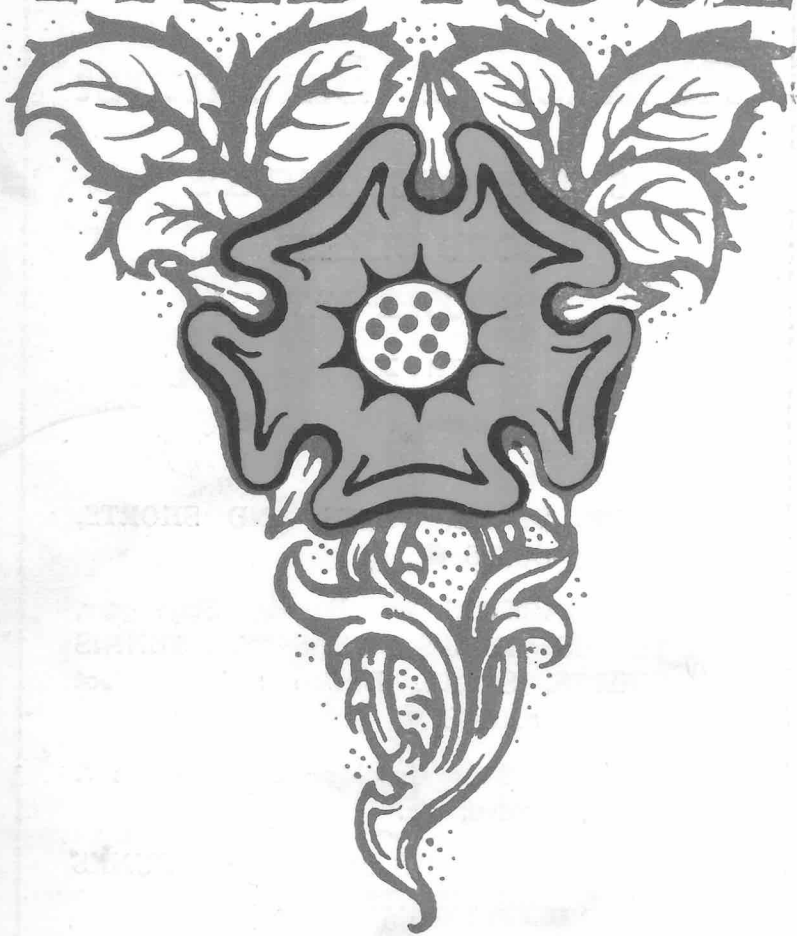


THE RED ROSE.



The Magazine of King George V. School, Southport

Vol. XXXII, No. 2.

March, 1953.



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SCHOOL NOTES

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School Notes

The sudden death of Mr. J. Charnley on 15th January came as a great shock to members of the school. Mr. Charnley retired in July 1950 but had been taking Mr. Pye's place in a temporary capacity until the end of last term. The Headmaster, past and present members of the staff and old boys were present at the funeral service.

* * *

An appreciation of the Debating Society's performance of "Hamlet" on the 11th, 12th and 13th December appears in this issue. This production was an outstanding event and was greatly enjoyed by everyone. Some photographs of the production will be found on another page.

The annual Old Boys' Dance was held in the School Hall on 20th December. There was a record attendance.

On the evening of Friday, 9th January, a ceremony took place in the School Library in which the Old Boys of Gear's House presented a bookcase to Mr. Mayne. The presentation was made by S. K. Runcorn. The occasion was a pleasant reunion of old members of Gear's House of all ages.

An interesting event occurred on Saturday morning, 7th February, when Dr. Ludwig Koch gave a lecture on birds and played a number of his recordings of bird song. This lecture was attended by representatives of all the schools in the Borough.

On 10th February we had a visit from Herr August Ortmann, Chairman of the Youth Association in Aachen. He gave a talk to the boys taking German and had an opportunity of seeing the work of the school.

There was a showing of educational films on 19th February, before the half-term holiday.

This term's collection was taken for the East Coast Relief Fund and realised the record amount of £34 3s. 5d.

