THE AVENUE

F.S.S.W.

JULY, 1948

PER ARDUA AD ALTA



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THE AVENUE

The Magazine of the Friends' School, Saffron Walden

VOL. 38 JULY, 1948 No. 110

FOREWORD

AS we were not fortunate enough to have an issue of the *Avenue* last term, we have various items to mention from the far distant past.

Firstly, Princess Elizabeth's Wedding Day. The morning was spent by the seniors playing a mixed hockey tournament, the juniors handball, with an interval to listen to the actual ceremony. Treasure hunts filled up the afternoon, and in the evening we had an exceptionally good concert, to which each form contributed an item. The seniors had a dance which was greatly improved by the introduction of chocolate biscuits at supper.

The School always fully appreciates a Christmas tea, and the results of the efforts this year were no less magnificent than before.

For many of us the mention of the Junior School means that very happy community which we entered when we first came to school here, and we all feel a special pride in being able to say that we have been members of it. Of those who did not have this privilege, many have had contacts with Junior School and they can also know the wonderful spirit of happiness that pervades the whole building. Thus it is with great sorrow that we say good-bye to Junior School, which is closing down. Our deepest and most grateful thanks also go to Miss Harris, now Mrs. Lees, Miss Barrie and Mrs. Stubbs, for so long the people who made everything happy, whether work or play. We will all miss this very real part of the School very much, and may we add our very best wishes to Miss Barrie in her new undertaking, another school for juniors, luckily in Walden.

In the Christmas holidays four members of the Sixth Form attended a conference of Council of Education in World Citizenship, during which they heard a number of notable speakers which included Mr. Shinwell and Sir Hartley Shawcross.

In the Easter holidays a large party of seniors went to Grasmere Village Hall with Mr. and Mrs. Lenz and Mr. Stanger. During ten days of excellent weather, they visited many places of interest, and though they often feared for their lives, they all returned at least partially sound. A tramp journal was written, but has not yet been printed. Unfortunately this was the last of the 'Lenz' tramps, for Mr. and Mrs. Lenz are leaving to go to Buenos Aires. Biology lessons will not be the same without Mr. Lenz's amusing but often embarrassing remarks. Mrs. Lenz has also proved that

she is a good teacher as well as a good wife. We express our regrets that they are leaving us, but wish them every happiness in the future.

Last term Walter Wilkinson visited us with his puppets, and gave us a highly amusing show. This term we have had a visit from two American Friends from Georgetown School, Mr. and Mrs. Shane. This was a return visit, as Mr. and Mrs. Littleboy visited this school on their American tour last year.

When we returned this term we were pleased to see that the avenue path had been widened and was in the process of being gravelled. The front drive has also been done, and a path has been made across the boys' upper playground to the biology laboratory.

Since Christmas the staff of the sanatorium has undergone many changes. Sister Woodmason left us then, and Sister Boilant came at the beginning of the spring term to take her place, but left at the end of term. Nurse Ely also left us before the end of term, and we welcome Sister Wright and Nurse Fieber in their places, and we hope they will be happy to stay with us. In January, Mr. Haselgrove came to teach maths. and we are glad he has been able to get a house in Walden, so that his family have joined him. Mr. Haselgrove has already aroused much enthusiasm for photography, for he himself excels in this hobby. We are very sorry that we shall be losing Mrs. Little and Miss Spinks at the end of this term, and we are grateful for the hard work they have done in the art room and in the kitchen.

'THE AVENUE'

THE Avenue Board has given further consideration to the future of the Magazine, seeking how to continue to produce it economically in the face of steadily rising costs. They have come to the conclusion that there is at present no alternative to their practice of issuing the magazine twice a year only if they are to keep within the income which they can foresee.

For the present therefore they hope that subscribers will accept this position at the current rate (3/6d. per year) as preferable to the imposition of a considerably increased subscription, and they particularly ask for the continued support of all their friends. A doubled subscription list outside the School would greatly reduce the financial anxieties, and any help towards achieving this goal would be greatly appreciated.

ON COMING BACK TO SCHOOL

"HURRY up, or you'll be late! You've only five more minutes!"

These ominous words, I think, are the very essence of returning to school. The dinner, as yet so leisurely and politely eaten, is rammed down the appropriate gullet, as if one's appetite had suddenly remembered its dormant school state. Last minute packing is instantly commenced. Tooth brush, tooth paste, some sweets, an autograph-book (mustn't forget that—the Australians are playing at Fenner's this season), and a newspaper, are crammed into the already overflowing rucksack.

"Don't forget the ration book!"

It is put into the suitcase, also congested. The lid is pressed down; someone obligingly condescends to sit on it. One lock closes easily; the second, of course, refuses to. At last it is conquered. "Confound! That's the first one open again. Fred, you do it."

A coat appears from nowhere. It is rapidly donned; a school cap hovers for a second, then swoops with unerring accuracy, and Fred, having successfully achieved his aim, hands over the case and rucksack.

Then begins the long descent, fifty-two steps of it, to the ground floor.

"Got everything?"

Obviously not. Someone has forgotten to bring the violin down. Up the stairs (I know them well—nearly broke my neck on them once), and down again.

"Good-bye, and enjoy yourself." It only means, "Bring back a better report next time," but it is said in good faith. Besides, even the jolliest feels a lump in his throat at this stage in the proceedings.

Fred agrees to come as far as the tube station, where he, of course, pays the fare (marvellous what advantages elder brothers are). He then gives his farewell, adding, "And mind you write." The promise is given, though with a guilty conscience.

From Golders Green to Liverpool Street the journey is uneventful. There are only the usual business men, poking their noses into one's affairs (after all, a solitary schoolboy, scrubbed and polished, with numerous articles of luggage is no ordinary thing), and the customary stop outside the station, when all the lights go out. Once there, one rushes up the escalator with baggage streaming, hands the ticket to the surly collector, and then slows up for the first time, in order to find the right platform. Having discovered it, a second ticket is brought out from the deep recesses of some inner pocket and handed to the second collector (a much nicer

fellow, though he's getting rather old now), who punches it, giving his well known " Reserved carriages at the front." (They're in the middle—never any doubt of that.)

Suddenly, with a burst of energy that amazes even oneself, one sprints down the platform to where a well-known face has shown itself, fifty yards further on.

" Bagged me a place ? " It is in a corner, and all the stuff is unceremoniously " plonked " upon it ; then with an agile leap, out on to the platform again, to start on the usual topics :

" Bradman's got another century." " Old George is wearing long bags now." " He's not ! Why, he'll look ridiculous in them ! " " Where's Steve ? " " Cycling." " See Sleepy in the Hols. ? " and so on.

Soon everyone returns to the train, and there swaps newspapers (nobody ever reads his own). After a few minutes the train starts, and further reading is rendered temporarily impossible because of the crowds of other people swarming to available openings, and bidding good-bye to parents. The inclination for further reading is lost, for the brain, unable to quieten down after the rush of the last hour, is dying to exchange news with others.

Films or shows seen by quite a few of us, are given meet criticism, as also are the hair styles of the fair sex who might interest such worthies as us.

Broxbourne and Bishops Stortford come and go in their turn, and finally Audley End Junction is reached. Everyone makes a grab for his or her belongings (I should imagine, though I have never lost anything myself, that the British Railways do well out of this) and jumps out of the train, hoping that every article is present. The train is invariably too long for the platform, and has to move itself further along before all the passengers can get off. Then, with a shrill whistle of delight, it thrusts off this trivial junction, leaving for Cambridge, Newmarket, Ely, Ipswich and other towns in the far remote, glad to be rid of this noisy handful.

On the platform remain a crowd of gossiping, expectant scholars, waiting for the " Crank." (" Where's it got to this time ? ").

At last, with many puffs of smoke, the grandfather of all two coachers crawls in, and with a creak and groan of its brakes, settles down to carry its unaccustomed load. When all are aboard, this ancient piece of scrap-metal commences on the long journey back to London. After a hundred yards or so, it gives up the unequal struggle, and stops. Then trying once more, but forgetting its direction, it re-starts, this time for Cambridge, but forced by some mysterious power, it gives a violent jerk to the right, and henceforth rolls under its own momentum to Saffron Walden. With a rattle of relief it pulls up, and in an instant two hundred or so scholars have abandoned it. In another instant they have found their respective cronies, who, helping them with their baggage, give them the latest news of changes.

