

THE ABINGDONIAN

VOL. XII No. 2

APRIL, 1957

Price 1/6d.

CALENDAR, SUMMER TERM, 1957

May

Wed. 1	Term begins.
Sat. 11	1st XI v. Newbury Grammar School (h).
Tues. 14	Field Day—C.C.F. and Scouts.
Wed. 15	1st XI v. King Alfred's School, Wantage (h). 1st Tennis VI v. Radley College (h).
Sat. 18	1st XI v. St. Edward's School 2nd XI (a). 1st IV v. Pangbourne Nautical College (a).
Wed. 22	1st IV v. Prince Henry's School, Evesham (h).
Sat. 25	1st XI v. Parents' XI (h). 1st IV v. Sir William Borlase's School, Marlow (a).
Wed. 29	1st XI v. Solihull School (a). 1st IV v. Reading School (a). 1st Tennis VI v. Magdalen College School (h).

June

Sat. 1	1st XI v. Magdalen College School (h). 1st IV v. King's School, Worcester (h). 1st Tennis VI v. Berkhamsted School (a).
Wed. 5	1st Tennis VI v. Pangbourne Nautical College (a).
Fri. 7, 12.30	p.m. to Tues. 11: half term.
Wed. 12	1st XI v. Berkshire Gentlemen (h), 11.30 a.m. 1st Tennis VI v. Leighton Park School (a).
Sat. 15	1st XI and 1st Tennis VI v. Old Abingdonians (h).
Wed. 19	1st XI v. Staff XI (h). 1st Tennis VI v. Staff VI (h).
Sat. 22	1st XI v. City of Oxford School (h). Marlow Regatta.

July

Sat. 6	1st XI v. Abingdon C.C. (h). 1st Tennis VI v. Reading School (h).
Wed. 10	1st XI v. Bolton School (h).
Sat. 13	1st XI v. Oratory School (a).
Wed. 17	1st XI v. R.G.S. High Wycombe (h). 1st Tennis VI v. R.G.S., High Wycombe (h).
Fri. 19	Annual Inspection of the C.C.F.
Sat. 20	1st Tennis VI v. Abingdon L.T.C. (a).
Wed. 24	Swimming Sports, 2.30 p.m.
Sat. 27	FOUNDER'S DAY.
Tues. 30	Term ends, 10.15 a.m. 1st Tennis VI to Youll Cup contest, Wimbledon.

Michaelmas Term begins Thursday, 19th September, 1957.

(Boarders return Wednesday, 18th September).

Misericordias
Domini



in aeternum
cantabo

CONTENTS

Editorial	47	Athletics	62
School Notes	47	Rugby Football	67
The Development of the School	54	Rowing	68
Founder's Day Celebrations	56	Scouts	70
Valete et Salvete	57	Minor Games	71
Chapel Notes	57	School Societies	71
Hockey, 1957	59	Switzerland, 1957	77
		Over the Sea to Skye	78
		O.A. Notes	81

OFFICERS OF THE SCHOOL

B. L. Smith (Head of School and Head of Dayboys)

J. C. Spinks (Head of School House)

G. F. Wastie (Head of Crescent House)

J. T. Buckland (D)

S. C. Woodley (D)

N. K. Hammond (D)

M. R. S. Broadway (S)

N. J. H. Grant (D)

R. J. Paige (S)

B. D. Winkett (S)

J. B. Robins (D)

I. J. Glenny (S)

H. C. Bowen (C)

M. G. Nichol (D)

B. E. Stacey (S)

I. A. Oliver (C)

W. C. Broad (D)

W. W. Budden (W)

HOUSE PREFECTS

School House—R. K. Le Voi, C. K. D. Cobley, N. A. J. Antrobus,
A. J. Foden, R. S. Green, C. J. Marchbanks.

Crescent House—S. H. Freedman, P. S. Candy, J. T. Saywell.

Waste Court—M. Q. King, A. J. Costley.

Dayboy—J. M. Mobbs, C. M. Dunman, B. Westbrook, P. M. D. Gray,
B. P. Kibble, R. B. Scott-Taggart, D. S. Gerrard, M. R. H.
Hill, J. H. Thewlis, P. D. Exon, C. J. Redknap, P. A. Smith.

Captain of Cricket—S. C. Woodley; Secretary—J. C. Spinks.

Captain of Boats—B. L. Smith; Secretary—M. R. S. Broadway.

Captain of Tennis—N. G. C. Norman; Secretary—J. T. Buckland.

Secretary of G.G.C.—S. C. Woodley.

Secretary of Minor Games—J. T. Buckland.

EDITORIAL

The recent decision to abolish National Service within the next few years is bound to have a considerable effect on the outlook of boys now at School. It means that the majority of them can plan their chosen career without making allowance for a break of two years; but it also means that they will miss the positive training which National Service gave. Two years is an expensive way of providing this training, and no-one would pretend that National Service should be retained for such a purpose. But it follows that the schools will be even more responsible for that part of a boy's education, the development of character and initiative, which lies mainly outside the straight academic course.

The public schools have always interpreted the word "education" broadly, and have attempted to fit their boys to live as well as to earn a living. This is less difficult with boarders, but a school such as ours has an equal responsibility to its day boys. However, the spirit of adventure is not dead in us: during the current year nine boys will be attending Outward Bound Courses, and a party of sixth form scientists have, of their own accord, united work and pleasure by organising a scientific expedition to Skye. The significant thing about this is that although the party contained a couple of masters the initial impetus came entirely from the boys themselves. The initiative test which was so successful last year is certain to be repeated, though perhaps in a slightly different form. And we may be sure that the School will fill the void which will be left when National Service finally goes, by taking on even more of the responsibility of training its members in those extra-curricular activities which are such an important part of a balanced education.

SCHOOL NOTES

The General Inspection—our first since 1939—took place during the last week of term. We are assured on the highest authority that this date was not deliberately chosen to ensure that business continued as usual until the very end: any such salutary result was incidental.

For the sake of posterity (and, more specifically, those who in ten years' time are eagerly scanning the files of the Abingdonian for news of the last inspection) we may put on record that the main task-force was headed by Mr. M. W. Pritchard, who also looked after the English. He was supported by Mr. A. P. Rollett (Mathematics and Geography), Mr. A. E. Titley, M.C., T.D. (Modern Languages), Mr. K. G. Todd (Classics and Library), Dr. R. A. R. Tricker (Science) and Mr. R. L. Wakeford (History and Divinity). Ancillary subjects, if we may use the term, had been covered in advance by Mr. M. F. Atkins (Handicraft), Miss A. V. Rimbaut (Art), Mr. H. Sagar (Physical Education), Miss R. H. Wansbrough (Catering) and Dr. F. G. K. Westcott (Music).

In the event, things ran very smoothly and the School responded well to the Headmaster's injunction that everybody should behave 'normally—but rather more normally than usual'; though we could have wished that our guests had visited us at a time of the year when they could have seen a wider range of out-of-school activities. It is not for us to anticipate their formal report but we gather the general impression they formed of the School was very favourable.

What impression the School formed of them is beside the point. But if we may say so without impertinence we could not help being struck by the thoroughness with which they devoured our exercise books and the obvious interest they showed in every aspect of our life.

* * *

We congratulate Lord Glyn of Farnborough on his appointment as Her Majesty's Vice-Lieutenant for the County of Berkshire.

We cannot allow Councillor Stow to vacate the office of Mayor without adding our own word of thanks for what he has done not only for the Town but also for the School during the past year. It is a matter for some pride that in spite of the exceptional burden that the royal visit and quatercentenary celebrations have imposed on him he has yet made time to meet punctiliously all the obligations, both written and unwritten, of a Governor. It is at least a quarter of a century too soon to wish Mr. and Mrs. Stow a happy retirement, but at least we hope they will be able to relax a little in the coming months, secure in the knowledge of a big job well done.

To succeed him as Mayor (and as ex-officio Governor of the School) we welcome Alderman C. G. Barber. Alderman Barber is a very near neighbour of the School and we hope that he and the Mayoress will visit us frequently during their term of office.

We heard with regret of the resignation from the Governing Body of Mr. H. W. Lake, M.C.. Mr. Lake, who has been a Governor since 1943, at first as representative of the Berkshire County Council and subsequently by co-option, has always been a very good friend of the School. As he severs his official connection with the School we thank him and we wish him well. It is good to know that the award of the Lake Bat will continue to symbolise his interest in us.

To succeed him on the Governing Body his fellow-members have co-opted Mr. Stow, who is thus enabled to retain the seat which he has for the past year occupied *ex officio*. To Amurath an Amurath succeeds—and both Amuraths, by a happy coincidence, have a link with each other and with the School through their connection with the ancient house of Morland.

We congratulate Mr. Airey Neave, M.P., who has rejoined the Government as Parliamentary Private Secretary to the Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation.

We record with respectful regret the death, on 2nd February, of Miss A. C. M. Henty-Summers, daughter of the Rev. Edgar Summers (Headmaster 1870-1883). Miss Henty-Summers was born in the School House eighty-one years ago and revisited it as recently as April of last year.

We are grateful to her brother, the Rev. G. E. Summers, for sending us from her effects some items of interest to the School.

We congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Burgess on the birth of a son and heir (Edmund William) on 22nd January.

Our good wishes followed Mr. Hillary and Miss Healey to the remoter (and less pronounceable) parts of Cornwall, where they were married on 13th April.

We say good-bye gratefully and with regret to Miss Mander who is leaving to take up a post in Cheltenham nearer to her home. In her place as Lady Cook at School House we welcome Miss Welles, who comes to us from one of the houses at Rugby.

We are all very sorry to lose Mr. Alec Thatcher, who has been head groundsman for so many years. Perhaps his most lasting memorial will be the Sports Field which he has always laid out with such care and pride. We thank him for long and faithful service and we wish him all good fortune. At the same time we wish a speedy recovery to Mr. Wiblin, the pillar of the indoor staff, who is laid up with his old trouble of a gastric ulcer.

It was very good of Mrs. Perkins to step temporarily into the breach in the Laboratories caused by the departure of Mrs. Snelling. And now we are able to welcome a new laboratory assistant in the person of Mrs. Schofield, who comes to us after considerable experience in a university laboratory and at Harwell. We are most grateful to our friends at A.E.R.E. for agreeing to release her and we hope that her stay with us will be long and happy.

All good fortune to our three student masters, Mr. G. W. M. Kremer (English) and Mr. E. A. Taylor (Modern Languages) of Oxford, and Mr. J. C. Carrick, a classic who has maintained the tradition of the 'Cambridge residents'. And to the first of his line, Mr. Neil Rattee, now at Repton Junior School, we offer our congratulations on his engagement.

Belatedly, but no less sincerely, we greet Mr. Clack on his return to the Brass Band after his illness; and we thank Mr. Paish who so kindly deputised for him in his absence.

We were glad to welcome a friend of the Van Wagenens, Professor Harold Sprout, who holds the Chair of Geography and International Relations at Princeton, and who visited School House with Mrs. Sprout on 8th February. We were interested to hear from him that Colonel Van Wagenen has just been appointed Dean of the American University, Washington, D.C.

During the Easter holidays the School helped to entertain a party of some twenty students, from almost as many overseas countries, who were attending a vacation course organised by the British Council.

We offer our warm thanks to Mr. Fearon, the County Adviser in Physical Education, for the loan of some most instructive athletic loops (not quite what they sound!); and also to Mrs. M. Reynard for the gift of a candle-snuffer for the Chapel; to Rev. T. M. Layng for a further selection of photographs for our archives; to Mr. K. M. Hart for a series of records of Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto; and to Mr. D. C. Kibble for a handsome cheque which with his approval was devoted to the purchase of choir music.

