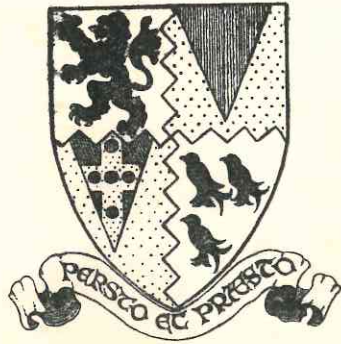
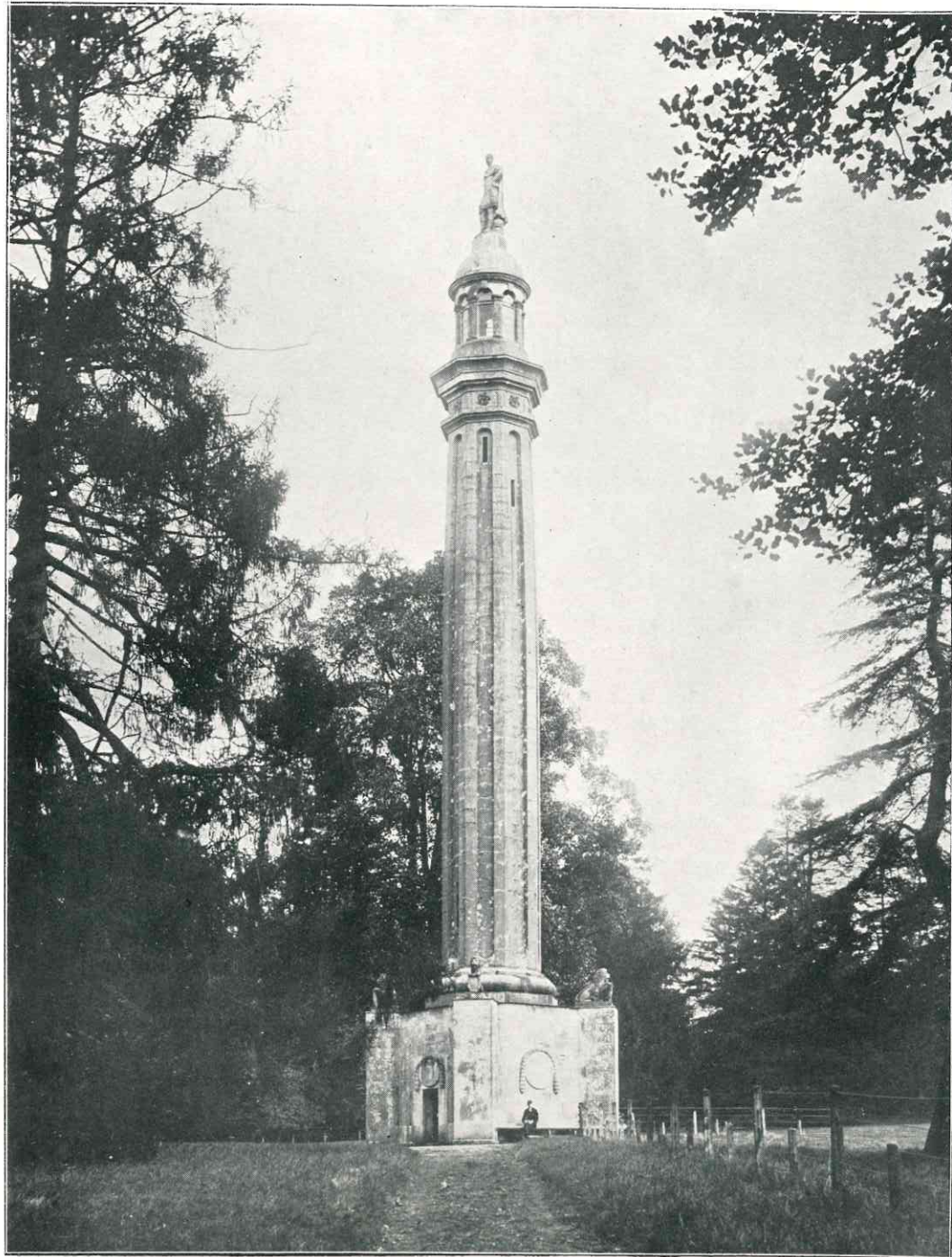


THE STOIC



Number Eleven

DECEMBER 1926



THE COBHAM MONUMENT.

[Photo. Chapman, Buckingham.]

THE STOIC

VOL. II

DECEMBER, 1926

No. 4

EQUILIBRIUM

THE numbers of the School now stand where it is hoped that they will stand for a long time. We propose in future to increase only in efficiency. The creation of 'Grafton' has brought us up to 450, but when further Houses are added the intention will be to reduce the existing Houses, not to increase the School. Things are not normal yet of course, and there will be more changes before long in the scheme of Forms. We have 241 boys under sixteen, and those who leave each term still come more from the Lower School than from the Upper School—with the curious result that there are more 'demotions' than promotions. But for the most part we can now feel that equilibrium has been achieved, and that in future we can make arrangements which will be permanent and not provisional. If this does not enable us to produce vastly better results than we have produced hitherto, the fault will be our own and the failure inexcusable.

SPEECH DAY, 1926.

(We reprint the following account from the 'Buckingham Advertiser,' by courtesy of the Editor.)

THERE was a gathering of about 2,000 at Stowe on Saturday, July 24th, on the occasion of Speech Day. The Gymnasium was completely filled for the prize-giving, and many guests were obliged to witness the proceedings from beyond the threshold of the doors.

The afternoon was rendered especially interesting by reason of a visit by Field-Marshal Viscount Allenby, who presented the prizes.

Lord Gisborough (Chairman of the Governors) presided, and the others present on the platform were: Lady Gisborough, Admiral the Hon. Sir Edmund Fremantle, the Marquis of Lincolnshire, Brigadier-General Adair, Lord Cottesloe (Lord Lieutenant of Bucks), General

Sir George Barrow, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., Sir Archibald Boyd-Carpenter, M.P., Mr. and Mrs. Pearman Smith, the Rev. P. E. Warrington (Hon. Secretary to the Governors), and the Headmaster (Mr. J. F. Roxburgh).

THE SUCCESS OF THE SCHOOL.

LORD GISBOROUGH said that they had met again for their great annual gathering, and he was certain that all present last year would admit that, if it was a great meeting then, to-day it was even greater. What could be said of the meeting could also be said of the School, and in making that assertion he was not speaking as Chairman of the Governors. All present would readily agree that the Governors played no part in the general progress of the School. Not only had the School increased, improved and grown out of its early childhood into its boyhood, but its name had gone almost throughout the world. He, as Chairman of the Governors, knew that it had gone throughout the Empire.

They, the Governors, could not claim to be praised for that. It was due to the splendid character of the man whom they chose to take charge. (Hear, hear.) As Chairman, not of one, but of several huge schools, he knew the difficulty of the problem of selecting the right man as Headmaster. He always had said, and he would say again, that there was an enormous amount of luck in it. You made it known that you wanted a Headmaster, and you had a large number of applications. These were all from capable men, but there was bound to be one who was better than the rest. You had these men into your office and asked them questions and scrutinised their faces. (Laughter.) It was possible to find out a lot by scrutinising a man's face.

At last you got their numbers down to perhaps half-a-dozen. If ever you had a stiff task you had one then. It may have been that luck guided them in their choice, but the fact remained that at no school was there a better Headmaster than Stowe had to-day.

The speaker was sure that the Headmaster would not wish him to leave it at that. He was sure that he would not have achieved what he had were he not so ably supported by those whom he had selected for his staff. Again, he could assure all parents present that the staff could not have met with such success were it not for the boys themselves. After all, the teachers could only show the way. It was the character of the boys that made the name of a school. What went to make the name of a school more than anything was the character of the boys as proved in their later life. That, above all, was what kept the name up. The boys must remember that by everything they said and did their school was being judged. If they observed that, they would make the name of Stowe to resound wherever it was known.

THE HEADMASTER'S REPORT.

THE HEADMASTER said he had known it was going to be a difficult business to speak that day, but not until the Chairman spoke did he realise how extremely difficult and embarrassing it would prove. He would like to begin by saying that a Headmaster might be defined as a man who got other people to do the work and then took the credit for himself. After that he thought they would leave the subject of Headmasters strictly alone for the rest of the day.

The Summer Term was the birthday term of Stowe, and this term they could not refrain from reflecting upon their rapidly increasing age. He was afraid the time was coming when they would no longer be able to plead their youth as an excuse for their many shortcomings.

The other day he saw a man who asked if he could accept the name of his son as a prospective 'Stoic.' He said he was afraid he had left it rather late, for his son was 'getting on.' Asked for the facts, this father replied that his son was three months old. (Laughter.)

When you heard they were three *years* old the natural question for you to ask was 'What have you done with yourselves during that time?' You would only know what they had done when you saw the type of man that Stowe had turned out. In the meantime he would ask that his audience be content with a few details regarding measurable things.

In work they were better than they were, but not as good as they were going to be. This work question had two ends to it—the end which came at the end, and the end which came at the beginning. The Higher Certificate and University Scholarship Examinations they had not yet tackled. In the School Certificate two years previously they had five successes; last year they had twenty. This year's examination was just over, but happily the result was not yet known. (Laughter.)

About the Entrance Examination the speaker said: 'The popular belief that anyone can get into Stowe so long as he is a nice fellow is a mistaken belief, and I hope we shall hear no more of it. It was true at first. It is not true now. We still think, and shall continue to think, that the "nice fellow" question is very important and may sometimes outweigh other considerations; but in the Entrance Examination which took place last month there were sixty fellows who, whether nice or not (and they were mostly nice), did not get the marks required, and therefore did not get in. He was sorry for the sixty, but he would have been sorrier for the School if they had been admitted.'

They were playing stronger teams each year at football. He might say that he thought the School would make its mark at Rugby Football before it made it at most other things.

They did not regard Cricket as the only thing in life, but they would be hypocrites if they did not admit that they regarded it as a fairly big thing in the Summer Term. The fixture list was better than last year, and next year's fixture list would be better still. The School was only three years old, and more than half the boys were fifteen or under. That would explain why they were still playing the second elevens of other Public Schools. They had beaten some of them rather severely.

The final House match for the House Cup had been won by the youngest House in the School, the House which this time last year had not come into existence. The final match was so drawn out that they were compelled to ask for an abnormal number of half-holidays to get it finished at all. It ended in a triumph for youth. There were six boys of fifteen and one of fourteen in the winning eleven.

There was nothing that had registered more progress than the O.T.C. Last year you had to say that it was a good Corps for its age. This year you had to say it was a good Corps irrespective of its age.

This time last year they had collected for their Chapel just £60. This year they had £6,000. Five thousand pounds had come to him on a single cheque. But to that most munificent gift there was a condition attached, and that was that in three years enough of the fabric of the building was to be completed for services to be held in it. They would have to collect a lot more to do this. The Chapel was estimated to cost £40,000.

He was glad to be able to announce a gift of £5,000 from the Governors. They would now be able to get ahead with the work; but he was afraid that, to a large extent, they must continue to be dependent upon their friends. The Governing Body had expended an enormous sum of money on equipping and extending the School, and it could not do more at present. He was afraid they would hear of the

Chapel Fund again. Might he add that he would be available at any time of the day or night? (Laughter.)

A year ago he had told them that they would not exceed 420 in number, but they would be 450 next term, when another House would be built. He himself did not want a large School, but he did not think that 450 was an unreasonable number. Eton, of course, was very large, but he thought they would agree with him that only Eton could be at the same time so large and so great.

'So much for the present,' the speaker concluded. 'One word—and a short one, I promise you—about the future. What is to be the end of it all? What are we aiming at? What are we trying to make of ourselves? This school (and others like it) exists, I take it, to provide England with good Englishmen. Good Englishmen are badly wanted at all times. But just now I think that one particular type of Englishman is wanted more than any other type—and that is the type that can lead. And of that type, what we most want in these difficult and perplexing times is the man who can lead, not only by virtue of his character, but also by virtue of his brains; who can lead, not only in emergencies and wars, but also in the dull and dangerous days of peace. If, therefore, we can produce Englishmen who have the known and noted English qualities of character and, in addition, the not very English habit of using their own good brains actively and fearlessly in the service of their country, we shall not have struggled quite in vain. It will fall to later and greater speakers to give Lord Allenby a proper welcome to Stowe, but in the name of my colleagues and of the School I feel that I must say to him very briefly that we are honoured by his presence to-day and grateful for it. I was speaking just now of the finest types of Englishmen. There are not too many to be found. But there are some. And one of them is here to-day.'

In introducing Lord Allenby, the Chairman reminded the company that he was one of England's greatest Generals, who had achieved such great things and attained such a name for himself that he had been acclaimed as the saviour of Jerusalem.

LORD ALLENBY'S SPEECH.

LORD ALLENBY said that the Headmaster had spoken about youth, and he was prompted to remark that his first acquaintance with Stowe was made in the year when the Headmaster was born. He would not tell them what year, because he had no wish to give the Headmaster away. (Laughter.)

Stowe had now grown so that it had become the friendly rival of the larger Public Schools—and even of Eton. It would eventually become greater than other Public Schools. They were well situated, well housed and they had a brilliant staff. Above all, the School was well thought of. Their hopes were decidedly bright. They had the scholastic history of the world at their disposal. They could look into the history of their forerunners and say: 'They succeeded there. I will copy them.' Or: 'That was one of their mistakes. I will avoid it.'

It was said that all experience had to be bought. He invariably arranged for someone else to pay for his experience. (Laughter.) They had the experience—paid for, although not by them. They could compare the histories of all the scholastic establishments of the world. What a position! What an asset! He was sure they would make a great success.

Centuries ago there was a sudden spread of barbarism over Europe which stopped learning, and for many generations—the Dark Ages—culture slumbered. Then came the Renaissance, when learning sprang up, and spread, until it was obvious that never again would the world be plunged into that abyss of ignorance. Their education was the carrying on of this great cause in the interest of learning.

It was for their country that they were being educated. The education that they were receiving was not only in their own interests, but also in the interests of the community to which they belonged. He wanted them to realise that they were on the way to becoming those citizens of whom their country so sorely stood in need.

LORD COTTESLOE moved a vote of thanks to Lord Allenby. He alluded to the works of Sir Walter Scott, and asked: were there any boys present who were familiar with 'The Talisman,' in which the glory of the Crusades was shown at its highest point? If there were, they would have some idea of the efforts made by the whole of Western Europe to rescue from the infidel the Holy Sepulchre and the other Holy Places. Those great efforts were repeated again and again for two hundred years, and they all failed. Thus for six hundred years the Holy Land was in the power of the infidel—that Holy Land which contained so much that was dear and sacred to the Christian.

Then—after these six hundred years—who was the man who entered Jerusalem? Who, with the victorious Christian army, drove out the Saracen? Who, but Lord Allenby? They might say that Lord Allenby had actually completed the work that was begun so many centuries ago and abandoned for so long.

Stowe had a military history, and in this connection would not be unfamiliar to Lord Allenby. It was a military family that for so long occupied that great palace of Stowe, for palace it was, although their modesty never permitted them to call it more than a house. The Bucks. Yeomanry always camped on the School side of the Corinthian Arch in the days gone by. Also Lord Allenby would not be unmindful of the Bucks Hussars, who played such a prominent part in Palestine. That regiment was absolutely identified with Stowe.

