the general increase in volume throughout music. However, the strings sensitively played down and a beautifully authentic 17th or 18th century sound was produced. The second item, a group of Elizabethan lute songs and solos, put the spot-light entirely on Mr. Spencer, whose lute playing was clear and full of feeling, especially in the 'Melancholy Galliard', a fine piece. His voice, while being well controlled technically and as regards intonation, lacked tone quality. The words, however, were projected with great sharpness, and an atmosphere of Elizabethan England was imaginatively created.

The strings returned for the Haydn Cassation, arguably the high-light of this concert. Throughout, ensemble and intonation were very secure, and again, as in the Purcell, the sound of the period was finely developed. In the Adagio, Mr. Watson produced a muted string tone which was nothing short of magical, flowing with great richness. From the delicacy and refinement of Haydn, we found ourselves in the rougher and more boisterous world of Vivaldi's Winter Concerto from "The Seasons"; the description of the Allegro was highly appropriate to the conditions outside! Here the accompaniment was effectively atmospheric and the solo violin's fireworks (originally written for a twelve-year-old orphan in the Venetian music school which Vivaldi ran), were impressively handled.

The second half was introduced by a pleasant, though fairly slight piece by Ibert. The violin had a good deal more to do than the guitar, but both performed well with good tone from each party. The flavour was Spanish and this served as an agreeable and contrasting aperitif for Mr. Spencer's next solo spot. This time he brought on his guitar and began with a piece for solo guitar—"Adelita". The melody was good and played with effective use of vibrato and glissandi. He then sang a group of songs by Ridout which provided an interesting range of material, varying from the amusing but nonsensical 'Maggie and Millie' and the 'Skipping Rope', to the fine 'New Hampshire'. As with the lute songs the words were superbly projected and indeed Mr. Spencer almost acted the content, not happy merely to sing. The voice, I felt, was more assured and richer than before, though I think it would not be unjust to say that Mr. Spencer is primarily a lutenist and then a guitarist.

The last piece showed more evidence of Matiegka's hand than Schubert's; it was rather repetitive and predictable, but the playing made it interesting, particularly the virtuoso 'cello part which presented Mr. Edmonds, at least so it seemed, with few problems.

JEREMY LUCAS

In the Roxburgh Hall on Sunday, February 22nd, 1970

THE HANWELL BAND

Conductor: Eric Bravington

Cornet solo: David Allison

The Hanwell Brass Band had a hard task in coming here so soon after the G.U.S. Footwear, but it was interesting to compare the differences between two such excellent ensembles. From the first it was obvious how well drilled they had been by their conductor Eric Bravington. The intonation was very good and the way that the theme was 'rolled' on from one part to another in Johann Strauss' "Die Fledermaus" was most impressive. The cornet solo, "Showers of Gold" followed after its name, and David Allison displayed his virtuosity in the excessively fast runs which he managed to keep so precise. But I think that the most impressive thing in this performance was his fantastic breath control and sustained tone.

After the interval another solo followed but this time for Euphonium, and again the tone was very mellow though the runs had a slight "fuzz" about them. Edouard Lalo's "Le Roi D'Ys" displayed the band's technical abilities for boisterous music, while "Whispering Brass" by Peter Haysom showed that bands need not play like this all the time; they are capable of playing

quietly occasionally! "Mancini Magic" again presented them in a completely different light. The music was far more lively and had an off-beat swing. It was here that the drummer really came into his own after keeping such excellent time in previous numbers, especially with his brushwork. But with what could it be better to end a concert than Elgar's Pomp and Circumstance March number One. Now that Clara Butt's "Land of Hope and Glory" is less well known, the words no longer distract from such a terrific welter of sound and harmony, though in my mind it was taken too fast the first time and lost some of its impact. This was certainly a very conclusive end to a well-polished entertainment.

QUEEN'S TEMPLE CONCERTS

On Sunday, December 7th, 1969

Bram Wiggins (*trumpet*)
Angus Watson (*violin*)
Gillian Steel (*'cello*)

Robert Bottone (*piano*)
Peter Weight (*baritone*)

THE QUEEN'S TEMPLE SINGERS

Conducted by Angus Watson

Piano Trio in E flat op. 70/2
Violin Sonata no. 2
Four Songs
Sonatine for Trumpet
Fantasia on Christmas Carols

Beethoven
Prokofiev
Brahms
Vachey
Vaughan Williams

The Piano Trio in E flat presents Beethoven at his most typical. His fingerprint is ingrained into the combination of fire and the quietness of the "lull after a storm". The general effect of a river over weirs and waterfalls was represented by a perfectly controlled rippling staccato bowing, and this precision, combined with excellent insight into the piece's romanticism, made it into a superb performance. From this Mr. Watson and Mr. Bottone moved on to Prokofiev's violin sonata which started with a simple enough theme but developed into some very frilly variations.

These they overcame admirably and Mr. Watson really made the interposing themes sing, but I cannot see that the decorations are anything more than a display of technique. They add little to the music, though at least they have not reached Paganini's ridiculous excessiveness here, even in the last movement which is the epitome of this in its supremely energetic appearance. After the interval four Brahms songs followed; the Queen's Temple Singers were, as usual, well together and not only managed to give a very emotional rendering, but also kept it very precise and dynamic. The intonation was excellent and Paddy Guilford sang superbly, but above all I think that the conductor should be congratulated for making them listen to each other, rather than singing as operatic soloists—the role which we all so long to occupy and into which we so easily lapse. Mr. Wiggins then played Vachey's Sonatine and made this rather unpretentious work sparkle like crystal with his clear-cut moving and brilliant resonance.

Both Vaughan Williams and Elgar sum up English tradition perfectly though it is difficult to define the reason why. The Fantasia on Christmas Carols reminded me of English cathedrals with its slush of harmony and provided a very pleasant change from the oversung "favourites". Mr. Weight sang as well as he has done and against the background of quiet singing and 'cello this was very effective.

On Sunday, January 25th, 1970

Bram Wiggins (*trumpet*)
Angus Watson (*violin*)
Robert Bottone (*piano*)

Peter Weight (*baritone and violin*)
Michael Edmonds (*'cello*)
Terence James (*chamber organ*)

Sonata for trumpet, 2 violins and continuo
Aquillon et Orithie
'Cello Sonata in E minor
Trio for piano, violin and 'cello

Corelli
Rameau
Brahms
Dvorak

The main feature of the Queen's Temple Concerts seems to be the variety of musical content within any one concert. What could be more different than renaissance perfectionism and saxon

romanticism? But nevertheless the variety does not detract from either and in fact adds to their appreciation. The Corelli Trumpet Sonata opened the programme, and although the trumpet was unavoidably overpowering in such a small room, the rather quieter interweaving fugues of the violins still came across audibly, leaving behind them a wake, rather reminiscent of seventeenth century Italy. Moving northwards into France, Rameau's "Aquillon et Orithie" was part recitatif and part delightfully delicate chamber music whose atmosphere runs parallel with Watteau paintings. The recitatif passages are so different from this that they are incomparable; it is wrong to say that one form is preferable to the other, but the use of 'cello and organ certainly reminds us of the church. Mr. Weight sang with a full tone though the part was slightly out of his range, and the string semi-quaver passages were quite superlatively executed.

The last movement of the Brahms' 'Cello Sonata was inspired by an eighteenth century tune, but here there are no inhibitions and it is quite possible to see the master-mind behind it all. The processes of depression and relaxation are depicted in the fantastic climaxes and themes. Mr. Edmonds and Mr. Bottone played very emotionally and the tone throughout was rich, though the Queen's Temple detracts from the faster, more "vicious" passages, and the definition gets lost in the ceiling, especially in the lowest register. The intonation was excellent and the expression put into the very simple scales and arpeggios made such tedious but necessary studies appear interesting. The Dvorak Trio again relied upon teeth-gritting climaxes and the exquisite beauty of the quiet passages. The performers were well together both in the tutti and also in the interweaving themes. Mr. Watson's bowing was superbly precise and the piano part with its running broken chords was very beautiful. But in Romantic Music it is difficult to say that the performers excel in any one field; it is the combination of innumerable factors that is so effective. I do not think I would be treading on too thin ice if I said that this was the best concert of this type I have heard at Stowe.

THE GRAMOPHONE SOCIETY

At last the new stereo equipment, reviewed last term, has been connected together, and has been in constant use since. However the equipment is still only working on one speaker. This is due to some members not coming to the demonstration of the system, as they were asked at the same time to pay a small amount towards the acquisition of a second speaker.

There has also been a lack of co-operation concerning the signing out of records. This can, and has only resulted in records being lost. And until there is complete co-operation by members of the Society, a comprehensive collection of records cannot be maintained.

DEREK LONGMAN

THE MUSIC CLUB

It has been finally decided this term that the Music Club should be run along more fruitful lines. Many members complain that the Club, at present, lacks "atmosphere". What they fail to realise is that the atmosphere of any club is directly dependent upon the enthusiasm and interest of the members themselves. However steps are now being taken, and before the end of term a General Meeting will have been held to vote in or out a score of new ideas or amendments. To launch these proposals, a committee was elected, comprising the Secretary and four other members. The future will certainly see more and more participation from boy members, and a minimum of organisation at a staff level.

The first meeting this term saw the reading of a paper by Nicholas Kaye on the subject of Schubert Lieder. As tickets had been obtained for some members to hear Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau sing a recital of Schubert Lieder in the Festival Hall, it seemed appropriate that a paper should be read on the subject, special reference being paid to the songs in the programme. Examples were heard on record, and also "live" from Mr. Weight, and the Secretary.

Another meeting, in the form of a members' concert, will have taken place by the end of a vital term for what is hoped to be a "new-look" Music Club.

IAN RITCHIE

SOCIETY

Almost everyone agrees on one fact when they are discussing Stowe's capabilities as a public school—something is missing. The most usual description is that the School is stagnating. This though is both a relatively harsh and to a large extent untrue term to use.

However, as an institution, Stowe does have a very obvious failing. The School is much too insular, both physically and mentally. But the fact that Stowe's environment is so totally different from that of such great schools as Eton and Winchester should not matter if it was not for the fact that the School is so mentally self-centred. By far the majority of the discussion that takes place at Stowe deals with such interesting subjects as who is going to be in what team on Saturday, which essay one is going to do next or how many times one has managed to cut chapel. It is hardly an exaggeration to say that the average Stoic is far more interested in the School's dress regulations, than in the outcome of such matters as either the Arab-Israeli conflict or the Vietnam war.

In many ways this is neither hardly surprising nor, as many people will argue, a bad thing. It is much better for people to start forming their opinions on subjects that they at least know something about. On the other hand, the majority of young people's opinions, which are basically anti anything put forward by the establishment, are easily predictable. Consequently, it would almost certainly do the School a great deal of good to move its self-centred analysis towards the discussion of basically more worthwhile and interesting world-wide controversies.

One of the reasons for this unfortunate isolation can be seen in the School's lack of well-supported societies. I therefore feel that if the School's present societies can be improved and others added, Stowe will have found its missing link. It will only be by encouraging people to look outside the institution that Stowe will be able to create its well-publicised individuals.

CHAPEL

On the second Sunday of term there was no Chapel service as such, but instead a solo dramatic presentation in the Roxburgh Hall, by John Stuart Anderson. Mr. Anderson's monodrama was a series of stories drawn from the Old Testament and the Apocrypha. The short scenes were brilliantly acted and introduced fresh interest into some of the more traditional Bible stories.

The Bishop of Oxford confirmed 33 boys in the Chapel on Sunday 1st March. He delivered an inspiring address to those who were confirmed, and, at the end of the service, he appealed to the parents and God-parents to support their boys in the Christian Life. This was the first time the service has been held in a Spring term, and it now comes two thirds of the way through the Confirmation course.

On the morning of March 1st there was a service of hymns and readings based on the theme of community. We would like especially to thank Alan Gilbey who gave a startling rendering of the song 'Little Boxes'.

