

B. Hoyles. Lr VA.

THE RED ROSE.



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THE RED ROSE
KING GEORGE V SCHOOL
SOUTHPORT

VOL. XXI. No. 2
April, 1942

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SCHOOL NOTES

VALETE

- PARKINSON, K., 1935-41.—Gear's, Lower VI Science, School Certificate 1941.
- ROBERTS, J. E., 1935-41.—Woodham's, Lower VI Modern, School Certificate 1941, A.T.C.
- ANDREWS, A. S., 1936-41.—Evans', Lower VI Modern, School Certificate 1941, A.T.C.
- HOPE, F. W., 1936-41.—Evans', Lower VI Modern, School Certificate 1941.
- JAEGER, L. G., 1936-42.—Edwards', Upper VI Science, School Certificate 1940, A.T.C.
- SEARLE, V. G., 1936-41.—Leech's, Upper Vb Modern.
- SMITH, W. H., 1936-41.—Edwards', Upper VI Modern, School Certificate 1940.
- SPEIGHT, E., 1936-41.—Woodham's, Upper VI Modern, School Certificate 1940, Librarian, Secretary War Savings Group.
- HOSKER, T. L., 1937-41.—Evans', Lower VI Modern, School Certificate 1941, Librarian 1941, A.T.C.
- MARTIN, F. F., 1937-41.—Gear's, Lower VI Modern, School Certificate 1941.
- RIMMER, J. G., 1937-42.—Spencer's, Lower VI Science, School Certificate 1941.
- TOWNSON, E., 1937-41.—Gear's, Lower VI Modern, School Certificate 1941.
- WALKER, A. H., 1937-41.—Edwards', Lower VI Modern, School Certificate 1941, 2nd XV Colours 1941-42, A.T.C.

GEORGESON, D., 1938-41.—Spencer's, Upper Vc.
 MOORE, J. E., 1938-42.—Gear's, Lower Vc, Bantam Colours 1941.
 DAWES, W., 1939-41.—Rogers', IVb Modern, Bantam Colours 1941.
 FARRELL, M., 1939-41.—Leech's, IVa Modern.
 FINLOW, J., 1940-41.—Gear's, IVa Modern, Bantam Colours 1941.
 MILLS, P. H., 1940-42.—Gear's, Lower VI Modern, School Certificate 1941.
 RITCHIE, G. J., 1940-41.—Evans', IIIb.
 STALLARD, J. P., 1940-42.—Woodham's, Lower VI Modern, School Certificate 1941, A.T.C.
 ALDERTON, W., 1941-42.—Edwards', Form I.
 DICKINSON, R. L., 1941.—Evans', III Remove.
 EVANS, J. H. K., 1941.—Rogers', Form I.
 FEGAN, J. E., 1941.—Evans', Lower Vc.
 FRANKS, R. G., 1941.—Evans', Upper Vc, Inter-School Swimming, Bronze Medallion R.L.S.S.
 HARDIMAN, R. G., 1941.—Rogers', Form I.
 MCKENZIE, I. M., 1941.—Mason's, Form IIb.
 OGDEN, M. A., 1941.—Spencer's, Form I.
 ROGERS, K., 1941.—Spencer's, Transitus X.

SALVETE

R. Benjamin, R. H. Diggle, J. S. Goodman, R. E. Grosvenor, J. E. Lunn, Derek Priestley, Douglas Priestley, D. T. Ross, G. Ross, J. B. A. Sharples, K. R. Thwaite, W. L. Thwaite.

The amount collected during Warship Week was £2,494 0s. 0d. The total collected in the school since February, 1940, is £6,250 18s. 8d.

On Friday, January 16th, Sergt. A. Weldon, D.F.M., visited us and talked to the school on the training and work of a Wireless Operator/Air Gunner. We had an opportunity of congratulating this old boy on the distinction he had earned for his gallantry in action.

Other lectures referred to elsewhere have been given by Mr. Arnold Watson on Soviet Russia, and Commander Goodfellow on the Fleet Air Arm.

This term has been unfortunate from the point of view of weather, and only one school match has been played. The time devoted to qualifying in Athletics has also had to be curtailed.



HOUSE NOTES

EDWARDS'

Last term we bade *au revoir* to Smith W. H. and Walker, and later this term to Jaeger. To them, along with all the old boys of the House, we wish the best of luck in the future. Their places have been taken by Buckley, Marlow, Jeffs, Calardine and Blair, whom we congratulate on their appointments as House Prefects.

The House once again achieved the much coveted top place in the Honours List at the end of last term; we hope for a repetition of this achievement this year.

Our Rugby teams have not had their mettle tested this term, but both teams won all their matches last term, so that we stand a reasonable chance of being in both finals this year. The state of the ground has, of course, hampered School games recently, but Goode is to be congratulated on gaining his 1st XV Colours; last term Bantam Colours were awarded to Buck, Buxton, Cunliffe and Sanderson and re-awarded to Allen and Mayor.

The swimming and athletic sports will soon be demanding our efforts, and boys are urged to commence training during the Easter Holidays. Our swimming activities last year were confined almost to a solo effort by Bracewell, a very successful member of the School Swimming team; we hope he will be supported a little better this season.

The House lived up to its traditions during Warship Week, contributing £385 15s. 0d. to the Schools' total—a very good aggregate for 72 boys. Our Secretary, Taylor, and his helper, Buckley, must have worked hard. But it must be remembered that the small steady saver can do much to hasten the ultimate hour of Victory.

No efforts must be spared in the near future to keep the Jubilee Cup in the House Room, so adding another successful year to our House history.

E. M. B.

EVANS'

The time has arrived when material for house-notes is eagerly sought, but a review of the activities of Lent Term

closely resembles, to our despair, a blank sheet. Frost and snow have done their utmost to prevent all inter-house Rugby during the term, at least, to the time of writing. The House Senior XV has yet to play Spencer's, to decide which team enters the Final; the Junior Team has still to play two games. We wish both of them every success.

Likewise, there has been a dearth of School games, but we must congratulate K. Hepburn and H. Lomas on their receiving once more their 1st XV Colours, and N. G. Irving, who obtained 2nd XV Colours. At the end of last term, we were pleased to hear that the House's place in the Honours List was quite high, and hope for even greater successes in the scholastic sphere during this and the coming term. Next term will find us engaged in the athletic and swimming sports, and we trust that every boy who is a capable athlete or swimmer will do his best towards bringing at least one trophy to the Houseroom.

It is pleasing to record a considerable increase in the totals achieved by our Savings Group, and to observe that the A.T.C. receives steady support from Evans' House.

G. W.

GREAR'S

This term has been one of inactivity, owing to the Arctic weather we have had, and the icy state of the fields has made impossible the playing of House matches. Still, we are pleased to record that McMillan C. and Sutton D. F. have gained 1st XV Colours, Holmes R. E. 2nd XV Colours, and White R. A. and Finlow J. Bantam Colours. We hope there will be an opportunity of testing our junior team before the term ends.

In the swimming also winter has caused a lull, although Holmes R. E. has been holding life-saving classes. We should be pleased to see more boys taking advantage of them, and we exhort all boys who still cannot swim to make a special endeavour to attend the practices in the holidays and during next term.

It is pleasing to see that many more boys are supporting the school societies this term, and we hope that the lighter nights and the pressure of examinations will not cause too great a falling-off in this respect.

This term the war savings have maintained a good level under the two new secretaries, Ross I. M. and White R. A., and the House put forward a good effort during Warship Week.

We regret to record the deaths of two Old Boys of recent years: H. L. Baldwin (1931-36), who lost his life on Active Service, and T. R. Heaton (1936-41).

L. S.

LEECH'S

The plight which overtook us this time last year is again upon us, and we once more find it necessary to call down curses on the weather. It is therefore with some eagerness that we are looking forward to the first House Matches of the term, which have so often been postponed, and it is to be hoped that the members of the team will not have forgotten how to handle a ball during their hibernation. However, the School teams, in which the House is well represented, have been slightly more fortunate; and so there is every prospect of some good games with the advent of better weather.

