

THE STOIC

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THE STOIC

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Frontispiece:

EDITORIAL

"An age that has no criticism . . . is either, immobile, hieratical, and confined to the reproduction of formal types, or an age that possesses no art at all." Criticism at and about Stowe is often erratic and this is not helpful. The form that criticism takes is very important to the progress of the School; for on its criteria standards are established, and these standards form a reputation.

A School's reputation evolves from a combination of the past and the present. It serves as a means by which those who know little about a particular School may quickly assess its worth. A good reputation is therefore invaluable, and I think that this may be gained with the help of objective and specific criticism.

Standards have been set at Stowe. It is not a mindless maintenance but a constructive evaluation of these standards that will ensure the demand for this type of education in the future. Some aspects of every society are weak, and if no effort is made to correct this weakness then, especially in the closed society of a school, they begin to overshadow its attributes. Stowe has never professed pre-eminence in any specific field. It is not exceptionally academic and does not base its year's success on a first team's results, and this I think is good. The responsibility is left to the boys; if they want to contribute, and are encouraged to do so, they may. Yet in the strength of this there lies the weakness.

Stowe must be a force to influence our individual personalities; if we do not want to play a major team sport then we must feel the motivation in another direction. Motivation and encouragement must be prime considerations in a restrictive hierarchical society. For many who are naturally motivated and thus encouraged the system is ideal, for those who need a spark to ignite their enthusiasm in a particular field it is not. This is a criticism of the "liberality" of Stowe's system. In the age of quadrophonic record players we may too easily "measure our life out in coffee spoons". Roxburgh's optimistic yet unfounded assertion about Stoics and their surroundings seems all the more naive today. Ironically boys may refute this criticism as a generalisation and no good will be done. But those who accept it, and apply it to their personal environments as useful criticism will benefit.

I suggest therefore three things. Firstly an agreement that the age at which boys are at Stowe is one of pessimism and doubt. We have to rely trustingly on what we are told, and blend it with what we know ourselves already. Secondly that what we are told should be said with knowledge and authority and should contribute to the formation of what should by the time we leave Stowe be constructive ideas. And thirdly that a mutual understanding of motivation and encouragement should be present so that the maximum benefit may be gained from this environment.

RORY KNIGHT BRUCE

The Reverend H. F. Hodge, 1908—1975.

SPRING AND SUMMER 1975

This section of *The Stoic* normally attempts a light-hearted but accurate account of the School's events, and so it is particularly sad to have to record the deaths this term of the Rev. H. F. Hodge, and of Maria. The Rev. H. F. Hodge, Vicar of Stowe Church and an active participant in school life especially as form-master of the Upper Fifth, died unexpectedly on May 31st of a heart attack. He will always be remembered for his complete sincerity and kindness and will be greatly missed. Our fullest sympathy goes to his wife and family and a full obituary can be found elsewhere in this edition. Maria who had worked at Stowe faithfully for eight years, also died of a heart attack. Her great character will be much missed, in the Masters Mess and on High Table in particular.

Looking back to the beginning of the year, the Spring Term was a strange mixture—the weather was terrible, resulting in the cancellation of more than fifty hockey matches; and yet other activities—Societies and house plays — flourished as never before.

There have been many changes on the staff too. Miss Barber, hailing from New Zealand, became Stowe's first full-time mistress. Messrs Bradley and Hamilton came and went, while Mr Wilmot came for two terms in place of Mr Davies and also helped in Nugent. Mr Clarke returned at the beginning of this term from his studies of the Stowe Collection in Los Angeles, the results of which are soon to appear in print. At the end of this term Mr Brown is leaving. His great contribution to Stowe music, both as a teacher and as a performer, will not be forgotten, and we wish him all success for the future. Also leaving, after eleven years at Stowe is Mrs Campbell, who was Matron of Bruce for ten years and of Nugent for one. During her last year she has also been Housekeeper and we are sorry to see her go. Mr and Mrs Mullineux, Mr and Mrs Mee and Mr and Mrs Lloyd should be congratulated on the births of their new children. New caterers have officially taken over but Miss Craig is still sometimes to be seen.

All this has been taking place against a background of economic pressure and indeed economy has been the great source of discussion throughout these last two terms. Mr Ashford has been appointed as "Development Manager" in order to use the natural assets of Stowe for the maximum material benefit for the school. New ideas are constantly under consideration, and, as Mr Drayson outlined on Speech Day, the school will again be opened for courses for foreign students. It has even been suggested that the Stowe repair garages could be leased out to a motor-racing team, for meetings at Silverstone. This economy drive has taken a slight setback due to the expense of supporting Lyttelton at short notice and on the demands of the insurance firm, even though it was never in any danger of collapse, as Mr Drayson explained on Speech Day.

Economy has not affected the many active societies at Stowe. The most notable speaker to visit the School in the not far distant past of the Spring Term was The Rt Hon. Reginald Maudling. Also in a political vein there was a pro-Common Market pre-referendum meeting headed by Bill Benyon, our local M.P., in the Roxburgh Hall, where of course many of the dramatic and musical productions of the last two terms have taken place. There have been house plays by Lyttelton, Cobham, Chatham (using the new Music Room), Grenville, Walpole, Nugent and Bruce. Temple are staging a play later on this term, as are the Junior Congreve Club, who are again acting in the open air, this time by the Temple of Venus. There have also been many successful musical events, such as the Gilbert and Sullivan evening, "Samson" by Handel, and a mimed version of "Joseph and his Technicolour Dreamcoat" instead of Chapel. There has also been a pop concert by "After the Shallows", a group containing one Old Stoic. Other out-of-school activities, on a more social basis, have consisted of a Grenville House Dance, an Upper School Dance and a dance at Oakdene, whose success was then crowned this term with the School Ball, enjoyed immensely by all despite the rain. The Pineapple and Beagle Balls take place later this term.

Activities did not however stop with the advent of the holidays. Parties from Stowe went to France, Spain and Russia, not to mention the less adventurous Field Courses. On the sporting side Stowe won the Micklem Golf Trophy, and did well in the Hockey Festival and Rosslyn Park Seven-a-Sides.

Sport has continued in this promising vein into the Summer Term. The cricket, tennis and athletics teams have all had quite a good start to the season. An England Women's Cricket Eleven played the Stowe First Eleven in the first ever match of this kind. Outdoor activities have also included the School photograph, which takes place like the Olympics once every four years, a sponsored walk for Christian Aid and the Tri-Services Day, which was put on because of or coincidentally on, the fiftieth anniversary of the Stowe C.C.F.

Speech Day, the main speaker at which was Lord Carrington, also provided a relief from the day to day academic pressures at present exerted on the O and A level candidates. One ought also to mention the magnificent art exhibition of work by Andrew Freeth. Returning once more to the academic side, fifteen places were awarded after the Oxbridge examinations last winter, including five awards:—P. J. Partington, Scholarship at Peterhouse, Cambridge to read Classics; G. T. Cubitt, Scholarship at Corpus Christi, Cambridge to read History; S. J. Marshall, Scholarship at Pembroke, Cambridge to read Natural Sciences; R. Bendre, Scholarship at Keble, Oxford to read P.P.E.; D. A. A. Bagley, Exhibition at St Peter's, Oxford to read Chemistry. Whilst the "Use of English" results were less encouraging, one hopes that O and A level results will match those of last year.

It is thus clear that Stowe is succeeding in its efforts to maintain its high standards in the face of the depressing general economic situation of the rest of the country. Stowe is facing its problems in a refreshingly positive and united manner, unlike the politically disunited nation.

RICHARD LOUP

A DEVELOPMENT MANAGER: WHY?

Since my arrival at Stowe at the beginning of the Summer term, I have frequently been asked the reason for my presence. I will attempt to answer this question and broadly outline some future plans.

The Governors of the School decided in 1973 to consider ways and means of using the assets of the School to increase revenue. It was agreed that there were four main sources of income:

1. The Stately Home and Grounds—open to the public during holidays.
2. Sports Clubs. Members of the public joining sections of their choice.
3. Letting of the School for functions.
4. Running of Holiday Courses.

1974 saw the start of this enterprise under the guidance of the Bursar and a few Masters. It was certainly a success, but required a great deal of organisation and supervision, and if it were to be expanded to the maximum, it required someone whose sole responsibility was the overall management of the scheme. Hence my appointment.

This year should see an increase in the number of day visitors and with selective advertising, it is hoped to attract 10,000 visitors here in 1976. The Sports Clubs are proving very popular (particularly golf, swimming and fishing). The time is not too distant when waiting lists will become effective.

A few organisations have arranged functions in the School, and it is hoped to increase this number in the near future.

Last Summer's Holiday Courses have set a good foundation on which to build; nearly 600 students are expected this summer at Stowe. They will be here for two or three weeks, making a total of 1,000 student weeks. Half this number is made up by the Stowe Music Courses.

B. N. J. ASHFORD

HUGH FRANCIS HODGE

A memorial service was held in Stowe Church on 14th June. The address was given by the Headmaster:

It would have rejoiced Hugh's heart, as I am sure it does all of his family, to see so many of his friends here in Church today, for he would have thought of us all as his friends; that was his nature. However you may have *started* in a relationship with Hugh Hodge you would invariably finish up as friends, because there was a gentleness about him which drew men to him, which made them seek his advice and his guidance.

On the day after Hugh died, Jos Nicholl, our Chaplain, spoke of him in Chapel and he chose words which were so exactly right that I would, with his permission, like to tell you what he said of Hugh, for some of you were not there:—

"I have just come from taking the service in Stowe Church which Mr Hodge had prepared and planned with that attention to detail which characterised everything he did. But he couldn't have known that two of the hymns he had chosen would be as poignantly relevant: "There is a land of pure delight where Saints immortal reign . . ." was the first, and another was "Lord, it belongs not to my care whether I die or live, to love and serve thee is my share, And this thy grace must give".

"Somehow they sum up the life and work of a *man of principle*. Few, even of his friends, knew that he never did any school work on Sundays (a practice learnt while an Exhibitioner at Peterhouse, Cambridge, and never deviated from—even if it meant working very late on a Saturday and missing one of the concerts in the Roxburgh Hall, which he dearly loved). Few knew that the reason why he never touched alcohol was because he had seen the results of it in Africa. Few knew that he never accepted any fee for special services such as weddings and funerals because he felt that this made the contact with people which he valued rather commercial. (Although he hated it, he wore his dog collar whenever on duty, as a matter of principle.)

"Similarly, he was a *man of modesty*. Few of us—even those whom he beat at golf—knew that in his day he had been a brilliant batsman, who at Cambridge or in the Lancashire League, had stood up to the fastest bowling; and who at Rugger at school played scrum half to a fly half, John Phillips, who gained a Blue at Cambridge, and is now retiring as Bishop of Portsmouth. Few of us who had seen him take a back seat in Common Room meetings, or who had known the patient concern he had for every one of his beloved (if blighted) Upper Fifth, knew that he had been Principal of one of the largest and most reputable training colleges in the whole of Central Africa. I do not know (and I believe this is true of all who met him) of anyone who was more genuinely, sincerely and utterly *humble*. In the nine years I had the privilege of knowing him, I came gradually to realise the meaning of the verse, "Now *Moses was meek*, above all on the face of the earth". Because '*meek*' means the '*strength of the trained war-horse*'. Such a harnessing of strength of mind, of body, of purpose, could only have been possible in a *man of love*. Whether as husband, father, grandfather, form master, here was a *man of love*. Whence comes such another?"

Whence indeed comes such another? I remember so clearly the day Hugh and Vera arrived at Stowe. We had anticipated their arrival for many months, for although Hugh had been appointed in 1965 by remote control so to speak, for he was at the time running his school in Africa, it was not until April 1966 that he actually arrived at Stowe—Jos Nicholl having kept the flag flying in the meantime just as he is doing again now. I first heard of Hugh Hodge from John Taylor, The General Secretary of The Church Missionary Society, who is now Bishop of Winchester. He told me that Hugh had started as a layman on the staff of The Alliance High School in Kenya—the number one public school of that country serving Africans, and one

in which the majority of the present day political leaders were educated under the great Carey Francis. He was, when I first heard of him, Principal of a new College in the South-West of Uganda, Bishop Stuart College, Mbarara. John Taylor wrote of him:—"He has done a superlatively good job there, and now after many years feels that it is no longer appropriate for a white man to remain Head of such an institution."

When I wrote to Hugh to ask if he was interested his reply was typical: "I would have been very happy to be considered for the appointment but unfortunately I am tied to the work here until the middle of May next year. After wrestling with temptation in connection with other work offered, I am quite certain that it would be wrong for me not to finish this job properly." Hugh was a great wrestler, and he always finished a job properly. A Headmaster wrote of him: "He is a very capable all-round person, a very hard worker and an evangelical in the best sense of the term. Undoubtedly someone you could rely upon to preach the Gospel intelligently and with the utmost sincerity." We at Stowe soon knew how true that was. But he never really seemed to preach to us; he seemed just to talk to us, and he talked to us from the bible which somehow he seemed to bring to life. Someone said to me only yesterday that whenever she reads the bible she somehow finds herself reading it as Hugh would have done, as though he were there, almost still listening to his comments—fascinating, imaginative, perceptive, scholarly—and always relevant to the particular person and to the particular set of circumstances. He made the bible come alive. His good friend, Professor Moule, of Clare College, Cambridge, wrote of him: "I have known him since our school days together when I admired him as a superb Head Prefect endowed with many splendid gifts. I have watched his career with the greatest admiration. I have no hesitation in backing him as an utterly reliable and dedicated person of great efficiency and administrative ability, as well as a very kind pastor."

Charlie Moule only wondered whether he would not be looking for a rather larger job "than I imagine this one to be". And this is what I thought myself. But he wrote to me in February 1965. "If the post were offered me when I become available, I would not only accept it but I would do so most joyfully as a real answer to prayer. There is no question of the job being too small. It would be a real privilege and opportunity for which I would be extremely grateful. I have ceased to worry about the future and know that God will put me where he wants me. In fact this is extremely comforting." When he sent me a few notes about himself and gave me something of a curriculum vitae, he wrote: "Edward Woods, the Bishop, wrote to me a very good testimonial (*but* he was notoriously generous)"—that surely is a typical touch of Hugh. "I have worked as a Principal of two Teacher Training Colleges, the second has been stimulating because we were asked to begin an entirely new one. We started with long grass and ant hills. It is now reckoned to have a better record than most in Uganda. Many mistakes are being made out here, not only in educational policy. My chief task is to seem to be undisturbed and to help my African tutors to prepare for when they have to look after themselves. I believe God wants me to stay here with my wife because we can help people to keep calm. There are also real pastoral opportunities."

But Hugh never had any need to *seem* to keep calm. He was a serene person, always at peace and never in a rush. One of you wrote to me in a letter last week: "His fellow clergy will miss one whom they knew as a courteous Christian gentleman. I think I never saw Hugh but with that serene smile." When one met Hugh, one was struck immediately by a real sense of peace. In a final letter to me before he actually arrived at Stowe, he wrote: "My only fear is that having so generously kept this place for me and my wife, you may be disappointed in us. But we will certainly do our best and will be ready to learn from mistakes which we are bound to make." Isn't that again so typical of the man? I do not believe that we have been disappointed! I still remember very clearly the first day I met him. He had arrived at Dadford and immediately came up to Stowe with Vera to meet me in the Gothic Library. We talked for a few minutes and then he quietly asked if we could pray together. We knelt and simply and shortly he prayed

for Stowe and for Dadford and for the Church, for the relationship between the School and the Village, for the boys and for the future of our work together. This was the most natural thing in the world and this is how the relationship has continued; committing all things, all problems to the Lord in prayer. For he was a man of prayer, and as one of you said the other day: "Surely here was a man who died in faith."

In nine years I came to know Hugh closely as a friend; as a confidant; as someone utterly discreet and reliable, to whom I could confide my worries in the sure knowledge that he was completely discreet, a good listener and one who cared. And sometimes his advice would come a little later after consideration; rarely just off the cuff. If he saw the need, he would do his very best to fill it. I suppose we must have played two or three hundred games of golf together in fog, snow, rain and sunshine, and I suppose we must have finished up all square. He liked to win—I liked to win. But I am sure *he* was just as happy when *I* won as when *he* did. This was the generosity of the man. And we all of us miss this generosity and kindness and friendliness, but it is a joy to remember it. It is something we shall always have—this memory of Hugh's goodness. For here was a good man, a gentle man, a gentleman, whose qualities of simplicity, sincerity, devotion and dedication, courtesy and loyalty, perhaps above all loyalty, were clear to all who met him. He enjoyed life; he enjoyed people; he enjoyed teaching. We shall all miss him. We have lost a friend, but we have all of us that part of him he has left with us. "Nothing can destroy human goodness." I am sure the life of Hugh Hodge has been a blessing to all of us in this church today. Thanks be to God. Amen.

J. C. A. BROWN

There can be few at Stowe who will not feel the departure of Clive Brown, such has been the variety and quality of his contribution to the life of the School. His friends and colleagues will remember sharing his superb wines, partaking in first-class cuisine miraculously conjured up in his rooms, and being entertained by the breadth of his intellectual curiosity (even if it is distinguished by a quaint predilection for 19th century romantic German philosophy); many members of the School will appreciate the joys of creating and consuming good food for the rest of their lives after being members of his select 'Société Gastronomique'; and one of Stowe's most illustrious golfers will not quickly forgive him an unexpected victory in the Masters' Golf Tournament. We will, however, chiefly miss Clive as a violinist whose musical sensibilities are grounded in a wide training and interest in the liberal arts. The sweet tone, passionate feeling and consummate musicianship of his playing are equally adapted to solo and ensemble playing, and have enriched countless evenings of rare quality in the Queen's Temple, while no-one who was privileged to hear it will forget his performance of Bach's unaccompanied sonata in G-minor in the Marble Hall last autumn. His violin pupils have been enlightened recipients not only of his wise and patient instruction, but also of his sincere and intense love of performing music, and they have gained valuable experience from playing under his leadership in the Stowe Orchestra. He has also persevered doggedly with the task of inspiring an interest in Paganini and Co. in non-musical third-formers, and has found his efforts much more appreciated by a number of his friends, whose musical knowledge has been broadened amidst the beautiful antique furniture in his room. We are about to lose a talented, sensitive and generous friend: we wish him well, and hope that he will return to play to us again soon.

SPEECH DAY

The weather this year was cold and uninviting and a large gathering of Stoics, Parents and Old Stoics shivered through the Speeches and Prize-giving on the South Front. In the absence of the Chairman of the Governors, Mr Peter Sherwood (B 1930) welcomed the Chief Guest, Lord Carrington, and invited the Headmaster to speak.

The Headmaster's Speech

The Headmaster welcomed the guests to Speech Day—"in a sense the climax of the School's year." He then introduced Lord Carrington, adding that "we are always pleased to have Etonians visit Stowe—it broadens their experience."

He congratulated everyone concerned with the appearance of the gardens and buildings, and bade farewell to Mr J. C. A. Brown after five years as a member of the Music Department.

He then commented on academic results and prospects and proceeded to make a selection from the high lights of the year, which are reported in this and earlier editions of *The Stoic*. He mentioned Old Stoic sporting successes, particularly that of I. A. Thomson (C), who had been playing hockey for England. He spoke at some length of the work of Stowe Community Service. The Headmaster gave an account of the continued work of restoration of the garden buildings, of extension programmes within the School itself, and reassured the parents of boys in Lyttelton on the safety of the House, in which High Alumina Cement had been used. He congratulated "John Taylor, one of our governors, for the speed with which he organised the rescue operation—it was a matter of a few hours."

The Headmaster then referred to the School's efforts to raise extra revenue and said:

"We must preserve our quality. We must resist the attempts of politicians to destroy us. It is sad that those dedicated to overall comprehensive schools should have as part of their purpose the destruction of other types of schools. It takes many years to make a school; it is possible to destroy one with the stroke of a pen. A good school is made up over the years by the care and dedication of many individuals. In this country it has always been the variety of the educational system which has made it, overall, the best in the world. Many grammar schools and independent schools are very good indeed, and it should surely be possible for all these schools to exist together, each helping the other. Our schools still have the tradition of scholarship and teaching in depth which has of late been scorned by people who should have known better. This has led, as it did in America, to a lack of depth in teaching methods. I have heard English teachers saying that spelling and punctuation and form are unimportant provided that the pupil expresses himself well. There has been a move to destroy the General Certificate of Education at Advanced Level, and in its place to offer a course on a broader base to a lower level. My wife and I saw something of the erosion of true education on our visit to the United States a few years ago and it is interesting to note that Dr Allan, the United States Commissioner of Education, admitted that about half the nation's unemployed young people between the ages of 16 and 21—15% of the whole country—were functionally illiterate; they cannot read an application for a driver's licence or a popular newspaper; this is horrifying. I have no doubt that more students would get far more satisfaction out of studying fewer subjects in depth, thus preparing them for detailed study at University. There has been a welcome change away from permissiveness in education in favour of a formal structured teaching. Young people prefer to know just where they stand; there is far too much woolliness in education nowadays. Let us be more definite: let us make decisions. We care about our young people and we have a responsibility to them to give them clear guidance until they are able to decide for themselves."

He spoke of the vital importance of "the last year of a boy's education at a public school", and informed parents that over the last year there had been an increase in the number of pupils in independent schools. He continued:

"What is happening to us all in 1975? Chronic problems in the last 15 years, such as the

permissiveness of the 1960s, have broken down and disrupted the normal social set-up. Discord and violence increase, and finally you get the breakdown of authority and the do-as-you-please outlook of many young people throughout the world. We have more and more disturbed and insecure individuals. The changes in society move so fast that parents can no longer control or understand their children; the family is coming to be regarded as unimportant; more and more children come from broken homes; we live in the age of sedatives and sleeping pills; there are large numbers of depressed people—and in the end this leads to violence. What happens on Saturdays with Manchester United is merely an extension of the urge to violence which is all around us. Economic troubles and demands for more pay are producing a situation where it is every man for himself. No-one seems to know what to do about it. It seems to me essential that we must, all of us, stop and think and ask ourselves just where we stand. And in our schools we must ask ourselves what we really mean by education.

“Education must be the teaching of standards. An educated person knows how to distinguish the worthwhile from the worthless. It is the ability to make the right choices. Education is the acceptance of a self-discipline rather than one that is imposed. An educated person cannot only distinguish the right from the wrong, he is able to recognise quality and respect the abilities of others. Education teaches humility—respect for those more able than oneself. A preparedness to get down to study in depth and not to skate on the surface. Education means sincerity in seeking for the truth with accuracy. As I say, I have seen the woolliness of some American education which can in the end be nothing more than messing around with a few books and tapes, a complete lack of dedication and depth. Education must be rigorous, dedicated, tough; it must be decisive and clear, never vague and dilettante. We must stop and think and ask ourselves just where we stand; we must say what we mean and mean what we say.

“What we need to produce in the Public Schools today is leaders, by which I do not mean those arrogant young men of yesteryear produced by the Public Schools once upon a time, who ruled with fear and the stick; I mean leadership born of sense and understanding—boys who have themselves learned that to lead one must first learn to serve. By serving one comes to understand the needs of other people, and people will always follow a leader who understands their needs; he gives firm and positive direction. Too few people these days are prepared to make decisions. Let us please have the courage of our convictions; and let us also be clear where we are going. Too many people go about with their eyes shut. Too many people wait for things to happen to them; they are unaware of life around them. Recently I chaired a meeting at the Royal Society of Arts, one of three meetings concerned with European Architectural Heritage Year. The speaker at the first meeting was Professor Asa Briggs of Sussex University. I was much impressed with the line he took in his address “The philosophy of conservation”: “You may not have eyes to see,” he said, “but if you have, you could see a lot there which other people can’t. It is very important that you keep a sense of shock. We may be in danger of losing a sense of place, for nowadays we move about a great deal more. People desperately need a sense of place. ‘Mr Pickwick stood in the principal street of his town and gazed with an air of curiosity, not mixed with uninterest, at all the objects around him.’ We ought to breathe a place, he said, get immersed in it and understand it. We learn an immense amount from each other. I would like to feel that in this country everybody could read a building in the same way as he can read a book. This is the art of seeing. There are people who can sleepwalk in cities and never look at things at all. We must think about the relationships of what we inherit from the past and what we are doing with it in the present.” Surely these words ring a bell in Stowe of all places, not a place for sleepwalkers, certainly a place to be awake and aware.

“Because of the materialistic, commercial and emotional pressure exerted by the media and modern life generally, there is greater need than ever for structure, stability and calm in our schools, but, more than anything else, an awareness; the need to be definite and positive, the need to be awake; not to waste our time or our money but to be clear where we are going. I believe that children instinctively expect a school to offer an attitude and a philosophy. Whether they ultimately accept or reject these does not matter. They expect things of you; they expect things of us. They expect to be given the opportunity to learn; they expect to have the fullest

opportunities to obtain qualifications because they live in the real world and it is a tough world. They expect a lead from you their parents and from those who teach them. We must not let them down.”

Lord Carrington's Speech

“It is obviously a very great honour to be asked to come here this afternoon and present the prizes at Speech Day and Old Stolic Day—not least, if I may say so, because this school has made such a very remarkable reputation in what for us is a comparatively short time. And not least because I suppose it has the finest setting of any school in the world. It’s always nice to come here and see this lovely place which helped to bankrupt the Second Duke of Buckingham, and is now in the process of doing the same to the parents of Stowe boys. You know one is always rather curious on these occasions to know why one has been asked. The two usual reasons are that somebody has fallen through, or that they can’t get anybody else, or in rather more rare cases that they want to cut you down to size! When the Headmaster was so eloquently reading out my obituary, you may have noticed that at one time I was First Lord of the Admiralty. And I was asked on one occasion to unveil a war memorial at the Royal Naval Hostel at Haslar, and Sir Winston Churchill had invented a uniform for the First Lord of the Admiralty which was exceedingly plain and which consisted of just a sort of blazer with black buttons and a cap with a white top. And as I was about to pull the string to unveil the war memorial I overheard two of the relatives talking to one another, and one saying in a very hoarse whisper to the other: ‘How very democratic of the Royal Navy to allow a sick berth attendant to unveil this war memorial.’ But whatever the reason, one is presented with the considerable difficulty: what on earth does one say. To say the least of it there is a generation gap between the two halves of the audience, and probably the only thing that they have in common is a distaste for listening to speeches on Speech Day.

“I have been to various Speech Days, and broadly speaking one could classify the performers into two categories: First, those who speak long and earnestly, seriously, and at considerable length about the formation of character, opportunity, the future, friendship, and the best days of your life. (Admirable people, though perhaps not exhilarating.) Secondly, the frivolous speaker—who never won a prize; he never did any work, he thought it was a waste of time—and after he has been speaking for some time it becomes abundantly clear that it was.

“So let us start in a totally uncontroversial manner by congratulating all those who have won prizes. It is very agreeable to win, and particularly praiseworthy if it entails hard work as well as natural talent. As a matter of fact, rather unfashionably, I believe in prizes, or if you like, incentives, or even—dare I say it—private enterprise. But I only hope that those of you who have won will not be too pleased with themselves, and those who haven’t won’t take it too much to heart—but equally not be too pleased that they didn’t. No doubt your time will come.

“Now it is a very dangerous thing to offer advice. One of the complications is that there are so many precepts for good conduct and good behaviour which cancel each other out. MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK. Well, that’s nice, but TOO MANY COOKS SPOIL THE BROTH—and we could zig-zag our way through life choosing whichever is the more convenient to us and the prevailing circumstances. So I must be careful. So I only want to say two things, both of which reinforce what the Headmaster said. I remember Sir Winston Churchill once said: “I would make all boys learn English, and let the clever ones learn Latin as an honour, and Greek as a treat. But the only thing I would whip them for, is not knowing English—and I would whip them hard for that!” Of one thing I am quite sure, and that is, whether your ambition is to be a famous lawyer, or soldier, or statesman, or doctor, or anything, you won’t succeed unless you know English and you can express yourself and you can write it. In everyday life almost everybody writes the most deplorable English in the most dreadful handwriting. Now I am not really talking about grammar, though I think that’s quite important. You will recall the English nanny who performed the remarkable feat of ending a sentence with four prepositions: She asked her charge—“WHAT DID YOU CHOOSE THAT BOOK TO BE READ TO OUT OF FOR?” Not perhaps very elegant, but I see what she meant. As a matter of fact this sentence inspired a poet to the following verses:

"I lately lost a preposition;
It hid, I thought beneath my chair
And angrily I cried, 'Perdition.—
Up from out of in under there.'

Correctness is my vade mecum,
And stragling phrases I abhor,
And yet I wondered, 'What should he come
Up from out of in under for' "

But most of us have moved on from the ungrammatical simplicity of nanny, and I think we are much more in danger in this rather complicated world of expressing ourselves and our thoughts in a more and more complicated way—a combination of scientific jargon and officialese. To present you with the scenario, I will at this moment of time give you an example:

"The Board should in the light of experience study the location of industry throughout the country with a view to anticipating cases where depression may probably occur in the future and encouraging before a depression crisis arises the development in such cases, so far as is possible, of other industries, but the cessation of house-building operated over a period of five years".

Unless we are careful we are going to submerge beneath this sort of thing and never surface again.

"How many people do you and I know who will never use a word of two syllables if one of four will do? Complexity is confused with knowledge and expertise and the thought is lost and the simplicity of the thought is lost and wrapped in cotton-wool. Or perhaps it is harder to use short words and to concentrate on the essence of things. Do any of you know—you probably do—of the very famous example of child's English in Sir Ernest Gower's "*PLAIN WORDS*"—Let me quote it to you:

"The Cow is a mammal. It has four sides—right, left, an upper, and below. At the back it has a tail on which hangs a brush. With this it sends the flies away so that they do not fall into the milk. The head is for the purpose of growing horns and so that the mouth can be somewhere. The horns are to butt with, and the mouth is to moo with. Under the cow hangs the milk. It is arranged for milking. When people milk, the milk comes and there is never an end of the supply. How the cow does it I have not yet realised, but it makes more and more. The cow has a fine sense of smell; one can smell it far away. This is the reason for the fresh air in the country. The cow does not eat much, but what it eats it eats twice, so that it gets enough. When it is hungry it moos, and when it says nothing it is because its inside is all full up with grass."

Well, I think that expresses exactly what a cow is about. And I suppose that most of us have had our time wasted more often by people who can't express themselves than by almost anything else—the 'ers', the 'ums', the 'I means', the 'you knows'. One of the things one really can learn at a place like Stowe is to write and speak English and to be articulate. And it is even possible that reading a book from time to time will help you more than listening and looking at the gatherings of celebrities and politicians on the television. And if you don't do this—if you don't learn about English—you will be doing your fellowmen a great disservice and I think creating a lasting handicap for yourself. So while I wouldn't have the temerity to whip you, I certainly wouldn't give you any prizes if you don't bother with this.

"Now I have only one other thing to say if you will allow me, otherwise I shall be in both categories of Speech Day makers.

"It follows again from something the Headmaster said. I think that we as a country are in increasing danger of becoming spectators. I don't mean just in sport—though that's probably true as well. But I think it's true increasingly in all walks of life. I don't suppose the television has helped very much. It is too easy to walk into a room and switch on the television and see somebody else doing something—people being paid very handsomely—all baring their souls and opinions in what in a great many cases seems to me in a very unattractive fashion. But most

of the political programmes seem to be gladiatorial contests in which the interviewer pits his wits against the victim with the object of catching him, or her, out. And the sole object of the victim—perhaps more understandably—is not so much to spread the truth and light, but to last the distance. Well, I suspect that this attitude is not a very healthy one. There are temptations later on when you (that is the boys in the school) get married and have a family to become preoccupied with your own affairs, and in the process of doing so you will no doubt complain a great deal about the mismanagement of our affairs by other people. Now don't think for one moment that I am being sorry for politicians. Nobody asked them to be there, and if they don't like it they can change their job. But what I do find a bit disturbing is the attitude one meets so often going around the country. How often have you heard people say "Why don't *they* do something about it?", "Why don't *they* see that I am treated differently?", "Why do *they* allow this to happen?" Well, I don't think there are really any "THEY" or "US". I think it is all "US", and if in our everyday lives we are not prepared to do something ourselves about what we think is going wrong, then I don't think we have any right to complain. Now I happen to think that you and I are very lucky to live in a Parliamentary democracy. Of course, the system has its faults: of course things don't always go right: of course it creaks sometimes: but if any of you know a better system, well come up and tell me afterwards. And of course we all pay lip service to it. We all talk rather glibly about democracy, the freedom of speech, and the liberty of the individual. But we forget that these things didn't just happen, that they didn't come to us like manna from heaven, that they are not a God-given right. Our forbears generally speaking had to fight rather hard for them—in some cases very hard for them. And when we pride ourselves, as we do, on our system perhaps we ought to remember that it isn't due to us, or to our cleverness, or that it is a natural right, but that we have inherited it, and we are lucky to be heirs to it.

"You look around the world today and see what is happening to our neighbours and friends. Count the parliamentary democracies that still exist, and look at the threats with which we ourselves are faced. It could happen to us, and unless we make some more positive effort to see that our society is preserved and enriched, and altered to suit the times in which we live, we can very easily lose it. And I'll go a bit further. I think it will happen; I think we will lose it unless people like you—and if I may include them, your parents—are prepared to put yourselves out, not to complain without being prepared to do something about it yourselves, then it will happen. To accept that we have a duty, an obligation, to help maintain our way of life. Well, we can't all be Prime Ministers—even those who are mad enough to want to be. But we can be part of the community in which we live, and give some service to it. I think that's sensible from our own point of view, but I also suspect that the reward which can be reaped in personal satisfaction will be very much greater than you suppose."

MUSIC

Saturday, 7th December, at 8.00 p.m. in the Roxburgh Hall

CONCERT BY STOWE SCHOOL CHORAL SOCIETY AND ORCHESTRA

Conducted by David Gatehouse

It should perhaps be made clear at once that only a very small part of the orchestra for this concert was members of the School, the majority being professional musicians; for example, in Honegger's "King David", which constituted the second half, only two out of a dozen or so violins were Stoics. Thus, though the standard of playing was higher than one would normally expect from a purely school orchestra, the concert gave one little opportunity to judge the present state of music at Stowe.

Mozart's Symphony No. 40 was a slightly unfortunate choice of work with which to open. There was insufficient rehearsal time on the day of the concert really to do it justice, and the result was, for a largely professional orchestra, rather pedestrian. In addition, the choice of tempo for the slow movement turned the profound and meditative Andante into a rather too

jaunty Allegretto. But Hugh Richards' performance of the Elgar Cello Concerto was quite another matter. His technical control was excellent throughout; quite how he managed to keep his wrist relaxed amid an almost continuous flow of rapid semiquavers in the notorious scherzo I don't know. The Finale too was magnificently played, and the mood of complete desolation which pervades its closing pages was conveyed with wonderful intensity. My only serious criticism is that passages of double-stopping tended to be played too aggressively—this marred the opening in particular, in which a greater feeling of sustained, controlled power would have been more appropriate. But this detracted little from a memorable performance, one which seemed to get to the heart of what is perhaps Elgar's most personal and introverted work.