Finally, after a long toil up the hill, one comes to the familiar sight of the school, the same, and yet not the same as ever : something is always different, however small. One enters the playroom, and there, amid the swirling mass of children, struggling to secure places for their trunks, the familiar cry of " Ration books to the office " reminds one of the realities of life, and the prospect of a new term.

Paul Honigmann (Lower V)

HYPNOTISM

HYPNOTISM is a fascinating subject that should be taken much more seriously than it is. The amateur who just dabbles in hypnotism generally spreads false ideas about what he can do. The professional, on the other hand, knows exactly what he can do and what can be done.

There is in London at the moment a Canadian hypnotist. He is a doctor and excels at the art. He is noted for getting a deaf person back her hearing. She was deaf through a shock when a bomb landed in her garden. While she was hypnotised the doctor said that she would hear a click at the back of her neck and then she would be able to hear again, and this cure was successful, when others had failed. This doctor has performed many minor operations while the patients have been hypnotized.

There is a popular misunderstanding that the hypnotist stares into the subject's eyes. This method is not used at all. The main way that people are hypnotized is through a shiny object being placed in a position to cause extreme eye tension. When the subject is hypnotized his eyes dilate inwards ; he then becomes in a stupor like a person in a heavy sleep.

A person under hypnosis will do nothing against his moral code. He will not jump out of a high window or knowingly sign a blank cheque. Although a person can be told to sign his name and he will do it ; if he is told to sign a cheque he will struggle against it as long as possible and scribble some illegible scrawl that could never pass as his signature.

When a famous hypnotist was interviewed he showed how simple it really was by hypnotizing a friend. To this friend he suggested that he should concentrate on a light, and apparently without effort, hypnotized him. He suggested to his friend that he was walking down a long, dusty road, and that it was extremely hot. When they left, his friend had no idea he had been hypnotized, but when it was suggested that they walk home, he said, " No fear, I've done enough walking for one day, thank you. I'm taking a taxi."

It is a fact that seven out of every ten people can hypnotize. A simple form of hypnotism is to get people's hands locked over their heads and they are unable to remove them until ordered to do so by the hypnotist.

An interesting test was performed showing how the conscious mind orders the sub-conscious mind to act. A person was hypnotized and had two holes punctured in his hand with a pin and, of course, they started bleeding. The hypnotist ordered that they both stop bleeding, and they did. He ordered that the left one stop and the right one flow, and it did. He ordered the left one start and the right one stop. All this worked out exactly as he suggested.

People who happen to find they have the power of hypnosis tend to become embarrassing to their friends by playing tricks upon them, which is an undesirable use of the power. In a more responsible person, however, it can be used for the great benefit of people suffering from certain complaints.

C. Timms (Lower V)

THE SEA

The sea is a great, mysterious wonder,
So melancholy ;
An ever-moving, restless thunder
Like eternity.
Do you shift and break and hammer
Aimlessly ?
Or have you a great concentric purpose—
Oh sea ?

When you crash, with spray, against the cliffs,
So thundrously ;
Or when you play, in wavelets, on the shore,
So harmlessly ;
And when you lie, like mirrors, under fog,
So glassily ;
What is the meaning of these many moods,
Oh sea ?

It is not the moon who pulls in tides
So regularly ;
Nor man, Oh liquid welter
Of solidity.
What power is it then that owns a slave
As great and free ?
Can you not tell, you wonder of thunder,
Oh sea ?

Diana Jones (Upper IV)

DOWN ARGENTINA WAY

"AMONG other articles for export are English referees, several of which have been 'imported to the Argentine.' It is expected that they will give demonstrations and will also referee in several first-class matches, including the Argentinian Cup Final."

Editor's footnote: South American football is slightly rougher than English football, and there have been several instances where referees have been mauled and beaten to death by the rather unruly spectators. *Daily Chronicle.*

It was 4 o'clock in the morning, when, together with my valet, Charlemagne Exputzzi, I stepped off the 'San Marino' and plunged into the depths of Buenos Aires. Our knowledge of the language was very small, yet, armed only with Blackie's Argentinian Dictionary, we struggled hopefully through a maze of streets, till finally we reached the Hotel d'Espari. This magnificent building appeared to be a relic of Spanish days, with the upper storey overlapping one by at least ten feet. We tugged heartily at an inviting rope and our labours were quickly rewarded when a massive iron key was lowered down on a silken strand from one of the upper windows. After much sweat and tears we forced the door open and, having reached the top of the staircase, we entered the nearest vacant room and requisitioned it as our own.

Barely had we settled down when there was a gentle tap, the door swung open, and our first visitor entered. He was a short fat man with small pig-like eyes protruding from beneath rolls of fat. He bowed, and then, strange as it may seem, he spoke. "Which of you ees Senor Smith?"

I nodded my head as an indication that I was he aforementioned. Then, resuming in that soft silky voice of his, he continued, "Senor Yoki sends hees compliments, and begs to inform you that you have been appointed referee vor ziss afternoon's Argentinian Cup Final. Zee teams performing are zee Paragonian Man Eaters and zee Retired Toreadors of Montivideo." (At this juncture I fainted and was only revived by the application of Eno's Fruit Salts). "Are you prepared to accept zees invitation?" he resumed, slowly and caressingly running his fingers down the blade of a vicious-looking knife. I mumbled something about my inexperience in the art of refereeing and my drastic lack of equipment, but with no noticeable effect, for, informing me that I was to appear at the Halasti Stadium at precisely 2 p.m., he left us.

The appointed hour came round and it did not find us idle. Costume was noticeably lacking; the only short trousers available were a pair of red satin bathing trunks belonging to my deceased grandfather, which had for some unknown reason been placed among my baggage. Protection was obviously necessary, and was represented by an oversized helmet, in which was carefully hidden

a blunderbuss—both procured at exorbitant prices from an antique dealer. I had mentioned before my lack of refereeing experience, let alone of Argentinian football, and to overcome this defect I obtained a small, closely-printed volume, "The Rules of Football," translated into Argentinian by the Rev. H. H. Lizzar, and supplied with an extensive vocabulary.

Prompt on 2 o'clock we arrived at the Stadium and, after fighting our way through a teeming mass of human beings, armed to the teeth and with murder in their eyes, we arrived at the closely-guarded changing rooms which, after a thorough examination of our passports, we were allowed to enter.

It was dark and the air was musty. Twenty-two men with long black moustaches were attiring themselves for football. Besides wearing the usual costume, they were sliding long, steely objects up their trouser-legs and darkly concealing other more bulky objects within their shirts. I became pale. The blood drained rapidly from my head to my boots, and I was shaking. There was I, an insignificant Saxon, standing five foot five inches in my socks, against a horde of evil, villainous rogues. "A gun!" I screamed, "Bring me a gun!"

"A gun? Now what would you want a gun for?" Forty-four eyes were turned upon me. The blood came back from my boots to my face, and I choked.

"Not a gun!" I shouted. "I meant a cup of coffee!" Why I should want a cup of coffee I couldn't explain, for the simple reason that I did not know. They brought it, a putrid, purple liquid that stank of sulphur, and I writhed in agony as it trickled down my gullet.

They strode out on to the pitch, while I trailed behind like a little boy of five out for a Sunday walk. I tossed the coin, and even as it reached the ground there was a mad rush, second only to the Californian gold rush. I hopefully threw the ball into the thick of the fight. A Patagonian Man Eater seized it in both hands and raced away towards the goal of the Retired Toreadors of Montivideo, guarded only by an aged, sickening, Toreador. I groped in my pocket for that precious plastic article, which looks so small yet costs so much—my whistle. I tried to whistle without it; my Adam's apple caught in my throat, and I choked. Somebody in the crowd let a bull loose, and even as it thundered towards me I cursed my grandfather's red satin bathing trunks. I steadied myself, took careful aim with my blunderbuss, and fired. There was a deafening explosion and the world was filled with smoke. Then, as the clouds drifted slowly away, I saw before me the *Daily Chronicle*. Curious, isn't it?—but the first words which caught my eye were: "British referees for export." No, thank you. I would rather stay at home.