The number of boys on the School Roll at the beginning of the Lent Term was 478 (Dayboys 291, School House 94, Crescent House 40, Larkhill 19, Waste Court 34).

We congratulate B. P. Kibble on the award of an Open Scholarship in Natural Science at Jesus College, Oxford. This brings our total score this year in what may be called the Oxford and Cambridge Winter Handicap to five open awards and one closed—an achievement which is being suitably recognised by the addition of an extra day to the Easter holidays.

We were also very pleased to hear that the Head of the School, B. L. Smith, had been awarded an Open Entrance Scholarship to St. Mary's Hospital Medical School, which qualifies him also for a supplementary State Scholarship.

Congratulations, too to H. C. Bowen on clearing his Science Prelims. before going up to Oxford; and to all those who have been successful recently in their music examinations—especially to J. J. Day who scored 94% in Theory (Grade V).

On 5th February we welcomed Mr. E. W. Dawson, Director of Public Relations of the Outward Bound Trust, who gave a talk, illustrated by a film, on the activities of the Outward Bound Schools.

February 21st saw (and heard) Sgt. Taylor and two of his colleagues from the Berkshire Constabulary roaring up the Drive on their shining motor cycles to inspect the less romantic contents of the School's cycle-sheds. We are pleased to record that they were generally very satisfied with the condition of our cycles, and it is to be hoped that Sgt. Taylor's subsequent talk on 'Road Safety' is being taken to heart.

A party of boys went to the Corn Exchange on 1st March to see Abingdon Drama Club's excellent "Triple Bill"—a programme of three short plays which had a special interest for us as Mrs. Griffin took a leading part in one of them.

A small party of senior boys attended a talk arranged by the Council of Education for World Citizenship on 5th March at Magdalen College School, when Mr. Baxter of Shell Mex spoke on "The World Oil Situation".

On 11th March Mr. R. D. Williams, of Reading University, very kindly came over to talk to senior Latinists on the Sixth Book of the Aeneid.

The customary 'Senior Parents' Evening' was held on 14th March. This year, however, the increase in the number of boys at the top of the School made it possible to invite only the parents of boys in the Upper Sixth and in the Fifth Forms. Even so, we gather the staff had a busy enough evening!

On 15th March we were glad to meet Mr. R. Bush, the Representative of the Commissioner of Northern Rhodesia, who interviewed several senior boys concerning the possibility of appointment to the Administrative Service of the Federation.

The finals of the Berkshire Public Speaking Competition were held at Newbury on 16th March, and we congratulate B. E. Stacey, N. K. Hammond and R. J. Dickenson on winning the competition for their age-group.

On 19th March senior members of the School were on parade for a talk by Captain Montagu, of Southern Command, illustrated by a film, on the prospects of service in the Army.

Mr. Hugh Lyon of the Public Schools' Appointments Bureau came down on 21st March—always a welcome visitor.

A small party attended the Friends of Abingdon Lecture on 29th March given by Mrs. Charles Wrinch, M.A., on "Crusaders' Castles".

During the term the Play-reading Society read the following plays: "The Tempest", "Juno and the Paycock" by Sean O'Casey, and "Marching Song" by John Whiting.

On the last evening of term, 1st April, the customary informal Boarders' Concert was held in the Gymnasium. Perhaps the high spots of a show which ran with gusto from beginning to end were the solo performance of Christopher Wray as the man with "Ten Minutes To Wait" for an interview, and the extremely clever parody of a Masters' Meeting by some middle-school boys. For the rest, there were some good

musical items and a selection of sketches which had been well-rehearsed and revealed considerable dramatic talent. Generally indeed the acting was worthy of better material; it is unfortunate that there is such a dearth of good sketches suitable for this kind of show. A hearty vote of thanks to the organisers—not least to those whose work was hidden behind the scenes.

Saturday lectures during the term were as follows:

January 26th—Mr. C. J. Allen, F.R.S.A., M.Inst.T., A.I.Loc.E., on "To The Clouds by Train" (with slides).

February 2nd—Mr. M. K. C. Grigsby (O.A.) and Mr. M. J. Sale (O.A.) on "Professional and Amateur Film Making" (illustrated).

February 23rd—Mr. James Hall, B.Sc., F.R.G.S., on "Gough Island" (with slides).

March 9th—Mr. Rex Harris on "Origins, with development, of Jazz" (illustrated by radiogram).

We were especially pleased to meet again the two Old Boys, who provided a welcome supplement to our Saturday Evening Lectures.

Feature films shewn were "An Alligator Named Daisy", "The Lady Killers", and "The Colditz Story"—of especial interest to us in view of the sojourn there for a while of Mr. Airey Neave, a sojourn rather more temporary than his hosts expected.

Once again the activities of our members during the Easter holidays are quite multifarious. Our athletes have competed in the Midland Schools' Championships at Birmingham. Mr. and Mrs. Griffin are conducting a large party of staff and boys to Switzerland. Mr. Talbot and Mr. Blagden are roughing it in Skye with a party of ecologically-minded sixth-formers. Some account of these two excursions will be found on a later page. Major Parker has led a strong contingent of the C.C.F. to our old haunt, the Royal Marines School of Small Arms at Browdown. We are represented at the C.A.C.T.M. Sixth Form Weekend at Oxford (W. W. Budden and B. D. Winkett) and the Toc H Schools' Week (G. D. Wright). No less than five of our boys are attending Outward Bound Schools (P. A. Smith at the Moray Sea School, E. R. L. Day and N. A. J. Antrobus at Aberdovey, M. J. Blythe and M. R. Harvey at Ullswater). And three others are on Short Works Courses organised by the Public Schools' Appointments Bureau (H. C. Bowen with I.C.I. at Northwich, D. Cook at Ransome and Marles Bearing Co., Newark, and N. W. Pridham with Barclays Bank).

We cannot resist quoting two sentences from a letter from an 'Outward-Bounder' describing his five-day voyage in the *Prince Louis*: "I shall never forget going out along the bowsprit to furl one of the three jibs in a

half-gale, with eight-foot rollers coming clean over the rails. I have never been so terrified in my life, but I wouldn't have missed it for worlds".

John Buckland's achievement in getting a place in the England Schools' XV which played France at Coventry on 20th April and Wales on 27th April deserves a paragraph to itself. We look forward to hearing more of this.

Congratulations too to N. G. Norman, who has just won the Boys' Singles in the Oxfordshire Junior (Closed) Tennis Championships, in succession to S. C. Woodley (now over age). He and his partner also reached the finals of the Boys' Doubles.

It may be true that a green winter means a full churchyard; but this year it certainly didn't fill our Sanatorium or our sick bays! In fact, the health record of the School reached a new high. It is worthy of note that on Sunday, 24th February, every single Boarder was on parade for Chapel, an achievement that is unusual even in the summer months.

In its issue of 16th March 'Punch' published a delightful poem by John Petrie, entitled 'Avignon, Berks', and suitably illustrated, which provided a graceful tribute to what is still one of the loveliest towns in England—a town whose loveliness we all take far too much for granted.

An aerial photograph of the School and the grounds—borrowed from the Chapel Corridor—is among the exhibits that Abingdon is sending to represent it at the Congrès Mondial des Villes Jumelles which is being held at Aix-les-Bains just after Easter.

As a result of the fire at Boxhill School, we offered hospitality to the Woodwork Class that found itself without a home. We have also provided accommodation this term for the W.E.A. course on 'Architecture'.

The opening of the new teaching block has brought with it two incidental advantages which bear recording. Lower Sixth Formers emerging from the Tesdale Room will find that they have a new and quite breath-taking panorama of the lilac in Lacies Court (very early this year!) through the big window. And at last we have been able to display, in chronological sequence, all the School photographs. To identify old boys in their youth while waiting for a form to come out is an occupation that never ceases to interest. We have already noted a twelve-year-old future Governor of the School standing cheek by jowl with the present School Auditor. No dates, no pack-drill!

We are credibly informed that the Milk Marketing Board continues to address its literature to 'The Rogue's School, Abingdon': and apparently it is delivered without question. But even this perhaps is

less irritating than the letter which arrived recently addressed to 'The Headmistress, Roysse's School for Girls, Abingdon'. Heaven forbid that this should be the shape of things to come!

* * *

We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of magazines from the following schools (to 26th March): Aldenham; Chigwell; City of Oxford; Henley; King Alfred's, Wantage; Magdalen College; Radley College; Reading; St. Bartholomew's, Newbury; St. Edward's, Oxford; St. Helen's; Solihull; Southfield; Wallingford; Windsor, and also R.N.C. Dartmouth; R.N.E.C. Keyham, Devonport; R.M.A. Sandhurst.

The photographs in this issue are by kind courtesy of Mr. Milligan and Mark Dunman.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SCHOOL

(A note by the Headmaster)

The unusually mild weather enabled work on the New Science Extension to proceed uninterrupted. The roofers have done their work, the walls are plastered, and we can reasonably hope that the architects will be able to hand the completed building over to us by the end of May. Gratitude too frequently expressed becomes tiresome: but as time goes on we shall appreciate more and more fully the generosity of the subscribers to the Industrial Fund whose far-sighted and enlightened philanthropy alone enabled us to undertake a major project of this kind. They have put us even more deeply in their debt by giving us a supplementary grant of £1,800 towards the cost of the "non-consumable apparatus" we need for the new laboratories. The best way in which we can say 'thank-you' is by making sure that the new laboratories are put to good use.

It is always a little bogus to 'open' a building which is already in use. In any case the new extension is, as its name implies, an annexe to the existing science block, and its own modest entrance does not lend itself to formal ceremony. Instead of unlocking the door we plan therefore to unveil on Founder's Day, just after tea, a mural tablet recording the construction of the three adjoining blocks—Science Block, Teaching Block and Science Extension. For the actual unveiling, we have been so fortunate as to secure Sir Edward Boyle, the Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Education. This will be a very big occasion for the School. I like to think too that at a time when direct grant schools are so much in the news it may be of some value for the chief spokesman of the Ministry in the Commons to come down and see for himself what a typical direct grant school looks like.

This term has seen some very commendable examples of self-help in the School. The masters themselves redecorated their new Common Room and laid a new floor. Some of the senior boys of School House have been getting up early in order to give Side Study a new look. We have got a gang of boys, too, headed by P. A. Smith, that is working on the Jekyll Garden under Mr. Talbot and Mr. Blagden. Professional help was brought in to point and cope the wall up the drive. It has been lowered to half its former height, so that we can see right over it and across the garden of Lacies Court to the house, and we find to our relief that this alteration has met with general approval. The reconstruction of the rose garden however is something that we can and must do ourselves. At present the whole area looks rather like South London in 1941, and there is much to be done before Founder's Day. Meanwhile I should like to say a special word of thanks to a parent who has sent us three dozen roses for the new garden (temporarily planted out in our own garden—we shall be loth to part with them!); and also to the School prefects who are commemorating their year of office by presenting us with a further dozen. An admirable idea.

During the Easter holidays the School has again been alive with workmen. The two major projects have been the redecoration of the Bennett and the Turnor Rooms—the former in two shades of green, the latter in green and terracotta. Among minor works may be mentioned the provision of much more spacious display-boards in many of the form-rooms.

* * *

Last term was, of course, dominated, at any rate as far as 'the management' was concerned, by thoughts of the impending General Inspection. In the event this proved a stimulating and enjoyable experience; and the whole School has cause to be grateful to the Inspecting Team for the extreme care with which they carried out their task. Their formal report will not be available for some weeks but meanwhile they have left us with plenty to think about. We hope that in the course of the next few months we shall be able to put into practice many of their suggestions. Others are matters of major policy which will call for very thorough discussion. As far as the development and improvement of the School buildings is concerned, the Building Committee of the Governors will shortly be considering, in the light of the Inspectors' recommendations, what the next step should be.