The Lenten Addresses were given on 5th and 6th March by the Rev. B. D. Reed who also preached on the following Sunday. Other preachers this term have included the Rev. G. H. Reid, and the Rev. Canon S. E. Verney. The Most Rev. A. Bloom, the Metropolitan of Surozh, who is a member of the Greek Orthodox Church, unfortunately had to cancel his preaching engagement, and W. M. Brown, Esq., the Headmaster of Bedford, very kindly preached in his place at very short notice.

We thank all those who work behind the scenes in Chapel doing such jobs as cleaning and flower arranging, the sort of things that too often tend to be taken for granted.

Collections for this term have been for Stowe Community Service, the London Orphan School, the British Red Cross Society, the Pestalozzi Children's Village Trust, the Buckinghamshire Fund for the Blind, and the Spina Bifida Campaign.

Confirmation Retreat

After two terms of interesting group discussions, the whole course spent 24 hours away from the School to sort out our ideas. This took place at Feldon Lodge, the conference centre for the Boys' Brigade, near Hemel Hempstead. On our arrival we were immediately thrust into conversation with the Rev. Gavin Reid, who soon got us all talking. He gave us various lectures and a sound-strip following three main themes which were: 'What is the point of life?' 'Who is Jesus Christ?', and another well-discussed subject, 'What is Christianity?' Each of these subjects was discussed in groups and some fairly productive answers were volunteered. We were also given time to see Gavin individually, or in small groups, and we thank him very much for spending such a great deal of his valuable time with us. After a seemingly brief, but helpful stay, we set off back again, ready, we hope, to accept Christ.

W. G. ASHCROFT

THE CHAPEL CHOIR

Once again I am happy to report a successful term for the Choir. This term saw the arrival of four new trebles, and so the usual chopping and changing took place in all the ranks. It is unusual for the first anthem of term to be a wild success, but certainly the Choir's performance of Batten's "Sing we merrily" would rank among the better performances in recent years. The next anthem, Purcell's "Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts", was performed in the concert for "Music Scholars and Senior Musicians" as well as in Chapel. Certainly, the Roxburgh Hall performance, which incorporated a Brass ensemble was far better than could have been predicted from the practices.

The Choir is now in the middle of learning a fairly difficult piece by Benjamin Britten, the story of which some people consider to be "un peu risqué". It should be a pleasant surprise for many during the concert next Speech Day.

IAN RITCHIE

COMMUNITY SERVICE

The raising of £1,600 from last year's Sponsored Walk has brought numerous improvements to our organization. Perhaps the most noticeable has been the appointment of a skilled decorator, Mr. Ernest Dunkley, who does a first class job in training three teams of painters each week. Since he has been with us we have been assured of a high standard of workmanship, and since November we have decorated and re-papered three kitchens, a bedroom, a sitting room and two halls. In addition to this he has supervised the installation of an entire kitchen and an improved system of sanitation at a cottage in Maids Moreton. Most of our work is, in fact, for Old Age Pensioners and because single pensioners with full supplementary benefits receive only £6 a week, the service is provided free of charge.

We now have over 100 pensioners to look after each week and amongst these there are some pathetic cases. For the sake of privacy one is not able to give a full description but the following outline of one case may give you some idea of the hardship. They are known simply as Charley and Dora and they live in a derelict cottage. They have been threatened with an eviction order since 1966. We placed a polythene roof over its rotting eaves last term and we have since been making internal structural improvements. Charley and Dora are brother and sister. He was born mentally handicapped and she is crippled with arthritis and in her early 70's. Because she finds difficulty in moving and because he is of little practical use, there has been a gradual process of deterioration in the property. We are doing all we can to improve the situation for if eviction came they would almost certainly face separation—Charley to a mental home and Dora to one for old people. In human terms this would be a tragedy and in order to save the situation the Finance Committee will be publishing the following advertisement in *The Times* during three weeks in March:

"Stone walls may not a prison make but Green Shield Stamps are building a new home for two disabled O.A.P.'s. Enquiries and contributions welcomed by Stowe Community Service, Buckingham".

It is, of course, impossible to calculate the response and as this is our first venture into the field of advertising we are feeling a little uncertain about the move. The cost is being met by the interest gained in our Deposit Account, and we will of course be publishing a full report of the response in the next number of *The Stoic*.

The Transport Fund

Our old van is on its last legs and without it the service would not operate. We are attempting to raise sufficient funds for two smaller vehicles which would increase our efficiency and meet growing demands. Any donation, however, small, would be very much appreciated by the Finance Committee and cheques should be made out to Stowe Community Service and addressed to Richard Theobald, at Stowe.

We gratefully acknowledge the following gifts and donations: A Stowe parent, £200; The School Shop Committee, £200; The Ernest Cook Trust, £200; Anonymous, £100.

R. C. THEOBALD

C.C.F.

This is a quiet term for the C.C.F. Field day is at the very end, thus, it is hoped, catching warm enough weather to camp out. Wednesday afternoons on their own make rather dull material for a report. Nevertheless there is some streamlining of the organisation to record.

Every boy will now spend his first year at Stowe in the new Basic Wing. Here he will learn such things as First Aid and simple expedition work. This will permit him to qualify for the 'Stowe Bronze Award'. He may then opt for the Naval or R.A.F. sections or the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Group. If he does not he will spend the next two or three terms in the Proficiency Wing passing the army's proficiency test. There is rumour that a new syllabus for this is to be produced. If so then even this last bastion of the military may fall.

Assuming success here he will then pass three terms in the Adventure Wing in largely non military activities enabling him to qualify for the 'Stowe Silver Award'. Orienteering is proving particularly successful in this context. Thereafter he may opt for one of the specialist sections or may be selected as an N.C.O. After proficiency the dress, although no less uniform is, I hope, more comfortable and less obviously military. No one seems upset by the partial demise of the battle-dress.

Thus some change has occurred. There is continual pressure for more. Certainly there is a need for more alternatives for boys when they leave the Adventure Wing. What is needed is constructive suggestions and enthusiasts to put them into practice.

Some of the D. of E. group will come with us on Arduous Training at the end of this term. This could begin a process of gradual integration which I believe should occur right across the field of Wednesday afternoon activities.

A. J. E. LLOYD

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD SCHEME

We have had 60 members this term and the training has concentrated on the 'Public Service' section of the Award Scheme with courses in Police, Fire and Community Service. For Field Day (March 8th-9th) the Silver and Gold Groups trained in the Mendips and the Bronze (New Entry) in the Peak District; all were under canvas. The Community Service Group, however, spent Sunday and Monday in homes for the maladjusted, the mentally handicapped, old people, problem families, etc., in groups of no larger than two. I am very indebted to Mrs. Balme, a Social Welfare Officer from Reading who organized such an excellent course.

We hope that our Summer Camp will be held on the Isle of Mull and the dates for this are Saturday, 11th July-Sunday, 19th July. Once again may I stress that this is the most important and constructive training programme of the year's course and that a full attendance is essential.

R. C. THEOBALD

THE ART SCHOOL

Work has continued in painting, sculpture, and pottery. It has been refreshing to find many juniors taking advantage of the weekly sessions in sculpture and pottery. Pottery has suffered neglect for some time, but has become a popular alternative in the scheme of junior societies. Sculpture has gained a certain sophistication through the weekly visits of Mr. Duncan James who joined us in September and began a very successful series of sessions in casting technique. Several pieces are in process of being cast into metal and two fine sculptures have already been produced—one by S. Masemola in aluminium, and another by K. L. Schleicher in pewter.

Three house art exhibitions have already taken place this term—by Lyttelton and Temple who arranged their displays to coincide with their house plays, and by Bruce, who have so far given it the most careful thought. Six houses have as yet to exhibit, and exhibitions are set for both this term and during the early part of next term.

To follow the Enzo Plazzotta exhibition held last year another public exhibition has been planned for June. Details have yet to be completed for a mixed exhibition which will include some leading personalities in British Art. The exhibition will be announced toward the end of April.

W. ST. A. R. DADY

THE FORESTERS

This term we intended to continue the general programme for restoring the woodlands, concentrating on the Elysian Fields. But as must often happen on an estate as large as Stowe's, urgent fresh problems demanded attention and made us change our plans.

In Duchess Dale, the mixed plantation running along the north side of the Eleven-Acre Lake, it was discovered that squirrels were doing extensive damage to the oak and beech planted there ten years ago. It had been planned to leave these well established young trees to look after themselves for several years more, but Mr. Nicholson, our forestry adviser, thought it essential to clear away the dense understorey of brambles and saplings immediately, treating the damaged trees and starting a methodical campaign to reduce the number of squirrels. So one party of boys, armed with hedge-slashers and stockaxes, has worked through the plantation during the winter months, when the jungle is more easily penetrable.

Another party has been in Wick Quarter, the triangular wood south-east of the Queen's Temple (called *Wick*, apparently, from the Saxon Deities, one for each day of the *week*, which used to stand there). At the end of March the old fence along its eastern edge has to be renewed, and we have been clearing the undergrowth and self-grown trees which choke the wood's fringe. Wych elm suckers covering two acres of the field on the south side of the wood have been stocked out, and elsewhere in Hawkwell Field trees have been lopped and tidied to improve the pasture for cattle.

These two projects have absorbed most of our time, but with the help of the Public Works parties we have been able to do more clearance work by the Fane of Pastoral Poetry and near the Corinthian Arch. The W.M.A. foresters came for a short period to fell the poplars which have outlived their usefulness in the Bourbon shelter belt, and they also felled several dead trees in the park.

A fortnight from the end of term the blizzard which struck Stowe on March 4th brought a further crisis. The exceptionally heavy fall of snow on that day caused havoc among the evergreen trees; cedars, holm oaks and yews all suffered severely. A holm oak by Lyttelton and nine or ten yews elsewhere in the grounds were uprooted, and hundreds of branches were broken. We are still counting the damage.

G. B. CLARKE

THE XII CLUB

The Club has met twice so far this term: we have been entertained by a paper from R. G. G. Carr on the 'Decline of the concept of power in literature' and then, moving from Plato to the world of Desmond Morris and others, were informed about evolution by M. B. Creighton and H. S. Sidhu, in concord—most of the time at any rate. Perhaps those who consider The Twelve Club a mere clique of baffled and/or garrulous intellectuals will be quieted (though I doubt it) by the news that the election system is under review: at the time of writing a decision has not been finalised pending a 'business meeting' of the members. The secretary intends, as a parting shot, to deliver the third and last paper of the term on a subject as yet unnamed, but he is comforted by the hope that no mention of it will ever find its way into this magazine.

JEREMY LUCAS

THE CLASSICAL SOCIETY

Due to the overwhelming response caused by the lure of the first paper, the Society was forced to remove from the sparse conditions of an uninhabitable Societies room to the luxurious decor of that 'insignis' exponent of mysterious religious cults, the under-housemaster of Bruce. Ensnared in this abode, the Society listened to a paper on the 'Development of Greek Religion', from Jeremy Lucas. He traced the change from the animal gods worshipped in the three festivals, the Diasia, the Thesmophoria and the Authesteria, to the sect of the Olympians which dominated much of Greek literature. The main way in which the change from animal to anthropomorphic deities was effected, concerns the priest who presided over both sets of rites. In relation to the luck which favoured his pronouncements, which were bound to be suppositions anyway, these witch-doctors were considered either as schizophrenics whose real character reigned in the sky or simply as the power-on-high's mortal representatives. After examining the effect which society had on this concept of religion, he concluded that the fruits of it were a due sense of proportion in all of life, and the beginnings of the monotheistic notion which was discussed by Socrates, and materialised in the form of the religions which are prevalent nowadays.

Later in the term a paper from the Classics tutor is awaited with intense interest.

RICHARD CARR

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Both of our meetings so far this term have had a literary flavour.

Mr. Dennis Silk, Warden of Radley College, spoke about "The Poetry of the First World War". He described how, when playing cricket as an undergraduate at Cambridge in July 1953, he had first met Siegfried Sassoon. It was interesting to hear a man who had captained M.C.C. touring teams declare that the most wonderful thing cricket had done for him was to introduce him to Sassoon. And he made effective use of Siegfried Sassoon's reminiscences as an old man to a friend fifty years younger than himself to place Sassoon's poetry, and also that of Wilfred Owen and Edmund Blunden, in the context of the history of the war.