George Rosenberg (Lower V)

AN INTERESTING JOURNEY

"HURRY up!" called Uncle Tecwen, "the train will be going in five minutes." I was afraid of being late so I hurried up and got into the train and said good-bye to all my relatives living in Holyhead. When the train started I looked out of the window and watched the locomotives hauling goods trains.

When the Irish Mail, as the train I was in was called, came into Bangor it gave a terrific shriek and I jumped and upset the old man sitting next to me. He was rather annoyed and moved to another seat; but I said, "Awfully sorry," and he pulled out his pipe and started smoking rather grumpily.

After about three hours journey it grew dark and I got very excited and watched two Americans playing poker for money. I thought it very interesting.

The train roared through stations so quickly I could hardly see the names of them. We stopped at Rugby and a lot of troops came in, and I spoke to a lieutenant and he told me about the part of France he had been fighting in. I asked him how guns worked and other things. Later on he asked me what I wanted to be when I grew up, and I said I wanted to be a sailor. He grinned and said, "Probably you'll change your mind soon."

Then the train stopped and I got out. Mother met me and said, "Have you had a good journey? I am glad to see you safe and sound."

RICHARD THOMAS. *Junior School*

POEM

The dancing day had gone,
But not alone.
For lengthening shadows heralded the night,
As to the West, with slowly-fading light,
The sun descended into the unknown.

An early star appeared,
And golden-hued,
It shone alone, serene, until anon
'Twas joined by all its comrades, one by one,
Who decked, unchecked, the lonely solitude.

But not for long, this dim and silent night,
For suddenly the starry worlds awoke
As from a dream. They laughed and leaped and spoke,
While mortals watched a tournament of light.

Ruth Costam (*Lower V*)

LECTURE WEEK-END, 1948.

MANY weeks have now passed since I walked into the Boys' Playroom and found the warm welcome of Walden awaiting me. Miss Yapp—our President—stood by a 'pre-war' fire and greeted me and other Old Scholars as if we had left only yesterday. And so began another Lecture Week-end !

The subject chosen this year of social problems connected with other countries, could only be touched upon very lightly as our time is always very limited. The central theme was a study of some of the social problems involved in places where so-called 'backward people' are in contact with others of 'higher' civilization. The speakers were Kenneth Nicholson, Gerald Littleboy on Saturday, and Dr. Rita Hinden, of the Fabian Colonial Bureau, on Sunday. They approached the theme from a rich background of personal experience, and their talks were all the more interesting because they began from such widely differing contexts. But in a most striking manner each lecture led to a discussion of our aspect of 'mixed' marriages, and the so-called 'colour-bar' difficulties. We were made vividly aware that there are many problems of 'colour' to which no country has yet found the complete Christian answer.

Fortunately for everyone, the weather was delightful this year, and hockey and football matches were watched in warm sunshine. There was some spirited play by all teams, and though the present scholars won both games by the comfortable margin of 3—1, the Old Scholars hope that it will not be long before the tables are turned or at least that the honours are divided.

Saturday evening finished with supper followed by a dance in the Hall which was enjoyed by Staff and Old Scholars alike.

Sunday came round all too quickly and after Meeting we all enjoyed a very welcome cup of tea generously provided by Mr. and Mrs. Rowntree. We do thank them for their hospitality and our thanks are due to the Headmaster and Staff for once again making such a pleasant week-end possible.

MILDRED BRANDON

THE SCHOOL TRAMP

TWENTY-FIVE of us altogether, including Mr. and Mrs. Lenz, and Mr. Stanger, set out on April 10th to spend eleven days in the Lake District. Rising at an unearthly hour in the morning, we started in two parties from London and Walden, reached Windermere in the late afternoon, and after a nine-mile cycle ride arrived at our future abode—the Village Hall at Grasmere.

During our stay the weather was very kind to us. Although the Lake District is notorious for its rain, we had only two wet mornings, and most of the time the sun was shining brightly. Most days we set out on foot or on cycles—only once did we ride in state on the bus—always well equipped with picnic lunches, to visit some of the neighbouring beauty spots. Tarn Howes, Tiberthwaite Falls, Lodore Falls, Dungeon Ghyll, Derwentwater, Patterdale and Bowness, Hawkshead and Keswick were amongst these. The highlight of the holiday was to have been the climb along Striding Edge and up Helvellyn, but when we arrived at the bottom we found the mountain ridge shrouded in mist and had to abandon our plans.

Our daily excursions were by no means the only part of the tramp we enjoyed. Life in the happy community at the Hall gave an equal amount of pleasure. Perhaps there was nothing we looked forward to more than the excellent evening meal Mrs. Lenz always had ready for us, whatever time we chose to arrive home. The hilarious meal-times, the fast and furious games of basket-ball and volley-ball played in all our spare time, and even the work, were constant sources of amusement and pleasure. Mr. Lenz became famous for his short cuts, which were, of course, always three times as long as the standard route; whilst Mr. Stanger was equally notorious for the disreputable brown beret he persisted in wearing. Then there were the continual controversies between girls and boys as to who was really to blame for keeping the others awake at night, or for waking the others up in the morning with their continuous chatter.

This is unfortunately the last time Mr. and Mrs. Lenz will take the School Tramp, and we all feel immensely grateful to them and to Mr. Stanger, and hope they enjoyed it as much as we did.

Mary Hollingworth (*Lower VI*)

THE OWL

Upon a wind-swept knoll an aged oak
Stands as a sentinel, the *only* tree
For miles around. The sooty smoke
Of urban factories and industry
Seems as another world, for the bare downs
Undulate, as far as eye can see.
At night when grey clouds scud across the sky,
An ancient owl upon the ancient tree
Sends forth his weird and melancholy cry.
The field-mouse, bright eyes glistening, tries to flee,
To burrow, but the large all-seeing eye
Observes his progress. Now the ghostly shape
On soft white wings swoops down so silently
To break the fast of day's captivity.

Roger Bush (*Upper IV*)

THE CAMBRIDGE OUTING

IT was announced to the great delight of most of the School, that we were to be allowed to go and see the first day of the cricket match between Australia and Cambridge University. The first day of the match was on a Wednesday, and Wednesday being a half-holiday, we were allowed the last three lessons off in the morning in order that we could see all the play.

There were two bus loads of people going, together with a number of braver cyclists. I, being one of the braver cyclists, started off soon after the second lesson in the morning. The weather was rather doubtful, and we had rather gloomy thoughts as to whether there was going to be any play or not.

However, we were wished good luck by various old men along the road, and sure enough it managed to keep fine.

We arrived at Cambridge, a little exhausted, to find that we would have to leave our bicycles outside the cricket ground. This left us in rather a fix, as we had six cycles to lock up, with only one small lock and chain to do it with. However, with a little ingenuity and wangling, we at last succeeded in locking three cycles up, and placing the other three well under these.

We then headed for the cricket ground. When we arrived at the entrance we found two queues, in between which was an entrance for schoolboys, who were allowed in at a reduced price. We made a bee line for this entrance, led by one of the School's biggest boys, and altogether we looked more like a group of the unemployed than schoolboys.

When we got inside the ground we joined the rest of the School, and found that Cambridge had gone in to bat first and had scored about 8 runs for no wickets. We then settled down to watch the morning's play, and it was not long before the Cambridge wickets began to fall, and by dinner time Cambridge were in rather a bad state, with only a few more wickets to fall.

We then queued up for dinner, which was supplied by the School, consisting of rather dry sandwiches and sour lemonade. This, although rather unappetising, was accepted warmly by the hungry multitudes.

Soon after play had resumed, some enthusiastic autograph hunters had found that one of the Australian players, who was not playing that day, was having some practice in the nets. It was found out later, when he gave them his autograph, very wisely over a fence, that he was Sam Loxton, one of the Australian bowlers.