GENERAL SIR GEORGE BARROW said that before he went on to the platform his son had said to him: 'I am afraid, dad, you are in for rather a rotten time.' This did not exactly appear to be the case. In seconding the vote of thanks to Lord Allenby, he spoke, in one way, with rather more advantage than the gentleman who proposed the vote. He was able to speak from personal knowledge of Lord Allenby's leadership. He had seen him at close quarters leading in France and in Palestine—leading, leading, until he wiped out the Turkish Army. (Hear, hear.) He thought they had a great deal to feel honoured for in Lord Allenby's visit that day.

TO OLD STOICS.

WE are always glad to see Old Stoics at Stowe, and we only wish that we had more accommodation to offer them than we have. They know as well as we do, however, that in our present congested state spare bedrooms (save quite exceptionally) simply do not exist. The best plan will probably be that any O.S. who wishes to come here for a night should write to his Housemaster (not to anyone else in the first place) and ask him whether a bed can be found. If this is done, we shall be able to make the best use possible of whatever beds there are, and we shall avoid the difficulty of two candidates for one room arriving together.

J.F.R.

SCHOOL CERTIFICATES.

AS a result of the Oxford and Cambridge Board's Examination in July, 1926, the following were awarded 'School Certificates':—

R. A. Atthill.	P. Nicholson.
S. D. A. S. Aylmer.	G. F. Noxon.
R. W. Bate.	G. S. Pick.
A. E. Bolton.	L. G. Rivers-Moore.
J. B. Charles.	M. G. Sills.
F. C. Charnock.	G. M. Stewart-Wallace.
J. F. Cramphorn.	F. J. Still.
H. P. Croom-Johnson.	H. A. W. Stormont.
D. R. English.	P. D. Taylor.
G. A. Farthing.	S. J. L. Taylor.
G. F. L. Gilbert.	K. S. Toms.
K. A. Goudge.	T. P. Ward.
G. L. S. Griffith-Jones.	J. M. Wedderspoon.
A. A. Grumbar.	N. G. Wertheim.
W. F. Lakin-Smith.	M. D. Whyte.
F. A. Lowe.	A. R. Willett.
N. A. McLeod.	T. R. Williams.
J. D. Murray.	G. M. Wolfe.

THE INNS OF COURT O.T.C.

To the Editor of *The Stoic*.

DEAR SIR,

I write to ask whether you will be good enough to draw the attention of your readers who are desirous of taking a Commission in the Territorial Army, or of qualifying for a Commission in His Majesty's Forces in the case of a national emergency, to the facilities offered by the Inns of Court Officers' Training Corps.

The Corps became an Officers' Training Corps in 1908, its previous title for many years being The Inns of Court Rifle Volunteers. In the course of the Great War it provided upwards of 12,000 officers for His Majesty's Forces.

The establishment of the Corps consists of one squadron of Cavalry and two companies of Infantry. It is a unit of the Territorial Army, and all members are attested accordingly.

Membership of the Corps is not, as is often thought to be the case, confined to barristers, but is in addition open to (a) past members of Oxford and Cambridge Universities, (b) past members of recognised Public Schools, (c) gentlemen in special cases considered eligible by the Commanding Officer.

The Corps has a Mess at Headquarters, 10 Stone Buildings, which, besides being open to those wishing to dine after evening parties, is also open to members and their guests for luncheon.

The Corps School of Arms provides practice and instruction in Fencing—Foil, Epée, and Sabre—and Boxing. The Corps Rifle Club also offers special facilities to those who wish to take up shooting at Bisley, where the Corps maintains its own pavilion and is able to offer hospitality to University and School shooting teams during the N.R.A. Meeting.

Riding School accommodation is provided at Albany Street Barracks, by arrangement with the Household Cavalry.

There are no doubt some members of your School who intend to apply for Commissions in the Territorial Army and would wish for further training before being gazetted, and, more especially, others who, unable to afford the time to take a Commission in the ordinary course, or preferring service in the ranks, are willing to prepare themselves to become officers if their services should be called for by the country. It is to their notice that I wish to bring the functions of this Corps.

Apart from the military aspect, the Corps forms a convenient means of social recreation for those whose work after leaving school will compel them to live in or near London.

Yours faithfully,

(Sd.) H. D. P. FRANCIS, *Lieut.-Colonel*,
Commanding Inns of Court Officers' Training Corps.

STOICA

THE Stoic now publishes a terminal 'Supplement' or 'Brown Book,' which gives in alphabetical order the names and private addresses of all members of the School. The first issue contains many misprints, but it is hoped that the second will be as correct as this term's 'Blue Book'—and a great deal less late in appearing.

On October 18th a party of biologists paid a visit to the famous Rothschild Zoological Museum at Tring. Dr. Jordan, a leading entomologist, and Mr. Cox, an authority on ectoparasites, provided the party with a most enjoyable and instructive afternoon.

The Temple of Venus has become the habitation of pigs.

'The Goddess of Beauty and Love
At Stowe, as at Rome, has a shrine;
Her attendant of old was a dove:
The Bursar attends her with swine.'

Owing to changes in the Football arrangements, there have been but few Paper-chases this term. Three have, however, been held, and though the hares proved too fast on each occasion, the runs were enjoyable. It should be possible to hold these runs with greater frequency next term.

We were glad to welcome on Speech Day last term a Cricket XI from Eton to play our First XI, and one from Radley to play our Second. Unfortunately both games were spoilt by rain, the closing scores being: In the First XI game, Stowe 140 for 7 declared (A. C. Dawson 40, R. H. G. Carr 29), Eton 2nd XI 65 for 2; and in the Second XI game, Stowe 173 for 7 declared (B. Brind 60, J. E. Dawson 42, J. U. Body 30), Radley 2nd XI 64 for 2. B. Brind was awarded 2nd XI colours after this match.

In the Final Cricket House Match last term Chatham beat Temple by 174 runs. The scores were:—Chatham, 173 (R. W. Bate 33) and 279 (A. C. Dawson 62, H. V. Kemp 54, R. H. G. Carr 45); Temple, 164 (J. U. Body 32, K. A. Wilson 28) and 114 (G. A. Griffin 44 not out).

Mr. R. H. Hole has been appointed Assistant County Commissioner for Buckinghamshire for the training of Scout Officers.

E. R. Avory, of Temple House, has won the Junior Lawn Tennis Championship of Great Britain. He was also the winner of the Singles, and a finalist in the Mixed Doubles of the Middlesex Junior Championship.

Lady Gisborough has asked us to include the following lines which were posted on a notice-board outside a church at Scarborough during the Scarborough Cricket Festival Week some years ago:

‘When the last Great Scorer comes
To write against your name,
He’ll not ask, “Did you win or lose?”
But, “Did you play the Game?”’

An interesting and beautiful Bible has been presented to the School by Colonel and Mrs. du Plat Taylor, of Lillingstone Lovel, for use in the new Chapel. It is in two volumes and bound in elaborately tooled leather, bearing the Royal Arms of the Georges. It was used at the Coronation of George III and presented after the ceremony to the Lord Marchmont of the time, from whom it passed to its late owner. Lord

Marchmont was a frequent visitor to Stowe in the days of Lord Cobham and Lord Temple.

The mortality among the youthful optimists who term by term attempt the Common Entrance Examination has again been very high. However, the case of the candidate who, in writing answers to the entire History Paper, used only two full-stops—one at the end and the other in the margin—was happily exceptional.

A meeting of the Buckingham Branch of the Historical Association was held at Stowe on Tuesday, December 7th. Mr. E. L. Woodward, Fellow of All Souls and New Colleges, delivered a very interesting lecture on ‘Some Aspects of Medieval Buckinghamshire.’

The Editor of *The Times* very kindly allows us to reproduce the following extracts from an article entitled ‘Good Performance at Stowe School’ which appeared in *The Times* of November 6th:—

‘Stowe School accomplished a remarkable performance at Oxford by defeating the Oxford University Fencing Club by 17 defeats to 19 in a two-weapon match with foil and épée.

‘This victory, which comes as a culmination to a series of successes in inter-school matches, is the more remarkable considering that Stowe School is such a young foundation. Now that their last term’s captain, J. de Amodio, has left, the team is all Stowe-trained, and their form reflects great credit on the teaching of Professor Gravé, while their keenness must well repay Mr. M. C. MacLaughlin, who has devoted himself to the encouragement of the art among the boys since the School was founded.’

The form which is learning Forestry, assisted once or twice by Form III when Latin became too impossibly wearisome, has this term collected fifty pounds of beech seed.

This useful contribution has been sent to the Forestry Commission. The seed will be sown in Hemsted Nursery, which is in Hemsted Big Wood, near Cranbrook, in Kent.

Allowing for wastage, this quantity of seed should produce something in the neighbourhood of 50,000 young trees, which will eventually be distributed over many acres of woodland.

Two Forestry Films have been shown this term. The first dealt with lumbering in Ontario, and was not so interesting as the second, which showed very clearly operations in State nursery and forest areas in Scotland.

The First Club Ground has been equipped with new goal-posts

*. . . to equal which the tallest pine
Hewn on Norwegian hills to be the mast
Of some great admiral, were but a wand,*

as Milton remarked when he saw them.

On Tuesday, October 19th, Captain A. F. B. Carpenter, V.C., lectured to the School on 'The Navy as a Career.' We were all glad to see and hear Captain Carpenter again. He told us many things of interest, but he did not tell us how to defeat the Naval Examiners in Mathematics.

About ten members of the School expect to go to one of the two Swiss Camps for Winter Sports; the majority to Savognin on December 28th, the rest to Lenzerheide on January 3rd.

The first Cinema display took place on Armistice Day, when the film called 'Ypres' was shown. Parts of this film were worthy of the occasion, and as a whole it was enjoyed by the School.

'The Covered Wagon' was released on November 27th to the strains of Rachmaninoff's Prelude.

The clearing of the chapel site has been most interesting. The felling of the big oak on December 2nd brought out a large number of the School.

It was a magnificent sight. The final push over was given by the driving of wedges, and very gradually, almost reluctantly, this huge tree—over 90 feet in height and nearly 5 feet in diameter—started on its plunge forward.

Slowly gathering way for nearly half the distance, it suddenly realized that its long life was over, and with a mighty roar came crashing to the ground. It was immediately covered by a swarm of Lilliputians.

In the last list of Football Colours the name of J. F. Marshall was omitted from those who had been awarded Second XV Colours.

The following Colours have been awarded this term:—First XV: R. W. D. Sword, S. D. A. S. Aylmer, D. S. Bramley, D. C. Ellis, J. F. Marshall, J. A. Dashwood, G. M. Cavendish, A. Dunsford. Second XV: S. Freeman, J. G. B. Grimley, A. R. C. Watson, A. F. Kerr, J. D. Murray, A. J. P. Ling, T. P. Ward, T. H. Howarth, W. D. McComb, T. A. G. Pritchard.

The accounts of two School Football Matches will be held over until next term. On December 1st the School beat Middlesex Hospital by 3 goals and 1 try (18 points) to 1 try (3 points); on December 4th Mr. Wylie's XV beat the School by 4 goals and 2 tries (26 points) to 1 goal and 2 tries (11 points).

The lino-cut published in this number is of Cabris, in Provence, by A. Carden.

The following visitors have preached in Chapel this term:—

The Rev. E. Courtney West, of the S.P.G.
 " " M. R. Ridley, Balliol College, Oxford.
 " " H. H. Coryton, Missions to Seamen.
 " " Dr. W. A. Wigram, late British Chaplain at Athens.
 " " C. C. T. Naters, Vicar of Buckingham.
 " " E. L. L. McClintock, of the C.M.S.

A County Meeting, convened by the Lord Lieutenant, was held at Aylesbury on Tuesday, November 23rd, with the object of forming a Buckinghamshire Branch of the National Playing Fields Association. Stowe was represented at this meeting by the Headmaster.

In spite of the rather rigid rules which govern the use of gramophones in this School, suspiciously gramophonic sounds are now sometimes heard coming actually from Classrooms during school hours. The excuse that a new method of French teaching is being tried is considered to be a trifle thin.

The School will, for the first time, be represented at the meeting of the Headmasters' Conference to be held this month.

THE CINEMA.

The Cinema has thoroughly established itself. We have had two big 'shows' and several educational films, and they have all gone well. The image is voted to be very steady and the light is as good as one could want. The machine is the best of its kind that can be bought. It was the gift of Sir Oswald Stoll, who believes that the future of the British Cinema depends upon the supply of educated men as producers, and that the Public Schools are the sources from which they should be drawn. The best that the British Film World can offer should therefore be available to Schools, and only the best apparatus is good enough to show it. Hence this generous present to Stowe. We hope to show good pictures again next term, and more of them.

'THE STOICS.'

ACT II, SCENE 2.

[This scene is supposed to have formed part of a lost play of Shakespeare. Some critics attribute it to an unknown author of an earlier date. In the latter case we can hardly acquit the greatest of our dramatists of plagiarism.]

Scene. Outside the Prefectory.

Two Stoics are discovered at the closed door. Noise within.

1st S. What is that noise? Apply thine eye and see
What is toward.

2nd S. O door, lend me thy chink :
Thanks, courteous door ! . . . A deed of dreadful note !
One ! two ! Never did Cyclops' hammers fall
With less remorse. A hit ! A hit, most palpable !

1st S. Take thy face hence, and let me see. [Peering within.]
A third !

Alas ! poor youth, those linen cheeks of thine
Are counsellors of fear : a fourth ! a fifth !
Another yet ! unkindest cut of all !
He lacks not gall to make oppression bitter.

2nd S. Enough ! Enough ! We've seen what we should not.
Perchance to be so busy may prove dangerous.
Let us away, for fear the prefect comes,
And finds us to be the watchers.

1st S. Rather first
Behind this curtain we'll convey ourselves,
That we may see and seeing mark unseen. [They retire.]

2nd S. Come, tell me, if thou canst, what treason capital,
Confessed or proved, hath overthrown this youth.

1st S. Some rank offence, no doubt, that smells to heaven :
But what particular crime I cannot tell.
Perchance it was his offices forgot :
Or else some task of lines come tardy off.
The prefects oft find quarrel in a straw,
And in these pursy times no man is safe.

2nd S. Look, where he comes e'en now out at the portal !
Pale as his shirt and down-gyved to the ankle !

1st S. Note too the fruitful river in his eye.

3rd S. Hell is murky ! Fie ! fie ! that it should come to this !
But two days late ! A paltry fifty lines !
O horrible ! O horrible ! Most horrible !

2nd S. Alack ! Alack ! His heart seems sorely charged.

3rd S. [Pointing to door.]
Cursed be his tribe ! remorseless, kindless villain !
Inhuman wretch, void from any dram of mercy !
To hew me like a carcase fit for hounds !

2nd S. Poor soul, methinks he doth protest too much.

3rd S. Anon I'll feed the present grudge I bear him,
And fatten Dadford crows with this slave's offal.

1st S. He waxes desperate with imagination :
But such fierce blaze of riot cannot last.
Let's try what comfort can. [Advancing.]
Alas ! poor Stoic.

3rd S. Pity me not. I could a tale unfold . . .

2nd S. Thou need'st not trouble : we've o'erheard it all.

3rd S. Then blow the horrid deed in every eye.
To think that I should bear the prefect's whip,
That cultured merit of the illiterate takes !
O that the Headmaster had not set . . .

1st S. Consider it not so deeply : what's done is done :
Sorrow hath wholesome use, and pain but seems.

3rd S. Ye gods ! ye gods ! I know not seems : it is !