The Christian Union Society is sponsoring a series of four Fact and Faith Films to be shown during Wednesday afternoons during March. We are most grateful to the Rev. F. H. S. Davies who has made all the arrangements for us to see these films.

In December R. M. Burstall was awarded a Major Foundation Scholarship in Natural Science to King's College, Cambridge.

T. Sagers has been selected to play in the National Youth Orchestra as a timpanist. He will be visiting Brussels and Amsterdam in April and the Edinburgh Festival in August.

VALETE

Cohen, M. S., 1947-52.—Evans', Lower VI Special, R.L.S.S. Award of Merit.
Pearce, P. W., 1947-52.—Edwards', Lower VI Modern, G.C.E. (05) 1952.
Sharratt, G. J., 1947-52.—Spencer's, Lower VI Modern, G.C.E. (01) 1952.
Wignall, K., 1948-53.—Edwards', Upper Vb.
Cain, G., 1950-52.—Woodham's, 1Va.
Doveaston, P.A.S., 1950-53.—Rogers' 1Vb.
Fiddler, F., 1950-52.—Gear's, Lower VY, Bantam XV Colours 1951-52.
Denning, M., 1951-52.—Spencer's, 111b.
Eccleston, N. D., 1952.—Woodham's, 11a.

SALVETE

R. L. Bowen, R. S. Holt, S. B. Kersh, D. N. Passant.

House Notes

EDWARDS'

The House finished well up in the Honours List at the end of last term. We should like to see this good work continue and, with an extra effort on the part of one or two members, we should rise even higher in this important competition.

The Senior Rugby team was defeated by a stronger side in the third match after winning the first two games, and so vanished our hopes of repeating last year's achievement in reaching the final. In spite of the promise shown in practices, the Junior team, captained by Charter, lost its first game by a narrow margin.

The House is well represented in the Boxing Championships this term, and we wish all our competitors every success.

We have, however, lost the Badminton cup, but we hope that it will not be long before it is once again reposing on the House-room cupboard.

Our performance in the Gymnastic competition has been disappointing recently, and we hope that both seniors and juniors will show more keenness, and help us to rise from our lowly position in the tables.

There has been a very generous response to the House Charity Collection this term, and we should like to thank all those who contributed to this very worthy fund.

Looking ahead to next term, we should like to encourage non-swimmers to learn to swim in view of the qualifications, and also

to remind our athletic members of the need for training during the Easter holidays for the Annual Sports.

Finally, we wish all members taking the General Certificate of Education this year every success in the forthcoming examinations.
J.E.B.

EVANS'

After the postponement of two of last term's Senior Rugby matches to this term, the House team obtained a well deserved victory by defeating Woodham's in the third match of the competition. It had previously provided Masons' and Edwards' with resolute opposition.

The House was well represented in the School Play last term by D. H. Hamilton, D. R. Isenberg, M. H. Irving, D. E. Sutton, P. W. Brunt, A. T. Williams and J. A. Hoyle. Haigh also helped with the production.

Unfortunately no results of the Junior Rugby competition can be recorded yet but many practices have been arranged under the guidance of Baker and Dandy and the team's prospects under the captaincy of Wright, C. R., appear to be quite favourable. We wish the team every success in the forthcoming matches.

A most disconcerting feature of last term was the considerable drop in our position in the Honours List. It must be impressed on all boys who are eligible to represent the House in this field that they should try to place the House in a leading position. This has been done before and can be done again. Wilson, Sutton, R. A., and Heyes are to be congratulated on the high standard of their work.

At the time of writing Rimmer, B., Rimmer, W. T., Wilson, Perry and Green, are progressing well in the Boxing Competition, whilst Kay and Dandy have been selected to play for the School Chess team.

As the cricket matches, Athletics and Swimming Sports are the main activities of next term we hope that the same spirit and enthusiasm as was shown in Rugby will also apply to these features. We must remember that practice is essential for success.

Finally all boys are urged to qualify in Swimming as early as possible next term and also to take full advantage of the tuition offered by Kay and Livesley in the Life-saving classes. At the end of last term, Haigh, Rimmer B., Tilsley, Livesley, G., Rimmer W. T., and Green were all successful in the Life-saving Examinations.