Cambridge were all out for 167 runs and the Australians then went in and started to hit the bowling around. When we left, at about 6 o'clock, they had already scored about 200 runs for 1 wicket.

We found our bicycles, still in the same place, and then we started the long trek back to School.

To finish the day we had a solid meal, and altogether, I think, most people enjoyed the day out.

Roy Burman (Lower V)

WHITSUNTIDE, 1948

"I had wanted to get in to see the swimming match, but my train got in to Walden too late."

"Makes no difference. Such a squash in there, you probably wouldn't have got in, anyway."

"Yes, it's as Tom says; and you'll have plenty of other chances to see the bath, and have a swim yourself, too."

"I see the School don't get much of a look-in, this week-end. Must disappoint them a bit, hearing Old Scholars splashing about the whole time. Still it's nice and hospitable of them."

"Oh, well. They'll all be O. S. themselves one day soon. Something to look forward to."

* * * * * *

"It always amazes me, Harry, how the School manages to get all this grub for us. Tried this fruit salad?"

"No. Has it any rhubarb in it?"

"It has."

"Goody. Yes, they do us proud. .... I believe that's Pete's plate .... Yes, it is; he wants a second."

"Is that Miss Spinks over there?"

"No. That's just another of those post-war Old Scholars. She's in the workshop with Miss Johnson, keeping people on the hop. .... No, we don't stack here in the middle; pass them down to the end. Let John do a bit of work for his living."

* * * * * *

"Daddy, do they blow those funny trumpets with lids on, again?"

"No. That was in the dance last night, for the Old Scholars. This is for the boys and girls, and isn't at all funny. Mr. Sturge won't have that sort of noise in here."

" Why do they all stand and sing without any music, Daddy ? "

" That's all good practice for the changing-room."

* * * * * *

" I liked seeing inside the big piano, when Uncle Tom made the notes play ; but I didn't want all that music. Still, it was worth it, Daddy. Wasn't it a lovely supper ! "

* * * * * *

" Heard Mollie Hooper perfectly. Thought it was a very fine address, too. They do say the acoustics of the hall are bad, but it suited me well enough."

" Suits me, too. Much prefer the deep cover of a squeaky seat in the body of the hall to the bleak isolation of a padded chair on that stage."

" You're right about those tiresome seats. Rotten things slide back every time you stretch your legs out."

" Why can't Batten and Matthews collect some of the most rickety ones and put 'em in the 1949 bonfire ? "

* * * * * *

" Think they might have put up the names of the Old Boys who gave their lives, somewhere near that new hall clock."

" No. Better as it is. Then it commemorates all the service of Old Scholars."

" All right as far as it goes, but I still think those names should not go unrecorded .... Oh, you going now ? "

" Soon. Just got to say good-bye to Miss Yapp and one or two V.I.P's, and snatch a supper at Junior House. Sorry to be missing the bonfire—it should be a scorcher,"

" It will be. Remember the 1934 one ? 'Ab' wanted it reduced in size : said it might scorch the avenue trees."

" Did it ? "

" It did. Wonderful fire. But this one should eclipse all records. Do you know they've even brought stuff from Suffolk to put on it ? Brought a lorry load of combustible rubbish ! "

" Good heavens ! What a pity I shan't see it go up. Nor shall I see that evening entertainment, worse luck. I hear Ike Reynolds is up to something. He's in good form this time, isn't he ! Well, cheerio .... see you at General Meeting, possibly ....'

H. B. R.

Addenda.—For the interest of those to whom the games are an important part of Whitsun, and in justice to the prowess of the School, we append the following results :—

Swimming : Boys : School 20 points, O. S. (veterans) 24, O. S. (under 25) 28.

Girls : School 37 points, O. S. 4 points.

Cricket : Saturday : School 139 runs, O. S. 67 runs.
Monday : School 175 runs, O. S. 42 runs.

Tennis : Barbara Comber (staff) and Rupert Compton-Ford.

THE HAPPY COTTAGE

She lived in the little cottage
With rose beds all around
Where in the garden, happiness
Could always there be found.
The bees, they buzzed so happily,
Flitting from flower to flower,
That the gladdest place on earth that day,
Was that gay, bloom-covered bower.
The little old lady who lived there,
Was merry through all the day,
And she laughed in her gay, bright garden,
Surrounded by hedges of May.
It was always summer in that place,
With spring flowers there, as well.
And whoever entered that garden
Came under its magic spell,
And laughed and skipped like children,
Though ever so old they be,
Relieved of world-blackened hearts, that day,
They were now completely carefree.

Judith Foster (*Lower IV*)

GENERAL MEETING, 1948

AFTER last year's experience, what a joy it was to have the weather on our side ! Visitors seemed determined to make the best of it, and from the very beginning of the day numbers were above the normal. Even for the Meeting for Worship in the morning the boys had to sit crowded to make room for all our guests, and when the business meeting began there was a general squeeze up in all directions.

This year's Meeting for Worship was opened and closed by the School Choir—this is an arrangement which looks as if has come to stay, and is clearly appreciated.

It was very fitting to be able to welcome C. Brightwen and Gertrude Rowntree, and to congratulate them in this their year as Mayor and Mayoress of Saffron Walden. C. B. R. was on the Staff here for 33 years, the last eleven of which he was Head Master, and G. R. is herself an Old Scholar. We hope that the bouquet of carnations that Sarah Newman handed to Gertrude Rowntree lasted long enough to give pleasure in their home.

Kathleen Carrick Smith, Headmistress-elect of The Mount, was the speaker, and she put into words the thoughts that many of her audience had long felt with regard to the value of a Friends' School. The inspiring ideal held before us encourages those who are interested in the School to press on with their efforts for its development and progress.

The two performances in the afternoon—Boys' Swimming and Girls' Dancing—were both given twice to enable all visitors to see and both had two almost full houses—some 600 visitors must have been here altogether. The Boys' Swimming followed the lines that we have come to expect and fully maintained the high standard of former years. The Girls' Dancing broke new ground in that some Girls from the 3rd and 4th Forms presented a ballet on " The Gods go a-begging," with music provided by the School Orchestra. This was an ambitious undertaking, and music, dancing, dressing and stage-setting were combined to produce a wholly delightful performance. Congratulations all round !

And the exhibitions of work ! Art in the Geography Room, Biology in the Laboratory, Woodwork in the Library, Cookery in the Domestic Science Room and (for the last time, unfortunately) the Junior School exhibit in their own building—each so splendid in its own way.

The evening cricket match—School *v.* Parents—made a lovely finish to a most satisfactory day. X.

HOCKEY AND NETBALL, 1947—1948

SUMMARY OF RESULTS.

1ST XI.

	Date.	*Opponent.*	*Result.*	*Score.*
1947.	October 11th ..	Cambridge Town Ladies ..	Won	4—2
	November 1st ..	Saffron Walden Training College	Lost	1—5
	November 8th..	Cambridge County School ..	Lost	0—3
	November 15th	Herts & Essex High School ..	Lost	1—4
	November 29th	Royal Wanstead School ..	Won	12—0
	December 6th ..	Bishops Stortford Ladies ..	Won	3—2
	December 13th	Hockerill Training College ..	Won	6—1
1948.	January 24th ..	Sawston Ladies	Won	6—1
	January 31st ..	Herts & Essex High School ..	Lost	0—14
	February 7th ..	Royal Wanstead School ..	Won	6—0
	February 14th	Saffron Walden Training College	Lost	2—4
	February 18th..	Royal Wanstead School ..	Won	4—0
	February 28th..	Cambridge Town Ladies ..	Lost	2—4
	March 3rd ..	Old Scholars	Won	2—0
	March 10th ..	Cambridge County School ..	Lost	1—3
	March 13th ..	Bishops Stortford Ladies ..	Lost	0—2

2ND XI.