1st S. At least dispute it like a man.

3rd S. I will : [Rubbing himself.]
But I must also feel it as a man.
They palter with an idle tongue who say
The sense of pain lies most in apprehension.

1st S. Peace, peace ! Be patient ! Cease thy ramping round :
Sit—if thou canst : and give thy thoughts less tongue.

3rd S. Counsel not peace to me. Speak, strike, redress !—
There lies my peace. Your betters will endure
Me speak my mind. I will unto the Head,
And satisfaction claim for this day's business.

1st S. Well, go thy ways : receive what cheer you may :
Time and the hour runs through the roughest day.

[Exeunt.]

[NOTES : line 24. *pursy*, compare Hamlet III, iv, 153, where the meaning of the word is equally obscure. Some would read *Percy*, referring, it is supposed, to some notable character of the time.

line 46. *Headmaster*, some read *Almighty* : more euphonic, but the sense is the same here.]

BARTIMÆUS ASKS FOR THE STARS.

Men say thou dost possess,
 O Night, a thousand eyes,
 And dost with kind caress,
 Serene and wise,
 The world with slumber bless.

All men beneath the sun
 Two eyes are given; and they
 Are lighted by the one
 Bright eye of day—
 And only I have none.

If, then, thou dost possess
 A thousand eyes, O Night,
 Lend me, in my distress,
 Your stars to light
 My utter helplessness.

FOOTBALL.

This term we have had a fuller fixture list than ever before, and in addition to the First and Second XV's, we have had for the first time a Colts' side. It is true that the last has played only two matches, but both were won very handsomely, and the outlook for the future is quite bright—provided that there are not too many premature departures from School.

The First XV matches have been very uneven, which has been due partly to our opponents and partly to ourselves. All the London sides played have been defeated, and with one exception, the London Scottish, quite easily. We went down badly before Christ Church and, curiously enough, Bedford School 2nd XV, but in the succeeding weeks the side played very well indeed against Trinity College, Oxford, and St. Edward's, Oxford, the latter a strong school side. Why the XV should play like a mob of novices one week and the next like a hard-going, robust team is hard to explain: but the fact has been very evident this term. Certainly we have suffered very heavily from casualties, and the constant chopping and changing which has been necessary in consequence has been most unsettling, but the occasional poor displays have not been due entirely to this cause.

The forwards have without doubt carried off the chief honours and have only very rarely failed to produce a strong and telling game. The backs as a whole have been, quite frankly, disappointing, but the absence for so long of our regular scrum-half and the constant changes among the three-quarters have told heavily against efficiency behind the pack. Lack of thrust in the centre and of pace on the

wings have been the chief failings, but as regards the second point it is to be noted (and remedied, we hope) that there is no one in the School who can run really fast.

A word should be said about the School matches. We are in a transition stage at present and are playing some First and some Second XV's of other schools. Reference has been made to the match with Bedford Second. They appeared to be an uncommonly good side, but we also played uncommonly badly against them. St. Edward's, Oxford, are a really good school side, and four days after the deplorable display at Bedford the School XV played a most excellent game, at any rate in defence, and were beaten by no more than three tries to nothing; and, practically speaking, it was only superior fleetness of foot that enabled our opponents to win. The match with St. Paul's Second XV was another completely lifeless affair, but we had so much in hand that we could not help winning. The Radley match had unfortunately to be scratched owing to illness.

The Second XV has been changed about a good deal and has never settled down into quite a satisfactory side. Of the five matches played we were victorious in two.

Apart from the Fifteens, Leagues have been the main preoccupation of the School in general. They have been very keenly fought out, and nothing could have been closer than the match on the last day between Chandos, the holders, and Temple. Temple had to win both this A match and their B against Chatham to win the competition, and they just managed to do so, the A being won in the last few minutes, with the final score 12—11. Temple thus finished two points ahead of Chandos and they may fairly be said to have deserved their victory. Chatham came in a very good third. Grafton deserve a word of praise for their very plucky fights in all their matches and are to be congratulated in not ending pointless.

The attached table shows the final positions of the Houses. An A win counts six points, a B win four points.

	Matches Won.		Points.		Total.
	A	B	A	B	
Temple	6	5	36	20	56
Chandos	5	6	30	24	54
Chatham	4	4	24	16	40
Cobham	3	2	18	8	26
Grenville	1	3	6	12	18
Bruce	1½	1	9	4	13
Grafton	½	0	3	0	3

The winners in their A matches scored 129 points to 30, and in their B matches 243 points to 15.

THE SCHOOL v. ROSSLYN PARK EXTRA 'A.'

Played at Stowe on October 2nd, the School winning by 5 goals and 4 tries (37 points) to 1 goal (5 points).

The opposition was not as strong as we had hoped or expected, but perhaps that was as well for the first match of the season. The School gained the upper hand at once and soon took the lead, first Sword, then Gadney and later Cavendish getting over the line. The forwards were packing and showing well during the early stages, and were getting possession of the ball far more often than their heavier opponents. When the Park backs did get the ball, their attacks usually broke down through faulty handling, but another cause was the keen tackling by the School backs, Sword and Cavendish being particularly good in this respect.

From a cross-kick by Hyde, which no one was in position to take, Rosslyn Park broke away and scored between the posts—their only success in the game. Just on half-time Cavendish scored far out for the School, and as Keith had converted the second try scored, the School led by 14 points to 5 at half-time.

Towards the end of the second half Rosslyn Park had the misfortune to lose one of their forwards with a dislocated shoulder, but by that time the match was well lost. Scorers for the School in the second half were Dashwood, Charles (2), Ellis and Sword. Keith kicked three more goals and Dashwood one.

The School gave a creditable display for the first match. The forwards were well together, and until they tired—towards the end—scrummaged and heeled well. In the loose the following up was good and the dribbling fair; but at times the kicking ahead was too hard and uncontrolled. Sword and Gadney were excellent at half, although the former was a little too hesitating in giving his passes. The threes—all new-comers to the team—were rather shaky at first, but soon settled down and gave a good account of themselves. Cavendish tackled beautifully and also ran with great determination. The centres were sound without being brilliant, and Hyde at full-back was equal to all the calls made on him.

TEAM:—W. S. Hyde; G. M. Cavendish, D. C. Ellis, J. B. Charles, J. D. Murray; R. W. D. Sword, B. C. Gadney; J. E. McComb, J. N. Feathers, S. D. A. S. Aylmer, J. A. Dashwood, S. Freeman, A. R. C. Watson, J. G. B. Grimley, D. A. G. Keith.

THE SCHOOL *v.* OLD STOICS.

Played at Stowe on October 9th, the School winning by 1 goal and 6 tries (23 points) to 3 goals and 1 try (18 points).

The Old Boys made a welcome first appearance on the School ground, although they could not muster quite a full side. Mr. Simmonds, however, turned out for them and strengthened them very appreciably, the remaining vacancies being very adequately filled by Ling, Kerr and Gautby.

Playing with a strong wind, the Old Boys went off with a bang, and good forward rushing resulted in two quick tries, one by Falconer and the other by Cox. Cowell converted the first of these, and thus early the School was 8 points down. The School threes, however, soon began to see more of the ball, and first Gadney went over from a scrum inside the '25,' and then Dashwood, backing up well, got a pass and scored in the extreme corner. Towards the end of the first half Watson, who played admirably throughout, scored a clever try. With but one minute of the half to play the Old Boys kicked off again. There was a loose scrum on the left of the field; the ball was slung out by Gadney and travelled right along the line to Cavendish, who scored far out—a very good piece of orthodox combined play. The School thus led by 12 points to 8 at half-time.

Soon after play began again, Cowell broke away from near his own '25' and, after making thirty or forty yards, passed to Mr. Simmonds, who raced down the touch-line, beating the rest of the opposition by his pace, and running right round behind the posts. Cowell converted. The School, however, really had the better of the game, and, pressing hard, went ahead again through two more unconverted tries, Sword and Gadney being the scorers. Towards the end Grimley scored from a forward rush, and at last a goal was kicked—by Dashwood from far out. The Old Boys were not done, however, and Middleton touched down again for Cowell to convert.

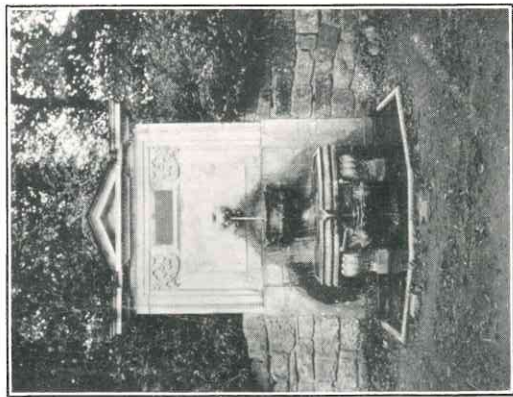
The game as a whole was rather scrappy, owing partly to the wind and partly to the tendency of some of our rather tired visitors to remain off-side. There was some fairly good dribbling among the School forwards, but the ball was difficult to



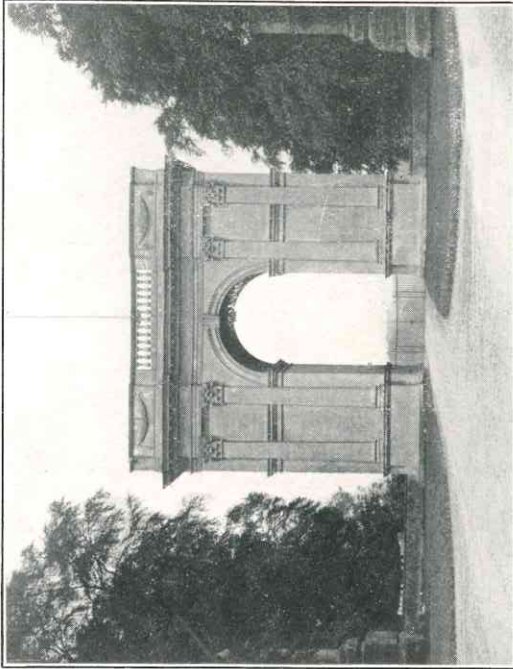
THE OLD STOIC TEAM TAKING THE FIELD.



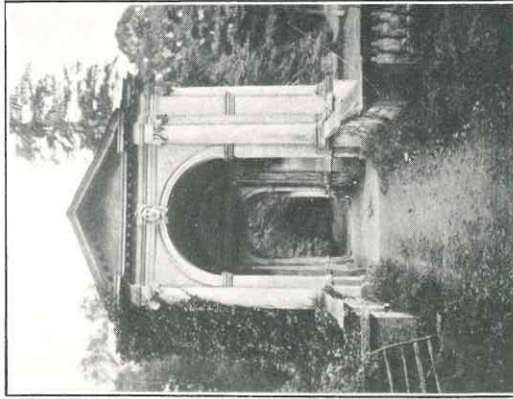
THE SCHOOL *v.* THE OLD STOICS.



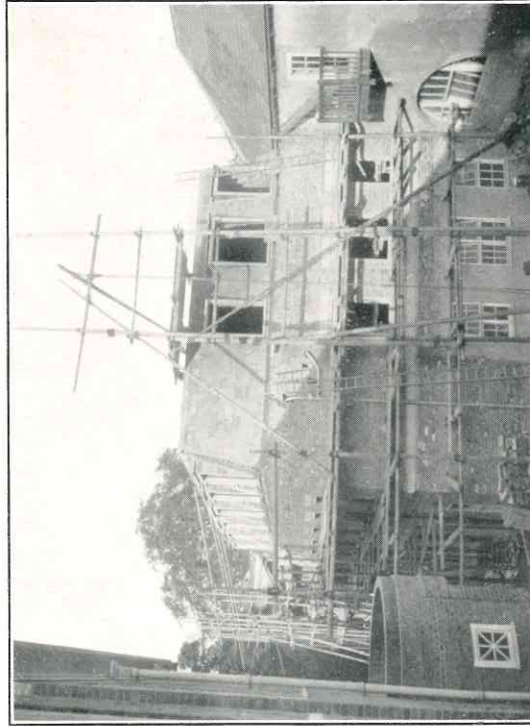
THE SEASONS FOUNTAIN.



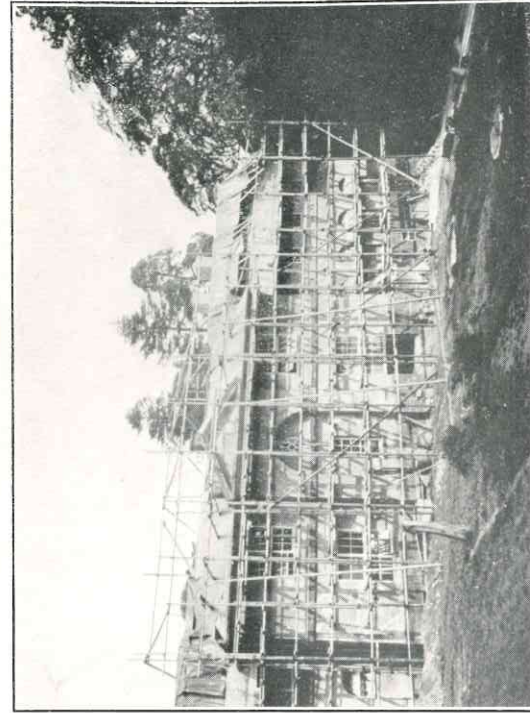
THE CORINTHIAN ARCH.



THE PALLADIAN BRIDGE.



GRAFTON HOUSE IN AUGUST, 1926.



control. Ellis played a sound and intelligent game, breaking through well and giving some clever passes at exactly the right moments. For the Old Boys, Cowell and Murdoch were the pick of the forwards, while Harriss tackled very soundly at full-back. Teams :—

THE SCHOOL : W. S. Hyde ; G. M. Cavendish, D. C. Ellis, J. B. Charles, J. D. Murray ; R. W. D. Sword, B. C. Gadney ; J. E. McComb, J. N. Feathers, S. D. A. S. Aylmer, D. S. Bramley, J. A. Dashwood, S. Freeman, A. R. C. Watson, J. G. B. Grimley.

OLD STOICS : B. S. Harriss ; N. A. C. Croft, A. J. P. Ling, T. H. T. Gautby, A. G. Bowie ; D. M. Simmonds, J. G. Riess ; E. R. Cox, S. J. Murdoch, A. M. Cowell, P. M. Falconer, J. H. Middleton, F. H. Drayson, S. E. Webb, A. F. Kerr.

THE SCHOOL v. LONDON SCOTTISH EXTRA 'A.'

Played at Stowe on October 16th, the School winning by 1 goal and 2 tries (11 points) to 3 tries (9 points).

The Scottish brought down quite a strong side for this match, heavier in the scrum and faster outside than the School, and the win was a very creditable one.

The Scottish forwards, a hard-going, bustling lot, could wheel and take in the best Scottish style, and frequently they did so beautifully. Where they failed was in getting off-side after they broke up from the tight. The game settled from the beginning in the School half and was very keenly fought. The Scottish got possession three times out of four in the tight, and there were many anxious moments for the School. The ball, however, was worked back to the other end, and Gadney opened the scoring by going through on his own from fifteen yards out. The new posts must have been responsible for the failure of this and the next kick-at-goal—both very simple ones. The Scottish then came back strongly, and two tries were scored from forward rushes. Both kicks missed very narrowly. The School rallied again, and Ellis broke through in the centre, stumbled along with his head almost touching the ground for four or five yards, recovered his balance and passed to Dashwood, who after a momentary hesitation beat his opponents and ran right in. Half-time then came, 6—6.