Later in the term Dr. George Holmes, Vice-Master of St. Catherine's College, Oxford, spoke on "Dantë in his historical setting". He explained how the local politics of Florence at the end of the thirteenth century was mixed up with the centuries-old struggle between Empire and Papacy. Dantë, a member of the imperialist faction, was driven into exile by the pro-papal faction. And Dr. Holmes showed how Dantë's own anti-papal attitude is clearly reflected in his writings.

At our last meeting this term Mr. Robert Heller, Editor of *Management Today*, is to speak to the Society on "Robert Maxwell and the Pergamon Affair".

D. J. ARNOLD

THE MODERN LANGUAGE SOCIETY

Since the last issue of *The Stoic*, the Society has had a busy time. There were two papers not covered in *The Stoic* of last term. The first of these was Peter Comber's on the Spanish Picaresque, which was also attended by Thornton Convent—a fact which he did not know beforehand, and which caused his spicier examples of the Picaresque to become even more amusing.

This was followed by the Secretary's paper on Bertolt Brecht, which was attended by all those studying German in the Upper School. The Secretary hopes that his audience found it enjoyable; for he certainly did not enjoy the sadistic questions of the President and his henchman-in-chief—Mr. Bain.

This term started off with a paper by Morgan Manley on Existentialism, the first paper for the new members, invited to replace those who left last term. Despite the catcalls of certain members, obviously envious of his lyrical expression—reminiscent of certain books on the subject—he succeeded in giving an excellent paper. This was followed by a heated discussion on the relative merits of philosophy, championed by the President, and psychology, particularly the guilt complex, championed by Neil Harvey. The discussion went round in ever decreasing circles until the meeting ended inconclusively with both sides still adamant in their beliefs.

Some time later the Upper School Linguists went to Oxford to see 'Andromaque', which was produced by Dr. Merlyn Thomas, who last term gave us a talk on the problems of putting on a classical play, and it was especially interesting to see just how he had overcome these problems. There was two more visits to Oxford for those who study Russian, to see the Russian version of 'War and Peace'—a seven-hour epic split into two parts, and shown on successive weeks. The film was a great success, and it was very interesting to compare the Russian style of film making with that of the west, while the American dubbing provided the humour.

There now remains one more paper—Nick Davies' on War and Literature—which the Society awaits with bated breath.

JOHN CLARFELT

THE NUCLEUS

This term the Nucleus has grown, and there are now 14 members. The first meeting was on January 30th when the theme was astronomy. H. S. Sidhu read a passage which purported to show that the Universe was expanding, as we are not blinded by starlight! The main paper was both written and delivered by R. G. A. Westlake. It was a very clear and interesting account of Quasars and showed Westlake's vast knowledge of them. The next meeting was on February 27th when the subject of the evening was 'headaches'. Some gory accounts of medieval treatment were read, and then D. B. Unerman presented his paper on Aspirin. The final paper of term has not been yet given at the time of writing, but it will probably be on a biological subject. We are all very grateful to Mr. Burley, our President, to Mr. Dennien, for his continued assistance, and to the secretary, whose valuable aid we lose at the end of this term; we wish him every success.

R. R. MENZIES

DANCING

This term the number of people who wished to learn to dance doubled in number, and consequently another session has been started. Already we have noticed potential material for next year's dainty 1st XV. As before, we were joined every third week by Thornton Convent who gave us a chance to exercise our lithe limbs with a female partner. Next term we have the School Ball which no doubt will prove most entertaining.

MICHAEL WYLLIE

THE FOLK SONG SOCIETY

Whereas it seemed necessary to write about the activities of the Society in detail in the last report in order to bring its revival to the notice of more 'patrons', it is now much more the case that silence should be kept for fear of attracting any more support.

Both meetings of this term have been so well supported that it has been difficult to squeeze everyone into the Queen's Temple. The atmosphere of friendliness and informality has continued and has been assisted by the welcome addition of a group of girls from Thornton, some of whom sang in the second meeting. As well as a number of 'firsts' from members of the School we have heard from The Pilgrims, Diane Brown, Alan Gilbey and Paddy Grey, to all of whom go our thanks for their singing and playing. Not that the School has lacked talent with Andy Rich, Stuart McNair, Matt Watson, Colin McCubbin, Steve Moss and Philip Yerburch all setting a high standard and some contributions of value from members of staff as well.

With the setting-up of Mr. Mee's guitar 'Thursday Extra' and the Society's Workshop a steady flow of new talent should now be ensured.

R. J. DENNIEN

THE FILM SOCIETY

"Ars artem celare est".

The above quotation is irrelevant, and I shall continue this report without further reference to it.

At the first meeting of term, there were howls of agony and yelps of shock as distraught Stoics rolled in the aisles, frothing at the mouth, while on the silver screen Shirley MacLaine, as Irma la Douce, played the part of a street-walker with great enthusiasm. However, viewers of this film found the next presentation rather more difficult to appreciate: "Elektra", a contemporary production of Euripides' tragedy, told of the violent murder of Agamemnon and the revenge of his children. In accordance with classical conventions of drama, little action was shown and for some, this was an unbearable anti-climax after the world of "trash-mags" and corny jokes. "Hiroshima, mon Amour" looked back to the Hiroshima of 1945 and showed its effect on two young people, whose common ground is their memory of war as a time of bereavement and horror.

Lately the Society has been criticised for showing too many foreign films. However the whole point of the Society is to show films, which people would not otherwise have the chance to see.

NICK DAVIES

THE NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

1970 is the European Conservation Year and to mark this exciting occasion the Natural History Society has entered a project in a national conservation competition organised by "Shell" and the Nature Conservancy. The idea behind the project is to plan the conservation of an area of land which may or may not be a reserve. As B.B.O.N.T. was considering buying a length of the Buckingham Canal we decided to prepare a conservation plan for this area, with an especial bias towards making it an educational reserve. Preliminary observations, map drawing and filming are already under way, although only five months remain in which to complete a large amount of the work.

An idea that came from one of last term's meetings was that outside lecturers would speak in the evenings in the Aurelian Room. Mr. R. M. Lockley was the first to be given this doubtful privilege, when he was confronted with an array of over 60 Stoics, two local people from Buckingham and a dozen boys from Radley School N.H.S. His talk on seals was a great success.

Thursday Societies were successfully re-started this term and several boys have given lectures on a wide variety of natural history aspects. These have included S. A. Kingwell (L) on "The Badger", J. F. C. Scuse (C) on "Small Mammals", J. Spencer-Cooper (T) and J. D. A. Nicholl (L) on "The Y.O.C. Expedition to Portland Bill", and M. J. Guest (B) and M. C. Bailey (C) on "The Common Bird Census". These talks have been interspersed with film meetings.

Work in the Reserve this term has been interrupted by indifferent weather, but the main job of dam repair has, we hope, been successfully completed. The holes cut through beneath the old concrete dam have been blocked with metal plates and three lorry loads of sticky clay have been laboriously wheelbarrowed from the road to infill behind them. Fencing posts along the reserve edge by the main road have also been put in.

The weather has made the other reserve project, the badger sett, more difficult to construct. The tunnels have, however, been excavated and concrete slabs for roofing are ready to be fitted on top. We are hoping to collect a family of badgers from Mrs. Warburg to occupy our new sett in the near future.

The Young Ornithologists Club have visited a Gala Film Premier at the Festival Hall. The new film "The Winged Aristocrats", made by the R.S.P.B., was very much enjoyed by all.

Foscote Lake has again been visited and we hope that the lake will remain a wildfowl refuge in spite of demands for other uses. A small party of Y.O.C. Members will be staying at the Bird Observatory at Gibraltar Point in Lincolnshire for a few days in the Easter vacation.

The bee-keeping section has been infused with new enthusiasm by Mr. Symington who, with the help of D. Oliviera (C) and N. J. C. Morgan (C), are in the process of clearing out the old hives in preparation for the coming season.

The term was rounded off by a superb exhibition of wildlife photographs taken by H.R.H. Prince Philip, which were displayed in the Ante-Library. The whole School showed much interest in this exhibition, arranged to raise money for the World Wildlife Fund (National Appeal). Many visitors from the locality also viewed and, we hope, contributed.

The Exhibition caused a reporter from the local paper to write an article about the N.H.S. and local natural history in *The Buckingham Advertiser*. This has aroused further interest in the area.

Next term is going to be very hectic for the Society, with the conservation project going at full steam, *The Grebe* to produce, the Speech Day exhibition and perhaps, most exciting of all, a World Wildlife Fund Meeting to organise. This last will be an opportunity to meet Peter Scott and will be held on May 24th. We are organising it with the local Naturalist Trust, B.B.O.N.T.

P. H. GUEST

THE STOWE PRESS

Much to the amazement of one or two members, the first fortnight of term saw the completion of a complicated order for the Stowe Beagles. Although this failed to generate any enthusiasm in our newer members, it inspired two more experienced printers, S. L. Shneerson (T) and R. M. T. Gibson (T), to persevere with work for the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, the C.C.F. Signals Section and the Natural History Society. These orders were completed quite successfully.

There have, however, been setbacks. The suction mechanism on the Heidelberg developed irrational fits and delayed operations on several occasions and the Proof Press suffered total paralysis and a broken limb which only the magic of the Power House Yard experts could cure. Our present aim is to train some new compositors to enable greater all-round co-operation and a higher standard of efficiency.

NICHOLAS KAYE



Plate 5—Gibbs' design for the Boycott Pavilions ; from *A Book of Architecture*, by James Gibbs (1728). The original drawing is in the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford.

The Stowe Community Service



- 1 Logging—10 tons this term.
- 2 Hot water units—6 installed.
- 3 The Christmas Party.
- 4 Temporary roof at Maids Moreton. Collecting Green Shield Stamps for a new one.
- 5 Visiting—over 100 weekly.
- 6 Installing one of three sinks.
- 7 Entertaining mentally handicapped.

THE SCIENCE SOCIETY

The regular film shows have declined in popularity of late, but the lectures that have been given in recent months have been well attended (averaging about sixty in fact)—and deservedly so, for each one has been interesting and well presented—the speakers often being eminent gentlemen in their own fields.

In Archaeology, Prof. R. J. C. Atkinson is an international figure. Leaving aside any account of his recent dig at Silbury, sponsored by the B.B.C., he preferred to speak to us on the applications of Science to his subject. His lecture, lasting well over 1½ hours, was an object lesson in speaking, never repeating himself and familiarising his audience with all the recent scientific aids to Archaeology (many developed by his own department at the University of South Wales) in a deceptively easy manner. Particularly impressive was the obvious thought which went into any project before it was even started. We were pleased to welcome into our audience members of the School and Buckinghamshire Archaeology Societies for this meeting.

Another brilliantly presented talk, this time on the difficult subject of 'Lateral Thinking', was by Edward de Bono, of the Dept. of Investigative Medicine at Cambridge. Again the Society was flattered, and in the event both amused and bemused, by an eminent advocate of his subject.

The magnificent 1200 cc "Indian 4" motor bicycle (yes—four cylinders) was the centre-piece of various machines which formed the exhibits backing up a splendid talk by Mr. D. Hughes, on the development of the motor-bicycle. Mr. Hughes set out to convince us that the motor-bicycle was fully developed by 1930. By the end of the hour we were convinced.

M. Boyadjiew (C) and O. Villalobos (C) were well equipped to lecture on the rockets they had built and fired. This was a brave talk well supported by various demonstrations of fuel mixtures and their own film of the project. They clearly knew their subject matter, and put it across well to a critical audience. One only wishes that more boys would be prepared to talk to the Society. This lecture was well worth-while—from everyone's point of view.

At the moment of writing we are all looking forward to another nationally famous lecturer/author, Mr. R. A. R. Tricker. An expert in the science of movement, Mr. Tricker will explain the science of walking a tight-rope, with demonstration.

A. R. SELBY

THE UPPER STYX PROJECT

In spite of the very heavy snow and ice at the beginning of term, the new compound provided the ducks and geese with some protection against these adverse conditions. It also provided a deterrent to the foxes which in the past years have reduced the number of birds quite considerably during these months.