The second half was devoted to Honegger's "King David", which describes itself misleadingly as a symphonic poem, but which is in fact closer in form to an oratorio: it is written for three soloists, narrator, chorus, and a large orchestra. It is rather a problematic work, and has never quite made it into the standard repertoire; there is a certain feeling of sameness and lack of personality and weight about much of the music, although there are some marvellous moments—the drama of the Witch of Endor scene, David's lament over Saul and Jonathan, and the closing chorus, for example. So it was an enterprising choice for David Gatehouse to have made, and a pleasant change from the rota of half a dozen or so classics which form the diet of most amateur choral societies. The performance itself was well-disciplined and effective. The chorus is rather short of tenors and basses, but coped very competently with what is perhaps not a particularly rewarding part, consisting as it does only of very short movements. Of the three soloists, the soprano Noelle Barker was much the best, not quite scintillating right at the top of her register, but gloriously rich elsewhere. But Joe Bain's narration was the highlight of the performance. His voice is distinctive enough to compel one's attention, and he gave character to the work when it might otherwise have sounded a little pallid. Overall, then, this performance was a most interesting experience; if it seemed to lack the final degree of commitment, perhaps this was the fault of the music rather than the performers.

FRANCIS WATSON

Sunday, 2nd February, at 8.00 p.m. in the Roxburgh Hall

CONCERT BY BOYS OF STOWE SCHOOL

A high standard of playing, and a most varied and interesting programme, characterised this evening of music advertised as 'by boys and girl of Stowe School'. The concert began with a sonorous and well-balanced 'Canon' by the brass quintet and the first half was memorable for three particularly fine solo performances; Charles Douglas' flute playing in part of the Mozart concert, Christopher Howse's unruffled and exciting performance of the famous Schubert Impromptu in A flat with its almost continuous arpeggio figures, and a most controlled trombone piece by Bach, played with a lovely round tone by Nicholas Comery. It was a pleasure also to hear Joanna Bell's solo voice in songs by Vaughan Williams and Quilter, Paul Rivalland's lively and melodic violin in a Dvorak sonatina, Nigel Wright's delicate playing in short pieces by Mozart and Fauré, and a confident violin duo by Bartok played by Charles Tranfield and Jeremy Broadhead.

The second half began in a different mood, a typical Gershwin performance by Jonathan Kreeger which caught the style of the composer well. George Barwood's performances, on both violin and piano, were played with great aplomb and feeling for the music—the Debussy Arabesque flowing particularly well—and solos for oboe by Nicholas Armstrong and trumpet by Charles Rolls were confident and controlled.

The last item, Music for the Night by Bossa, was an unusual and successful choice for wind quartet—I found this one of the highlights of the programme. A fine evening's music, showing off a wide range of instrumental talent, the only instruments which were perhaps surprisingly not represented being the horn and 'cello.

M. A. B. KIRK

Sunday, 9th February, at 8.00 p.m. in the Music Room

RECITAL

This was the first concert to be performed in the recently renovated music room and certainly it proved itself to have remarkably good acoustic qualities giving an extra depth to the sound. The first piece on the programme was Beethoven's Spring Sonata in F for violin and piano. This was the outstanding piece of the evening being played by Mr Brown on violin and Mr Gatehouse on the piano with tremendous feeling. Second was Schubert's Shepherd on the Rocks, a piece for clarinet, voice and piano, sung by Ida McGaffey. This was well rehearsed and impressive due to the resonance of the room.

The second half was less inspiring, consisting of a couple of trumpet pieces and a clarinet piece. The clarinet piece was by Saint Saens and overall sounded very unconvincing—mostly a fault of the piece but the interpretation I felt lacked lustre. The trumpet pieces were also a little dull seeming to have very little to show for themselves.

JEREMY BROADHEAD

Sunday, 16th February, at 8.00 p.m. in the Roxburgh Hall

CONCERT BY STOWE SCHOOL BAND

It may be a clichéd opening, but this concert was one of the best for several years. Certainly it was outstanding in comparison to those I have heard in my time here.

Rather than pick out individual pieces, it would be more constructive to comment on the band and the individuals rather than go through piece by piece. It is probably true to say that the comments apply when Bach or Rogers and Hammerstein are being played!

For the first time it was noticeable that the band appeared to be enjoying themselves. During some of the more 'blasé' movements in the music, the zest boosted the quality tremendously. Occasionally however 'the cup ran over' and the trombone 'glissand', became grotesque.

A large part of the criticism comes when the full band were playing. One must sympathise with Mr Wiggins, as he has played with first-class bands and orchestras all his life, and to start at the bottom (or very near it) with a band which can only rehearse once a week must be a great problem. Despite all this the misfortunes are not unconquerable. Perhaps the most obvious criticism of the band is its lack of style and dynamic depth. Most of the players are proficient to a fair degree, but any dexterity or feeling is mostly lost in the unison parts. When individual instruments or the groups as a whole play with a reduced accompaniment, the change is astonishing.

All the soloists put in good performances, none was brilliant but they maintained the enjoyment of the evening. The only criticism I have is again a general one. There appears to be no soloist in the school at the moment who is capable of a brilliant performance. There is no verve or visual musicianship present, which is a shame, as the music itself is good, but the performance is marred because of the lack of musicianly aplomb.

Despite the notices put up, the concert was not well attended and only a hard core of faithful followers remained at the end. A large majority of these were not Stoics, but this might have been expected on previous years' performances. We hope for more this year.

PAUL RIVALLAND

Sunday, 2nd March, at 8.00 p.m. in the Music Room

RECITAL by

SYLVIA PRESTON (*soprano*), DAVID GATEHOUSE (*piano*), CLIVE BROWN (*violin*)
and PAUL DRAYTON (*piano*)

Concerts in the newly restored Music Room have been eagerly awaited but so far unbelievably thinly attended. Indeed on this occasion it would have been no surprise had the musicians walked out as soon as they saw the sparse audience. I can only say that I was immensely grateful that they did not do so, for this was a recital which gave me particular pleasure.

From the first bars of Mendelssohn's F major Sonata it was clear that we were in for a treat. Firstly one has few enough opportunities to hear Mendelssohn's chamber music, though it seems at last to be coming back into fashion. Secondly this is a work of much greater emotional depth than we are apt to expect from this nowadays under-rated composer. And thirdly Clive Brown, in what must sadly be almost his swan-song at Stowe, produced his fullest and richest tone and with Paul Drayton gave a marvellously warm performance.

Miss Preston, we were told, was not merely appearing at short notice but also singing for the first time in public, though her composure and certainty make this hard to believe. Her programme included songs by Purcell, Handel, Schubert and Schumann all of which were performed with great sweetness and purity of line though one missed something of the tragic intensity of Dido's great lament. It is hoped that this will not be Miss Preston's last visit to Stowe.

The recital ended with César Franck's sonata, that miraculous dialogue between violin and piano, tender and turbulent by turns, now a love-duet, now almost a trial of strength. I can think of no music I would rather hear; it is unmistakable, unique. This was an exciting and beautifully balanced performance though I think the work demands a more unashamed sensuality from the violin.

J. M. TEMPLE

Sunday, 16th March, at 8.00 p.m. in the Chapel

STOWE SCHOOL CHORAL SOCIETY

SAMSON — *Handel*

A successful performance of Handel's 'Samson' must overcome the limitations of oratorio as a dramatic form. To begin with, the story of Samson's humiliation at the hands of the Philistines, and his subsequent triumphant self-sacrifice, must be enacted on the concert platform without the aid of movement or scenery, so that the dramatic impact of the work must be generated through musical means alone. This condemns the dénouement to the time-honoured device of taking place offstage, and being narrated by a messenger. In addition, the usual practice of entrusting the rôles of Manoah, Samson's father, and Haraphah, his enemy, to the same singer, can place a strain on the listener's credulity, even if it does provoke an intriguing challenge for the singer concerned.

The chorus thus assumes the crucial responsibility of injecting dramatic power into the somewhat static sequence of recitatives and arias, as well as commenting on what is going on, and in this performance the Stowe Choral Society responded splendidly to the challenge, ensuring that the work never lost its sense of urgency. Particularly memorable moments were the pianissimo 'Oh, we die', at a moment of tortured suspense before the messenger's arrival, the splendidly pedantic male chauvinism of 'To man God's universal law gave power to keep his wife in awe', and—the most exciting moment in the entire performance—the suddenly hushed 'Help, Lord', after the thrilling outburst of 'With thunder armed'.

Antony Rolfe Johnson as Samson sang with fine tone and great dignity; his opening aria, 'Total Eclipse', and the final one before his disappearance and death, 'Thus when the sun in watery bed', were especially poignant. Richard Wigmore coped easily with the conflicting demands of Manoah and Haraphah, and was equally convincing whether evoking the pompous vanity of Haraphah's 'I could end thee at a blow', or the selfless affection of Manoah's 'How willing my paternal care'. The rich and mellow tones of Laura Sarti, as Micah, gave a moving rendering of 'Return thou God of hosts', while Nicolette Savage as Delilah sang with sensitive phrasing and beautiful, if at times fragile, tone, and gave a finely-shaped rendering of 'Let the bright Seraphim'.

The standard of singing was matched by that of the orchestral playing, in which outstanding features were the sweet violin tone and the superbly restrained trumpet obligato with which Bram Wiggins accompanied Miss Savage's delicate tone in 'Let the bright Seraphim'. However the final plaudits must go to David Gatehouse and the Choral Society, whose vitality and dynamic range ensured that the work never flagged for a moment.

S. J. SUTTLE

Sunday, 4th May, at 8.00 p.m. in the Music Room

RECITAL BY THE BRAM WIGGINS BRASS GROUP

The concert started with an arrangement of the well known Toccata in D, performed by the Bram Wiggins Brass Group, played compellingly, and with good balance, although the faster passages tended to be blurred by the reverberant acoustics of the Music Room. There followed a Bach Chorale, rewritten and arranged by Samuel Barber, and three pieces by Gabrielli and two of his contemporaries, with beautiful counterpoint and remarkable antiphonal effects.

The highlight of the evening for me was a memorable rendering of Brahms' Horn Trio op. 40, played with finesse, and depth. The Brass Group then gave an accurate and sparkling performance of two dance episodes by Edward Gregson, before the concert concluded with Samuel Barron's 'Impression of a parade' an enjoyable piece to listen to forming an exuberant end to a fine concert.

GEORGE BARWOOD

Saturday, 24th May, at 8.00 p.m. in the Roxburgh Hall

SPEECH DAY CONCERT

BY BOYS OF STOWE SCHOOL

This concert was attended by a large audience and featured a varied programme of music performed by Stoics. On the whole these pieces were played in a very polished manner.

To begin with, there was a series of pieces for small groups of players. First were three 16th century dances played by a brass quintet. They were done with great verve, although the trumpet playing was a little disjointed at times.

Next we heard George Barwood on the violin, playing the first movement of Brahms' Sonata in G. For one this was definitely the highlight of the first half. The performance was not only technically impeccable, but showed an unusually good sense of expression and dynamics.

This was followed by 'L'embarquement pour Cythère' by Poulenc. This piano duet was a sharp contrast to the preceding piece, and Jonathan Kreeger and James Highwood captured well the light-hearted mood of the piece.

After a rather shaky performance of a Haydn trio for two violins and viola by Jeremy Broadhead, Paul Nelson and Charles Tranfield, and a competent rendering of Ravel's 'Pavane pour une infante défunte' by Etienne Bottari on the clarinet, a woodwind sextet treated us to 'La Poule', by Rameau. This was performed almost faultlessly, with especially good co-ordination between the individual players.

To end the first half, the choir sang a series of short pieces. They sang better than I can remember them doing in the last years, showing good dynamic sense. Also the words were very clear. I enjoyed especially Paul Drayton's excellent arrangement 'Morning has broken'.

At the start of the second half, we heard Mozart's concerto-rondo for piano and orchestra. Christopher Howse, the pianist, gave a very precise and clear performance. His excellent technique was very obvious in this piece.

Following this, was a beautiful concerto for oboe and strings by Barbirolli. Nicholas Armstrong on the oboe showed outstanding control and calmness during his playing of this difficult piece. This ranked with George Barwood's performance as one of the best solos of the evening.

To end the concert, the full orchestra played a number of dances. All but the first of these which was a Polka by Weinberger, were transcribed by Stephen Dodgson (W 1942). Unfortunately I thought the pieces were rather a poor choice, and they did not prove to be an exciting climax to the concert. The pieces were not of bad quality, and the orchestra's playing was of a high standard, but the music did not rouse the audience to fresh heights of enthusiasm when compared to some of the earlier pieces.

However as a whole the concert was most enjoyable, and showed to the many parents, and friends of Stowe who were present, how much musical talent there is in the School and how this talent can be used to bring so much pleasure to both performers and audience.

RICHARD LORD

Thursday, 5th June, at 8.00 p.m. in the Music Room

PETITE MESSE SOLENNELLE — Rossini

It is not possible to be objective about concerts at Stowe. When one is held in as lovely a place as the Music Room on as balmy a June evening as this, I know beforehand that I shall enjoy the evening, even if it becomes necessary to anaesthetise myself in the interval.

Nor, I believe, is it desirable to try to be so. One knows most of the performers, and some in any case are colleagues. I should be less than enthusiastic at the prospect of their reviewing publicly my performance in any capacity at all.

Having said which, as the saying goes, I did enjoy the evening, as I knew I would. The Mass began with a lilting Kyrie, followed by a short Gloria with a strident opening. The chorus was in fine fettle. Next came a lyrical Gratias, but it was not until the Domine Deus, a tenor solo with a Neapolitan boat-song flavour, that I first thought that Rossini might have been spoofing, and the comic-opera duet for the Qui Tollis helped confirm my suspicions. A powerful Quoniam bass solo and a bouncing Cum Sancto with a stunning crescendo brought the first half to an electric close.

Sherry. General agreement that the whole thing is one grand, blasphemous, 19th century romp, the cheek of Rossini firmly filled with his own tongue. I still wonder whether, if he *had* intended to write a solemn Solemn Mass, he might not have written it so differently.

Part Two. Not much anaesthetised, testimony to austere times, I can no longer give Rossini the benefit of my lingering doubt. The Crucifixus and Et Resurrexit are straight satire. And through to the end, with Paul Drayton milking each millilitre of mirth from the bum notes on which each section now ends, and the audience quietly convulsed. A spirited and exuberant performance from soloists and chorus, finely controlled by David Gatehouse, chez whom much excellent hospitality was later provided.

D. G. LENNARD

MUSIC CLUB

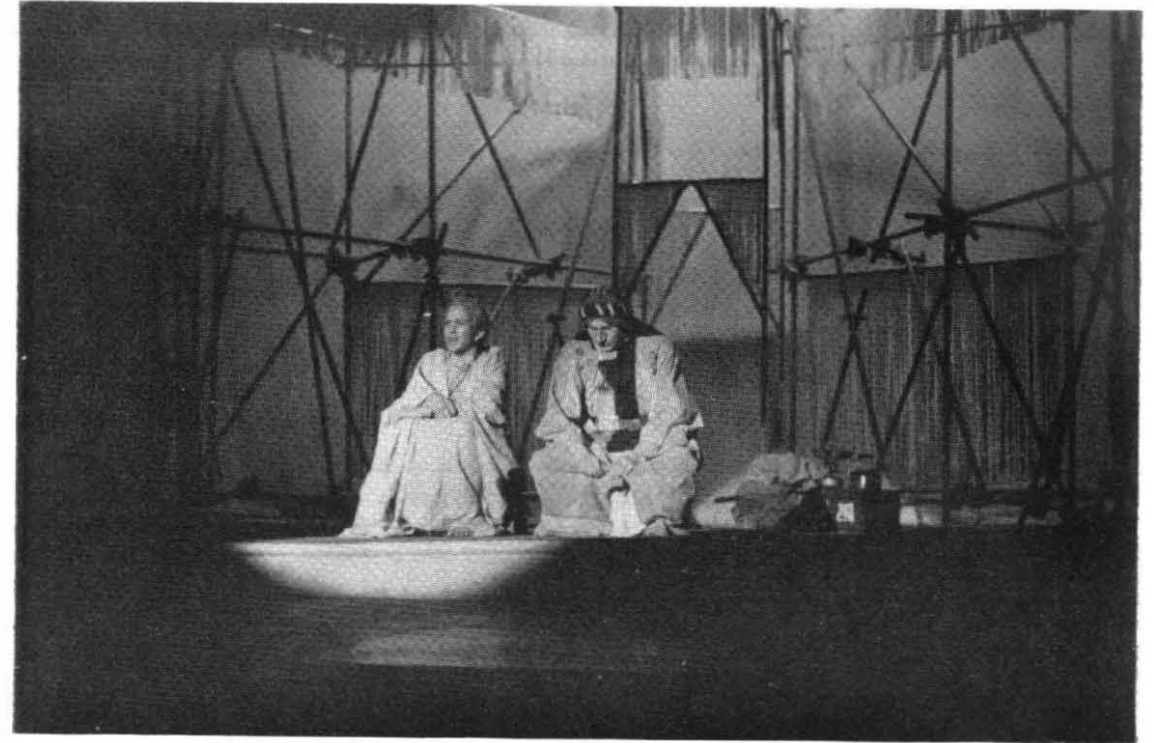
Over the past two terms, the Music Club has been flourishing: with thirty-three members, and very high turnouts to many varied lectures, which, now take place in the Audio-Visual Centre, allowing increased convenience and quality for musical excerpts during lectures. Titles for these have included: "The Glasgow Orpheus Choir"; "Hoffnung's Humour" (M.A.B.K.); "My Musical Prejudices" (J.C.A.B.); and "The Life and Music of George Gershwin" (J. Kreeger). It is also hoped to arrange a musical 'quiz' this term.

NICHOLAS ARMSTRONG

THE BAND

With only 1½ hours rehearsal a week the band has made good progress. The number of players in the band this year has increased owing to the growing interest of boys in music and the standard has been generally good. The band has played on two main occasions this year. In the Easter term there was a Sunday band concert where an assortment of pieces both old and modern was played. This assortment was interspersed with various solos, duets and quintets of players from the band. On Speech Day this summer the band played their normal concert on the South Front. We have also been invited to play a concert at a garden fête in the near future. The experience gained by the junior members of the band will prove to be vital in the years to come.

CHARLES ROLLS



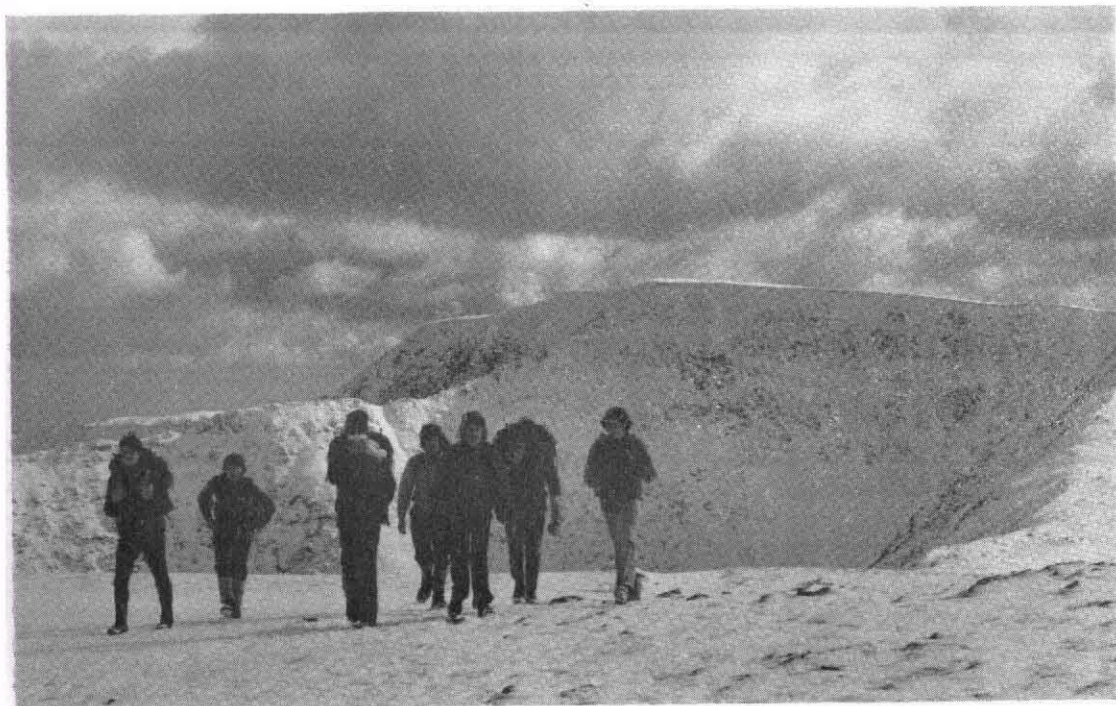
Ross: The Grenville House Play

Gregory Bell



The victorious Mickle Trophy Team

R. & H. Chapman



Easter in the Lake District

G. M. Hornby



C.C.F. Camp in Germany—Stoics attached to the 16th/5th Lancers

J. E. C. Nicholl

THE HISTORY OF STOWE—XXII

THE REBUILDING OF THE HOUSE

We now come to the architectural climax of this history, the rebuilding of the house. The Stowe garden is pre-eminent amongst English gardens, perhaps amongst gardens anywhere in the world, for the number of its ornamental buildings, many of which are of good architectural quality, some of which are of great historical interest. And now, by the rebuilding, the house became what it had always potentially been, the finest garden ornament of all. No English house nor Continental palace can show a more beautiful vista that that to be seen from Stowe's south portico. No house or palace appears better in its setting when viewed from any point in the grounds whence it is possible to view it. The opening of the south vista in the 1760s dictated the rebuilding of the house. Borra's south façade, though not carried out, had dictated the opening of the vista. Grand vista was inseparable from grand façade. One could not look down a short vista closed by the abele walk from the great south portico that was to come into being. One could not have looked back up a widened vista to Lord Cobham's straggling house.

Lord Temple had intended to rebuild at any rate the south façade of the house ever since he came into the property at his uncle Cobham's death in 1749. But Temple was a neo-classic pioneer and his thoughts on architecture ran ahead of his time. He had designed the Grecian temple, no doubt with professional help, even in his uncle's lifetime. But to redesign the house was beyond him. Hence his seizing upon Borra almost as soon as Borra appeared in England. Borra had been to Greece and "Magna Graecia", and it was to be supposed that he could design a Graeco-Roman house, which we may think was what Lord Temple wanted. But when it came to houses, Borra, able and versatile artist though he was, and however many classical details he might introduce by the way, looked back to Italian Baroque. Or if he looked forward it was to Rococo, a style which in fact he helped to create by his work in Turin. So his Stowe House, intended maybe to look like a super-Graecian temple, came out looking like an Italian palace, and that did not do for Lord Temple. In fact the formulae for building English houses in the neo-classic manner did not emerge until the 1760s. Unless he could have done it himself, which evidently he could not on so large a scale, Lord Temple tried it too soon.

Further, as the 1750s went by, Temple became more and more deeply committed to politics, and in the end to war, in partnership with his illustrious brother-in-law, William Pitt. Borra might rebuild garden temples, but it was hardly possible to think of rebuilding the house while the Seven Years' War was going on. However, the war came to an end with the accession of George III in 1760 and Lord Temple's political career was abruptly terminated—as it turned out, for ever. Out of which, for Stowe House, came good. The neo-classic age in England, the "Age of Adam", may be said to have begun in 1761, and French architects were going as fast as Adam. Moreover the end of the war made contact with France again possible, and about 1765 Lord Temple found out a French architect who was then in England. This was Georges François Blondel,¹ no doubt a younger relation of the celebrated J. F. Blondel, and Blondel the younger had the neo-classic formulae at his fingertips. We have met him in passing in chapter XXI. As well as his garden buildings he was asked to submit a design for the south front.

What he did in consequence appears here at Plate 1. The reader may form his own opinion of its architectural merit. Whatever its faults, if indeed it is faulty, there is no doubt that it is extremely, neo-classically fashionable for its period. Nevertheless Lord Temple did not like it. We may conclude, indeed, that he liked all Blondel's work less than he had liked Borra's. Borra in fact did a good deal to garden buildings, but nothing that Blondel designed for Stowe, neither his garden buildings nor his south front, was carried out (his designs for the interior will be mentioned in the next chapter). He considered himself very ill-used. In 1774, by then having left England again, he sent Lord Temple a bill for designing three garden buildings, one of them in several versions, plans and elevations for the new south front façade of the house, ornaments for this façade, and designs for the three great state rooms that were to be made

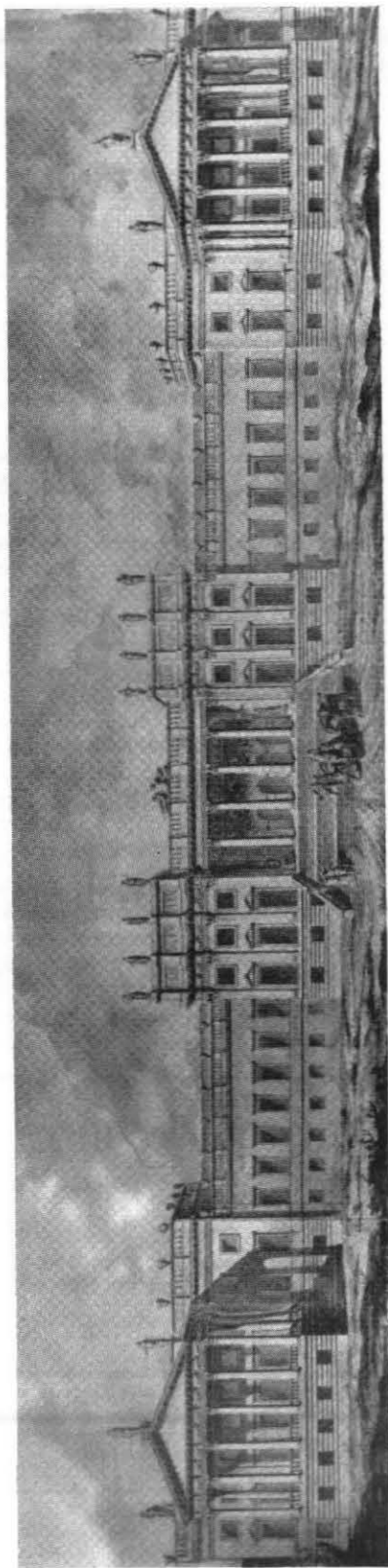


PLATE 1.—G.F. Blondel's design for the South Front

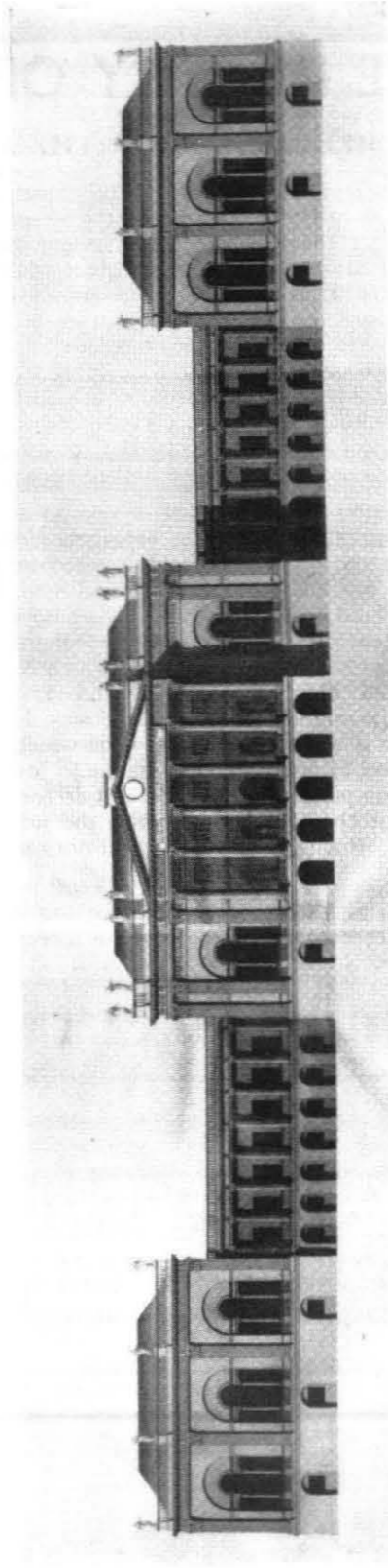


PLATE 2.—Robert Adam's design for the South Front

in the rebuilt centre block of the house. He also claimed to have made journeys to Stowe to oversee the beginning of the rebuilding to designs not his own. The total came to 477 guineas, but all he appears to have received was £50 in 1772. He sent his bill from Amsterdam to Sir William Chambers, who had befriended him in England, with a covering letter asking Chambers' help in getting it paid. "Il est bien douloureux pour moi," he wrote, "d'avoir sacrifié mon temps et mes talents pour un quel'qun qui ne me paye que d'ingratitude."² But nothing has come to light to show that he ever had more than the £50.

It must have been about 1770 that Lord Temple finally rejected Blondel's work. The next thing he did was to apply to Robert Adam, then at the height of his successful career, and Adam supplied yet another design (Plate 2). This is in fact the design on which the present south front is based. None the less, Lord Temple was still not satisfied and began to find fault. But it was not possible to treat Adam as Blondel had been treated. Adam replied correctly but coldly to a letter in which Temple had evidently grumbled about his designing of windows, demanded 100 guineas for his work and removed himself from Stowe. And his bill was paid in full in 1771. So Temple was left with a design that was indeed a very fine one, to use in what way he could, and at last he set to work. The basement level of Adam's façade was built just as he had designed it, and the brick frontages of the connecting galleries, which were not demolished, were given a coat of stone-matching stucco and an Ionic order, again to Adam's design. This is made clear enough by a comparison of Adam's drawing with the south front as it exists today (Plate 4). Temple approved this much of Adam's work, and his disposition of the whole. But the details of the new centre block and wing pavilions, and rather more than the details, he did not like, and here we may feel he was right. Adam had run a giant Corinthian order, with a subsidiary Ionic, right across the façade. But he made the centre block, with its great portico, taller than the wing pavilions and thus landed himself in trouble. His central Corinthian came out perforce larger than that in the wings, and, as for the Ionic, there was one size for the connecting galleries and another for the Venetian windows throughout. The resulting façade, though very characteristic of Adam and having great refinement in all matters of detail, is in general effect restless and unsatisfactory. It is not surprising that Temple, with his keen eye for architecture, wished somehow to alter and pull the design together.

All this time, of course, he must have been in close touch with his cousin, Thomas Pitt. Pitt had built the Corinthian Arch as a southward prelude to and, very likely, as a try-out for a remodelled Stowe House. Knowing Temple's mind, he must have had in the back if not in the front of his own mind at least the hope that he would be entrusted with the rebuilding of the house himself. Blondel came and went, likewise Adam, but Adam's design remained, and Temple, though not prepared to scrap it, was not satisfied with it and found himself at a stand. So he turned to Pitt, and Pitt was only too pleased to take the matter in hand.

Pitt's great achievement was to reduce Adam's two sizes of the Corinthian order, and two of Ionic, to one each. He raised the end pavilions to the same height as the centre block, thus making the giant Corinthian order the same right across the façade, and he changed the Venetian windows to square-headed within relieving arches, keeping what Adam called his Antique Ionic order along the galleries and repeating it in the windows. A pleasing simplification thus resulted and the effect is somewhat curious. Stowe is clearly a nobleman's seat of the Age of Adam, but is it an Adam house? It has been believed to be one,³ but Thomas Pitt's authorship has been a Stowe tradition until our own times and is in fact conclusively documented. Britton and Brayley, and the Rev. James Dallaway, set it down in print,⁴ and in the autumn of 1774, when the south front was nearing completion, Lord Temple's sister, Lady Chatham, wrote to Thomas Pitt's wife saying how much she admired "the elegant skill of Mr Pitt's architectural genius" at Stowe.⁵ There can be no doubt about this. We have conjectured that Pitt designed his Corinthian arch as a try-out, as a suggestion to Temple for what might be done with the house. What in fact he did with the house, with its pilasters, its arched windows and its heavy carved garlands, was to make of it, so to speak, a series of Corinthian arches. It says a good deal for his "architectural genius" that he could thus treat an Adam design without making a hash of it. However much anyone may regret Adam, none can deny the existing façade is very fine indeed.

It was not only the south front that was transformed, The north also was altered. It was not pulled down but was added to in important ways. Let us stand back a moment. What is neo-classicism? It is usually equated in England with the "Age of Adam". But the whole Renaissance, in Italy and everywhere, was "Neo"-classic. Palladio had been a greater scholar of the Antique than was Adam. Inigo Jones introduced into England the Palladian system of a house connected by colonnades, often curved, with flanking service buildings, and his 18th century disciples went on doing it. The north front at Stowe, at least since the building of Leoni's (or Vanbrugh's?) great portico, had, we may almost say, been crying out for colonnades. Lord Cobham may indeed have intended colonnades, but none were built in his time, nothing but Kent's rather paltry screen-walls. We have now arrived in the 1770s, in the midst of the Age of Adam. Adam himself affected to despise Palladio, but Palladio's influence on country houses, at least out of doors, was still strong enough to make Pitt and Temple decide upon colonnades for the north front at Stowe.

As to the house itself, the brick front wall, dating from Sir Richard Temple's time, was not pulled down. Corner towers had been built by Lord Cobham. These were now joined across to form an attic storey and crowned with a balustrade and a row of tall vases. The brickwork was stuccoed over and, by way of a neo-classic hallmark, the stucco was decorated with paterae and garlands. All that now remains visible from Sir Richard's time is the cornice of the old house, now forming an ornamental string-course below the attic, and the stone doorcase to Sir Richard's front door, now shadowed within the great north portico. At the same time screen-walls were built left and right, the same height as the colonnades and from their outer ends, turning through two right angles and extending as far as Leoni's arches on the outer flanks. Kent's service gateways now appear as it were built into these high walls, and in the blank spaces next the colonnades are a pair of large Tuscan gates, or doorways, blocked with doors not designed to open. These gates look older than Lord Temple. Were they perhaps brought from elsewhere and put up again here?