1947.	November 1st ..	Saffron Walden Training College	Lost	0—1
	November 8th..	Cambridge County School ..	Lost	1—5
	November 15th	Herts & Essex High School ..	Lost	1—7
	November 22nd	Cambridge Youth Club ..	Lost	0—1
1948.	March 3rd ..	Cambridge Youth Club ..	Lost	0—3
	March 10th ..	Cambridge County School ..	Lost	0—11

The 1st and 2nd Hockey XI's were as follows :—

	1st XI	2nd XI
GOAL	J. Newman	M. Bull
LEFT BACK	H. Appleton	R. Elliott
RIGHT BACK ..	R. Comber (Capt.)	P. Lamond
LEFT HALF	E. Collinson	S. Whiteman
CENTRE HALF ..	J. Morgan	A. Marriage
RIGHT HALF	K. Procter	J. Doggett
LEFT WING	B. Barber	S. Fry
LEFT INNER	H. Figg	P. Spear
CENTRE FORWARD ..	H. Sapsed	O. Sheeran
RIGHT INNER ..	A. Kendon	V. Vickery
RIGHT WING ..	G. Doggett	P. Thomas

In addition to the matches already recorded the 1st and 2nd XI's took part in the County Hockey Tournament at Cambridge County School.

The results of the Tournament are given below :—

1ST SECTION

March	12 points	1st
County 2nd XI	10 points	2nd
Friends' School 1st XI ..	10 points	2nd
Perse 2nd XI	4 points	4th
Wisbech 1st XI	2 points	5th

2ND SECTION

County 1st XI	16 points	1st
Perse 1st XI	10 points	2nd
Ely	8 points	3rd
Friends' School 2nd XI ..	4 points	4th
Wisbech 2nd XI	2 points	5th

An under 13 Netball Team played 4 matches this season, results of which were as follows :—

Date.	*Opponent.*	*Result.*	*Score.*
November 8th..	Cambridge County School	.. Won	8—6
November 29th	Royal Wanstead School	.. Lost	2—9
February 6th ..	Royal Wanstead School	.. Won	4—3
February 21st ..	Royal Wanstead School	.. Lost	11—12

FOOTBALL, 1947—1948

The final records of School teams were as follows :—

	Played.	*Won.*	*Drawn.*	*Lost.*	*Goals.*	
					F.	A.
1st XI	20	8	1	11	61	78
Under 14	19	7	6	6	49	54

Last term's football showed that the 1st XI failed to maintain what was once a promising record, whilst the Under 14's gradually improved and were unbeaten in their last five games.

Last term the 1st XI's of Newport, Soham and Bury St. Edmunds all proved too strong for us, our only wins being against Harlow and St. Christopher. Yet the season's side was by no means a poor one, though certain weaknesses were apparent again and

again ; nor could much be done to remedy them in the short time at our disposal. The full backs' judgment in tackling and kicking was frequently at fault, and though the half-back line was generally sound and hard-working, an unsteady defence often worked havoc with their confidence. As a result, they had little time or attention for their own forwards, of whom only Webb and Cassuto really came up to the required standard, apart from some good displays on the wing by Brown. Finishing and thrust were never really adequate to pierce the strong, heavy defences of the Grammar Schools, but the main cause of frequent decisive defeats at the hands of these schools lay with the overworked, outplayed and outclassed defence. It is indeed not surprising that this should be so, for all these schools have many more senior boys ; nor is there any need for defeatism. Our recent record against schools of our own size is very creditable, and it is only in our better seasons that we can hope to tackle strong Grammar School sides where the average age is about 17, and the average weight over 10 stone !

We shall probably be starting next season's football with no old colours at all, but there are some useful players likely to be still with us, and by determination, willingness to learn and team-spirit, there is every prospect that we shall achieve quite a good standard.

At the close of the season, Webb received his football colours ; Blackburn, the captain, and Cassuto had earned theirs the previous season. These three have given really fine service to the School on the football field, and each in his different style is an accomplished player. We can ill afford to lose them, as much for the tenacity and good heart with which they played as for their personal skill, but we wish them together with those other 1st XI players who will no longer be with us in September, the best of luck with their football in the years to come.

ATHLETICS

OUR Athletic programme for the year began in February, and before the end of the Easter term we had completed a fairly large number of heats and standard tests. March 17th, our first day for finals, was not by any means ideally suited to Athletics, but we were able to run off most of the events allocated to that day. Before the end of the term, the two Cross Countries and the events which we had been obliged to postpone, were also completed, so that the first ten days of the Summer term were able to be devoted without hindrance to preparations for our main Sports Day, May 1st.

However, a thunderstorm at midday finally disposed of any lingering hopes that the weather would be kind to us, and we were obliged to hold our final meeting on the first suitable day thereafter. This proved to be Friday, May 7th.

Performances at both meetings and in the Cross-Country runs were of a high standard, on the whole, and competitors are to be congratulated on their efforts. Four School records were broken: details are given below:—

Event.	*Former Holder.*	*Year.*	*Distance.*	*New Holder.*	*Distance.*
Boys, Junior Throw	M. Grover	1921	64 y. 2 ft. 8 in.	J. Cadman	68 y. 2 ft. 5 in.
			Time.		*Time.*
Boys, Junior 440 yds.	J. C. Gibb	1917	64⅘ secs.	A. P. Honigmann	63⅘ secs.
Sen., Cross Country	G. Wakeman	1945	21 m. 49 sec.	R. Blackburn	21 m. 34s.
Boys, Junior 880 yds.	I. Parley	1924	2 min. 28⅗ sec.	A. P. Honigmann	2 min. 28⅗ sec.

House Result.	*Standard Points.*	*Sports Days.*	*Total.*
1. Mennell ..	34.6	40.5	75.1
2. Tuke ..	36.1	33.3	69.4
3. Lister ..	29.3	26.2	55.5

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

BOYS' RESULTS.

Event.	*First.*	*Second.*	*Third.*	*Time/Distance.*
Senior.				
100 yds.	Chesworth (T)	Wrigley (M)	Cassuto (T)	11.2 secs.
220 yds. ..	Chesworth (T)	Hatch (T)	Meteyard (L)	25.3 secs.
440 yds. ..	Wrigley (M)	How (L)	Meteyard (L)	59.8 secs.
880 yds. ..	Blackburn (T)	Brown (T)	How (L)	2 m. 20.2 secs.
Mile ..	Blackburn (T)	Wakeling (M)	Gerstl (M)	5 m. 25 sec.
Long Jump	Cassuto (T)	Blackburn (T)	Chesworth (T)	17 ft. 1½ ins.
High Jump	Wrigley (M)	Hatch (T)	Dodsworth (M)	stopped at 4 ft. 2½ ins.
Cross Country	Blackburn (T)	Brown, R. (T)	Rossman (T)	21 m. 34 s.
Hurdles .. (100 yds.)	Wrigley (M)	Blackburn (T)	Dodsworth (M)	16.4 sec.
Discus ..	Hatch (T)	Dodsworth (M)	Burman (L)	23 y. 0 ft. 3 in.
Throw ..	Goom (T)	Brown (T)	Meteyard (L)	71 y. 2 ft. 1 in.
Relay ..	TUKE	LISTER	MENNELL	1 m. 52.4 s.
Under 15:—				
100 yds. ..	Woods (M)	Goom (T)	Spendlove (M)	12.3 secs.
220 yds. ..	Spendlove (M)	Sturge (T)	Cadman (L)	28.4 secs.
440 yds. ..	Honigmann (M)	Woods (M)	Burman (L)	63.4 secs.
880 yds. ..	Honigmann (M)	Burman (L)	Comber, R. (L)	2 m. 28.6 sec.
Long Jump	Spendlove (M)	Woods (M)	Goom (T)	13 ft. 10 in.
High Jump	Goom (T)	Holmes, B. (M)	Godden (T)	4 ft. 9 in.