For the moment there are two points only that I should like to emphasise. The one (and this I record with especial pleasure) is that what impressed the Inspectors most of all was the *spirit* of the boys; and they particularly asked me to commend them on their cheerful and easy good manners. The second is that while they agreed that the School could not have shirked the obligation to expand to its present

size—and indeed that it had coped admirably with the problems of expansion—yet they shared our hope that it would keep more or less its present level and that it could now look forward to a period of stability in which the progress made since the War could be consolidated.

* * *

We all reach an age when we try to soft-pedal our birthdays. But some anniversaries are land-marks of such significance that they impel us to look backwards—and forwards. That is my excuse for finishing on a more personal note. Almost exactly ten years ago (it was actually 15th April, 1957) my wife and I arrived at the School House. Since then we have had our sorrows and our joys, our disappointments and our successes. But throughout we have been encouraged and sustained by the help of so many good friends—the Governors, the Staff, the Old Boys, the parents, and, not least, the boys themselves. To all we would say just this—Thank-you.

J.M.C.

FOUNDER'S DAY CELEBRATIONS

Founder's Day this year will be celebrated on Saturday, 27th July. The provisional programme is as follows:

- 11.30 a.m. Service in St. Helen's Church, Abingdon. Address by the Lord Bishop of Dorchester.
- 2.30 p.m. Distribution of Prizes in the Corn Exchange by the Master of Pembroke College, Oxford.
- 4.30 p.m. The Headmaster and Mrs. Cobban will be 'At Home' at the School House to Parents, Old Boys and friends of the School.
- 5.15 p.m. Unveiling of commemorative tablet on wall of new buildings by Sir Edward Boyle, Bt., M.P., Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Education.
- 5.30 p.m. The School and the Grounds will be open for inspection and there will be displays of various School activities.
- 8.00 p.m. An Evening Entertainment in the Corn Exchange.

On Sunday, 28th July, Mr. J. Y. Ingham will preach at Morning Service in the School Chapel (10 a.m.); and the Headmaster will preach at 6.30 p.m. at the Annual School Service in St. Nicolas' Church.

Invitations for Founder's Day will be sent to all parents and to friends of the School: but *Old Boys* are asked to regard this note as a

personal invitation. Any Old Boy who would like to attend the Prize-Giving or the 'At Home' is asked to write to Mr. F. J. Sewry at the School.

There will be an additional performance of the Evening Entertainment (of which the main course will be provided by a production of *H.M.S. Pinafore*) at 7.30 p.m. on Friday, 26th July. Tickets for either performance can be obtained from Mr. Sewry, price 4/- and 2/6. Parents who live locally are asked to come, if possible, to the performance on the Friday.

Old Boys' Day will be held this year on Saturday, 15th June. Details of the programme will be circulated later to all members of the O.A. Club. Old Boys are also specially invited to attend Morning Service in the School Chapel on the following Sunday, 16th June; and subsequently to take coffee with the Headmaster and Mrs. Cobban in the garden of the School House.

VALETE ET SALVETE

Valete—left 20th December, 1956.

Upper Sixth Form Arts: T. M. J. Kempinski.

Lower Sixth Form Science: R. Proudman.

Form Sixth General: P. D. Kibble, R. A. N. Saunders.

Form 5 Arts: R. B. Blackmore.

Form 5 Science: P. J. Plunkett-Cole (left 17th Dec.), A. M. Wallen.

Salvete—came 18th January, 1957.

Form 3X: T. H. Frost, G. M. McPherson (came 8th February).

Form 1X: R. A. Lawson, S. D. Thornton (came 25th March).

CHAPEL NOTES

We are all very grateful for the gift of the fine candle-snuffer; not least the Sacristan, whose fingers may yet recover from their hebdomadal warming.

During the past term the Choir sang the following anthems in Chapel:

January 20th—Comfort, O Lord (*Goss*).

February 24th—Te Deum in B Flat (*Stanford*).

March 3rd—O pray for the peace of Jerusalem (*Goss*).

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis (*Stanford*).

March 31st—Brother James' Air.

We are grateful to all those who preached this term in the School Chapel; and in the Summer Term we look forward to listening to the following visiting preachers:

May 5th—Rev. Roy McKay, M.A., Director of Religious Broadcasting.

May 12th—Rev. E. Knapp-Fisher, M.A., Principal of Cuddesdon College.

May 19th—A. Chenevix-Trench, Esq., M.A., Headmaster of Bradfield College.

June 16th (Old Boys' Sunday)—Rev. E. L. King, M.A., Headmaster of King Alfred's School, Wantage.

June 23rd—Rev. Dr. F. W. Schroeder, D.D., LL.D., President of the Eden Theological Seminary, Missouri.

We think we are right in saying that the Rev. Roy McKay will be installed as a Prebendary of Chichester Cathedral on 6th March, the day after his visit to us. Which makes us all the more grateful to him for finding time to desert the fastnesses of Portland Place for the Berkshire hinterland!

We are also hoping to hear the Deputy Lecturer of St. Nicolas' Church, Rev. L. P. Smith, M.A., of Culham College (known to many of us as a 'parent'), who will very kindly be preaching at the Terminal Service in St. Helen's Church at 11.30 a.m. on the first day of term, Wednesday, 1st May. This service is gradually establishing itself, though we hope that the congregation will soon learn to play a more active part in it. Even if all allowance is made for the difficulty of singing in a strange church, and that too after four weeks' break, yet the general apathy remains disquieting. If this magazine appears before the service, perhaps these words will stimulate a more active response.

A collection this term was again sent to St. Nicolas' Church Restoration Fund (£4-12-2). Other outside charities to benefit during the Lent Term, in accordance with custom, included the Student Christian Movement (£4-13-7) and the Royal School of Church Music (£4-18-9). In addition we once again supported that admirable cause, the Inter-Church Aid and Refugee Service (£5-10-0).

During the holidays a delicate surgical operation took place outside the doors of the Chapel, to enable a mat to be inset in the floor boards. We hope that if boys get into the habit of breaking step and wiping their feet before entry the Chapel will be kept much cleaner and (what is even more important) approach to it will be more reverent.

HOCKEY 1957

The side appeared to recover well from the initial defeat by Solihull, after which several changes were made, as it won convincingly against Radley and Reading. Thereafter the season was a disappointing one, and the side scored only one more goal in four matches, the best performance probably being some courageous resistance against the powerful side sent down by the Hockey Association. Both defence and attack could play well and Westbrook developed into a very fine goalkeeper, but the half-back line did not always play as well as it might have done. The chief fault as a whole was lack of speed, but this was partly due to the youth of the side, six of whom will still be at the school next year and promise to form the nucleus of a strong team.

It is interesting to note that the Indian style of hockey stick has now firmly established itself.

Results: Played 7, Won 2, Drawn 1, Lost 4.

HOCKEY CHARACTERS

I. J. Glenny (Captain, Colours 1955, Inside Left).

A keen and efficient captain, who, as a player, has been the mainstay of the attack. His stickwork is good, and his play is constructive. His weaknesses are a tendency to hang back too much in defence, and to hold on to the ball too long. (L.C.J.G.).

M. D. Hardy (Colours 1956, Left Half).

Potentially a very good player, whose interception is very good. He is, however, too apt to become flustered when things are going badly. Quicker passing would improve his play.

J. C. Spinks (Colours 1956, Centre Forward).

He did not settle down to last year's form this season. He has speed but his positioning is weak, and he must develop more control in the circle.

B. Westbrook (Colours 1957, Goalkeeper).

In his first season in this position, his performance in some games has been brilliant. He has a wonderful eye, his kicking and clearance are sound, and his positioning good.

P. S. Candy (Half-colours 1956, Left Wing).

A neat player whose stickwork is good. He must fight the tendency to wander infield and to hang on to the ball too long, and should develop a harder centre.

G. F. Wastie (Half-colours 1957, Right Half).

A much improved player who has a powerful, if sometimes uncontrolled, clearance. His positioning is good, but he is a little ponderous and sometimes dangerous with his stick.

P. J. Walker (Half-colours 1957, Left Back).

His tackling and positioning are good, and he has a flair for emerging through the gap, but he must develop a more powerful clearance.

R. M. Kennedy (Half-colours 1957, Right Back).

His positioning is good and his tackling very good, but he must put more dash into his play and learn to recover quickly.

W. J. Phipps (Half-colours 1957, Inside Right).

A promising player whose stickwork is good. He has combined well with his wing, and his shot is powerful, but he is rather slow in the circle.

A. W. Thistlewood (Centre Half).

A hardworking, energetic centre half. At present he lacks experience, but shows real promise. He is a good pivot for the defence, but finds it difficult to mark his man at the same time.

J. T. Utin (Right Wing).

A young player with ideas and good stickwork, who with more experience should make a very good wing.

Also played: Woodley, Fitzsimons, Robins and Trenaman (once each).

MATCH REPORTS

February 2nd v. Solihull School (a). Lost 1—4.

The 1st XI were well beaten in their opening match by fitter and faster opponents. The Solihull right wing pair scored twice in the first 10 minutes but thereafter the match evened up territorially, and the School well deserved the consolation goal which Glenny scored in the last minute.

Scorer: Glenny 1.

February 6th v. Reading School (h). Won 6—0.

This was a convincing win against mediocre opposition, and the score would probably have been higher but for some poor shooting by the School and a fine performance by the Reading goalkeeper.

Scorers: Spinks 4, Glenny 2.

February 13th v. Radley College 2nd XI (h). Won 5—1.

The School got well on top from the start and were 4 goals up by half-time. Radley came more into the game after half-time and a fast game ensued until a cloudburst 15 minutes from the end made constructive hockey impossible.

Scorers: Glenny 2, Spinks 1, Phipps 1, Candy 1.

February 16th v. Wallingford Grammar School (a). Drawn 1—1.

The School was slow in settling down on an uneven pitch. Play became more even and Candy put the School ahead before half-time. Wallingford equalised near the end, which provided a fair result to a mediocre game.

Scorer: Candy 1.

February 20th v. Hockey Association (h). Lost 0—6.

For their first-ever visit to the School, the Hockey Association brought a very strong side, including one international and two trialists. The visitors' immaculate stickwork was a revelation to the School, who were three goals down at half-time, though Spinks was unlucky not to have scored once. Abingdon tried really hard at the start of the second half, but the Hockey Association returned to the attack and Westbrook was called on to make several brilliant saves. But he could not stop the Association scoring three more good goals. Features of the game were the performance of the visitors' centre forward Johnson, who scored all six goals, Westbrook who stopped him scoring many more, and the spirited attempts of the School side to keep in the game against very powerful opposition.

February 27th v. Windsor County School (h). Lost 0—1.

Conditions were excellent but the School's performance was disappointing against unorthodox opposition; slow movement and lack of urgency were the chief causes of Abingdon's defeat.

March 9th v. Abingdon H.C. (h). Lost 0—2.

The School started well, but poor finishing wasted their best movements. The visitors were a goal up at half-time and had increased their lead in the second half before the School got going again. The School's defence was sound, but the halves failed to get the attack moving.

SECOND ELEVEN

Played 5, Won 3, Lost 2, Drawn 0.