The second half was just as hard as the first, and the Scottish forwards did some splendid work, which our own pack stood up to in fine fashion, although the counter to the wheel was not carried out as quickly as it should have been. A number of dangerous back attacks developed on our line, and, though many of these were stopped by good marking and tackling, one at last proved successful, Wood, their left-centre, getting over far out. Back to the attack came the School, and after some hard mid-field play Sword got possession from a loose scrum near the left touch-line. He took the blind side and cleared the bulk of the defence : Watson, backing up splendidly, was there to take a fine inside pass and make a straight dash for the line with the defence beaten. Hyde kicked a good goal. Two points up and six minutes to play. The Scottish attacked very strongly and almost scored in the last minute, but the defence just held, and the School came out winners of a very fine match.

Hyde at full-back played a splendid game, tackling well and kicking a long, accurate ball. In the three-quarter line Dashwood was making his first appearance and was obviously not quite at home. However, he showed promise of developing into a useful centre. Ellis was always sound and is a much improved player. Gadney and Sword played a fine game, although considerably hampered by the 'spoiling' Scottish tactics. The chief honours of the day, however, lay with the

forwards, who had probably the hardest match of their career. All played so well that it is almost invidious to mention names, but McComb deserves a special word for his fine leading and Watson for his splendidly quick backing-up.

TEAM:—W. S. Hyde; G. M. Cavendish, D. C. Ellis, J. A. Dashwood, J. D. Murray; R. W. D. Sword, B. C. Gadney; J. E. McComb, J. N. Feathers, S. D. A. S. Aylmer, D. S. Bramley, S. Freeman, J. G. B. Grimley, A. R. C. Watson, R. S. Manners.

THE SCHOOL v. H.A.C. 'B.'

Played at Stowe on October 23rd, the School winning by 1 goal, 2 penalty goals and 10 tries (41 points) to nothing.

The School were without Gadney, Feathers, Dashwood and Cavendish, but they won as they liked against a very weak side. The forwards got possession from the scrums with fair regularity, but at the line-outs the H.A.C. were much superior. The School backs saw plenty of the ball and should have scored more often than they did. The fly-half and the centres tended to try to go through on their own too much, and finally got smothered, when orthodox passing would have produced a score. Ellis, who was playing scrum-half, did well, and McComb was the best of the forwards.

The scoring was done by Murray (3), McComb (3), Charles (2), Sword, Aylmer and Ellis. Manners kicked one goal; the other attempts at conversion were very poor. McComb dropped two very good penalty goals.

TEAM:—W. S. Hyde; S. D. A. S. Aylmer, A. J. P. Ling, J. B. Charles, J. D. Murray; R. W. D. Sword, D. C. Ellis; J. E. McComb, D. S. Bramley, S. Freeman, J. G. B. Grimley, A. R. C. Watson, R. S. Manners, A. F. Kerr, L. H. A. Thompson.

THE SCHOOL v. CHRIST CHURCH, OXFORD.

Played at Oxford on October 30th, Christ Church winning by 5 goals and 10 tries (55 points) to 2 tries (6 points).

It was hardly expected that the School would retain their unbeaten record against the House, but there was no good reason why they should have lost by so much. Undoubtedly the weakness of the centre three-quarters both in marking and tackling was the chief cause of the big score against the School. Admittedly the attack was strong, and man for man the House backs were faster and cleverer than ours, but there is no excuse for failing to go for the man with the ball and to go down on the ball in the loose.

The forwards played well after rather a slow start, although their backing-up in loose rushes were hardly as good as usual. Bramley was always to the fore, and McComb played his usual sound game and led the pack well. Ellis, at scrum-half in place of Gadney (still on the sick list), did all that he could and sent out some excellent passes. Sword ran well at times, but was apt to hold on too long. The wings got few real chances, but they both did well and got a try apiece. Cavendish, following up hard, charged down the full-back's kick and got the touch-down from the rebound off himself, and in the second half Instone got over by running hard for the corner. Hyde tackled very well, but was nearly always left with too much to do at the end owing to the failure of the centres to take their men.

TEAM:—W. S. Hyde; G. M. Cavendish, J. B. Charles, J. D. Murray, C. R. Instone; R. W. D. Sword, D. C. Ellis; J. E. McComb, J. N. Feathers, S. D. A. S. Aylmer, D. S. Bramley, S. Freeman, J. G. B. Grimley, A. R. C. Watson, A. F. Kerr.

THE SCHOOL v. TRINITY COLLEGE, OXFORD.

Played at Stowe on November 6th, Trinity College winning by 3 tries (9 points) to nothing.

It was a regular forwards' day—pouring rain and very soft ground—but in spite of that the backs did well on both sides and handled with fair success, and all the Trinity tries were scored by the backs. But for the greater part of the time it was a tussle between the forwards, and the School did well against a useful College pack. There were some fine forward rushes and much good stopping, Dunsford at scrum-half being particularly good at going down on the ball. Sword played a very hard game and ran strongly, but was inclined to hang on rather long at times. Ellis was good in the centre, and Ling also took his passes and ran well, but was not very successful in getting the ball out at the right moment to his wing. Neither of the wings had much chance, as was natural on such a day. Brind at full-back in place of Hyde (disabled) had a hard task for his first appearance in the XV, but did quite creditably. The forwards were all good, but McComb and Kerr in the tight, and Bramley and Marshall in the loose, are perhaps worthy of special mention.

TEAM:—B. Brind; G. M. Cavendish, D. C. Ellis, A. J. P. Ling, C. R. Instone; R. W. D. Sword, A. Dunsford; J. E. McComb, J. N. Feathers, S. D. A. S. Aylmer, D. S. Bramley, S. Freeman, J. G. B. Grimley, J. F. Marshall, A. F. Kerr.

THE SCHOOL v. BEDFORD SCHOOL 2ND XV.

Played at Bedford on November 13th, Bedford winning by 4 goals and 2 tries (26 points) to nothing.

The match was played in a gale of wind on a sodden pitch. Bedford, playing with the wind, scored twice before the School had realized what was happening. The slow starting of the side, especially in matches played away, has been very evident this season and must be remedied. Subsequently the School forwards woke up to some extent, but they were not really well together at any period of the match. Considering the conditions the Bedford backs handled excellently, especially when playing in the second half against the wind. They were considerably faster and cleverer than ours, and usually looked dangerous. The tackling of the School backs was not very sound, but this is partly explained by the comparative lack of pace. It is noticeable, however, that the backs as a whole do not run as fast as they can, and, in addition, that they take far too long to begin to run at all—both fatal faults against sides that are quick off the mark. Before half-time Bedford increased their lead to 16 points by scoring two unconverted tries.

Playing with the wind in the second half, the School should have done better than they did. The punt-ahead and follow-up was the game which would have paid, but which was very rarely tried. Bedford, on the other hand, having a superiority behind, developed the passing game and played it very well, one of their tries in this half being the result of some very good quick passing between the left-centre and left-wing which completely beat our defence.

The Bedford side struck one as being very strong for a school second XV, and undoubtedly we were beaten by a better side, but on the whole the School gave a disappointing display. It should be said, however, that we were without Gadney, Sword and Freeman, who would have made a very appreciable difference. McComb played a splendid game and did all he could to get the side going, but the pack as a whole, although individually playing hard, seemed somehow to lack cohesion.

TEAM:—W. S. Hyde; G. M. Cavendish, A. J. P. Ling, H. W. Gill, C. R. Instone; D. C. Ellis, A. Dunsford; J. E. McComb, J. N. Feathers, S. D. A. S. Aylmer, D. S. Bramley, J. A. Dashwood, J. G. B. Grimley, A. R. C. Watson, T. H. Howarth.

THE SCHOOL v. ST. EDWARD'S, OXFORD.

Played at Oxford on November 17th, St. Edward's winning by 3 tries (9 points) to nothing.

After the poor display at Bedford four days earlier, the prospects for this match did not seem very bright, especially as Gadney, Hyde and Freeman were away. However, Sword was back and made a big difference to the tackling behind the scrum. The whole side played like a side, going hard from start to finish, and gave their best display of the season. St. Edward's were admittedly the better side, being especially strong behind the scrum, and it cannot be said that Stowe deserved to win, but they certainly deserved to score, and had the luck run our way it might have been a very close thing indeed. Three penalty kicks for us missed by the narrowest of margins, and with the exception of the final break-away by St. Edward's in the last minute, when they scored their last try, Stowe penned their opponents in their own '25' for the last fifteen minutes of the match, and had hard lines in not scoring at least once.

The first twenty minutes' play was even and chiefly a hard fight between the packs. St. Edward's were getting rather more than their share of the ball in the tight, but Sword's excellent smothering of his man prevented their fast threes from being very dangerous. At length, however, the ball went out to their left-wing man: he had plenty of room in which to move, and had no difficulty in running round the defence. From the kick-off St. Edward's started an attack in which a large number of the side took part, and which ended in a fine try—within thirty seconds of the ball being put into play. This looked bad, but the School side went hard, and there was no further scoring before half-time.

The second half was very keenly fought. The St. Edward's backs broke away several times, but splendid tackling by Dunsford and Cavendish saved the situation. Then followed a long period of severe pressure on the St. Edward's line, but there was just not enough thrust among our backs to get over. Finally, close on time, a kick of Dunsford's not reaching touch, the opposing back gathered in his own '25' and, running, sent his threes away. A very fine movement resulted in the left-wing's evading a tackle and, outstripping the defence, scoring behind the posts.

Dunsford at full-back was weak in kicking but tackled and fielded well, although he was apt to lie too far back at times. The three-quarters were not very effective in attack, being outpaced, but they did show more drive than usual, and in defence were much better in getting up on their men. Sword was invaluable in nipping dangerous attacks in the bud, but in his own attack he is still very obvious. Pritchard played an extremely stout-hearted game at the base of the scrum and got through a great deal of very hard work. He is a good stopper and goes down on the ball well.

Chief honours lay with the pack, which played with far more life than they had shown for some time. Beyond saying that they were magnificently led by McComb, who worked tremendously hard himself, it would be invidious to mention any names; all went very hard and played from start to finish with the utmost determination.

TEAM:—A. Dunsford; G. M. Cavendish, D. C. Ellis, H. W. Gill, J. D. Murray; R. W. D. Sword, T. A. G. Pritchard; J. E. McComb, J. N. Feathers, S. D. A. S. Aylmer, D. S. Bramley, J. A. Dashwood, J. F. Marshall, J. G. B. Grimley, A. R. C. Watson.

THE SCHOOL v. ST. PAUL'S 2ND XV.

Played at Stowe on November 27th, the School winning by 1 penalty goal and 5 tries (18 points) to 1 try (3 points).

This was the first time we had played St. Paul's, and, as things turned out, we proved considerably too strong for their second team. This was so, in spite of the fact that the School side gave a very disappointing display, with the result that the game was the duller and most lifeless played here this term. The forwards, not very severely tested, lacked 'go,' and often stood around waiting for someone else to go in to the ball, while the backs were for the most part slow and hesitating in their running. The passing, too, was often bad, Dunsford at the base of the scrum being particularly off form in this respect, although he did a lot of good stopping work and on occasions picked up very cleverly in the loose. Ellis was fair in the centre, but Freeman, who was being tried on the left wing, was not much of a success, and Cavendish on the other wing had a completely off day.

The game itself hardly merits detailed description, being very scrappy; it had also too often to be stopped for off-side play and other infringements of the rules. Hyde, who tackled very soundly at full-back, occasionally tried to enliven matters by coming up on the wing, and towards the end of the game he made one of the best runs of the match down the right touch-line, but just failed to get right through. Marshall was often prominent in the loose forward rushes and tackled very well. Tries were scored by McComb, Marshall, Dunsford, Sword and Dashwood, and Dashwood also kicked a penalty goal.

TEAM:—W. S. Hyde; G. M. Cavendish, D. C. Ellis, H. W. Gill, S. Freeman; R. W. D. Sword, A. Dunsford; J. E. McComb, J. N. Feathers, S. D. A. S. Aylmer, D. S. Bramley, J. A. Dashwood, J. F. Marshall, A. R. C. Watson, A. F. Kerr.

SECOND XV MATCHES.

2ND XV v. WELLINGTON 2ND XV.

Played at Stowe on October 16th, Wellington winning by 3 goals and 8 tries (39 points) to 1 goal (5 points).

Although the School forwards held their opponents fairly well, the Wellington backs were much too good for ours, one of the wing men in particular being so fast as to leave our defence standing helpless. Until the last ten minutes of the game the School managed to keep the score within fairly reasonable proportions, but Wellington then, against a tired defence, scored three times in quick succession, adding 11 points to their score. The School try was scored by Marshall after a good forward rush. Keith converted.

TEAM:—F. E. M. Eastwood; F. J. Still, N. A. McLeod, A. J. P. Ling, C. R. Instone; T. H. T. Gautby, T. A. G. Pritchard; J. F. Marshall, D. A. G. Keith, W. D. McComb, D. W. Thompson, T. H. Howarth, A. F. Kerr, T. P. Ward, L. H. A. Thompson.

2ND XV v. RADLEY 2ND XV.

Played at Radley on October 23rd, Radley winning by 2 goals and 2 tries (16 points) to 1 try (3 points).

Radley were heavier in the scrum and faster outside, but Stowe might well have won had their backs played at all well. The Stowe forwards were better than the opposing pack, especially in the loose rushes. Stowe pressed hard for the first ten minutes, but failed to score through lack of resolute running. The Radley backs then began to assert themselves, and scored twice before half-time. Playing against the wind in the second half, the Stowe forwards attacked strongly, and after a series of rushes which brought the play close to the Radley line, Keith managed to cross. The kick failed. For a long time the score stood at 6—3, but

just before time Radley scored twice (once rather luckily) and converted both tries. The Stowe backs in attack never got moving as a line, and in defence were slow in getting up to tackle. Some of the tackling was excellent, but some was very bad indeed.

TEAM:—B. Brind; C. R. Instone, J. U. Body, N. A. McLeod, E. J. Oliver; T. H. T. Gautby, T. A. G. Pritchard; J. F. Marshall, W. D. McComb, D. A. G. Keith, D. W. Thompson, T. H. Howarth, T. P. Ward, R. Russell, W. E. M. Eddy.

2ND XV v. R.A.F., HALTON.

Played at Stowe on October 30th, Halton winning by 2 goals, 1 penalty goal and 4 tries (25 points) to 1 penalty goal and 1 try (6 points).

The School pack played well in the loose, but in the tight the R.A.F. got the ball nearly every time. The School backs did not tackle well, and their opponents made good use of the chances given them by their forwards. The R.A.F. started well, scoring two tries in the first few minutes. Only once in the first half, when Ling broke away, did the School look like scoring. They started off well in the second half. A try was scored by D. W. Thompson, but McComb failed to convert. The latter, however, dropped a goal from a penalty shortly afterwards. Amongst the School forwards Marshall and McComb were prominent; of the backs, Oliver and Carr were the best in defence.

TEAM:—J. I. Crookston; E. J. Oliver, J. U. Body, A. J. P. Ling, G. S. L. Burroughes; R. H. G. Carr, T. A. G. Pritchard; J. F. Marshall, R. S. Manners, W. D. McComb, D. A. G. Keith, D. W. Thompson, T. H. Howarth, T. P. Ward, L. H. A. Thompson.

2ND XV v. LONDON SCOTTISH 'C.'