D.E.S.

GREAR'S

At Christmas we lost the services of Fiddler, who is taking up farming. We wish him every success in his career.

Our Senior Rugby team won only one match in last term's competition, and were beaten by two heavier sides, namely Spencer's and Rogers. Nevertheless experience gained this year will be particularly valuable to the younger members of the team. The Juniors have played successful practice matches against other houses, and we hope to complete a strong team, which will be captained by A. Wright.

We were sorry to hear about Steele's unfortunate accident which he sustained while playing for the 1st XV on February 14th. He has contributed a major part towards the success of the XV this season. We sincerely hope he will recover in time for the Cricket and Athletics next term!

Boys are reminded that the Athletic Sports take place in the early part of next term and those intending to take part should get down to serious training as quickly as possible. Durham and Brown, who are handling House Athletics this year, hope to find some talent among the new boys, in addition to that which we already have.

The Life-saving captain, Elliott, would like to congratulate all boys who gained awards last term. Thanks to their efforts we hold a strong position at the head of the competition, which we hope to maintain in the forthcoming examinations.

Swimming classes have not been strongly supported of late owing to the bad weather, but the Qualifying Competition starts at the beginning of next term, and so anyone who is not sure of getting full points should start making an effort. Pearce wants boys taking G.C.E. Examinations especially to qualify early.

Mansell, the Chess captain, hopes to hold a tournament next term in order to find fresh talent for next year.

Finally we wish all boys who are taking G.C.E. Examinations in June the very best luck in their papers and fortune in their results.
B.G.M.

LEECH'S

The Senior Rugby XV finished the season with a win over Spencer's, a very good team spirit being shown. Our sympathies go to T. B. Procter who broke a leg during the match. We wish him a speedy recovery.

The Junior team, Captain P. D. Forshaw, Vice-captain R. Twist, had some excellent practices but could only draw with Grear's in its first match. There are some very good first-year boys who should do well with more experience.

The following boys have played for School Rugby XV's: C. E. Bracken and G. Topping (1st), M. J. Abberley, B. Ramm, B. A. Davies, D. E. Rimmer (2nd), G. M. Halley, B. E. Key, K. E. Mayson, F. B. Morris, T. B. Procter, J. L. Stelfox (Colts'), Forshaw, R. Gautrey, R. Twist, R. Whitehead, D. Whittaker (Bantams'), J. Ashcroft, E. Whitehead, P. Woodhall (Chicks'). This is more than a quarter of the House and surely a record to be proud of.

The response to the Charity Appeal this term was excellent and the Almoner again wishes to thank all boys in providing what is probably the largest amount ever for this House.

The House-room has been well used recently. The innovation of Chess practices was so successful that they are now held every day. K. F. Edwardson, assisted by B. A. Davies, has spent much time with Life-saving classes, following the good results obtained last term.

The manly sport of Boxing does not attract many of our number, but we feel that entries for this competition should be entirely voluntary, and we are confident that Abberley and his followers will acquit themselves well.

Finally, boys are reminded that two important events next term will be the Athletic Sports and the General Certificate Examinations. If success is to be obtained then careful preparation must be undertaken, starting if possible during the Easter Holidays.

D.E.R.

MASON'S

Our congratulations are due to the House XV for reaching the final of the Senior Competition. Hopes run high that, by the time this is read, they will have carried their success with them on to the field, and another trophy back to the House room. Their example should inspire the juniors to emulate them.

Enthusiasm for Chess led to our team's nearly winning the Cup last term, and this promises well for the future. House activities have been progressing quietly and steadily behind the excitement of Trial Examinations and other School interests. The Swimming instructors continue to report gradual success. Once again, all boys are urged to do their utmost to qualify next term. The Boxing Competition, too, is in full swing, and whatever the outcome, we have at least been fairly heftily represented.

This term's Charity Collection, in aid of the Flood Relief Fund, brought a heartening response; our own contribution amounted to £3 6s. 2d. Thanks are due to all who helped this worthy effort.