Results

February 2nd	v. Solihull School (a).	Lost 0—3
February 13th	v. Radley College 3rd XI (h).	Won 2—1
February 16th	v. A.E.R.E. Harwell (h).	Won 3—1
February 27th	v. Windsor County School (h).	Lost 2—3
March 2nd	v. A Staff XI (h).	Won 2—1

The second eleven showed itself a formidable team, and indeed frequently proved itself a match for the first team in practice games. A solid defence and an energetic forward line laid the foundations for success, the chief weakness being a tendency to relax when in the lead: a tendency which had unfortunate results against a very fast Windsor team. Trenaman was outstanding on the wing; while Fitzsimons, Longworth and Simpson were also prominent, and Robins was safe in goal.

The final arrangement of the side was: Robins, Fitzsimons, P. E. J., Woodley, S. C., Morris, Simpson, Perry, Trenaman, Paxman, Dimond, Longworth, Freedman.

Also played: Westbrook, B., Kennedy, R. M., Thistlewood, Baldwin, Greder, Anderson. (Once each).

HOUSE MATCHES

A very strong Bennett team retained the Ben Bosley Hockey Cup. In the final, Tesdale put up unexpectedly stout resistance before going down by four goals to one.

I.J.G.

ATHLETICS

The season opened earlier than usual with a new venture—a senior and junior fixture with Bloxham School on 9th March. This meeting, which proved a victory for our opponents, was a great success in spite of the cold and rainy conditions. Of our other meetings, two were lost so that eventually we found ourselves victors only over Southfield School. The Old Abingdonians were this year very much too strong for us. Thomas Kempinski, Martin Scott-Taggart, Tony King, Neil Darroch, Pat Sale and Arthur Jones, not to mention Tony Dean, were a formidable team and it is not surprising that we only took three events off them. The best performance of the afternoon was A. J. Jones' record-breaking Mile in 4 mins. 45.5 secs., but the School relay team (Budden, Spinks, Cross, Saywell, Davis and Bowen) did well to equal

the relay record of 2 mins. 31 secs. Against the City of Oxford, two weeks later, we fought gallantly but in vain, although our juniors only just lost their contest. Happily, the meeting against Southfield on 20th March was a different story and we won both senior and junior contests by comfortable margins. Eke ran well to win the Mile event and P. J. Ford, though taking second place, beat the School record in the junior Weight with a put of 38ft. 11½ins.

Once again we competed in the Midland Public Schools' Meeting at Birmingham. The School team travelled up to Birmingham on 3rd April after the end of term and although we achieved no distinction this year, valuable experience was gained and the contest thoroughly enjoyed.

This year we initiated three new 'standards' events, all for the Under 14 age group and designed to provide more events for which the junior boy can enter.

During the term, Full Colours were awarded to W. W. Budden and C. Young and Half Colours to G. J. Brown, Eke, Nichol, Wastie and Woodward.

SENIOR MATCHES

v. Bloxham School (a). Saturday, 9th March.

- 100 Yards: 1—Budden; 2—Davis; 3—Kemp-Potter (B.). 10.9 secs.
 440 Yards: 1—Boissier-Wyles (B.); 2—Butler (B.); 3—Budden.
 55.4 secs.
 880 Yards: 1—Ahern (B.); 2—Scott-Taggart; 3—Davis. 2 min. 10 secs.
 Mile: 1—Pinfold (B.); 2—Eke; 3—Aclidge (B.). 4 min. 53.9 secs.
 Discus: 1—Adey (B.); 2—Scott-Taggart; 3—Civil (B.). 99ft. 2½ins.
 Javelin: 1—Sergeant (B.); 2—Finch (B.); 3—Woodward. 123ft. 1½ins.
 Long Jump: 1—Woodward; 2—Boissier-Wyles (B.); 3—Thewlis (B.).
 18ft. 4½ins.
 High Jump: 1—Hughes (B.); 2—Jones (B.); 3—Young. 5ft.
 Shot: 1—Finch (B.); 2—Darroch; 3—Brown. 42ft. 4ins.
 Relay (4 x 220): 1—Bloxham; 2—Abingdon. 1 min. 43 secs.
 Result: Abingdon—31 points; Bloxham—58 points.

v. Old Abingdonians (h). Saturday, 16th March.

- 100 Yards: 1—Kempinski (O.A.); 2—Budden; 3—Davis. 10.6 secs.
 440 Yards: 1—Scott-Taggart (O.A.); 2—Darroch (O.A.); 3—Budden.
 57 secs.
 880 Yards: 1—Nichol; 2—Bretscher; 3—Glassbrook, M. C. (O.A.).
 2 min. 16.4 secs.
 Mile: 1—Jones (O.A.); 2—Eke; 3—Sale (O.A.). 4 min. 45.5 secs.
 (new O.A. record).
 High Jump: 1—Young; 2—Kingston; 3—Scott-Taggart (O.A.). 5ft. 1in.

Long Jump: 1—Gardner (O.A.); 2—Darroch (O.A.); 3—Milne.
18ft. 3½ins.

Discus: 1—King (O.A.); 2—Darroch (O.A.); 3—Brown. 130ft 2ins.

Javelin: 1—King (O.A.); 2—Woodward; 3—Darroch (O.A.). 142ft.
4ins.

Shot: 1—Darroch (O.A.); 2—Dean (O.A.); 3—Brown. 48ft. 7ins.

Relay (6 x 220): 1—School; 2—O.A.C. 2 min. 31 secs. (equal record).

Result: School—38 points; O.A.C.—51 points.

v. Southfield School (h). Wednesday, 20th March.

100 Yards: 1—Budden; 2—Johnson (S.); 3—Davis. 10.8 secs.

220 Yards: 1—Budden; 2—Spinks; 3—Bell (S.). 24.9 secs.

440 Yards: 1—Davis; 2—Saywell; 3—Cundy (S.). 57.2 secs.

880 Yards: 1—Scott-Taggart; 2—Nichol; 3—Spooner (S.).
2 min. 24.5 secs.

Mile: 1—Eke; 2—Kirk (S.); 3—Morley (S.). 4 min. 58.8 secs.

High Jump: 1—Young; 2—Lewis (S.); 3—Cundy (S.). 5ft. 2ins.

Long Jump: 1—Townsend (S.); 2—Woodward; 3—Dopson (S.).
17ft. 9½ins.

Discus: 1—Wastie; 2—Brown; 3—Townsend (S.). 108ft. 3ins.

Shot: 1—Wastie; 2—Brown; 3—Molan (S.). 40ft.

Javelin: 1—Woodward; 2—Bond (S.); 3—Spinks. 126ft. 2ins.

The Relay Race was cancelled.

Result: Abingdon—65 points; Southfield—25 points.

v. City of Oxford School (a). Monday, 25th March.

100 Yards: 1—Burnett (C.O.S.); 2—Palmer (C.O.S.); 3—Davis.
11.1 secs.

220 Yards: 1—Palmer (C.O.S.); 2—Budden; 3—Ayris (C.O.S.).
25.9 secs.

440 Yards: 1—Burnett (C.O.S.); 2—Saywell; 3—Davis. 55 secs.

880 Yards: 1—Wilson (C.O.S.); 2—Bretscher; 3—Farr (C.O.S.).
2 min. 17.5 secs.

Mile: 1—Tate (C.O.S.); 2—Eke; 3—Harvey. 5 min. 9 secs.

High Jump: 1—Davies (C.O.S.); 2—Young; 3—Westbrook. 5ft. 3ins.

Long Jump: 1—Tuffrey (C.O.S.); 2—Woodward; 3—Davies (C.O.S.).
19ft. 1in.

Discus: 1—Wastie; 2—Price (C.O.S.); 3—Brown. 105ft. 2ins.

Shot: 1—Wastie; 2—Brown; 3—Price (C.O.S.). 35ft. 8ins.

Javelin: 1—Mendham (C.O.S.); 2—Dossett (C.O.S.); 3—Woodward.
147ft. 10ins.

Relay: 1—C.O.S.; 2—Abingdon.

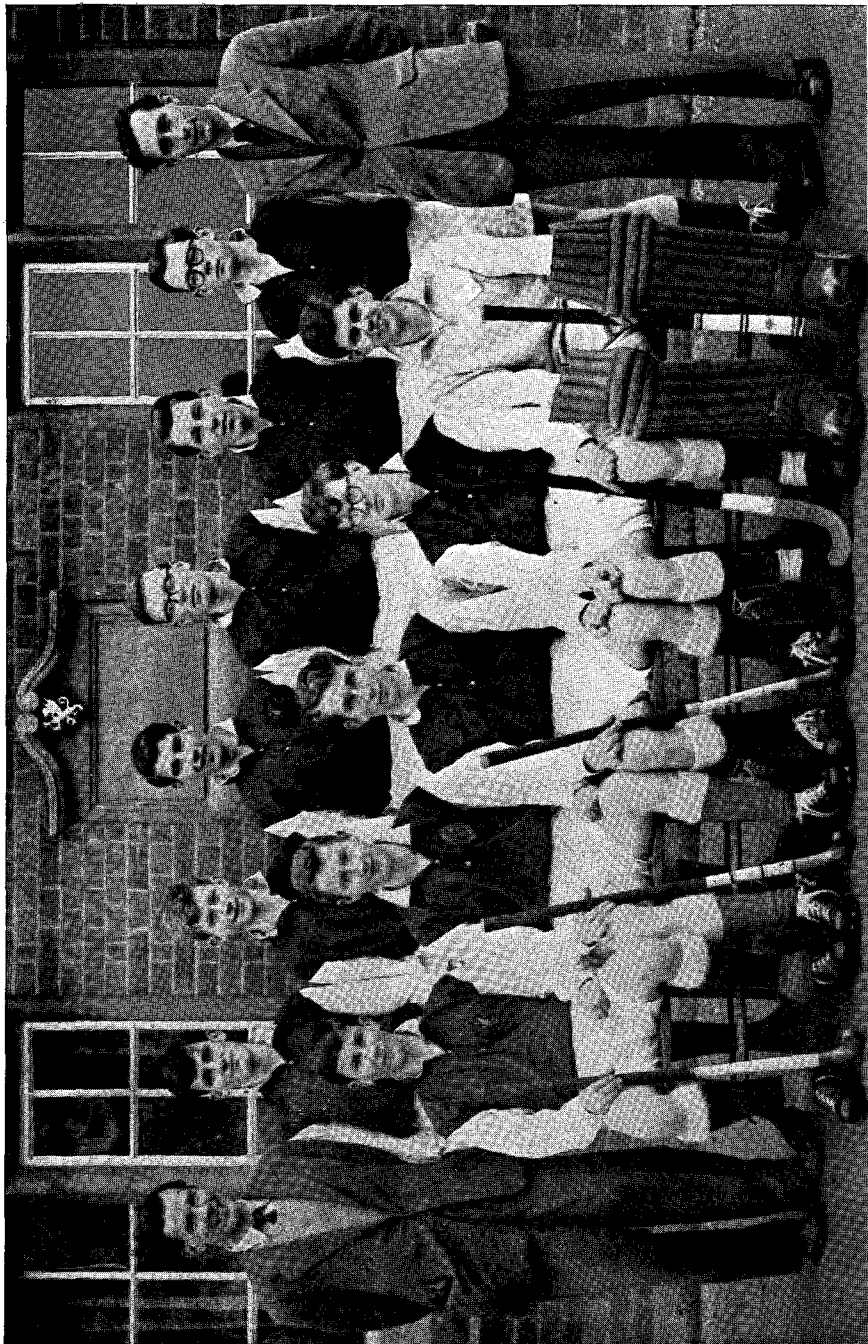
Result: Abingdon—40 points; C.O.S.—62 points.