Played at Stowe on November 13th, the Second XV winning by 2 goals, 2 penalty goals and 2 tries (22 points) to 1 try (3 points).

In spite of much previous rain, the ground was in surprisingly good condition. A heavy shower at the start, however, made the ball difficult to handle. The School started off well with a series of fine forward rushes led by Marshall. The two packs were evenly matched for weight and speed, but the School backs were by far the better. Sword, who was cutting through well, scored three times himself, and frequently set his threes going. They handled the slippery ball very well, and carried out some good movements. Pritchard, at the base of the scrum, did good work, scoring once himself. McComb kicked two difficult penalty goals in the second half; McComb and Keith converted one try each. The London Scottish scored once, in a race to touch down, during the second half.

TEAM:—B. Brind; T. H. T. Gautby, R. H. G. Carr, J. D. Murray, E. J. Oliver; R. W. D. Sword, T. A. G. Pritchard; J. F. Marshall, A. F. Kerr, W. D. McComb, R. S. Manners, D. A. G. Keith, T. P. Ward, D. W. Thompson, L. H. A. Thompson.

COLTS' MATCHES.

COLTS' XV v. RADLEY COLTS' XV.

Played at Radley on November 3rd, Stowe winning by 5 goals and 4 tries (37 points) to nothing.

We held a fairly big advantage in size, and were much better behind the scrum. The centres were quite promising, but their defence was not seriously tested. The

game was fought out largely in Radley territory, and our opponents did not often look dangerous. In the first half tries were scored by Keith, Murray, Stuart and Pritchard. Keith converted two of these, so that we led by 16 points at half-time. In the second half the scorers were Murray (2), Pritchard (2) and Charles. McComb converted two and Keith one of these tries.

TEAM:—B. Brind; E. J. Oliver, J. D. Murray, G. W. Hird, M. F. Villiers-Stuart; J. B. Charles, T. A. G. Pritchard; W. D. McComb, D. A. G. Keith, R. Russell, V. G. Stuart, G. D. Watson, D. de S. Barrow, J. W. Evans, H. G. Morison.

COLTS' XV v. ST. EDWARD'S, OXFORD, COLTS' XV.

Played at Stowe on November 10th, Stowe winning by 5 goals and 7 tries (46 points) to 1 try (3 points).

Stowe Colts were too strong for their opponents, especially behind the scrum. The backs handled well and, being a good deal faster than St. Edward's, scored at more or less regular intervals throughout the game. St. Edward's were unfortunate in losing their full-back, who had to retire before half-time. Scorers for Stowe were Oliver (4), Pritchard (3), Murray (3), Charles and Sutherland. Keith converted five tries, and narrowly missed with several other kicks from long range.

TEAM:—B. Brind; M. A. R. Sutherland, G. W. Hird, J. D. Murray, E. J. Oliver; J. B. Charles, T. A. G. Pritchard; W. D. McComb, D. A. G. Keith, R. Russell, V. G. Stuart, G. D. Watson, D. de S. Barrow, H. G. Morison, P. M. Rouse.

O.T.C. NOTES.

Strength of the Contingent this term:—

Bruce	...	...	...	...	26
Temple	...	...	...	...	41
Grenville	...	...	...	...	36
Chandos	...	...	...	...	50
Cobham	...	...	...	...	34
Chatham	...	...	...	...	26
Grafton	...	...	...	...	8
					<hr/>
				TOTAL	...
					221

The following promotions have been made:—

To SERGEANT.	Corporal J. F. Marshall.
Appointed LANCE-CORPORAL.	Cadet N. A. McLeod.
	„ C. R. Instone.
	„ N. C. Marshall.
	„ J. A. Robinson.
	„ G. D. Watson.

Four Officers and 115 Cadets attended the annual camp at Tidworth Park from 27th July to 4th August. The training at this Camp is in the hands of the Rifle Depôt, Winchester. The School Contingent formed one company in No. 1 Battalion, commanded by Col. T. G. Dalby, D.S.O., 60th Rifles, whose report on the Contingent was entirely complimentary.

A Miniature Rifle Club has been formed in connection with the Contingent. Further particulars of this Club will be found elsewhere in this number.

A cup has been very kindly presented to the Contingent by Major Sir Robert Walker, Bart., of Sand Hutton, to be held by the House to which, in the opinion of the Commanding Officer, the best cadet of the year belongs.

A Field Day was arranged for 28th October, in which Eton and Beaumont were also to take part. The ground selected was some two miles south-east of High Wycombe. At the last moment, when the School Contingent was just about to 'embus,' the operations were cancelled owing to the state of the weather—rain and a cold south-east wind. The Contingent, however, carried out a small scheme in the vicinity of the School.

CAMP DIARY, 1926.

- 27th July. Motor transport to Buckingham station. Thence by train via Bletchley, Willesden and Clapham Junction to Tidworth. Marched up to Tidworth Park Camp (1½ miles), arriving there about 5.0 p.m.
- 28th July. A little rain in the night, but the day fine and hot. Demonstration and practice of the elements of minor tactics. Grenade and Tracer Bullet demonstration.
- 29th July. Fine and hot. Demonstration and practice of the platoon in attack.
- 30th July. Fine and hot. Demonstration and practice of the platoon in attack and defence.
- 31st July. Fine and hot. Demonstration and practice of the action of a reserve platoon in attack. 9 to 12 midnight, night operations.
- 1st August. Fine and very hot. Church Parade and inspection of camp in the morning. Sports in the afternoon.
- 2nd August. Fine. Cooler. Battalion movements preparatory to the following day's operations.
- 3rd August. Cloudy and cool. The Battalion (No. 1) in defence with a section of Tanks and a section of 18 pounders attacked by No. 2 Battalion with Tanks and a co-operating aeroplane.
- 4th August. The Camp broke up. The school lorry broke down.

FENCING.

This term the School team has met Eton, Harrow, Westminster, Oxford University, and University College, London. All these matches have been won. Such successes against the senior university and schools long noted for their swordsmanship would in any case have been welcome; but they are particularly gratifying because each Stowe boy who took part in them has learnt his fencing here. Those who have fought for this unbeaten team are: M. S. Montagu Scott (captain), T. H. Howarth, N. G. Wertheim, A. C. Dawson, M. F. Villiers-Stuart, P. A. J. Charlot, B. P. Brooke, F. H. B. P. O'Reilly, F. J. Walter and B. R. S. Houghton. The first six of these have received their colours.

The number of boys fencing is greater than ever. While welcoming the increase, we should like to say that good swordsmen can only be made by regular and skilled instruction. Professor Gruvé is here to teach any boy who is capable of showing promise. Advantage taken of this opportunity will be well repaid and has been shown by experience to be essential if good results are to be obtained.

We would like here to thank R. Wertheim, Esq., for his gift of two very handsome lamps for the Fencing School. We have what may be made the most beautiful 'salle d'armes' in the country. At present it lacks satisfactory heating, and it has none of the engravings and few of the arms which serve not only for decoration but also as object-lessons in the majority of fencing schools. The authorities here have helped generously in the provision of the more obvious essentials of accommodation. Eighteenth century Stowe has left us a Temple, and private gifts have helped to fill it. May we be permitted to add that much remains to be done? We know what we want and that we can put this place 'hors concours': the means required are not great, but they are at present lacking.

Visitors have said that they would like to see fencing at Stowe, but that they do not know when it will take place. There will be a match here against Oxford University on February 2nd, and another against Westminster at Westminster on February 12th.

The result of the House Matches is not known at the time of going to print.

THE SCHOOL v. HARROW.

Fought at Stowe on 21st October, this match resulted in a win for the home side by 10 victories to 6. The play was made particularly interesting by the fact that the two schools could claim, on the results of previous matches, to possess the most formidable Public School fencing teams in the country.

Harrow were throughout a dangerous side. The result might have been different had their play been a little more accurate and the side better balanced. For Stowe, Howarth and Wertheim were at their best, while Dawson and Villiers-Stuart fought extremely well. The former is a disconcerting left-handed foilist and the latter has become unusually swift on the attack. Scores:—

STOWE.—T. H. Howarth and N. G. Wertheim, 3 victories each; A. C. Dawson and M. F. Villiers-Stuart, 2 victories each.	TOTAL: 10.
HARROW.—A. H. O'Connor and V. Dyll, 3 victories each; G. V. Hett and C. M. Wilson, 0 victories.	TOTAL: 6.

THE SCHOOL v. WESTMINSTER.

Various trials were given in the Stowe team which defeated Westminster on 23rd October by 9 victories to 7. Neither the foil nor the épée play on the Stowe side was particularly good, so that we came near to defeat at the hands of a much-improved side, beaten easily in London last year. The fights were evenly contested; some steady work by the senior members of the side, Wertheim and Montagu Scott, was chiefly responsible for giving the victory to Stowe. This match took place in the Temple of Concord. Scores:—

FOILS.	
STOWE.—N. G. Wertheim and B. P. Brooke, 2 victories each; M. T. D. Patmore, 1 victory.	TOTAL: 5.
WESTMINSTER.—W. E. Walter, 2 victories; B. E. Petitpierre and E. W. Lloyd, 1 victory each.	TOTAL: 4.
EPÉE.	
STOWE.—M. S. Montagu Scott, 2 victories, 1 double hit; F. H. B. P. O'Reilly, 1 victory, 1 double hit; P. A. J. Charlot, 1 victory.	TOTAL: 4.
WESTMINSTER.—E. W. Lloyd, 2 victories, 1 double hit; B. E. Petitpierre, 1 victory; W. E. Walter, 1 double hit.	TOTAL: 3.

THE SCHOOL v. UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.

Strangers have a way of underestimating the distance between Stowe and the Metropolis; but few visiting teams have arrived so late as this, which reached here at 4 o'clock for a match timed to begin exactly an hour and a half earlier. However, the brisk methods of their play and some accurate work on the part of the School team brought the match to an end in time for most of us to attend Chapel. The foil event resulted in an easy win for Stowe; but the hustling, if unorthodox methods of the London team gave them at first a lead with the épée. Then two good wins by Howarth and some useful stop-hits from every member of the team put the School ahead. The final score was 18—11 in favour of Stowe. Scores:—

FOILS.	
STOWE.—T. H. Howarth, N. G. Wertheim and A. C. Dawson, 3 wins each; B. P. Brooke, 2 wins.	TOTAL: 11.
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.—C. P. Collins, 3 wins; F. E. Charlton, 2 wins; F. J. G. Leishman and F. Ennever, 0 wins.	TOTAL: 5.
EPÉE.	
STOWE.—T. H. Howarth, 3 wins, 1 double hit; F. H. B. P. O'Reilly, 3 wins; M. S. Montagu Scott, 1 win; P. A. J. Charlot, 0 win, 2 double hits.	TOTAL: 7.
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.—C. G. Brée, 2 wins, 1 double hit; C. P. Collins, 2 wins; P. A. Cooper and F. Ennever, 1 win and 1 double hit each.	TOTAL: 6.

THE SCHOOL v. OXFORD UNIVERSITY.

This match was fought at Oxford on November 3rd, and resulted in a win for the School by 15 victories to 13. We believe it to be the first occasion on which the University has been beaten by a School.

Generally speaking, the sword-play of the Stowe side was of a high level and very evenly balanced. To this latter fact the victory must be chiefly ascribed, for the third and fourth strings of the Oxford team could make little headway, and this more than discounted the foil-play of C. S. A. Simey, who is an experienced and brilliant swordsman.

For Stowe, Wertheim did particularly well to defeat the Half-Blue, G. Toyne, by the odd hit in five after a well-contested bout. Houghton, too, showed good form in his first match, while Walter and Montagu Scott were the most conspicuous of the épéeists. The latter accomplished a remarkable performance by going through so stern an encounter without the loss of a fight. Howarth indulged in too frequent coups-à-corps and was out of form. Scores:—

STOWE.		OXFORD UNIVERSITY.	
FOILS.			
	Won.	Lost.	Won. Lost.
N. G. Wertheim	3	1	C. S. A. Simey 4 0
A. C. Dawson	2	2	G. Toyne 3 1
B. R. S. Houghton	2	2	H. Grunbaum 1 3
T. H. Howarth	1	3	G. D. Westermann 0 4
TOTALS	8	8	TOTALS 8 8

STOWE.		OXFORD UNIVERSITY.	
EPÉE.			
	Won.	Lost.	Coups Doubles.
M. S. Montagu Scott	3	0	1
F. J. Walter	2	2	0
T. H. Howarth... ..	1	1	2
F. H. B. P. O'Reilly	1	2	1
TOTALS	7	5	4

	Won.	Lost.	Coups Doubles.
G. Toyne	3	1	0
C. S. A. Simey	0	1	2
J. S. Williams	1	1	2
M. J. R. Holmes	1	3	0
TOTALS	5	6	4

THE SCHOOL v. ETON.

At Eton on November 20th the School team won its last match of the term by 18 wins to 14. So the unbeaten record was preserved.

The match was closely contested. In most ways it was the best School match we have had; for the Eton team are pretty stylists and possess in Scott and Mayhew two promising swordsmen. The épée result was 9—7 in our favour. Actually, this part of the match became desultory as the result of an introduction of the method now practised by the British Army of conducting fights without judges. Successful though this may be in contests between experienced fencers, it tends to bewilder both fighters and spectators when the former are comparatively new to the art.

Stowe started badly in the foil event, as both Howarth and Dawson lost their opening matches. Villiers-Stuart beat Burrows with a rapid succession of 'double' attacks; but the School could not get the lead, and the score mounted to 7—6 in Eton's favour with three bouts to go. Then Howarth beat Scott-Fox, after which wins by Dawson and Villiers-Stuart made victory certain. The play of these two

foilists was the most creditable event of the match. Dawson is a difficult 'gaucher,' and Villiers-Stuart has quite unusual pace. Both still need to strengthen their parries, but the progress they have made during their one year of fencing is remarkable. Scores:—

STOWE.		FOILS.		ETON.	
	Won.	Lost.		Won.	Lost.
M. F. Villiers-Stuart ...	3	1	C. R. Scott ...	3	1
A. C. Dawson ...	3	1	R. E. C. Mayhew ...	2	2
N. G. Wertheim ...	2	2	F. J. Scott-Fox ...	1	3
T. H. Howarth ...	1	3	D. A. B. Burrows ...	1	3
TOTALS ...	9	7	TOTALS ...	7	9

STOWE.		EPÉE.		ETON.	
	Won.	Lost.		Won.	Lost.
T. H. Howarth ...	3	1	C. R. Scott ...	3	1
P. A. J. Charlot ...	3	1	D. A. B. Burrows ...	2	2
M. S. Montagu Scott ...	2	2	F. J. Scott-Fox ...	1	3
F. H. B. P. O'Reilly ...	1	3	R. E. C. Mayhew ...	1	3
TOTALS ...	9	7	TOTALS ...	7	9

FIVES.

Wet weather has proved a severe handicap during a great part of the term. A small band of enthusiasts has, however, played regularly. It is to be hoped that, so far as the demands of other games allow, the number of Fives players will increase, with a view particularly to making a success of the Inter-House Competition, which will take place next term. House teams entering will probably be expected to furnish three pairs each.

GOLF.

The S.S.G.C. is once more a going concern—that is to say, it has a number of members and a course which, though rough, is playable. There must, however, be many golfers in the School who have not joined the Club. It is hoped that these will join next term, and so help the Club back to the prosperous position it occupied two years ago.

The House Competition will be played during the first half of next term.