Notwithstanding all this patchwork the north front is harmonious and splendid (Plate 5). Who was responsible for it? We may conclude Pitt and Temple. No other names have been suggested. But in doing or projecting this, Pitt and Temple exhibit, to us now, their technical limitations. They could decide upon colonnades. They might wish to make the north front look like Palladio's design for the Villa Trissino (Plate 3). They could make sketches. But when it came to making exact drawings that workmen could use for putting up colonnades, that they could not do. Perhaps they could not even quite visualise the form a curving colonnade should take to fit the existing space. So a model was made for them by a "ghost", if it is fitting so to call him. The ghost's name was William Ride. Not much is known of Ride.⁶ He came from Sussex and acted as surveyor to the Duke of Richmond at Goodwood. He is known to have designed one or two buildings in Sussex and, as his work for Stowe makes plain, he was a competent draughtsman. He may have belonged to a family of builders. During the 1750s he appears as working for Lord Temple at his London house in Pall Mall, supervising maintenance. No doubt he did the same for other houses. His services earned him the gratitude of the Temples, and Lord Temple, carrying out the particular wish of his wife, settled an annuity on Mrs Ride. He does not seem to have been more than intermittently concerned with Stowe until 1770, when the rebuilding began. From then onwards, until Lord Temple's death in 1779, accounts for Stowe work from Ride appear from time to time, for large sums of money. He made the model for a colonnade. He also made all the working drawings for the south front. Here again Pitt and Temple, who could decide pretty well what they wanted and could pick out suitable details from Stuart and Revett, and Robert Wood, and Desgodetz,⁷ could not, or at all events did not, make working drawings. Ride seems to have worked from London, as Borra did, with occasional visits to Stowe, and from London he arranged for the supply of materials that were not to be had locally, "Dantzick fir" and other imported timber, and "London slates".⁸ He was undoubtedly an important, indeed an essential, agent in the rebuilding of the house. He was evidently a man of some artistic culture and had corresponded with George Vertue about the curious decorative paintings that are still to be seen in Chichester Cathedral. It would be interesting to know more of William Ride.

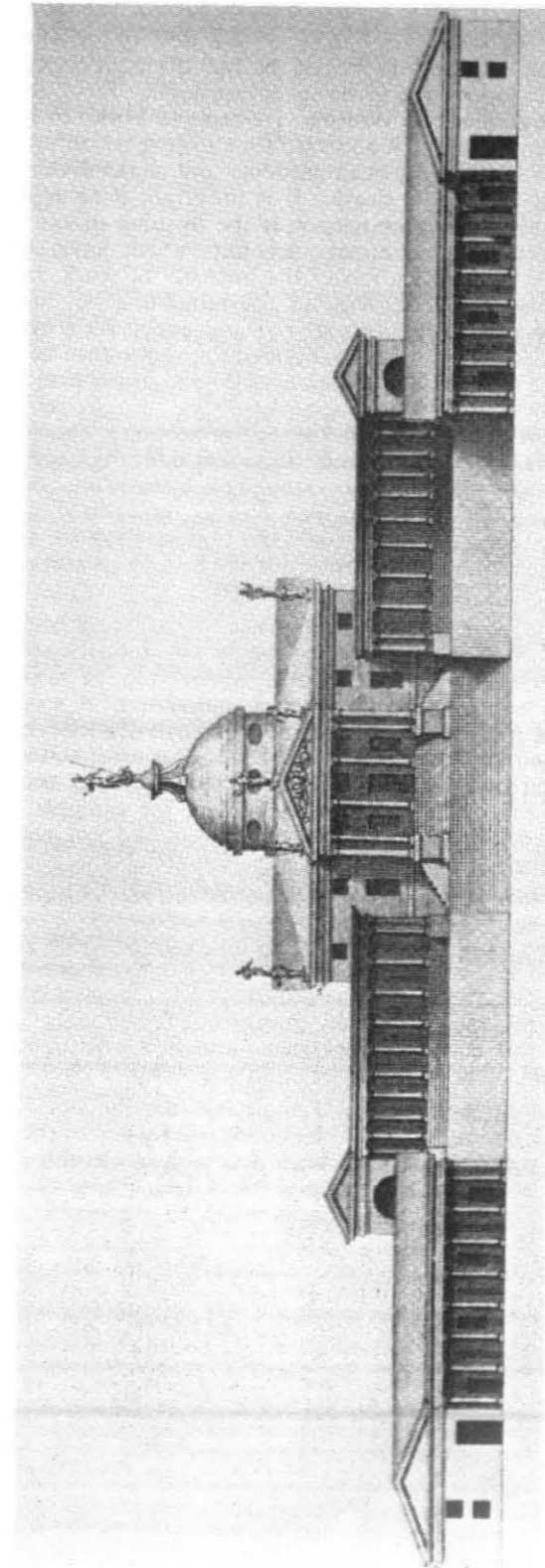


PLATE 3.—Palladio's design for the Villa Trissino

We come at last to the actual work of rebuilding, for a description of which the accounts give a great deal of information. What follows can be but the merest sketch. Certain important names must be given here. Others are given in an appendix. First, Richard Woodward, who had, previously, been head gardener at Wotton. He came to Stowe in 1750, when Lord Temple moved in after Lord Cobham's death. Woodward took over in an orderly manner from Lancelot Brown, becoming, as Brown had been, head gardener and clerk-of-works combined, remaining at Stowe at least until Lord Temple's death. It is uncertain if he remained longer, but he is known to have been still living in Buckingham at the opening of the nineteenth century. He began at once an orderly series of summary accounts which have survived nearly complete among the papers and give clear indication of the intensity of work, in the garden and on the house, at any particular moment. Throughout the rebuilding he must be imagined steadily in the background paying bills, ordering material and supervising everything. In his sphere he is just as important as Ride. Next must be mentioned the firm of Batchelor, masons and statuary⁹ of Buckingham. Richard Batchelor was the head of the firm; Edward was a sculptor, signwriter and draughtsman; and John, a mason. There was also William Bull, a senior employee who, as the rebuilding went forward, began to send in accounts above his own name. To the Batchelors Stowe must have been a gold mine. They had built the Corinthian and Doric arches, reconstructed the Lady's Temple and the Temple of Friendship, and repaired many other garden buildings. And they were the principal masons for rebuilding the house. The north front is mainly brick and stucco, but they made the Ionic capitals for the colonnades, and they may be said to have rebuilt the south front entirely, leaving the more particular pieces of sculpture however to specialists, of whom more shortly.

The work of rebuilding began in 1770, with emphasis on the north front. The south, we might think, was more important, but in fact it was probably not until the end of this year that Lord Temple made up his mind about the south front. Meanwhile the north went forward and by Christmas the colonnades were well on the way to completion. It was at this time that a new system of accounting was introduced. Hitherto the master-tradesmen had been paid by the number of days worked and amounts of material used. But now, suddenly, the modern system of paying by measure after completion was introduced. This was probably due to Ride and must have been a headache to some of the tradesmen, for example to the bricklayer Israel Stanley, who, though clearly an able and diligent man, could not read nor write and signed his bills with his mark witnessed by somebody else. The Batchelors however were fully literate. Work went on through 1771 and to the autumn of 1772. The colonnades were finished, the house stuccoed, the top balustrade was built and the vases made by Edward Batchelor. The steps were relaid with Hornton stone. In the autumn of 1772 the colonnades were paved. During the summer of 1772 Lord Chatham, now on friendly terms again with his brother-in-law, wrote to ask how the "Palace of Stowe" was progressing. In September Temple replied, "After many and many disappointments I am now going on prosperously here. The North side is charming and the South will be very magnificent, attended with much expense, but, what is worse, with infinite trouble. I hope, however, that the worst is over."¹⁰

One is glad to learn that by this time Lord Temple felt that the worst was over. The "infinite trouble" was no doubt the pulling down of the entire front walls of the centre and flank blocks of the south front, which must indeed have been well nigh intolerable for anyone trying to live in the place, even when supported by butlers and valets. Only the gallery walls remained standing. Trenches for foundations for the new work to the south, which stood forward of the old, were dug during the early months of 1771.¹¹ It must have been at this early stage of the south front, if we are to believe his account, that Blondel came down to survey the work "déjà commencé par Monsr: Adams". But Blondel probably spoke little English and was an artistic rather than a practical character, and was soon elbowed out by William Ride. By May 1771 Ride had supplied his working drawings for the south front and during the early part of 1772 the parts of the façade that were to go, and Borra's steps, were pulled down. By the end of the year the Batchelors were ready to begin building up again, and Temple could tell Chatham the worst was over.

1773 was the great south front year. The accounts show that the two end pavilions were up, with all their ornaments, by the end of the year and the galleries had been transformed with their

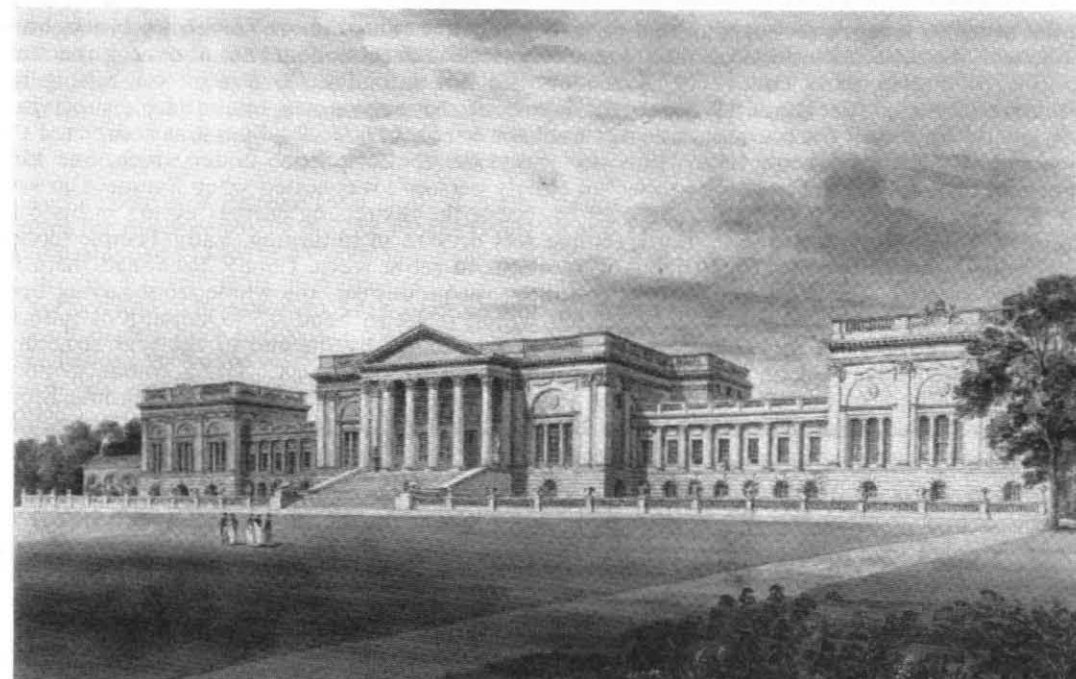


PLATE 4.—John Buckler's water-colour of the South Front



PLATE 5.—John Buckler's water-colour of the North Front

Ionic order to Adam's design, and had received their top balustrades. The centre block, however, with its giant Corinthian portico, was a very large undertaking and stood over in the main until 1774 and in parts later. The Batchelors did not submit their account for raising the columns of the portico until 1775 and the laying of the steps down to the lawn, supervised apparently by Lovell the sculptor, was not until the winter of 1776/7. Thus was completed the tremendous façade we know today, thus was raised the central portico under which, one May morning in 1777, Lord Temple, by now "an elderly person", was seated when Samuel Curwen, an American loyalist who had come over to escape the distressing current events in his own country, paid a visit to Stowe.¹² Lord Temple was dressed in mourning, Lady Temple having lately died, and Curwen and his friends were about to retire when Temple beckoned them up and they entered "the great hall, an oval rotunda, yet unfinished, the whole front having been lately taken down; the outside is finished, but within is yet in hand—". Demolitions indoors had in fact begun early in 1774 and reconstruction in 1775. By the end of the year structural work was well advanced on the new state rooms in the centre block. The accounts mention the music room by June and "ye wals of ye ovell room" were rising in the autumn. Some decorative work was going forward by the time Lord Temple died in 1779, but much remained to do.

Two more matters call for attention in this chapter; stone for building and external sculpture. To speak first of stone and the quarries from which it was drawn. Naturally much came from Lord Temple's own quarry at Boycott, less than a mile from the house. Boycott is not a good freestone, but could be cut into simple mouldings and was used to some extent on the South front. Mainly it was used for paving, and as rubble for in-filling. Next in proximity was Helmdon in Northants, only ten miles from Stowe. There is no quarry working at Helmdon now but clearly it was a good building stone and it was much used on the south front. Next comes Hornton in north Oxon, a dark ironstone. Only the new north front steps seem to have been made of this. It is not, evidently, a hard enough stone for the purpose and has largely crumbled away and been replaced. All the rest of the stone came from Oxfordshire quarries, and this is an interesting point. Nothing was brought from the "Lincolnshire limestone" region, which begins in Northants. But the distance would have been greater than that from the Oxon quarries and communications probably not so good. It may be communications that dictated which quarries were used; one of them, Taynton near the Gloucestershire border, being 40 miles away. It must have taken a loaded wagon, even with six horses, two or three days to make the journey. Why go so far? For one thing Taynton is a high quality building stone, still quarried today, and for another it is, or probably was in the 18th century, possible to go almost the whole way from the north front at Stowe to Taynton on Roman roads. Proceed down the road that runs past the house, over the Ouse at Water Stratford and on to Bicester, where fork S.W. along Akeman Street, which crosses the Windrush on its way to Cirencester a mile or so short of Burford, and so on another mile to Taynton. The other Oxon quarries were Stonesfield (whence came the so-called "Stonesfield slates" that were used for roofing), Bladon and Glympton. When we realise that Stonesfield lies actually on Akeman Street, and Bladon and Glympton a mile or two on either side, we may at least surmise that Roman roads dictated the use of quarries. The best freestone seems to have been Glympton, which was used for the columns of the south front portico and by James Lovell for carving his Bacchic frieze within the portico.

This brings us to sculpture. The Batchelors described themselves as statuaries as well as masons but, partly for reasons of speed perhaps, were not given the more exacting pieces, nor any statuary. The capitals for the portico were made by one Richard Lancashire, and all the sculpture involving human figures was done by Lovell. He made the eight large roundels with figure subjects that adorn the façade. These are of Portland stone and were made in London and sent down. The pair on the centre block show the Four Seasons, by the usual symbolism of dancing figures with suitable attributes. On each end block are three roundels, one above each window. These are, on each block, a pair showing figures performing a sacrifice and, centrally, a group of Venus and Adonis. It is usually possible, for neo-classic sculpture of this sort, to find an original in Antique art, but Lovell seems to have invented this Stowe series

out of his own head, which is surely very creditable. Possibly one of Lord Temple's "many and many disappointments" was his failure to find anything Antique, on an intaglio or medal, that he liked to reproduce, and so, at the last moment, he told Lovell to get on with it the best way he could. Temple was always uncertain and impatient at the same time, and this would account for the fact that Lovell made his four sacrifice-plaques very like each other, and his two Venus-and-Adonis plaques almost identical.

Lovell did much more than these eight plaques. He made the two pairs of over-life-size reclining figures for the parapets of the end blocks (Plates 6 and 7). These represent Religion and Liberty on one side, and Flora and Ceres on the other. These are in fact Whig Virtues; religion (C. of E.) in double harness with political liberty, and national prosperity (agricultural) resulting from Whig politics. There was to have been an imposing *comble*, a Whig centrepiece, a four-horse chariot driven by King William III, standing at the apex of the portico. It appears, faintly pencilled in, on Adam's elevation drawing. Seeley made for his guides an anticipatory engraving to show it, and Lovell made a model for Lord Temple's approval. But the thing was never done.

Perhaps the best of Lovell's work is the Bacchic frieze within the portico. This is taken, selectively, from the frieze of the "Choragic Monument of Lysicrates", as illustrated by Stuart and Revett in Vol. I of their *Antiquities of Athens* (1762). Lovell also made the doorcase for the huge central door from the portico to the oval saloon within, and the elaborate soffit, with birds and satyr masks, as a ceiling to the portico. These two final things are said in the guide-books to have been taken from Palmyra. The stone doorcase is indeed Palmyrene, but does not correspond exactly to any of Borra's illustrations to Robert Wood's book. As to the soffit, which is done in plaster, this has no connection with Palmyra. It is taken, like the frieze, from Stuart and Revett (Vol. I), from the headpiece to Chapter 2, which illustrates a mosaic pavement. All this work appears to have been finished by the end of 1776.

By this time Lord Temple was very infirm and was becoming melancholy. No doubt the rebuilding, however interesting, was proving a strain. The American war had begun and Temple was keenly hostile to the rebels, as he deemed the Americans to be. In April 1777 came a far worse shock, the death of his wife. She died in London and her body was brought down to be buried in the family mausoleum in the church at Wotton. Temple could not bear to attend her funeral and went up to London the same day, by an unusual route, in order not to pass her coffin on the way.¹³ But in spite of everything he continued to interest himself in the building work at Stowe. Then, as we saw in an earlier chapter, he fell out of his pony-chaise and cracked his skull. He lingered a few days in delirium. His nephew and heir George Grenville hastened to Stowe but Temple did not know him, nor anybody else. Temple continued to speak confusedly and everything he said had reference to his building¹³. No doubt he worried to his last moment about the unfinished interior of the house. In the next chapter we shall see what happened indoors, in the next generation.

M. J. GIBBON

* * * * *

Principal master-tradesmen employed on the rebuilding of the house and repair of the garden buildings, 1770-1779

Mason—Richard, Edward and John Batchelor, and William Bull (rebuilding the south front), Maximilian Emborley (mainly north front and garden buildings), Edward Masters, Richard Collisson, James Burnett, John Sims, Richard Wyatt, Richard Lancashire (sculptor, capitals, south front portico)

Bricklayer—Israel Stanley (also slating and tiling), George Nurse

Plumber—John Watts (lead roofing)

Blacksmith—John Bennett (iron cramps for masonry)

Carpenter/Joiner—Thomas Collingridge, who died and was succeeded by William Fearn, who in turn was succeeded by John Mander (all woodwork, framing roofs, flooring, indoor joinery, scaffolding, making ladders and "machines" for raising stonework, making models for the masons to carve by)



PLATES 6 AND 7.—Liberty and Religion, the reclining figures carved by James Lovell for the parapet of the west block

Sawyer—Richard Gill, presumably son of William Gill, sawyer in Lord Cobham's time (cutting out estate timber)

Plasterer—William Davis, Matthew Meads, John Stanford

Painter/Gilder—John Phillips (who signs his name in the music room), George Burleigh, Daniel Skingle, Baldwin Bennett

Wheelwright—John Osborne (keeping wagons and wheelbarrows in working order)

Wall-decorator—"Mr Baddison" (or Badenson), of London (papering walls, and covering with damask)

Acknowledgments

For this chapter I am more than ever indebted to the Huntington Library, for their permission to make use of information from the Stowe Papers.

The second half of the chapter is based on the researches amongst the Stowe Papers by—

1. Dr Michael McCarthy, as published in "The Rebuilding of Stowe House, 1770/77", *Huntington Library Quarterly*, Vol. XXXVI, No. 3, May 1973; and "James Lovell and his sculptures at Stowe", *Burlington Magazine*, April 1973.

2. My colleague, Mr G. B. Clarke, during his recent visit to the Huntington Library.

Without the information supplied to me by these two friends it would have been impossible for me to write this chapter in a way that was at all satisfactory.

Illustrations

1, National Monuments Record; 2, Sir John Soane's Museum; 3, Royal Institute of British Architects; 4 and 5, National Monuments Record.

Notes

1. John Harris, "Blondel at Stowe", *The Connoisseur*, March 1964.
2. B.M. Add. Mss. 41136 6/7 (see Harris op: cit: Note 1 above).
3. The Rev James Dallaway, *Anecdotes of the Arts*, London 1800, pp. 151/2.
4. (a) Britton and Brayley, *Beauties of England and Wales*, 1801.
(b) The Rev James Dallaway, edition of Horace Walpole's *Anecdotes of Painting*, 1828, pp. 83/4, footnote. Dallaway had supposed that Stowe was an Adam house in 1800 (note 3, above), but had evidently heard about Thomas Pitt (later Lord Camelford) by 1828.
5. Letter, Lady Chatham to Mrs Thomas Pitt, dated September 11 1774. B.M. Dropmore Papers, I, 12.
6. H. M. Colvin, *Biographical Dictionary of English Architects*, first edition 1954, article on William Ride, p. 501.
7. Principal source-books for Classical detail during the latter part of the 18th century in England were:—
(a) Antoine Desgodetz, *Les Edifices Antiques de Rome*, Paris 1697.
(b) Robert Wood, *Ruins of Palmyra*, 1753; and *Ruins of Baalbec*, 1757.
(c) James Stuart and Nicholas Revett, *Antiquities of Athens*, Vol I, 1762.
8. No doubt Welsh slates shipped coastwise to London.
9. So described by Mrs Purefoy in an order for a monument for herself to be put up in the church at Shalstone, near Stowe. See Rupert Gunnis, *Dictionary of British Sculptors*, Odhams Press N.D., pp. 41/2.
10. *The Grenville Papers*, ed. W. J. Smith, John Murray 1852, Vol. 4, p. 546.
11. The accounts show that a little later, in May/June 1771, for reasons that are not yet clear, the "new layd foundation" had to be taken up and laid down again.
12. *Journal and Letters of Samuel Curwen*, ed. S. A. Ward, 1842.
13. Letters from George Grenville, later Marquis of Buckingham, to his wife, Huntington Library, Stowe Papers, STG Box 47.



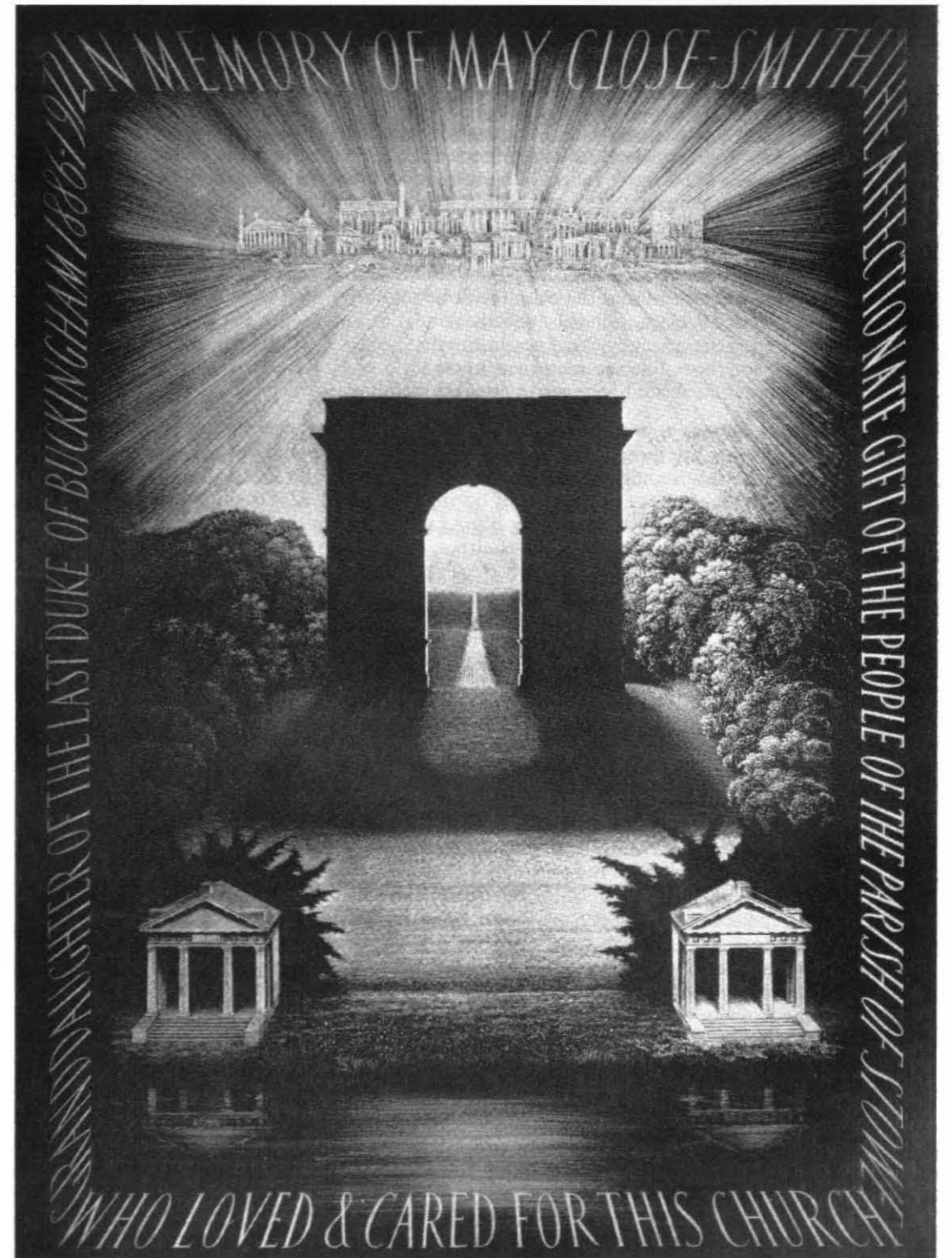
Badger Cubs at sett entrance near Stowe Castle

Richard Munro Ferguson



Fox Cubs near the Beagle Kennels

Richard Munro Ferguson



A Memorial Window in Stowe Church to May Close-Smith engraved by Laurence Whistler

Photo reproduced by courtesy of John Murray Ltd.

DRAMA

HADRIAN THE SEVENTH

The Congreve Club has frequently and fearlessly attempted the difficult. Sometimes, indeed, the impossible has been achieved, as with 'Hedda Gabler'; sometimes the aim has proved too high, as in 'Hamlet'. The latter failed because Hamlet's lines, though audible, were spoken insensitively and often meaninglessly, and with a wealth of mannered gesture. This year's play, 'Hadrian the Seventh' by Peter Luke, makes similarly great demands on the leading actor and Christopher Villiers responded with a performance which was quite the reverse. It was a highly sensitive and intelligent study of what is two parts in one and he caught both the febrile intensity of Rolfe's burning resentment and the calm idealistic authority of Hadrian. Movement, gesture and expression were all extraordinarily effective and, insofar as the play allows, convincing. Unfortunately and, alas, crucially, his lines in the first scenes were too quickly and too quietly spoken and this, for those like me who then knew little of Rolfe and less of 'Hadrian', made the rest of the play difficult and at times impossible to follow.

These first scenes present a problem to the producer. They are necessarily wordy and static, but the Hadrian scenes are inexplicable without this background study of Rolfe in whose imagination they take place. Should they be played slowly enough for Mr Luke's remarkable gift for précis to be appreciated but at the risk of boring the audience? Or should they be attacked at a great pace and at the risk of confusing it? Again, and here the play seems to fall between two stools, is Mr Luke interested in Rose-Hadrian, the deeply wronged aspirant to priesthood who is vindicated by his miraculous rise to the Papal throne and by his idealistic policies, or in Rolfe-Corvo, the arch sponger and biter of the hands that fed him, so rightly rejected by the Church? To neither does he do justice, so perhaps the plot is: 'The Manuscript of Hadrian the Seventh and How It Came to be Written'. Whatever the answer, this play is partly potted biography and partly condensed novel.

It comes to life once we are in the Vatican. Any colourlessness in the earlier scenes is forgotten in the splendour of pomp and procession, vestment and ritual and incense. With the new Age of Austerity upon us this may well be the last of the Congreve spectaculars and, if so, the scenery, stage-management, costumes and music will be remembered with nostalgia. The design and painting of the set was especially memorable. The conflict between the newly-elected Pope and his cardinals sets the action alight and Michael Hoppen's blazing Italian truculence and subsequent warm-hearted submission were exciting. All the minor clerical characters, indeed (for Hadrian is the only major character), were convincing. I liked particularly Edward Corbett's dignified Archbishop, Clifford Halvorsen's rather waspish Jesuit and, as usual, Simon Appleton's sure touch as Rose. Neither Nicola Hemsworth nor Nicholas Butt seemed quite old or nasty enough for the shabby and sordid blackmail and murder carried out by Mrs Crowe and Sant. (Why, incidentally, was Rolfe's latent homosexuality, which is clearly a mainspring in his motivation, so underplayed?) The best performance, albeit little more than a cameo, came from Joanna Bell in a genuinely moving portrayal of the old servant, Agnes.

To sum up, I enjoyed the performance more than the play and we must be grateful that the departure of the old Maestro has not left the void which the Jeremiahs predicted. The succession, and its success, is assured. One noteworthy feature of Mr Potter's production was that the players were allowed greater freedom to develop their own styles. There are, of course, attendant risks but there are also dividends of freshness and vigour. I look forward to performances by some of our younger actors, notably Appleton, and by our ladies in bigger and more rewarding rôles.

J. M. TEMPLE

HOUSE DRAMA

The last year has seen an unprecedentedly large number of House plays, produced on various stages and by masters and boys alike. In almost every-way this upsurge of dramatic activity has been good: many more boys than before have been able to experience the excitement of the theatre (however amateur) at first hand and have appreciated the discipline and teamwork that goes into a successful production. From all this the School's drama in general and the Congreve Club in particular are bound to benefit.

It is no reflection on the other Houses to single out Mr Meredith and Grenville's production of 'Ross' as the most impressive of the various plays we have seen: this was an ambitious and challenging choice, which used to the full the House's considerable acting talent. The imaginative set and lighting, lavish costume and the pace of the production all made this a memorable evening.

Bruce's 'The Odd Couple', Temple's 'Night Must Fall' and Lyttelton's 'Arsenic and Old Lace' were also on the Roxburgh Hall stage, and their boy producers learnt a great deal about the difficulty of performing there. The selection of a suitable play for such a large stage and auditorium, the problems of projection and movement, and the difficulty of maintaining contact with the audience can only really be appreciated at first hand. Obviously there were weaknesses in all these productions, but the tension created in 'Night Must Fall' and the spontaneous and genuine humour evoked by 'The Odd Couple' and 'Arsenic and Old Lace' were indicative of the successful way in which differing problems had been tackled.

The question of audience reaction is a problem where House plays are concerned. By any standards the behaviour of the largely Stoic audience at the first night of 'Ross' was disgraceful. Here was an audience looking for the more questionable entertainment found in some House farce and, through lack of education as much as anything else, failing to respond to a production that made more challenging and worthwhile demands upon them. We have not yet reached the stage where enough people are prepared to look upon House drama as a possible area for mentally provocative and serious plays rather than as an arena for thoughtless, cheap or patronising laughter.

This is not to say that other plays this year necessarily traded in on such easy devices. Cobham's 'An Italian Straw Hat' was performed with flair and occasionally panache and was a good attempt at producing in a notoriously difficult genre. Walpole, like Cobham, put on their play—'Tons of Money'—in their Houseroom, and it provided much hilarity, although the difficulty of the producer-actor was not fully resolved. Finally, the eponymous Chatham Seen combined two short plays with some home-grown revue, which, with its different emphases, was enjoyed by both Friday and Saturday night audiences.

R. M. POTTER

STOWE TRIP TO THE SOVIET UNION

One's reasons for wanting to visit Russia are varied. One would not expect to go there on a conventional "holiday" due to the restrictions always present in Russian society, and thus the visit is much more of an experience, both enlightening and educational—the interest in the traditional cultural sights is mixed with an interest in the ordinary Russian's way of life.

Bearing some, or all of this in mind, plus the fact that this was perhaps a one-in-a-lifetime visit, a party of Stoics left from Gatwick to go to Moscow, accompanied by Mr and Mrs Bennetts and three French friends, Mr and Mrs Simons, and Mr Bennetts' brother and his wife. After a good flight, we were met by our guide and interpreter for the duration of our stay, and the first of many examples of stubborn Russian misorganization, this time in the shape of the customs! The Knievskaya Hotel in Moscow was far from luxurious, due to the fact that Russians were allowed to stay there as well as tourists. The menu at this hotel was exactly the same as the one of the Vyborgskaya Hotel in Leningrad where we later stayed, and was met with almost overall disapproval, apart from Mr Bennetts who stated that it was an acquired taste!

We were treated to all the great sights of Moscow including the interior and exterior of the Kremlin, a visit to see Lenin's body (or waxwork) and of course Red Square. We went on a 200 kilometre excursion to the former Russian capitals, Vladimir and Suzdal, which were both interesting and beautiful. The Exhibition of Economic Achievements back in Moscow formed a stark contrast to these two, both in its architecture and historical interest. The cathedrals and museums or both, were fascinating with their collections of treasures and icons from the days of the Tsars. A number of Russian students, wishing to practise their English, accompanied us on our bus and gave one an interesting insight into their indoctrinated mentality.

Entertainment on a more conventional level was provided by trips to the Moscow State Circus—indefinitely better than the Leningrad one—and to the Bolshoi Ballet where we saw an unforgettable performance of Giselle, starring Maria Pavlova, arguably the world's greatest ballerina. To get to these events we had to travel either by bus or underground. The honesty of the Russians and the cheap fares were remarkable, as was the cleanliness, beauty, and efficiency of the underground in particular with its marble, mosaics, and chandeliers. We then had to say goodbye to the impersonal metropolis of Moscow, to travel to Leningrad, the "northern Venice".

Leningrad was beautiful with its disjointed form spread over the various islands of the Neva river. We visited Peter and Paul's fortress, which had as a prison held many revolutionary figures. "Just like Siberia?" we suggested, only to be told that Siberia was "a nice place, but a bit cold!" The most impressive museum was that of the Hermitage in the famous Winter Palace, where there was a stunning collection of paintings by western artists, such as Picasso, Matisse, Van Dyke and Rembrandt, included in the 2½ million exhibits. From Leningrad we made an excursion to the palaces of Pushkin and Pavlovsk, the latter of which had been totally rebuilt by the Russians since the war, and of which they were very proud.

On our Easter Sunday (the Russians have theirs three weeks later), while the other parties of tourists went to see one of the many war memorials surrounding Leningrad, we went to a practising Russian Orthodox Church—St Nicholas' Cathedral. The church was absolutely full, mainly of old men and women. There was being held almost simultaneously a funeral service, a baptism and the traditional Sunday mass. The faith of these people in a Communist country had a very profound effect on one, as one walked outside to be met by the usual crowds of children asking for chewing-gum.

We had meanwhile been given another batch of Russian students for our bus, and friendships were established enough for some Stoics actually to be invited to some of their homes or flats, in periods of free time. If out on the streets one was often offered money for one's clothes and a better exchange rate for the English sterling than the official one. After ten days in the Soviet Union, we eventually had to leave our bugged hotel in Leningrad.

It is unfortunate that some of what we did and saw has been left out since it would take too long to say it all, but I hope that a general impression of our experiences, impressions and enjoyment has been adequately conveyed. It remains only to thank Mr Bennetts for organising and taking charge of this immensely enjoyable and successful trip.

RICHARD LOUP

MALCOLM MILLER' 1975

Once again, thanks to the generosity of Mr Michael Peacock, two Stoics, together with two boys from the Pineapple Club, were able to enjoy a fortnight's cruise on the Sail Training Association Schooner, 'Malcolm Miller'.

Neither of us had ever been on a schooner before, but we had heard grim stories from previous trainees and we arrived on board rather apprehensive. At least we had hardened our hands with surgical spirit before we went on board. However we need not have worried: the central heating made the half-deck (where we had our quarters) almost too hot and our first night was very comfortable. Most of the others were not. The Watch system caused this, ensuring that everyone was 'On duty' sailing the ship when we were at sea or taking harbour watches in port at least once in every eight hours, so we were often short of sleep.