By the time this appears in print, all encouragement for this term's activities will unfortunately be in retrospect. We can, however, look forward to next term; and the time to start training or practising is now. So much useful work can be done in advance, especially in Athletics. It is both unnecessary and unpractical to begin a frantic training course shortly before the event itself is due. Now is the time!

Finally, we encourage all boys to keep trying hard at whatever branch of School and House activities they have taken up. In particular, we wish the best of luck to all who are sitting for public examinations this summer.

B.S.

ROGERS'

Towards the end of last term, the House added to its trophies by obtaining the Badminton Cup, and, as a result of two convincing wins, we were still interested in the Senior Rugby Competition. Surprisingly enough, the seniors had fallen from grace in the sphere of Gymnastics into the sixth place, whereas the juniors were occupying the promising position of third.

It is not, however, nearly as pleasing to recollect our academic achievements, although consolation may be derived from the fact that the majority of our few points were gained by new boys, all of whom secured satisfactory places.

Owing to inclement weather, the result of the Senior Rugby Final has not yet been decided, but we wish Marsh and his team success in their gallant endeavour to retain the Shield for the third year in succession. This year's Junior Rugby captain is Probyn, and already several practices have been organised. We hope that the team under his guidance will emulate the achievements of the seniors.

Since only six of our number were prepared to brave the hazards of the Boxing Competition, we hardly expect the House to do itself full justice. Nevertheless, we extend to those still involved our good wishes for success in the ring.

A most disturbing feature this term is the fact that no Swimming classes have been held. If we are to retain the Ross and Bradburne Cups, much more serious efforts will have to be made in the weeks to come.

Finally, we would remind all members that the Athletics competition will soon be upon us. Now is the time when training should commence.

S.H.

SPENCER'S

It is hoped that all the new boys in the House have settled down in their novel surroundings.

This term we are extremely well represented in the School Rugby teams. In the Chicks we have Bibby, Goddard, Halsall and Perkins. Burdell is the captain of the Bantams and Hill, I., is the captain of the Colts. Burstall, T., has played for both the Colts and Under 15's XV. In the Senior teams we have Burstall, R., and Pactor, who have played for the 2nd XV and Wareing, Smith and Harris who play for the 1st XV.

Unfortunately the House Rugby has not lived up to expectations this term. The Senior team have lost two games out of the three played and the Junior team have lost both matches so far played.

In the school Chess team we have Hughes and James, Farington being first reserve.

The Life-saving classes are being carried on in the House with unabated energy. Boys are reminded that the qualifications for swimming take place next term and that they should practise their swimming during the holidays.
J.C.C.M.

WOODHAM'S

The Badminton Final was played at the end of last term and the team, consisting of M. S. Davidson and B. Shaw, was unfortunately beaten by Rogers'.

The House was fairly well represented in the Boxing Competition, and although G. Hodge, B. Shaw, D. Carver and E. Sinnott were beaten in the preliminary rounds we have three boys in the Finals, Gatiss, I., Gatiss, J. W., and Andrews, C. E.

The Junior House Rugby Competition started this term and two matches have been played in which the team, under the captaincy of E. M. Bennett, have done very well and won. The House already has the Junior Shield and it is hoped that by next issue of the magazine we can say that it is still in our possession for another year.

The School Sports take place very soon after the beginning of next term and Athletics practices, some of which will be held during the holidays, are at present being arranged. G.J.H.H.

Old Boys' Section

NEWS FROM OLD GEORGIANS

P. L. T. Owen (M) (1944-52) who won an R.A.F. Cadetship, writes that he will certainly be going to Cambridge next year to Trinity Hall to read Engineering. He has won a prize for academic work which consists of a flying trip to Tripoli and back lasting five days.

APPOINTMENTS

- C. Marshall (Ev) (1927-33) has been appointed Assistant Labour Attaché at the British Embassy in Cairo.
T. W. Park (M) (1926-32) has been taken into partnership by Messrs. L. Taylor and Sons, Chartered Auctioneers and Estate Agents at Congleton.
R. I. Rimmer (M) (1941-48) Flight Radio Officer with Air Works Ltd., has taken up a post with the Company in the Lebanon and expects to be abroad about two years.
R. T. Wright (Ed) (1925-32) has been appointed Clerk to the newly formed Nairobi County Council. This is believed to be the first experiment in County Council Government in East Africa.