SCHOOL PREFECTS, LENT 1957



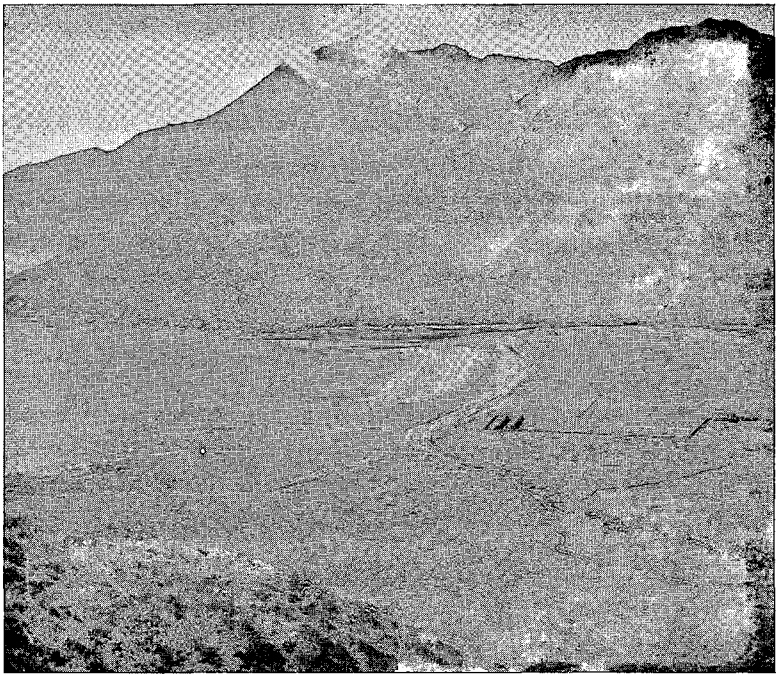
I. A. Oliver, I. J. Glenny, B. E. Stacey, M. G. Nichol, J. B. Robins, H. C. Bowen, B. D. Winkett, W. C. Broad, R. J. Paige,
M. R. S. Broadway, N. K. Hammond J. T. Buckland, B. L. Smith, The Headmaster, J. C. Spinks, G. F. Wastie,
S. C. Woodley, N. J. H. Grant.

FIRST HOCKEY ELEVEN, 1957

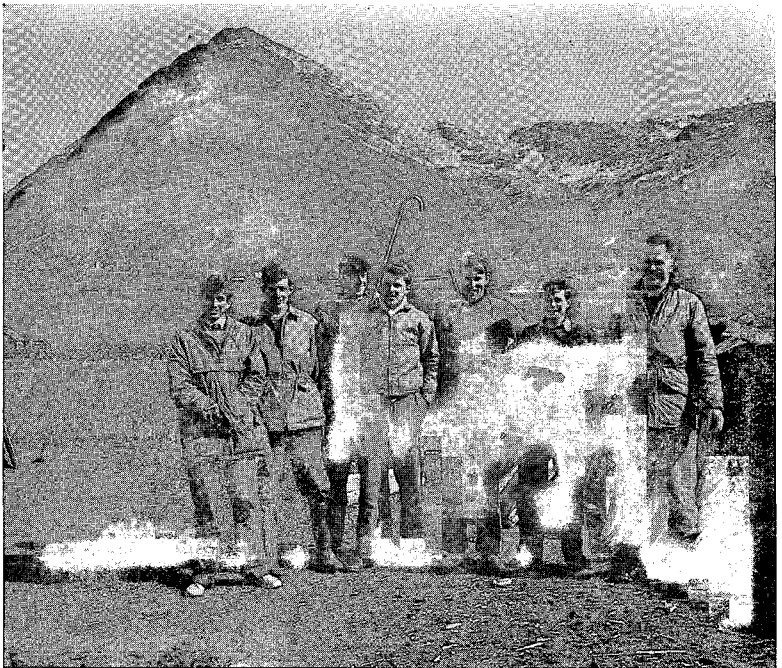




H. C. Bowen, D. G. Darroch, R. B. Scott-Taggart, D. T. L. Eke, B. Westbrook, M. S. Bretscher, P. R. Davies, J. A. T. Saywell,
G. J. Brown, M. G. Nichol, C. Young (Sec.), W. W. Budden (Capt.), J. C. Spinks, G. F. Wastie, A. E. Woodward,
R. W. Harvey.



SKYE, 1957



JUNIOR MATCHES

v. Bloxham School (a). Saturday, 9th March.

100 Yards 1—Ford; 2—Scott-Adie (B.); 3—Mence (B.). 11 secs.

440 Yards: 1—Cross 2—Atkinson (B.); 2—Mence (B.). 58 secs.

880 Yards: 1—Olley (B.); 2—Cross; 3—Riddick. 2 min. 13.6 secs.

Long Jump: 1—Scott-Adie (B.); 2—Milne; 3—Cross. 17ft. 2ins.

High Jump: 1—Kingston; 2—Simpson (B.); 3—Barbour (B.).
5ft. 2ins.

Relay (4 x 220): 1—Bloxham; 2—Abingdon. 1 min. 46.4 secs.

Result: Abingdon—23 points; Bloxham—29 points.

v. Southfield School (h). Wednesday, 20th March.

100 Yards: 1—Ganf; 2—Thurling (S.); 3—Milne; 4—Emanuel (S.).
11.3 secs.

220 Yards: 1—Thurling (S.); 2—Cross 3—Ganf; 4—Berry (S.).
26 secs.

440 Yards: 1—Cross; 2—Ganf; 3—Bishop (S.); 4—Ayres (S.).
60.5 secs.

880 Yards: 1—Cross; 2—Bishop (S.); 3—Riddick; 4—John (S.).
2 min. 25.5 secs.

High Jump: 1—Kingston; 2—Meadley (S.); 3—Moffatt (S.); 4—Milne.
5ft.

Long Jump: 1—Davis; 2—Thurling (S.); 3—Milne; 4—Berry (S.).
16ft. 5½ins.

Discus: 1—Ford; 2—Wyatt; 3—Molan (S.); 4—John (S.).
126ft. 8½ins.

Shot: 1—Molan (S.); 2—Ford; 3—Ganf; 4—Hosier (S.). 40ft.

Result: Abingdon—69 points; Southfield—44 points.

v. City of Oxford School (a). Monday, 28th March.

100 Yards 'A': 1—Houliston (C.O.S.); 2—Ford; 3—Jarman (C.O.S.).
11.8 secs.

100 Yards 'B': 1—Ganf; 2—Cross; 3—Luker and Moore (C.O.S.).
11.7 secs.

440 Yards. 1—Cross; 2—Williams (C.O.S.); 3—Ganf. 59 secs.

880 Yards: 1—Moore (C.O.S.); 2—Riddell (C.O.S.); 3—Luker.
2 min. 25 secs.

Long Jump: 1—Milne and Jarman (C.O.S.); 3—Cross. 17ft. 6ins.

High Jump: 1—Coleman (C.O.S.); 2—Kingston; 3—Gibbens (C.O.S.).
5ft.

Discus: 1—Ford; 2—Coleman (C.O.S.); 3—Wyatt. 131ft. 3in.

Shot: 1—Ford; 2—Coleman (C.O.S.); 3—Jarman (C.O.S.). 38ft. 5ins.

Relay: 1—C.O.S.; 2—Abingdon.

Result: Abingdon—42½ points; C.O.S. 46½ points.

THE SCHOOL SPORTS

Sports Day was held this year on Saturday, 30th March. The weather was excellent and the meeting was well supported by a large crowd of parents and friends. Precedent was created when the Old Boys' Pavilion made its début as the setting for the presentation of the Challenge Cups. We were honoured to have Mrs. L. C. J. Griffin to initiate this practice.

Five records were broken. P. J. Ford convincingly broke his own record of 38 feet 11½ inches by 3 feet 2 inches in the "Under 16" Shot whilst G. G. Ganf increased the "Under 15" Discus record by 5 feet 5 inches. The contribution of M. P. Cross to Sports Day was, outstanding. He broke two "Under 15" records by running the quarter mile in 56 seconds and by gaining the half mile record by 2.4 seconds. In the senior relay, Blacknall House gained an excellent record in 3 minutes 25.6 seconds.

Tesdale House (288½ points) won the 'Ladies of Abingdon Cup', their strength lying not only in outstanding athletes but in a good general standard. Blacknall House (239 points), who were second, provided keen competition but did not have sufficient talent to support their leading athletes. Reeves House (172 points) and Bennett House (152½ points) came third and fourth respectively.

Results:

Heber Clarke Challenge Cup for Seniors: W. W. Budden (13 points).
Shallard Challenge Cup for Juniors: M. P. Cross (18 points).

100 Yards:

Under 12: 1—Jennings; 2—Brown, D. R.; 3—Bisby. 14.3 secs.
Under 13: 1—Watts, J. C.; 2—Hall, T. I.; 3—Talbot. 13.2 secs.
Under 14: 1—Luker; 2—Smith, M. J.; 3—Stuart-Lyon. 12.2 secs.
Under 15: 1—Ganf; 2—Cross; 3—Carpenter. 11.4 secs.
Open: 1—Budden; 2—Spinks and Davis, P. R. 11.2 secs.

220 Yards:

1—Budden; 2—Spinks; 3—Davis. 25.3 secs.

440 Yards:

Under 15: 1—Cross; 2—Ganf; 3—Luker. 56 secs. (record).
Open: 1—Saywell; 2—Budden; 3—Mobbs. 55.5 secs.

880 Yards:

Under 13: 1—Harrison; 2—White, R. C.; 3—Dier.
2 min. 43.4 secs.
Under 15: 1—Cross; 2—Riddick; —Luker. 2 min. 20 secs.
(record).
Open: 1—Scott-Taggart; 2 Nichol; 3—Bretscher, M. S.
2 min. 12 secs.

Mile:

Under 15: 1—Cross; 2—Riddick; 3—Cunningham.
5 min. 26 secs.
Open: 1—Eke; 2—Harvey, R. W.; 3—Nichol.
4 min. 51 secs.

Long Jump:

- Under 15: 1—Milne; 2—Carpenter; 3—Beadle. 16ft. 3½ins.
 Open: 1—Woodward; 2—Tuck; 3—Westbrook and Young,
 C. 17ft. 8½ins.

High Jump:

- Under 15: 1—Milne; 2—Houghton; 3—Hossent. 4ft. 7ins.
 Open: 1—Young, C.; 2—Peedell; 3—Westbrook. 5ft.

Shot:

- Under 16: 1—Ford; 2—Kingston; 3—Ganf. 42ft. 1½ins.
 (record).
 Open: 1—Wastie; 2—Darroch; 3—Brown, G. J. 36ft. 8ins.

Discus:

- Under 15: 1—Ganf; 2—Milne; 3—Wooldridge. 119ft. 10ins.
 (record).

- Open: 1—Wastie; 2—Scragg; 3—Paige, R. J. 113ft. 3ins.

- Javelin (Open): 1—Woodward; 2—Spinks; 3—Paxman. 13ft. 6ins.

Relay:

- Junior: 1—Tesdale; 2—Blacknall. 3 min. 42 secs.
 Senior: 1—Blacknall; 2—Tesdale. 3 min. 25.6 secs. (record).
 W.W.B.

RUGBY FOOTBALL

Both junior fifteens continued their successful careers, the 'Under 15' XV winning all four of its matches and the 'Under 14' XV winning two and drawing one. Perhaps the strongest opponents were Stoneham School, who played the 'Under 14' to a pointless draw and only allowed our all conquering 'Under 15' to score eight points. This was to some extent countered by an 'Under 15' 'A' side who managed to defeat Reading by 60 points to nil.