Sea-sickness was the other problem which troubled most of us, but after the first day's sailing, from Weymouth towards Brest, we became accustomed to the motion and the majority of us survived the rest of the trip without being affected.

The other aspects of the cruise were exhausting, but enjoyable. The masts were not too difficult to climb, and once everyone had grasped the essentials of tacking and jibing we worked reasonably well as a team. The trainees came from all walks of life, and this made the team spirit all the more interesting.

This was demonstrated particularly during the race back from Cherbourg when we had to get to Weymouth in time to meet the engineer who was to inspect the port engine which had not been functioning properly. Not only did the mizzen sail split across the middle, but the regulator in the engine room burst into flames at two o'clock in the morning and was extinguished efficiently by the engineer and Stephen Mackay between them.

As a whole, we all learnt to work in a team, and the inter-watch rivalry reached its height in a tug-of-war competition at Weymouth. We visited St Malo and Cherbourg, both interesting French ports, and we gained experience at sailing a large vessel in not always favourable conditions. It was a very worthwhile experience and I must thank Mr Peacock, Mr Rainer and the Headmaster for supporting such an enjoyable venture.

NICHOLAS DE SALIS

SOCIETY CHAPEL

Overshadowing everything else in Chapel has been the tragically sudden death of the Revd Hugh Hodge. His sermons were always intimate, refreshing and spiritual because he could combine breadth of experience and a deep love of the Bible with the gifts of a born raconteur. The wealth of meaning and thought that appeared in his taking of Morning Prayers showed his determination to make and take time over preparation. The extent of his influence and the number of Stoics who saw him as an example to follow, will never be known, but it was the experience of us all as that of the Shunamite woman, "I perceive that this is an holy man of God, which passeth by us continually." In an age of permissiveness he could exemplify the motto 'Persto et Praesto' because he 'stood on the god-ward side'.

The following have preached in Chapel:—

Spring Term. The Revd J. E. Platt, Chaplain of Pembroke College, Oxford; Major W. F. Batt (who also gave three pre-Lenten addresses); the Revd Canon C. M. Ruston, Vicar of the Round Church, Cambridge; the Revd Canon S. H. Evans, Dean of King's College, London; and the Revd Canon D. Jenkins, Principal of the William Temple Foundation. The Confirmation Service was conducted on March 2nd by the Rt Revd Simon Burrows, Bishop of Buckingham.

Summer Term. The Revd K. Woolhouse, Coventry Cathedral Education Officer; John Rae, Esq., Headmaster of Westminster; the Rt Revd Peter Walker, Bishop of Dorchester; the Revd Canon A. C. Warren, Diocesan Missioner, Coventry Cathedral; and the Revd Jack Courtenay, Vicar of Long Buckby.

During the summer term we have been experimenting with Series III. The reaction of the School has been largely for the experiment to continue, but with the proviso that alternative forms should also be used and with the wish that other words could have been found for the Creed. The result of the Lenten Addresses and Confirmation Retreat has been seen in the starting up and continuing of a number of House Bible Studies on weekdays.

J. E. C. NICHOLL

THE STUDY GROUP

The Study Group is the Christian forum at Stowe. The meeting takes place in A.M.V.'s room after Chapel every Sunday, and an outside speaker explains the importance of Christianity through a passage from the Bible.

These last two terms have seen an encouraging upsurge in interest. The talks have covered a wide variety of topics; two tapes have been heard, slides on Paul's journeys shown, and we look forward to Mr Drayson's talk in July.

We continue to be extremely grateful to Mr Vinen and Mr Marcuse, both for so generously providing coffee and biscuits, and for the care with which they organise the meetings.

CHRISTOPHER HOWSE
STEPHEN MACKAY

THE PINEAPPLE CLUB

At the start of the Easter term there was a remarkable number of applications to go on our weekly excursions to London. Also there was overwhelming support from the staff to drive boys to and from the station at most inconvenient hours for which we are most grateful.

However, at the beginning of this term the initial influx of people had severely diminished, and the support of the leaders was extremely disappointing, consequently the system fell into considerable disrepair, which was a shame as the weekly contact of Stowe and the Pineapple Club is in my opinion a most valuable connection between the two communities. I am glad to say this has now been corrected and we hope that all the available Thursdays of the term will be used to the full.

JOHN SMITH

STOWE COMMUNITY SERVICE

We have now completed our ninth year and the Service is still flourishing. To commemorate the year's work, Jonathan Kreeger has produced "Insight" a booklet which describes the scope of our activity in 1975, and we would be pleased to send a copy to anyone interested. In his introduction he states, "In choosing the name 'Insight' for the Stowe Community Service report we are highlighting the essential facet of our organization for it is very much our aim to increase our awareness in our relationships with those we help . . . there is still much to be done but we can justifiably say that the experience of community work and the commitment to the elderly has given us an insight into the essence of communication with those around us."

Our "awareness" and "commitment" involves weekly contact with 400 members scattered around a radius of 18 miles from the School. The problems of organization—particularly in transport and manpower—are always taxing. Great demands are made on those who offer their services but the rewards of doing something vital more than reciprocate this. For a month in advance of their camping weekend, the Norrill Hostel for the Mentally Handicapped are in a fever of excitement thanks to the "awareness" of Lyttelton House who look after them. For several months the bedding out plants grown by Jonathan Rose in the S.C.S. greenhouse will give pleasure to nearly two hundred people. Throughout the summer the grass cutting team will alleviate the anxiety experienced by those too handicapped to look after their gardens (we cut about 1,500 lawns during the season). The decorating team (badly in need of volunteers) give obvious pleasure at a time when the pensioner cannot afford even the materials. James Burton-Stewart comes to the aid of the house-bound in organizing his weekly outings: the Temple House Play—the Nugent House Tea Party at the Temple of Friendship—may be little things in themselves but they all go to add up to a richer life for those living on their own. The Hamper Campaign which provided 405 Christmas presents worth on average £5 each meant more than just a gesture of friendship. It was a great exercise in "communication" with boys controlling an operation which made contact with every householder in Buckingham and

Winslow as well as every village (about 15 of them), every pub and every industry in the area. It raised more than £2,000 in three weeks. Ask the villagers in Lillingstone Lovell what they think of the boys who provide the weekly bus service to Buckingham—for years they have been off all transport routes. Ask the elderly at Cobham Close what they think of the S.C.S. communal telephone which we installed for them. It all adds up to a very profitable "experience of community work" and education is immeasurably the richer for it.

R. C. THEOBALD
JOHN SMITH

THE LIBRARY

Besides our own purchases during the last two terms, we have been very pleased to receive the following presentations, which we gratefully acknowledge: A fine collection of autographed copies of "War Speeches", "The Second World War" and "A History of the English-Speaking Peoples" by Winston Churchill, presented by C. B. Cash (© 1936); "The End in Africa" by Alan Moorehead, presented by C. Braimer Jones (G 1926), in memory of the first Old Stoic holder of the Victoria Cross: John T. McK. Anderson, V.C., D.S.O. (C 1936); "The Enchanted Places" by C. R. Milne, presented by the author (T 1939); "The Art of War—Waterloo to Mons" by William L. McElwee, presented by the author (History Tutor at Stowe, 1934-1962); "The Ancient Romans—How They Lived and Worked" by Professor O. A. W. Dilke, presented by the author (B 1933); "Early Printed Maps of the British Isles" by R. W. Shirley, presented by the author (T 1946); "The Rise of the Temples" by A. R. Temple and D. D. Smith, presented by the authors; and "The Practice of Equine Stud Medicine" by P. D. Rossdale and S. W. Ricketts, presented by P. D. Rossdale (T 1944).

It is pleasing to note the increased co-operation on the part of book borrowers, with a reduced number of books missing at the end of the Spring Term. There are, however, still a few who remove books without signing for them and (alas) the occasional volume is still recovered in lamentable condition from a pile of rubbish. It is never too late to return any Library books that chance to turn up at home or other unlikely places.

Finally a word of thanks for the valuable help given by the Prefect of Library, R. H. L. Munro Ferguson (C) and by all the Library Monitors, especially those who have served for more than one term.

H. D. MARCUSE

Monitors: I. A. W. Nasatir (B), S. H. Coney (T), R. J. P. Lea (G), E. S. Sowerby (C), A. R. D. Hobbs (C), G. W. Forbes (C), M. C. W. Read (©), V. E. Bell (W), W. A. C. C. Cavendish (L), J. A. Smith (N).

THE XII CLUB

The Club commenced the Easter term with eleven new members and heard three interesting papers. James Cunningham started a discussion on 'The reason for human life', Rajiv Bendre disclosed his thoughts on the present economic situation, while Iain Nasatir and Vic Bell studied the Racialist situation in America.

This term the President, Mr Clarke, gave a paper on 'His discoveries among the Stowe collection' which he had studied at Los Angeles during his sabbatical leave. Chris Drake terminated the summer term's programme with a detailed description of the Spanish Civil War.

Next term we look forward to a visit by Mr Manley who will be speaking on a subject in connection with the Common Market. Finally, the Club would like to thank Mr and Mrs Mee for their great hospitality during the Easter term.

JAMES CUNNINGHAM

THE ENGLISH SOCIETY

In the Spring Term the Society was fortunate in having visits from three men of some distinction in the literary world. On February 14th Mr John Bowen spoke on writing for television, including in his talk much interesting autobiographical material. On February 28th Mr Michael Holroyd spoke on the perils of biography, being himself well known as the biographer of Lytton Strachey and recently appointed as the official biographer of Bernard Shaw. He too regaled the Society in even racier fashion with anecdotes of his own early days and the problems of his profession. On March 11th Mr Michael Hamburger delivered a highly stimulating and provocative lecture on the nature of poetry and read some of his own poems. On all these occasions members found much to stir their interest and imagination, and there was a good deal of lively discussion.

B. S. STEPHAN

THE CLASSICAL SOCIETY

Three Oxford dons very kindly offered to come and talk to the Society this term. On May 7th Professor Sheppard Frere gave a fascinating talk on the Roman occupation of Britain, illustrated by copious slides of his own; an energetic and enthusiastic lecturer, he helped various members to see the subject in a new light. On May 9th Mr Jasper Griffin of Balliol spoke on the gods in Homer, a topic chosen by the Society with an eye on the 'A' Level syllabus. On May 14th Mr Peter Brown of Trinity spoke on Roman Comedy; this talk too had a special reference to one of the current 'A' Level topics, on which Mr Brown produced some helpful information despite his declared nervousness in facing such an audience.

B. S. STEPHAN

THE GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

There were three meetings last term of this Society; the first, on February 4th by Commander Burley, the School Bursar, was a most interesting lecture about the expedition he led to South Georgia. The second, by Ronald Berry on "New Towns", more directly related to "the syllabus", was very informative on a controversial topic. The third meeting was a Lower Sixth Geography Conference at Banbury on "The Problems of Rural Areas".

This term, there has been one meeting at which Dr A. Lemon from Mansfield College, Oxford spoke on "Apartheid in South Africa".

There are still, however, many geographers who should, but do not bother to, attend those meetings on subjects "outside their syllabus". This is surely a mistake, for it is precisely those meetings, drawing their attention to issues that they have probably never considered before, that are potentially the most valuable to them.

ROBERT KINGAN

GEOGRAPHY FIELD COURSE 1975

This year's Geography Field Course was in Somerset for a week in April. Twenty-six sixth formers travelled to the Leonard Wills Field Centre at Nettlecombe Court. Nettlecombe Court is a large country house and was full of students from other schools. The building was unheated apart from two large fires in the dining and common rooms, but fortunately there were plenty of blankets (and a few far-sighted members had brought their own hot water bottles).

Those who travelled down by minibus undertook the first field study on Dundry Hill. It was not a complete success as the trip coincided with a blizzard which obliterated the features to be studied. Thereafter, the weather improved and the studies consequently became more enjoyable. An intensive week's work included urban studies within Taunton and surrounding villages. Observations were made of village morphology and Taunton's spheres of influence. A survey

of land-use in the Southern Mendips was made and the party also visited Cheddar Gorge. What was visible of the Gorge rock structure, beneath the masses of tourists, ice-creams and orange peel, was extremely interesting.

Other studies included coastal geomorphology and fluvial geomorphology. Hydrology studies were especially absorbing and two people fell in.

A most enjoyable and instructive time was had by all, thanks to Mr Foster, Mr Atkinson and Mr Morris.

CAITLIN MITCHELL

THE GEOLOGISTS

The Spring Field Course was based on the University of Exeter once more, from 21st-26th March. The party was able to build up a good picture of the geology of the surrounding area, visiting such places as Dartmoor (Hay Tor, Warren Inn Mines, etc.), the coastal sections near Torquay, various quarries around Okehampton, and a cave research centre at Buckfastleigh.

M. WALDMAN

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

There have been three meetings of the Historical Society since the last appearance of *The Stoic*. Dr Christopher Holdsworth of University College, London, spoke to us about "Contemporary Views of the Norman Conquest". The Normans were enthusiastic about their own achievement. The Anglo-Saxons attributed their defeat to a divine judgment on "the sins of the people". Writers in the rest of Europe paid little heed to events in England, "situated, as it were, on the edge of the world".

Our next speaker was Mr David Jones, who taught at Stowe in the Lent Term of 1974 when Mr Arnold was away in Cambridge, and who is now himself in Cambridge teaching at the Perse School. He told us about "Trotsky as Prisoner, Exile, and Emigré". "For universities," Trotsky once said, "I had prison, Siberia, and exile," and Mr Jones showed us how this rather unusual university education influenced Trotsky's development as a thinker and as a revolutionary.

Dr Henry Mayr-Harting, Fellow of St Peter's College, Oxford, spoke to us about Thomas Becket, who was, he suggested, more concerned with the rights of Canterbury than with those of the Pope or those of the English Church. It was this, far more than the issue of criminous clerks, which produced the quarrel with Henry II. St Hugh of Lincoln could deal with Henry II with a joke. But Becket was a typically unrelaxed twelfth-century careerist cleric, and he eventually irritated and provoked the king to the point at which the king had him killed.

SIMON GORNALL

THE MODERN LANGUAGE SOCIETY

This term we have only had time to arrange two meetings for the Society. Our first meeting was a talk by an undergraduate at Oxford, Chris Day, on all aspects of the life of a student of Modern Languages at Oxford, both academic and otherwise. Our second meeting took the form of the showing of Molière's "Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme", an excellent film which was much enjoyed by everyone. Both the French and German departments of the Middle and Lower Sixth made use of various theatres in Oxford. Visits were made to "Don Juan", and "Le Cid" on the French side, while the Germanists saw a production of "Romulus der Grosse" by Dürrenmatt. This has been a busy term because of the rapidly approaching exams but one much enjoyed by the modern linguists.

J. A. BENNETTS
CHARLES RITCHIE

THE SPANISH SOCIETY

The Society was particularly active during the Spring term. In January, the Rt Revd William Flag, President of the Anglican Council of South America, gave a slide-illustrated talk on Latin America, with particular reference to the position of the Indian in modern society, and to the rôle of the Anglican Church in improving his standard of life. South America was the theme again a month later when members heard Oxford student Nicholas Drayson talking about the social and political situation in the continent, illustrating his lecture with extracts from Latin American literature and music. The geographical features were emphasised by a series of excellent slides brought along by John Palmer, who, like Nicholas had spent a year in Latin America, as part of his Spanish course at Oxford.

Various visits to London were also made during the term, firstly to a performance by the Spanish Society at King's College of Buero Vallejo's play 'La Madrugada'. The London and Home Counties Branch of the Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese organised three events in which Stowe boys participated. The first, a sixth form conference held at Ealing Technical College, featured lectures on Spain and Latin America, and a series of discussion groups. In March, eight boys took part in a Verse and Prose Speaking competition in which two of them, Jonathan Cattle and André Groeneveld, did particularly well. At the end of term, members helped to organise the annual 'Fiesta Hispánica' of the A.T.S.P. held at Queen Mary College.

The Spring term also saw the production of the fifth edition of the Society's magazine *Enfoque*, and editors Christopher Howse and Christopher Peto are to be congratulated on managing to maintain the usual high standard of the publication.

Two meetings have been arranged so far this term. Sixth Form members attended an excellent production of Lope de Vega's classic play 'The Voice of the People' (Fuenteovejuna) in Brackley, and an informal meeting was held at Mr Mee's house in Dadford, when Fernando and Rebeca Vega, two Mexicans at present living in Oxford, spoke to the Society about their country. The evening ended with members *attempting* to sing a series of Mexican songs, guitar accompaniment being provided by the Vegas' friend, Jorge.

D. J. MEE

THE DEBATING SOCIETY

Since the last issue there have been two meetings of the Society, both last term. One meeting is planned for the end of this term, after exams.

The first meeting last term met on 16th February on the motion that: "This House believes that money is the root of all evil", with the Secretary, in the absence of the Chairman, Mr Arnold, in the chair. The motion was proposed by Christopher Peto and Rajiv Bendre, and opposed by Jonathan Kreeger and Paul Salmon. When a vote was taken, one person voted for the motion, sixteen people against, with five abstentions.

The second meeting was a balloon debate won overwhelmingly by Andrew Falcon as Mr Marcuse with 64 out of 82 votes recorded. The result perhaps shows a reassuring support for the School staff.

ROBERT KINGAN

THE FILM SOCIETY

The Spring Term provided four showings for the Film Society this year, in which five films were shown.

"Le Boucher", Claude Chabrol's brutal and tense thriller, drew mixed reactions from the audience, some complaining of a lack of "point" to it. This criticism, however, was not levelled at the next film, Ingmar Bergman's "Hour of the Wolf", a typical Bergman vehicle which merely baffled most of the audience. The depressing tone of it certainly got through, with all the Bergman tricks to hand.

'I Never Sang For My Father', at the other end of the scale, was a fine American Film that was readily appreciated, with excellent performances from Gene Hackman and Melvyn Douglas.

To close the season, an early Polanski short (fifteen minute) film, "Two Men and a Wardrobe", a remarkable allegory, and "Horse Feathers", a classic Marx Brothers comedy (which replaced "Duck Soup"), were shown. "Horse Feathers" was particularly well received.

Our thanks to Mr Juneman and Mr Bennetts for their continued interest. If a comment on the audience should be made, it should be one of disappointment that certain members of the School behave in a manner that can only spoil the films for those who genuinely want to see the films presented.

JONATHAN KREEGER

THE POLITICAL CLUB

Although the Political Club has lost many of its speakers due to a general election, a referendum and frequent three line whips, this year has been a very significant one in the Political Club's short life.

The guest at our first meeting was Douglas Hurd, C.B.E., the Conservative M.P. for Mid-Oxon. Before his election to Parliament at last year's February General Election, he had been Mr Heath's Private Secretary during his time as Prime Minister. He informed us of what his job at Downing Street entailed. He informed us that he did not have as great an influence on the government as his opposite number Baroness Falkender (better known as Mrs Marcia Williams) has today.

The Political Club has a reputation of being rather Right-wing in outlook. To remove this reputation the Club had as its guest Robin Garrett, a member of the Communist Party of Great Britain. He spent his speech telling us where we were going wrong, but failed to produce any viable alternatives. It was interesting to hear that the Communists, like the Conservatives, feel the Social Contract not to be worth the paper it is written on. He was also very much against the Common Market.

At our final meeting of the year, we were privileged to have as our guest the Right Honourable Reginald Maudling, the Conservative M.P. for Chipping Barnet and former Deputy Prime Minister, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Home Secretary. Apart from telling us that Mr Heath would probably win the following Tuesday's ballot for the Conservative Party leadership, he spoke to us on the sovereignty of parliament, the Common Market, inflation, and industrial relations. This meeting was held in the Roxburgh Hall and as on all such occasions, there was a large number of questions. Within two weeks of leaving Stowe Mr Maudling was back on the Conservative front bench as opposition spokesman for foreign and commonwealth affairs. Finally I would like to thank Rajiv Bendre for his work as Secretary, Mr Chapman for his continuing support as President, and the Headmaster for his help and hospitality.

PAUL SALMON (*Chairman*)

THE NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

It is always difficult to judge the Society when one is in the midst of it, but nevertheless the last two terms show no decline in enthusiasm. Perhaps there is a slight lack of individual projects although moles, snakes, pondlife and moths have all made their appearance in the Biology labs.

The Easter term is more suitable for expeditions when there are no exams and an interesting outing was made to the Ouse Washes and another to Len Hill's Birdland. This term Mr Marcuse has taken a select few to Salcey Forest.

The Grebe, the eighth issue, sold out on Speech Day after the departure of the Reprographic Centre staff to hospital had put its appearance in doubt. We are very grateful to Mr and Mrs Dobinson for all the time they gave to rescuing it. A reprint is now needed. It contains a variety of articles and a complete bird list, the first for many years.

The Exhibition this term was considered the best for a number of years and a very obliging mole allowed James Hanks to win first prize. Iain Campbell and myself came second with a display of ferns and Peter Neufeld's snakes and Henry Worsley's birdboxes came equal third. The Duckery gang and their goslings are to be commended for their ambitious exhibit.

Thursday Society meetings went well through the winter under William Cubitt and we have had a number of interesting films including "The Living River" and a very controversial "doom-type" one "Due to lack of interest tomorrow has been cancelled". Last term Professor A. d'A. Bellairs (T 1935) gave an extraordinarily concise lecture on Reptiles. Talks from within the Society have included myself talking on pollution, Richard Lord on Bees, Angus Green on Ferrets and Mr Lloyd on Local Nature Conservation.

Monday extras thrive even with a few slightly bored characters who have spent two terms wondering what to do with it! Some members have been hard at work controlling the grey squirrel population which is such a threat to Stowe's young trees. Next term we plan a major fund raising event in support of the County Naturalists' Trust appeal.

In a time when a realisation of the threats to our environment is so important, a Society such as ours provokes boys into learning something of the world around them and its fragile system. Such knowledge can only lead to an awareness of a delicate problem—on this we can and are acting.

CHARLES SHACKLETON

NATURE RESERVE

Our main task during the last two terms has been the construction of a woodland ride through most of the Paper Mill Spinney. This has involved much sawing, root clearing and burning. Due to the very wet weather last term the burning had to be put off until this but two enormous bonfires soon sorted out the problem. We now have a proper route for future timber extraction and hope that letting more light in will produce more typical woodland plants along the ride margin.

In between the floods in February and March we cut much of one side of the reed bed. The subsequent growth has been most vigorous and thus has provided more cover. The reeds were bundled up and used to help construct a covered approach to a hide at the nearby Wildfowl Refuge at Foxcote Reservoir.

An emergency repair job was done on the overspill from the lake which had developed a leak underneath the concrete. This has only been partly successful and more drastic action will be needed in the future.

Shortage of time has forced us to accept the use of some chemicals in the reserve at last. The bases of the young hedges and the young shrubs have been treated with Grammoxone. This has saved hours of time wasting and very boring weeding. For the second year we have sprayed a small experimental area of one of the fields with a growth retardant. This technique may yet be used on other areas of the School's grassland.

This term's Field Day was spent doing some fencing on the County Trust's reserve in Salcey Forest and we have also helped with the new Duckery. Thus our conservation work has covered a wide range of projects.

JAMES HANKS

THE FORESTERS

Since Christmas the main effort of the Foresters has gone into completing the eastern part of the Jubilee Avenue. In spite of the incessant rain the old stumps were just got rid of by the end of the season and the ground was made ready for planting. Plane trees now stretch along the terrace walk from Venus to Friendship (with a break between the Lake Pavilions) and the southern edge of Bridgeman's lay-out is again taking shape.

On the North Front two more of Bridgeman's ancient trees near the Habernacle have had to be felled, and the days must be numbered for the only one still left. Since almost a foot of spoil excavated from the swimming pool had been spread over the slope to the east of the road, we were able to dig round one of the beech trees and two other smaller trees, so that they could be cut below ground level and cause mowers no further trouble. But the second beech was the other side of the road on the edge of the lawn, and its stump is so massive and tough that demolition will be hard work.

Elsewhere the foresters have done several useful but unspectacular jobs. Among other things they have finished off trimming the plantation in the Grecian Valley, trimmed some of the ornamental thorns by the running track, and cleared the undergrowth from the top of the Grotto so that Tom Hearn can start repair work there.

John Prestwood, our oldest surviving member, leaves this term. He brought an apparently inexhaustible supply of vehicles and mechanical ingenuity to bear on forestry matters. We shall miss his help.

G. B. CLARKE

THE DUCKERY

The construction of the new duckery is in full swing. Official approval by the Landscape Committee was followed by the purchase of some £350 worth of fencing. We have managed to keep the grass in the new area under control while constructing an animal-proof fence around the outside. We are most grateful to both Mr Martin and Mr Head for all their help. In particular the School's digger has been indispensable.

Our breeding work has met with some success. Two goose eggs out of three hatched although one gosling only has survived, progeny of the remaining members of the old Chandos collection. All the Mallard eggs we collected hatched leaving us with a dozen healthy ducklings to form a nucleus of the new collection. Some of these have been pinioned but some are free to leave when they can fly. We hope to encourage birds to wander from the pen and hopefully return for food and shelter when needed.

The project is a part of the Natural History Society. There is plenty of work to be done by anyone interested in keeping wildfowl. They have only to see me or Mr Lloyd whose continuing support is much valued.

TIMOTHY MALLET

FLY-TYING

After a hiatus of many years a fly-tying group has been started as a Monday extra. The activity has been well supported over the last two terms by a number of enthusiasts with varying degrees of experience and expertise in this craft including several complete novices.

The group is not formally taught, but members tend to help each other with the basic skills and advice and textbooks are always available.

J. W. M. Ritchie and M. A. Koska are to be complimented on their fine exhibition and "Flies tied while you wait" stall in the Natural History Exhibition on Speech Day.

M. WALDMAN

THE TROUT HATCHERY

This has been the Trout Hatchery's most successful year and the results are very pleasing. We have 25 brown trout in a wooden trough measuring nine inches. Hopefully next year, we shall achieve our objective and be able to breed from these fish, thus completing the cycle from ova to mature fish.

We have also about 2,000 rainbow trout fry in the trays. These fish have done well this term since the mortality rates have been moderate due to the coolish spell in early summer (the heat factor being our main worry). These fish are now one inch and a half long.

Due to exams the hatchery has been slightly neglected this term, however at Christmas we hope to construct another wooden trough for the rainbow fry. We shall then be able to accommodate fish of all stages in their cycle.

As always, we are indebted to Mr Lloyd and Mr Dobinson for their invaluable help during the holidays.

MATTHEW YORKE

THE BRIDGE CLUB

The Bridge Club has had a very successful season under the enthusiastic and zestful guidance of Mr Juneman to whom much credit is due.

The senior team finished the season unbeaten with victories over St Edward's, Uppingham, Harrow, The Leys and University College School from London. The Junior team beat St Edward's and University College School, and lost to Harrow.

In the County events, we started the season by playing in an Under Fifty Master Points Competition in Slough. Davies and Siddiqi did exceptionally well to finish eighth out of a field of fifty. In February we competed in the Bucks and Berks Schoolboys Pairs, but we could not repeat last year's performance and retain our hold on the cup; Durdin and Paine finished fourth and Gray and Rose fifth. But in the Oxfordshire Schoolboys event in early March, Stowe took the first four places in the persons of Lord and Siddiqi, Gray and Rose, Durdin and Paine, and Freeman and Coates respectively.

In the *Daily Mail* Cup, Stowe at last managed to progress past the qualifying round and got to the semi-finals, where the team played below par and narrowly missed qualifying for the finals. The team was Butt, Gray, Rose and Siddiqi.

The two House Cups were both won by Chandos. Butt and Siddiqi won the Pairs Cup in the Christmas term, and a team of Butt, Coates, Freeman and Siddiqi won the team of four Cup in the Easter Term.

Paine and Durdin won the Under 16 Pairs Cup at the end of the Easter Term, and this was just reward for a very good season's Bridge. Wood and Zoghbi were second and Macleod and Maynard third.

Paul Salmon in his year as Captain did not enjoy as much success as the previous year. This was mainly due to the fact he had three different partners throughout the year, and never really settled down. But he was a help in nursing our younger players.

JONATHAN ROSE

The following represented the School at Bridge this year: M. R. Banister (B), G. G. F. Barwood (G), A. J. S. Black (L), N. A. G. Butt (C), N. A. Coates (C), P. M. Cooper (C), M. D. M. Davies (T), T. N. F. Durdin (B), E. R. Freeman (C), N. H. J. Gray, ma. (C), D. R. Hinds (T), J. N. Hollond (L), R. D. Lord (T), I. A. W. Nasatir (B), G. G. R. Paine (T), F. S. Polad (L), J. H. Rose (Sec.) (L), P. B. Salmon (Capt.) (G), F. Siddiqi (C), T. P. H. Stephens (L):

STOWE SOCIETY OF CHURCH BELL-RINGERS

These last two terms have been varied. There is some avid enthusiasm amongst the younger members, and it is a great shame that we are unable to teach them the arts of change ringing as this requires expert tuition, something which we find extremely difficult to organize around the School curriculum.

We would like to thank all the Yates family, particularly William and Richard Yates, who have tried to give time to our learning, similarly to Lawrence Gibson whose efforts have meant ringing on days when it would otherwise have been impossible because of exams and consequently a shortage of able bell-ringers.

Thanks also to the members of the School and the parishioners who bear our efforts with remarkable resilience.

JOHN SMITH

ZYMASE

The Winemaking Society has been very active this year, and a lot of variation has been achieved. Along with the usual orange, elderflower, and elderberry, there has been a number of members engaged in making coffee and lemon wine.

Although the number of 'Brews' is still quite high, the actual quantity of wine produced has dropped quite alarmingly. This is almost entirely due to the increased cost of making the wine. On Speech Day, an exhibition was set up in the Biology Laboratories, where parents were invited, at their own risk, to try some of the wines made during the year. This was a success and a large amount of wine was consumed.

JAMES ROWNTREE

C.C.F.

Since the last report there have been two Camps, two Field Days, a Tri-Service Day, and Annual Inspection, as well as normal training. So life has been a little busy at times in the Armoury.

The first camp was Adventurous Training in the Lake District, under the command of Captain Mullineux. For the second year running we made use of the hut at Ambleside and the programme as well as the normal hill-walking and camping, included some rock-climbing, for which Mr Wild joined Mr Mullineux as instructor. The other addition to last year's routine was rain and snow, which provided a sharp lesson to one or two in the necessity of keeping one's gear under cover when camping.

The other camp was with the 16th/5th Lancers in Germany. This regiment has several Old Stoics in it and the camp party was looked after chiefly by C. R. Orr Ewing (C) the Assistant Adjutant, and A. P. L. Trevorrow (T) who was appointed liaison officer for the visit. A full programme was laid on including visits to regiments of other N.A.T.O. nations, and tours of local places of industry and leisure.

The Tri-Services Day, which was organised by Ministry of Defence, took place in Arch Piece on 14th May. All branches of the armed forces took part in the static display and there was a large number of Stoic officers present. The arena displays included a demonstration in the Octagon by the Royal Marines S.B.S., the 7th R.H.A. going into action and shelling the South Front, with blank ammunition, flying displays by a Puma and a Harrier, free-fall parachuting by the Red Devils and, to end the afternoon, a magnificent show of aerobatics by the Red Arrows.

As they disappeared the rain, which had been threatening for some time, started falling very heavily, and the 600 Stoics and some 800 or more visitors from as far as Rugby hurriedly left the scene of a memorable afternoon.

Annual Inspection was carried out on 28th May by Air Vice-Marshal D. G. Evans, C.B.E., Air Officer Commanding No. 1 Group, who brought with him Sq-Ldr S. M. D. Williamson-Noble (T 1961) as P.S.O. and Flt-Lieut. R. G. A. Westlake (B 1970) as A.D.C. As a result of the smaller contingent the form of the Inspection has been altered, so the Inspecting Officer arrives just before lunch and is greeted by a small Guard of Honour on the North Front. The rest of the contingent parades after lunch for a normal, but slightly lengthened, training parade whilst the rest of the School attends afternoon school. This represents a great change from a few years ago when 400 cadets fell in on the South Front for a full ceremonial parade, but is, I believe, not only more sensible in the term of G.C.E. exams but also a true reflection that the C.C.F. is far less of a blanco, brasso and bullies' organisation than many believe.

M. J. FOX

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD SCHEME

January saw an unprecedented increase in our numbers to the maximum of 55, so we were delighted that A.J.W. and J.B.D. joined the permanent staff party. This should give J.B.D. more time to cope with the unenviable task of running the stores and A.J.W. a chance to pass on his mountaineering expertise.

We took the hordes to the Chilterns for the March Field Day and much appreciated the facilities made available to us at Green Park by the Buckinghamshire Education Committee. Several groups were surprised by the difficulty of route finding in 'easy' country in fine weather. One experienced Silver party was delayed on both days by inadvertent second visits to publess villages.

The June Field Day in the Peak District produced more wintry conditions, with a brisk north-easterly wind and snow showers. Groups were adequately tested by the weather for their expeditions in the Lake District at the end of term.

Plans for the Summer Camp at Loweswater are well advanced, with some reconnaissance having been carried out before Easter. We look forward to some good walking, fishing, canoeing, climbing and Eskdale railwaying, W:P.

G. M. HORNBY

SPORT

RUGBY FOOTBALL

HOUSE MATCHES

SENIOR

Bruce gained a place in the Final for the seventh year out of the last eight but only by narrow margins against both Walpole and Temple; Walpole all but scored a winning try in the last minutes during great pressure, while Temple with a strong pack were leading Bruce until the last five minutes. Cobham on the other hand had disposed of Chandos and Grafton by decisive scores.

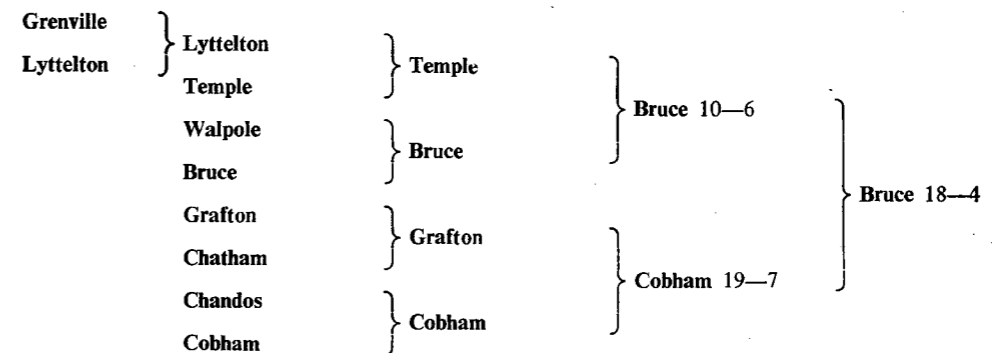
Bruce took an invaluable early lead when Paterson in his recently adopted position of full-back unexpectedly emerged from a maul to run in a try; after further pressure down the hill Bruce scored again—a throw to the back of the line-out found Kelway unmarked and he plunged over. Neither try was converted but Carnegie-Arbuthnott kicked a penalty to give Bruce a half-time lead that looked barely sufficient.