Three weeks after the beginning of term, Mr. C. Marler, a well-known specialist on wild life, visited the Upper Styx to give us some advice about its expansion and upkeep. He seemed very impressed but emphasised that to maintain a large colony of birds, a 6 ft. fence must be erected around the whole area. The perimeter of the Duckery is about 500 yards, so this would be a costly venture. After giving some very good advice on new methods of feeding, breeding and general maintenance, he left promising to send in a report to the relevant authorities which he has since done.

Later in the term a very generous gift from T. G. Bagnall (C) of three geese, a Chinese and two cross breeds, added variety to the colony. Mallard from other lakes and the surrounding district makes the number of birds fluctuate from day to day.

Although bad weather usually curtailed most activities at the Duckery in the Spring Term, work has progressed at a steady rate throughout the term.

NIGEL GEACH

THE POLITICAL CLUB

Politics, whether we like it or not, plays an ever increasing role in our society, especially with the recent legislation which allows 18-year-olds the right to vote. Consequently, with an enthusiastic membership of 50 Stoics and under the experienced patronage of that "renowned radical", Mr. Chapman, the Stowe Political Club came to life at the end of last term.

Although, due to illness, Stephen Terrell, Q.C., was unable to sing the praises of Jeremy Thorpe; the prospective Conservative candidate of North Buckinghamshire, Mr. William Benyon, talked to some members on "Law and Order in our Society" and "British entry into the Common Market".

Fortunately, prospects for the future of this new venture are bright, with a good list of speakers for next term, including the possibility of George Brown coming to speak to us in September.

D. F. McDONOUGH

THE STUDY GROUP

The Study Group at Stowe has more to offer than just a cosy setting for Christians to meet on a Sunday morning after Chapel. Instead we provide a genuine opportunity for anyone to come along and learn what Christianity is really all about in everyday living; something that is difficult in a Chapel environment.

Our Speakers this term, both from inside and outside Stowe, have spoken widely around a series of 'Minor' Prophets, all of which have proved to be of topical interest. Our thanks go to Mr. Marcuse for his organizational work, and to Mr. Vinen for his hospitality.

R. D. G. CARTER

THE TROUT HATCHERY

This term we have reared 2,000 Brown Trout from ova. Our losses, some 200, have been mainly due to natural causes although for a time we feared Blue Sac disease. The cold weather has slowed their growth but they should all be feeding by the end of term. Over the holidays we shall be keeping them in the Biology laboratories instead of in the Hatchery as we have done in the past.

Unfortunately we were not able to obtain Salmon ova this year but we hope to be more successful next January.

R. W. CASTLE
J. K. R. FALCONER

STOWE SOCIETY OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS

If anyone ever studies back numbers of *The Stoic* they might have noticed that the report from the Stowe Society of Church Bellringers has been getting progressively shorter in recent years. This is because the Society has been getting progressively smaller. Two founder members left at the end of last term, and the remaining two, P. J. Lankester (C) and W. D. Lanyon (T) will be leaving in the near future. However, I am glad to announce that prospects for the future look brighter now than they have for a long time. We have got a nucleus of up and coming ringers in T. G. Bagnall (C), D. E. Sharafanowich (C) and P. Mackay (L), who have all made good progress this term. It is to be hoped that they will be rather more successful than their predecessors in recruiting new ringers, and that in years to come this report may steadily grow in length.

P. J. LANKESTER

THE BRIDGE CLUB

After the somewhat surprising run of victories last year, the Club has regained its former lack of success, producing probably the worst result in its history. In the first fixture against St. Edward's, having changed round trailing by 96 i.m.p.'s, we at least managed to save some face by avoiding a defeat by 100, and finishing with a deficit of 73, a record which should stand for some time. In the only other fixture so far, the Bucks and Berks Schools' competition, the results have not yet arrived; to judge by the scorecards, it may be better that way.

Team from: W. S. Croom-Johnson (T), A. D. Shackleton (C), M. I. Boyadjiew (C), P. Boyadjiew (C), P. H. C. Furness-Smith (C), D. R. Wright (C), W. C. Wright (C).

W. S. CROOM-JOHNSON

THE LATRUNCULARIANS

The Chess Society has only played one of its three arranged matches so far this term. In the one match played, we lost $1\frac{1}{2}$ - $3\frac{1}{2}$ to Mill Hill. However, had our two best players been present the scores might well have been reversed.

At present there seems to be an unfortunate shortage of players in the School. This is emphasised by the fact that of the team's five members, four are Chandosians.

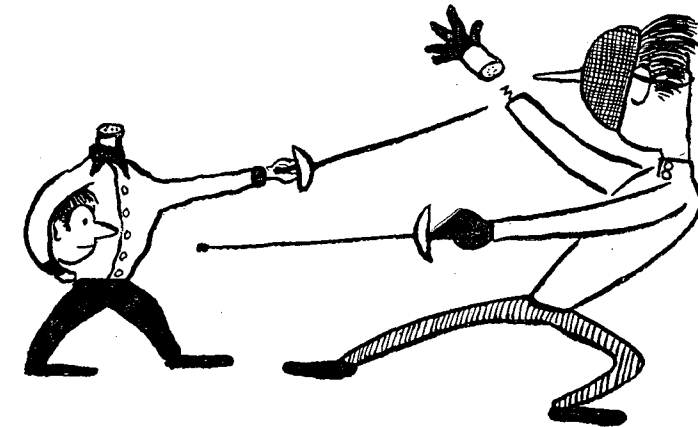
Team from: M. Boyadjiew (C), D. B. G. Oliveira (C), N. J. C. Morgan (C), P. Boyadjiew (C), and R. S. Sandu (T).

G. M. I. MILLER

JUNCTION

We were going to write a report for the Editor of *The Stoic* about 'Junction', a new discussion group started by some senior boys, which meets in the Chaplain's house on Friday evenings to discuss, over coffee and biscuits, kindly provided by Mrs. Tanburn, such problems as authority, loyalty and relations with women, and whose members were responsible for the service of hymns and readings in the Chapel on March 1st, but we decided that, since we are attempting not to be too conformist a group or society, writing an article on the term's activities would be rather against our policy.

R. G. A. WESTLAKE



SPORT

'To win at all costs'

So ends the paragraph concerned with the general performance of the team, in the report on the 1st XI. More and more it is being brought to the notice of all those concerned with sport that this is the prerogative of competitive matches in all categories of this occupation. The Great Britain hockey team went over to Mexico for the Olympics and found that, although they might be able to match their opponents in sheer skill and fitness, their basic lack of competitive practice at home told heavily against them. So, in its usual backward-looking manner, the country's gentleman's approach, which it has cultivated from the very beginnings of time, is at last being discarded in favour of the competitive spirit, which is being forced upon them. Some take to this readily, such as Cotton, a Cambridge University half, who, when faced in a divisional match with the formidable prospect of opposing Griffiths, one of the best wings in the country, decided to cut him down each time he got the ball. He chose this course bravely, as he knew that he, himself, was the one to face the inevitable ensuing short corner. He stopped the corners and won the match for his side. It is this hard-headed ruthlessness which would have turned the hard facts, entered indelibly in the record, of a draw with the Leys into an overwhelming victory for the School.

But some purists may interpose that this approach is not in the 'spirit of the game'. It should be considered that the spirit of the game is eternal, and is not affected by all the petty wranglings on and off the field which always dog the steps of every sport under the sun. The spirit of the game will never perish. The present attitude is changing quickly to that of keen competition, but it is possible, as the cycles of history repeat themselves, that the spirit will begin to reassert itself in the manner of the Crusaders and the conventions of Chaucer's age, while the modern attitude recedes again into the shadows.

However, even if this may prove to be so, life is centred on the present, and so the present notions are those which must be followed. In every sport, the present attitude is to take as much as can possibly be taken within the rules. The combination of the dedicated fanaticism, which is given to physical fitness, and mental hardness and competitiveness is the formula for victory. Stowe must adapt this attitude in every sport which it undertakes to bring it into the forefront of the public schools in sport.

HOCKEY

THE FIRST XI

At the time of 'going to press' it is fair and accurate to say that the season has been a good one. Five school matches have been played and we have won four of them and drawn one (which incidentally should most certainly have been won as well). The 1st XI have worked hard for their success, and they have played with welcome ruthlessness and determination. Results have been favourable in other teams and under a new system all young boys in the School have been getting more hockey than in previous years. Partly this is due to Mr. Lennard who has organised the Junior Colts, and partly due to the fact that the whole School has acquired the habit of playing on, in spite of the state of the pitches. Mr. Jones does his level best with the grounds but most of them are quite appalling. It is galling to read and hear of so many other schools equipping themselves with all-weather pitches. Canford who already have two of the best grass pitches in England, Cranleigh and King's Burton in the south, Kingston Grammar School, and a host of others all have them. The need for an all weather playing surface has become a basic necessity now at Stowe, and unless one is provided quickly it is hard to see our results ever getting appreciably better. After all the mathematicians have their blackboards, and the scientists their labs.!

The 1st XI trained hard at the start of the season but there is still a tendency to 'hold back' or to save a little something until later. To acquire the sort of fitness that is really required all must realise that nothing less than total effort and determination are necessary. Some members of the XI only really "went through the motions" of getting fit in spite of what they may claim. The team has been built up around Thomson who is now a centre half of exceptional ability. His control is improving all the time, but his real value lies not so much in the way that he manages both to support his forwards in attack, and shore up the defence, but in his intense competitive spirit and determination to win. The more that this rubs off on the XI and on the School as a whole, the better.

The forwards have at times looked very effective. McNair on the right wing can centre devastatingly (as befits the captain of golf!) but needs to vary his crosses more. He plays very well when he gets fully involved in a game. Comber, his inside right, plays thoughtfully and links with the others well, and would be an outstanding player if he got really fit, and managed to become less lazy on the pitch. At centre-forward Cobb is something of an enigma. He is capable of doing great things—as against Radley—but he misses too many chances at present. An ideal centre forward must snap up the half chances, and he needs a heart as big as a house. There have been occasions when the frustrations of his own mistakes and those of others around him have tended to destroy his own confidence. He is another player who is more dangerous when fully committed to the game. The left wing partnership of Thomlinson and Carr has looked successful. They both need to cover more ground during the course of a game. Tackling back is very important. But in attack together they've created many scoring chance, and Carr in particular has an excellent eye, and a powerful shot. More quickness though is required to seize the half chance.

The half back line has been one of the chief strengths of the side. Pearson and Shackleton have more than made up for their lack of inches with their stickwork, their enterprise in supporting the forwards and their determination in defence. Their fault has been to lapse occasionally into clearing too casually, only to find that the pass has either not made touch, or has been intercepted by the opposition. But their whole heartedness has been a very vital feature of the XI's success.

Harvey and Daniels have been paired together as full backs for a long time now, and most of what they've done has been very effective. However they both have a tendency to "over-commit" themselves to the tackle. Also they have on occasions been very slow to turn and recover. They could both become useful players if they decide to put more into the game.

Paltenghi is the best goalkeeper in the School and has recently regained much of his lost confidence. His positional play is reasonable, but he must cultivate a more ruthless approach—one of coolness and concentration. Too many slips have produced unnecessary goals.

One excellent feature of the side has been their willingness to help and support each other. With Thomson dominating the scene it might have been easy to leave it all to him. This though has not been the case and the success of the XI is due to each member of the team, their enthusiasm and growing determination "to win at all costs".

The season began pretty poorly with an unnecessary loss to the Oxford Bulls. In this match the XI played down to the visitor's pace and showed a lack of firmness in midfield and a lack of punch in front of goal. Numerous scoring chances were wasted and the Bulls won with a very feeble goal.

An International XI visited us next, and it was during this game that the side turned the corner. With Corby, Scott, McGinn, Pattison and Oliver displaying their skills, the School fought for every ball, chased every chance and scored three fine goals in the second half. That the International XI won by 8 goals to 3 was of no account. Stowe at last looked competitive, and confidently faced up to their first school match which had to be transferred to Aldenham (yet again) because of floods at Stowe.