Last term our efforts met with some success, as the Seniors won one of the two matches played. The Juniors were unfortunate in losing the only game of the term.

The temporary cessation of outdoor activities this term has led to an increase in the attendance at School Societies, which could further be improved by a larger representation of members of this House. A deeper and more intensive concentration by the House in the academic side of School life would, we feel sure, be a loyal and helpful enterprise, gathering its reward in due course.

We wish to thank all those who contributed to National Savings during Warship Week.

We suggest that the concentrated effort of every member both in School and on the field will be conducive to a competitive place in the award of the Jubilee Cup in July. With this in view we take this opportunity of reminding all members of the House of the coming Swimming Competition and Athletic Sports, and urge them to get into training as soon as possible.

G. J. W.

MASON'S

This term the wider activities of the House have been restricted by the bad weather conditions.

At the time of writing, no Rugby matches have been played. C. Moss has been awarded his 2nd XV Colours.

Although, owing to present-day conditions, many of the societies no longer exist, the Art Society, Chess Club and A.T.C. hold meetings, and more support could be given to these societies by the members of the House. Steel holds office in the Art Society, and Dickinson, J. Moss and C. Moss are N.C.O.s in the A.T.C.

The Savings Group has continued to receive adequate contributions from the House. During Warship Week the House contributed over £250. Nelson, Harrop and Hyam act as secretaries.

Our best wishes for success go to those members of the House who are taking the Trial Exams. this term, and the S.C. and H.S.C. Exams. next term.

H. T.

ROGERS'

Nothing is to be reported in the sporting sphere so far this term, but we wish the greatest success to our teams later in the term.

Dawes and Miller S. have been awarded their Bantam Colours.

This term Drury M. and Griffiths M. were appointed House Athletics Captain and House Swimming Captain respectively.

We hope that all those members of the House who are taking the H.S.C. and S.C. trials have made a conscientious effort in their preparation. Candidates whose results prove otherwise have been guilty of obstructing the school effort by wasting valuable time and material. They may have a chance of redeeming themselves next term.

The School Sports will be taking place next term, and we hope that last year's performance will be repeated if everyone makes an effort during the practices and qualifications.

The House invested a very satisfactory sum during the Warship Week collection.

A. B. T.

SPENCER'S

We are very sorry to have to report the death of John Singleton, a former member of the House, in a flying accident in the South of England. Unfortunately we only heard of his death a few hours before the funeral.

During the town's Warship Week a total of £89 9s. 10d. was contributed through the House War Savings Group. This was not such a big total as was hoped for, but we are exceptionally pleased to see that ten new members have joined the group. These boys are to be congratulated on taking such a wise step. It is, of course, regular savers that are wanted, and we should be pleased to see further members of the group.

We were sorry to lose the services of J. G. Rimmer, who had lately been appointed House prefect, and who had been acting as War Savings Secretary. W. H. Holden has been appointed a House prefect, and J. G. Swift House Secretary and War Savings Secretary.

There have been no House matches played to date this term owing to unfavourable weather conditions. Wilks is to be congratulated on being awarded his 1st XV Colours, and Moreton on gaining a bronze medallion for life saving.

We would remind boys that the time for athletic and swimming qualifications is at hand. Boys are urged to do their very best in these competitions and remedy the bare state of the House walls.

J. G. S.

WOODHAM'S

This term we have regretfully said good-bye to three of our former House prefects, J. Roberts, E. Speight and J. Stallard. We extend our wishes for their success in their chosen careers. We hope, however, that the entrance of R. Grosvenor, from Winchester, into the House will increase our athletic powers.

Owing to the inclement weather our senior team has not yet played this term. The Juniors unfortunately lost their match against Mason's last term, but so far they have had no chance to redeem their defeat.

During Warship Week the House set itself the task of collecting £200. This total was more than doubled. We

congratulate the House on its magnificent response, and thank the Savings Secretaries, T. Henry and B. Helliwell, for their good work.

The House is represented in the A.T.C. by a number of senior boys; P. Enright holds the rank of Sergeant.

By this time the athletic qualifications will have taken place; we hope that every boy has done his best to emulate the example of last year and place the House first in the qualifications list. But the work is by no means finished. Next term the swimming competition takes place, and we urge every boy to take full advantage of the swimming practices to be held during the Easter holidays. The Swimming Qualifications Cup is well within our reach, if every boy makes it a personal duty to qualify completely and help the House.

T. H.

OLD BOYS' NEWS

Sergt. F. C. Astley has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Medal for bravery in flying operations.

G. H. Ball passed the final examination M.B. Ch.B., at Liverpool University.

A. A. Wilson has been appointed Scientific Assistant to the Agricultural Research Council at Compton, near Newbury.

A. D. Charnley, J. L. Edmondson, and P. R. B. Jones have passed the 2nd M.B. examination of Liverpool University.

MARRIAGES

ALAN BLAINEY to MIRIAM JOYCE BLACKBURN, at Broadwater Church, Worthing, on January 31st, 1942.

EDWARD C. AYLING to CAROLINE FORSHAW, at St. John's Church, Crossens, on February 16th, 1942.

ARNOLD R. LEWIS to NANCY JACKSON, at St. John's Church, Ainsdale, on February 21st, 1942.

ARTHUR PENNINGTON to PHYLLIS LOWE, at St. John's Church
Ainsdale, on December 20th, 1941.

ROLL OF HONOUR

- J. H. Simpson, Flt. Sergt. R.A.F., reported missing, now
presumed killed.
H. L. Baldwin, Corp. R.A.F., killed on active service
January 21st, 1942.
J. P. Singleton, L/A.C., R.A.F., died from injuries
received on active service February 10th, 1942.
R. • Marshall, Sergt. R.A.F., died on active service
February 11th, 1942.

UNIVERSITY LETTERS

Caius College, Cambridge,
9th March, 1942.

To the Editors of "*The Red Rose*."

SIRS,—“Come to Caius and heave coal.” Since the
first fortnight of this term, when the coal merchants decided
to do it for us no longer, we have been hauling our own
coal or, more correctly, our two members who live in
college have been doing so, and, incidentally, each of them
lives at the top of over 60 stairs!

The number of Old Georgians in the Home Guard has
this term risen to three, J. K. H. having joined his comrades
in the tribulations of the force. While on a night operation
some weeks ago, our Chairman, climbing on to an Army
truck somewhere in England, was astounded to find him-
self helped up by G. B. H., and when, some hours later,
the same member was marching in a column, the back in
front of him seemed familiar, and after some time it did
indeed resolve itself into J. K. H. Such are the vagaries
of manœuvres.

Our Home Guards were rather disgusted to learn from
S. K. R. that on the night “op.” to be carried out by the
S.T.C., of which he is a member, blankets were to be
carried for sleeping, but their jeers were rather turned to
pity when after the “op.” they heard that, instead of

sleeping, this hardy corps had marched a total distance of
28 miles! Apparently, several people had trouble with
their feet, and some actually “had blood oozing from their
boots,” to quote the somewhat lurid description we were
given, though we found it rather difficult to believe that
S. K. R. had at no time been a passenger in the stragglers’
truck—a suggestion which he stoutly denied.

We feel that we must take off our hats to D. G. O. for
his sterling work in connection with the Amateur Dramatic
Club’s presentation of a new play, “Key Largo,” which
was very well received; also to C. A. J. for being
instrumental in the Caius first boat’s obtaining 3 bumps in
the Lent races, while G. B. H. coxed the second boat to
one bump, the first since before the war. To offset these
triumphs to a certain extent, we have to record our regret
that D. G. O. was not at the O. G.’s meeting this term,
especially as it was rumoured that he was still in bed; that
C. A. J., though nominally captain of the second boat, has
not been seen even once with that illustrious body; and
that G. B. H. has been furthering his explorations of both
banks of the river. We understand that he is waiting till
the warmer weather next term before examining the
bottom, but we are still wondering how he managed to
escape the fate of the first boat cox, who was thrown in
the water by the crew after the last day’s race.