The first ten minutes of the second half seemed to indicate that all was by no means over. Cobham pressure was rewarded by Staheyeff forcing his way over the line following a tap penalty. However Cobham never used their ball effectively and Salour never had any room to run in. Gradually the Bruce pack won more ball in the loose as well as from Forbes Adam's hooking; their chief threat was always Carnegie-Arbuthnott at scrum-half who constantly made ground with strong breaks. He kicked another penalty to tilt the game towards Bruce and then took a quick tap penalty to dive over for a try which he converted, giving Bruce a somewhat flattering margin of victory. Overall, the experience of Bruce's seven 1st XV members and Hydleman's sensible direction won the day, although Cobham defended spiritedly, Browne in particular getting through a great deal of hard tackling.

Teams:

Bruce: J. P. Paterson, C. F. Villiers, ma., L. J. Hydleman (Capt.), C. J. Terrett, R. T. Lewis, D. A. Bowman, ma., H. J. Carnegie-Arbuthnott, N. T. Campbell, ma., C. D. Forbes Adam, ma., A. J. Highwood, W. M. Graham, R. L. Law, S. D. Kelway, T. J. Rollit Mason, J. L. Young.

Cobham: L. E. O'Brien, A. R. D. Hobbs, D. C. H. Taylor, N. G. M. Salour, J. R. C. Harris, ma., M. A. N. Tomlin, B. N. Singh, R. G. Simpson, P. J. A. Rhodes, T. S. Bradley-Williams, M. J. T. Reaney, N. P. Staheyeff, S. J. Browne (Capt.), P. M. Hugill, N. R. Elmslie.



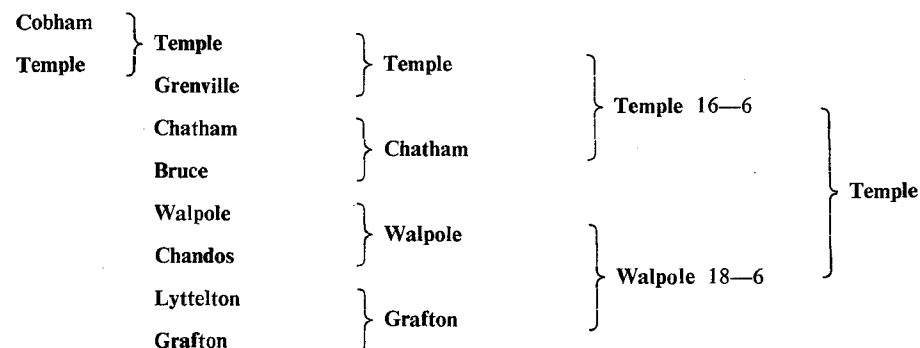
JUNIOR

The all-round strength of the Temple side helped them to amass a convincing number of points in the earlier rounds as well as putting out Chatham, another fancied side. In the Final, while Scowsill and the Temple outsiders were well matched by the strong running of Green and Ward, the Temple pack gained a clear control with Williams-Ellis and Barratt especially lively, helped by Walpole's ill-fortune in being without Cliff-Hodges on the day.

Teams:

Temple: H. M. Lloyd, ma., P. S. Marsh, mi., I. L. Park, J. M. Scowsill, mi., C. P. M. Douglas, J. P. Hunt, C. J. Rowntree, S. L. M. Hall, C. J. Pooler, D. H. M. Williams-Ellis, N. J. C. Harkness, F. D. Egerton, A. R. Bird, J. A. Barratt, mi., D. K. Mumby, mi.

Walpole: E. St J. Hall, P. D. Weintraub, R. P. E. Carr, A. P. Ward, mi., A. J. Shepherd-Barron, mi., J. W. Green, mi. (Capt.), M. J. P. Horlock, mi., R. C. Divall, J. W. Palmer, ma. M. N. Garnett, S. H. Gregory, P. M. Brocklebank, A. E. Zambellas, mi., R. D. J. C. Chetwynd, P. W. Durrant, Also played: M. B. A. Cliff Hodges.



SEVEN A SIDE RUGBY

The School VII lost their chance of an early work-out when the Buckinghamshire County Sevens were cancelled because of heavy rain; indeed much of the practice work had to be done under inclement conditions even at the end of term. At Oxford, Oxford School and Lord William's, Thame were safely disposed of but St Joseph's Academy proved to be too much of a handful; the tournament gave some useful practice before the side went to Roehampton on the Monday. There the VII did well in their 'pool' of the Festival Sevens to beat three out of four of their opponents, including Marlborough, and losing only to the eventual winners, Mount St Mary's. Hydeleyman's strong running and tackling were always an asset and Bowman supplied some deft touches, but all in all the encouraging feature was the spirit with which all the team competed.

Team: J. H. S. Macquaker, L. J. Hydeleyman, D. A. Bowman, ma., A. J. Henry (Capt.), M. A. Knight, J. M. Bray or S. D. Kelway, T. J. Rollit Mason.

Rosslyn Park Results:

v. Eltham	Won	18—0
v. Marlborough	Won	6—4
v. Mount St Mary's	Lost	4—28
v. Bearwood	Won	30—0

B. H. MEAD

1ST XV RUGBY FIXTURES 1975

Sat.,	September 20	v. Old Stoics	Home
Tues.,	September 30	v. Eton	Away
Sat.,	October 4	v. Mill Hill	Away
Sat.,	October 11	v. Oakham	Home
Tues.,	October 14	v. Radley	Away
Sat.,	October 18	v. Bedford	Home
Sat.,	November 1	v. Cheltenham	Home
Sat.,	November 8	v. Rugby	Home
Sat.,	November 15	v. R.L.S. Buckingham	Home
Sat.,	November 22	v. Oundle	Away
Thurs.,	November 27	v. St Edward's	Home

HOCKEY

THE FIRST XI

If the 1975 season is to be remembered at all it is likely to be on account of the appalling weather conditions that rendered it the season that never was. A few bare statistics tell the sorry tale.

Fifty-six matches were cancelled during the course of the term.

The grass pitches were available for worthwhile practice sessions on fewer than six occasions.

Any number of boys particularly in the lower part of the school played virtually no hockey at all.

Not a single school match at 1st XI level could be played at Stowe.

Thus perhaps the season is best forgotten, but before it is, it should be understood that Stowe will not continue as a top hockey playing school unless an all-weather playing surface is provided. Five or six of the schools we regularly play are equipped with hard pitches as are all four of the schools we met at the Oxford Festival. If we are to compete against other schools on level terms then it is clear that we must be provided with the necessary facilities. This has been a season of severe frustration for hockey players of all ages.

It is hardly surprising then that the First XI had a disappointing time. With so few matches and virtually no chance to practise, to train or to perfect the basic and essential skills of the game the side failed to develop any momentum, and there was an understandable but distressing lack of spirit. This partly explained the rather "wooden" unexciting performances that were produced. I do not think it was a coincidence that the best games were played against Mill Hill at the end of the term, and against Tonbridge at the very end of the hockey festival at Oxford. On these occasions the team played with vigour and not a little skill, and it was possible to detect a more enthusiastic approach appearing in the play. However, it is obvious that this happened far too late to alter the balance of the already ruined season.

The results reflect all this. Both drawn games (against Radley and Dean Close) might well have been won for Stowe played reasonably well on both occasions once they had become used to the conditions, and the characteristics of the all-weather surfaces. The matches against The Leys and Mill Hill were closely fought affairs, as the score-lines suggest but Stowe deserved to win both—perhaps by more convincing margins. Magdalen College School were too good for us this year and their 3—1 win was fully merited.

As captain and centre-half Corbett was very much the king pin of the side. He has outstanding ability as a player—being very secure in the tackle, possessing a wonderful eye and sense of timing and yet he has not yet learned to make the most of his talents. A team game like hockey demands that all players give as much to it as they expect to receive—rather more if anything.

There is no limit to what Corbett can achieve in the game if he can approach it more generously and with more wholehearted enthusiasm. Hayward is another player of considerable ability. He was a tower of strength both in defence and with his occasional penetrating runs upfield. His clean striking and resourceful play earned the plaudits of several good judges, and with his splendid attitude and willingness to learn could also go a long way in the game.

Ward provided the team's main strike force but too often found it necessary to go it alone. Wadsworth as a bustling right wing did many useful things and wasn't used enough. The young players in the side will it is hoped have learned much from the experience and it will be up to them to provide the drive and skill upon which next year's XI will be founded. Pearch in goal, with much valued advice from Harry Cahill, became the most improved player in the XI. His quick reflexes and steady kicking saved the side on many occasions.

In 1976 the school will face an enormous challenge. Our reputation has taken a severe knock and much hard work and dedication will be necessary to re-establish the former situation when hockey XI's were greatly respected. Not only must those contending for places face up to their responsibilities but there must be no repeat of a new and disquietening attitude that has appeared for the first time. There has been a thoroughly disappointing lack of interest from a few senior boys who could well have competed for places in this year's 1st XI. This selfish and unacceptable attitude from a handful of boys who expect everything to be laid on according to their own wishes does no credit to those concerned. In my view it is an arrogant and immature approach which does nothing to help the school's hockey or our overall reputation. Let it not become a fashion to turn one's back on a challenge.

J. S. M. MORRIS

First XI: T. M. Corbett (Capt.) (⊕), J. M. Hayward (Hon. Sec.) (⊕), C. F. Pearch (⊕), C. M. Johnstone (C), R. A. Brown (W), J. R. Wadsworth (L), J. H. G. Carr, ma. (C), D. J. M. Ward, ma. (W), T. P. H. Stephens (L), P. Rivalland (C), N. S. Vans Agnew (T), D. C. W. Horlock, ma. (W).

Also played: R. W. Knight-Bruce (C), C. D. M. Hughes (G), D. G. G. Carr, mi. (C), M. J. Richards (W).

Results:	v. Bradfield	(at Stowe)	Cancelled
	v. Dean Close	(on their hard pitch)	Drawn 1—1
	v. The Leys		Won 1—0
	v. Aldenham	(at Stowe)	Cancelled
	v. Radley	(on their hard pitch)	Drawn 0—0
	v. M.C.S. Oxford		Lost 1—3
	v. Wellington	(at Stowe)	Abandoned
	v. Pangbourne	(at Stowe)	Cancelled
	v. St Edward's, Oxford	(at Stowe)	Cancelled
	v. Mill Hill	(on their hard pitch)	Won 1—0
	v. Old Stoics	(at Stowe)	Cancelled

Oxford Hockey Festival:

v. Canford	Lost 1—2
v. Cheltenham	Won 1—0
v. Monkton Combe	Drawn 1—1
v. Tonbridge	Lost 0—2

THE SECOND XI

All those concerned with 2nd XI hockey this year have contributed considerably to the social enjoyment of the game but proved less successful in showing how hockey should be played. Individually there was a fair talent which promised a good season but collectively the side rarely worked as a unit and their play seemed more of a disjointed battle than a flowing victory.

Early on in the term we lost the valuable services of Horlock and Carr to the 1st XI and gained Hughes and Knight-Bruce. For all but one game the captain was Hill whose obvious skill made him a class above his contemporaries and any of the opposition; however one man cannot win matches. In the defence we had the determined stride of Richardson who was always

alert and rarely wrong footed. Richards at right back had speed and drive but was too ambitious at times, and Douglas at left back played solidly throughout; he is a good timer of a tackle. Sethi joined the side late on and showed in defence that he could hit the ball hard out of trouble. The half back line was dominated by the positioning and control of Hill who saved many possible disasters in our own half, and created an equal number of scoring chances near the opposition's circle. He was supported by Harland on the right who was courageous but too wild and by Rolls on the left who gave of his best but needed to concentrate when under pressure. The forwards presented a disappointment in failing to combine their speed and experience and translating these into goals. Bowman worked hard but his finishing was infrequent; Young showed some accuracy in passing and showed some accuracy in passing; Parker was enthusiastic but lacked the necessary control; Knight-Bruce played effectively when in possession of the ball but his supporting play was slow; Hughes, the fastest runner, created so many opportunities but threw them away through missing the final pass or shot at goal. Johnstone played for the team early on in the term with spirit and effort although he needs to gain more experience.

The results were a fair reflection on the ability of a team who were on top most of the time but who never pressed home their advantages when it mattered most.

J. M. LARCOMBE

Team from: S. N. B. Richardson (L), M. J. Richards (W), S. J. F. Douglas (W), A. Sethi (L), P. J. B. Harland (W), V. W. R. Hill (G), C. T. Rolls (L), D. A. Bowman, ma. (B), M. S. Parker (C), C. D. M. Hughes (B), F. J. Johnstone (L), R. Knight-Bruce (C), J. L. Young (B).

Results:	v. Dean Close	Away	Won	1—0
	v. The Leys	Away	Drawn	1—1
	v. M.C.S. Oxford	Home	Lost	1—4
	v. Wellington	Home	Drawn	3—3

THE SIXTY

The Spring term of 1975 was one of the wettest on record and the Sixty were plagued with match cancellations throughout the term. Only three games were played and the team had little chance to develop. The 3rd XI looked a useful unit with a powerful defence including W. M. Graham in goal and A. Sethi and A. S. Marsh as dependable and hard hitting backs. In the half back line N. A. G. Butt played well along with P. C. A. Grint and S. C. Fraser. Although the forwards had little opportunity to display good stick work due to the continually sticky conditions M. P. Patel impressed with his powerful shots at goal and C. L. Halvorsen and C. P. J. Wightman provided excellent linking with the half backs.

The three matches that were played were all close wins and we can only hope that in the very near future we shall have an all-weather pitch which will allow us to play many more matches, and let a potentially good team develop to a better standard.

J. B. DOBINSON

Team chosen from: W. M. Graham (B), A. Sethi (L), A. S. Marsh, ma. (T), N. A. G. Butt (C), P. C. A. Grint (T), S. C. Fraser (L), M. P. Patel (B), C. L. Halvorsen (G), L. J. Hydleman (B), A. N. Jamieson (G), J. M. Bray (T), M. R. Scantlebury (T), C. P. J. Wightman (C), P. S. C. Wood (⊕), C. J. C. Boardman (B), N. G. M. Salour (C), J. E. Horrocks (⊕).

THE COLTS

The Club can feel well satisfied with the standard of hockey that has been played this season, and the writer has been impressed with the effort and enthusiasm shown by all members. The basic skills, positional play and fitness exercises were largely developed in Six-a-Side practices on the tennis courts. The contrast of playing on a full sized pitch—usually of the heavy grass variety—in the few matches played proved to be a levelling factor against somewhat less able sides. Progress was possibly also inhibited by the coach's insistence that the team play to a "system". This looked good for a time, but it soon became apparent in matches that the full width of the pitch was not being used and that defensive play was less effective than in a conventional formation.

However, tactics aside, considerable individual progress was made. Kelway is obviously going to be a first-class goal keeper, when his backs allow him sight of the ball! This season, Chapman particularly, and Macquaker at full back proved themselves capable of dealing with most opposition attacks. The half-back line and the forwards underwent considerable upheaval in the changes of formation. Carr, a captain who leads by example, and Ward were forced to show the greatest versatility and are clearly most promising all-round players. Scowsill's coolness and efficiency will always find him a place in most half-back lines, especially at left-half, and Duthie's running off the ball and sharp shooting should prove a great asset to next year's senior sides. Other players such as Douglas, Hobson, Holmes, Marsh and Lewis and Bannister have all made their valuable contributions to the high standard of play achieved by the Club this season. The future is bright indeed for all of them—and for Stowe hockey.

C. J. G. ATKINSON

Team from: G. D. G. Carr, mi. (Capt.) (C), N. W. A. Bannister (L), N. R. Chapman (L), C. P. M. Douglas (T), N. A. S. Duthie (G), N. M. Hobson (C), S. A. V. Holmes (L), S. D. Kelway (B), R. T. Lewis (B), J. H. S. Macquaker (G), P. S. Marsh, mi. (T), J. M. Scowsill (T), A. P. Ward (W).

THE JUNIOR COLTS

It was a most frustrating season owing to the dreadful weather and the sticky, soggy pitches which resulted. Only five matches were played and two of these in freezing, driving rain which made skilful hockey impossible.

The team was handicapped by a lack of size and speed which made really sharp, incisive hockey out of the question. Skills developed well, however, although the hitting was never as consistent as it might have been. This vital weakness led to much unnecessary extra work as the defence was repeatedly unable to clear the ball sufficiently hard or accurately. The tackling and covering were generally very good but so slow and weak was the distribution that we were often confined to our own half for long periods. The ability to hit the ball quickly to the right would have raised the standard of play so much!

The standard of play throughout the Club was very even. Indeed nineteen players made at least one appearance for the team and there were several others who would not have disgraced themselves. Perhaps mention should be made of a few who played regularly. In goal, Weintraub made many good saves and was usually very safe. He has a tendency to leave his stronger left side open and so he must try to strengthen his right foot. Alder and Moffatt played well at full back and Montgomery is a strong and hard centre-half who could develop into a very rugged and dominating player. James tried very courageously at left-half without having quite the stature for the job.

Among the forwards, Hartley and Bagnall make tremendous efforts but are at present lacking somewhat in basic control; Hayward, Hornor and Barratt could all develop into skilful and effective players. Wigmore too, when he moved forward from the halves, showed that he has the dash and control to become a dangerous forward in the years ahead.

Altogether then this was a most pleasant and co-operative group of boys who while not setting the world alight with their results this year, have the ability to perform with some distinction in the future.

P. R. BOWDEN

A. G. MEREDITH

The following played for the team: P. D. Weintraub (W), A. N. Alder (C), M. J. Moffatt (G), J. Hartley, ma. (C), C. D. Montgomery, ma. (C), P. T. James (C), J. A. Barratt, mi. (T), A. S. B. Hayward (G), C. J. Pooler, mi. (T), N. P. Wigmore (C), P. R. G. Hornor (C), C. S. G. Bagnall (G), N. D. Wright (C), A. W. Serre (C), A. J. Rosssdale (L), S. C. Bowman, mi. (B), N. D. J. Gray, mi. (C), N. E. Luddington (C), S. W. Harries (C).

Results: v. Dean Close	Away	Lost 0—1
v. The Leys	Home	Drew 0—0
v. Radley	Away	Won 1—0
v. Magdalen College School	Home	Lost 1—4
v. Pangbourne	Away	Drew 1—1

THE UNDER-FOURTEEN IX

This was potentially a very good team indeed, and it was most unfortunate that the weather prevented a full programme of matches being played. The members of the team were prepared to practise on any dry surface that could be found, and to play matches in any conditions whatsoever! During the term five matches were played against Under 14 opponents, and one against a team taking a different qualifying date, and the team won all the matches against similarly aged teams without a goal being scored against them, and this record speaks for itself. The fact that a clean sheet was mentioned means that due credit must be given to the defence. R. B. de A. Moore took over as goalkeeper after the first match, and proved himself both courageous and skilful. The full backs were usually sound, and C. J. Peacock was particularly cool when under pressure and put through a stream of carefully directed passes to the rest of the team, while C. T. Highwood, mi. was very sound in defence and had a fine hit, but occasionally allowed himself to be drawn out of position—but for someone new to the game he showed himself to be clearly a very promising player. A. J. Holland was both centre half and Captain, and he fulfilled this dual function with distinction. He was always to be found encouraging his team, and supporting his defence and the attack. W. P. O'Brien at left half was another one who had not played hockey before, but he soon showed that his natural ability, physical strength, and temperament would be a real asset to any team. He developed a good positional sense, and he became a tower of strength as time went by. The right half position changed hands several times during the season, but J. P. Hunt was particularly effective there until an injury to H. J. Marriott in the forwards meant that he would be even more valuable in the attack. Hunt's determination, courage, anticipation and skill were instrumental in several good goals being scored, while at the same time he covered back intelligently. M. A. Koska at right wing proved himself a fast runner with a good centre, and he also scored some well taken goals himself. Marriott with a heart of immense proportions soon became a useful inside right, but after breaking his collar bone early in the season he was reduced to being a spectator. A. Dawick came in as centre forward late in the term, but improved with every practice and game—although he lacked pace, he made up for this by good anticipation and the ability to pass the ball in any direction, and he scored some well taken goals. M. J. P. Horlock, mi. at inside left scored the most goals for the team. His unorthodox style, stemming from holding the stick in a 'cack handed' way, deceived the opposition and he scored several extremely good goals, but it is to be hoped that he will cultivate a right hand below left hand approach to the game before next season as it is clear that he has considerable talent which earmarks him for a good future in the game. R. C. Appleby played well on the left wing; he ran well with the ball and passed intelligently, and his enthusiasm for the game meant that he improved steadily as time went by. M. P. Staheyeff, mi. played in several positions, but in every match. He was always ready to give his best, and this attitude will ensure that he will find a place in senior hockey in the future. S. C. Andrews was the only other player to play in several matches, and he showed determination and promise. He would have played in more matches if he had read team sheets, and it is to be hoped that he makes this a regular practice in the future as he has aptitude and ability for the game.

In summary it can be said that all the while we have boys of the ability and enthusiasm of this XI, the future of hockey at Stowe is assured.

P. G. LONGHURST

Results: v. Bloxham	Won 3—0
v. Winchester House	Won 6—0
v. Radley	Won 2—0
v. R.G.S. High Wycombe	Won 4—0
v. Pangbourne	Won 2—0

CRICKET

THE FIRST XI

At the time of writing it is still too early to make an accurate assessment of this year's side. A round-up report and full statistical details will appear in the next edition of *The Stoic*. In the meantime the reader may like to pass his own judgment from the following account.

One could not have wished for a more encouraging start than three wins in a row—not only this, but several batsmen were involved in contributing a sizeable number of runs. Singh (39), Carr (38) and Butt (34 n.o.) helped Stowe to 147 and Hayward (3 for 13) and Burton (4 for 47) were mainly responsible for dismissing Buckingham C.C. for 14 in the first match. Three days later Henry (76) and Carr (78 n.o.) contributed to Stowe's total of 207 for 4 declared against Cirencester which was followed by Maitland-Heriot's 7 for 21. The best win of the season was gained at the expense of the Free Foresters who, having scored 209, were overtaken in the final stages of the game due mainly to an opening partnership of 50 followed by a memorable 68 by Wadsworth.

One of the highlights of the year was the visit of Rachel Heyhoe's XI to Stowe. Although their bowling proved to be somewhat on the gentle side (hence an opening partnership of 140 by Hayward and Corbett), their batting showed a technique which was an eye-opener to both Stowe players and spectators!

From here on the sorry tale of the School matches starts. The dismal conditions at St Edward's were underlined by a remarkable batting collapse (41 for 1 was followed by 78 all out). However, excitement followed as St Edward's wickets tumbled in their turn and at 48 for 6 at tea a surprise victory looked possible. But it was not to be. Against Radley, Stowe's 169, of which Hayward scored 84, was not enough, and defeat by 5 wickets came with 10 minutes to go. A stand of 75 by Carr and Henry out of 171 for 9 declared in 3½ hours was not enough against Bedford who proved to be the better side on the day after an opening stand of 133. It was during this match that Hayward was changed for the first time in five months.

Of the other matches played—Stowe were lucky to hold out to a very strong O.U. Authentics XI; did very well to defeat the Stowe Templars on Speech Day; and deservedly earned a draw with the Cryptics.

The season still has some way to go with the climax coming with the "Festival" at The Leys School, Cambridge immediately after the end of term.

C. J. G. ATKINSON

Team from: A. J. Henry (Capt.) (C), J. M. Hayward (Vice-Capt.) (G), R. A. Burton (G), N. A. G. Butt (C), G. D. G. Carr, mi. (C), T. M. Corbett (G), J. R. C. Harris, ma. (C), B. N. Singh (C), T. P. H. Stephens (L), J. R. Wadsworth (L).

Also played: N. A. S. Duthie (G), T. J. Maitland-Heriot (C), C. T. Rolls (L), C. J. Rowntree (T), A. Sethi (L), D. C. H. Taylor (C).

Results so far:

v. Buckingham Won by 43 runs
Stowe 147 (Singh 39; Carr 38; Butt 34)
Buckingham 104 (Hayward 3 for 13; Burton 4 for 49)

v. Cirencester A.C. Won by 96 runs
Stowe 207 for 4 declared (Carr 78 not out; Henry 76)
Cirencester 111 (Maitland-Heriot 7 for 21)

v. Free Foresters Won by 3 wickets
Free Foresters 209
Stowe 212 for 7 (Wadsworth 68; Hayward 47; Corbett 33)

v. Rachel Heyhoe's XI Drawn
Stowe 175 for 2 declared (Hayward 70; Corbett 58)
Rachel Heyhoe's XI 110 for 5

v. St Edward's Lost by 2 wickets
Stowe 78
St Edward's 79 for 8 (Hayward 6 for 31)

v. O.U. Authentics Drawn
Authentics 159 for 6 declared
Stowe 69 for 8

v. Radley Lost by 5 wickets
Stowe 169 (Hayward 84)
Radley 172 for 5

v. Cryptics Drawn
Stowe 174 (Wadsworth 41)
Cryptics 161 for 7 (Hayward 5 for 65)

v. Bedford Lost by 6 wickets
Stowe 171 for 9 declared (Carr 53; Henry 30)
Bedford 172 for 4

THE SECOND XI

Second XI members must have been wondering by the middle of May when the season was really going to begin as the games against Wellingborough and Royal Latin School had been cancelled. However a good win against St Edward's at Oxford certainly lifted the general spirit.

On a very damp pitch St Edward's struggled to 103 for 5 and sportingly declared. Stowe found themselves in the same sort of position with the ball very difficult to get away. The outcome looked to be a disappointing draw under not very pleasant conditions until Patel decided to brighten up the proceedings. Even so, things still got a bit tense with nine runs still wanted for a win at the beginning of the last over. However, he continued to throw bat at ball and with a four over point's head the game was won on the scheduled last ball.

For some strange reason the game against the Templars invariably heralds the "coming out" of one young player. Two years previously A. J. Henry made a fine century and moved immediately to higher things. This season it was the turn of C. J. Rowntree. The Templars batted to 177 for 5 before declaring. Mitchell and Wightman made a good start with an opening stand of 40 but there was still a long way to go. However, Rowntree got down to the job of getting runs; played some very good strokes and won the game with an unbeaten 83.

A limited-over game is designed to obtain a definite result (i.e. one side wins) and in an average school game each side rarely bowls more than 40 overs anyway. This is considered enough for the batting side to amass a good total. Unfortunately, the Stowe team didn't think this to be the case when it batted first against Bedford. All the recognized batsmen tried to hit the ball out of the ground before they were really sighting it and consequently only 84 runs were acquired in 26.4 overs. Bedford got them, not without a little difficulty in 27.2 overs and the Second Eleven returned to Stowe a trifle deflated but a little wiser.

A close look at the wicket for the Bloxham game revealed some green areas on a fairly fast track and J. H. G. Carr did well to put Bloxham in to bat first. Taylor bowled with much ferocity (breaking a stump with his first wicket) and Sugden with frustrating accuracy. It was all too much for the opposition who could only put together 108 runs. A convincing 7-wicket win was brought about by an impressive unbeaten 54 by Duthie and a good supporting innings also, by Taylor.

The games against Oundle are always good contests and if the one this year lacked slightly in lustre on quite a hot day, the finish was nevertheless very exciting. Sugden, Taylor and Lord all bowled well and kept the opposition total to 117. Rowntree and Mitchell started well pushing the score along at a good steady rate. Rowntree did most of the scoring (41 out of 45) but Mitchell did well to keep an end going and then to take over the scoring rôle when Rowntree had gone. There then followed a collapse and what had seemed a very easy score to reach now suddenly seemed a long way away. However Carr and Lewis got together, played themselves in and then went after the runs. The game was won in fine style by a boundary from Carr with one ball to spare.

Thus at the time of writing 4 out of the 5 games played have been won—so the season has gone well so far. Whatever the strengths of the Radley and Mill Hill sides Stowe should be able to fight good contests. Above all else, it is fair to say, all that have played this year will surely have enjoyed their cricket.

M. P. POMPHREY

Team from: J. H. G. Carr, ma. (Capt.) (C), C. J. Rowntree (T), M. P. Patel (B), R. J. C. S. Mitchell (W), N. A. S. Duthie (G), C. P. J. Wightman (C), D. C. H. Taylor (C), G. H. B. Sugden (T), R. T. Lewis (B), C. D. Forbes Adam, ma. (B), C. M. Johnstone (C), R. D. Lord (T), T. J. Maitland-Heriot (C).

Also Played: T. P. H. Stephens (L), A. Sethi (L).

2nd XI Colours Awarded to: J. H. G. Carr, ma., D. C. H. Taylor, G. H. B. Sugden.

3rd XI Colours Awarded to: C. J. Rowntree, N. A. S. Duthie, R. T. Lewis.

Results:

v. St Edward's	Away	Won by 5 wickets
St Edward's 103 for 5 declared		
Stowe 106 for 5 (Patel 40 not out)		
v. Stowe Templars	Home	Won by 1 wicket
Templars 177 for 5 declared		
Stowe 178 for 9 (Rowntree 83 not out)		
v. Bedford	Away	Lost by 4 wickets
Stowe 84		
Bedford 85 for 6		
v. Bloxham	Home	Won by 7 wickets
Bloxham 108 (Sugden 5 for 16)		
Stowe 109 for 3 (Duthie 54 not out; Taylor 27 not out)		
v. Oundle	Home	Won by 4 wickets
Oundle 117 (Sugden 5 for 22)		
Stowe 121 for 6 (Rowntree 41; Carr 26 not out; Lewis 22 not out)		

THE THIRD XI

The team has been strongly supported this year by a good number of players. Despite this, however, our record to date has been a little mediocre, having lost two matches and drawn one, but it should be clearly stated that this is in no way due to lack of enthusiasm, but only to a dearth of experience.

M. WALDMAN

Results:

v. St Edward's	Match lost
Stowe 108 for 6 declared (Rowntree 55)	
St Edward's 112 for 9 (Standeven 4 for 51)	
v. Bedford	Match lost
Stowe 79	
Bedford 80 for 7 (Lord 3 for 8)	
v. Oundle	Match drawn
Stowe 171 (Bell 24; Tomlin 19; Falcon 24; Braimer Jones 19; Westeng 25)	
Oundle 99 for 6	

THE COLTS

In some ways this season may be considered as one of our more successful ones. The players have responded to the good weather of June and there has been a cheerful and happy atmosphere throughout the Club.

Although the standard of the internal games and matches has generally been relatively unexciting, there have been several performances which have enabled the 'A' team to develop into a useful unit. However it must be recorded that on many occasions a rather casual slap-happy approach, particularly in the matter of establishing an innings has meant that players like Thomas, Currey, Allport, Douglas and (except at Oundle) Kelway, have not made the runs that they could, and should have scored. Few Brown is the steadiest of a string of medium paced bowlers and Park

with his cleverly flighted leg breaks has become the chief wicket taker. Bannister has batted effectively and scored lots of essential runs for the side.

A glance at the results though indicates that the season is really one of "might have beens". We should have decisively beaten Oakham and St Edward's, Oxford and we could well have won at Oundle but in a way that seems to be increasingly symptomatic of Stowe teams, the XI played well when everything was going our way and with much less effectiveness and spirit when the going got tougher. The side lacked the necessary resolution to turn a favourable draw into a resounding win. Against Oundle some straight bowling met limply held bats and vague wayward strokes instead of the gritty determination that was required.

The results of the 'B' XI were more decisive with two wins to our credit and one disappointing loss. The only determined batting came from Bannister and Holmes, while the only consistent bowling came from Forbes Adam and Lloyd. All the players did their best with the bat, but the impression of the side's fielding was one of carelessness. The competition in the second team is never as keen as that for the first eleven but it is the side which stays consistently alert, creative and resolute that will enjoy winning all their matches.

Too many Stowe teams are earning the label of "fair-weather" performers. And it is sad to acknowledge that in the light of recent results this stigma is only too accurate. Good results will only be consistently achieved by teams who are prepared to get down to the hard business of winning their matches. No team earns the right to a string of pleasing victories merely by turning up to the various practices or by putting a very occasional hour or two in the nets. I for one would like to see a very much harder approach to inter-school matches and weekly practices alike being employed. For too long boys have been prepared to 'mess about' with a game or to take part merely because they have nothing much else to do. A more direct, determined attitude would be rewarded by and justified by the vastly improved results that ought to be within the compass of a school of Stowe's size. It is a question of commitment.

J. S. M. MORRIS

Teams:

'A' XI from: S. D. Kelway (Capt.), D. F. C. Thomas, S. W. Allport, B. G. Few Brown, J. A. F. Currey, S. A. V. Holmes, C. D. Bourn, I. L. Park, C. P. M. Douglas, N. W. A. Bannister, H. M. Lloyd, C. B. Calkin.

'B' XI from: M. R. Banister (Capt.), L. D. Dalzell-Piper, S. C. Creedy-Smith, T. S. Bradley-Williams, J. A. Barratt, mi., N. E. Luddington, M. G. I. I. Lillingston, N. P. Wigmore, N. E. Ancsell, T. D. Forbes Adam, mi., A. N. Alder, S. L. Barnard, ma.

Results:

v. Oakham	Drawn
'A' XI Stowe 143 for 5 declared (Bannister 55)	
Oakham 54 for 7 (Park 4 for 8)	
v. St Edward's	Drawn
Stowe 113 (Bannister 37)	
St Edward's 77 for 3	
v. Bedford	Won
Stowe 140 (Bannister 33)	
Bedford 87 (Park 5 for 18)	
v. Oundle	Drawn
Oundle 137 for 6 declared	
Stowe 91 for 8 (Kelway 45)	

Matches against Bradfield and Oakham were cancelled.

Matches to be played include ones against Radley, Rugby and Mill Hill.

'B' XI:

v. St Edward's	Won
Stowe 111	
St Edward's 103	
v. Bedford	Won
Stowe 126 for 6 declared (Banister 33)	
Bedford 57 (Forbes Adam 5 for 27)	
v. Oundle	Lost
Stowe 78	
Oundle 80 for 5	

JUNIOR COLTS

It has not been a successful season so far, as the results below indicate. Indeed, at the time of writing both 'A' and 'B' XIs await their first victory!

There has been a lack of seasoned campaigners and star performers, whilst few of our batsmen possess either the temperament or the technique necessary for the building of an innings. However, as the season has progressed, so have enthusiasm and the willingness to improve. And this must give encouragement for the future.

Physically, the side has been dominated by larger opponents, but, nonetheless, size is not so important a factor in cricket as in some other sports and it is dispiriting to see some of our leading players disappearing with extreme rapidity in the direction of the square leg umpire at the slightest sign of genuine pace! One or two of the smaller players, by contrast, have got into line somewhat more courageously.