EXAMINATION SUCCESSES

- D. P. G. Ardern (R) (1942-47) and D. H. Hobbly (M) (1945-48) have passed the final examination of the Society of Incorporated Accountants and Auditors.
D. R. W. Haddock (L) 1937-44) degree of M.D.
C. V. Hines (S) 1942-49) passed with honours final examination in Laundry Technology and awarded the silver medal.
E. T. Newton (W) (1937-44) passed final examination of the Law Society in November.
P. S. Walsh (M) (1944-49) passed Section A Intermediate examination of the Chartered Institute of Secretaries.

AT LIVERPOOL

- A. C. Clark (G) (1937-43) Ph.D.
J. Hosker (R) (1923-29) M.B., Ch.B.
E. Radam (M) (1940-48) L.D.S. third examination Part 1.
J. K. Williams (W) (1942-49) L.D.S. third examination Part 1.
G. Bromilow (Ed) (1942-47) was chosen to play for the English Amateur Soccer XI.

Here is an extract from a letter to Mr. and Mrs. Edwards from Mr. P. Readhead (1928-31), Chief Officer of the S.S. "City of Coventry."

S.S. "City of Coventry,"
Baltimore.

4-2-53.

. . . . We spent part of Christmas Day in Aden. Arrived about daylight, fuelled and were on our way again by 4 p.m. No rest for the wicked. New Year's Day we spent in the Mediterranean about a day out from Port Said, on our way over to the Yankee coast.

Backed a loser this trip—we left home last May for the Persian Gulf—Muscat, Dubai, Unim Said, Bahrein, Danman, Koweit and Basrah. From the Gulf we went to Calcutta to load for the U.S.A., since when we have been running backwards and forwards between U.S.A. and India.

Met a very interesting chap on the Indian coast last time, a Swiss called Rhyner. His business is "bring 'em back alive." Rather unusual ideas in that he never carries any firearms, although he goes after any game he can sell. When we left Calcutta he was going up to Assam to try and capture two rhinoceroses, one for Sydney Zoo and one for Philadelphia Zoo. His method is to dig a pit on one of the rhinoceros "runways" and wait. When old man rhino falls down the hole he is examined to make sure he is the right age and sex, in good condition etc. Next job is to get him out of the pit. Trick apparently is to dig a ramp, slide the cage down and then break down the earth wall and in he goes. Takes about a whole day to get him into the cage. Sounds simple. Rhyner's wife, who goes with him on these trips tells me that after a few days a rhino will come over to be petted and scratched. We carried a tiger from Calcutta to Colombo Zoo for them. Was supposed to be quite tame. Caught him looking the other way and scratched his ear. Next time he was waiting. Maybe he was being playful, but he took a swipe with his paw, so I left it at that and took their word for his being tame. He is to be mated with a tigress already in Colombo Zoo.

Today we have just struck a hold-up. Big tug-strike in New York and Philadelphia which looks like spreading to the long-shoremen and tying up the ports completely. As we were due to leave here for Philly this morning we are now just hanging on waiting for further orders.

Had these McCarran Act boys on board—chaps from the immigration department. They tell me that quite a few people say outright that they are Communists. All they could get out of our native crew when they asked about their politics was that

they are Pakistanis. After a few arguments they gave up and wrote them down as non-Communists. We hear a lot about slick lawyers etc. but the ordinary uneducated native grinds these experts down to size without any trouble . . .

With a spot of luck I may be home about three months from now. No luck and it may be another nine months. Such is life"

MARRIAGES

- D. M. Hartley to Dilys Sutton at Ainsdale Methodist Church on 6th December.
- A. T. Smith to Hilda Pendleton at St. John's Church, Crossens, on 20th December.
- G. R. Hogg to Brenda Churchard at St. Andrew's Cathedral, Singapore, on 22nd December.
- A. Price to Dorothy Wilkin at St. Paul's Church on 1st January.
- L. J. Greenlees to Doreen Halsall at Lower Hutt, New Zealand in January.
- A. D. Greenhalgh to Louise Andrews at St. Philip's on 3rd January.
- C. Hines to Anne Edwards at St. John's Church, Birkdale, on 10th January.
- C. M. Graham to Joan Wilkinson at Leyland Road Methodist Church on 1st March.