THE LIBRARY.

THE following books have been bought for the Library since the last list was published in *The Stoic*:—

Ronner, 'Marie de Medici.' Coulton, 'The Medieval Village.' Atkinson, 'Marlborough.' Carlyle, 'Cromwell's Letters.' Ashley, 'Economic Organization of England.' Bagwell, 'England under the Stuarts'; 'Ireland under the Stuarts.' Dowden, 'Puritan and Anglican.' Foster, 'Sir John Eliot.' Firth, 'Cromwell's Army'; 'Oliver Cromwell.' Corbett, 'The Successors of Drake.' 'The Journal of George Fox.' 'Colonel Hutchinson's Memoirs.' Mahan, 'The Influence of Sea Power.' Pollard, 'The Political History of England'; 'Thomas Cranmer.' Raleigh, 'Early English Voyages.' Trail, 'Shaftsbury.' Lanson, 'Histoire de la Littérature Française.' 'Nouveau Petit Larousse.' Stewart and Tilley, 'The Classical Movement in French Literature'; 'The Romantic Movement in French Literature.' Fyffe, 'History of Modern Europe.' Einstein, 'Tudor Ideals.' Corbett, 'Drake and the Tudor Navy.' Stephen Gwynn, 'Ireland.' Dean Inge, 'England.' Toynbee and Kirkwood, 'Turkey.' Taunton, 'History of the Jesuits in England.' Lord Birkenhead, 'Famous Trials of History.' Lord Oxford and Asquith, 'Fifty Years of Parliament.' Furtwängler, 'Masterpieces of Greek Sculpture.' Lowson, 'Botany.' Step, 'Ferns.' Webster Smith, 'The World of the Past.' Travis Jenkins, 'Fishes of the British Isles.' 'Tudor Studies' by various authors. Tawney, 'The Agrarian Problem in the XVIth Century.' Tawney and Power, 'Tudor Economic Documents.' Gordon, 'English Literature and the Classics.' Boissier, 'Cicero and his Friends.' Verrall, 'Euripides the Rationalist.' Livingstone, 'The Greek Genius and its meaning to us.' Warde Fowler, 'Social Life of Rome in the Age of Cicero.' Frank, 'Roman Imperialism.' 'The Cambridge Ancient History,' vol. ii; vol. iii. 'The Oxford Book of French Verse.' 'The Oxford Book of German Verse.' 'The Oxford Book of Spanish Verse.' Cervantes, 'Don Quijote.' Willoughby, 'German Literature.' Robertson, 'German Literature.' Saintsbury, 'A Short History of French Literature.' Corneille, Plays. Racine, Plays. Labiche, Plays. Vinogradoff, 'The Growth of the Manor.' Haverfield, 'The Romanization of Britain.' Marriott, 'The Eastern Question.' 'The Cambridge Modern History,' Atlas Volume. Keith Feiling, 'A History of the Tory Party.' Oman, 'The Great Revolt of 1381.' Figgis, 'The Divine Right of Kings.' Sealby, 'The Roman Alphabet.' Saintsbury, 'History of English Prosody.' 'Letters of Sir Walter Raleigh.' Masaryk, 'Die Welt Revolution, 1914-18.' Makeer and O'Hara, 'Russia.' Gathorne Hardy, 'Norway.' Lowes Dickinson, 'The Greek View of Life.' Dekker, Plays. Bragg, 'Concerning the Nature of Things.' Maitland, 'Domesday and Beyond.' Thurlow Leeds, 'Archaeology of the Anglo-Saxons.' Haskins, 'Normans in European History.' Bigham, 'Prime Ministers of England.' 'Highways and Byways' series, Dorset (Treves), Surrey (Parker), Devon and Cornwall (Norway), Hampshire (Reid), Cambridge and Ely (Conybeare), Sussex (Lucas). Stanley Weyman, 'The Castle Inn'; 'A Gentleman of France.' H. G. Wells, 'Kipps.' Galsworthy, 'Caravan.' Montague, 'Fiery Particles'; 'Disenchantment'; 'The Right Place.' Arnold Bennett, 'The Card.' Rider Haggard, 'She'; 'Allan Quatermain.' The complete works of John Ruskin, 38 vols. (Library Edition).

The Librarian wishes to acknowledge the following gifts:—

Thorburn's 'British Birds,' vol. iv: from E. Sheppard.
 'Don Quixote' (with Gustave Doré's illustrations): from R. C. C. Clarke.
 'In Unknown Arabia,' by Major R. E. Cheesman; 'The Bourbon Revolution,'
 by J. R. Hall; 'George III and the American Revolution,' by F. A. Mumby; 'Book-
 keeping and Accounts,' by Macdonald and Evans: from Sir Thomas Comyn-Platt.

THE DEBATING SOCIETY.

A FULL programme of debates has been arranged and carried out this term. Speakers have been numerous, and the speeches for the most part are more ready and more witty than they used to be. Of course, we have still a long way to go. Members of the House would do well to realise both the advisability of speaking on the motion, and the fact that a speech against conviction purges the mind and does not imperil the soul. Again, the guests are there to listen, as well as the President; this is true, if not always obvious. Perhaps in time we shall all be in Parliament: meanwhile, we have managed to keep out of the rut.

Owing to a great deal of work elsewhere, Mr. I. M. Cross has had to resign his Vice-Presidency of the Society. His experience has been invaluable in these years of pioneer efforts, and we would like to offer him our very sincere thanks through the medium of these columns. The officers this term are: Mr. M. C. MacLaughlin (President), Mr. P. G. Hunter (Vice-President), J. A. Boyd-Carpenter (Secretary), and S. D. A. S. Aylmer (Committee-man).

The 21st meeting of the Society was held on Saturday, October 2nd, when the motion for Debate was 'That this House condemns the modern policy of financial aid to industry and the individual.' A more than usually distinguished gathering had assembled to see the Society come of age. It did so with *éclat*.

M. T. D. PATMORE said the right thing in the right way. He speaks with such apparent ease that he need never trouble over the gist of his remarks. All the same he does so, and is the better for it.

J. M. REEVES (*ex-Secretary*) did not like the motion. Apparently, as he acknowledged, he had found it difficult.

T. R. WILLIAMS was speaking for the first time on the paper. It is a pity that he has not yet any great store of self-confidence; for what he says is worth hearing.

W. S. HYDE produced some conclusive figures. The House has always had a weakness for this sort of diet and was clearly impressed. The mention of *Whitaker's Almanack* by this speaker seemed also homely and particularly popular.

There also spoke:—*For the Motion*, O. H. J. Bertram, P. H. W. Davie, the Secretary, G. F. Noxon, G. E. Loxton, M. S. Montagu Scott, A. G. Howland-Jackson, D. B. Skeffington-Smyth and the Hon. P. A. S. D. Butler. *Against the Motion*, S. J. L. Taylor and the Headmaster.

There voted:—

In the Upper House: *For*, 14; *against*, 10; majority for, 4.

In the Lower House: *For*, 13; *against*, 31; majority against, 18.

The 22nd meeting of the Society was held on Saturday, October 16th, the motion for Debate being 'That in the opinion of this House the taking of human life is never justifiable.'

R. H. G. CARR said that he was proposing this motion for reasons of self-defence.

O. H. J. BERTRAM (*ex-Secretary*) was palatable even though a little overdone in parts. He talked about Nicaragua and religious persecution and Cain and Abel. Also he drank nearly all the water provided by the officers of the Society for no one in particular.

D. C. ELLIS began by saying that the last speaker should be locked up. (Cries of 'Lunybin!') From then onwards this speech improved and was a serious contribution to the debate.

G. E. LOXTON seemed to be making quite a good speech; but as he made most of it 'sotto voce' to his colleague, the opposer, and not to us, we cannot say much about it.

There also spoke:—*For the Motion*, R. H. Scott, P. H. W. Davie, the Secretary and S. J. L. Taylor. *Against the Motion*, A. Ricketts, M. S. Montagu Scott, A. G. Howland-Jackson, D. B. Skeffington-Smyth, the President and G. F. Noxon.

There voted:—

In the Upper House: *For*, 8; *against*, 11; majority against, 3.

In the Lower House: *For*, 15; *against*, 25; majority against, 10.

The 23rd meeting of the Society was held on October 30th, the motion being 'That this House deplors the influence of the Press on modern life.'

J. A. BOYD-CARPENTER (*Secretary*) deplored the newspapers of his own country, of Europe, and of God's own country in America. One member of the House confessed to a liking for French papers: he was duly rebuffed. The Secretary later paid an unique tribute to his

Housemaster. At other times he seemed to be getting the House of Commons manner. But this was a good speech.

G. M. CROOKSTON would have been seen to greater advantage had he handled his subject lightly. He said much that was worth saying.

G. F. NOXON has made perhaps the best series of speeches in the House this term. It is only to be regretted that he did not let us listen to him sooner. He has thoughts of his own, which he is able to express lucidly. Also, when he fails to convince us in Europe, he is able to go to America, about which we are ready to believe all manner of things.

E. R. AVORY did not find his best form. All the same, he never fails to express himself in a way which is quite his own and very welcome to his audience.

There also spoke:—*For the Motion*, E. D. O'Brien, E. J. Oliver, J. M. Reeves (*ex-Secretary*), D. S. Montagu Scott, P. H. Lucas and Hon. P. A. S. D. Butler. *Against the Motion*, N. G. Wertheim, R. H. G. Carr, Mr. H. W. Heckstall-Smith, C. D. Dulley, R. H. Scott, R. W. Bate, G. E. Loxton and S. J. L. Taylor.

There voted:—

In the Upper House: *For*, 17; *against*, 13; majority for, 4.

In the Lower House: *For*, 39; *against*, 7; majority for, 32.

The 24th meeting of the Society, held on November 13th, was impromptu. Speeches were more fluent and decidedly more witty than on previous occasions, though we have still some way to go towards obtaining real readiness in Debate.

The House decided that 'Death is infinitely preferable to Life,' and voted in favour of 'giving the Devil his due.' A motion 'That it is better to be a highbrow than to have no brow at all' was defeated.

MUSIC.

The Choral Society, with a stronger force of trebles, chiefly from Grafton, than it has ever boasted before, has been practising Brahms' 'Liebeslieder' Waltzes, in a highly entertaining translation. They have been generally approved, the 'Singing Bird' being perhaps the most popular. The tenor and bass parts still owe a great deal to the noble army of Masters who kindly attend. The Orchestra has been 'perfecting' the pieces that it began last term, and has been enriched by the attendance of a clarinet and a French horn.

A word should be said to commemorate the most successful efforts of the six gallant members of the School who volunteered to perform on the piano while the 'Covered Wagon' film was being shown. The general result was excellent, and the synchronisation of emotional climaxes was admirably frequent. Perhaps the most telling artistic effect was the introduction of the majestic chords of Franck's Prelude at the final arrival of the hero in Oregon.

THE ARTS CLUB.

At a meeting of the Committee held at the beginning of the term several new members were elected to the Club.

An unusual amount of work has been done, and we are glad to see that the new members have been particularly active; the exhibition which we hope to have at the end of next term should be a very interesting one.

The Club room has been very much improved by the acquisition of several small 'Medici' prints and one large one of Leonardo da Vinci's 'Last Supper.'

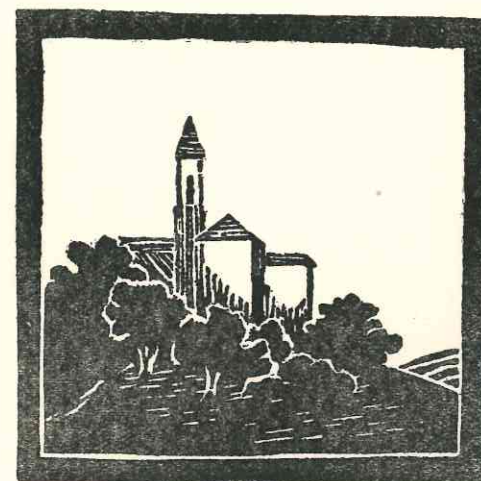
PAPER READING.

Papers were read on Sunday, November 28th, by M. J. Salaman, A. Carden and T. P. Ward. M. J. Salaman dealt with the subject of Modern Draughtsmanship, and gave as his opinion that the most accomplished of modern artists flourished in the Victorian Period, about 1850. He spoke of Alfred Stephens, Charles Keen and then of Whistler. Cubism, he said, appeared to have died out after a short revival following upon the War.

A. Carden read a Paper on 'Michael Angelo.' He gave a detailed account of that great Master's education and outlined his career. Great as a Painter and Architect, he was the Sculptor *sans reproche*.

T. P. Ward followed with 'The Art of Auguste Rodin.' He described Rodin's early efforts as a sculptor in the attic of a stone-mason's yard, and spoke of his marvellous fidelity to nature.

The President (Mr. Neville) then addressed the Club on the subject of the study of Pictures. He appealed for a Catholic taste in Art—an Artist's faith should include Cubism and other heresies—and he exhorted members not to give themselves away to particular 'schools,' but to approach Art in the spirit of the *student* rather than the *critic*.



THE GILBERT AND SULLIVAN SOCIETY.

The Society has held three meetings this term, at which 'Princess Ida,' 'The Pirates' and 'H.M.S. Pinafore' have been read.

Mr. Hankinson, Mr. Freeman and R. C. Farwig have been elected members, while Mr. Arnold and Mr. Capel Cure, to whose efforts in the past the Society has owed a great debt, have gone into a dignified semi-retirement. Mr. Freeman has very kindly allowed the Society to meet in his room and to enjoy there an excellent gramophone rendering of all the music to any play it reads.

THE TWELVE CLUB.

For the first time in its history the Club has been true to its name by numbering exactly twelve members of the School. No longer can military Housemasters scornfully term us the 'Umpteen Club,' no longer can the Kitchen Staff sum us up in the piquant remark: 'The Twelve Club wot ain't got twelve members'; for by one masterly stroke, in the election of two new members (D. Morley-Fletcher and P. D. Taylor), we have silenced our detractors.

The following papers have been read this term:—

October 9th: 'American Diplomacy and the Great War,' by R. C. Farwig.

October 23rd: 'Tsar and Soviet,' by P. H. Lucas.

November 6th: 'The National Greek Festivals,' by R. H. G. Carr.

November 20th: 'Slavery at Athens,' by Mr. R. R. Timberlake.

December 11th: 'The Racial Origins of the British Nation,' by the Secretary.

E.D.O'B.

THE MODERN PLAY READING SOCIETY.

The third meeting of the Society was held in the Headmaster's rooms on November 8th. The play chosen was John Drinkwater's 'Abraham Lincoln.'

The Headmaster gave us a fine reading of *Lincoln*, Lucas was an amusing *Mrs. Blow*, while Mr. Heckstall-Smith and Mr. Spencer—the latter was our first guest—ably sustained the parts of the *Chroniclers*.

At this meeting the Headmaster moved a resolution that a Governing Body should be appointed, the Society having been governed hitherto by fate on the one hand and Mr. Heckstall-Smith on the other.

The following officers were therefore elected: President, the Headmaster; Vice-President, Mr. Heckstall-Smith; Secretary, S. D. A. S. Aylmer; Committee, B. C. Gadney and E. D. O'Brien. O. H. J. Bertram was elected a new member and it was decided that guests might be brought to meetings.

Cards printed in royal blue have also been adopted, and it will be no longer necessary for some hapless victim, inspired by the Vice-President, to wander round the School in a vain endeavour to distribute the parts for the next meeting.