P. R. BOWDEN
A. G. MEREDITH

The following have played for the 'A' XI: M. J. P. Horlock, mi. (Capt.) (W), P. D. Jeffreys (C), C. J. Lindner (B), J. P. Hunt (T), C. J. Trower (B), A. E. H. Worsley (©), J. R. Harvey (L), A. J. Rossdale (L), J. J. Lineham (B), A. H. Ritchie, mi. (L), P. N. Orr, mi. (G), M. E. Farmer (C), J. A. G. Bird (T), M. P. Staheyeff, mi. (©), S. C. Bowman, mi. (B), D. W. G. Enderby (C).

The following have played for the 'B' XI: C. T. Highwood, mi. (B), R. D. Kleinwort (G), G. N. Bennett (C), R. W. Palmer, mi. (W), J. W. Ogden (W), T. D. Mitchell (T), P. R. G. Hornor (C).

Results:	'A' XI v. Oakham	Lost
	Stowe 82	
	Oakham 83 for 1	
	'A' XI v. St Edward's	Lost
	Stowe 99 (Jeffreys 62)	
	St Edward's 102 for 4	
	'A' XI v. Bedford	Drawn
	Stowe 145 for 8 declared (Horlock 59)	
	Bedford 63 for 9 (Horlock 5 for 16; Staheyeff 3 for 11)	
	'B' XI v. Bedford	Lost
	Bedford 89 (Kleinwort 6 for 20)	
	Stowe 85	
	'A' XI v. Bloxham	Drawn
	Stowe 148 for 6 (Staheyeff 53 not out)	
	Bloxham 100 for 8 (Horlock 4 for 20; Bowman 2 for 13)	
	'A' XI v. Oundle	Lost
	Stowe 61 (Farmer 16 not out)	
	Oundle 63 for 2	
	'B' XI v. Oundle	Lost
	Oundle 128 for 9 declared (Orr 3 for 30)	
	Stowe 32	

THE UNDER-FOURTEEN XI

To date the U.14s have had a mixed season. They started well, beating Ashfold and Wellingborough comprehensively, and holding an older Cokethorpe side to a draw. However, the subsequent elevation to the Junior Colts of the captain, Staheyeff, who had by this stage taken 18 wickets and scored 70-odd runs for once out, weakened the team considerably, and they lost badly to a strong Bedford side, and narrowly to Bloxham. Useful batting contributions have been made by Lloyd, Hartington, Cameron and Lindgren, and Cameron and Wood have at times bowled well. The team generally is more enthusiastic and promising than for some time.

D. G. LENNARD

Results:	v. Ashfold	Won by 68 runs
	Stowe 140 for 5 declared (Lloyd 50 not out; Hartington 50; Lindgren 27)	
	Ashfold 72 (Staheyeff 7 for 21)	
	v. Wellingborough	Won by 40 runs
	Stowe 139 for 4 declared (Staheyeff 43 not out; Wood 27; Lindgren 24; Cameron 21)	
	Wellingborough 99 (Staheyeff 7 for 47)	
	v. Cokethorpe	Match drawn
	Cokethorpe 104 (Staheyeff 4 for 1; Cameron 3 for 35)	
	Stowe 58 for 5 (Lloyd 21)	
	v. Bedford	Lost by 109 runs
	Bedford 168 for 3 declared	
	Stowe 59 (Cameron 21)	
	v. Bloxham	Lost by 9 runs
	Bloxham 97 (Cameron 5 for 19; Wood 4 for 22)	
	Stowe 88 (Carroll 26)	

CROSS-COUNTRY

This has been a season of transition, during which a number of our leading 'senior' runners were in fact aged only 15 or 16, and our record of 2 wins in 7 matches in the Easter term is perhaps less disappointing when viewed in this perspective. All runners in the open team gave of their best throughout the season, and the extreme youth of the team is of course encouraging when one remembers that most of them will be still at Stowe next spring. B. T. Robinson was an excellent captain, and set a fine example by competing in several matches despite a painful toe injury, which ruined his season after he had put up a very fine performance at Bradfield in the opening match. He also completed a 20-mile run—despite the toe—which raised £100 for Cheshire Homes. J. R. C. Harris was an enthusiastic secretary, and other successful runners were W. Cubitt, N. E. Ancsell, J. C. Royds, and N. C. McLoughlin.

The Colts team achieved only one win, but might have had another against St Edward's, when we had six runners in the first ten, but lost because two of these had been put in the 'B' team! Everyone competed and trained with great enthusiasm, and this was particularly the case with members of the Under-15 team, who should do the School proud in future years.

The inter-House cross-country competition was won by Walpole, who put up a very fine team effort, and also provided the individual winner in J. S. Shepherd-Barron, who won convincingly in 26 mins. 30 secs. from J. C. Royds, N. G. Orr and B. T. Robinson. Cobham took the Intermediate race, and Temple the Junior race, where the individual winners were N. E. Ancsell (16 mins. 32 sec.), and J. H. Davis (18 mins. 12 secs.) respectively.

S. J. SUTTLE

Results:

Winter Term:	1, Abingdon; 2, Bradfield; 3, Stowe. 1, Marlborough; 2, St Brendan's, Bristol; 3, Stowe.
Easter Term:	1, Bradfieldians; 2, Bradfield; 3, Stowe; 4, Bloxham. 1, Haileybury; 2, Harrow; 3, Stowe. 1, The Leys; 2, Stowe; 3, Oakham. 1, Rugby; 2, Uppingham; 3, Stowe. 1, St Albans; 2, Berkhamstead; 3, Stowe; 4, Felsted. 1, Stowe; 2, Cheltenham. 1, Stowe; 2, Old Stoics.
Colts:	
Easter Term:	1, Haileybury; 2, Harrow; 3, Stowe. 1, The Leys; 2, Stowe; 3, Oakham. 1, Rugby; 2, Uppingham; 3, Stowe. 1, St Albans; 2, Berkhamstead; 3, Stowe; 4, Felsted. 1, Stowe; 2, Cheltenham. 1, St Edward's; 2, Stowe.

Senior Colours: B. T. Robinson (W) (re-awarded), N. E. Ancsell (©), W. G. Cubitt, ma. (T), J. C. Royds, ma. (©), J. R. C. Harris, ma. (©).

ATHLETICS

Under temporary management the prospects for 1975 did not seem bright, but the leadership of L. J. Hydleman and the encouragement of T. J. Rollit Mason and P. A. Rose gave the Club a good start, despite the fact that there seemed little talent in the U.15 group.

The Inter-School Triangular fixtures were keenly fought out and only in the Oundle and Oakham fixture were we completely out-classed. Injuries and exams. were by then beginning to take their toll.

So it was extremely gratifying to find that in the Buckinghamshire County Sports we did better than we have ever done before. P. A. Rose qualified for the Open High Jump (with the new School Record of 6 ft 1 in.) and the High Hurdles with 15.3 secs. D. A. Bowman qualified in the 400m Hurdles with 58.3 secs.; T. J. Rollit Mason (with the County Record) in the Discus; and J. R. Walford in the 100m in 11.4 secs. The Senior Relay Team, joined by a member of the R.L.S. Buckingham won the 4 × 100m in 45.5 secs. Three members of the School came second in Senior events, but only N. E. Ancsell won an Intermediate event (the Steeplechase in 4 mins. 59.1 secs—12 secs. short of the qualifying time) and J. R. Allen came second in the Intermediate Pole Vault with 2.70m.

Results:

- May 17 v. Malvern and Denstone, Home, Cancelled
 May 29 v. St Paul's and Mill Hill, at St Paul's
 Open: Stowe 109 pts; St Paul's 102 pts; Mill Hill 81 pts
 U.17: St Paul's 106 pts; Mill Hill 103 pts; Stowe 75 pts
 U.15: Mill Hill 108 pts; Stowe 91 pts; St Paul's 86 pts
 June 5 v. Marlborough and St Edward's, Home
 Open: Marlborough 123 pts; Stowe 116 pts; St Edward's 83 pts
 U.17: Marlborough 123 pts; St Edward's 102 pts; Stowe 95 pts
 U.15: St Edward's 85 pts; Stowe 62 pts; (No Marlborough)
 June 12 v. Oundle and The Leys, at Oundle
 Open: Stowe 106 pts; The Leys 103 pts; Oundle 60 pts
 U.17: Oundle 128 pts; The Leys 92 pts; Stowe 55 pts
 U.15: Oundle 114 pts; The Leys 92 pts; Stowe 70 pts
 June 17 v. Eton and Oakham, at Oakham
 Open: Oakham 137 pts; Eton 74 pts; Stowe 63 pts
 U.17: Oakham 105 pts; Eton 96 pts; Stowe 73 pts
 U.15: Oakham 111 pts; Eton 88 pts; Stowe 74 pts
 June 21 v. Rugby and Berkhamstead, at Rugby
 U.17: Rugby 127 pts; Berkhamstead 82 pts; Stowe 66 pts
 U.15: Rugby 129 pts; Berkhamstead 87 pts; Stowe 58 pts

Inter-House Sports

After a week of real summer weather, Sports Day proved to be the end of the heat wave, and for the second year running was nearly spoilt by a torrential downpour. This prevented the possibility of any outstanding performances but we were able to watch a truly Homeric duel in the Open Steeplechase when Cunningham and Shepherd-Barron stormed down the final straight and literally fell across the tape, dead-beat and a dead-heat.

Inter-House Cup

- | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Bruce 168½ pts | 4. Walpole 128 pts | 7. Chatham 76 pts |
| 2. Cobham 142½ pts | 5. Grafton 82½ pts | 8. Lyttelton 62 pts |
| 3. Grenville 134½ pts | 6. Temple 79 pts | 9. Chandos 53 pts |

Individual Results—Open

- 100m.** Time: 11.5 secs.
 1. D. A. Bowman (B) 2. L. J. Hydleman (B) 3. (equal) C. D. M. Hughes (G)
 J. M. Hayward (G)
200m. Time: 24.5 secs.
 1. L. J. Hydleman (B) 2. J. M. Hayward (G) 3. P. A. Rose (W)
400m. Time: 54.8 secs.
 1. L. J. Hydleman (B) 2. K. C. Naylor (W) 3. M. P. Patel (B)

- 800m.** Time: 2 mins. 6.4 secs.
 1. K. C. Naylor (W) 2. D. Q. Kneeshaw (C) 3. N. S. Vans Agnew (B)
1500m. Time: 4 mins. 35 secs.
 1. N. C. McLoughlin (T) 2. P. N. Nelson, ma. (T) 3. D. J. Salvesen (C)
2000m. Steeplechase. Time: 7 mins. 13.9 secs.
 1. (equal) J. McD. Cunningham (T) and J. S. Shepherd-Barron, ma. (W) 3. J. R. C. Harris, ma. (C)
110m. Hurdles. Time: 15.6 secs.
 1. P. A. Rose (W) 2. D. A. Bowman, ma. (B) 3. G. H. Charlton (G)
400m. Hurdles. Time 60.5 secs.
 1. D. A. Bowman, ma. (B) 2. R. T. Lewis (B) 3. D. Q. Kneeshaw (C)
High Jump. Height: 1.67m.
 1. P. A. Rose (W) 2. C. A. Ritchie, ma. (L) 3. B. T. Robinson (W)
Long Jump. Distance: 5.80m.
 1. M. P. Patel (B) 2. J. M. Hayward (G) 3. S. H. Coney (T)
Triple Jump. Distance: 12.90 m.
 1. M. P. Patel (B) 2. C. D. M. Hughes (G) 3. P. R. Rivalland (C)
Pole Vault. Height: 8 ft 6 ins.
 1. (equal) G. H. Charlton (G) and B. T. Robinson (W) 3. J. S. Shepherd-Barron, ma.
Shot. Distance: 36 ft 5 ins.
 1. T. J. Rollit Mason (B) 2. J. R. Wadsworth (L) 3. N. P. Staheyeff, ma. (C) (W)
Discus. Distance: 39.44m.
 1. T. J. Rollit Mason (B) 2. (equal) L. J. Hydleman (B) and N. P. Staheyeff, ma. (C)
Javelin. Distance: 41.75m.
 1. N. P. Staheyeff, ma. (C) 2. T. J. Rollit Mason (B) 3. S. J. Westeng (B)

Individual Results—Under 17

- 100m.** Time: 11.9 secs.
 1. J. R. Walford (G) 2. N. G. M. Salour (C) 3. J. H. S. Macquaker (G)
200m. Time: 24.6 secs.
 1. J. R. Walford (G) 2. N. G. M. Salour (C) 3. M. S. Parker (C)
400m. Time: 55.4 secs.
 1. N. G. M. Salour (C) 2. J. W. Green, mi. (W) 3. A. N. Jamieson (G)
800m. Time: 2 mins. 8.5 secs.
 1. J. W. Green, mi. (W) 2. A. C. Roxburgh (W) 3. R. T. Lewis (B)
1500m. Time: 4 mins. 30 secs.
 1. W. G. Cubitt, ma. (T) 2. N. E. Ancsell (C) 3. J. C. Royds, ma. (C)
1000m. Steeplechase. Time: 3 mins. 5.9 secs.
 1. J. C. Royds, ma. (C) 2. N. E. Ancsell (C) 3. M. R. Scantlebury (T)
100m. Hurdles. Time: 15.5 secs.
 1. J. R. Walford (G) 2. J. A. F. Currey (G) 3. J. W. Green, mi. (W)
High Jump. Height: 1.45m.
 1. G. D. G. Carr, mi. (C) 2. A. D. Mann (B) 3. A. Braimer-Jones (G)
Long Jump. Distance: 5.45m.
 1. A. D. Mann (B) 2. P. P. Ameel (B) 3. N. M. Hobson (C)
Triple Jump. Distance: 11.16m.
 1. N. G. M. Salour (C) 2. N. A. S. Duthie (G) 3. P. C. Sisson (W)
Pole Vault. Height: 8 ft 6 ins.
 1. J. R. Allen (G) 2. N. E. W. Selby-Lowndes (G) 3. C. D. Bourn (C)
Shot. Distance: 34 ft 6 ins.
 1. R. A. Hamilton (C) 2. M. B. A. Cliff-Hodges (W) 3. P. St J. Chapman (L)
Discus. Distance: 27.42m.
 1. J. M. Scowsill (T) 2. T. J. Maitland-Heriot (C) 3. J. R. Allen (G)
Javelin. Distance: 42.39m.
 1. T. J. Maitland-Heriot (C) 2. A. C. C. Chater (C) 3. H. G. Robertson (C)

Individual Results—Under 16

100m. Time: 12.6 secs.	1. J. A. F. Currey (G)	2. N. J. Benthall (G)	3. N. D. J. Gray, mi. (C)
200m. Time: 25.6 secs.	1. S. D. Kelway (B)	2. R. A. Hamilton (C)	3. N. W. A. Bannister (L)
400m. Time: 58.5 secs.	1. R. A. Hamilton (C)	2. S. D. Kelway (B)	3. N. J. Benthall (G)
800m. Time: 2 mins. 13 secs.	1. R. P. E. Carr (W)	2. N. E. Ancsell (C)	3. N. W. A. Bannister (L)
1000m. Time: 3 mins.	1. R. P. E. Carr (W)	2. N. C. Kempe (G)	3. S. G. Appleton (G)
High Jump. Height: 1.58m.	1. M. E. W. Selby-Lowndes (G)	2. J. R. Allen (G)	3. A. C. C. Chater (C)
Long Jump. Distance: 5.59m.	1. M. E. W. Selby-Lowndes (G)	2. J. A. F. Currey (G)	3. A. P. Ward (W)

Individual Results—Under 15

100m. Time: 13 secs.	1. N. B. Harris, mi. (C)	2. J. R. J. Fladée (C)	3. C. J. Dean (C)
200m. Time: 26.5 secs.	1. N. B. Harris, mi. (C)	2. J. R. J. Fladée (C)	3. C. J. Dean (C)
400m. Time: 59.9 secs.	1. N. B. Harris, mi. (C)	2. N. C. Fenwick (B)	3. J. J. Lineham (B)
800m. Time: 2 mins. 24.3 secs.	1. A. G. Bradstock (G)	2. T. W. P. O'Brien (G)	3. C. T. Highwood, mi. (B)
80m. Hurdles. Time: 15 secs.	1. G. J. J. Tucker (L)	2. N. A. H. Clarke (T)	3. J. J. Lineham (B)
High Jump. Height: 1.28m.	1. T. W. O. P. O'Brien (G)	2. C. J. Allen (B)	3. T. A. Cressman (C)
Long Jump. Distance: 5.04m.	1. N. B. Harris, mi. (C)	2. C. T. Highwood (B)	3. T. S. Maynard (C)

The Girls' Obstacle Race was won by Caitlin Mitchell and Vivien Slyfield.

J. E. C. NICHOLL
S. J. SUTTLE

GOLF

Spring Term

The season started with the team having a young and inexperienced look about it, and five matches were played in varying degrees of wetness to try to prepare for the Woking Tournament in the holidays. Sethi quickly caught the eye with the quality of his swing but was clearly unused to English mud. The only school match was against Harrow, the winners of the Micklem Trophy for the last two years, who showed that they would again be strong contenders. The Aer Lingus tournament happened on the first day of the holidays, hardly an ideal day, and experience over the years has shown that it really does not fit into our calendar very well. The team selected for Woking set off for holiday practice full of cheerful hope but not really expecting to get very far in the tournament.

Results: v. Northampton County G.C.	Lost 0—3
v. Ellesborough G.C.	Lost 0—3
v. Sandy Lodge G.C.	Won 4—2
v. Buckingham G.C.	Won 2—1
v. Harrow	Lost 2—4

A. M. VINEN

The Micklem Trophy

The team of six golfers which gathered at Woking on April 15th must have been one of the least experienced that Stowe has ever fielded in terms of this competition; only the captain had played before, and that at fifth string. After a burst of torrential rain which at one stage looked like washing out the competition altogether, it quickly emerged that the youngest member of the squad—Paine—was in good enough form for Sethi to be made reserve, he having been unable to get the practice he would have liked during the previous three weeks.

Stowe was drawn against Winchester in the first round, which was expected to provide us with a comfortable passage into the semi-final, and after which progress would become considerably more difficult. In the event, Wood and Paine won convincingly by 8 and 6, and 5 and 4 respectively. The other point was however looking rather elusive; Gray was discovering that hitting a long ball is a distinct disadvantage if it is not hit straight and was 5 down after 6 holes, Fransen was alternating between 1 and 2 down, and Boardman was descending steadily to 4 down after 10 holes. Gray rallied slightly but was unable to recover completely, losing 2 and 1; Fransen, though, managed to string three good holes together to win 2 and 1. Meanwhile, Boardman was overwhelming his opponent with a final charge; he squared his match at the 16th, won the 17th with a good par 4 and put his second shot to the 18th two feet from the pin for a killing finish and a win by 2 holes.

Result: Stowe 4; Winchester 1.

In the semi-final we came up against a Harrow team containing three of the team that won the trophy last year, so we were clear outsiders—a position the team seemed to relish. Gray played much better golf than on the previous day, but his opponent was in fine form too, and always held the edge, winning eventually by 3 and 2. However, Paine again won 5 and 4, and with Fransen keeping narrowly ahead of Venables, Wood being dormie 4 up and Boardman no more than 2 down after 14, confidence was rising. At this point, Harrow made it clear that they weren't going to surrender their trophy without a fight. Venables put his tee shot to the 16th three feet from the hole to draw all square, but fortunately couldn't match Fransen's par at the 17th and, although Fransen missed the green at the 18th, he chipped dead with admirable coolness to win 1 up. Behind this match, Fane was making life very tense for Wood by birdieing the 15th and 16th and missing his hat-trick by inches at the 17th; even so, his par 4 there was good enough to reduce Wood's lead to dormie 1. However, Wood kept a cool head and Fane's magic deserted him at the 18th! That gave Stowe the necessary 3 points and just for good measure, Boardman holed a 20 foot putt on the 18th green to square his match when Cholnoky missed from 3 feet.

Result: Stowe 3½; Harrow 1½.

Having disposed of the favourites, Stowe started the final with quiet confidence against an Eton team who claimed to be as surprised as we were to have reached that stage. Gray struck a shrewd blow on the first tee; having lost his ball from his first drive in his two previous matches, he sensibly knocked it down the middle with a 5-iron. This prompted his opponent to change his club from a wood to an iron, which he promptly hooked into the trees! However, after an outward half of excellent golf by both players, Gray was one down and had another tough match on his hands. Fransen, Wood and Paine all established slight early leads, and Boardman established his now traditional early deficit. Fransen's opponent had squared the match by the turn and, playing the more consistent golf, pulled away to win 3 and 2. Paine, whose short game must have been consistently as good as anyone's in the competition, soon cancelled this out with a victory by 5 and 3 achieved by 6 holes of splendid golf after being all square at the turn. At this stage the news was not at all good; Gray had moved to 2 up after 14 but was brought back to all square after 16; Wood, having been up most of the way round was suddenly 1 down

after 15 and Boardman was just beginning another fighting finish after being 3 down on the 11th tee. The tension then built up as Gray won the 17th and halved the 18th with immaculate par fours to win 1 up, but simultaneously Wood was losing the 17th to go down 2 and 1. All eyes now turned to the redoubtable Boardman who had squared his match on the 15th and halved the 16th in 3 despite missing the green with his tee shot. At the 17th, his opponent hit two straight but short shots to within 30 yards of the green; Boardman now played the shot that effectively won the tournament; a wood out of the heather—into which he had sliced his drive—to within 15 feet of the hole, after which a perfect par 4 at the 18th gave him victory by 2 holes.

Result: Stowe 3; Eton 2.

It was a triumph in which character and fighting spirit counted for almost as much as golfing ability. The genuine camaraderie that existed in the team was epitomised by Sethi who, despite the disappointment of being reserve, was always around, caddying for and encouraging each member of the team in turn. It was all summed up by the captain in his speech of thanks to Gerald Micklem (in his last year of organising the competition personally) when he admitted unashamedly to being “thrilled to have won it”.

C. S. JUNEMAN

Team: H. N. J. Gray, ma. (Capt.) (C), D. B. Fransen (G), P. S. C. Wood (G), C. J. C. Boardman (B), G. G. R. Paine (T). **Reserve:** A. Sethi (L)

School Colours were awarded to: D. B. Fransen and G. G. R. Paine

Summer Term

After the Woking triumph the golf team could do no wrong, at least in the eyes of the master-in-charge, and a full programme of matches has kept the Golf Thirty busy and in general successful. Teams have ranged from 28 to 4 strings and good victories were chalked up against the Fathers and the Old Stoics. A Stowe team is very hard to beat on its own course, but a re-arrangement of fixtures led to two teams playing school matches on the same day on two occasions, one successful and one not. Sethi has emerged as a leading player during the term, and the Woking six have been ably supported by Horrocks, Robinson, Rhodes, Graham, Johnstone, Davies and Grint to form a uniformly strong body from which to select. It is probably fair to say that this year's Thirty has been marked by good strength in depth rather than outstanding class amongst the top players, but with the majority here again next year and younger players like Barnes, Edwards and James improving steadily, prospects look bright for the future.

A. M. VINEN

Results: v. Ellesborough G.C.	Won 6½—3½
v. The Fathers	Won 12½—1½
v. St Edward's	Won 4 —2
v. Buckingham G.C.	Won 3½—1½
v. The Old Stoics	Won 6 —4
v. Monmouth	Won 5 —1
v. Oundle	Lost 3 —5
v. Felsted	Lost 1 —3
v. Aldenham	Won 3 —1
v. Rugby	Won 3 —1
v. Haileybury	Lost 3 —5
v. Chiltern Medical G.S.	Won 4½—3½
v. Northampton County G.C.	Won 6½—2½

SWIMMING

The Spring term provided an opportunity for more boys to take Personal Survival and Life Saving Awards with the result that the total for the year now stands at:—

A.S.A. Personal Survival Awards 93 with 17 Honours.

R.L.S.S. Life Saving—Bronze Medallion 38.

R.L.S.S. Life Saving—Bronze Cross 8.

The Bronze Cross is the highest award taken so far but as we move up through the School, 1975/6 will see several groups tackling the Award of Merit for the first time.

Summer Term

The swimming teams have had their most successful season with the following results:—

Seniors—Won 9; Lost 1. Juniors—Won 7; Lost 2.

The Senior Team under their captain J. Shepherd-Barron, ma. (W), and secretary R. Bickerton (T) were the smallest squad so far, only 12 swimmers being accepted for the season. Shepherd-Barron swam the backstroke with variable success and the Individual Medley with much more ability breaking his own School Record twice, while Bickerton never failed to produce his utmost in the Freestyle events although he swam this as a matter of expediency rather than choice and was always pleased to revert to his best event, the Backstroke in which he again broke the School Record for the 100m. The Breaststroke men had a very mixed season and for the present it seems best to say that we ended on a cautious note of optimism with much better times than earlier in the term. M. Knight (C) and T. Outerbridge (C) won most of their Butterfly events with Knight breaking his own school record for the 50m. and finally the report would not be complete without a mention of J. Mumby, ma. (T) who, once over his initial unfitness, swam in most of the relay teams and on many occasions saved the day with a particularly fine leg in either Breaststroke, Butterfly or Freestyle. The Senior Team finally broke all five relay records, the Butterfly, Backstroke, Breaststroke, Freestyle and Medley.

The Junior Squad consisted of 25 swimmers and this seemed about the right ratio to the 12 seniors since most of these juniors were really in the squad to learn the strokes and gain experience. A. C. Low (C) the Junior Captain was an inspiration to the Junior Team and was beaten only once in the Freestyle events. His Junior record time in the 100m Freestyle was faster than any Stowe senior swimmer since 1965 and he may well beat the senior record before the end of the season. In his event he was ably backed-up by P. Marsh, mi. (T) whose good swimming was apt to be overshadowed by Low's performance. In the Backstroke and Butterfly events M. Street (C) and P. Hosking (C) should both be a power in next year's Junior Team, and this year A. Lomas (C) swam the Butterfly well to win most of his events although always an elusive 0.1 sec or so off the Junior record. For a swimmer with another year in the juniors, A. R. Bird (T) spent this season in underlining the fact that last year as an U.14 he appeared to be en route to becoming one of the best all-round swimmers in the School. He broke the Junior Breaststroke and Individual Medley records twice and in matches was beaten only occasionally by the sheer power of bigger competitors. If he continues to develop his considerable potential he should make a worthy captain of next year's Junior Team.

Looking at this year's newcomers to the Junior Squad, particularly those like P. O'Brien (G), G. Lancaster (W), S. Fraser-Allen (C) and R. Appleby (L) who have all two more years as juniors, and at the quality of the present juniors moving into the Senior Squad for next year I can only say that I believe next year's teams, both Senior and Junior will be still better, and might even repeat the feat of breaking 20 school records in the season.

On a sadder note we shall be sorry indeed to lose Mr Simons at the end of the year. He has really become part of our winning image and has given unstintingly of his time and advice. I know he will be delighted to hear news of our progress when he is once again “down under”.

New First Team Colours: M. Knight, T. Outerbridge, J. Mumby, ma., S. Bartlett.

New Junior Colours: A. R. Bird, P. S. Marsh, mi.

Inter-School Swimming Matches 1975:

	Senior Team:	Junior Team:
v. Bradfield College	Won 50—23	Won 49—24
v. Carmel College	Won 52—20	Won 51—22
v. Leys School	Won 37—33	Won 41—26
v. Dean Close	Won 63—37	Lost 42—58
v. Uppingham	Won 45—22	Won 39—28
v. Old Stoics	Won 41—26	
v. St Edward's	Won 62—30	Won 54—28
v. Rugby	Lost 36—46	Won 41—32
v. Cheltenham	Won 44—25	Won 44—25
v. Oundle	Won 51—40	Lost 30—61

The North Bucks Area Trials were held at Stowe on Thursday, June 19th and as a result the following Stowe boys have been chosen to represent North Bucks in the County Gala at Amersham on July 4th.

Backstroke: R. Bickerton (Senior); S. Miller, M. Street (Intermediate).

Breaststroke: J. Johnstone, S. Guyer, ma. (Senior); G. Lancaster (Junior).

Butterfly: A. Lomas (Senior); P. Hosking (Intermediate).

Freestyle: D. Lloyd, ma., S. Bartlett (Senior); A. Low (Intermediate).

Individual Medley: J. Shepherd-Barron, ma. (Senior); A. Bird (Intermediate).

Stowe have on this occasion supplied more than half the total North Bucks Boys' Team.

In the North Bucks Area Trials, A. C. Low won his heat of the 100m Freestyle in a new Junior record time of 65.0 seconds which is the fastest time ever recorded by a Stowe swimmer, beating the old Senior record by 1.4 seconds.

F. A. HUDSON

LAWN TENNIS

This is a shortened report—more will be given in the next *Stoic*. With only two of last year's team available it was clear that some experiments would have to be made when the season began. The fact that of the ten matches played so far eight have been won, while one other should not have been lost, shows that it has been another successful season. As the Summer terms get shorter and the G.C.E. starts earlier there are problems in fitting matches into dates when everyone can play, and it is for this reason that we have tried to have the majority of our games in the first half of the term. After some initial variations the team settled down into a regular pattern, and on many occasions excellent tennis was played. The first pair of P. W. Saunders and V. R. Hill developed a good understanding and produced a number of notable wins—playing particularly well against Uppingham and the Old Stoics. Saunders's overhead play became far more reliable, while both he and Hill realised the need for consistency. J. M. Scowsill and D. Horlock played at second pair, and their record during the season equalled that of the first pair. Although Horlock was very nervous in the first few matches, aided by Scowsill's steadiness and flair, and his own dedication he settled into a good standard of play, although his forehand return of service is sometimes erratic. Scowsill has proved an extremely promising player and is the most reliable member of the team. R. Loup and D. Kinahan formed the third pair, and although they did not actually win many matches, they halved them on a number of occasions. Loup played some brilliant shots, particularly on his backhand, while Kinahan's strong point was his steadiness. R. Kingan and N. Chapman also played for the 1st VI. At the beginning of the season some people felt (although I was not one of them!) that we might have to struggle to win matches, and as it happened a very successful season transpired. All the players tried their best, and until the examinations made things difficult, they were not afraid of putting in a lot of practice. P. W. Saunders made a good Captain and useful administrator during the season.

P. G. LONGHURST

Results: v. R.G.S. High Wycombe	Drew 4½—4½
v. Merchant Taylors	Won 5½—3½
v. Marlborough	Lost 4—5
v. Uppingham	Won 6—3
v. Radley	Won 8—1
v. Eton	Lost 3—6
v. Bradfield	Won 5—4
v. Old Stoics	Won 5—4
v. Oundle	Won 6—3
v. Oakham	Won 7—2

Colts VI

This year's Colts VI was a good one, and but for injuries and illness would probably have gone through the season unbeaten. N. Chapman (Captain) and A. P. Ward were a very sound first pair, and improved considerably as the season went by. Although they both are sometimes a little slow around the court, their keenness and temperaments usually enabled them to get the better of all their opponents. A. E. Osborne and C. G. Cholmondeley at second pair proved themselves a formidable combination. Osborne's concentration and unorthodox strokes have been exceptionally valuable, and although playing a supporting rôle in the partnership, Cholmondeley has nevertheless played some useful tennis. N. J. Loup and G. J. Tucker were by far the youngest pair, and they have acquitted themselves with sufficient success to show that they are going to have a lot of wins in school tennis in the future. N. D. Wright also played for the team on several occasions.

P. G. LONGHURST

Results: v. R.G.S. High Wycombe	Won 9—0
v. Merchant Taylors	Won 9—0
v. Marlborough	Won 7—2
v. Uppingham	Won 7½—1½
v. Eton	Lost 4—5
v. Oakham	Won 4—0
v. Oundle	Lost 4—5
v. Radley	Won 6½—2½

ARCHERY

It would have been nice to say that the archery team was unbeaten for the fifth year in succession, however this was not to be the case. After having convincingly beaten Eton, Wellington and Finchley Albanian, scoring in each case over 300 points more than our opponents, we lost badly in a triangular match against Haileybury and Forest School. One always wishes to make excuses but the simple truth was that the whole team shot badly especially the captain. So in many eyes the archery section at Stowe must once again seem of minor importance. But I hope that this will not lessen the enthusiasm of those in the team who will still be at Stowe next year. Considering the fact that none of the last three archers has been shooting for more than two years I am very happy to see how they have improved. Finally I would like to thank Louis Bell for being a patient and enthusiastic reserve, but most of all Mr Arnold for his provision of transport and his precise organisation. I hope the archery team will once again start an unbeaten run but there will need to be a lot of hard work and practice.

JONATHAN BRAY

This year's team was: J. M. Bray (Capt.) (T), A. Law (T), C. F. Roxburgh, mi. (T), S. H. Coney (T).

House Matches: 1st Temple; 2nd Grenville, 3rd Lyttelton.

Individual: 1st J. M. Bray; 2nd C. F. Roxburgh; 3rd A. Law.

FENCING

This has been a highly successful season, both in matches and in external competitions. The match results below speak for themselves, and the decisive victories over Bradfield, St Edward's and Rugby reflect the strength of the team. Against Eton we met very strong opposition and were decisively beaten, but each bout was keenly fought and the second foil was only seven hits behind in over 70. This was a creditable display by some of our less experienced fencers.

In external competitions we have done well. In the Berks, Bucks and Oxon Schoolboys' foil we entered seven competitors. N. Campbell was second in U.19 Foil and in the U.16 Foil Macquaker was first, I. Campbell fifth and H. G. Robertson sixth. These went on to the section level, where N. Campbell was second for the second year, and Robertson fifth in his final pool. Our internal competitions have been bedevilled by broken weapons and faulty electrical apparatus and it has not yet been possible to report any results.

A pleasing new—or rather renewed—match was the fixture against the girls of Tudor Hall. This attracted an unusually large number of spectators, and is now incorporated into our fixture list.

Thanks are due to Niall Campbell for his effective and encouraging captaincy during the season
C. D. MULLINEUX

The following have fenced for the teams:

1st Team: T. A. Mallett (T), F, S; N. H. Campbell, ma. (B), F, E; H. G. Robertson (C), F, E, S; I. G. Campbell, mi. (B), F, E; C. G. Burchill (G), S; C. G. Cholmondeley (C), F, E, S; J. H. S. Macquaker (G), F; C. L. Halvorsen (G), F.

2nd Foil: C. G. Cholmondeley (C), C. L. Halvorsen (G), H. G. Robertson (C), P. N. Nelson (T), C. F. Villiers (B), H. J. Dare (B), M. J. T. Reaney (C).