Nothing much is known of J. K. H.’s activities this term,
as he insists on maintaining a stolid silence which leads one
to believe the worst. Day by day, S. K. R. becomes more
like a bogus company promoter: he has actually been seen
travelling to the engineering labs. on a bus carrying a rolled
umbrella and a dispatch case, an action which is, of course,
unheard of.

And so, having given you the outline of our efforts to
enliven Cambridge,

We remain, Sirs, yours faithfully,

C. U. O. G.’s.

The College,
Chester.

To the Editors of "*The Red Rose*."

SIRS,—The course taken by students in a Teachers’
Training College is a veritable day-to-day existence. Very

few here are guaranteed the full five-term course, and the majority wait for the little yellow envelope every breakfast. Several have gone already and their names are read out now and again in Morning Chapel. And when we see an empty desk with a ridiculous nickname scratched on it and the date 41—? we make a weak joke which raises a very artificial laugh.

In preparation for this military service the S.T.C. and U.A.S. are functioning in all their uniformed splendour. The handful of shivering uncomfortable young men who stood in the College School playground last autumn now are beginning to look like soldiers (even though a few still wear leather gauntlets and their forage caps in the centre of their heads).

The most pleasing piece of College news lately was the announcement that we had been granted an extra night a week off. This means more business for the Chester cinemas and chip-shops. This term is rather an easy one for us Juniors as far as study is concerned, and many of the cold days we spend in a little boiler-house adjacent to the Changing Room. Officially this antechamber is out of bounds in lecture-hours, but as it is the warmest place in the College a great deal of the time of a large number of the students is passed there in smoke, reading and gossip. Incidentally, on its walls I see the names of two Old Georgians, R. Haslam and H. Pryce.

We have games afternoons once and sometimes twice a week, when I am to be found chasing right wingers for the soccer team. The Rag-day this year for very obvious reasons was cancelled, but we have had several dances. At the moment we are crossing off the calendar days to Easter when, owing to the demands of the S.T.C., we shall not get the usual month's holiday but about a week. After Easter the Juniors begin School Practice. The Seniors, having finished theirs for ever, warn us, perhaps a little too strongly, of this ordeal.

So with the very happy thought that when you read this letter I shall be back in Southport, I must close. I still hope to welcome at least one Old Georgian here next September if (1) the College is still open; (2) I am still here.

I am, Sirs, yours faithfully,

TREVOR DODD.

St. Chad's College,
March 12th, 1942.

To the Editors of "*The Red Rose*."

Sirs,—The Epiphany term is drawing to its close, and as if to celebrate the event the snow, which has been with us all term, is now nearly all gone. Lectures are finished, and most people spend their time seeing their tutors, borrowing books from the University and College Libraries for use in the vacation, or merely sitting in the Union waiting for Saturday morning. This term, however, there are a few exceptions to the general rule: these are men whose calling-up has been deferred, and who are taking their exams. a term earlier, by a special arrangement of Senate, whereby such men are deemed to have kept six terms by taking their exam. a term earlier and keeping only five.

This term has been eventful: there have been the two annual celebrations—the Founders and Benefactors' Service in the Cathedral and St. Chad's Day, the College festival, and in addition the University Dramatic Society produced for two nights at the end of February Maxwell Anderson's *Masque of Kings*. This is a play written in verse, dealing with the events leading to the death of the Crown Prince Rudolph of Austria and the Baroness Vetsera in the hunting-lodge at Mayerling in 1889.

In addition to these happenings there was some excitement early in the term when some fifteenth century buildings belonging to the Dean and Chapter, situated directly opposite the College, caught fire one night. Those members of St. Chad's who are N.F.S. men, among whom is your correspondent, turned out and helped the local fire brigade to deal with the fire, which was soon under control and out before daybreak.

During this term were held the Entrance Scholarship Examinations, and your correspondent noted with regret the absence of Georgians at that Examination. Nevertheless, there is still hope that at least one Georgian may come up next October, to increase the membership of the Durham Old Georgians' Society by 100 per cent. and to continue the society when the present member goes down.

And, with that hope in mind,

I remain, Sir, yours faithfully,

D. O. G. S.

Guild of Undergraduates,
The University of Liverpool,
March 14th, 1942.

To the Editors of "The Red Rose."

Sirs,—This time last year our university had just been visited by the gentlemen of the Luftwaffe; fortunately this term we have been spared their attentions, but a "blitz" of quite another kind descended on our heads when, early in the term and without any warning, the authorities "sent down" thirty students because of alleged "unsatisfactory progress." This action caused a storm of excitement and anger which was forcibly expressed at a mass meeting of Guild, during which we heard at least one O.G. voicing very strong opinions. The lesson would appear to be—and we commend it to those who intend to come here next term—that 100 per cent. effort is required from all students.

As usual the Military Training Corps has occupied a good deal of our time. B. Hughes, L. Curzon and G. Wakefield have been promoted to the rank of N.C.O.—and it is reported that a certain gentleman has already placed a field-marshal's baton in his haversack—just in case! This vacation will be spent by some of us in camp training for the precious "Cert. B."

Our medical representatives have been very busy working for exams. which they have assured us are of tremendous importance. We hope the results repay their toil! Remaining news is of R. T. Christie, who is editing "Plan," the architectural students' magazine; of B. Hughes, who is a member of the very successful Rifle Club team; of L. B. Curzon, now assistant editor of "Guild Gazette"; of G. P. Wakefield, who has acted as dramatic critic for that paper, and of W. H. Scott, who is training hard for the prominent part he is to play in the coming athletics meeting.

Some of us will be going down to Birmingham during the vacation to attend the annual congress of the National Union of Students, and we hope to meet there Old Georgians from other universities.

We are, Sirs, yours faithfully,

LIVERPOOL UNIVERSITY OLD GEORGIANS.

Exeter College, Oxford,
8th March, 1942.

To the Editors of "The Red Rose."

SIRS,—I must apologise for the frequency with which the subject of military training is introduced into these letters. Yet University life cannot but reflect an image of the times in which we live and Oxford, once distinguished by the gown of study, has now become more familiar with the uniforms of war. Parades in the S.T.C., including this term physical training under Army instructors, take up two days of the student's week; while preparations for those parades—buttons and boots to be polished, notes and other work to be learnt—together with constant talk of future call-up, of grading boards for prospective officers and the periodical disappearance of familiar faces, keeps well to the fore the prospect of military service.

The writer having obtained Certificate A last term has donned the white lanyard, the distinguishing feature of the Artillery unit, and now does gun-drill in place of drill and learns to handle not the .3 inch rifle but the three inch field gun.

There have been few opportunities of relaxation from study, legal as well as military, owing to the apparently interminable cycle of snow, ice, slush, and snow again. To date one football match has been played. Some additional exercise has been obtained as referee for the University football team in their home matches. That none of these games have been lost has not been due, however, to the fault, fear or favour of the referee, though it was perhaps unfortunate he could not come over to Cambridge if only as a mascot, for the only matches that have been lost are those at which he has not been present in some capacity. It would moreover have been a welcome opportunity to meet the C.U.O.G.'s, to whom and to all other Old Georgians we send best wishes.

I am, Sirs, yours faithfully,

O.U.O.G.

NIGHT.

My way through darkened streets and pathways led,
Where nameless fears, unreasoned terrors blind,
Awoke from deathless sleep to seize my mind.
Primeval superstitions, savage dread,
Beset my thoughts, as, dying, two stars fell
Into oblivion. Such stars bring death,
And on my heart I felt the icy breath
Of doom, chill prescience of the grave and Hell.
Then silently a careless breeze, aware
Of none of my stark fears, began to drift
Around my face, and, as it fled, to lift
My thoughts aloft, away from gloom and care.
Our souls thus harmonize with Nature's mind,
And in her moods both pain and pleasure find.