OBITUARY

It is with deep regret that we record the deaths of the following:—

- On December 20th—R. W. Rogers (S) (1924-29) (son of former master).
- On January 10th—Mr. J. Charnley (former master).
- On February 2nd—Dr. A. S. Whitehead (Ev) (1926-34).

This appreciation of Dr. Whitehead came to us in a letter to the Headmaster from Dr. T. L. Schofield (1928-36) of Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota.

ALAN STUART WHITEHEAD, M.D., M.Rad., D.M.R.D.

His school contemporaries will perhaps best remember Stuart Whitehead as I recall him—an outstanding left-hand bat. He had a characteristic stance, fore-foot marking time as the bowler approached, bat swinging high above his shoulder in readiness for late-cut, drive or leg-glide, all of which he executed with confidence and graceful ease. It was on the cricket field that he excelled, being Captain of the First XI in 1934, and not until his graduation in medicine at the University of Liverpool did he crown

athletic with academic success, being awarded the much-coveted **Clinical Exhibition in Medicine.**

After qualifying M.B., Ch.B., in 1941, Whitehead spent a short time as house surgeon and house physician at the Emergency Hospital in Southport before entering the R.A.M.C. Owing to ill-health he had to relinquish his commission in 1944, and then followed a brief spell in general practice, after which he returned to the University to study radiology. Within a very short time he gained the degree of Master of Radiology as well as the diploma of D.M.R.D. He was one of the outstanding students of his year and his rapid promotion to consultant status was further evidence of his considerable ability in the field of his choice.

Pursuing an original line in obstetric radiology he proceeded to M.D. by thesis in June 1952. Through his skill and his publications he was acknowledged by his colleagues as an expert in his speciality. It is indeed tragic that such a promising career should be cut so short. He will be greatly missed by all his colleagues and friends and our sympathy goes out to his widow and two young children.

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITIES

Liverpool University

"Panto Week" is the highlight of the Lent term: and this year we had at our disposal the dramatic talent of G. Noar, who gave a masterly performance in the "rag" revue, "Stage by Stage." R. Meadows (in night-attire) and R. McIntyre (in non-descript garb) also took part in "Panto" festivities.

As for other activities, A. Leadbetter has played soccer for University teams, and is a member of the Air Squadron. We are glad to report that dishonourable discharge has not yet overtaken Eccles and Levin of the T.A.: and K. V. Bladon is cultivating a moustache in the Economics department.

In the academic sphere, D. McLeod, white-coated, and stethoscope in hand, paces hospital wards. This term, H. Gordon and B. F. Bracewell are studying for Second M.B.: and K. Matson, D. McAllister, E. Radam, D. Thompson and J. K. Williams are all taking Third L.D.S.

Manchester University

A Manchester University Old Georgian Society has been formed; its aims are as follows:

- (1) To maintain a link between the school and its former scholars who attend this University.

(2) To maintain a closer contact between O.G.'s at "Tech" and Owens.

(3) To welcome O.G. "Freshers" into the University.

(4) To send a contribution to the Red Rose every term.

In furtherance of these aims Tech and Owens have agreed to bury the hatchet (it was also passed that we bury Mr. Glautier's pipe along with it). The Officers are Mr. J. Wignall, Chairman; and Mr. H. Silverton, Secretary; two unofficial officers are Mr. Kennedy, Bearded Attaché; and Mr. Glautier, Beardless Moustaché.

In the academic sphere Mr. Lawson has been busily scanning the "Death" columns of the local papers for reports of his patients. Messrs. Wignall and Kennedy have both received the coveted honour of B.A. (Caf), for consuming the requisite number of cups of coffee. Mr. Lawrence has started a Jazz Club at Tech. with which to soothe savage breasts, while Mr. A. Jones, not to be outdone, has started a one-man band which includes a conductor. Messrs. Kennedy, Wignall and Langlois have received promotion in the U.T.C. for gallant work in the "Field."