Event.	*First.*	*Second.*	*Third.*	*Time/Distance.*
Cross Country ..	Burman (L)	Honigmann(M)	Woods (M)	14 m. 58 sec.
Hurdles ..	Woods (M)	Goom (T)	Godden (T)	13.0 secs.
Javelin ..	Cadman (L)	Dutton, J. (M)	Matthews (T)	23 y. 0 ft. 9 in.
Under 14 :—				
100 yds. ..	Honigmann (M)	Matthews (T)	Cadman (L)	12.3 secs.
440 yds. ..	Fairbanks (L)	Ringer (L)	Bennett (M)	73.8 secs.
Long Jump	Dutton, J. (M)	Cadman (L)	Matthews (T)	13 ft. 4 ins.
High Jump	Dutton, J. (M)	Matthews (T)	Roth (M)	4 ft. 0 ins.
Throw ..	Cadman (L)	Clymo (T)	Dutton, J. (M)	68 y. 2 ft. 5 in.
Relay (4 x 110)	MENNELL	LISTER	MENNELL	59.4 ssec.
Under 13 :—				
100 yds. ..	Bennett (M)	Chetsingh (M)	Dale (T)	13.9 secs.
220 yds. ..	Chetsingh (M)	Bennett (M)	Brown, C. (T)	34.1 secs.
880 yds. ..	Shepherd (M)	Cronin (L)	Williams (L)	3 m. 3 secs.
Long Jump	Bennett (M)	Dale (T)	Dutton, R. (M)	13 ft. 2 in.
High Jump	Dale (T)	Bennett (M)	Dutton, R. (M)	3 ft. 7 ins.
Hurdles ..	Cronin (L)	Rosenberg (M)	——	14.1 secs.
Under 12 :—				
80 yds.	Watson (L)	Brown, C. (T)	Southgate (T)	11.2 secs.
Long Jump	Dyer (M)	Southgate (T)	Brown, C. (T)	11 ft. 8¼ ins.
High Jump	Bidwell (T)	Brown, C. (T)	Whiteman (L)	3 ft. 5¼ ins.
Hurdles ..	Brown, C. (T)	Watson (L)	Southgate (T)	14.2 secs.
Under 11 :—				
80 yds. ..	Sillitoe (M)	Dunstan (M)	Greene (L)	11.6 secs.
Long Jump	Greene (L)	Sillitoe (M)	Dunstan (M)	11 ft. 9½ ins.
High Jump	Salaman (M)	Sillitoe (M)	Dunstan (M)	3 ft. 3¼ ins.

GIRLS' RESULTS

Event.	*1st*	*2nd*	*3rd*	*Time/Distance.*
Senior :—				
100 yds. ..	P. Thomas (M)	J. Henty (M)	W. Hopkins (M)	13.8 secs.
High Jump	H. Sapsed (L)	M. Hollingworth (L)	M. Revans (T)	Unfinished because of time.
Long Jump	H. Sapsed (L)	M. Figg (T)	W. Hopkins (M)	13 ft. 4½ in.
Throw ..	M.Sargeant (M)	S. Fry (L)	A. Marriage (L)	43 y. 9 ins.
Relay .. (6 x 100 yds.)	MENNELL	LISTER	TUKE	1 min. 23 sec.
Middle :—				
100 yds. ..	J. Rose (L)	C. Morgan (M)	C. Moon (L)	14 secs.
High Jump	G. Reed (M)	B. Barber (T)	S. Pyne (T)	4 ft. 1 in.
Long Jump	N. Sargant (M)	C. Morgan (M)	B. Barber (T)	13 ft. 4 ins.
Throw ..	B. Barber (T)	B. Robinson (L)	O. Sheenan (T)	35 yds. 1 ft. 4 ins.

Event.	*First.*	*Second.*	*Third.*	*Time/Distance.*
Junior :—				
100 yds. ..	M. Pilgrim (L)	R. Gosling (M)	W. Day (M)	14.2 secs.
High Jump	M. Pilgrim (L)	E. Paul (M)	V. Wiseman (T)	3 ft. 10 ins.
Long Jump	E. Paul (M)	M. Pilgrim (L)	D. Moseley (M)	11 ft. 10 ins.
Throw ..	J. Wright (T)	M. Cox (L)	D. Moseley (M)	31 yds. 1 ft. 8 ins.
Relay .. (6 x 100 yds.)	TUKE	LISTER	MENNELL	1 min. 27.8 secs.
Under 11 :—				
80 yds. ..	A. Williams (L)	P. Cadman (L)	E. Lane (L)	12.1 secs.

TENNIS AND ROUNDERS, 1948

TENNIS

Results of matches played up to June 12th, 1948 :—

	Date.	*Opponent.*	*Result.*	*Score.*
1st VI.	May 5th.	St. Christopher's, Letchworth ..	Won	62—55
	May 8th.	Chantry Mount, Bishops Stortford..	Won	68—49
	May 22nd.	Cambridge County School ..	Lost	51—66
	May 29th.	Saffron Walden Training College ..	Lost	2 sets-10 sets
	June 3rd.	St. Christopher's, Letchworth ..	Lost	54—63
2nd VI.	May 29th.	Saffron Walden Training College ..	Lost	54—63

ROUNDERS

Under 15½ IX.	May 8th.	Chantry Mount, Bishops Stortford ..	Won	13½—1
Under 15 IX.	May 22nd.	Cambridge County School ..	Lost	3—13½
Under 13 IX.	May 8th.	Chantry Mount, Bishops Stortford ..	Lost	½—7
Under 13 IX.	May 22nd.	Cambridge County School ..	Lost	1—5½

1st TENNIS VI.

1st Couple—R. Comber and A. Dutton.
2nd ,, —H. Appleton and G. Doggett.
3rd ,, —E. Collinson and H. Sapsed.

CRICKET, 1948

AT the time of writing, half-way through our short season, we have already encountered a number of soft wickets. It is possibly this fact which accounts for the sudden revelation of weakness in batting and lack of steadiness in bowling which opposition has, from time to time, brought to light both in the 1st XI and in Junior teams. However this may be—and certainly there is a dearth of accurate spin bowlers and sound defensive batsmen—the fielding of the School teams has, on the whole, been fairly good, though slowness off the mark and lack of anticipation are noticeable defects.

Captaincy is, of course, an art developed only by long experience, and Blackburn has done well not only as captain, but also as a wicket-keeper who can get runs quickly every so often. Webb and Cassuto are clearly the best batsmen in the side; and twice already has the former reached his half century. There is also much promise for the future with Cadman, the side's best fielder; Dutton, who shared honours with Cadman in the Whit Saturday match; Woods, Baker, Goom, Clymo, Atkins and others who are gaining useful experience of senior cricket. So far Webb has disappointed as a bowler, but this has in part been rectified by an occasional useful performance from Dutton, J., Cadman or Brown, R. Yet apart from these occasional performances, consistent determination was, at first, absent from the School bowling, as indeed, it is inclined to be absent from School cricket. A notable exception to this was the instance of our win over Harlow by one run. Here, Cadman and Dutton bowled with real concentration as the crisis approached; the fielders "got on their toes," and reward came with a very fine acrobatic catch by Cassuto. So always is the path to victory, which does not come unsought, but must be struggled for, every inch of the way.

We will not write at great length of the sorrows of our under 14's. It is true that at the moment they have had little success, and do not look likely to achieve much: it is also true that they have shown a deplorable paralysis when faced with only moderate bowling: it is further true that their own bowling lacks length and attack; that their fielding is half-hearted and diffident. Yet Rosenberg has played several very good innings of 20; M. Frizzell is beginning to bat, and to spin the ball dangerously on a length which, if not consistent, is at least not unfrequent—and all of them are learning. It is the latter fact which is most important. Many of the Under 14's of this year should be in the side again next year, and if only they will persevere, they will find success in the end. Especially does this apply to Bell, Marriage, Skelton, Nash and similar players.

SUMMARY OF MATCHES

1st XI v. St. Christopher School (away). Match drawn.
School: 78 for 7 dec. (K. Frizzell 20).
St. Christopher: 24 for 6 (Webb 3 for 3: Cadman 2 for 6).

1st XI v. Youth Club XI (home). Lost by 6 wickets.
School: 75 for 7 dec. (Webb 25).
Youth Club: 80 for 4 (Webb 3 for 24).

1st XI v. Old Scholars 2nd XI (home). Won by 72 runs.
School: 139 (Webb 31, Cadman 30, Blackburn 22).
Old Scholars: 67 (Dutton, J., 7 for 21).

1st XI v. Newport Grammar School (away). Match drawn.
Newport: 144 for 6 (dec.).
School: 70 for 5. (Cassuto, 34 not).