E. P.

WHO WOULD FARDELS BEAR ?

Suicide was in Ernest Brimlow's mind as he reached the wire fencing which divided the railway line from the rolling meadows. He felt very conspicuous as his lanky figure in his black clerk's coat climbed over that fence. He was always being conspicuous and was sick of being so. In a crowd he was always a head taller than anyone else, and this predicament caused all the urchins of the town to call after him and put their tongues out at him whenever he passed by. But worse still he had even seen Mrs. Green making signs to her friend and gossip across the road when she thought his back was turned; and ever since then he had felt self-conscious every time he passed her yellow sashed windows, so that he had several times made a clown of himself by tripping over his umbrella or walking off the pavement when he was not expecting to do so. Even his landlady was up against him, for, as far as he could make out, she was in with a band of scandal-mongers of the type which will give you the sweetest smile one moment and the next will tell the wickedest story about you. They had had their rows too, and she always got the best of him by playing the insulted heroine and threatening to go and tell Mrs. Green. He couldn't go away; she would not let him. He would finish himself by throwing himself under a train. That would give them something to talk about.

A mile away he saw a signal's arm drop with the finality of gesture of an executioner's axe. In the farther distance already he could see a white wisp of steam. His story would soon be over. It would be so much easier to step in front of a train than to cut one's throat with a razor. He remembered how he had tried to do this, and how, every time he took up the razor he had felt as though he were playing with a scorpion, and had put the instrument down in fear lest it should strike him.

The train was fairly near now, and it was coming at a good speed, he judged, from the quick pulses of steam from the pistons. He could hear no sound as it advanced relentlessly from telegraph pole to telegraph pole, but he felt afraid of the black monster and instinctively drew back a little. It was a beautiful day after all, and he wanted some time to enjoy it. There was a grandeur in those billowy clouds which were making patterns of shadow over the bright spring landscape; for the first time he noticed the rhythmic sway of the buttercups in the breeze and smelt the delicate scent of the meadow-sweet in the ditch close by. He felt inclined to be amused, for the first time in months, by the antics of a kitten which was playing with a buttercup, striking out at it with its paw and then jumping away as each breeze shook the flower in some new teasing antic. A full-grown cat stood by looking on with an all-absorbed interest. How like that cat was to one he had had when he was younger! He looked back down all the years of his life. It had not been so bad when he came to look at it. He had had a great deal of joy.

Here was the train. What should he do? Curse all the people in the world who would not live and let live in peace. Curse all those who were ruining for him what would have been a happy everyday existence. While he was engrossed in these reflections the monster thundered heavily by, leaving him enveloped in a cloud of smoke. The ground shook and heaved and the racket was much more than he had expected. When the smoke blew off his last chance of escape from the world had gone. He did not think he could face a train after all. He had not realised they were so heavy.

When he looked round at the scene again it seemed commonplace. Where had its beauty gone? Where

were the cats? He had fooled himself as he always did when he came to the last moment. He felt dejected, for he must now go home and face his landlady again. As he was about to depart he realised that he was gripping the wire of the fence in a tight grasp. He laughed with annoyance and went home.

By the time he arrived home he was quite sure he could not face his landlady, and so he entered quietly and crept up to his room. When he had safely entered and closed the door of that sanctuary he wandered aimlessly round the room wondering what to do with himself. He picked up a book and attempted to read but shortly afterwards he threw it away angrily, got up and ruffled his hair moodily before a mirror. At last he picked up his 'cello, which was leaning against the wall in the corner, and taking it into the middle of the room, sat down, and began to play a succession of meaningless notes. After a time he picked up a tune he had played several weeks before in the local orchestra. The 'cello soothed him, for it seemed particularly friendly and sympathetic in the warm atmosphere of the room, and, as he played on, his spirits rose and he became elated. He would defy his landlady. He would have his own way.

A heavy knock on the door announced his landlady. She entered without more ado.

"Now then, Mr. Brimlow," said the tall rotund figure in the drab nankeen dress, "I've told you before not to play that thing in this house. It gets on me nerves."

"But you have the wireless on all day," suggested Ernest timidly, as he gave an imitation of an air-raid siren on his top string.

She advanced a step imposingly, expecting him to retreat as usual. He did not move, but instead looked attentively at the spiders which had descended from the ceiling since he had begun playing. Had a tiny spider more soul than a hulking landlady? It seemed so.

"Well, and aren't you going to put it away?" she said, turning with that dreaded movement to the door. Ernest nearly lost his nerve then and gave in, but, recollecting his determination to defy all the viragos, he said nothing.

"I'm just going over to see Mrs. Green," yelled the irate landlady.

"Are you? How interesting," replied Ernest, imitating the complete boredom of his favourite Noel Coward character.

The door slammed and he had won the day.

The landlady waited in the street a moment or two for Ernest Brimlow to come and beg her pardon, but the rich notes of the 'cello kept on instead. As Mrs. Green opened the door to her and let her in the 'cello rose in a triumphant crescendo.

Ernest Brimlow was giving the spiders a good time.

A. R. P.

—x—
BY THE FIRESIDE.

In winter, when the nights are long
And all the trees are bare,
I like to sit beside the fire
Upon my favourite chair.

I watch the smoke curl up the flue,
And see the sparks fly out;
The kettle, boiling on the hob,
Is steaming from the spout.

A hundred thousand years ago,
When this black coal was trees,
The cave-men roamed the British Isles,
But had no fires like these.

The fire is low, the room is dim,
The coal is glowing red;
I'll wait until the clock chimes ten,
And then I'm off to bed.

D. H.

—x—
MYSTERY AT THE JUNCTION.

It was a dark, cold, January night, and the young soldier went into the waiting-room as soon as he arrived on the station. Inside a fire flickered feebly, and by its light he could just make out a dark figure in the far corner. As he entered the figure greeted him and the two started a conversation. The waiting-room inmate proved to be a porter, who said that he preferred the waiting-room to his

own little room, because it was there that he had his drawings. As he said this the old fellow indicated some excellent pencil drawings, mainly of country scenes, which adorned the walls and which he affirmed were done by his own hand.

While the soldier was examining the drawings the porter looked at the clock, murmured something that sounded like, "Good Heavens, the express!" and rushed out on to the platform, picking up as he did so an old hurricane lamp from by the door. The soldier turned, astonished, and walked to the door more slowly. Outside all was dark and the station appeared to be empty. He went back into the waiting-room and sat down again, trying to puzzle out the old porter's disappearance.

In the midst of his thinking a step sounded on the threshold, and without looking up he said:

"Why did you go out in such a hurry? Where have you been?"

"But I've not been in here before to-night," said a voice from the door.

The soldier looked up, and, seeing a young man of about eighteen, whom he did not know, said:

"I'm sorry. I've just been talking to the porter and I thought it was him coming back."

"Porter! there's been no porter here for nigh on ten years. The station is never used."

"What about the other fellow who was in here, the artistic chap?"

An idea seemed to strike the new arrival, who said:

"Was he about sixty with grey hair and a Yorkshire accent?"

"Yes, and he was showing—" here the soldier broke off, for the drawings had disappeared.

"They have gone," he said in an astonished voice. The other nodded.

"Aye, they've gone. They've been gone these thirty years, ever since old Tom Burton died."

"But I saw them."

"Maybe, others have seen them on nights like this."

"What do you mean?"

"Well, thirty years ago the Leeds express used to go through about this time, and it always rushed through without stopping. Tom Burton was stationmaster-cum-

porter at that time, and he was a nice old chap, just like you described him, with the idea that he was a bit of an artist, and he used to draw in his spare time. He'd stick his drawings up for the passengers to see. He became quite well known, and some folks reckon that he was really good. They say his pigs and cows were—"

"Go on, man, what has all this to do with the mystery?"