Mr. Wignall and Mr. Cowen have resigned their cabinet posts as Minister of Food and Minister of Materials respectively, owing to the refusal of the Labour Party to reduce the sums to be spent on armaments.

On Rag Day the enthusiasm of Mr. W. Shorrocks and Mr. E. Cowen, who were seen still dressed in their pyjamas on the 7 a.m. train, was slightly damped by the weather. Mr. Silverton on the other hand, who came prepared for a blizzard, was seen frying his own pancakes in Piccadilly.

Mr. B. Shorrocks played rugby for the Tech 1st XV against Liverpool, we wish him a speedy recovery. Messrs Rimmer and Norris have played badminton for the University 2nd team as Shuttle and Cock.

It has since come to our notice that Mr. E. Cowen obtained membership of the society under false pretences. He has confessed that his Old Georgianship originates in Chipping Sodbury. It was decided by the defence committee that he should remain in the society, despite his disability, on condition that he brings some fried fish as well from his constituency of North Meols to the next meeting of the society, to be held at Uncle Mac's on March 31st, 1953 at 11 a.m.

Leeds University

We are afraid that our activities have not been remarkable this term, which has been a quiet one for the University as a

whole. Contrary to the practice at most universities (and more logically, it seems to us) our Rag week takes place after the exams next term. No doubt you will hear more of us then.

The highlight of the term has been the election of the Union Officials for next session. We didn't quite manage to persuade S. P. Wilford to stand for President of the Union, but we shall try again next year.

R. Smith reverts to nature (in his geological capacity, he hastens to explain). Every other week-end he may be seen on draughty places like Ilkley Moor, clad in shorts, and armed with a pick-axe. He does not wear a hat either. G. A. Burras has also developed a keen interest in Ilkley and the Moor of late. We feel that his interests are not strictly geological.

R. Smith gaily capers about in traditional dress to the skirl of the pipes of the Scottish country dances, whilst S. P. Wilford and G. A. Burras prefer the slightly more formal atmosphere of the Union Balls.

On the sports field, S. P. Wilford tells us that he almost played for the University 5th team at Hockey, but not quite: the match was cancelled. To relieve his frustration, he turned to refereeing a hockey match, but made a complete hash of it. We've persuaded him that noughts and crosses is a far better game. G. A. Burras played Rugger for his Hall a few weeks ago, and hasn't fully recovered yet.

In conclusion, we should like to wish the School every success in the G.C.E. exams and will finish with a word to all would-be University students. Give Leeds a thought when you are sending in those application forms. We should like to see a few more of us here next session.

Sheffield University

The signs of Spring are so evident amongst our members that the threat of exams seems very remote. This, however, is not the case and J. A. Cheetham and W. Marsden, who are due to take finals this year, have gone into hibernation, W. M. to Cornwall and J. A. C. to a destination unknown.

D. J. Williams, who met with an honourable defeat at the hands (or fists) of the present welterweight champion in the U.A.U. boxing championships, is exercising his muscles in the back row of the chorus in the Union's production of Gilbert and Sullivan's "Patience."

P. Lapes, now editor of the Engineering Magazine, has been

chosen to represent the University in an inter-varsity cycling competition to be held at Cambridge during the vacation, whilst D. S. Howard is frequently seen, contorting his lanky frame on his bicycle, babbling incoherently all the while about the beauties (animate or inanimate we know not which) of Derbyshire.

Despite D. S. Preston's low alcoholic consumption he has been honoured by being elected as next year's University Rugger Captain. We wonder if his selection has anything to do with the obvious relish with which he has been tackling certain County players this season.

Finally, we trust that the O.G.'s can distinguish themselves in the coming examinations as well as they have done in other fields during the past term.

Oxford University

Although it is unusual in Hilary term to mention addition to the ranks of this Society, we feel that we must extend a belated welcome to D. L. Wigley, who was recognised, through the blood and mud, by L. Barton, during a rugby match between Christ Church and New College. Wigley is reading Chemistry at New College.