1st XI v. Harlow College (home). Won by 1 run.
School: 131 (Webb 81).
Harlow: 130 (Dutton, J., 5 for 32).

1st XI v. C. A. Mummery's XI (home). Lost by 7 wickets.
School: 52.
Mr. Mummery's XI: 85 for 5.

1st XI v. St. Christopher's School (home). Lost by 30 runs.
St. Christopher: 64 (Cadman 5 for 21: Brown 5 for 15).
School: 34.

1st XI v. Newport Grammar School (home). Lost by 6 wickets.
School: 78 (Webb 34, Baker 17 not).
Newport: 84 for 4.

1st XI v. The Parents XI (home). Match drawn.
School: 137 for 5 dec. (Webb 37, Gerstl 32, Blackburn 27 not, Baker 19).
Parents: 78 for 5.

1st XI v. Soham G. S. (home). Won by 17 runs.
School: 101 (Gerstl 29, Webb 18, Goom 17 not).
Soham: 84 (Clymo 6 for 19: Webb 4 for 25).

1st XI *Colours for* 1948 *are*:—
R. Blackburn, D. Webb, F. U. A. Cassuto.

The Staff XI has also played a number of games, including the annual Whit-Monday fixture against the Old Scholars. This resulted in a win for the School by 133 runs.

We are grateful to all those who have contributed towards the School cricket season with their gifts of time and skill in various ways; to the Housekeeping staff; the scorers, Hayler and Edwards; and the curators, Holmes, C., Holmes, B., Wood, A. S. and Atkins, by whose efforts the pitch has been kept in a condition of safety.

Finally, we must commend to all School cricketers the value of autumn and spring practice. A new term will bring new enthusiasm; but the boy cricketer who is really keen to improve, will find some spare time for developing his stroke play or his bowling ability on the concrete pitches during the next two terms.

BASKET-BALL

ON Tuesday nights during the Spring term, the Assembly Hall was turned into a basket-ball stadium. A league of six teams, composed mainly of boys from the Upper IVth and Vth forms, completed a full and strenuous programme. Each team represented a football club, and we were in doubt as to the eventual winners until the final night, when Chelsea, easily the most skilful team, ran out worthy winners. Michael How produced a successful league magazine each week, which contained results, goal-scorers, articles and even cartoons (though Mr. Lenz would be well advised to examine the thickness of How's Biology exercise book !). A highly successful innovation to the School's activities was rounded off by a series of matches against an inexperienced, but powerful, team consisting of those senior members of Life Class who had been unable to play during the term.

Richard Brown (VIth Form)

SWIMMING, 1948

THERE is nothing very spectacular to report this term. The first event of aquatic importance was the match *v.* the O. S. on Whit-Saturday morning. An innovation was that the O. S. split forces and put in two teams, an ' Over 25 ' and an ' Under 25 ', so that the match was a triangular one. Racing was close and the contest more even than of recent years. The ' Under 25's ' won with 28 points, the ' Over 25's ' coming second with 24 points, and the School last with 20. This year the boys also gave a swimming display for General Meeting. Three matches have been arranged for the post-matric. period—against the local Youth Club, the Granta Swimming Club of Cambridge, and the Town Club.

There has been great keenness amongst the large number of beginners and by the end of term there should not be a single boy in the School who cannot swim. There has been great keenness,

too, to join the Swimming Club, and many of the younger element have gained admittance, so that prospects for next year are bright. Many Scouts have passed their swimming tests. The entries for the Life Saving Exams. are up to average.

B. B. J.

SENIOR LITERARY SOCIETY

SINCE the last issue of the *Avenue* the Senior Literary Society has enjoyed a varied and interesting programme. Outstanding in the memories of the members will be the outing to the Arts Theatre, Cambridge, to attend a performance of "Hamlet" by the Bristol Old Vic. It afforded much enjoyment besides scope for criticism.

On one November evening the Library was transformed into a court room where, with Mr. Littleboy as judge, John Hinton was tried. He was charged with leaving the premises on the night of November 20th, Princess Elizabeth's wedding day, and "entering a public house for the purpose of consuming alcohol." Fortunately for the reputation of the School he was, in spite of several damning witnesses, acquitted by the jury without a stain on his character !

We have had two debates. The first, on the motion : "That this house deprecates the modern practice whereby students, while still at school, specialize in arts or science," was not very successful. This can partly be attributed to the motion itself, which did not arouse much feeling amongst the audience. The second debate, on the motion : "That this house deplores the record of the present government," was much more lively.

One meeting was devoted to G. K. Chesterton. Ruth Costain and Irene Rudd read short essays on two different aspects of his work, and Mrs. Littleboy introduced us to "The Man Who was Thursday" with a short extract, and also made some general observations and comments on Chesterton himself.

Two one-act plays have been read : "Riders to the Sea," and "The Doubtful Misfortune of Li Sing." The latter called forth a good deal of laughter from the audience.

As important as any of the items mentioned before, have been the free choice essays. These have been varied and original in their subject, and the standard of writing has generally been high.

The Senior Literary Society can look back over this year as both enjoyable and successful.

Alice Kendon (Lower VI)

THE NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

AT the beginning of the school year, the list of people who wished to join "Natch" was again large, but as many previous members had left the School at the end of the Summer term, it was possible for most of those who applied, to enter. The Society now has many more juniors than previously.

During this year we have had four very interesting lectures given by visitors to the Society. In the autumn term, Michael King-Beer talked about the Duodecimal System, Mr. Holttum lectured on the Natural Vegetation of the Malay Forests, and Mr. Flewellyn King talked on Sea-shells and also on Water-divining, with demonstrations of both. At the beginning of the Spring term, Mr. Sheppard gave a lecture on Meteorology, illustrated with lantern slides.

As usual, several meetings were devoted to ten-minute lectures given by members of the Society, and these lectures have been of the same standard as in former years, but on a wider range of topics. Besides these lectures given by our members, we have two meetings to which all members have had to come prepared to give three-minute lectures, the names of the victims being drawn from a hat.

This year we have had three film shows on scientific or natural history topics. One film was a splendid account in colour of the life of the Australian Aborigine at home in the desert. This and another film combined to make an evening devoted to Anthropology.

Mr. Lenz has given us two very interesting meetings in which he has lectured on "Dreams" and on "The Theory of Continental Drift."

This term our annual expedition will be to Grimes' Graves, a prehistoric flint mine in the Breckland and Heathland area of East Anglia.

We are very sorry to lose our Chairman, Eric Lenz, and are very grateful to him for having built up the Society to what it now is.

Susan Maguire (*Lower VI*)

DRAMATICS

TOWARDS the end of the Autumn term, 1947, the Upper part of the School, under the general direction of Nina Bailey, began the production of "Tilly of Bloomsbury." The play was not easy either to produce or perform, and casting, in particular, provided a thorny problem.

In addition to the difficulties encountered with production and performance there was the very important matter of scenery, without which the necessary atmosphere would have been absent. This difficulty was overcome by delegating the VIth Form Art Class on to the delightful task of painting pink vertical stripes on scenery flats, to indicate the gaudy Victorian wall-paper, and on the reverse sides a brown streaky mess, purporting to represent old oak panelling.

However, by co-operation between the various ' departments ', the play was eventually performed (after what was practically a whole day of rehearsals) on the last Saturday of term, and after everybody, including performers, had had a more than adequate Christmas tea. It was well received and can be considered to have maintained the standard that the VIth had, by then, become noted for in play production.

With the arrival of Mr. Small at the School, theatrical talent from the Upper half of the School was diverted into the rather more official Dramatic Society. This Society was founded to encourage all departments of stage-craft, from the actual acting, through scenery production, to the comparatively little noticed back-room jobs—scene shifting, effects and lighting.

The Society chose for its first play " The Importance of being Earnest " with a cast of scholars little different in effect from that of " Tilly ". The same beautiful scenery was used, with the addition of a particularly effective garden back cloth and realistic side trees, executed by Mrs. Little and Mr. Stanger.