"I'm coming to that. It was a black, cold, January night like we get in these parts, and Tom was in here by the fire when a young fellow from the village, called Jim Graham, tottered in through the door. He was all-in and had a big cut on his forehead and he told Tom that he was just crossing the line near Bolton's Halt when a tree fell across the line. It had caught his head with one of the branches and knocked him out or he'd have been here sooner. Tom took one look at the clock, saw it was nigh on time for the express and, leaving the youngster on the floor where he had collapsed, he picked up his lamp and ran out on to the station. There was a little dip near the edge of the platform, and it had filled with rain and frozen over. Tom didn't notice this, and he slipped on the ice just as the express came into the station. The driver never saw him, and he couldn't have stopped in any case, but he saw the lamp fly through the air as Tom fell and he pulled up. Tom was killed and the youngster was dying when they found him, but between them they'd saved the train, because the driver got down to see what was the matter, and when he saw the bodies he thought something was wrong. The youngster just managed to tell him about the tree before he died."

There was dead silence for a few minutes and then the soldier said in a hushed voice:

"Great Scott! I must have seen a ghost!"

An unearthly silence came over the waiting-room and the night seemed to become more chill. The soldier mechanically pulled his greatcoat closer round him as he moved nearer the fire.

As he pondered over the story which he had been told a thought flashed through his brain, and turning round, he said:

"Who told you all the details of this disaster? No one

could have known them but Tom Burton and the youngster, and they——"

He stopped abruptly, for his audience had disappeared. Only from the desolate platform came a soft rustling and a hollow voice which said:

"I was the youngster."

D. F. S.

—x—
THE GARDEN RAIDER.

I dug the ground and trench'd it deep;
I sought out every weed;
With careful hands I till'd the soil,
And then put in my seed.

Time pass'd, and soon each little bed
Was ting'd a tender green
With seedling poppy, mignonette,
Lettuce and kidney bean.

But Stephen Slug, in passing by,
Look'd in one fateful day,
Admir'd the view, and there and then
Decided that he'd stay.

I put down soot, I put down lime,
They proved of no avail;
At last I caught him on a bean—
Here ends his long, long trail.

D. B.

—x—
MR. DAVID AINSWORTH MEETS CRIME.

Mr. David Ainsworth lived in expensive bachelor apartments in the upper district of Delchester, on an annual income of nearly two thousand pounds. Though not employed in any business, David Ainsworth was not unprincipled. He would rise every morning at seven-thirty and take a brisk walk in a neighbouring park. So regular was this habit that attendants came to recognise the short, plump figure with the intelligent face and pince-nez. They would often exchange cheery good mornings. David would always follow the same route, as often as not whistling quietly to himself.

At nine o'clock he would return and breakfast and spend the rest of the morning in pursuit of his hobbies, gardening and woodwork. His herbaceous border was the

envy of many amateur gardeners in that district; his cabbages were the largest and had the most solid hearts. The afternoon would generally be devoted to reading from a varied stock, horticultural manuals side by side with Ruskin; text books on inlaid woodwork and the polishing of mahogany linked arms with Tennyson and Keats. His day would end with a good cigar and an early bed.

David Ainsworth was worried. The income derived from his business shares was on the down-grade. At the very first he had told his broker to sell. But no one would buy. One gloomy evening the crash came. David was in an arm-chair, moodily contemplating the dancing flames and watching the black smoke eddy and swirl up the chimney. A buff-coloured paper lay crumpled up into a tight ball on the hearth-rug.

Well, all was over now! He would have to work for his living. What sort of work? What could he do? What could he do? Then, as the morning sun comes on the world, slowly but steadily he knew. He started to his feet in his eagerness. Where should he begin? When? Why not now? He had it. Faulkner's. He knew the geography of the house well. Hadn't he been?

He fumbled for his rubber-soled shoes, his whole frame trembling with eagerness. He had a strong chisel. He went out into the night, leaving the door unlatched behind him. "Don't be silly," said the darkness. "It's not silly!" said he repeatedly.

He reached his destination, a large double-fronted house. He stealthily opened the window with his chisel and climbed in. The sideboard lock presented no little difficulty, but eventually it gave. Candlesticks, spoons—his overstrained nerves broke and he rushed out through the window and along the street like a madman, his breath wheezing in short pants. He reached the sanctuary of his own house and fainted on the rug. He came round slowly. "Your nerve broke, you're no good," a klaxon horn was blaring in his ears. But later, after a meal and a drink, the horn changed its note. "It's a start, anyway. It's a start." It was a start.

Now, in the records of Scotland Yard, there is listed David Ainsworth, thief, forger, fraud; responsible for the Hall diamonds, the Beton diamonds, Eastern ruby—still at large.

W. R. G.

A LECTURE ON RUSSIA.

After twenty-five years of ignorance of Russian affairs and indifference to Russian ideals, the British people are beginning to realise that Russia is of primary importance to themselves. It is unfortunate that it has taken a world-war to change our opinion of Russia, and that it is only when the Soviet system of government and economic policy is in danger of extinction that we have begun to appreciate its value and significance. Now, however, that real interest has at last been aroused, there is a great desire to learn the truth about Russia, and widespread enthusiasm was aroused in the school when it was announced that a lecture on Russia was to be given to the combined senior forms of the Girls' High School and King George V School by Mr. Watson, who had paid two visits to Russia.

Mr. Watson, at the beginning of his talk, told us that these visits had been made about six years ago, and had been of two weeks and five weeks' duration respectively. The reason for the visits had been a desire to find out about Russian life in general, and labour conditions in particular. Mr. Watson went on to describe his impressions of what he had seen and heard, not in any dry, matter-of-fact way, but by a series of anecdotes which succeeded far more than any statistics or facts and figures could have done in giving us a bird's eye view of life in Russia, and of the conditions under which the Russian people live and work.

To begin with, he described his journey to Russia on a Soviet liner. Anxious to find out about the accommodation of the crew, he went and asked the captain about their living quarters. He was bluntly told that, if he wanted the truth, he had better ask the men themselves. Accordingly, he made enquiries among the men, and was shown round their living quarters. He found to his astonishment that the cabins of the men were as comfortable and well furnished as the Second Class cabin he occupied himself. Being interested in, but sceptical about, the Russian statement that there had been no unemployment in the country for the past ten years, and knowing that these men, owing to the severity of the Russian winter, could be employed as sailors for only about half of the year, he asked them if they were unemployed during the other half. The men told him that they were not: instead, they went on holidays

to any part of the U.S.S.R. they chose for some of the time, and to any university they chose for the rest, their holiday expenses and university fees all being paid by the State.

Mr. Watson also spoke of the way in which young people of the Soviet enter their employments. They are examined by qualified men, and it is decided for which vocation the boy or girl is most fitted. If the boy would make a good plumber, he is trained as a plumber; if he has a talent for dentistry, he is trained as a dentist, his training expenses being paid by the State. Mr. Watson contrasted this with the English system, under which the deciding factor in determining whether a boy shall become a dentist or not is the income of his parents, and their ability to pay his university fees. As a consequence of this iniquitous system, Mr. Watson said, we have all suffered at the hands of dentists who should have been plumbers.

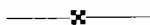
Mr. Watson stressed that the Soviet Government does not provide for education merely in the ordinary sense of the word for everyone, but also in the wider sense, that of artistic education, by providing the workers with their own theatres and art galleries at each factory. At these theatres the workers produce their own plays as amateur efforts, and listen to music, ballet, and drama presented by first class professional performers. As a result, every worker has the opportunity of developing his aesthetic sense to the full, a privilege which is usually only available to the few.

To illustrate how the Soviet wage system works, Mr. Watson told us of a visit he had made to a Russian bread factory. There he saw a woman, the most skilled labourer in the factory, seizing the dough and shaping it into loaves as it came out of a funnel-mouth. He was told by the manager how much the woman was paid, and, on enquiring how much the manager himself earned, was amazed to learn that he received only about half as much as the worker he was in charge of! On expressing his astonishment at this apparent inequality, Mr. Watson was told that the woman was paid a high wage because of the monotonous though highly skilled nature of her work, while he, the manager naively added, had the pleasure of having the responsibility of directing and managing the factory, and so he did not need a high wage as compensation for anything.