Results were:—

'Under 15' Fifteen

- | | | |
|---|-----|------|
| v. Solihull School (h), Sat., 26th January. | Won | 26—0 |
| v. Reading School (h), Wed., 6th February. | Won | 60—0 |
| v. Stoneham School (h), Sat., 9th February. | Won | 8—0 |
| v. Thame Grammar Sch. (h), Sat., 16th February. | Won | 25—0 |

'Under 14' Fifteen

- | | | |
|---|-------|------|
| v. Solihull School (h), Sat., 26th January. | Won | 19—0 |
| v. Radley College (a), Wed., 30th January. | Won | 9—3 |
| v. Stoneham School (h), Sat., 9th February. | Drawn | 0—0 |

'Under 13' House League

Owing to the re-organization of the athletic Houses, there was this year no Lent term 'Under 14' inter-House knock-out competition for

which the Bayley Cup has been awarded in past years. Thus house interest was focussed on the 'Under 13' League, where play was once again keen and of a good standard. It soon became apparent that the tussle lay between Bennett and Reeves, and indeed upon completion of the League both of these had scored 8 points each. Blacknall were worthy runners-up with 6 points and Tesdale came at the bottom of the table with 2 points. The tie between Bennett and Reeves necessitated a replay to determine the possessor of the 'Candy Cup'. This was played at the end of the season and resulted in a convincing Bennett victory of 14 points to 3.

* * *

As a result of successful trial and County games played during the Christmas vacation, the Captain of Rugger, J. T. Buckland, and the Captain of the 'Under 14' XV, G. G. Ganf, played in a number of regional trials during the term in the 'Over 15' and 'Under 15' groups respectively. Buckland, playing at wing-forward, was chosen to play for the English Schoolboys against France at Coventry on 20th April and subsequently against Wales at Cardiff on 27th April. This is the first 'international' the School has produced and Buckland is to be congratulated upon his well deserved honour. Congratulations must also go to Ganf, who young though he is, got as far as the final trial in the Junior age group. His performance promises well for the future.

D.O.W.

ROWING

The training programme for this term has been completed without the frequent interruptions which so often disturb us in the Lent Term. Activities were suspended for one week only when the river was in flood and overflowed its banks, thus cutting us off from the raft.

Six crews have been in serious training, and the less experienced members of the Club have been afloat more often than usual, although sometimes securely tethered to the shore when in the bank tub. The first four crews have also trained in the clinker eight fairly seriously, and we even managed to launch a very respectable third VIII towards the end of term.

Concrete-mixing is becoming another major activity at the Boat House, and the war against mud and vegetation is slowly being won.

Former members of the Boat Club will doubtless be pleased and interested to hear that steps are being taken to put the Club on a more secure financial footing by making a small termly charge to members. It is hoped that this will enable us to save up to buy new equipment from time to time.

Finally—we look forward to the new season and to seeing Old Boys at our fixtures.

R.G.M.

G.C.F. NOTES

A more than usually quiet Lent term. There have been some gratifying features in our training, particularly the fact that regular assistance—admittedly at fortnightly intervals—has at last been forthcoming for the Signal Section. With this regular instruction behind him, Sgt. Broadway has been able to put to good use the intermediate parades, when he has again been in sole charge. As against this improvement, the R.A. Section have suffered quite severely: for the first time—and that with a classification exam. impending—they have been without P.S.I. assistance. It is hoped that this matter will be put right in the near future. The Sappers—bless them!—have as always been unfailingly regular with their instruction, which culminated in a second terminal examination. The N.C.O. Cadets had the advantage of a couple of visits from 15 Travelling Wing, to give them some grounding as future instructors of Drill and Weapon Training. Incidentally, the holiday courses run by the Wing offer first-rate training for potential instructors; they deserve to be patronised more. In the current year only one cadet has attended such a course . . . Only once before in our “rough” story has a Reservist been good enough to be transferred to C Coy. In this past term, this quite noteworthy achievement was registered for the second time, by Cadet Long. Well done indeed!

Field Day was held on 7th March, in the Benson area. The weather was much milder than any experienced in the Lent term for some years, but the going proved very wet and heavy. A series of Platoon exercises worked smoothly enough, with one exception. Here the opposing forces, though they were at one time within a few hundred yards of each other, failed in the event to make contact. By the attackers at least, much marching and counter-marching was done; this was disappointing to all concerned, and somewhat wearing for the Recruits in the Platoon . . . We were very glad to have with us on the day, 2/Lt. T. A. Walker, R. Berks (O.A.), convalescent after an injury to his pelvis during ops. in Cyprus; dare we whisper it in Gath that it was the Platoon he umpired which became engaged in this unavailing Trodos-mountain-search for its enemy . . . ? The R.A. Section held their own training exercise in the same general area as the main body, while the Signals had a full day's training under their sponsors, based on the School. Unfortunately, plans for a Sapper visit to a Trg. Regt. fell through at the last minute, and the “experts” had to be spread out among the infantry.

During the holidays 30 cadets—potential Bisley shottists and a General Squad learning all Platoon Weapons—attended a 9-day course at the Small Arms School, R.M. The weather was cold, but work and pleasure were combined, with much success—even if the Bisley people could not get all the range work they hoped for, because the Navy were holding a Rifle Meeting at the same time, and monopolising two

ranges out of three for several days . . . The School is closing down this summer, in the independent site we have visited for the past 8 years, and becoming a Wing of the I.T.C. R.M., in Devon. What the future holds, as regards these courses which have meant so much to us, is quite uncertain. We can do no more, at present, than hope for the best, and, incidentally renew here our thanks and gratitude to successive Commandants and their Staffs, for all the help and kindness they have shown us. How about requiring it, by finishing up this year in the first 20 at Bisley?

S.C.P.

ROYAL NAVAL SECTION

The term has followed very much the normal pattern, leading up to the usual examinations at the end. The results of these examinations, however, have been rather disappointing. Only one of the seven candidates for Petty Officer succeeded in passing the written part of the examination, while of those who qualified to take the oral part of Proficiency Test part I, none could be given a pass. These examinations demand a high standard, and it appears to be insufficiently realised how much work is called for in the candidate's spare time, and on his own initiative.

Field Day was spent in visiting our Parent Establishment, H.M.S. Sultan, at Gosport, where a most comprehensive tour of naval establishments at Portsmouth had been arranged for us, including a tour of H.M.S. Sultan itself, a look over a submarine, a visit, which most of us felt was too short, to H.M.S. Hornet, and finally a tour of the dockyard in an M.F.V. We record our gratitude to the Captain, Captain J. D. Farrow, R.N., whom we shall meet again next term when he carries out our annual inspection, and to the First Lieutenant, Lieutenant Commander B. W. F. Crofts, R.N., to whom we are grateful for making the long journey from Gosport to examine Cadet Aitchison for Petty Officer. It is gratifying that he passed and made the visit worthwhile.

L.C.J.G.

SCOUTS

This term saw the centenary of the birth of Lord Baden Powell. At the district Thanksgiving Service, held in St. Helen's Church on 24th February, the Local Association colour was carried by P. D. Hossent and the lesson read by Mr. Williams.

Field Day was spent at Youlbury, and we were pleased to have the company of Mr. Taylor, one of the student masters.

This summer we are looking forward to preparing the Dell for occupation, and to all the preparations leading up to camp. Beyond the School world, there are many activities celebrating the Golden Jubilee of

Scouting, and we hope that as many of our members as possible will be able to take an active part in some of these.

M.N.W.

MINOR GAMES

There have been regular house fives practices on Wednesday afternoons this term. In the finals of the Junior House Fives Cup, Bennett defeated Tesdale.

A considerable amount of tennis practice has also been going on, and most members of "the Tennis Sixteen" have been able to play a few games on the hard court, which at present is in very good condition. We should like to add our congratulations to Norman, the Captain of Tennis, on winning the Oxfordshire Junior Singles.

J.T.B.

SCHOOL SOCIETIES

ROYSSSE SOCIETY

There have been three meetings of the Society this term. At the first meeting, on 30th January, the Secretary read a paper entitled "Defence of the West". The paper was devoted to an appreciation of Russian military power, to the inception and development of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, and to the defence of Britain in view of modern developments in warfare. The discussion which followed was serious but very lively.

On 2nd February, B. P. Kibble read a paper entitled "The Police Force" in which he dealt with its mundane as well as its glamorous activities. The chief subjects of the discussion were the abolition of officer-cadet entry to the police force, and the present alarming tendency to shirk a citizen's obligation to support the forces of law and order.

On 6th March, W. W. Budden read an extremely provocative paper entitled "Apologia Pro Vita Sua", which turned out, surprisingly, to be an exposition and defence of the Roman Catholic doctrine. The ensuing discussion was animated but rather one-sided. Nevertheless the speaker stoutly defended the views he had expressed against all assailants. The chief points at issue were, not so surprisingly, the infallibility of the Pope and the validity of Protestant orders.

The Society must again express its sincere thanks to the Headmaster for the hospitality of his drawing room, and to Mrs. Cobban for the excellent refreshments she never fails to produce.

B.D.W.

TURNOR SOCIETY

During the term three meetings were held. At the first Lt. Cmdr. L. A. Wintle spoke on 'The Navy and the Nation Today'. In his talk the speaker explained how a nation's prosperity was tied up with the sea, taking examples from our own history and that of Spain. The speaker concluded his interesting talk by outlining the future development of sea transport, laying special emphasis upon submarine, atomic-powered merchant ships.

At the second meeting, held on 8th February, Mr. John Epstein, O.B.E., spoke about 'NATO and Western Defence'. He outlined the structure and work of the organization and then went on to speak, in an extremely optimistic manner, about the West's position in the event of future war.

On 8th March the one-hundredth meeting of the Society was held. It took the form of an "Any Questions" Meeting. The five members of the panel stood up well to the barrage of questions which ranged from recent by-election trends to Ghana and from Rock 'n Roll to Cricket.

N.K.H.

DEBATING SOCIETY

The Lent Term was mainly occupied with Public Speaking. In the finals of the internal competition, promoted by the Society, B. D. Winkett (Chairman) and C. M. Dunman (Speaker), who spoke about "Architecture", were adjudged the winners by D. O. Willis, Esq., L. C. J. Griffin, Esq., and K. M. D. Holloway, Esq. Throughout the competition, which lasted much of the term, the standard was very high.

In the competition arranged by the Berkshire Youth Organisation, the finals of which were held at Newbury on 23rd March, a team entered by the Society—B. E. Stacey (Chairman), N. K. Hammond (Speaker), and R. Dickenson (Proposer of a Vote of Thanks), won their section.

Also there was one debate during the term. D. S. Gerrard and N. K. Hammond proposed that "More time for leisure is imperative in modern civilisation". The opposition comprised N. J. H. Grant and B. L. Smith. The motion was approached from all angles and the debate lasted longer than usual, for so many members were eager to speak. The motion was defeated by an overwhelming majority.

B.W.

LITERARY SOCIETY

We began the term with a very successful meeting at which members read poems or pieces of prose which they liked. An extraordinary variety of authors was produced, ranging from accepted classics like Hugo and George Herbert to such very modern (and as yet rather unknown) poets as Richard Selig and Patrick Leigh-Fermor.

On 28th February we read Anouilh's brilliant plays—'Antigone' and 'Eurydice'. In the former the chorus was well read by Mr. Helliwell, and the other leading figures were competently handled by Kennedy as Antigone and Gerrard as Creon. 'Eurydice' is a less willing little play, but there too Green as Eurydice, Saywell as Orpheus, and Freedman as Orpheus' Father were excellent.