1st XI v. Aldenham : Won 3-2

On a pitch that cut up badly as the game wore on Stowe looked impressive in the first half, moving the ball quickly and decisively and running intelligently into open spaces. Many scoring

chances were created but we only scored twice in this time. McNair was well placed to bang home a loose ball from the right, and minutes later a perfectly executed penalty corner (Thomson and Carr) put Stowe further ahead.

After the break there were two phases. The first was one of continued Stoic ascendancy—the third goal coming when S. McNair was again on hand to complete a short corner. However Aldenham came strongly back into the picture with two goals which resulted from fatal sloppiness in defence and from leaden-footed indecision by the goalkeeper. In the end it was a closer contest than it should have been. Already Stowe's main weaknesses were apparent—a proneness to waste good scoring chances and a certain anxiety—panic almost, when clearing in defence.

1st XI v. The Leys : Drawn 1-1

This was a game we ought to have won easily. Had it not been for a fine display by the Ley's goalkeeper we probably would have done—but in spite of the "ifs" and "buts" the result remains in the record books 1-1. Stowe scored straight from the bully-off. Cobb breaking quickly made good ground and passed neatly to Carr. His shot was well saved, but Cobb pushed in the rebound—1-0. From then on the story is one of missed chances, brilliant goal-keeping, disallowed goals and general frustration. The Leys attacked briefly and vaguely just on half time and equalised with a soft goal that should have been easily saved. And so it went on. Cool heads and more ruthlessness in attack must have produced more goals—but both were lacking. All credit then to The Leys' plucky and athletic goalkeeper—he at least didn't deserve to lose.

1st XI v. Bradfield : Won 3-1

On a pitch that made close control very difficult Stowe played sensibly—banging the ball about crisply, and keeping the game open. After a period of uncertainty during which Bradfield might have scored, the XI settled down and soon went ahead. Carr scored after receiving a perfect pass from Thomson. A quickly taken free hit gave Thomson a chance which he gleefully accepted at the second attempt, putting Stowe ahead 2-0. This was followed by a Bradfield recovery, and hesitancy in defence, plus a goalkeeping error, allowed them to score a scrambled goal. The last phase of the match saw Stowe getting back on top. McNair moved quickly down the right and Comber fastening on to his fine centre hit a great shot from a narrow angle that gave Bradfield's goalkeeper no chance. Certainly this was a satisfactory result, but it should have been more conclusive. Scoring chances were again wasted, and in the middle of the second half our defence was guilty of showing far too much friendliness towards the opposition forwards.

1st XI v. Radley : Won 5-2

The most pleasing thing about this match was the way in which Stowe fought back from a position where they were 1-2 down and looking beaten. It is a long time since a Stowe team displayed such determination and competitive fire.

Thomlinson opened the scoring following a purposeful break down the right by Cobb. But Radley, moving quickly and passing hard and accurately fought their way back into the game. They levelled the scores from a penalty corner, and soon after took the lead with a feeble goal that should have been saved. After half time the pattern changed for the better. Stowe began to move the ball faster and to tackle with more determination, and soon won control of the midfield play. Carr equalised with a fine shot into the netting after a Thomson break down the right. Next Cobb chased a through-ball from Carr and touched it into goal. He followed this with a fine individual effort, beating the left back and scoring with a great cross shot, and finally he was on hand to complete a long corner move, eagerly converting the centre to make it 5-2. The spirit and spark with which the XI played in the second half was good to see, and it is worth pointing out that it is this quality, above all, that wins matches.

1st XI v. Magdalen College School : Won 4-1

This was another excellent result, gained against a side that played some good hockey and certainly troubled Stowe right up to the clinching goal which was scored only a few minutes from time.

Stowe began most impressively, attacking fluently down the wings and penetrating deeply with probing movements initiated by the inside forwards and supported, as always, by Thomson. But no goals were scored and just before half time a quick break by the M.C.S. centre half gave their centre forward a half-chance. He pushed hopefully towards goal, and to the mortification of all, Paltenghi allowed the ball to trickle gently over the line.

In the second half Stowe continued to dominate the game. Thomson missed a penalty flick but with time fast running out things took a turn for the better when a tremendous shot from a short corner by Carr started Stowe off on a 'Purple Patch'. Thomlinson quickly put the XI ahead with a tidy flick shot and Cobb followed suit a minute later with a similar effort from the edge of the circle. The best goal which made the final score 4-1 came from Thomlinson. After exchanging passes with Carr, he broke wide down the left, and on reaching the circle hit an unstoppable shot just under the bar. This was an exciting game then, one which mirrored the pattern of the Radley match. Stowe, playing with great spirit, had again come from behind to win convincingly.

Team: I. A. Thomson (C) (Capt.), N. H. Thomlinson (W), M. F. Paltenghi (C), N. Daniels (C), N. H. Harvey (G), A. D. Shackleton (G), C. J. Pearson (G), S. A. McNair (G), A. W. P. Comber (G), M. H. R. Cobb (W), R. G. G. Carr (C).

Also played: R. G. L. Cheatle (W), P. S. H. Frazer (L).

Results:	v. Oxford Bulls	Lost	0—1
	v. International XI	Lost	3—8
	v. Aldenham	Won	3—2
	v. C.U. Wanderers	Lost	1—3
	v. The Leys	Drawn	1—1
	v. O.U. Occasionals	Cancelled	
	v. H.A. XI	Cancelled	
	v. Bradfield	Won	3—1
	v. Radley	Won	5—2
	v. M.C.S. Oxford	Won	4—1
	v. Old Stoics	Won	2—1

THE SECOND XI

At the time of writing this, the team has only played 4 matches, and faces the not very happy situation of two games drawn and two lost. The first games against the Leys was played, like all the others, under wet conditions. Despite the heaviness of the ground the team played well and the ball was distributed firmly for most of the time. We were unlucky to lose the game by the odd goal in three, having had the large majority of the play.

We were then away to Bradfield on a pitch of larger proportions than we were used to. This extra space was never effectively used, and the game hardly achieved any rhythm. Both sides failed to score, and again Stowe had to be satisfied with knowing that they had had most of the play. The next game against Radley followed some fairly heavy rain, and it was essential that the ball was hit about strongly. Stowe started well and wingers were used to good effect. At half time we were leading, and with one minute to go we were 2-1 up when one of those hockey nightmares unfolded itself. A Radley forward broke away, with the ball some distance ahead. A fullback tried a sweeping first-timer, missed to leave the attacker to push the ball into the net. Another draw which should not have been, against the run of play. For the most part our defence had been sound, but too many passes went astray, and scoring chances were not taken.

Two days later we played Magdalen College School, Oxford, and lost 2-3. On the day Magdalen deserved to win because their basic skills were better. Stowe were careless over the essentials like stopping cleanly and passing accurately. At times desperation led us to hit and run tactics. Our disappointing lack of success underlines, I think, the necessity of mastering these basics,

GERM

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until a real confidence is established between stick and ball. The side which can stop and hit cleanly will always dictate the pace and style of the game. Vigour has not been lacking.

Team: H. A. Blair-Imrie (C), A. J. Carmichael (W), R. G. Cheatle (W), R. C. Eve (G), P. S. Frazer (L), A. W. Goodhart (C), G. H. Josselyn (T), J. W. Kennon (G), G. Klonarides (T), M. J. D. Manley (T), (Capt.), R. J. Rolls (L), C. C. Rooke (C), J. J. Spiering (C), R. M. Withinshaw (C).

Results:
v. The Leys Lost 1—2
v. Bradfield Drawn 0—0
v. Radley Drawn 2—2
v. M.C.S. Oxford Lost 2—3

THE SIXTY

Good, hard, direct play, aided particularly by the able captaincy of Smith, has given us two good wins so far this season. Once again the team has played with great enthusiasm, and sometimes with deft touches of skill, and in spite of frequent changes the spirit has been excellent.

Team from: W. S. Croom-Johnson (T), M. A. Watson (C), M. J. Brain (T), G. Klonarides (T), H. J. A. Smith (T), W. S. Brann (T), R. Suri (C), C. A. Rogers (C), A. N. d'E. Darby (B), J. K. Nelson-Smith (C), J. O. Deutsch (C), M. J. A. Campbell (C), G. R. Ratcliff (L), N. J. A. Davies (L), R. H. Pyne (B), G. M. I. Miller (C), S. J. Brough (L), J. C. Withinshaw (C).

Results:
v. Radley Won 1—0
v. Magdalen College School Won 5—2

THE COLTS

This XI was a very good one which usually produced excellent hockey, even though rather too many of the build-ups sometimes failed to produce the goals they deserved. The forwards looked dangerous, and they were appropriately 'goal hungry'—but they should try to get their shots in immediately they are in a position to do so rather than waiting for an even better chance which may not come. The inside trio of Prescott, Hawes and Morris linked up together very well and worked assiduously to improve their skills and they cut their way through most defences. Hawes at centre forward has a fine hard shot in front of goal, but should use the flick and push more frequently. He led his line by his personal example and determination. Prescott at inside right was in good form, and always played attractive hockey. He used his wing intelligently, and at his best he shows a real touch of brilliance. Morris was inside left and proved an excellent schemer in the attack and is probably the surest passer of the ball in the front line. He also developed the useful asset of a perfect handstop at the short corners which were well hit out by Phillips. The two wingers were Phillips and Seccombe. Phillips improved continuously as the weeks went by and scored several well taken goals, he also switched positions cleverly to deceive the opposition. Seccombe tried hard throughout all the games, but sometimes found his lack of weight caused him to be bundled off the ball.

McDonald was centre half and worked tirelessly both in defence and attack. Occasionally he went upfield too far at the wrong time, but usually managed to recover quickly enough to save the situation. As Captain he led his team well, and was both popular and efficient. Guest and Harper were a very good pair of wing halves who usually destroyed any attacks which came in their directions. They passed well, and once Harper had checked a tendency to use the reverse stick pass too much, between them they successfully blotted their opponents out of the game. Mytton-Mills and Sherwood were the full backs. Mytton-Mills was a tower of strength, and against Aldenham showed how one man can save a match when things are not going right. Sherwood improved with every match and covered a vast amount of ground as well as any errors of his team on his side of the field. Bagshawe in goal made some good saves, and gradually formed a reasonable understanding with his full backs—he must however call for the ball to be left for him to clear when he thinks he is in the best position to do so. A general criticism of the team is that they are rather slow to get into top gear—as was shown against Aldenham and Bloxham—but there is much talent amongst them which should augur well for



Poetry . Art . Opinion

EDITORIAL

This last year has seen the face and faces of Stowe change an enormous amount. Everything from clothing regulations to female company has been examined carefully and if necessary revised. Unfortunately the very fact that we are permitted to lead our own lives without offending the establishment has created a new problem—a form of scholastic apathy. No longer do people wish to express their opinions simply because they know they will not be suppressed. Much the same has happened on the games field—do people no longer think it dignified to exercise themselves? Perhaps this is an understandable reaction against the improvements and soon the pendulum of life will settle down once again.

It would be a pity to think that the School was starting to resent the attempted improvements simply because they would have nothing to vent their adolescent grumblings against.

EDITORS:

RICHARD CARR

MICHAEL WYLLIE

POETRY:

MICHAEL WYLLIE

JONATHAN FARRER

MICHAEL MANN

TIMOTHY KINAHAN

NICHOLAS KINGSLAND

Disinterested intellectual curiosity
is the life blood of real
civilisation.

Trevelyan

CHRISTMAS POEM 1969

Christmas has caught us again,
pants down and staring at the departing sun,
watching the myriads of snow-flakes brighten our
happy english way of life.
Cards and bed-scenes, Holly and Ivy cavorting in
the living room. Joyous ideas sprinkling
Christmas costs and prices with our ever-diminishing
wages all going to Biafra to make their Hell
a little more Christmas-like, not only the lack of
snow and humanity and the other necessary ingredients
required to make this life that little bit less
worthwhile. Mini-Biafras all over our happy Santa
cards, not to mention Vietnam and that exciting action
packed episode now out in 26 weekly parts — Pinkville.
Yes, humanity has been promised a worthwhile expensive
and bloody Xmas.
Happy New Year.