'Foundations,' by John Galsworthy, was decided on as the play for the fourth meeting, which took place on December 8th.

S.D.A.S.A.

THE CLASSICAL SOCIETY.

This Society, the want of which has been long felt, has been formed this term. Its main object is to read papers on classical subjects, but some attempt to read Greek and Latin texts is also meditated. An inaugural meeting was held on Sunday, November 28th, when the Headmaster spoke to the Society on the value of Greek literature.

THE MODERN LANGUAGE SOCIETY.

A Modern Language Society was formed at half-term, and though its work has been limited as yet in scope, members have felt that it has justified its existence.

A number of meetings have taken place on Sunday evenings, and though in the early ones the Society could deal only with matters of business, it has since found time to read a French play. 'Le Gendre de Monsieur Poirier' proved to be an excellent first piece, and, on the whole, the arrangement whereby each member had an opportunity of taking a big part every other week worked out satisfactorily.

At one informal meeting the evening was spent listening to gramophone records of German and French songs and poems, many of which members had met with in their previous reading and could return to with additional interest and amusement.

The Society hopes to develop its programme further next term. It is possible that another French play, perhaps longer, will be read, and if someone can be found willing to write a paper during the holidays we may hope for the opportunity of exercising our powers of discussion.

The following are the officers of the Society: President, Mr. A. B. Clifford; Secretary, R. H. Scott; Committee-man, E. R. Avory.

THE PHYSICAL SOCIETY.

The Society has continued to prosper. Two papers have been read this term—'The Surface History of the Earth,' by G. A. Farthing, and 'The Moon and its Relation to the Earth,' by L. G. Rivers-Moore. Thus the activities of the Society this term have dealt with the physical history of the earth, its origin and subsequent surface changes. These subjects have given rise to some interesting discussions, held after the papers have been read.

It is hoped that there will be two more papers read this term, one of which will be on 'Relativity.'

G. A. Evans has been elected a member.

G.F.N.

THE WIRELESS CLUB.

The Society has recently revived its activities and is busy fitting up the Club Room as a workshop in which members can build their sets.

The membership is limited to fifteen, and it is hoped that this number will prove satisfactory in allowing everyone to have a fair share of the tools.

The authorities of the Daventry Station of the B.B.C. have considered favourably a request to visit the station, and the Society has every hope of making an excursion to it in the near future.

J.F.C.

THE RIFLE CLUB.

The Rifle Club was started officially at the beginning of this term, although some of the preliminary work was carried out last term.

The rifles used are B.S.A. 'twelves,' and have been very kindly lent by various members of the Club. Members found that shooting with these rifles was very different from shooting with the Service rifles used by the O.T.C.; but the standard of shooting has gradually improved throughout the term.

The Club colours are silver-grey, green, plum and dark blue. Any member of the Club is entitled to wear a Club tie when he has passed the official test, which is to score 87 points out of a possible 100, at twenty-five yards.

On November 4th we had our first shoulder-to-shoulder match, our opponents being the North Western Division of the Buckinghamshire Constabulary. We won by the large margin of 169 points. The final scores were:—

Stowe	650
Bucks. Constabulary	481

Next term the Club hopes to arrange more matches and competitions.

The following are the officers of the Club: President, Major Haworth; Vice-President, the Headmaster; Secretary, C. W. Hesketh; Treasurer, B. Kelley; Committee, S. D. A. S. Aylmer, C. B. Ponsonby, E. J. J. Leatham.

C.W.H.

HUNTING.

Some of the local meets of hounds have been attended by members of the School. There was the opening meet of the Bicester on November 2nd at Stratton Audley, when two brace of foxes were accounted for—one brace chopped in covert. The day's sport included several runs of no great duration in the Stratton neighbourhood. On Friday, November 12th, the Grafton met at Brackley, on an ideal morning sandwiched in between rainy days. An outlier gave a good gallop of fifty-five minutes, and was killed in the Vicarage garden at Sulgrave. Later there were two shorter and uneventful runs from Stuckbury and Halse Coppice. On Saturday, November 20th, after a meet at Stratford Hill, the hunted fox passed across the Grecian Valley to Akeley and thence via Whittlebury to Wakefield Woods. Here a changed fox kept hounds busy most of the afternoon in and around the large coverts, until rain and gathering darkness sent a dwindling field home. We are looking forward to a special meet at Stowe, kindly arranged by Lord Hillingdon, for the last Saturday of term, when the School will be represented according to the number of mounts available. The home coverts should not fail to provide a quarry.

By way of account we can only anticipate:—

They hunted and they holloa'd,
And the first thing they did find
Was two fat sows in the Grecian Vale,
And these they left behind.
Some said they were the Bursar's pigs;
But others they said 'No,
They are just two boys of the Middle Fifth:
High thinking made them so.'

CHAPEL OFFERTORIES.

RECEIPTS.

	£	s.	d.
Balance from last term ...	63	14	10
Collections at Early Services, July 11th to Nov. 28th .	21	9	6
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	85	4	4

Expenditure nil.

CHAPEL FURNITURE FOR GYMNASIUM.

RECEIPTS.

	£	s.	d.
Donations	22	2	0
Collection, Nov. 7th .	21	16	0
Loans	14	12	10
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	58	10	10

EXPENDITURE.

	£	s.	d.
Messrs. Gibbard and Ingram	48	2	6
Messrs. Vyle	10	8	4
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	58	10	10

OTHER COLLECTIONS IN CHAPEL.

	£	s.	d.
July 25th, Chapel Building Fund ...	40	11	6
Sept. 26th, " " " " ...	30	18	0

The amount £85 4s. 4d., now on deposit at the Bank, is being kept for use when the Stowe Club for Working Boys is started.

Recently we have received the offer of another building for this purpose; in many respects this would have suited us, but the cost of purchase and upkeep was considered too great, and we were compelled to refuse it.

E.F.H.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND SOCIAL SERVICE.

[The Editor of the 'Spectator' has very kindly allowed the 'Stoic' to reprint parts of an article which appeared under this title on November 20th, 1926.]

The differences in material comfort between the poor and the well-to-do are perhaps no greater now than they were in Victorian times, but they are much more resented by the poor. Offensive resentment on the one side provokes defensive resentment on the other, and there is more bitterness now than there used to be, though no more cause for bitterness. Part of the blame is often put upon our educational arrangements. It is claimed that the isolation of the young men of one class in their own expensive and exclusive schools artificially prevents them from growing up with a knowledge and understanding of the other classes. . . .

There is no doubt that the young men of the upper class are educated quite apart from the young men of the other classes. But it is worth considering whether their ignorance would not be just as profound even if they were not. Are their mothers and sisters (such of them as have not been to boarding-schools themselves)

conspicuously more well-informed and liberal-minded than they are? Have they more understanding of the wage-earning class and more sympathy with it? I wonder. Surely the trouble begins at home, and the schools only reflect the families. If the boys did not go to school at all they would not meet members of the wage-earning classes any more than they do now. The trouble, I think, is national, not educational, and the schools do not make things worse than they would otherwise have been. Sometimes indeed they make things better. Many a boy comes into contact at school with ideas which he would never have met at home, and though the Public Schools do less good than they should, I am sure that they do not automatically do harm by being what they are.

For if they ceased to be what they are, what could they become? If they are as fatal a barrier to national unity as many people think, the claim for their profound modification might be difficult to resist. But in what way could they be modified? They might give up being socially exclusive and allow themselves to be made a part of the State system of secondary education, becoming like the French Lycées in that respect. There would then be no barriers before their doors except economic barriers. The result would no doubt be in England as in France, that a great many social distinctions would be obliterated or obscured. But they would only be the social distinctions which divide the different grades of the possessing class, and these are not in any serious sense important. The distinction which really matters and is really dangerous is the one which severs the wage-earning class as a whole from the capital-holding class as a whole. That distinction exists in France as elsewhere, in spite of the Lycées. It will exist in every country until secondary education is provided for all that class which, however recruited, lives by the labour of its hands. You may make a Public School as little exclusive as the humblest Grammar School, but it will still not include the class whose inclusion really matters. All you will do is to admit to it the lower grades of the possessing classes. The result will be a social one and not a political one, and the main problem will still remain untouched.

What is more, the social result—the swamping of the few exclusive Public Schools by the grades which come next below the Public School grade—will in some ways be extremely deplorable. The Public Schools are trustees for a certain tradition of behaviour, even for a certain tradition of manners and speech, and they must not let those traditions go. Mutual understanding between social grades whose economic interests are the same, is not worth securing if valuable standards must be lowered in order to secure it. The duty of an aristocracy—I am not ashamed to use that dangerous word—is to set a standard for others to aim at. Only the gravest possible reasons can justify any reform which would prevent it from doing that duty.

My claim then would be that the Public Schools do not by their mere existence perpetuate dangerous class distinctions. The distinctions which they do perpetuate seem to me the unimportant ones—those within the possessing class—and in perpetuating these they are only doing what in earlier days would have been considered the proper business of an aristocracy. This distinction which is of really grave importance is that between the possessing class and the wage-earning class, and I cannot believe that educational reform undertaken from the social side can have any considerable effect upon that.

Then is nothing to be done at all? Are the Public Schools above criticism from the social point of view? Clearly they are not. They are guilty of almost complete failure to educate their boys for the leadership of the nation. The chance of that leadership is by the very nature of our economic system offered first to men who have been able to wait for and pay for a liberal education, that is to say to the men

who come from the Public Schools and the best of the State-aided secondary schools. Yet far too many of such men are ignorant of the country's needs and of their own opportunity. It is suggested that they should cure their ignorance by closer personal contact with other classes than their own. If that could be achieved, a great part of our present discontents would certainly vanish. But the economic conditions of the time seem to me to make it more and more difficult to achieve contact between the classes on anything like a large enough scale to be effective. Clearly we must go on trying to achieve it, but we must not build our hopes of a new world upon our efforts in that direction. Another line of approach seems to me more promising. Ignorance may be intellectual as well as spiritual. Everything possible must be done on the spiritual side, but everything possible must also be done on the intellectual side. And it is on that side that most is possible.

The proper remedy for ignorance is instruction, and instruction is after all the business of schoolmasters. I believe that we ought to be arranging for the extension of the syllabuses on which 'Civics' are now taught, for the introduction of definite courses for the older boys in elementary economics, and for lectures and lessons of all kinds on such matters as the processes of industry, the methods of collective bargaining, the distribution of the national income, the conditions of land tenure, the principles of State insurance, the machinery of local government, and indeed everything connected with the working of the country. Of course these subjects are more easily enumerated than taught, for suitable books are few and many of us are very ignorant ourselves. But those difficulties will be got over in time. Another trouble is that a great deal of the information which we may succeed in imparting will be forgotten before it can be used. This is inevitable, but the imparting of information is not the whole result (any more than it is the whole method) of good teaching. Information always evaporates more or less rapidly, but it leaves something behind it, if it has been rightly acquired. If a man has learned a period of history thoroughly, he may forget most of the facts, but the facts will have helped to shape his mind, and in any case he will always be at home in the period if he visits it again later on. Information about England can never be wasted on Englishmen, and good teaching about England can give much more than information. It can give understanding.

It is easy to say what schoolmasters ought to do, and it may be very difficult to do it. None the less, I am convinced that the Public Schools will never turn out the leaders and servants which the country needs if they do not make a deliberate effort to instruct and train their boys in the work that will be required of them. It is in this direction that (as I see it) most progress is to be looked for. Of course our attempts to establish personal contact and personal sympathy between our still diverging classes must go on. They are of priceless value to such Public School boys as they really touch, and the results which they achieve are in quality far superior to any produced by other means. But there is a danger that they may always remain on too small a scale. Clearly the two methods must support each other, but I think we are too apt to forget the possibilities of intellectual instruction in citizenship. After all, it is what the boys do when they have left school that matters, and they are more likely to establish right contacts and undertake right duties when they are men if they leave school with some knowledge of public affairs and some interest in public problems than if they leave uninstructed and uninquiring and with nothing but a vague good will to help them. If the teaching of citizenship were given the place which it might easily occupy in the Public Schools, we should be able to ensure that no boy left his school without some understanding of his country's needs and some ideas of how to meet them, and if we could ensure that, we should change the face of England in a generation.

J. F. ROXBURGH.

THE DUKEDOMS OF BUCKINGHAM.

II. THE VILLIERS LINE.

The founder of the second line of Dukes, George Villiers, was born on August 25th, 1592, to Mary, the wife of Sir George Villiers, a country gentleman of Brooksby, Leicestershire.

From the age of thirteen, he was trained to be a courtier, learning to dance and to fence and absorb light literature; at the age of eighteen he went to France with Sir John Eliot, where he learnt the language with an ease that was astonishing. In 1614 he was introduced to the King at Apethorpe, and attracted his attention by his good looks and sprightliness. A post as cup-bearer soon followed this interview, and in spite of the opposition of the favourite, Somerset, he became Gentleman of the Bedchamber early in 1615, being knighted immediately afterwards and given a substantial pension.

After the fall of Somerset in the autumn of that year, Villiers slowly but surely became the chief object of the affections of the King, and a political friendship soon arose between them. But at first Villiers could not be persuaded to hold any fixed political views. His only interest was to please the King and to pose as the dispenser of patronage to the Court. Meanwhile his influence and popularity grew.

Created in August, 1616, Viscount Villiers and Baron Waddon, he added to his possessions in the next year the Earldom of Buckingham and a large estate. He interfered with the appointment of magistrates, and refused to allow that of county officials who had not made some form of personal submission to him; from which it may be seen that with some it was a case of having patronage thrust upon them.

At the beginning of 1619 he became Marquis of Buckingham, and this year is marked by his opposition to the Howards, an opposition which proved strong enough to drive most of that family from high office. The reason for his hostility is obscure, but at this time, at any rate, the Howards were in support of the Spanish marriage which Buckingham himself had supported a few years previously, and which he now opposed. At all events, the displacement of Suffolk at the Admiralty led to the appointment of Buckingham as Lord High Admiral, a post in which he showed more than usual ability, exposing the dishonesty of the contractors and restoring discipline, which had grown lax under his predecessor, Nottingham.

It was at this time that he began to take an active part in politics, and although he had at first been in favour of attempting the defence of the Palatinate, the conduct of the Dutch towards our sailors in the West Indies had prejudiced him against all Protestants, and thenceforward he was hand in glove with the Spanish ambassador, Gondomar. When Parliament heard that help was to be withheld from the 'Winter King' and his English consort, it was righteously indignant, and showed its indignation by an outcry against the system of monopolies in which Buckingham and his two brothers, Edward and Christopher Villiers, were deeply involved. On the advice of Bishop Williams, however, Buckingham averted the storm from himself by heading the Commons in an assault on the monopolies, naming his two brothers for being implicated and undertaking to punish them.

This storm subsided and gave place to another, the impeachment of Bacon, in which Buckingham displayed as much loyalty and affection for his old friend as was safe for his own interests, though he afterwards declared that Bacon deserved all he got.

The influence of Gondomar led Buckingham to propose the personal visit of Charles to Madrid to see the Infanta; but his offensive and indecorous behaviour

during the visit brought the marriage proposals to nothing, and the Duke (for so he had been created during his absence) returned to England supported by the Prince of Wales in his determination to break every connection with Spain.

From this time onwards we find Buckingham and the Heir Apparent at the head of a popular, independent, anti-Spanish party which was to prove irresistible in its demand for war. But his conduct of the negotiations between James and Louis XIII over the marriage of Charles and Henrietta Maria aroused the hostility of Parliament, which failed to grant money for the troops, thus forcing Buckingham to enter upon the war without sufficient supplies.