At the last meeting various authors were discussed. S. H. Freedman and D. G. Morris defended Conan Doyle and Oliver Goldsmith against the ravages of D. S. Gerrard and R. M. Kennedy respectively. R. B. Scott-Taggart gave a short introductory talk on Henry Fielding and Mr. Helliwell descanted upon the poetry of Tennyson.

S.C.W.

SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

The first of this term's meetings was held on 25th January, when films on Radio-Active Tracer Technique and Bridge Building were shown.

On 15th February a film on Submarine Gravimetric Geological Surveying and a film on Metal Machining were shown.

In our last meeting of the term on 29th March the Secretary, I. A. Oliver, gave an illustrated lecture on "Searching and Drilling for Oil".

It is hoped that next term some of our meetings will feature outside speakers and perhaps we shall be able to arrange another "Conversation".

I.A.O.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

The end of the Lent Term has found us once again with a large amount of work on our hands. During the term the length of the Newsreel has grown to about eight hundred feet, all of which has now been edited. During the Easter holidays we shall send it up for printing.

We have finished most of the shooting for our feature-film, "Yours is the Earth", and although a few shots still remain outstanding, we hope to have edited the film by Whitsun.

Our attention has also been directed to "Achilles and the Gryphon", the athletics training film which we shot a few years ago. Its condition at the moment is not very good and its revision is on the programme for next term.

Much new equipment has been obtained this term. A water-heater has been bought for the dark-room, a new dolly and several light-stands have been made for the film unit.

C.T.D.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY

We can record with pleasure our most successful term for some time. Membership continues to be regrettably low, despite some most attractive recruiting notices by our Secretary, R. A. Worth, but the four meetings which have been held this term have been attended by almost all our members on each occasion. They have also been varied, and interesting, and have included a talk, a quiz, and a competition. Much of this success has been due to the initiative of the Secretary, and another senior member of the club, E. R. L. Day.

L.C.J.G.

JOINT CLUB

This term's meetings have, as usual, been limited to indoor activities. The first was a modern innovation in the form of a Rock 'n Roll party where bright clothes were the order of the day. Despite a certain inexperience in this form of Terpsichorean art, the floor was soon crammed with whirling bodies. Everyone enjoyed this meeting immensely and we hope for a repeat performance at a later date.

For our second meeting we invaded the Evening Entertainment film, 'The Lady Killers', in which Alec Guinness lived up to his usual standard. Afterwards we adjourned to Lacies Court and danced after light refreshment.

On the last Saturday of term we relaxed after the School Sports and General Inspection at St. Helen's where we passed the evening pleasantly with light music and games. Our thanks are again due to Miss Glass and Mr. Sewry for all their help and advice.

B.L.S.

HOLIDAY CLUB

We played one table tennis match, beating the Church Youth Club 8—1, and one soccer match, losing 3—1 to Abingdon Minors during the Christmas vacation. Return fixtures have been arranged for the Easter Holiday.

In the New Year, the club held its second social, the success of which was enhanced by the large attendance. We should like to thank all those who helped to make the evening so enjoyable, especially the Headmaster and Mrs. Cobban for their gift of sweetmeats, Mr. Ingham, and Mr. Brampton, who kindly allowed us to use Caldecott House Social Hall.

B.W.

CHESS CLUB

Chess is once more becoming a thriving element in the School. Mr. Grundy visited us every week through thick and thin, proving that there are no obstacles insurmountable to him and his motor car (we are just wondering how long it will be before he devises some way to get his car right into the Heylyn Room!) and retained his supremacy in chess right up to the last meeting of term when he inadvertently gave his queen to H. C. Bowen who followed up well to win a hard-earned shilling.

Also at our last meeting we entertained two boys from Boxhill School—Cross and Griffiths—who played and were defeated by Goodman and C. M. Davis respectively.

Next term we hope to organize at least one match and to hold an extensive tournament.

R.S.G.

MUSIC SOCIETY

Musical activities have proceeded steadily this term, culminating in the innovatory House Music Competitions. The choir's main task in hand is "H.M.S. Pinafore" which is to be performed next Founder's Day. In Chapel, Stanford's Morning and Evening Services in B Flat have been sung, and anthems by Crotch and Goss.

The Senior Orchestra is rehearsing Beethoven's First Symphony and part of Haydn's "Clock" Symphony. The Junior Orchestra is practising some music from Gounod's "Faust" and, perhaps inappropriately, "The March of the Prefects".

Music for Founder's Day and C.C.F. parades has been practised this term by the Band, and there are now about 45 boys playing instruments.

During the term we have had two Friday afternoon meetings, a gramophone programme, and a recital of piano duets given by the Chaplain and the Vice-President, for which we thank all concerned.

We may here note that several members of the School played in the 'Youth Orchestra' so successfully organised by Mrs. Kitching during the Easter holidays.

The House Music Competitions

These were held in the Corn Exchange on Saturday, 23rd March, and provided an excellent precedent for what we hope will become an integral part of the School's tradition. Dr. Bernard Rose, of The Queen's College, Oxford, was adjudicator in the afternoon, while Mr. Bromley Challenor judged the Junior Classes in the morning. To both these gentlemen we would offer our very sincere thanks—not only for the time and trouble they took over the adjudication but also for the helpful and stimulating criticisms which they left behind them. We were pleased too to welcome so many parents, members of the Staff and boys who came along to the Corn Exchange to provide an audience.

Pending the provision of a more permanent trophy, a temporary challenge cup was produced, which was won by Blacknall with 107 points. Reeves came second with 77, followed by Tesdale with 72 and Bennett with 62.

The winners were:

- Junior 'Cello—N. P. Loukes (R).
- Junior Violin—J. A. R. Willis (Bl).
- Intermediate Violin—A. W. Potter (Bl).
- Intermediate Viola—A. P. Haynes (B.).
- Elementary Piano—R. A. Lucas (Bl).
- Intermediate Piano—C. J. Marchbanks (T).
- Elementary Woodwind—M. A. Hedges (Bl).
- Organ (open)—J. H. Thewlis (Bl).
- Advanced Violin—A. J. Williams (R).
- Advanced Viola—G. S. Howlett (R).
- Advanced Piano—J. H. Thewlis (Bl).
- Advanced Brass—A. P. Haynes (B).
- Advanced Woodwind—J. H. Thewlis (Bl).
- Advanced 'Cello—D. Wiggins (Bl).
- Unbroken Voices—A. M. Q. King (T).
- Broken Voices—C. K. D. Cobley (B).
- House Vocal Ensembles—1 Tesdale; 2 Reeves; 3 Blacknall.
- House Instrumental Ensembles—1 Reeves; 2 Tesdale; 3 Blacknall.
- Original Composition—S. H. Freedman (B).

M.Q.K.

SWITZERLAND, 1957

This year's 'Easter Excursion' was to Spiez, in Switzerland. The party, which was again led by Mr. and Mrs. Griffin, comprised some thirty-five staff and boys. It left on 14th April and returned to Abingdon without mishap on the evening of 24th April. Mr. Griffin's impressions follow.

Spiez. April, 1957.

Our first feeling, as the train drew to a stop, was one of disappointment. There had been some snow as we came through from Basle, and now it was dull and misty, and the tops of the mountains were hidden by cloud; the landscape was grey and colourless. By the end of the day, the clouds had cleared, the sun shone, and the peaks stood revealed in all their dazzling white beauty, which changed to rose pink as the sun set, and we knew then that this was an even more beautiful place than we had imagined it.

Now, towards the end of our holiday, we have had time to form impressions other than those of the beauty of the country. The people are friendly, hospitable, cheerful, and extremely efficient. The railways, in particular, impressed us all by their smooth, quiet efficiency. We were able, for example, merely by going to the station the previous evening, to reserve seats, for one excursion, on no less than eight different trains, and what is more, the seats were kept for us; while, when one of the party left his camera on the train when we arrived, it was returned to him within five hours.

One cannot help, too, being impressed by the wonderful engineering skill of the Swiss. Their railways go to places where walking is not easy, they tunnel through mountains, cross gorges on magnificent viaducts, and although you know of these things, it is not until you actually see them that you realise how remarkable they are.

Blessed with an unrivalled heritage of beauty by nature, the people seem to have determined that nothing shall mar it, and they have almost entirely banished ugliness from the countryside. Everything is clean and trim, the houses, mostly of wood in the country districts, neat and attractively designed, with well-kept gardens. One sees very little litter, even in the more popular picnic places. Even factories do not seem ugly.

It is, however, necessarily, of the wonderful beauty of the land itself that our most lasting impression will be. We have had disappointments, —the biggest when it began to snow just as we came to the first stop in the tunnel through Eiger on the way to Jungfrauoch, so that, when we reached the top, we could see nothing but a white wall of snow. The blizzard, however, did not stop some of the party venturing a short distance on to the plateau, causing at least one member to feel acute

anxiety in case anyone should vanish softly and silently down the precipice which was only too plainly obvious about two feet from the path.

On the whole, however, the weather so far has been reasonable and we have been able to see at least a fair proportion of the places we have visited at their best. It is impossible to describe them all, but for me these are some of the things which I am sure I shall never forget; the view from the dining room at the Hotel—looking down to the lake, with the castle and ancient Church rising above the water, and the Niederhorn behind—we have seen it in many moods, and almost all of them are beautiful; the lush Alpine meadows with long grass, carpeted with cuckoo flower and dandelion, studded with Chalets and ringing with the sound of cow bells; the old part of Thun, dominated by its fairy-tale Castle with white walls and red-tiled turrets, and its quaint arched streets; the two mountain lakes, the Blausee with unbelievably blue water, surrounded by fantastic, lovely woods and the Oeschinensee, still frozen over, shut in almost all round by walls of mountain, a wonderfully quiet and calm place; and always the mountains, majestic, awe-inspiring, often terrifying, but always unbelievably beautiful.

OVER THE SEA TO SKYE

On the initiative of two or three members of the Science Sixth it was decided to organise an expedition to Skye during the first half of the Easter holidays. Mr. Talbot and Mr. Blagden very kindly agreed to join the expedition—we use the word 'join' advisedly, for most of the organisation was done by the boys themselves, and the masters did their full share of the chores; and the party, as finally constituted, comprised also, for the whole or a part of the time, M. S. Bretscher, W. W. Budden, C. M. Dunman, P. D. Exon, S. Freedman, R. S. Green, D. Lees, C. J. Marchbanks and R. B. Scott-Taggart. In order to give boys a free hand in the matter of transport, the expedition assembled as such at Fort William on 3rd April, and it was planned to disperse from the same place on 18th April. But as will be seen later, what man proposes is not always what ultimately happens.

The Expedition had a scientific basis and its different members covered between them Botany, Geology, Geography and Ornithology. But although we have already gazed with awe on the vast boxes of scientific evidence that they have brought back with them, we suspect that Tentmanship and Cookery have played almost as big a part in their lives as the more pure sciences. And perhaps the most valuable lesson they have learned, apart from the toughening process that is necessarily involved in camping in high altitudes, is a fuller understanding of, and respect for, the highlanders themselves.

The account that follows was written by a classical member of the expedition who, from internal evidence, had been well briefed by the scientists.

* - * * *

Camasunary means in Gaelic "the bay where cattle are fattened in summer". With the sea on one side, the Cuillins to the West, and mighty Blaven, 3,000 feet high, towering close at hand, this level haven of turf close-cropped by sheep made a wonderful camping site. Furthermore we were aided by the presence of two Nissen type huts in which we could eat and do any written work.

We camped between two streams, one tidal and reputed to give the best sea-trout fishing in Scotland; the other smaller but infinitely more exciting for us. We could see its source from the camp, about 2,000 feet up the Eastern flank of Blaven, whence it descended in a delightful series of waterfalls and rapids.