MICHAEL WYLLIE

I sit on a man's back, choking
him and making him carry me, and
yet assure myself and others that
I am very sorry for him and wish
to ease his lot by all possible means—
except by getting off his back.

Tolstoy

The British Bourgeoisie
Is not born,
And does not die,
But, if it is ill,
It has a frightened look in its eyes.

Sitwell

ARTICLES:

RICHARD CARR

ARTHUR GOODHART

Corruption, the most infallible
symptom of constitutional liberty.

Gibbon

It is afterwards, and the dawn
is penetrated only by your nakedness.
Tears of yesternight have stained
your painted face,
and your hair cascades by your side.
Have you realised in your comfortable
dreams, that our conception is for grief
and not mankind?
—that the action has ruined
the reason?
I leave you—
there can be no regrets—
our understanding was
conditioned like the
dawn.

MICHAEL WYLLIE

ART:

MICHAEL WYLLIE

—' Epicurean is coming '—

From a manuscript uncovered in the archives of The Museum of Useless Literature.

Once there was a land far away, which was named Nopinio by foreigners. It was ruled by a stern king and his senate, and was controlled by harsh laws. The population was housed in small, bare rooms, lived all by themselves and carried out their manual labour in groups as large as possible. However no communication was permitted. As they worked, slept and ate, a continuous flow of "Logic" was poured at them. This took the form of variations on these themes:

- 'Speech is wasted breath; therefore the Government considers speech unnecessary.'
- 'Relationships are only to be arranged for procreation, as pleasure is pain.'
- 'Thought is inessential and dangerous.'

If an inhabitant happened to conceive an interesting thought, he was to refer it to the police, who would treat him for shock and recondition his state of mind. This was their happy situation, until slowly day by day a fatal reaction started. Without the knowledge of the authorities, a breed of super-rats were managing to gain entrance to some of the nonentities, and by a subtle combination of 'Illogical' arguments began to instil in their proteges the will to think their own thoughts. They began to consider the established decrees of the king and to question them inwardly. The process was accentuated, as the king gave out a proclamation that all the workers would be sterilised. So not only thought, but also any chance of physical expression would be removed. Mysterious threats began to appear on the tables, clothes, food and seats of the king, to the effect that this proposed course of action would bring him problems. After a full council meeting it was decided that the decree would be rescinded, and (to show his beneficence) conversation would be allowed for one hour a day, increasing by an hour a year as the years passed. After all had run smoothly for a decade, with a noticeable relaxation in all facets of life, a sudden increase in the death rate of the country became apparent. People spent more time in talking than working, as their restrictions had been relaxed, and they were allowed to live more or less as they pleased, so

Here the manuscript tails off as the writer seems to have been oppressed by the same intellectual lethargy, prevalent in the country.

A traveller to this land a few years later reported that a strange and frightening sight had met his eyes at the first town through which he passed. "The townsfolk" he said, "were all sitting around with coffee and cigarettes in their hands, staring blankly in front of them. The same was true throughout the rest of the country". His only diagnosis was that their slow-running minds had eventually come to a stop, through lack of energy and impulsion to act positively or to examine anything except their inability to think.

The board of inspectors' verdict was intellectual and physical stagnation.

RICHARD CARR

THE HUMAN VALLEY

It runs on like an everlasting letter,
Through sadness, unhappiness, and hate,
And in its very source of love
There flows a stream,
Tears?

And it passes on an on,
Through barren regions,
Sometimes cold with misery,
Sometimes rich with happiness,
Life?

And then it passes on
Into a country where war is raging,
Hindering everybody,
Hatred in the eyes of every living soul,
The beginning of the end?

It comes to the border,
Here it splits,
One half goes one way, the other another way,
The beginning of the second round of a cycle?

NICHOLAS KINGSLAND

THE CHURCHYARD YEW

The hood shelters the grown in stones,
greenness of the heavy bower smelled
with the thick air of bones.

The headboard stiffened with lichen mould,
the poisoned berries, blood full,
burst dripping to the bone shaped cold.

Heavy green, run through with flesh,
the stems sprouting sinewed hands,
the head umbrellaed, a living mesh.

The cut tree trunk bleeds leg sap
running congealed to the feeling toes
plunged entwined the hollowed cage root tap.

Death lives sprouting from the rounded mound
and sickens the night air with sticky blood.
This the living death tree I found.

MICHAEL MANN

I took laughter down from its peg
and wore it as a gleaming coat
that smiled with sparkling buttoned eyes
down its red and white piped nose
decked on each side with rows
of glistening red pockets.
Its arms dangling to the side
the legs stubby, fat and wide
and the gouting stomach chuckling
with the buttoned eyes.
How laughter fitted well and hung
on the shoulders of youth far flung
trying to encompass the sullen world
with fine, broad cheerful arms
and the handsome collared hair of gracious charms.
How we walked and passed sadness
ill-fitting on shapeless gloom.
Now youth has grown large and fat
filled too much of this and that
and has burst laughter's buttoned eyes
and torn and so youth dies.
I am an old man sullen in his ways
who only wears the waistcoat of placitude these days.

MICHAEL MANN

Sam's thoughts lay in the desert and so did his soul. He looked up into the dull sky and in a cloud he saw a holly bird that swooped and tormented his lost soul. The bird dived into a tree and sat on a branch and spat on his mind below. It spat at poor demented Sam, who by now was very angry and wet. It flew from tree to tree twisting and curling in the dull heavy air, while below Sam stood sweating on the rockhard earth and swore to his broken mind he would kill that insolent bird.

Sam walked in the hard brown valley. He walked along the path of the dried-up stream and on a white rock he saw a gleaming white pistol with three golden bullets by its side. With a shaking hand he picked up the gun and the three bullets and loaded them into the gun; oh yes he knew how. Sam cocked the gun and followed the trees to find his laughing holly bird. Ha! it would laugh no more cried Sam, through his twisted stupid mouth.

Sam walked up to a very large tree and looked up into the branches and the laughing holly bird spat in his eye and flew out of the tree. Sam levelled his pistol and fired a golden bullet after the bird, but his eye was full of spit and he missed the laughing holly bird who laughed some more at the poor efforts of the sad demented Sam.

Sam could see the wicked bird that perched on a telegraph wire that traversed the valley, and his torn mind imploded again and he ran at the bird screaming and shouting and tripping over his large foolish boots. Perhaps not the best way of stalking a bird but he reached the telegraph wire and fell to the ground crying with rage and eating the dust. Sam spat at the bird and the holly bird laughed and spat at Sam. Then Sam aimed the gun, the gleaming white pistol and shot the laughing holly bird, which fell to the ground with a plop. Crazy Sam aimed the gleaming white pistol at the bird's head and shot the third golden bullet through the poor bird's head and Sam laughed and the bird did not, and Sam laughed again. I have shot a laughing holly bird thought Sam, but after all Sam couldn't think.

JONATHAN FARRER

A PEACEFUL EXPERIENCE

While walking through the countryside of time
(time in the past
no future can be seen)

I discovered something, something big or small.
Strength tied up in muscular masonry.

The peace was so strong, so angry;
It generated from the walls and swirled along the aisles,
And surrounded me.

I just had to sit and absorb it
and my mind stayed still in a new dimension of time.
I found I had to go, and so I tried.
I was stifled and blocked. There seemed to be no way out.
Stumbling over the furniture of the past
I could not leave yet.

Spinning and feeling I staggered,
Shouting and screaming, running and then walking calmly.
Walking firmly now in the bright night-sky.
And realising I hadn't known what had happened
If anything did happen.

JONATHAN FARRER

" HOW FREE ARE YOU ? "

The majority of people who read either Aldous Huxley's " Brave New World " or George Orwell's " 1984 " tend to laugh and then forget about what they have read. Certainly one can always criticise both books for being, perhaps, too extreme and therefore easily dismissed. But, a close study of our supposedly democratic society shows that both books are based on a relatively high degree of fact.

As our society becomes more complex, a higher degree of governmental intervention becomes necessary. For instance, nowadays there is strict control on the building of office blocks in London. This is because yet another block of flats means more commuters and therefore more congestion on the roads and on the railways. As the present government has shown, it is now an accepted practice for the economy to be controlled by the Executive. Since the Executive itself is run by the Prime Minister it is almost possible for one man to have dictatorial powers over the most important aspect of a capitalist society. Again, purely by living in England one has to submit to having large portions of one's income being removed by both the tax collectors and the rate collectors. This would be a legitimate practice if one had voted for the party in power. However, in a great many cases people are being taxed by a government which is going to use their money to carry out policies of which they do not approve.

Industry is slowly destroying our natural environment. Although only about a fifth of this planet is fit for human habitation, this fifth is slowly disappearing beneath the continuous urban sprawls, factories, refuse dumps, etc. No one seems particularly perturbed. No one seems terribly worried about the fact that governments are manufacturing more and more physical deterrents as well as deadly viruses with even larger capacities for taking human life, yet they are all limiting factors. At present, the " I'm alright Jack " philosophy is dominant. However, what the majority of people don't seem to realize is that by not reacting now, not only will it probably be too late, but also when they come to trying to take some form of action, they will find that any power they might once have held, has now vanished.

Another interesting factor that may in the end prove Huxley's vision of Alphas and Betas to be fairly near the truth is that as our society becomes more developed and the use of contraceptives increasingly accepted, the more developed and stable society is going to breed less. It is already a known fact that the average number of children in an European family is two or three, whereas their Indian or Negro counterparts have families which often run into double figures. This may well mean that in the not too distant future the remnants of our present society will be the equivalent of the Alphas while the Indians and negroes occupy the Beta and Gamma positions.

Slowly many of life's old pleasures are being lost on the grounds that they are uneconomical. Virtually all our food is either synthetic or frozen. None of our clothes are hand-made any more and again in most cases the materials used are synthetic. At the same time as raising our standard of living we are destroying the character of life. One glimpse at a housing estate shows this, where everyone lives in the same sort of house, with same sort of — furniture, garden, T.V. and Radio programmes, food, car, clothes, children and attitudes. The majority of these people will all have had the same sort of education and, if the present government has its way, no doubt Public Schools and Private Prep. Schools will be things of the past. If this happens one of the last characteristics of the British will have gone and Britain will become a non-entity, producing non-entities.

It is therefore possible to see that our supposed democratic society is being turned into an autocracy on the grounds that only by control is it possible to gain the best that a certain society can offer. Unfortunately the Welfare State with its high standard of living is slowly constricting everyone and everything. Our society has therefore reached a stage at which it has to decide whether it is going to sacrifice the individual for the benefit of ' Society '. Do you want to be an individual, or a non-entity in a highly developed and prosperous Welfare State? The choice is basically political. But how free are you in your choice as to what you want to vote for, who you vote for and what you are voting for?

ARTHUR GOODHART

**AND HE SHALL COME AGAIN WITH GLORY TO JUDGE BOTH
THE QUICK AND THE DEAD**

You've gotta look good
On your canter round the universe:
You've gotta sing songs to the stars,
You've gotta ride your chariot
All the way to Mars: then,
Only then, will life
As it really is; then, only then
Will the truth be revealed.
Then, only then, in the
Call of the mice
That flit round heaven will you
See that the world and the
Sea of you and me are a hoax
In the eyes of the sun
Which mutters and groans at the
Lack of a druid to sing
To it's simpleton sex.
Then will the hurt and the pain
In the abdomen squeal and
Rasp in tune; then will chords
Divine and discord, clatter through
The heavens on the Rainbow's sleigh.
Then will you see that Parliament's
A fantasy; then will you see
The days dance dog dance
Round the maypole tree:
Life'll be revealed in its compound
Glory in the life and the loves
Of the old teak chair
Which sits in the attic
Forgotten by the landlord,
Remembered by the rats
Remembered by the woodworm
And the farmyard cats.