Finally, Mr. Watson spoke of the unity of spirit and interests of the Soviet peoples. He had seen people dancing on the beach after a heavy downpour of rain at a holiday resort: they were dancing for joy because they knew that rain was badly needed by the farmers, and that the downpour which had interfered with their holiday pleasures would mean that the crops were saved. He spoke of the Dnieperstroy Dam, now destroyed, which the Russians had painstakingly but successfully built for themselves, and ended the lecture on a hopeful note by saying that after the war the Russian people would rebuild not only the Dam, the symbol of their progress, but a new and greater Russia.

The lecture ended, questions were fired at the speaker, ranging from inquiries about details such as the organisation of the Stakhanovite movement to broader questions such as the post-war relations of Great Britain and the U.S.S.R. Mr. Watson answered as clearly and fully as time permitted, and after a hearty vote of thanks the audience dispersed with many new ideas to think about.

E. P.



THE RUTHERSTON LOAN COLLECTION.

The late arrival of the Rutherford Loan Collection has allowed only a short period to study and enjoy them, but some mention of the more outstanding works may be of value.

This collection consists for the most part of "modern works," the adjective unfortunately implying to most of us chaos, distortion, and a blatant disregard for literal truth, and the sum of all three to be the final expression of ugliness.

Perfectly natural forms, however, are not invariably beautiful; literal truth is frequently sinister, and if by modifying either or both of these elements and organising them into a harmonious whole it is possible to express some fundamental character or latent beauty whose potential is there, the artist is perfectly justified in making the necessary adjustments.

Realism is, after all, the full scale from which we choose our notes, and few of us would agree that repeated-striking of the whole octave produced music. So it is with the painter. Some aspect of visual truth contains the nucleus of his design, or he may even feel competent to improve on nature, as the Greeks did in their idealisation of the human figure, but emphasis can never be placed on one phase without corresponding sacrifices being exacted from others. It is generally expected of an artist that he be creative, yet his work is frequently condemned should it digress at all from actual visual representation, and this should be appreciated before any attempt can be made to understand either modern art or any other art; the moderns are no more given to distortion than any of the ancients. They may use new forms but indulge in no greater excesses.

Reality can on occasion be beautiful in itself, and on those occasions the painter is justified in portraying it, a good example of this type of picture being the view of "Mount Athos" by Muirhead Bone; but do not assume that the artist here has taken no liberties with nature, the position and direction of the clouds being very thoroughly thought out as an integral feature of the composition. The same applies to the dark mass of wave in the lower foreground.

Another more or less naturalistic painting is Theophile Gardini's "Spring at Nayland, Sussex," the rapid and somewhat flimsy technique being a necessary condition to the painting of fleeting and transient aspects of nature. Here particular emphasis is placed on the brilliance and richness of colour under certain conditions of light pervading the scene at the moment. Five minutes later, under a cloud shadow or atmospheric change, this whole scene may have been transformed. It is obvious that an objective painter could not, therefore, spend weeks in painting it, or making accurate topographical drawings.

A delightful, and I may add, my favourite drawing of the whole collection, is "The Mower" by Harry Becker. Here much that I have said of the previous picture can be applied, the farmer moving about in the shimmering sunlight, the hay wispy and rustling, disturbed by the faintest breeze, everything in the picture trembling,

shimmering and moving. How could this quality be expressed in hard metallic contours, or forced and exaggerated detail? I like this drawing, in which one almost smells the hay, and hears the midges ringing on the steel scythe blade.

Another drawing very strongly presenting character, this time rather depressing, is L. S. Lowey's "Junction Street, Stoney Brow." This drawing does not help us to like the grim industrial town, its great sordid expanse epitomised in a few yards of deserted street. A member of the staff who suggested that a person lying in the gutter would complete the picture has unconsciously proclaimed the excellence of this drawing. It is not a clever drawing but it is profound.

A "Barotse Woman," by Neville Lewis, is a fine, vigorously drawn portrait of a negress, and shows the type to have a classical beauty of its own; fine chiselled mouth, well-modelled eyes, firm neck and shoulders, each feature superb in itself. The burning sunlight thrown back by the polished ebony skin gives a fine sense of relief and solidity to the whole. It is interesting to note, for those who can appreciate only local colour, how the skin changes colour on the different planes thrown into relief. Colour is entirely dependent on light and conditions of light. There is no such thing as a brown object, a blue object, and so on, even if it be painted that colour.

Gauguin needs much more explanation than I could give here. "Riders on the Shore" is not one of his major works, and belongs to the period of his sojourn in Tahiti. He himself was half French, half Tahitian, and the latter fact, together with the strong sunlight of the southern hemisphere, is responsible for his brilliant, almost barbaric colour. Although this is not a very suitable example to demonstrate the fact, he is strongly classical; there is evidence of it in the two horses and riders on the left of the picture. These might almost have been lifted from the Parthenon frieze. Criticism has been levelled at the red sand in the foreground. I cannot answer for this—I have not been to Tahiti—but I do know that blue hills are common even though covered with green grass. Pink and violet snow I have seen myself and so have you. One condition, I repeat, governs colour, and that is light. One

has to abandon a lot of preconceived ideas in order to appreciate this, but it is worth the study.

Examine the pictures with an open mind, forget all others you have seen—the last one was one man's interpretation, the next one another's, and all are individual and personal. If they are not, then they are not worth looking at.

J. B. J.

A GLIMPSE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

At the beginning of March a number of senior boys were invited by the Mayor to visit the Town Hall and attend a meeting of the Town Council. The opportunity of studying local government was greatly welcomed by the chosen students.

We took our places in the public gallery a few minutes before the proceedings were due to begin. Below us, at the far end of the chamber, was the Mayor's chair, with seats near at hand for the Town Clerk, the Mayor's chaplain and the aldermen. In the well of the room, on either side, sat the councillors.

The members of the Town Council also serve on a number of sub-committees, each of which deals with its own particular branch of local government, for example, Education, Civil Defence, Parks and Gardens, and Transport. These committees meet at different times, and after discussion present the resolutions embodied in their minutes for the consideration of the Council as a whole. The main business of these monthly meetings is, therefore, to accept, reject or amend the minutes of the sub-committees of the Council.

When the councillors had taken their places, the Mayor, preceded by his mace-bearer, entered, and, after a prayer asking for guidance in the affairs of the afternoon and a short speech of welcome from the Mayor to ourselves, the business was begun.

As an example of the system employed, we can recall the business of the Publicity and Attractions Committee. The chairman moved a proposal, seconded by another member, for the adoption of the Committee's minutes. It appeared that the majority of the Committee's members had agreed upon retaining the services of a dance band and

a light orchestra as attractions for the coming summer season. Another group believed that a larger orchestra playing symphonic music would be a still greater attraction, and, though defeated at the Committee meeting, decided to give the whole Council the opportunity to discuss the matter by proposing an amendment to the minutes. A debate ensued between the adherents of light popular music and the supporters of symphonic music. The Mayor then read out the amendment, and called for a show of hands; the amendment was carried.

We would like to express our thanks to the Mayor for inviting us to see the work of democratic legislation, and hope it will not be long before we repeat the visit.

J. L.



HERE COMES THE POSTMAN !

On a dark December morning a large number of boys from the school set off in the black-out for the General Post Office. When they reached their destination they lined up outside the entrance until, shortly after eight o'clock, the doors were opened and the eager youths poured in. Inside, although it was such an early hour, they found all the work was in full swing.

After preliminary instructions had been given and our time of arrival duly noted, we were issued with our uniform and equipment—a blue band inscribed "Post Office Postman" and an electric handlamp. We were then led across the room between rows of postmen and women, sitting facing rows of small cubicles into which they were placing letters from a pile they had in front of them. Each postman had two boys detailed to him. He finished sorting the letters and then tied them into bundles, finally placing these bundles of letters, along with small packets, into a large bag which he carried over his shoulder. All was now ready for our first round.