Access to Camasunary is practically limited to two paths, one a winding donkey trail to Strathaird (a few estatehouses only), the second a tortuous four mile track, high along the cliffs to Elgol and Angus Morrison's shop. It was outside this store that we were deposited, still green about the gills from the journey by boat and bus. It was late in the afternoon of 3rd April, and raining. Angus decided it was too rough to take us by sea to Camasunary, so we loaded ourselves up with the bare essentials for the night and started out with Angus as guide. The journey proved much more exhausting and difficult than we had expected and the party straggled rather badly. Four people made a return journey for food and more equipment, getting back to the camp by torchlight.

By the end of the third day the camp was well organised. We had good cooking facilities outdoors and we must have burnt several tons of drift wood during our stay. Cooking was undertaken in a rota system with two people on duty at a time. This always meant porridge for breakfast, and usually stew for supper, though some variety was added to the diet by experimenting with shellfish, and on one occasion an excellent curry was produced, including rice; salt ling however proved beyond the capacity of any cooks who tried it. Fortunately there was no shortage of drinking water.

The scientific work soon got into its stride. As was expected there were few flowering plants in evidence, but we did find species of *Drosera* and *Pinguicula*—both carnivorous. Scurvy Grass was found, also an interesting Saxifrage. Mosses and Liverworts were plentiful and many specimens have been brought home for identification. The whole course of the Blaven stream was searched very thoroughly and many interesting ferns found. It was while working near the source that we caught our first glimpse of the Golden Eagles.

The geologists among us found the region most interesting and were able to identify many features mentioned in the geological survey of the

area. In particular many fossils were discovered in the Jurassic shales of the Elgol district. Our ornithologist did not arrive until the second week, but there is evidently plenty of scope in this direction. Oyster-catchers and Eider Ducks were particularly plentiful and surprisingly tame.

While the weather was clement, several excursions were made. Blaven was climbed and two Ptarmigan and a white mountain hare were seen. But perhaps the place that we shall remember best is Loch Coruisk—held by some to be the most beautiful Loch in Scotland. Of it Sir Walter Scott says, “. . . we climbed over a low ridge of crags, and were surrounded by mountains of naked rock, of the boldest and most precipitous character. The ground on which we walked was the margin of a lake which seemed to have sustained the constant ravages of these rude neighbours”. We proceeded a mile and a half up this deep, dark and solitary lake. Not even the least emotional of us could help feeling a strange depression in this place of unrivalled gloom where the only sign of life was the Golden Eagle soaring silently hundreds of feet above.

One good friend we made was Charlie Mackinnon, the neighbouring gamekeeper, who had kindly allowed us to use his empty Lodge to ‘convalesce’ from the somewhat disastrous results of the flooding of the tents in a storm one night. After our experience on the outward journey we readily accepted his advice to get in touch with a Mallaig boatman named Bruce Watt who would pick us up off the shore and take us all the way by sea. But the sea failed on the appointed day to live up to its Tacitean reputation—“mare pigrum et grave remigantibus perhibent ne ventis quidem proinde attolli”, and raged relentlessly for the whole of Thursday. On Good Friday, however, the sea was calm again and by seven in the morning we were all ready to go. No boat came and half the party had gone to Elgol to investigate when eventually at about one in the afternoon a sixty foot American ex-liberty boat arrived in the bay. We discovered that they had been to Soay first and persuaded the owner of the island—a Mr. Geddes—to help get us away with his dinghy. Without his efforts, we might have been stranded for several more days, but with superb boatwork and at considerable risk to his boat he managed to get everything aboard the larger boat both at Camasunary and Elgol.

Our last sight of Skye was a superb panorama of the Cuillins, as the boat pitched in the waves and Manx Shearwaters flashed past us. Any account of the trip must be inadequate, but it will remain in our memories as a very rich and exciting experience. Much of its value lay in the difficulties which had to be overcome, and credit is largely due to those boys who conceived the whole idea and who planned and organised it so carefully. We made good friends there and should be welcomed if any of us decide to return.

O.A. NOTES**BIRTHS**

COWLING. On 27th March, 1957, to the wife of John Cowling (1944), a daughter, Fiona Helen.

WESTON. On 14th April, 1957, at the Warren Hospital, Abingdon, to Kitty, wife of Kenneth J. Weston (1948), a son, Mark Edward.

MARRIAGES

DEAN-GARMENT. On 1st September, 1956, at the Congregational Church, Purley, Anthony C. Dean (1940), to Camilla Jane Garment.

HILLARY-HEALEY. On 13th April, 1957, at St. Piran's Parish Church, Perranzabuloe, Cornwall, Anthony A. Hillary to Gillian Ann Healey.

JUGGINS-FURBY. On 27th April, 1957, at the Trinity Methodist Church, Abingdon, Ivor Juggins (1950), to Joan Furby.

* * *

A paragraph in the *Western Morning News* of 14th December last, included a photograph of George Sinclair (1931) shaking hands with a very youthful Greek Cypriot during a tour of inspection of development works in the island.

G. A. (Tony) Wood (1929) has again switched from farming to hotel management in Tanganyika.

We have heard recently from Peter King (1945) in the Education Department at Nyeri, Kenya. There are over 20 Europeans on the Staff of his Training Centre so that the usual sporting activities are available—but trout-fishing seems to be his particular pastime and now that Mau Mau activity has virtually ceased he can indulge in it to his heart's content.

Jim McPherson (1933) of Iraq Petroleum Co. has had a trying time since the Suez Crisis. He had to leave Homs when the pipelines were cut, and maintain some contact from Tripoli in Lebanon. He is now doubtless busily engaged in trying to get the flow of oil back to normal.

Dr. Max Laybourne (1933) is now practicing as an Eye Specialist and living at Pinner.

Raymond Stross (1933) appeared recently in Picture Parade on BBC Television. He was interviewed by Peter Haigh about his latest production.

J. B. Hill (1941) is assistant manager of the Grosvenor Hotel, London.

John Cowling (1944), whom we congratulate on the gift of a daughter, is in the legal department of Smith's (Electrical Ltd.).

Michael Brackley (1954) has left the R.A.F. and is embarking on training for the teaching profession.

John Greenaway (1953) is going to Swanley Horticultural Institute in September on a two years' course.

The brothers Light, John (1950) and Peter (1954) are both well established in the family business H. A. Light Ltd. of Birmingham, manufacturers of jewellers' materials.

Harry Baecker (1949) is with Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd. at Newport, Mon., with the title of System Analyser, Electronic Computers.

John Pridham (1945) has emigrated to Canada to seek his fortune. While looking round for a suitable job he is working in the Newsroom of the *Edmonton Journal*.

We congratulate Ivor Juggins (1950) on his marriage to the sister of another O.A., John Furby.

We also congratulate John Swainston (1955) on rowing 4 in the London University Crew against the continental universities on the tideway. London was beaten in the final heat with Amsterdam after a terrific race by the minimum margin of 2 feet. In the Head of the River race Peter Lay (1954) was in the Durham University VIII, which had previously won the Northern Head of the River, and Richard Millard (1952) and John Westall (1953) were in the St. Peter's Hall VIII. We note that Michael Enser was in the Pembroke 1st Torpid—a belated sign of grace!

Lieut. A. W. Riggott (1950) is back from Malta and after a short spell at the School of Artillery, Larkhill, is leaving to join the 1st Regt., R.H.A. at Munster. We thank him heartily for his gift to the Library of The Turn of the Tide, a fitting tribute to the former Master Gunner.

David Jones (1955) at R.M.A. gave a talk on Roman Britain to the Literary Society, proving that his labours at School were not in vain.

David Treacher (1950), Sgt., R. Education Corps is at Hong Kong, thoroughly enjoying his stay in foreign parts before returning to take up art teaching.

The Christmas Card of the King's African Rifles contained a photo of the Queen's Birthday Parade, the Colour Escort being composed of 2nd Lieuts. Michael Grant (1953) and Bruce Guimaraens (1953).

David Dunkley (1956) has recently left to join R. Berks in Cyprus.

In the *Daily Mail* of 23rd April there was a large picture of John Bosley (1945) talking to Princess Margaret and Mr. Christopher Lloyd after he had ridden one of the latter's horses at the Old Berkshire Point to Point races.

C. T. Owen (1954) has secured admission to the Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester, for September of this year.

We note from the 'Britannia Magazine' that P. J. Simmonds (1955) "played a small part convincingly and attractively" in the recent Dartmouth production of 'The Browning Version'.

We have recently had a most interesting letter from D. H. Wheaton (1948) who continues to provide the classical background for the ordinands at Oak Hill College.

As we go to press we hear that the School (and the remainder of the Ock Ward) is now represented on the Borough Council by an Old Boy and parent, Mr. D. A. Kitto, who has just been returned unopposed.

O.A. CLUB

The London Dinner—the fifth since the war and the ninth since 1935—was held on Friday, 8th March at the Constitutional Club, Northumberland Avenue, through the good offices of S. A. Paige. Nearly 70 members were present, including a coach party of 22 from Abingdon. The President, G. S. Sturrock, was in the Chair and after the Loyal Toast he proposed the toast of the School to which the Headmaster replied. The toast of the Club was proposed by A. A. Hillary, as was right and proper in 'pavilion year'. On all accounts this was voted the most enjoyable dinner of the series, and the Club is most grateful to Stanley Paige for the hard work he puts into the organisation. It was really encouraging to see so many members of the Club, covering such a wide span of years; and the Constitutional Club with its spacious amenities, provided an admirable venue. We hope that we shall be able to stick to it—and to Stanley Paige as organiser—for many years to come.

Old Boys' Day will be held on Saturday, 15th June. The Cricket Match will be followed by the Annual General Meeting of the Club and the Annual Dinner. Further notification will be sent to members in due course.

It is also proposed to circulate a supplement to the Address List, and once more we appeal to members to notify changes of address promptly to the Hon. Sec. or G. F. Duxbury at the School. We would also appeal once again to Old Boys to swallow their modesty and let us know their achievements and indeed their domestic news so that this section of the magazine can be a worthy record of Old Boys' activities.

O.A. Trust Fund

We acknowledge with many thanks new Covenants from J. Cowling, W. D. Richardson and P. R. Wood, and hope that those whose Covenants are expiring this year will feel inclined to renew them. We are paying off the balance due on the War Memorial Pavilion steadily, but the sooner we are 'in the clear' the better. May I ask those covenanters who find the income-tax slips enclosed in their magazines to return them to me as soon as possible—please.

G.F.D.

Terms of Subscription

The Life Membership Subscription to the Old Abingdonian Club which covers all the privileges of the Club but does not include receipt of the Magazine is Three Guineas.

All subscriptions to the Club or enquiries relating to it should be sent to the Treasurer, W. Bevir, Esq., 36 Park Road, Abingdon, Berks.

'The Abingdonian'

Old Boys and others can obtain the Magazine in three ways:

- 1. By Banker's Order (minimum 2/6) payable to the Old Abingdonian Trust Fund. Forms of Covenants which will nearly double the value of all subscriptions to the Fund of 10/- and over will gladly be supplied.*
- 2. By Compounding for Life Subscription: 5 guineas maximum, 2 guineas minimum, according to age.*
- 3. By subscription to the Magazine at current price, at present 5/- per annum.*

All subscriptions to the O.A. Trust Fund and 'The Abingdonian', or questions relating to them should be sent to G. F. Duxbury, Abingdon School, Berks. He will also be glad to receive news from and concerning O.A.'s for inclusion in the magazine, and particularly prompt notice of all changes of address.

"The Abingdonian"

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O.A. Editor and Hon. Treas.—Mr. G. F. Duxbury.