Teak chair: Teak chair life
Sitting in the attic with a
Gold leaf God. Both are
Forgotten with the leather-bound
Bible-book of odd-weird phrases
That no-one knows. Oh! sack
The churches with Cromwell's men;
Oh kiss the idols that worship men.
Go to the barber you women all—
Shave your heads and prepare to mourn,
For the time will come,
The time is near, when the old teak
Chair will replace your beer,
And the gold leaf God will descend
In fire, an animated creature
With a rod of ire; and men will bow,
And men will scream as the
Animated God-leaf-gold-teak chair
Sits in judgement in the lions lair
Where your orgies lived, and your
Hash was stored, and comfortable
Beds were kept in scores. Little did
You realize, gracious fool! that
The wormwood teak chair
Was not for you!

TIMOTHY KINAHAN

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future 1st XIs, in which team nearly all of these boys will probably play in the next year or two. It is also nice to be able to say that the entire team was ready to train and practice in all weathers at any time and they thoroughly deserve what successes they have and will achieve in this sport. Hawes, Prescott and Morris were selected to play for the Buckinghamshire Under 16 XI during the season, and McDonald was a reserve for the team. Congratulations to these boys. The 2nd XI contained some useful members and they soundly thrashed their Radley counterparts. Harrison captained the team well, and it is a pity there are not more matches at this level.

Team: J. N. S. Bagshawe (L), H. C. Mytton Mills (W), M. W. Sherwood (L), M. J. Guest (B), R. J. McDonald (C) (Captain), D. A. Harper (C), R. M. Seccombe (B), M. H. Prescott (C), C. C. R. Hawes (G), P. H. Morris (L), S. N. Phillips (L).

Also played: M. E. Harrison (L), J. D. A. Nicholl (L), N. R. T. Ireland (B).

Colours were awarded to: R. J. McDonald, H. C. Mytton Mills, D. A. Harper, C. C. R. Hawes, M. H. Prescott, P. H. Morris, M. J. Guest, S. N. Phillips.

2nd XI: S. R. Chilton (L), J. J. G. Dawes (L), J. D. A. Nicholl (L), S. J. Kennedy (C), M. E. Harrison (L), J. D. Boles (C), M. G. Flawn-Thomas (G), N. R. T. Ireland (B), P. G. Naish (B), S. I. Allan (C), G. K. Aiken (C).

Results:

Colts XI:	v. Aldenham	Away	Won	4—1
	v. Bloxham	Away	Won	6—0
	v. The Leys	Away	Drawn	0—0
	v. Bradfield	Home	Won	4—1
	v. Radley	Away	Lost	2—4
	v. M.C.S. Oxford	Home	Drawn	1—1
2nd XI:	v. Radley	Away	Won	7—1

THE JUNIOR COLTS

The standard of play throughout the term, with the notable exception of the game against M.C.S. Oxford, has been of a much higher standard than might be inferred from the table of results. The stickwork both in attack and defence was good to watch, with Palmer outstanding for his stopping and hitting, Linnell for his reverse stick stopping and through pass, and Bond for his running with the ball and sudden changes of direction. But, in spite of an array of skills which ensured majority possession of the ball in every game, the co-ordination between players and sense of team-work never really materialised for longer than five minutes at a time. This was certainly a 'second-half' team, finding more drive and purpose after the half-time lecture and fit enough to keep going right up to the whistle.

At Aldenham we were narrowly defeated by a taller and faster team, reversing the rolls at Bloxham, but more convincingly. In both games Paltenghi was outstanding for his clever stickwork and determined tackling. The Leys side was good, but this was a game lost rather than won, with many opportunities going begging in the circle. The same pattern was repeated at Radley, where the score could easily have gone the other way. We scraped home against Bradfield, a one goal margin scarcely fair reward for an almost entire second half at their end. The match against M.C.S. is best forgotten, being played with an almost invisible ball, resulting in an appalling display of bad hockey.

At the time of writing the only valid conclusion on the games so far is one of disappointment. The team did not lack in skill but in intensity of purpose and in a willingness to co-operate with each other.

Team from: D. G. Lucas (G) (Captain), M. J. G. Palmer (B), J. C. Williamson-Noble (T), J. H. R. Binns (C), P. F. R. L. Dyer (C), J. C. Paltenghi (C), D. G. Choyce (C), J. R. C. Wilkes (C), T. Boutros-Ghali (C), D. C. Hopping (C), C. K. Bond (L), J. P. Guilford (L), M. D. Linnell (L), P. Mackay (L), M. G. P. Rossdale (L), R. H. Mitchell (L), A. L. Garber (C).

Results:

v. Aldenham	Lost	1—2
v. Bloxham	Won	6—0
v. The Leys	Lost	1—3
v. Bradfield	Won	2—1
v. Radley	Lost	1—2
v. M.C.S. Oxford	Drawn	5—5

THE UNDER-FOURTEEN XI

The weather, this term, has been kind and all our fixtures have so far been played. The team is a most promising unit which has played some good hockey against strong opposition and all our matches have been hard fought. A marked feature of play this year has been the brisk, open passing movements that have caused many problems to our opposition defences. Unfortunately we have not quite had the scoring power in the 'D' otherwise the scorelines could have been of quite a different order. Individual stick play has been of an encouragingly high standard and I feel sure that the potential of this group is high.

Buchanan, following the family tradition, played with authority in goal, and the two backs, Pike and McCall were usually safe defenders. The half back line played well, both in defence and attack, Bevan and McCulloch both being good stick players, and Falcon and Scowsill also played with tenacity.

In the forwards the outstanding players were Lockhart-Smith, who has so far scored five of our goals from the inside right position, Selby on the right wing and Dawson playing in the difficult left wing position. Ritchie and Low completed the forward line-up, they both played well but lacked the aggressive approach needed to score goals.

Team: A. N. Buchanan (W), G. I. L. McCall (C), P. A. Pike (C), N. McCulloch (B), P. M. M. Bevan (L), P. Scowsill (T), M. Falcon (C), M. P. Selby (C), M. G. Lockhart-Smith (C), M. J. A. Ritchie (T), P. A. Low (C), P. G. Dawson (C).

Results: v. Winchester House Won 2—1
v. Radley Won 2—0
v. M.C.S. Oxford Won 3—0

CROSS-COUNTRY

There was a good early start to the season last September when a small keen nucleus of the Club got together for a lengthy and consistent training period. This went so well that two fixtures were arranged at short notice, one at Bradfield College as a quadrangular match v. Abingdon, Salisbury and Bradfield College. With very much a makeshift team Stowe fought hard but came equal third which was to be expected under the prevailing circumstances. However, a week later when Stowe revisited Bradfield with a six-man team in a second quadrangular match v. Bradfield, Lancing and Cranleigh College the team did exceedingly well and came first. This was a just reward for the small band of members who had regularly trained up to that date. The beginning of the Spring term showed a large, and much required increase in the number of members, with a result that the main season prospects looked quite promising. However, it soon became apparent that there was a severe shortage of good runners for the Second VIII. It was fortunate that the Club at short notice obtained the services of runners committed to other sports: H. J. A. Smith (T), was a greatly valued honorary member of the Club in view of his keen efforts for the 2nd VIII.

In general the season has only been fair, particularly for the 1st VIII, with the notable exception of the Colts who have achieved great success in an unbeaten record. Despite weather far from conducive to comfortable training, the Club has trained regularly with much enthusiasm. A great deal of this has been due to the Captain, D. J. Conran (C), who has set a good example throughout the season and who has organized realistic and varied training. He has provided the top runners in other Clubs with unnerving and determined competition. The Club secretary, A. M. V. Mann (C), has proved to be most reliable in his position and we are indebted to him for his efficiency and enthusiasm. J. M. Fay (G), P. T. Hirsch (W), I. C. S. Ritchie (T), M. J. Chesshire (C), N. A. Tubbs (W), and R. G. G. Burdon (W), all regular members of the 1st VIII, have shown much determination in their training and their racing.

The season started well at Hampstead in a triangular fixture against Thames Hare and Hounds and University College School. The Stowe team did exceptionally well and lost to Thames

Hare and Hounds by one point only. However, the following two matches were very much a disappointment when Stowe lost at Berkhamsted in a quadrangular match against Haileybury, Berkhamsted and Felsted. The 1st team suffered its second defeat at Rugby in a triangular match against Rugby and Uppingham. Some of the blame may be attributed to injury and sickness. The first home fixture of the season showed a stronger 1st team when Stowe beat Oundle, but only just. Again, with a stronger team in late February we visited Marlborough to play in a quadrangular match against Marlborough, Radley and Charterhouse. Here Stowe proved to be on form again and came second to Marlborough.

The 2nd VIII has been rather weak throughout the season partly owing to lack of manpower. However, the team rejoiced in a magnificent finale with their last fixture against Oundle, at home, when they achieved a comfortable victory. A. I. J. McGregor (C) and P. J. Mersey (C) have been a hardy back-bone to this team.

Congratulations to the Colts team for their excellent record this term. They have achieved the strategic position of being able to run as a team altogether and nearly as fast as the leader.

Congratulations also to C. N. Barbour (C), who this season has won virtually every race he has taken part in. It seems likely that as a consequence we may obtain a very good 1st VIII team in the future.

In conclusion the season has been average. We have not had as many good runners as in past years, and the Club has suffered from lack of members. We hope that this will be rectified in the future.

1st VIII Colours: were re-awarded to Conran and awarded to Fay, Hirsch, Ritchie and Tubbs.

2nd VIII Colours: have been awarded to Barbour, Smith, McGregor, Mersey, Dillon-Mahon, Page, Melly, Richards and Cookson.

Results: v. Bradfield, Abingdon, Salisbury (at Bradfield). 1, Bradfield 47 pts. 2, Abingdon 81 pts. 3 equal, Stowe and Salisbury 92 pts.

1st VIII: v. Bradfield, Lancing and Cranleigh (at Bradfield). 1, Stowe 32 pts. 2, Bradfield 37 pts. 3, Lancing 61 pts. 4, Cranleigh 87 pts.

v. Thames Hare & Hounds and University College School (at Hampstead). 1, Thames 49 pts. 2, Stowe 50 pts. 3, U.C.S. 75 pts.

v. Haileybury, Berkhamsted and Felsted (at Berkhamsted). 1, Haileybury 42 pts. 2, Berkhamsted 63 pts. 3, Felsted 100 pts. 4, Stowe 117 pts.

v. Uppingham and Rugby (at Rugby). 1, Uppingham 46 pts. 2, Rugby 58 pts. 3, Stowe 81 pts.

v. Oundle (Home). 1, Stowe 39 pts. 2, Oundle 40 pts.

v. Radley, Charterhouse and Marlborough (at Marlborough). 1, Marlborough 35 pts. 2, Stowe 62 pts. 3, Radley 81 pts. 4, Charterhouse 127 pts.

2nd VIII: v. Haileybury, Berkhamsted and Felsted (at Berkhamsted). 1, Haileybury 42 pts. 2, Berkhamsted 73 pts. 3, Felsted 89 pts. 4, Stowe 100 pts.

v. Rugby and Uppingham (at Rugby). 1, Rugby 18 pts. 2, Uppingham 51 pts. 3, Stowe 55 pts.

v. Oundle (Home). 1, Stowe 29 pts. 2, Oundle 50 pts.

Colts VIII: v. Haileybury, Berkhamsted and Felsted (at Berkhamsted). 1, Stowe 27 pts. 2, Felsted 85 pts. 3, Berkhamsted 104 pts. 4, Haileybury 143 pts.

v. Rugby and Uppingham (at Rugby). 1, Stowe 39 pts. 2, Rugby 70 pts. 3, Uppingham 71 pts.

v. Oundle (Home). 1, Stowe 26 pts. 2, Oundle 52 pts.

v. Radley and Marlborough (at Marlborough). 1, Stowe 30 pts. 2, Marlborough 59 pts. 3, Radley 82 pts.

v. St. Edward's (Home). 1, Stowe 29 pts. 2, St. Edwards 54 pts.

INTER-HOUSE RACES

During the first few weeks of term there appeared to be fairly well organised training on a House basis for this big event.

The competition was run in three age groups and the weather was fine, although it was very soggy underfoot.

The winner of the open event was I. A. Thomson (C) whose intensive hockey training had obviously been of great value. The runners-up, J. H. Fay (G), and P. T. Hirsch (W), were a little over half a minute behind. The House event was won comfortably by Walpole over Chatham and Temple.