Results:

Autumn Term:

v. Bradfield	Won 15—3	2nd Foil	Won 7—2
v. St Edward's	Won 15—3	2nd Foil	Lost 2—7
v. Eton	Lost 5—22	2nd Foil	Won 5—4
v. Rugby	Won 10—5		

Spring Term:

v. Bradfield	Won 15—7	2nd Foil	Won 6—3
v. Rugby	Won 10—8	2nd Foil	Won 6—3
v. St Edward's	Won 13—5	2nd Foil	Lost 3—6
v. High Wycombe	Drawn 9—9		
v. Tudor Hall	Won 16—9		
v. Radley	Lost 11—16	2nd Foil	Won 7—2

SAILING

The Spring term was spent maintaining the boats. During the Spring holidays Mr Rainer purchased another Graduate, a second-hand fibre glass one, for the School. He sold one of the older ones. This brings our fleet up to four 'super-grads' and three 'ordinary grads'.

There are only 21 full time members of the Sailing Club this year. The team had rather a mixed season. We beat Uppingham, Radley, Aldenham and the Masters. We lost to Oundle, St Edward's, and the Old Stoics whose team consisted of the last three commodores.

The House matches produced some very close racing from the six houses that entered. Chatham, Chandos and Bruce went through into the final which Chandos were lucky to win.

J. D. Hanks won the Helmsman's Tankard, for which there were disappointingly few entries. Many thanks to Mr Rainer for all his hard work and patience.

H. Curwen and S. Curwen will be sailing for the School during the holidays at Bembridge.

HENRY CURWEN

Those who sailed for the School were: H. J. Curwen, ma. (Commodore) (C), J. D. Hanks (Secretary) (C), S. C. Curwen, mi. (C), P. Symes (C), P. Brocklebank, ma. (W), A. Prince (C), A. S. Massie (W), J. Broadhead, ma. (T), and J. Brocklebank, mi. (N).

SCULLING

Sculling this year has been most popular with 22 full-time scullers, and a further 15 for Monday extras. There has been a particularly encouraging number of young scullers, and they have been able to take advantage of instruction from the more experienced devotees who also needed to impart their skills to Mr Haslam the new Master in charge replacing Mr Brangwyn.

The Reading Regatta was a success though we did not reach the final rounds. This augurs well for next year when we hope the present enthusiasm will be maintained.

GAVIN FORBES
DAVID STEVENSON

SHOOTING

The Shooting Club, with its capacity membership of 24, have been meeting every Tuesday at Charlton-on-Otmoor for practice shoots, which have been, on the whole successful. The two matches this term, both at Bisley have been more memorable for events other than the actual shooting.

The first 'London Middlesex Meet' on 10th May, was mildly successful in the minor events with the cadet pair coming 8th out of 22, and Cadet A. Green doing reasonably well in the 9th Man competition, coming 11th out of some 44 people. The VIII came a modest 16th out of 23. The visit was memorable in our 'clash' with the Police, who thought we had 'borrowed' a pistol. Our second match on 31st May, the Sussex County Rifle Association Meet, was a disaster—though many blamed "duff rounds" as the cause for our bad shooting, a lot of the blame must rest on bad shooting alone. The VIII came 26th out of 28 with the worst score for seven years, the Cadet Pair and Ninth Men being unmentioned.

However, at the Ashburton Meeting at the end of term, we'll have no excuse for shooting badly, as we have a vastly experienced team, that has remained almost unchanged for three years, and we shall hopefully improve on last year's performance.

SIMON GREEN

VIII: S. L. Green, ma. (Capt.) (G)*, T. C. Green, ma. (Sec.) (W)* R. M. Fowke (L)*, E. S. Sowerby (C)**
N. M. Shannon (W)*, T. O. Smith, ma. (C)*, N. G. Orr, ma. (G)*, A. T. C. Green, mi. (G), H. R. von Bergen (C).

Ninth Man: K. Hardman (C), A. Yeoman (C).

Cadet Pair: A. Jessel (G), G. Winnington-Ingram, mi. (L).

* Colours.

SOCCER

Our first match this year was in the winter term against Padbury. After trailing 1—0 we went on to win 5—2 with two goals apiece by John Ward and Nick Elmslie and one by Kim Naylor. Rugby away proved to be a tough opposition. They were unbeaten in twenty of their previous matches. After being 1—0 down and then 2—2 until the last two minutes, James Harris scored with a diving header; The Masters match proved an eventful but sad occasion as we witnessed Mr Atkinson carried off the pitch. We won 3—0 with two goals by Nick Elmslie and one by David Scowsill. We played only one match in the Easter term due to waterlogged pitches. This was against Cirencester Agricultural College. We had an amazingly weak team with five of our regular players involved in other sports or injured. We managed to win 2—0 although

both goals were scored from the penalty spot by Bill Green. This summer term proved to be a historic term as the Stowe Football Team were beaten for the first time ever. We were playing a Birmingham Premier Division side called Eastcote Rangers. After being 1—0 up in the first half we grew over-confident and eventually lost 2—1. In the return match we won 4—2 and therefore won on aggregate.

Our sincere thanks must go to Mr Foster who has coached the team to victory and has proved to be an invaluable referee. And to Mike Tomlin who has done all the paper work this year and who has helped to compile this article.

LUCIUS O'BRIEN

Those who have played: L. E. O'Brien (Capt.) (C), M. A. N. Tomlin (Sec.) (C), C. M. Johnstone (C), N. J. Phillips (S), N. G. M. Salour (C), J. W. Green (W), K. C. Naylor (W), D. A. Bowman, ma. (B), D. J. M. Ward ma. (W), J. R. C. Harris, ma. (C), N. R. Elmslie (ex-Capt.) (C), C. F. Peach (S), R. Knight-Bruce (C).

Also Played: S. J. F. Douglas (W), D. P. Scowsill, ma. (T), G. R. J. Page (C), C. D. Bourn (C), R. A. Brown (W), P. A. Rhodes (C), A. J. Henry (C).

THE STOWE BEAGLES

We finished the season quite successfully with some notable days hunting under good scenting conditions. Our final meet of the season was held jointly with the Royal Agricultural College Beagles near Swindon.

During the summer term so far we have constructed a new puppy run and landscaped some of the banks surrounding the Kennels. We have had two litters of puppies so far and have four other bitches in pup, to whelp later on.

We went to the South of England Hound Show at Ardingly in Sussex and had a very pleasing day. Ramrod won two classes and the dog hound championship and Racket, his litter sister, won her two classes and the bitch championship. We won rosettes in two other dog hound classes and in one other bitch class. We also won the cup for the pack to attain the most points awarded for prizes won.

We are going to the Great Yorkshire Show at Harrogate and the East of England Show at Peterborough.

PHILIP HERBERT

"THE ART OF WAR: WATERLOO TO MONS"

by William McElwee (Weidenfeld and Nicolson £4.50)

"Progress", says Len Deighton, "is man's indifference to the lessons of history." Warfare, of course, is full of lessons. But those who learn them often get caught out by Progress in the shape of technological developments: the long-bow, the breech-loading rifle, or the tank.

Bill McElwee, who was the History Tutor at Stowe from 1934 until 1962, illustrates this point in his latest book, "The Art of War: Waterloo to Mons". He is particularly well qualified to write such a book. A Lecturer at Liverpool University before coming to Stowe, he was also a soldier who won the M.C. while serving with the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders in the Second World War, and when he left Stowe it was to go as Head of the Modern Studies Department at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst.

He illuminates the military history of the nineteenth century with his grasp of military technology. The burning powder escaping from the bolt-head of an early breech-loading rifle might well blind the man using it if he held it close to his face. But the speed at which this rifle could be loaded made it superior to even the most efficient muzzle loader, and it could be fired from the hip. By the twentieth century infantrymen who had learnt their lessons from history and attacked in dense Napoleonic columns were being gunned down by defenders who dug holes in the ground and fired away with breech-loading rifles.

But McElwee never makes the mistake of letting the machinery take over. War is made by men, and he shows us men making war well and making it badly. The German victory at Tannenberg rested not just on superior hardware but also on Colonel Hoffmann's memory of one Russian general slapping another's face on Mukden railway station in 1905. Hoffman relied on them not to co-operate with each other, and he guessed right.

We are also treated to some instructive parallels. What happened at Balaclava had previously happened at Agincourt. And the Boers of the nineteenth century fought much like the Danes of the ninth. In military matters in fact, just as much as in anything else, what matters is not to learn precise lessons from history but rather to understand how things happened. If you wanted to beat the Boers it would have been worth understanding how Alfred beat the Danes. Yasser Arafat might do well to study Saladin.

D. J. ARNOLD

"THE ENCHANTED PLACES"

by Christopher Milne

' . . . I disowned the conversation in "Buckingham Palace". "Do you think the king knows all about me?" Could egotism be more gross? I'm prepared to let that go, but not the line that follows:

' Sure to, dear, but it's time for tea.'

Listen to Alice saying that: the daily routine clearly far more important for her than the child's question.

Christopher Robin, or Christopher, as he preferred to be called, is writing his Autobiography to act as a counter-poise to that of his father ("It's too late now"). And the happy result is that it all turns out happily. At Boxgrove Prep. School he could be the schoolboy—but he was someone different at home. So there is no recrimination about his treatment at Stowe, except the utterly natural reaction to his neighbours who remorselessly played 'Vespers' on a gramophone, until he took the record and broke it into a hundred fragments and scattered them over a distant field (presumably, the Bourbon). Yet he felt no resentment.

The real crisis of his life came in 1947, when he found himself "as the wrong person in the wrong place with qualifications nobody wanted". Pessimistically it seemed to him that his father had got to where he was by climbing upon his infant shoulders, that he had failed his good name and left him nothing but the empty fame of being his son.

The happy ending started in 1951 when he moved to Dartmouth and he and his wife 'had had the good luck to be not wholly the wrong people opening the right shop at the right time in the right town'.

If the story is simple and the writing less felicitous than that of 'A.A.' "The Enchanted Places" helps to explain many of the associations of the Boy who became a Man who remains eternally, Christopher Robin.

J. E. C. NICHOLL

PRIZE WINNERS

Basil Williamson Memorial Prize
 Quentin Bertram Prize for Latin
 Charles Loudon Prize for Greek
 Anthony Pearce Prize for Latin Oration
 Friends of Stowe Prize for General Knowledge
 Basil Aimers Prize for Reading
 Bryan Henshaw Prize for English Speech (*Senior*)
 Bryan Henshaw Prize for English Speech (*Junior*)
 Harding Prize for Reading
 Gavin Maxwell Prize for English (*Junior*)
 Peters Bone Prize for English

Hayward Prize for Reading

J. F. Roxburgh Prize for Classics

J. F. Roxburgh Prize for English Verse (*Senior*)

J. F. Roxburgh Prize for English Verse (*Junior*)

John Webster Prize for French

Capel Cure Prize for French

Telford-Wardley Prize for Spanish

J. G. Riess Prize for German

Stewart Prize for Mathematics

Pearman-Smith Prize for Mathematics

Humphrey Foster Prize for Physics Essay

Choyce Prize for Biology

W. D. Hards Prize for Chemistry

Robert Montagu Prize for Geology

Friends of Stowe Prize for Natural History (*Senior*)

Friends of Stowe Prize for Natural History (*Junior*)

Wallace Prize for Geography

Peter Bates Prize for Geography

Syrett Prize for History

Burroughs Prize for Church History

White-Smith Prize for Aviation Activities

James Mayne Prize for Economics

James Mayne Prize for British Government

Anthony Howard Prizes for Art

Friends of Stowe Prize for Woodwork

John Holland Prize for Metalwork

Lower School Prize for Woodwork

Lower School Prize for Metalwork

Gilling-Lax Music Prizes (*Senior*)

(*Junior*)

S. J. Gornall
 P. A. Miles
 J. R. C. Harris, ma.
 J. S. Kreeger
 J. S. Kreeger
 J. S. Kreeger
 R. Bendre
 S. G. Appleton
 S. G. Appleton
 S. G. Appleton
 J. H. G. Carr, ma.
 J. H. G. Carr, ma.
 R. Knight Bruce
 J. H. G. Carr, ma.
 J. MacD. Cunningham
 G. F. Winnington-Ingram, mi.
 R. M. Rummel

N. A. J. C. P. Contomichalos
 N. J. Phillips
 E. D. Bottari
 C. M. Drake
 R. J. Loup, ma.
 S. J. Marshall

C. F. Roxburgh, mi.
 A. J. Shepherd-Barron, mi.
 D. K. Lloyd, ma.

E. S. Sowerby
 D. A. A. Bagley
 W. G. Tyser

C. J. Rowntree
 J. R. H. Lawrence
 D. J. M. Ward, ma.

A. Sethi
 C. F. Peto
 Vivien Slyfield

J. F. M. Davies
 P. N. Nelson, ma.
 R. Bendre

R. W. I. Kingan
 C. M. F. Howse

J. D. I. Barker
 W. H. Latham
 S. Mackay

G. M. Zambellas, ma.
 N. R. C. Standeven, mi.
 D. R. Marsden

C. M. F. Howse
 R. L. Law
 N. P. Armstrong

C. T. Rolls
 P. R. Rivalland
 R. P. H. Harris

N. D. Wright
 J. A. Macdonald

Painting:

Sculpture:

Junior:

Piano:

Organ:

Woodwind:

Brass:

Violin:

Woodwind:

Strings:

Keyboard:

Boosey and Hawkes Cup

Fanshawe Cup

Myles Henry Prize

'Bene' Prizes

S. L. Green, ma.

G. G. F. Barwood

J. M. Hayward

S. G. Appleton (3)

P. W. Durrant

T. W. F. Durdin

S. H. Gregory

J. Hartley, ma.

Carolyne Haynes

C. M. F. Howse

T. J. Issaias

J. S. Kreeger

D. K. Lloyd, ma.

I. C. M. Macleod

I. A. W. Nasatir

M. P. Patel

C. F. Peto

N. J. Phillips

T. L. Terry

G. F. Winnington-Ingram, mi.

NEW BOYS 1974

Bruce: (*Spring*) *D. C. Guest, min. (N), C. J. Trower, mi. (N), M. R. Winsloe (N); (*Autumn*) C. J. Allen (N), C. R. Bingham, J. H. Davis, M. J. R. Gregson (N), A. J. Holland, N. W. James, A. G. Kelly (N), M. A. Koska, *D. R. Lindgren, J. J. Lineham, *J. C. Lloyd, mi., T. Smalley, R. J. Squires, M. C. Strakosch.

Temple: (*Spring*) *N. N. Bartlett (N), B. Bowley (N), N. D. F. Jackson (N), A. Law (N); (*Autumn*) J. A. G. Bird, R. F. P. Bryant, *T. J. Cooke, R. P. Cubitt, min., J. P. Hunt, *C. R. Lloyd, mi., J. A. Macdonald, B. R. A. Marlowe, R. S. Nelson, mi., S. Rahman, P. Salariya, C. M. A. Shaw.

Grenville: (*Spring*) L. J. A. Bell, mi. (N), J. W. Beaty (N), J. C. Haas (N); (*Autumn*) R. P. Aswani (N), L. A. Bowles (N), *S. G. P. Burns, *A. E. C. Edmonstone (N), *C. W. R. Kempe, mi., R. D. Kleinwort (N), J. M. M. McComas, D. R. Marsden, G. Parker-Jervis, mi., C. S. Rideout, C. Vollers, J. F. Yeats Brown.

Chandos: (*Spring*) G. R. Coates, mi. (N), R. T. Phinney (N), R. M. Beckwith-Smith; (*Autumn*) T. A. Cressman, mi., C. J. Dean, *J. R. de Wesselow, D. W. G. Enderby, M. E. Farmer, P. D. Jeffreys, W. H. Latham, R. R. Montgomery, mi., P. M. Neufeld, mi., H. A. Roell, M. A. J. Salmon, mi., A. F. Savage, F. Siddiqui, R. C. Skrine, K. S. Springer, mi., *A. T. Thornton-Berry, F. N. F. Timewell, S. Wallace-Jones.

Cobham: (*Spring*) F. A. Bradbery (N), E. D. Bottari; (*Autumn*) M. L. W. Bell, mi. (N), *G. A. C. Curtis, *S. R. Fraser Allen, *A. A. N. Gammidge, C. G. Gregory, *M. Hope, R. J. K. McGill (N), J. M. Pike, mi. (N), M. P. Staheyeff, mi. (N), M. G. Street (N), J. M. Taylor.

Chatham: (*Spring*) *P. A. H. Ewbank, *N. D. J. Gray, mi., S. W. Harries, *J. W. J. Hay, mi., *N. E. Luddington, E. L. Meyer; (*Autumn*) G. N. Bennett, R. C. Carless, O. A. H. W. Dodd, J. A. Doughty, P. R. G. Hornor, *J. E. James, P. H. Lancaster, min., I. C. M. Macleod, T. S. Maynard, E. D. Robinson.

Grafton: (*Spring*) M. Al Turki, S. Curling, M. D. Cave, mi., P. D. A. Darling, *J. D. G. Guyer, mi., F. D. G. Mezulanik, mi., R. M. Horrocks, mi., A. E. H. Worsley; (*Autumn*) A. G. Bradstock, A. M. Dweck, mi., *J. S. R. Fulford, P. M. Ham, P. D. Hammond, M. A. Henri, *R. R. Lunt, A. P. Mauricides, J. S. Morton, T. W. P. O'Brien, S. W. Powles, P. W. Talbot, C. Wood, P. J. Yeoward, mi., J. M. Zoghbi.

- Walpole:** (*Spring*) J. P. Knowler, P. D. Weintraub; (*Autumn*) V. E. Bell, A. D. S. Bunting, *N. G. Coldham, J. P. Gilson, N. R. L. Heal, *M. J. P. Horlock, mi., J. H. D. Kemp, G. N. Lancaster, mi., B. A. Nicholson, J. W. Ogden, R. W. Palmer, mi., M. R. Thomas.
- Lyttelton:** (*Spring*) J. R. Harvey, (N), A. W. McAlpine (N), S. D. Milligan, A. B. Eberstein; (*Autumn*) C. C. Allen, J. R. Cattle (N), *The Viscount Dawick, R. A. Marston, J. E. Outhwaite (N), *C. H. Peacock, *A. H. Ritchie, mi., *A. J. Rossdale, mi., A. Sethi, G. J. J. Tucker, mi., J. D. L. Wiggins, *C. R. P. Withinshaw.

* = Son of Old Stoic. (N) = Nugent.

LEAVERS 1974

- Bruce:** (*Summer*) H. P. Chellaram, R. F. A. Dobbs, A. Doble, D. M. S. Fyffe, S. C. P. Ireland, N. A. Kirby, M. J. G. Palmer, C. J. Pasold, M. C. Porter, R. H. Speirs, B. C. Vale, M. C. H. Vey, ma., P. J. Westeng, ma., A. G. Whyte, J. I. McAlley; (*Autumn*) H. J. Carnegy-Arbuthnott, A. S. Drew, J. J. Macnamara, R. J. Mahony, A-N. S. Manji, J. P. Paterson.
- Temple:** (*Summer*) E. O. Bailey, D. M. Brockwell, P. S. Carter, J. Dunn, S. C. Heald, A. V. John, J. B. Kermodé, A. A. S. Mackay, R. J. D. Metcalfe, ma., J. B. R. Metcalfe, mi., J. G. B. Penrose, ma., R. G. Pooler, ma., S. A. Saunders, G. P. Tennant, G. R. Wallis, J. J. Wan, L. M. Werth, R. M. Wheeler, ma.; (*Autumn*) G. T. Cubitt, ma., M. Ridley, ma., M. J. A. Ritchie, D. P. Scowsill, ma.
- Grenville:** (*Summer*) R. J. Atkins, P. W. Burke, J. de B. Crossley, S. M. Fields, A. C. Gornall, J. E. Hawthorne, ma., A. F. Scott, R. P. Syngé, P. D. C. Vyvyan-Robinson; (*Autumn*) T. P. Gilmore, A. C. Hall, P. J. Partington, J. R. Shingles.
- Chandos:** (*Spring*) A. R. Jones, M. J. Peploe; (*Summer*) J. H. R. Binns, A. C. Bowden, P. Boyadjiew, C. D. Chance, T. H. W. Emanuel, P. D. Filmer-Sankey, A. B. L. Foux, A. L. Garber, M. G. Howard, J. A. Kreeger, ma., M. G. Lockhart-Smith, R. P. Maitland-Heriot, ma., R. S. Neufeld, J. C. Paltenghi, D. Rumfitt, D. M. Salmon, M. P. Selby, A. M. Standing, K. B. Thapar, A. C. L. Wiseman; (*Autumn*) P. C. B. Forbes, S. J. Marshall, C. T. Part, M. D. A. Stanley, ma.
- Cobham:** (*Spring*) E. R. G. Clarke; (*Summer*) T. J. Aisher, P. G. Dawson, M. H. Forsyth-Forrest, P. A. Low, R. de C. S. Montagu, P. A. Pike, C. E. S. Varah; (*Autumn*) C. C. Brooking, N. R. Elmslie.
- Chatham:** (*Summer*) J. J. R. Bissill, M. Falcon, ma., A. J. Fane, D. J. Hobson, ma., S. B. Hopkins, ma., D. M. Lancaster, G. C. Leon, G. I. L. McCall, B. A. Mackintosh, P. M. Mumford, T. O. Mytton-Mills, M. R. Samuelson, ma., P. M. Slater, J. H. A. S. Vivian.
- Grafton:** (*Summer*) J. R. Barclay, ma., C. J. Barling, G. M. Brown, J. M. Davis, P. S. Edward, ma., C. E. Furness-Smith, J. R. Gray, P. N. Leonard, D. S. Newton, N. D. Plant, A. L. Pyfrom, P. S. Rolland, M. E. Smith, C. W. Stewart; (*Autumn*) A. R. M. Blackburn, M. J. W. King, C. J. Mallett, ma., P. J. Yeoward, mi.
- Walpole:** (*Summer*) A. D. Barratt, N. L. Boyle, J. A. M. B. Campbell, R. A. Claridge, G. C. M. Fenwick, S. K. P. T. Greenley, S. K. Hildt, H. F. Inglessis, P. H. Robinson, ma., P. S. A. T. Stheeman, ma., S. K. T. Ullyett; (*Autumn*) W. H. B. Beeton.
- Lyttelton:** (*Spring*) C. K. Bond, A. B. Eberstein; (*Summer*) P. G. Clarke, H. L. Goodall, J. W. Johnstone, M. D. Langdon, J. D. Lloyd Morgan, J. A. H. Pearson, M. Q. Rainer, J. C. Ritchie, ma., R. C. Swanborough, ma., J. C. Toomer, F. B. Watson, J. C. Withinshaw; (*Autumn*) D. J. M. Cole, N. C. Kingsland, H. F. Richards.

OLD STOIC NEWS

- A. J. Ainsley (C 1942) has been appointed a Steward of the Worshipful Company of Glaziers for the year 1974-75.
- A. C. W. Bone (B 1959) was awarded the Territorial Decoration April 1975.
- J. Burnell-Nugent (© 1967) Lieutenant R.N. (Submarines) won the Admiral Sir Max Morton Prize 1974.
- J. I. G. Capadose (T 1943) was promoted to Colonel in December 1974.
- Group Captain G. L. Cheshire, V.C. (C 1936) was awarded the 1974 Humanitarian award from Variety Clubs International.
- R. R. E. Chorley (© 1948) has been appointed a member of the Royal Commission on the Press.
- D. G. Choyce (© 1973) was awarded a Squash Blue at Oxford in November 1974.
- Sir John Clerk (G 1932) has been Lord Lieutenant for Midlothian since 1972.
- O. A. W. Dilke (B 1933) has been appointed the Sir D. Owen Evans Memorial Lecturer for 1974 at University College of Wales, Aberystwyth.
- D. S. L. Dodson (C 1937) who is H.M. Ambassador, Brasilia, has been awarded the K.C.M.G.
- W. T. Fisher (C 1931) is the designer of the SUA, PETREL and FULMAR rockets which are used by many universities for research into inner space.
- J. S. B. Henderson (C 1954) has been adopted as prospective Conservative candidate to succeed Sir John Gilmour in East Fife.
- P. G. Henderson (W 1941) was awarded the K.C.B. (Civil) in June 1975.
- J. S. Hillyer (© 1943) has been awarded the O.B.E. (Civil) for services to Dr Barnardo's.
- S. J. L. Olver (© 1934) was awarded the K.B.E. in the New Year's Honours List.
- D. Reid (G 1969) was awarded Second Class Honours in the last solicitors finals exam. (a distinction shared by some twenty out of 4,000 candidates).
- D. Shepherd (C 1949) was presented with the 'Order of the Golden Ark' by H.R.H. The Prince of the Netherlands. This is the special order inaugurated by Prince Bernhard for services to the conservation of wild life—in particular for his part in 'Operation Tiger' and for services to Zambia.
- R. J. Somerville-Roberts (G 1954) has been appointed Headmaster of Worksop.
- I. A. Thomson (C 1971) was selected for the England Party to represent England in the World Cup Hockey Tournament in Kuala Lumpur.
- R. G. A. Westlake (B 1970) was awarded the Queen's Medal in the passing-out parade at Cranwell.
- R. Warrington-Smyth (C 1929) has been awarded the O.B.E.
- P. O. Willing (C 1939) has been promoted Colonel.
- R. A. Woolf (G 1947) has been appointed deputy Director of the Consumer Association.
- H. Yellowlees (C 1937) was awarded the K.C.B. (Civil) June 1975.

MARRIAGES

J. P. Agnew (W 1965) to Carol Ann Williams on 7th June 1972.
J. W. O. Allerton (G 1962) to Lindy Rickards on 22nd November 1974.
P. L. Ashcroft (C 1967) to Barbara Mary Jack on 11th August 1973.
E. H. Bacon (W 1961) to Eva-Maria Rencher on 28th June 1974.
R. A. Bishop (C 1962) to Patricia Ann Hunt on 15th August 1973.
J. Burnell-Nugent (G 1967) to Henrietta Mary Woods on 18th August 1973.
Lord Chelwood (T 1935) to Mrs Pia McHenry on 2nd May 1975.
A. I. O. Davies (T 1936) to Betty Langdon on 14th January 1971.
A. A. W. Denham (G 1963) to Linda Valarie Ince on 2nd May 1970.
P. J. Elliott (C 1967) to Kathleen Elizabeth Thomas on 3rd May 1975.
J. P. English (G 1960) to Susan Mary Bird on 8th April, 1972.
D. M. Fingleton (C 1959) to Clare Colvin on 25th January 1975.
T. C. Hayes-Palmer (C 1924) to Hilda Joan Patton on 2nd November 1974.
J. A. C. Heaslop (W 1968) to Fiona Mary Fleming Roberts on 26th October 1974.
R. Horrell (G 1965) to Penelope Jane Foster on 4th May 1974.
J. Hunt (C 1959) to Candida Geddes on 24th October 1974.
J. C. Lilley (W 1969) to Fiona Close on 6th September 1973.
J. B. Mayland (W 1959) to Angela Catherine Wild on 6th December 1969.
S. B. Murray (W 1961) to Elizabeth Mary Smith on 6th May 1972.
M. J. O'Neill (C 1951) to Shirley Bryan on 14th December 1974.
B. L. Perryman (B 1964) to June Mary Alston on 26th October 1974.
S. W. Shepherd (G 1968) to Karin Elizabeth Mary West on 31st August 1974.
G. R. C. Walton (W 1966) to Samantha Ann Russell-Lawrence on 7th April 1973.
I. G. Williamson (C 1950) to Hylda Josephine Carbery on 31st August 1974.
N. K. W. Williamson (W 1957) to Catlyne de Witte on 19th May 1973.
J. P. Yerburgh (B 1970) to Mary Elizabeth Jones on 28th December 1974.

BIRTHS

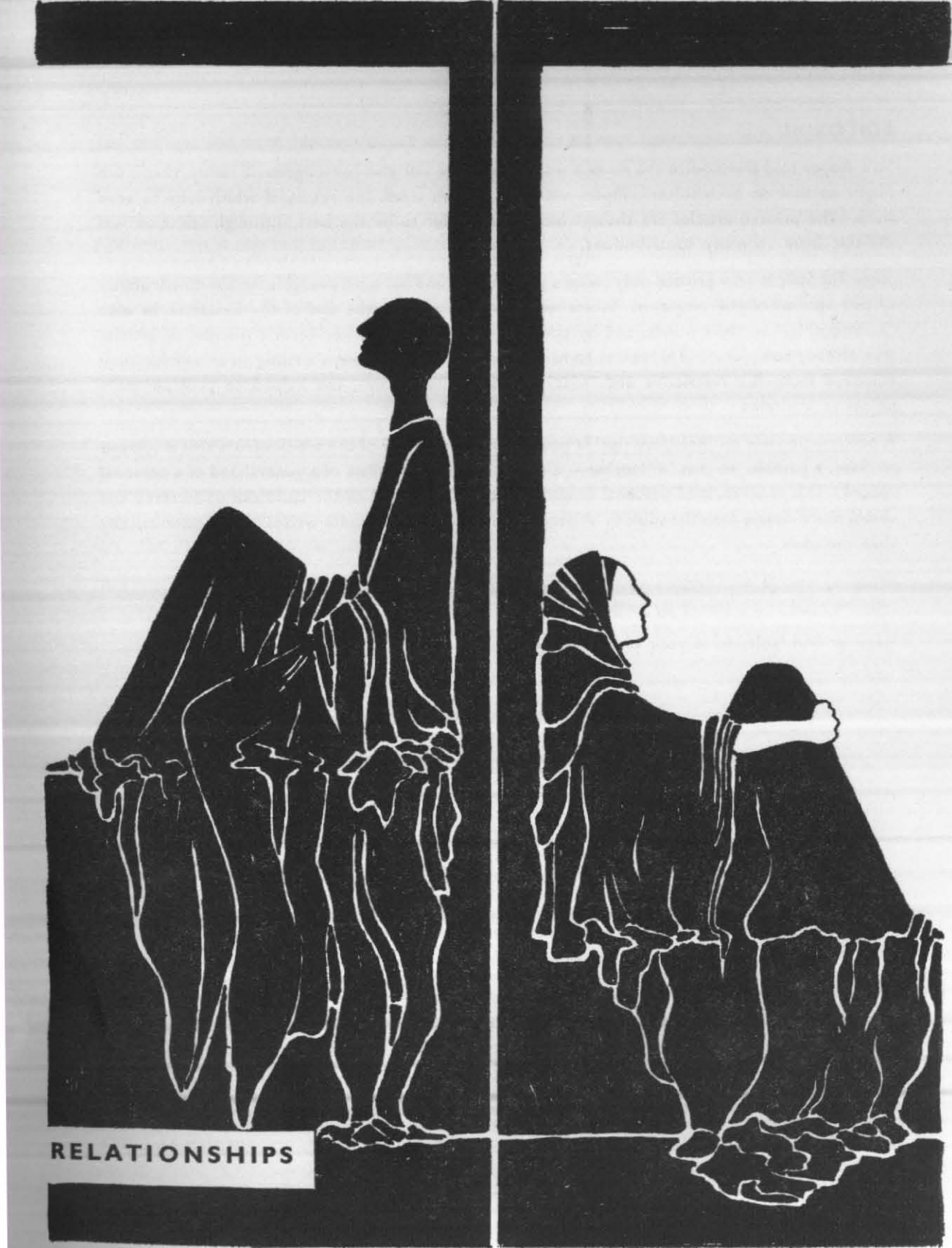
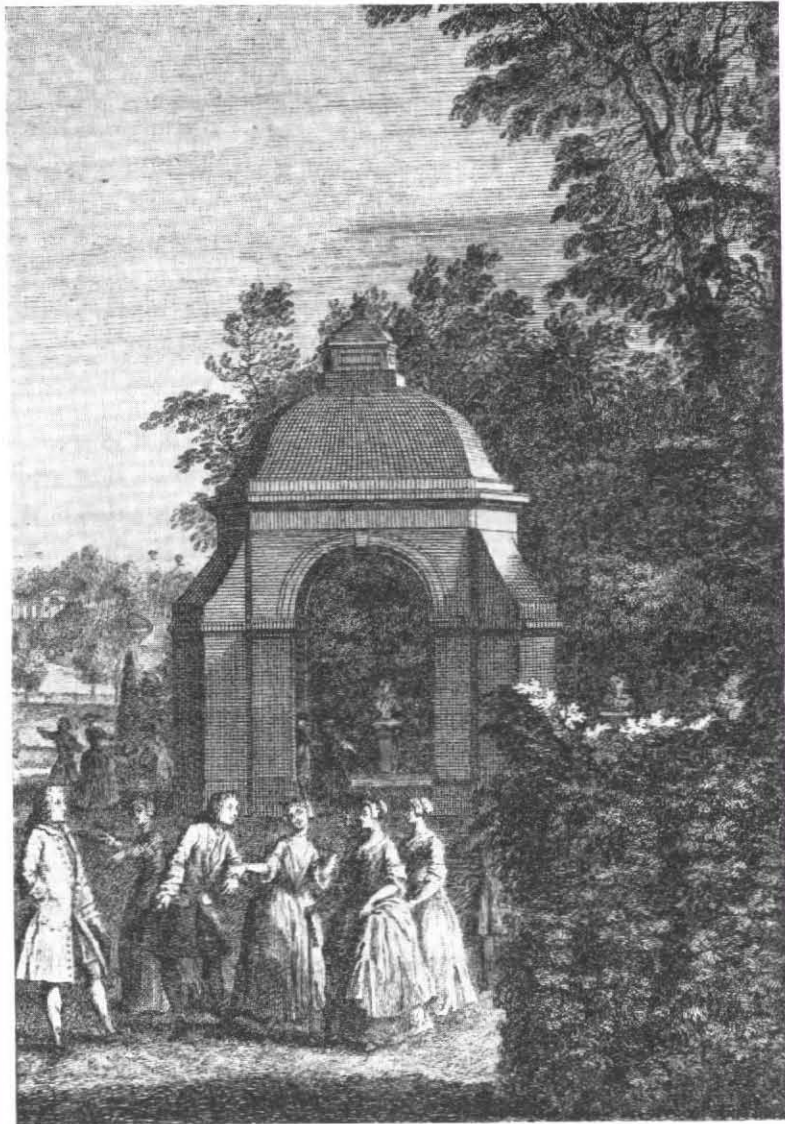
To the wife of:

J. P. Agnew (W 1965) a daughter on 20th October 1972.
W. P. P. Ashby (B 1960) a daughter on 2nd December 1974.
A. H. G. Atkinson (C 1960) a son on 18th March 1975.
The Rev. J. E. G. Bach (B 1958) a son on 11th February 1974.
T. P. J. Boyd-Carpenter (C 1956) a daughter on 21st January 1975.
C. P. M. Champness (C 1965) a son on 29th August 1974.
E. P. S. Curtis (W 1955) a son on 26th November 1974.
A. A. W. Denham (G 1963) a daughter on 9th August 1974
R. B. J. Dunipace (T 1966) a son on 7th April 1975.
R. J. R. Elias (C 1960) a daughter on 5th July 1974.