Many hours of patient striving were required before Mr. Small (who was both an actor and the producer) was finally satisfied. The play was performed at the end of the Spring term of this year, and with a multiple love scene that kept the School in fits of laughter and the performers in an embarrassed sweat for quite half a minute, it passed off very well indeed.

However, the performers enjoyed it and it is to be hoped that just as much success will be had by the members of the Society now preparing for Galsworthy's " Loyalties," to be acted, all being well, in the autumn.

Martin Chesworth (Upper VI)

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

AN astonishing response was made in the Spring term to the suggestion that the darkroom be re-opened, and some twenty-five members of the Lower and Upper Vths soon mastered the processes of developing and printing with very creditable results.

The numbers of enthusiastic photographers in the Mid and Lower School make it evident that it will soon be impossible to accommodate everyone in one darkroom, and we are planning to acquire another room as soon as circumstances permit. More equipment will be needed too—an enlarger is the next item—but we shall not be able to develop the Society fully unless more members are willing to undertake constructional work. In this respect we owe a debt of gratitude to N. G. Hatch, whose efforts during the past four months have been invaluable.

M. L. H.

THE FILM CLUB

THE Film Club, a new club for Upper and Lower IVth boys and girls, was a source of much entertainment last term. We met in the Geography Room every Friday evening at 7.30. Some of the films were for our amusement only, and others were for general knowledge as well. In all, we saw over 30 films.

Some of the most interesting films were "The Eternal Fire," which showed Vesuvius in eruption, "Dry Dock," showing the liner *Queen Mary*, being repaired, "How Talkies Talk," "Heir to the Throne" (the life of Princess Elizabeth) and very many more.

On February 27th we had 3 Australian films, "Sydney Harbour Bridge," which gave us details of its building, "Australian Animals," and lastly "The Koala," the story of a small Australian bear-like creature.

On the last Friday of term, March 19th, we had as a special treat, "Wings Over Africa," which was a six-reel film about adventure in the African Jungle. This film lasted for $1\frac{1}{4}$ hours and it was shown in the Assembly Hall, as it was also shown to a large number of non-members who, of course, had to pay to attend.

The price for Film Club membership for the whole term was one shilling and sixpence (about the price for one adult at an ordinary cinema for only two hours). It was really well worth the money and we all enjoyed it to its fullest extent, and we give our Secretary-cum-projectionist, Mrs. Lenz, a very hearty thank-you. We are all hoping Film Club will be resumed again in the Autumn term.

A. W. Allcock (Lower IV)

SCOUTS

LAST holidays the Scouts went for a five-day camp at Colchester over Easter, at which eighteen members were present. We had an excellent time. There was great excitement when returning to the camp site on the first day, after making various necessary arrangements—as we found a cow wandering about amongst our kit which we had previously left there.

Another amusing thing was when one morning some of us were awakened by laughing from Brian Holmes's tent, and Brian saying, " You wait till I get hold of you, Drip." We found out afterwards that Michael Frizzell had awakened Brian by dangling a worm in his open mouth.

It rained during the last night and was still raining the next morning when we had to leave ; but we were satisfied in knowing that we were leaving Cadman and Stern to send our equipment back to School.

This term we have been unfortunate in losing Robin Pawsey, our Assistant Scoutmaster, who has had to change his job, and the troop is being run for the rest of this term by the Court of Honour.

Christopher Holmes (Lower V)

GUIDES

SUMMER inevitably brings thoughts of Camping, and as I write the first School Company Camp is already an accomplished fact, and we are looking forward to a larger one at Pangbourne in August.

It was the advent of Miss Johnson, fresh from many and varied experiences of camping in Holland and Germany with the Guides International Service Relief team, that gave a fresh impetus to our plans, and it is to her energy in collecting stores and equipment, finding a suitable site and organising transport, that we owe the joys of our first camp.

It was only a glorified overnight hike, to be sure, for Patrol Leaders and Seconds only, but we had a great deal of fun out of it, and had you visited us at Shortgrove Estate, Newport, you would have seen a fair-sized encampment : two large tents (kindly lent to us by the Scouts, to whom we say here a warm thank-you) and four smaller ones, one of which flew the World Flag and had been all over Germany.

Meals—always a *most* important item in camp—were very well cooked and much appreciated, and the speed and efficiency with which they were prepared say a great deal for Miss Cotterell's domestic science training ! The difficulty was to slacken our belts sufficiently to accommodate all the good things, including bowlfuls of strawberries, collected on the site.

Two incidents will be long remembered : the shock sustained by a certain member of the party when, on sampling the contents of the Fm. Grain tin, she found them to be washing-up powder ; and the moment at the breaking of Colours, when the poor old flag decided to do it literally, and split from top to bottom ! It was fortunate that the Visiting Camp Adviser was not present on that occasion !

On Saturday, June 26th, the whole Company will be attending the District Rally at Dunmow and we are busy trying to gather enough uniforms to make a smart turn-out—a difficult task these days. All the Guides are keen to join with other companies on this occasion, and we hope that the weather will be kind to us and that our items in the entertainment will be a success.

Several Guides are practising for their Endurance Test so we can swim in the river at Pangbourne when we camp there the last week in August, for bathing regulations are strict and there must be a competent life-saver on the spot. We are looking forward to a very good Camp, and warmly invite any reader of *The Avenue* to visit us there. *A. D. H.*

MUSIC, 1947-48

THIS year the Choir started off its programme by singing Christmas music to appreciative audiences at the Radwinter and Cambridge Prisoner of War Camps, in addition to singing at Abbey Lane and in the last evening meeting of term. In the combined choir and orchestra concert on Parents' Week-end in the Spring the main item given by the Choir was two of Stanford's " Songs of the Fleet "— " Sailing at Dawn " and " The Little Admiral " : soloist, Anthony Miller. Easter Music took the form of the first chorus from Bach's St. Matthew Passion, " Come, ye daughters," aptly sung on Passion Sunday. At Whitsun the Songs of the Fleet were repeated ; while later in the term a programme of sacred music was sung in Wimbush Church. A similar programme will be sung in Saffron Walden Parish Church.

The Orchestra started off the year by rounding off the last evening meeting of term with Corelli's Christmas Concerto. In the concert at Parents' Week-end the main orchestral item was the first movement of Bach's Violin Concerto No. 2 in E major :

soloist, Katherine Procter. The other two movements of the Concerto were played for the Old Scholars at Lecture Week-end. At Whitsun Elgar's Serenade (one of the items in the Spring Concert) was repeated, while at General Meeting the Overture " Berinice " and the music for the " Gods Go A-Begging," was played for the Fourth Form production of the Ballet of that name. To conclude, we wish the departing leader of the Orchestra, Katherine Proctor, the best of luck for the future. A. B. M.

BOYS READING CLUB

DURING the past two terms we have read and discussed two collections of essays, two novels, an anthology of poetry and a play. The essay collections were by Robertson-Scott under the collective title of " England's Green and Pleasant Land " and " Screwtape Letters," by C. S. Lewis. Robertson-Scott's essays dealt with the problems of agriculture and the agricultural labourer. I think that I need hardly mention the contents of the " Screwtape Letters," since they have been so widely read.

The novels were that evergreen companion to " Tom Sawyer," " Huckleberry Finn," by Mark Twain ; and " Manalive," by G. K. Chesterton. This is an amusing piece concerning itself with the story of an eccentric—some called him mad—who tries, and very often succeeds, to make people appreciate his point of view, the sheer joy of life. This is not one of Chesterton's brilliant pieces of wit, but nevertheless, is very amusing.

Our poetry book was the Penguin edition of a volume of " The Centuries' Poetry—Hood to Hardy," a collection of poems from well known to obscure authors, even including contributions by a lunatic. It might be of interest to budding Poets Laureate that this man's poetry is reputed to have improved after he had entered Northampton Asylum.

We chose for our play " The Guinea Pig," by Cheetham Strode. This play had considerable success during its season in London. It deals with the problem of a boy with not much more than average intellect who has been drawn from his natural environment, not West End but not quite East End, and placed in a large strange Public School.

Finally I would like to express the thanks of all the members to Mrs. Littleboy for the wonderful teas she prepares for us on the occasion of Reading Club meetings. *J. C. W.*

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