The Under 17's was won in his stride by C. N. Barbour (G), with C. J. Melly (C) and R. J. G. Dillon-Mahon (B) gaining second and third places. Lyttelton very easily won this event.

N. McCulloch (B) won the Under 15 race to be followed one second later by M. Falcon (C). R. de C. S. Montagu (C) took third place. Chatham won this event with Grafton second and Cobham a close third.

Results:	Open (4½ Miles)	Under 17 (3 Miles)	Under 15 (3 Miles)
	1. Walpole 94 pts.	1. Lyttelton 154 pts.	1. Chatham 121 pts.
	2. Chatham 102 pts.	2. Cobham 172 pts.	2. Grafton 128 pts.
	3. Temple 128 pts.	3. Grafton 241 pts.	3. Cobham 131 pts.
	4. Grenville 136 pts.	4. Bruce 262 pts.	4. Chandos 134 pts.
	5. Cobham 175 pts.	5. Chatham 266 pts.	5. Lyttelton 157 pts.
	6. Lyttelton 183 pts.	6. Temple 319 pts.	6. Temple 192 pts.
	7. Chandos 187 pts.	7. Walpole 336 pts.	7. Walpole 197 pts.
	8. Grafton 231 pts.	8. Chandos 440 pts.	8. Grenville 214 pts.
	9. Bruce 339 pts.	9. Grenville 477 pts.	9. Bruce 232 pts.

SQUASH RACKETS

This season has probably been unique for Stowe. All matches have been won at both 1st Team and Colts level. We feel that Stowe could take on any school in the country with a team of five players and be confident of the result of the match. In an attempt to find stiffer opposition we have played several schools for the first time—and in so doing encountered Marlborough and found them worthy opponents, whom we beat 3-2 on courts which were dangerously wet through atmospheric condensation. All the rest of the matches resulted in either 4-1 or 5-0 wins for Stowe, and nearly all the Colts matches were 3-0 for us.

H. A. Smith has been a truly outstanding Captain of Squash Rackets. Apart from never playing on a losing side as Captain over the last two years, his good humour and consideration for others have gained him many friends among other schools, in addition to being a most popular and efficient leader of the team here. He will be much missed in the future, but nevertheless he has managed to raise the status of squash in Stowe and his contribution to this end will be remembered for a long time to come.

All the other members of the team have played well this term and although they all play in hockey teams their loyalty to squash also has been unquestioned. In this matter the master in charge of 1st XI hockey is to be thanked for his co-operation as he has always made it possible for his players to take part in every match.

How long can Stowe go on undefeated? We hope we can extend the run for quite some time yet.

R. G. G. Carr at number two although short of practice did not have a great deal of trouble beating most of his opponents. I. A. Thomson, the third string, is the only member of the team who has been undefeated throughout the two years run. His determination to win allied to his skill has ensured him victory. R. G. Cheatle, the number four has played consistently well, and is unbeaten this term once again, while A. W. P. Comber has always tried his best at fifth string, but has had too little free time to devote to practice this term. He should however have another year at Stowe, like most of the other members of the team.

The Colts team has also had an excellent Captain in P. H. Morris. He has tightened up his play tremendously over the last year and now hits the ball cleanly and powerfully—he has shown others the value of determination and sustained practice. M. J. Guest is also a most promising player and has won most of his matches in record time. He has now begun to think about his squash more deeply and this has resulted in considerable improvement. Both these colts have

played for the 1st team during the term. D. G. Choyce has become a keen player and both he and G. M. Miller have shared third string place. Both these boys are capable of doing well in the future. A. L. Pyfrom, R. H. Steavenson, P. A. Low and M. E. Harrison have also played for the Colts and all show promise.

Teams: H. A. Smith (T) (Captain), R. G. G. Carr (C), I. A. Thomson (C), R. G. L. Cheatle (W), A. W. P. 1st Team: Comber (G).

Colts: M. J. Guest (B), P. H. Morris (L) (Captain), D. G. Choyce (G), G. M. I. Miller (C), A. L. Pyfrom (G). **Also played:** R. H. Steavenson (G), P. A. Low (C), M. E. Harrison (L).

Results:

1st Team:	v. St. Edward's, Oxford	Home	Won	5—0
	v. Haileybury	Home	Won	5—0
	v. Radley	Home	Won	5—0
	v. Marlborough	Away	Won	3—2
	v. Rugby	Away	Won	4—1
	v. Oundle	Home	Won	3—0
Colts:	v. St. Edward's, Oxford	Home	Won	4—1
	v. Radley	Home	Won	2—1
	v. Marlborough	Away	Won	3—0
	v. Rugby	Away	Won	3—0

Tournaments and Championships

H. A. Smith is now the Buckinghamshire and Berkshire Under 19 Squash Rackets Champion. R. G. G. Carr has been selected to represent Yorkshire Under 19 team versus Surrey Colts. M. J. Guest reached the semi-final of the National Under 16 Championship for the Junior Evans Trophy (won last year by R. G. G. Carr).

D. G. Choyce reached the final of the Essex Closed Under 16 Championship and the last 16 of the Junior Evans.

P. H. Morris played in the Junior Evans, the Hampshire Junior, and the South of England Junior Championship and got through a round or two in each of them.

It is most encouraging to find so many Stoics taking part in tournaments—to do so is a sure sign of a desire to improve.

Bath Cup Championship

Stowe felt that they had a reasonable chance of winning this competition which is for three players only. We beat several schools including Millfield, but Barnard Castle (the winners) put us out in the quarter final round. The less said about this the better—something caused us to play below our best and all watching said that this was a most unexpected result. However this loss should spur Stowe on to make sure of winning this team trophy next year.

The team was: H. A. Smith, R. G. G. Carr, and I. A. Thomson.

FIVES

With some of the School's better players injured or committed to other sports the fives team did well to maintain a reasonable standard throughout the term. The School Captain and best player, M. E. Shirley-Beavan (G) showed good match form. His partner, W. S. Brann (T), lacks power but has a good technique. S. M. B. Dixey (G) and M. J. D. Manley (T) in the second pair played enthusiastically but lacked the necessary experience to contend with their club opponents.

An U.14 team is being selected to play Ludgrove Prep. School at the end of this term, and a pair is representing the School in the Public Schools' Competition at Highgate next holidays. The coaching of fives at all levels by Mr. Macoun has inspired new interest in the game, and it is hoped that this will produce a better standard of fives in the future.

Grenville beat Temple in the Senior Fives Housematch Final last term, and the Junior Fives Housematches are now in progress.

Results:	v. Old Berkhamstedians	Lost	2—0
	v. Uppingham	Lost	2—0
	v. Marlborough	Won	2—0
	v. Old Stoics	Lost	2—0

Senior team from: M. E. Shirley-Beavan (G), A. W. P. Comber (G), S. M. B. Dixey (G), M. J. D. Manley (T), W. S. Brann (T) and W. S. Croom-Johnson (T).

RUGBY FOOTBALL SENIOR HOUSE MATCHES

Chatham 11—Bruce 3

This match was played in near perfect conditions in front of the usual wildly partisan crowd. The story of the game is a straightforward one. The heavy but immobile Bruce pack tried to keep the ball close, and the game tight, as they had done so successfully when steam-rolling Walpole in the previous round; Chatham however attempted to counter Bruce's weight up front and release the ball for Thomson and Carr to run it outside. Bruce's front five forwards played without sufficient "devil" or spark, and as soon as Chatham saw that they could contain their heavier rivals they gained in confidence and played with increasing authority, until at the end it was the Chatham pack that was "calling the plays".

Thomson, who dominated the scene, opened the scoring with a finely taken drop goal. Bruce had a great chance of equalising soon after, when they produced a storming forward rush; but the ball was scrambled away for a line-out on the Chatham line.

Another drop-goal attempt by Thomson set up the second score. His kick narrowly missed its mark but Daniels, following up fast, was aided by a lucky bounce in the in-goal area and he just won the touch down. The easy conversion made the score 8-0. Chatham's best score came when their forwards won a quick heel on the Bruce 10 yard line and the ball flowed down the three-quarter line with Thomson appearing twice "on the loop" and finally being on hand outside the full back Carr who had come into the movement, to crash over in the corner. This was a finely executed move and one which finally destroyed the spirit in Bruce. Ireland did what he could to ignite the fire in his forwards but he, and they, failed, and were rewarded only by a consolation penalty goal. Ireland himself kicked this, from in front of the posts after a Chatham forward had been penalised for handling the ball in a scrum.

This was then a just and satisfying win for the more effective, and infinitely more adventurous side.

Teams:

Bruce: A. S. R. Groves; S. Barstow, A. C. Keal, R. L. Edwards, C. K. Allen; M. J. Guest, R. W. Moyle; J. P. W. Yerburch, A. W. G. Reed, J. N. R. Diesbach, P. H. Guest, C. J. Kingsland, S. D. Moss, D. A. G. Ireland (Capt.), W. N. Russell.

Chatham: R. G. G. Carr; A. G. Henry, D. A. Harper, H. C. A. Robinson, J. O. Deutsch; I. A. Thomson (Capt.), A. W. Goodhart; C. J. McCubbin, R. J. McDonald, J. K. Nelson-Smith, D. E. Sharafanowich, M. A. Watson, W. Daniels, M. M. Wyllie, P. J. Mersey.

Autumn Term

Awarded 2nd XV Colours: C. J. Kingsland.

Awarded 3rd XV Colours: C. J. Wiley.

Fourth XV Results:	v. Bedford	Lost	0—30
	v. St. Edward's	Lost	3—9
	v. Towcester G.S.	Won	28—8
	v. Oundle	Lost	0—44
	v. Cheltenham	Won	12—11
	v. M.C.S. Brackley	Lost	6—11

SHOOTING

Full Bore

Once again there will be a party going to Bisley for three days during the Easter holidays which always provides us with useful practice for the coming Summer season. We are fortunate to have remaining with us five of last year's Eight and we look forward to a reasonably successful season.

Small Bore

This term has seen a decrease in the number of matches shot due to the weather. We lost the one match we were able to shoot against Dunrobin. A. S. R. Groves and J. W. Kennon provided useful scores on this occasion, but lacked support from the less stable members of the Eight.

SAILING

There has been no sailing this term, so our efforts have been directed at completing the Graduate *Coracle* that we have been building for some time now. The last coats of varnish are now drying, so it seems that Mr. Rainer's direct supervision has paid dividends! Purchases this term have included a new launching trolley which will be well received by those who know the gradient of the sides of the reservoir on which we sail at Banbury. We have also bought new sails, boom, mast, and cover for *Coracle*.

The completion of the new boat now gives us a fleet of six Graduates, and *Mr. X*, the Supergrad. R. H. Steavenson (♣) and S. M. Raw (♣) are to represent the School these holidays at Bembridge where we wish them every success.

THE STOWE BEAGLES

The hounds were taken up to Dumfriesshire at the end of the Christmas holidays for the second visit of the season. We had four long days of hunting—from eleven in the morning until sundown. For the first two days the ground was very hard because of heavy frosts, whilst for the second two meets there was snow two inches deep. Despite the weather everyone enjoyed themselves and we are once again most grateful to Capt. and Mrs. Bell-Irving for their hospitality and to all those who made the visit possible.

At the beginning of term the scent was not at all good but it gradually improved and during the last four weeks or so we have had some excellent hunting. The going has been distinctly 'sticky' on the ploughed fields but, despite this, the hounds have hunted well. We have been very lucky to have had to postpone only three meets because of fog or snow.

Random ('64) had a litter of five puppies on 23rd February by Newcastle and District Beagles' 'Mariner'.

The Puppy Show and Hunt Ball this summer will be on Saturday July 11th, at Stowe.

The Whippers-in for the second half of the season are: J. B. Johnson (W), R. C. Willcock (B), N. C. M. Renny (C), A. D. McGee (L). We are also most grateful to all those who have helped in kennels and followed regularly this term, including A. O. Bell-Irving (C), R. G. Gibson (T), and R. G. Pooler (T).

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