After this, all Buckingham's enterprises were failures. The disastrous expedition of the 'condottiere' Mansfeld to the Palatinate, the pawning of the Crown jewels, the miserable attempt to emulate Drake's exploit in the harbour of Cadiz, and the shattering of Willoughby's fleet, all served to alienate the support and confidence of the nation. In fact, Buckingham was continually fighting a losing battle against a Parliament which realised his incapacity as director of the nation's affairs—and which, consequently, was not prepared to grant sufficient supplies—and against the inertia and fatalism of his own nominees in the official departments of the Army and Navy. The failure of the blockade of the Fort of St. Martin on the Isle of Rhé, the triumph of Richelieu, and the enormous loss of men and money led to a second attempt to deprive him of office.

But Charles was staunch to his minister and friend, and once more Buckingham went down to Portsmouth to prepare an expedition for the relief of the Huguenots in La Rochelle. Here, however, his fate overtook him, for when all was ready for the expedition on the morning of August the 23rd, 1626, he was stabbed to the heart by a disappointed naval officer, John Felton, at the door of the room where he was breakfasting. Thus died the first Duke of the second creation.

He was succeeded by his second son, George, who with his brother Francis had been brought up with the children of Charles I. The new Duke, who had become an M.A. at Trinity College, Cambridge, in 1642, fought for the King at Lichfield Close in the next year. After an exciting career during the Commonwealth, fighting for Charles II at the Battle of Worcester, he became estranged from the King, whom he had followed abroad, and returned to England.

His marriage with Mary, the daughter of Lord Fairfax, brought him into close touch with that nobleman, and it was Buckingham's boast that he had converted him to the cause of the Restoration. After the Restoration he was reconciled to the King, bearing the orb at his coronation and receiving the office of Lord Lieutenant of the West Riding of Yorkshire. An intriguer by nature, his way to high office was barred by Clarendon, to whom he was violently opposed. He was challenged to a duel by Lord Ossory, and was committed to the Tower for pulling off the Marquis of Dorchester's periwig during a debate in the House of Lords. His bad behaviour had annoyed the King, and he was imprisoned on a charge of treason; but, when the time was ripe, he was released to take a leading part in the prosecution of Clarendon.

He became Chancellor of Cambridge University in 1671, and was elected High Steward at Oxford in the following year.

In 1674 his dissolute private life and his political intrigues came to a head. He was accused before the Lords of dishonourable conduct, and before the Commons of being the champion of the French alliance, 'popery', and arbitrary government. In spite of the fact that he made a humble submission and promised to reform his ways, he was expelled from all his offices by the King, who was only too glad to be rid of him in view of the tactless disclosures he had made in defending himself.

After this blow Buckingham retired into private life, became a regular church-

goer, reformed his ways, paid his debts and became a 'patriot.' He was a leader of the Country Party, in favour of religious toleration, and in active opposition to the Government on several occasions, the two most notable being that of the Test Oath of 1675 and the question which arose over the prorogation of Parliament in 1677. He was committed to the Tower, but ridiculed the censure of the Government. In July of the same year he was released owing to the good offices of Nell Gwyn and others of the 'merry gang.' Shortly afterwards, however, exhaustion of physical and financial resources sent him into complete retirement. He died, as the result of a chill contracted while hunting, at the house of a tenant at Kirby Wool-side, in Yorkshire, and was buried 'in greater state than the late King, and with greater splendour,' in Henry VIII's Chapel in Westminster Abbey, on June 7th, 1687.

At the end he expressed great repentance for his past life. 'I am despised by my country and, I fear, forsaken by my God,' were his last words, and they are typical of the man. He was honest and untrustworthy by turns, now sunning himself in the King's favour, now trafficking with his enemies, while his pettiness and spite were on several occasions enough to lose him the royal favour. But as the 'B' in the Cabal, and as the leader of the Whig Opposition he played an important part in the history of the times. Though we may agree with the famous character-sketch in Dryden's 'Absalom and Achitophel,' we cannot but feel that, with his father and the Dukes of the Stafford line, he ran his course in a manner worthy of the ducal name of Buckingham.

E.D.O'B.
E.J.O.

'O MAGNA CARTHAGO.'

AT dawn the sentinels on the watch-towers of Arzila had seen the dust of the Roman legions; at noon the walls, gallantly defended as they were by the handful of Carthaginian troops which formed the garrison, had been carried by sheer weight of numbers; and now, as dusk is falling, the legionaries are sitting around their camp fires in the streets of the last Carthaginian city, eating their evening meal before the attack is made on the Residency.

Inside the great building the last officers of Carthage have come to their last banquet. The huge hall of the Residency, with its twisted black marble columns and its gorgeous hangings, is aglow with hundreds of lights. Black Nubian slaves, naked to the waist, bring in great golden dishes. A hidden band plays softly. On the dais, clad in his robes of office, with his plumed helmet on his head, reclines old Hanno Barca, viceroy of the province of the Atlantic coast. On the right is Hasdrubal of Sidon, the commander of the garrison. Around the table are grouped the officers of the troops, clad in armour, and the white-bearded members of the Viceregal Council, in their long robes. The dignity of these men is magnificent. Although death is very near to them, a casual observer would have noticed nothing unusual about

their bearing. They know that, since Carthage herself has fallen, no help can come to them; but they laugh and talk naturally, as if nothing were amiss. Halys, an officer of the cavalry, is chaffing old Lycambes about some cattle over which the councillor had been outwitted by a native dealer.

When the meal is finished, the Viceroy rises and, followed by the others, walks on to the portico. Across the square the Judgment House is burning, and the flames cast a ruddy glow on the faces and armour of the little group at the top of the steps. They stand there, quite calm and still for a space of time, while their enemies watch them with surprise. They seem to be determined to show these proud Romans that the old nobility of Carthage at least knows how to die. Save for the crackle of the flames and the eternal boom of the Atlantic surf on the beach, there is silence for a time, while the legionaries hang back. But at a sharp word from a military tribune, they sweep forward; swords flash for a moment, the attack wavers, then comes on again, and the last Carthaginian governor is lying in a pool of blood on the marble pavement of his palace, surrounded by the dead bodies of his officers.

J. A. BOYD-CARPENTER.

A RUSHING MIGHTY WIND.

[Awarded First Prize for the best Short Story sent in to the Editor of 'The Stoic':
Christmas Term, 1926.]

JONATHAN Thorn was mad. All the village knew that and behaved towards him accordingly. He lived quite alone in the cottage on the top of the hill, where none save old Bessie Philbey visited him, and from which he stirred but once a week—to church on Sunday morning. Bessie, from the farm on the hill-side, did his shopping for him twice a week and took his purchases up to the cottage, where she left them and the change regularly as a clock; but never for over five years did Jonathan speak to her when she went in and laid the bread, eggs and other provisions upon the table. He would nod, perhaps, or he would make no sign at all; Bessie expected no more, he was mad. So what could she expect?

All day long he buried himself in a book he was writing, or thought he was writing, about the Book of Job, upon which task he had been engaged as long as anyone in the village could remember, and that was a good time. Whether this strange volume would ever be finished never entered people's heads; they all took it for granted that it never would.

Day by day old Jonathan worked with his rusty pen among his age-old papers, bent over the sheets, muttering and mumbling to himself, and occasionally raising a yellow, lean hand to remove one of his white curls that was falling down over the page.

At various intervals he got up and found himself some bread to eat or tea to drink, and then resumed his study of Job until bed-time. Summer and winter, he turned in at nine o'clock—and connected with his going to bed was the strangest peculiarity of his madness. He would get himself all ready for bed (this little programme, too, had been carried out as long as anyone could remember) and then, in his white night-shirt only and with his carefully brushed hair round his shoulders, he would open the door of the tiny cottage. Strange and prophet-like, for a moment or two, whatever the weather, he would stand upon the threshold and look out, first over the village below, where in winter the lights twinkled and in summer the evening haze hung softly, and then to the sky, his great eyes seeing into the farthest, cloudy distances. So different were his surroundings during the year: in the winter, clear, starry, windswept heavens and utter darkness below, or brilliant, frosty moonlight; in the summer, delicate sunsets, perfect evening stillnesses, great stage-settings amongst the clouds, cumuli, flying, scurrying cirrus, and wildly driven mares-tails.

How much he saw of these beauties, whether he saw them at all, or, if he saw them, what he thought of them, will never be known; but there he stood every night for a moment or two before he shut and barred the door.

Then he would go to his bed and kneel and say his prayers. And the idea of opening the door was to let God into the cottage, to let God in before he said his prayers and went to rest for the night, so that the Divine Presence might be nearer to him during the dark hours.

And one night God came.

All day the wind had swept the hill-top, furious to find the stupid thing impeding its course, and the tiny cottage had been sorely battered. It was bitterly cold, too, and Jonathan sat very close to his fire while he was writing about Job. The wind roared in the chimney and puffed the wood-smoke from the fire into the room, making the old man cough. He had become very infirm lately, and madder than ever, and the last winter had weakened him considerably. His legs were less stable than they had been and his thin voice had grown more quavering.

As the day advanced, the storm grew more ferocious too. From the window, Jonathan could see the trees in the village—there were none upon the hill or hill-side—swaying and straining against the blasts, and the white flashes as the birches turned back their leaves at each gust.

To the peaceful old man, mumbling and mouthing over Job, there seemed to be a great and warlike inquietude in the world outside; nothing was still or at rest, and the very grass was turned this way and that, backwards and forwards incessantly. As darkness fell the restless atmosphere grew more pronounced, the contending forces that raged across the little roof became greatly magnified by night and its strange influences, and the weird moanings in the chimney rose and fell in great cadences, beginning with a low rumbling, grumbling sound and rising to a shrill cry.

Jonathan worked on by the light of the fire and his candle, thoroughly immersed in his life-long task and only stopping for a few minutes for a scanty supper. There he sat, while the fitful firelight shining upon his eager face, and catching the whiteness of his hair in its red fingers, made him more than ever like an inspired prophet of old.

When age-long habit told him it was bed-time, he rose laboriously and put the sheets he had written that day upon the dusty pile in the corner; then he gazed vacantly round the room for a moment and finally turning, slowly ascended the creaking stairs to his bedroom above. In a little while he returned as slowly as he had come, clinging to the stair-rail with one hand and holding his candle in the other. Upon the last stair he paused, a strange figure indeed in his long white night-shirt. His curls, hanging loose, fell to his shoulders and his eyes were wild. The guttering candle, held in his quivering right hand, threw a bright light on to his sharp features and made his white locks almost dazzling. Again he looked about him vacantly for a moment or two, then stepped down the last stair on to the floor, placed the candle upon the table in the centre of the room and walked out of its circle of light into the shadows by the door.

Slowly he lifted the latch; it unfastened with a sharp noise and the door opened to allow God to enter. Wide he opened it, and in the shrieking wind flung up his arms in his wonted manner to the sky, where the cloud-wrack hurried fast across the face of a bright moon. Back blew his silver hair, his night-shirt flapped behind him.

Then God came.

The moon was covered by a larger cloud than the rest had been, and one mighty gust of wind swept across the hill. In at the open door it surged: the solitary candle-flame bent, shivered, grew straight again, flared up, bent and went out. After a moment the old man turned and closed the door; it was pitch-dark within and there was no moon without, and he advanced very cautiously, his hands before him, towards the tiny red glimmer that betokened the last embers of the dying fire. One step he took and paused, and then another; but his groping hands had

felt too high and with the next forward movement he stumbled against a wooden stool that stood near the fire; he half fell, recovered momentarily and fell again, this time completely and heavily. His head fell hard upon the stone hearth. Moments slipped by; the fire in a last paroxysm, fell together and a tiny flame leapt up. It lit up the long curls and prophetic face of the dead Jonathan, and glinted upon a heap of closely-written papers in one corner.

A. R. H. WARD.

BASQUE.

From a (rather) Old Manuscript.

The Basques be an honest folk, say they, whom the Devil could not snare; for he cudgelled his brains among them for twelve years; whereafter he took ship for London, having learned nothing of their language.

The Basques, indeed, had a modern twist, and declared there was no Devil, so that he got no speech of them, for as Cataractacus hath it, 'qui non est, non est alloquendus.' Moreover he is old, and hates new means of learning, such as parrots, gramophones and marrying natives. Plays there were none, sermons distressed him, and he dined alone, for the smell of garlic he abhorred.

For my part, having dwelt freely with the people for five weeks, I drank such a cropful of their idiom as would drown all the print, paper and patience in the world.

Their definite article is very plain. The vulgar form is *Nick Nack Nock Splump-wubbleham Burgloss*, being the masculine, feminine, neuter, common and uncertain genders. The lettered say also *Nink* for masculine and feminine (as 'the men and maids'), *Nank* for masculine and neuter, *Nonk* for feminine and neuter; the learned adding *Nyank* for masculine or feminine (where the speaker knows not which), *Nyonk* for masculine or neuter, and, for feminine or neuter, *Naonk*; which last, being hard to utter, they use chiefly before breakfast, of a May-day, after gargling. *Splumpwubbleham* is a mighty word, for speaks not *Splump* the very male, *Wubble* the soft, shifting female, *Ham* the neuter unensouled? *Slumpwubbleham*, therefore, is the Common Form, carrying the three genders, as 'Behold the men and maids and muffins.' *Burgloss* affirms the wholly unknown gender, as 'the babe is born':—I wot not yet whether man-child, wench or indeterminate bratling.

Hear now the rendering of these words: The, *Burgloss*—babe, *Bohea*—is born, *O-xlpftschrschmyow*. Mark well the verb: its first O signifies the chaos whence man comes, the rout of consonants his shapings and his struggles toward the light, and the last vowel the cry wherewith he hails it.

No more then of this subtle speech, for be sure, good reader, thou has not the wit for it. But if thou list, thou shalt have seasonable counsel for thy walks abroad.

There be fools in plenty, and I doubt not, good reader, thou art one, who lament that they travel but meet no foreigners, or, meeting them, sit mum, like stumps on a cricket-green or stones upon Stonehenge. Here then is a sovereign means to scrape acquaintance. Learn, in the language of the country, half a score of swingeing oaths, and, thrusting thy heel into they neighbour's toe, discharge

them. The Basque will say, 'Noble stranger, thou knowest not our ways, for thy foot hath stepped aside': and in friendly wise he will instruct thee. Elsewhere thou mayest fare less well; but thou art sure of a folio page of the right speech and racy idiom. Set down thy new companion's new words; so at the second bout thou shalt do bravely, and at the fourth or fifth come off the better man. 'Selah!' quoth I, and thou, belike, 'Hélas!'

LATE NEWS.

FOOTBALL.

The School *v.* Richmond 'B,' played at Stowe on December 11th.
 Richmond 'B': 2 goals and 3 tries (19 points).
 The School: 1 goal, 1 penalty goal and 2 tries (14 points).

HOUSE COMPETITIONS.

SQUASH.

SEMI-FINAL MATCHES { Chatham beat Grafton (3—0).
 { Temple beat Cobham (2—1).

FENCING.

FINAL MATCH: Temple beat Chandos (8—7).

MUSIC COMPETITION.

(Easter Term, 1927).

The following Songs have been selected:—

Unison: 'Early One Morning' (Traditional Song).

Two-Part Song: 'Five Eyes' (by Armstrong Gibbs).



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