For the first day we were under instruction, that is, we accompanied the regular postman, who endeavoured to show us "the beat" we had to take on and put us wise to the various idiosyncracies of the streets and of the occupants of the houses.

On the second and subsequent days we went out on our own. How easy it seemed under expert instruction;

but how different when first on our own! On reporting for duty we were given a big bundle of letters arranged in order for distribution, a few registered letters, for which we had to obtain receipts, and a bag filled with postal packages. At first things were very difficult; it was dark and cold, and we were not used to holding a bundle of letters in one hand while forcing a stiff letter-box open and pushing letters through with the other. In the bag along with our letters were a number of packages of different sizes. These packages also, at first, caused us considerable trouble for, while the letters were arranged in order, these were simply piled into the bag. On several occasions after ringing the bell it was necessary to empty the bag of all packages in order to find the package for that house, while the maid or owner stood waiting, sometimes pressed into the service by holding the bundle of letters. Those elusive little packages! Many times, practically at the end of the journey, one turned up which necessitated our going back on our tracks.

As Christmas Day approached, each day our bundle of letters grew bigger and bigger and our bag of packages heavier and heavier.

An interesting peep into the other activities of the Post Office at that time was given to us when, to fill in certain short periods between deliveries, we were permitted to assist in the sorting of the out-going mail.

T. H.



THE ART SOCIETY EXHIBITION.

The Art Society Exhibition, postponed from the summer term, was opened on Wednesday, December 10th, and remained open until Saturday, December 13th. Mr. Percy Lancaster kindly consented to judge the exhibits, and prizes were awarded following his recommendations. The work of the selection committee can be compared with that of the archæologist, excavating away the mountains of volcanic dust to reveal the small but infinitely precious mosaic beneath. Hundreds and hundreds of aerial battles of greater or lesser intensity and violence obscured the more serious but less ostentatious work, and the consequent but necessary ruthlessness undoubtedly caused many disappointments.

A high proportion of oil paintings contributed

to make the exhibition both colourful and spectacular, a high standard of achievement being attained in this medium by A. R. Payne and B. Kay, both of whom secured prizes, Payne for a very mature and well-drawn portrait, and Kay for a well-designed and forcefully painted "still life." A painting of a garden, humbly and faithfully rendered by the latter, received much attention. The same versatile pair secured the honours also in the water-colour section, Payne receiving first prize for his picture of the balloon vendor in the dust-laden sunlight, a picture very reminiscent of the pre-war depression; Kay with his flat Lancashire landscape with an allotment shed and wide expanse of sky, rebuked those of us who justify our laziness by complaining of the uninspiring nature of Southport's environs, and was highly commended for his pains, or ours.

K. Marriott secured, with an excellent drawing of a geranium, first prize in the plant form section and also first prize for members up to the 4th form. It is a pity this section was not better supported.

B. R. Newton gained first prize for object drawing with a fine and competent study of a vacuum cleaner, another rebuke to the more pretentious of us. Among other commendations were A. R. Payne, life or figure drawing, and also the same artist's illustration to "The Mayor of Casterbridge," pen and ink.

The partly finished cartoon for the mural decoration attracted much attention and enquiry. We note in passing that owing to an unfortunate predisposition of artists to lectures, laziness and chicken-pox, this project has made little progress this term, except for furtive additions of frogs, daisies, and other "fauna and flora" not included in the original design. The last piece of grim realism added to the scheme was a noose of window cord attached by a drawing pin to one of our silver birch trees. If this patrol activity continues a determined counter-offensive will have to be planned, and exemplary action taken.

The exhibition, to return, was undoubtedly very successful, and well patronised, and reflects great credit on contributors and committee, who worked really hard in order to make it so. We would also like to express our gratitude to Mr. Percy Lancaster for his interest and help, and hope to maintain our connection with him.

J. B. J.

RUGBY

The abnormal weather conditions have resulted in the abandonment of all but one of the school fixtures this term. This game resulted in a victory over Manchester Grammar School, at home, by 23 points to 6, thus avenging the defeat of last year.

1st XV CRITICISMS 1941-42.

HEPBURN K. (captain), 1st XV Colours 1940-41-42. Centre Threequarter.

LOMAS H. (vice-captain), 1st XV Colours 1940-41-42. Front Row Forward.

ABRAM R., 1st XV Colours 1939-40-41-42. Loose Forward.

His value to this year's school team cannot be over-estimated. His physique has been very valuable in close work on defence, but in attack his effectiveness is mainly due to the skilful use of his natural ability for the game. Few players realise so early as he has done the number of opponents that can be beaten by a quick accurate pass, and much of our entertaining threequarter play has been due to this idea being put into practice from loose play. The length and accuracy of his place-kicking has never been equalled on the school field.

SMETHURST K., 1st XV Colours 1940-41-42. Centre Threequarter.

The most improved player in the team. Has found little difficulty in penetrating the defence of most teams. Combines good running with excellent handling and makes good use of his wing. If his present standard of tackling is maintained his development in the game will be lacking only in experience.

WILKS P. F., 1st XV Colours 1941-42. Loose Forward.

One of the most improved players of the team. His handling in line-outs and loose scrums has been excellent, but he has a tendency to crowd out the backs when acting as scrum-half. Falls on the ball very well. Defence sound.

GOODE, A. P., 1st XV Colours 1941-42. Wing Three-quarter.

Has given some outstanding performances this season. Takes the ball well and makes good use of a strong hand-off and a good directional change from the wing to the centre of the field. Has also done outstanding work in defence where his strong tackling has been a great asset to the team.

McMILLAN C., 1st XV Colours 1941-42. Fly Half.

Has a tendency to run too far with the ball before feeding his centres and so throws away valuable opportunities. His cut through has been used to very good advantage on many occasions. In defence he has used his strong tackle to great advantage.

WILLIAMSON J. A., 1st XV Colours 1941-42. Full Back.

He runs well and will open up from any part of the field, but he tries to beat too many opponents before passing the ball out to his backs. In defence he has played very soundly though lacking in height.

RIMMER G., 1st XV colours 1941-42. Scrum Half.

Is endowed with all the talents of a natural footballer except a good physique. Has the necessary cunning, however, to compensate partly for this disadvantage, and his quick working of the ball saves him much heavy work. Has been guilty occasionally of withholding the ball from a well-placed threequarter line after throwing the defence out of position.

SUTTON D. F., 1st XV Colours 1941-42. Back Row Forward.

His play in line-outs and loose scrums, despite his lack of height, is very good, but in dribbling the ball he is apt to kick it too far ahead. Tackling weak.

IRVING N. G., 2nd XV Colours 1941-42. Wing Three-quarter.

Has used his speed to good advantage but must realise that he must go for the corner first. In defence he has a tendency to tackle high instead of low. Very quick off the mark.

Moss C., 2nd XV Colours 1941-42. Second Row Forward.

His work in the scrums and line-outs has been very good but in the loose has a tendency to forget that there are other players beside himself. Fairly good in defence.

HOLMES R. E., 2nd XV Colours 1941-42. Front Row Forward.

His work in the loose-scrums has been outstanding, especially in dribbling the ball, but he is at a loss when in possession of the ball. A strong tackler.

Walker A. H., Parkinson K., Whelan G., Lucas A., Horton F. and Lancashire J. have also played.

K. H.



SCOUTS.

OFFICERS OF THE TROOP.—Scoutmaster, Mr. W. L. Mayne; Assistants: All are serving in the Forces; Patrol-Leaders: Beaver, J. H. Halsall; Eagle, M. F. Drury (Acting); Lion, N. G. Francis (Acting); Otter, Vacant.