J. P. English (G 1960) a daughter on 27th December 1973.
I. D. Fenston (W 1963) a son on 2nd January 1975.
J. M. Finister (W 1944) a son on 21st October 1971.
N. Foord-Kelcey (W 1964) a son on 28th January 1975.
T. A. Hankey (W 1961) a son on 27th November 1974.
M. J. H. Hammond (C 1956) a son on 4th February 1975.
J. C. Lilley (W 1969) a daughter on 10th October 1974.
J. B. Mayland (W 1959) a daughter on 15th February 1971.
C. D. Mullineux (T 1952) a daughter, Kate, on 6th December 1974.
S. B. Murray (C 1961) a son on 30th March 1974.
J. R. A. Nottingham (C 1959) a son on 12th February 1974.
D. Remington (G 1965) a daughter on 16th March 1974.
L. M. Thomas (B 1961) a son on 2nd August 1974.
C. J. T. Vane (C 1965) a son on April 10th 1975.
N. K. W. Williamson (C 1957) a daughter on 17th May 1974.

DEATHS

C. W. H. Begbie (T 1926) two or three years ago.
J. D. le Bouvier (T 1940) in a car accident on 25th October 1974.
J. M. Clarkson (G 1939) on 28th June 1974.
R. A. Evans (B 1936), Lord Mountevans of Chelsea, in December 1974.
J. A. B. Lloyd-Phillips (G 1940) on 17th November 1974.
A. E. de la T. Mallett (B 1935).
G. F. Panton (G 1931) on 5th September 1974.
P. C. E. Russell (T 1932) in June 1974.
D. F. Rutherston (C 1942) on 3rd March 1975.
R. G. Walford (G 1931) on 16th May 1975.



RELATIONSHIPS

EDITORIAL

"Sir Roger told them, with the air of a man who would not give his judgement rashly, that much might be said on both sides." Much was said on both sides, the result of which may be seen here. The printed articles are those which we consider to be the best, although selection was difficult from so many contributions.

Since *The Stoic* is now printed only twice a year, more time has been available for the construction of this section of the magazine. Stoics were able to leave at the end of the Easter term with 'Relationships' in their minds, and by the beginning of the summer term a number of articles was already completed. This seems to have been profitable: perhaps writing in an environment removed from the restrictive and 'false' atmosphere at Stowe, has helped to provide more objective outlooks.

A pessimistic view on 'Relationships' is present in the majority of the articles from that displayed in 'Sam: a parable' to that in 'Mother—a child's shell'—pessimism of a general and of a personal nature. This is a result of personal environment and age. Just as the child can understand the clown more clearly than the adult in 'A need for laughter', so the youth writes more pessimistically than the adult.

Everyday events are mingled with genuine emotions. To generalize is difficult, the articles can only be read and assessed by personal opinions.

'Like or find fault, do as your pleasures are.'

JONATHAN CARR
RORY KNIGHT BRUCE

ARTWORK: CAROLYNE HAYNES MICHAEL HOPPEN NICHOLAS LETO

The carriage was dirty, but that didn't matter, I was on my way home now. I fell back on the coarse seats like the other obscure million, breathing a sigh. The air was thick, I almost had second thoughts about breathing it. The whistle blew, the engine built up momentum, and slowly dragged us away. I was glad. The pigeons continued to dart inanely on the receding platform. But it was still full of people.

Opposite me, hugging the plastic handbag on her knee was a large monolithic woman. Her face was red under the fringe of thin platinum dyed hair, the red of old tired veins. She almost enveloped the small girl sitting next to her. On the other side of the corridor was the mother of the child who I suspected to be the daughter of the old woman. They all devoured British Rail ham sandwiches in unison, the grandmother with rather less ease but no less vigour due to a lack of teeth. She then groped for the *Irish Independent* perched proudly on the straw basket resting on her legs. They were bandaged like an ancient warrior. She slumped back in the seat and fitted her glasses with a grunt of satisfaction. The tiny red eyes scanned the paper.

"Have ye seen d'paper dismarning Mary," she said, with a beautiful Irish accent. It made me smile. Mary said she hadn't as grandma made an enormous effort to pass the unfolded paper over the little girl, who disappeared for a moment.

Everything remained quiet for a few minutes as Mary concentrated on the paper. The grandmother and the little girl shared a half pound bar of chocolate. No doubt from a Charing Cross machine. London Bridge. Our secluded little society was no more as I watched the anxious faces of the rush hour outside. A young coloured man, in a checked Lord John sports jacket sat down beside me. In the other corner was a young man dressed with typical European precision. He rather self-consciously whispered to his angelic daughter in German as he fed her fruit Polos. Her little red tighted legs dangled from the door seats. Somehow I felt proud of my fellow travellers, I wonder what he thought? He looked rather timid.

Huddled in a corner diagonally opposite me I had first noticed a very wiry man. His face was haggard, his features were angular and deep, his dark sorry eyes looked out from hollow sockets in a ghost-like manner not pleading, but warning. I somehow felt he had once had high ideals but now that cadaverous figure in a schoolboy raincoat, with the belt drawn tight . . . he drew on his 'Embassy Red'. The little German girl seemed to regard him knowingly through the gold rimmed glasses perched on her nose.

Lewisham. The same little figures. The grandmother was now pointing out the little girl's school whose playing fields bordered the embankment. Tracey's chubby face acknowledged with a proud grin. She had quite a few teeth missing. She then chattered away in familiar 'Saath East London'. I felt fulfilled, Irish cockneys. They had obviously been up to town for a spree, these three identical females, only divided by years. All chubby, happy and identical.

Blackheath. Stop. I followed the coloured man off. Shutting the door on them. Had they noticed me?

MARK SCANTLEBURY

*This poem was the winning entry in the
J. F. Roxburgh Prize for Poetry*

SOMEWHERE?

And yet, when the traveller awoke,
he realized, half to his relief and
half to his reality,
that God had not forsaken him.

Stiffened by his shattering ordeal of
the night before,
he rose to his wretched, disfigured feet,
and rubbed his maimed hands over his
bloodshot eyes.
Soon he became conscious of the brilliant
crescendo of the morning sun on his
lifelike body; but it was not for long.

But where was he? Had he crossed the
most difficult and terrible barrier of all?
Something that now nobody has to cross.
Or had he failed?
Failed to get to the other side and
so lost his world to another part and
power!

And now the traveller sat in darkness,
but he could just see by a tiny
speck of light another man far off
in a different surrounding.
He watched the man walking with so
much beauty around him and in complete
freedom.
He watched as this man experienced something
unthinkable to any human.

* * * * *

As this man walked, birds sang quietly and
he thought to himself, what a fool he'd
been all his life; if only he'd known sooner.
Water ran slowly, was this the paradise?
Fishes suddenly jumped up from nowhere,
why of course it was.
Flowers swung regularly, water being blown slowly,
the wind flowing gently in so much beauty,
So much freedom and so much tranquility.

How delightful the fresh, clear water felt on
his once also disfigured but now new body.
Now he felt different, completely different.
He felt new, refreshed and above all, alive!
The sight of the tiny fishes below him and
tickle of wet leaves against his skin gave
him something new; an insight and feeling.
The sensation of his feet sinking into the
mud and the thrill of the little insects
swimming all around his wet, silky body,
swallowed him.

Surrounded by heavenly things,
embedded in still waters and floating leaves,
the feeling of wetness,
and the breath of pureness gave him this
something he had never had before.

Calm ripples sowed the lucky waters,
then . . . still once again.
He dragged his now unclothed body across
the smooth pebbles and felt them roll over
his excitable skin.
Then slowly he felt himself go,
he had had his time,
he needed no more to understand . . .
He did not go down or above the waters,
but in them, to the place of endless life
and happiness.
And so, overcome with joy,
he too felt himself slide away.
Slide away into the wondrous world
that had been promised him only the day before.

* * * * *

And as he slid away into the water,
so the darkness began to lift from
the traveller.
Slowly the speck of light got bigger and bigger,
till it was big enough for him to step through.

Now not only had he crossed the barrier,
but he had also destroyed it.
He had made a free path to this beauty
with only one small gate in its way.

Now the traveller has finished his journey,
but still his soul travels the world.
All the traveller does is open the gate
to those who wish to come in,
while his soul continually knocks at every door,
and just waits to be let in.

GERALD WINNINGTON-INGRAM

NIKOS KAZANTZAKIS

One of the very few people I am able to recall as having made a great impression on my life as an ideal, and who has had considerable influence on my thought, is a man I have never met, nor will ever meet in a material sense, because this December 2nd marks the eighteenth anniversary of his death. The man I am referring to is one of the greatest philosophers of the century, the 'Greek old man of letters', Nikos Kazantzakis. To me, his life's work presents not only an ideal, but more, a religion.

At first sight, I admit, this appears a little odd, and requires an explanation. I am not, as it may seem, an atheist; nor am I by any stretch of the word, a nihilist. Yet there is something of an enigma about his works, and what I feel is far more than a deep respect for the man, an attractive force, which has made a much more profound effect on me than any other of today's religious dogmas, or a sort of cult: it is more—a lifetime's work which has produced a man who has struggled relentlessly to attain a transformation of matter and life, into spirit, and a mutual existence between God and man.

His boyhood served only to precipitate a sad streak of pessimism in him, and he grew up among the ruins of an illusion to face a world he could not accept: "We come from a dark abyss, we end in a dark abyss, and we call the luminous interval life." His early works are a fascination, in that I am able to sense a feel of ignorance in them, yet I remain unable to isolate what it really is. Perhaps time shall tell

In this essay, I could so easily cover page after page in magical quotations, strangely magnetic, though strongly frightening in their own way, but even this would not reconstruct his warmth of prose. To me his struggle is intensely realistic, though in my innocence I refrain from reasoning why. I know I can only hope to bring ideas a small step closer to the surface of reality. He once explained that "in the temporary living organism of ephemeral life, two streams collide: (a) the ascent towards composition, towards life, towards immortality; and (b) the descent towards decomposition, towards matter, towards death." It is in this vision of confused being that his prose springs up, twists, hesitates, and turns, then finally settles down like old age, and harmonizes the two streams to modulate our thinking and our action.

I suppose this eccentric style of hero-worship may be regarded as an opening to escapism; and to many of the more sceptical members of society, it probably appears to be something of a daydream. I admit that it tends to turn out a more introversive side of my despicable character, and that it has the power to fling me into an ethereal haze of mind, but I do not despise the voids it creates. "My brain blots out, and all, the heavens and the earth, vanish. The mind shouts: 'Only I exist!'"

At the beginning of the essay, the word 'ideal' came in, so it is only right that I should deal with it in the normal chain of events. I must stress that Kazantzakis' life itself presents an idea rather than an ideal. It was by no means an easy life. He suffered terrible hardship in his time, and to say 'well, don't we all?' is taking a rather blind attitude. I feel that the 'ideal' is something which we have to create for ourselves, and he only served to tell us this, and even then, he was not the only one who has done so; (but that is another story. Kazantzakis was merely an example of where to correct ourselves, so I am striving desperately hard to make this essay as 'un-Messianic' as possible). The pessimistic streak in his essays is the most important factor to watch out for; here is an example of man's place in our society: "Struggling slowly, I move among the phenomena which I create, I distinguish between them for my convenience, I unite them with laws and yoke them to my heavy practical needs. I impose order on disorder, and by doing so, I give a face—my face—to chaos."

Alone I am unable to enlarge on Kazantzakis' beliefs; I can only appreciate them in my own heart. If I had to argue that he has given man a goal to try to attain in life, it must have something to do with those alluring and eerie words, now baking in the warm Cretan light, the epitaph on his marble gravestone, and perhaps the whole secret of his life: "I fear nothing. I hope for nothing. I am free"

ALEXANDER ZAMBELLAS

JE M'AIME

Love spins,
Acting only as a catalyst
Between what we once knew
And what we never did.

In and out
The tangled legs of life
Spew instant disposable bags of air
Into cups of roses.

Clinging, grasping, clutching, loving
Indigo shapes meet each other
Smiling.
Caught in a whirl of pollen
They ask each other and themselves
"Why me?"

Hands with dirty fingernails
Which always do the shoving
Laugh and send more fools
Swimming into relationships
With themselves.

RICHARD LOUP

SOMEWHERE

Take a knife,
And cut your arm.
Watch the blood flow
Red and warm—
And laugh because
you think you've found
the answer.
But you can't tell them,
And so they'll never know.
They'll look down and cry,
Their tears falling on your blood.
Your cold, blue lips will curl up
In a smile as they lower
you down.

In your black world all is quiet,
Day never came,
Your cold, blue lips open and
you scream
All the dread of a life time,
Gushes out with your blood.
Why didn't we listen?
You writhe in agony,
And scrape up at the dark,
Your fingers but stroking your
coffin.

You were wrong.
And the devil's cold, blue lips
curl up in a smile.

CHARLES MONTGOMERY

BLIND PROGRESSION

The soft hum gradually rose to a pitch. Heat waves stacked themselves resiliently on the softening tarmac. It was a hot afternoon. Activity crammed each second to bursting point, and a man wiped his brow. About two hundred people were waiting in the room; they could see out but they could not get out, not that they wanted to because they had that mutual look of destination in their eyes. They were waiting, and the glass windows and plastic chairs made the room warmer and more unbearable. 'It's unnatural,' said the woman.

Beyond the glass window grass was being blown flat, but not by the wind. The air was being used, but not by the birds. A rural environment lost. The green that once served one living now served thousands, even those waiting and looking. Lines, thick, black, distinguishable lines lay dead on the grass, yet through them many live. No longer does the grass make the living. It is just there.

The man, whose newspaper had just put ink on his hands went to wash them. He was waiting too. The woman meanwhile was becoming irritable, tired of her surroundings which were dominated by temperature. She placed her declining faith in a vending machine but that did not work, either. Everybody was busy or waiting (to put money into their own hands).

Outside the outline of a building's foundations could be seen, though Nature had been allowed to work there and it was hardly visible. But no one saw it, no one even looked at it. No one saw beyond themselves and the time. No one had time. Was it the warmth that dulled their awareness or were they just dull people. Those who were bored were too busy worrying and those who were busy were bored. Activity had dulled awareness.

The situation was isolated. A fluctuating population of thousands corroding the environment. They did not think of it as isolated because they were too busy working—and waiting. The unwanted guest, void of appreciation. The situation was isolated, the incident was criminal but no one thought about it. Why should they, the criminals did the thinking.

Activity murdered the false silence again. The whine increased, thundered then departed. The false silence returned, so did the man. It really was very warm: 'It's unnatural,' said the woman. And Nature had failed.

RORY KNIGHT BRUCE

A FRIEND IN NEED?

when he smiles
one detects a groan
and he never smiles
on his own.
his idea is that to make a friend
(in order to procure a money loan)
one has to follow a general trend,
but of course that's not the end,
because when he's finished with this friend,
his "face" drops off
so he never smiles at him again.

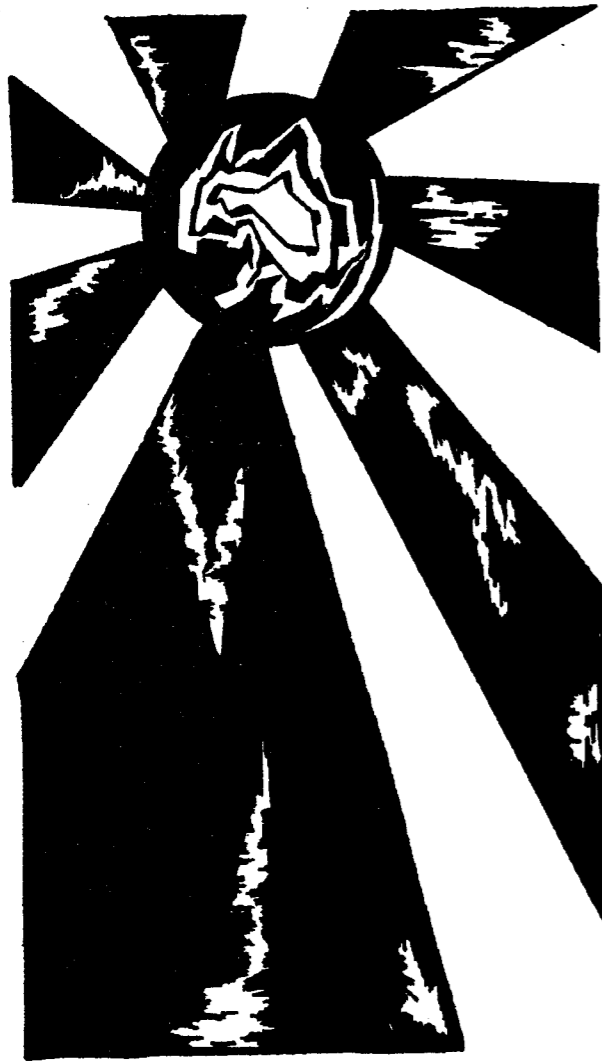
And furthermore
he's never poor.

WILLIAM HAWTHORNE

THE RIGHT MASK

One night a poem came to a poet.
"From now on," it said, "you must wear a mask."
"What kind of mask?" asked the poet.
"A rose mask," said the poem.
"I've used it already," said the poet. "I've exhausted it."
"Then wear the mask that's made
Out of the nightingale's song, use that mask."
"But it's an old mask," said the poet,
"It's all used up".
"Nonsense," said the poem, "it's the perfect mask."
"Nevertheless, try on the god mask,
"Now that mask illuminated Heaven."
"It's a tired mask," said the poet,
"And the stars crawl about in it like ants."
"Then try on the troubadour's mask, or the singer's mask,
Try on all the popular masks."
"I have," said the poet, "I'm in love with them,
"But they fit so awkwardly."
Now the poem was getting impatient.
It stamped its feet like a child, it screamed:
"Then try on your own face!
"Try the one mask that terrifies,
"The mask no one else could possibly use,
"The mask only you could wear out"
The poet tore at his face till it bled.
"This mask?" he asked, "This mask!"
"Yes," said the poem, "Why not!"
But he was tired of masks.
He had lived too long with them.
He snatched up the poem and stuck it to his face,
Its screams were muffled, it wept, it tried to be lyrical,
It wriggled into his eyes and mouth,
Into his blood it wriggled.
The next day his friends did not recognise him,
They were afraid of him.
The mask was utterly transparent.
"Now it's the right mask," said the poem,
"The right mask." It clung to him lovingly,
And never let go again.

TIM GREGSON-WILLIAMS



SNUGGLE UP TO ME AND SLEEP

it is all over.
you talk in whispers
content in the darkness
to keep your secrets
to yourselves.
But snuggle up to me and sleep,
in the morning
it will all be different
as those spies
disguised as the sun
sneak into the room
through the wide open window.
Just snuggle up to me and sleep,
before that ominous call,
causes you to put on your face of shame,
then
run
all the way
home.

JONATHAN JOHNSTONE

LIFETIME REFLECTIONS

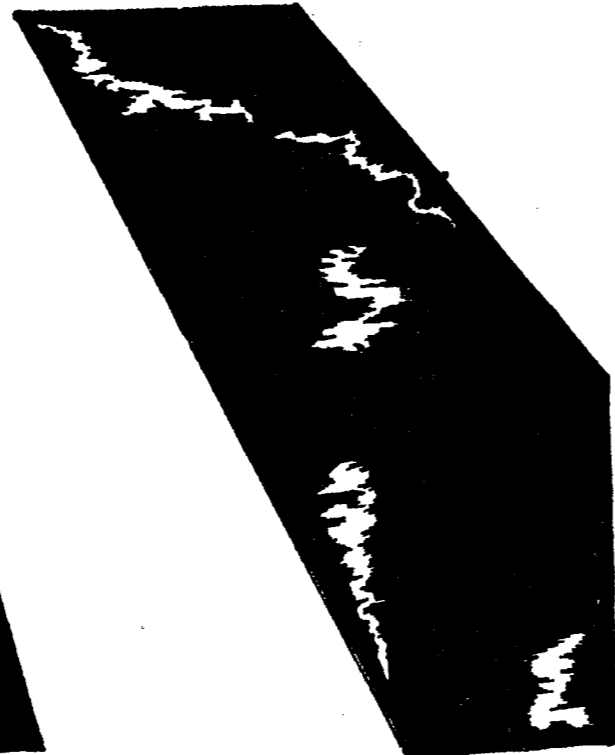
The swollen stream played its destined course
Through empty minds in lonely villages.
The Old Man stared at the bubbling water
As they delved in the reflections of
the midday sun,
The Mountain air suffocated all ill-feeling,
Yet the Old Man couldn't run.

A bird danced joyfully upon an ancient stone,
Brushing away the sparkling water specklets.
The sacrificial snow had melted high up in
the mystic mountains,
Flowers of a million flamboyant colours
had made their entrance upon nature's stage,
All was vibrant in the April sunshine,
Yet the Old Man was blind.

His stream of thunderous silence
Curved its way through ancient rock,
Onwards to its destiny.
To silky blue waters of a placid ocean
Then to be lost in eternity.
Here a lazy junk sailed through
the pale pink sunset to the border of a
dying day.

The Old Man lay on the haven of his bed,
Listening to his holy stream till all
was silent,
And all had drained away.

TITUS FORBES ADAM



A MOTHER — A CHILD'S SHELL

I remember once being in a dim room where there was no apparent light source. I could see and almost taste deafening echoes and I was very frightened. My bed shook during this nightmare from which I could not wake myself.

"Mummy!" I shouted.

The humidity was crushing but we ploughed on through the long grass near the rocky sea shore. We were explorers, Alex and I, we were both adventurers. Then the air was filled with a swarming thick mass and the shrilling hum of a disturbed wasp nest. I felt a sting.

"Mummy!" I shouted.

I remember the first time I ever went to a fair. Robby took me with him to ride on the roller coaster. It sure looked fun from the distance so I said yes. But then as the four-wheel monster began to steadily climb I began to dread the run that was ahead. At the top of this mountain of rails we started to pick up speed

"Mummy!" I shouted.

Then there was the time I was crossing our neighbour's yard to get home. They were out somewhere and they had left "Buddy" their mongrel dog chained near their door. As I passed he appeared to be asleep, so I quietly bent down over the creature to pet him. Then I felt the warmth of the dog's jaws as his teeth bit into my face. My left eye was blinded by blood.

"Mummy!" I shouted.

Today I felt the wind. I felt the blitz freedom of a fast car, an emotional surge of power behind the steering wheel. A thrill as the speedometer read 140 m.p.h. I looked up to see an overturned lorry and five or six cars stopped in the road. My brake pedal had no effect, all I could see was myself crashing in slow motion; the steering wheel turned and spun out of my control, and as if in a dream, the car whirled and turned in endless circles. Glass seemed to crack and shower deliberately at my eyes. But still my brain registered every detail all around—just as if it was filming from a plane. The screeching, screaming tyres, whining engine and crunching steel rang through my deafened eardrums until little by little the sounds were reduced to echoes in the distance. Then there was silence, dark silence.

And still I have not woken, I just contemplate in the darkness. When will my mother be here, when will she help me? Can she help me? I remember arguing with my friends that she was the best mother in the world why hadn't she protected me from this dark blindness? Why doesn't she comfort me now like the way she used to? Surely mother, wherever you are, you have not deserted your baby boy? Have you? Have you?

TOM OUTERBRIDGE

A NEED FOR LAUGHTER

The ring was filled with the smell of sawdust and the pungent, bitter sweet almost tangible odour of active animals. A blue haze billowed slowly in front of the dimmed lights. Further up, the domed ceiling was mysteriously criss-crossed with wires and illuminated cracks in the plaster. A hushed awe-filled silence dominated the building. Gaping lolly-sucking children with sticky hands gazed upwards at the trapeze artists.

The white sequin-covered figures flew backwards and forwards through the air. The shadow behind the heavy spotlight had to strain to follow the contortions of their squirming bodies. Like bleedin' fish jumping. His big white finger never once let go of the catch which he was guaranteed to hook again night after night for the next few weeks. While the rapt attention of the audience was concentrated on these Flying Dago Brothers, the next performers were waiting in the pitch-black tunnel outside.

Clowns always are popular with children. The tunnel was dirty, and from it could be heard the noises and grunting of animals, of practising performers and of people cracking dirty jokes or telling sordid stories of their conquests on the last tour. One clown stood apart from the others, in the corner nearest to the entrance to the ring. The wall which he was leaning on had been urinated on by the bear from the act before last, but he could not smell it. He was dressed in the traditional baggy trousers and braces, floppy shoes and big red nose. The lines of melancholy written around his eyes and mouth were plastered over with a big red grin and staring red eyes. His hair was matted with grease. And he watched the gods suspended on their strings. He always did.

The lights went up, the shock to his eyes forcing him a step backwards. The clowns waited as the others ran out and then they fumbled and stumbled on to the ring themselves. He was at home with this his family. Surrounded by young, smiling eyes who half cared and half did not. They were better able than their life-hardened parents to see through his smile to the sadness beneath.

He fell over to the sound of drums, had water poured down the front of his trousers, sat on disappearing eggs. The child laughed, looking to his parents for approval. Melted strawberry ice cream formed a vague smirk around the corners of his mouth. He rolled in his seat, squirmed, felt tears welling up in his eyes, for sheer pleasure.

The clown saw him, or so he thought, as he sat on the chair in a pool of water in the middle of the ring with the lights full in his face. Behind him another clown stood with an egg poised over his head.

His car was going towards the bend. Foot on the brake. But it wouldn't stop. Darkness. And then the sight of his own children all red from their mouths. The egg broke. Stickiness and yellow trickled down his face over his eyes and lips. Theatrical sobs turned simultaneously into real tears mingling with the egg.

The child laughed and laughed, tears of happiness running down his face, but the clown had lost sight of him.

RICHARD LOUP

"Neither be cynical about love; for in the face of all aridity and disenchantment it is perennial as the grass."

Like the maiden Helen at ravaged Troy
Sitting unmoved, cunning, and coy
She neglected your loving embraces
Too soon.

Visit the sea, resemble a surge
Filling the space, become a new nerve
Of the centre of love, the core of all life—
A new dream.

Rise up from the sands through the water of man
Forget time-worn troubles, and play pipes of Pan.
Rejoice (but be gentle), she regrets her decision
Too late.

Like a shimmering shark, shine in the depths,
Shoal upon shoal will fall as your prey.
Gleam like the sun in a cave once a day—
But no more.

Opposing the mermaids half-man and half-beast
Become a true member, a king of your sea
But remember humility, everyone's key
To pure joy.

Secure a retreat, seclusion in life
Where you are free from the city of the sea
At peace with God, as you conceive him to be—
Alone.

She's trapped again, on a rock of divorce
But you are released, to swim as you please
Through the caverns, the corridors, cells of the sea
To eternity.

JONATHAN CARR

SAM: A PARABLE

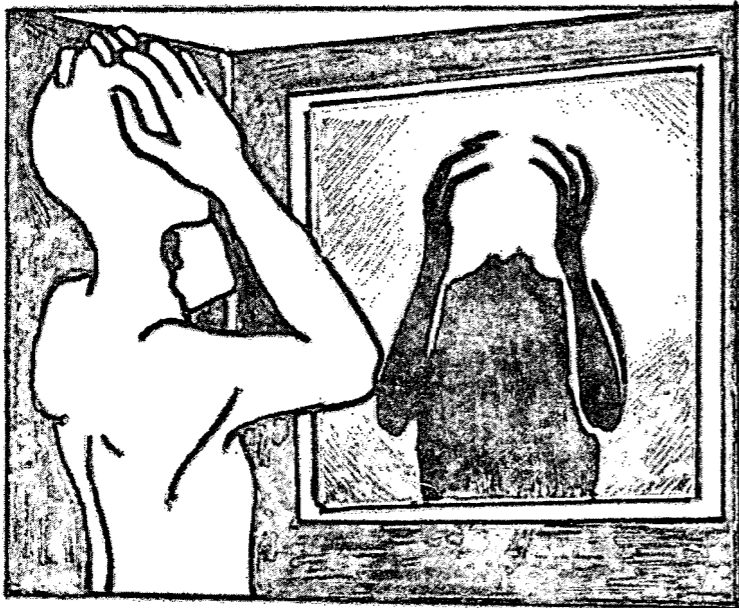
Sam woke up one morning, dirty and dishevelled. Squashing one of the many pests that trespassed upon his person, he pulled himself stiffly to his feet. He had eaten his last crust of mouldy bread the night before, and so today he would have to scavenge for some other scrap to eat for his breakfast.

As he emerged hesitantly from the side of the derelict house where he had sheltered for the night, Sam noticed with sudden alarm the expressions of his fellow pedestrians: they were all smiling. Brushing his hand quickly across his face, Sam realised that he was without his smile; in the confusion of the night before he had lost it. Darting back into the seclusion of the derelict house, Sam silently cursed the Government. For the last eighteen months everyone had, by law, to wear a smile upon their faces. Sam had been very confused by this; how could he know what people thought of him if they were all smiling? He knew that a lot of people must despise him for what he was, but even so, they still smiled. It was getting intolerable, everyone smiling like this. The poor, the bereaved, the sick and the elderly—they all smiled. No one showed their true feelings any longer. Sam lived in a world full of hypocrisy.

Finally, Sam found his smile and went back onto the street. He came to a blind alley at the back of a restaurant where he knew there would be dustbins with some scraps in them. Here he was at last free from the ghastly grins of the street. He started to rummage. He'd managed to collect a few morsels, when someone tapped his shoulder. Turning, Sam was confronted by four more smiling faces. Sam smiled too, though he would have liked not to. Swiftly and efficiently, the four set about Sam until they left him, shattered and broken, a dying wreck.

Through it all Sam had been aware only of their smiles, leering at him. Lying on the floor of the alley, Sam caught sight of his face reflected in a fragment of broken mirror. He was still smiling. Angrily he wiped the smile off his face. Sam was himself again.

TIM BEEVOR



MORE THAN A FRIEND LOST

Silence has eaten me up,
Conversation has run dry,
And now we sit, unseen, unknown,
Watchers of the sky.

I see the sun that shines on you,
The dark that hangs on me,
One warm lit ray'd be enough
If I could keep it for eternity.

Convention keeps us well apart,
The wall divides our thought,
Pretension is the craft that you employ
Now your mind's been bought.

The eggshell society has won,
Contest it if I dare,
And you've become the treasured prize
Of society this year.

So how can I permeate my feelings
To find that ray of sun,
When all around synthetic friends
Provide your new found fun?

RORY KNIGHT BRUCE

LE MENDIANT

Il est né pauvre et malheureux.
Depuis sa jeunesse, il a peine à survivre;
Il se traîne dans les rues, trouve un coin abrité.
Il tend son vieux chapeau troué,
Dans lequel les gens tapent du pied.
A la fin de la journée, vingt francs, il a récolté.
Il trouve de quoi manger et puis va coucher.
Pour lui, la vie est monotone,
Il répuque tout le monde, il est malheureux.
Mais au fond de son coeur,
Une faible lueur d'espoir brûle encore.
C'est avec courage qu'il attend la mort,
Quand elle vient enfin, il l'accueille avec joie;
Il est mort pauvre mais heureux.

DU ZERO A L'INFINI

L'Homme est né impuissant,
au milieu de la nature sauvage.

L'Homme lentement s'est développé,
la nature n'a pas bougé.

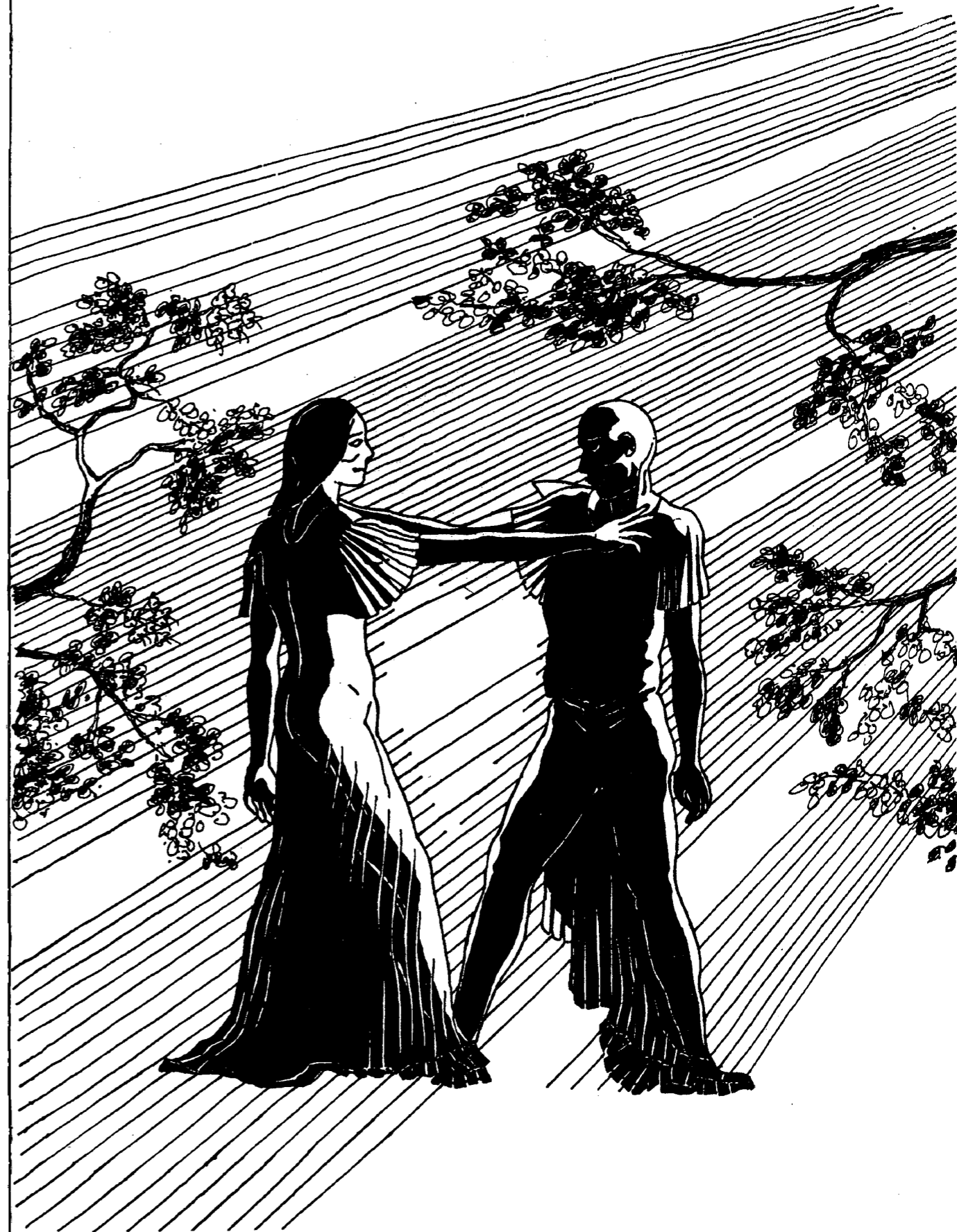
L'Homme s'est industrialisé,
la nature s'est inquiétée.

L'Homme s'est mis à polluer,
la nature a diminué.

La Nature impuissante demeure
à la merci de l'homme sauvage.

L'Homme a commencé à zéro,
s'arrêtera-t-il à l'infini?

ETIENNE BOTTARI





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