Since the last notes were written there have been the usual changes in the personnel, partly due to changing loyalties and partly due to scouts leaving school. R. G. T. Munday, F. Jennings, J. Wilkinson, A. E. McCabe have left school; N. G. Irving and A. Tookey have transferred to the A.T.C.; K. R. Blundell, T. Cardwell and N. D. Blore have been permitted to join other troops, while J. B. Perry and C. H. Leigh have left for other reasons. Eighteen new members have been admitted in the corresponding period, so that the troop shows a slight "profit."

The troop leader in place of King's Scout R. G. T. Munday is King's Scout W. Thompson. One other has reached King's Scout rank, J. H. Halsall, who in addition to this rare distinction has obtained the extra proficiency mark of Class 1—All Round Cords. Several other Scouts have nearly reached First Class rank, but up to the time of writing these notes final success has eluded them.

From time to time visits have been received from two of our assistant Scoutmasters, G. Worsley and N. Mellor,

and recently N. Kirkman, the first patrol leader of the Otters (in 1923), was at School, although his visit did not coincide with a troop meeting.

Good scouting progress has been made during the last twelve months, although not quite so many badges have been won as is usual. This is largely owing to the influx of new scouts, as a consequence of which the older scouts have been too busy teaching to have the necessary time to attend to their own interests. Two of the local competitions were won, and this result also is below the average. Although meetings have been again restricted by "black-out" conditions there has been no cessation of activities this winter as there was last year, and there has been a slight increase in the amount of time spent out of doors. It has been found difficult to keep up an intensive drive for "salvage," but some seven or eight pounds have been made available for charities.

The Committee of senior scouts which was appointed to assist the Scoutmaster in running the troop during the absence of the four assistant Scoutmasters on active service has on the whole functioned very well. There is still, however, far too prevalent a belief in the troop that the Scout Laws are meant for guidance only during scout meetings and have nothing to do with a boy's life outside his troop hours. The Committee has a splendid opportunity here to make the Scout Promise a real force in the scout's life.

The Jefferis Trophy was withheld last July, as no patrol was considered to be of sufficient merit to receive the award.

W. T.

ART SOCIETY.

The most important feature of the Society's activities last term was The Art Exhibition, a report of which appears elsewhere in this issue. The meetings were therefore devoted to work for the Exhibition, so that the normal activities of the Society were suspended.

This term a number of new items have appeared on the weekly programme. Interesting and instructive lectures have been given. One by Mr. Jenkinson on Medieval Oil Painting was illustrated by the epidiascope. Others included one by G. J. White on "Colour for the Artist," giving the theory of colour from the scientific point of view, and a talk by A. R. Payne on "Shading," which was followed by some practical advice given while the members were at work.

A mystery circle has been formed for the younger members, who volunteer without previous knowledge of what subject they will be told to illustrate.

Work in water colours and pastels is being encouraged while careful attention is being paid to object and plant drawing as the foundation of our work.

A section of the Society meets each week to discuss and prepare for week-end outings which will take place with the advent of better weather. Groups are to be formed to visit places of local interest and beauty in order to do some landscape sketching and painting, and we are pleased to see so many members whose interest has been stimulated in this branch of the Society.

A number of posters have been done by members, in connection with Warship Week and School activities, and some work for the Geography Room has also been done.

The mural decoration is progressing, if slowly, and Mr. Lancaster was particularly pleased with the project.

G. J. W.

MUSIC SOCIETY.

Throughout last term a faithful few gave their constant support to the Society, but the beginning of this term brought a great influx of new supporters from all parts of the School. We hope that next term will see this nucleus growing into a large body.

We promise that any new members wishing to learn something about good music will not have a dull moment at the Society meetings.

Each week we have listened to records of good music well played, sometimes from the School collection, and sometimes lent by boys, whom we take this opportunity of thanking. The playing of the records has often been followed by lively discussions, which have proved most instructive.

During the term occasional visits have been paid by some members to the concerts at the Garrick Theatre. Hearing the pieces beforehand at School enabled them to enjoy them to the full when the Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra performed them before their eyes. These visits, also, have provided much food for thought and discussion.

L. S.

THE VIOLIN CLASS.

To judge from the way in which members suddenly leave when they have been in the class only two or three weeks, it would seem that many people are under the impression that the violin can be learnt in five or six minutes. It is most disappointing to see members leave when they have just got over the hardest stage and when they have taken up so much of the class's time.

If we look at the other side of the picture, however, we see a much brighter view. Those who have really put their backs into their practice are beginning to discover the possibilities of the violin.

The violin class is always pleased to welcome any new members.

A. R. P.

CHESS CLUB:

The increased attendance at Club Meetings has made possible a reversion to the special Junior Meeting on Monday evenings, in addition to the Seniors' Session every Tuesday.

Tournaments are in progress on both evenings, and it is expected that the final matches will be played shortly.

Towards the end of last term a team played and defeated the Southport College Chess Club at Southport College.

G. J. W.

652 KING GEORGE V. SCHOOL FLIGHT. AIR TRAINING CORPS.

The work of the Flight continues to give satisfaction. Owing to the weather, out-door parades have had to be curtailed, and more drill will have to be done during the spring and summer months. Good progress has, however, been made in other subjects, and we hope to enter another group of cadets for the Proficiency Examination in the near future. Two of our cadets, Sergt. Enright and Corpl. Dickinson have been accepted by the R.A.F. for University courses, with the ultimate object of becoming Pilot Officers in the Royal Air Force.

This term a model aircraft and wireless class has been formed, and it is hoped that many cadets will take advantage of it. Cadet Goldberg has completed an oscillating set, and this, with a loud speaker furnished by Cadet Bridge, has proved very useful. Cadet Smith has made a simple signalling lamp, and Cadet Prichard, now at the University, has made a model aircraft with movable controls. Cadets Stewart and Gorst have also completed model aircraft.

The outstanding events of the term have been the inspection by Admiral Sir Percy Noble, the visit to Woodvale Aerodrome, and the lectures given by Sergt. Wildin, D.F.C., and Leading Aircraftsman Hancock.

Ten recruits have joined the Flight since January, and, pleasing as this is, we feel that in a school of six hundred boys, many more recruits should be forthcoming. Now, with the growing co-operation between the R.A.F. and the A.T.C., the more frequent visits to aerodromes and the probability of actual flying and gliding, the work of the Air Training Corps will become increasingly fascinating and instructive.

LIBRARY AND READING ROOM.

SENIOR LIBRARIANS.—A. R. Payne, L. Shilling.

JUNIOR LIBRARIANS.—P. N. Bonney, C. A. Churm, H. Dowland, D. Hartley, T. Henry, E. Pendlebury, J. B. Perry, E. E. Sainsbury, F. W. Shepherd, D. F. Sutton, A. B. Tookey, H. Townsend.

This term the library has regained its customary quiet and conduct in general has been better. There are, however, still a few misguided individuals at large who do not realise that the library is a place for quiet study and reading, and three of these had to be suspended early in the term.

The treatment of magazines is not yet entirely satisfactory, and in some instances the covers provided have been deliberately defaced. To ill-treat public property is a serious offence, the gravity of which is increased in these times of short supplies. We remind boys of the proverb, "It's a dirty bird that fouls its own nest."

We take this opportunity of stressing the appeal recently made, particularly to the Sixth Forms, to abide strictly by the rules which have been made for the common good. The Library offers great freedom and ease of access, and it should be a point of honour with every boy not to abuse these privileges for his own selfish ends.

We still live in hope that some of the long-lost books may return. Will all who read this note make sure that they have not inadvertently added some of the Library volumes to their own shelves?

Our warmest thanks for gifts of books are due to R. Duckworth, A. K. Harris, L. T. Leonard, J. B. Perry and D. M. Walbank.

THE LIBRARY COMMITTEE.



IMPORTANT DATES

Summer Term begins	...	April 29th
Sports Day	...	May 12th
Half Term	...	May 25th and 26th
H.S.C. Examination begins	...	June 24th
S.C. Examination begins	...	July 3rd
Term ends	...	July 21st

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