Torpids Week produced weather worthy of Summer Eights, so that the crowds of spectators were unusually large: perhaps last year's event on the tideway had something to do with it too. The Hertford boat, carrying J. D. Bonney near the pointed end, was fortunate enough to make five bumps. What the police thought about the procession which carried their boat to college through the streets at the rush hour, and what happened at the subsequent Bump Supper, are matters about which enquiry yields singularly little. Suffice it to say that it was difficult to find an unsquirted fire extinguisher in Hertford the next day.

Barton proudly displays in his rooms a large selection of glasses which he found in his pockets when he arrived back in civilisation after an expedition into the more uncharted regions of the marshland watered by the Cam. He firmly claims that his was not the hand that put them there, but suspects witchcraft. One of the glasses bears the name of the Cambridge Union.

H. Solomon is still hibernating.

Cambridge University

The highlight of this term's social events has been a tea-party organised by J. C. Higgins just before Lent. G. Findley, who had "signed out" of college meals for the previous three days, brought a paper bag but forgot to fill it in his discomfiture as the principal target of a vicious attack on "the place of the Arts student in the modern university" by a well-known Caius don. M. Seal, however, thought that Arts students might justify their existence by providing an artistic background for the budding Braggs and Blacketts. The debate was concluded with a suggestion by J. C. Higgins that an early inoculation of the Cambridge culture virus at an impressionable age would drive all our scientists to the solace of Communism. "Sic transit Kapitza." Then followed general agreement with Dr. S. K. Runcorn, who, in the best traditions of Gear's, felt the need of a swimming pool. P. Stephens (who, having to give up something during Lent, gave up Chapel) came to the party but soon left, completely bewildered, to attend a rehearsal of "The Rivals" which, we understand, has been both an artistic and a financial success, a rare achievement in the Cambridge Theatre.

E. W. Marsden is still making Roman catapults in St. John's and has been accused by Dr. S. V. Perry, Fellow of the neighbouring college Trinity, of ranging on Great Bowt with intent to harm.

We feel unable to say anything about E. T. Royds or M. F. Heaton but we hear that they are more fully acknowledged in the more distinguished columns of our local Press.

We compliment our Oxford colleagues on not congratulating their rugger team prematurely on their certain victory at Twickenham. We detected the legal mind behind this careful decision but must conclude, in the light of the recent enquiry into suicides at Oxford, that the ability to give such balanced judgments is not the possession of every member of our sister University. We should also like to sympathise with J.A.C. of Sheffield and anyone at any other provincial university who has been misguided enough to attend lectures by Cambridge professors.

Finally, we should like to congratulate R. M. Burstall on winning a Major Scholarship at Kings'. We look forward to having him with us next year.

Sports Section

RUGBY

1st XV Matches

January 21st v. Lancaster Royal G.S. (Away). Lost 3-12.

Although injury prevented Hyde, the pack-leader, from playing, the team acquitted itself fairly well, scoring the only try of the game. The play of the team however lacked the cohesion required to bring good results.

January 24th v. Sale R.U.F.C. (Home). Won 9-3.

In this match the team played much better in the difficult conditions and although playing against a bigger side their keenness and determination throughout the game overcame the opposition. January 28th v. Manchester University (Away). Lost 3-24.

On this occasion the team was again defeated through injury to Smith, but the opposition proved too powerful and a rather heavy defeat was sustained.

January 31st v. Upholland G.S. (Home). Won 3-0.

This game was played in windy conditions which prevented any constructive play by the backs. The only try was scored when kicking downwind and the forwards, by keeping the ball close, contributed much to our win.

February 4th v. Hutton G.S. (Away). Lost 8-12.

After a good start on a muddy pitch we were in the lead at half-time. Two tries scored from breakaways by our opponents enabled Hutton to win by the above score.

February 11th v. Wallasey G.S. (Home). Won 16-0.

With a snowstorm behind them the school scored most of their points in the first half. The forwards were very evenly matched but the school were superior in the backs despite Marsh's absence.

February 14th v. Ormskirk (Home). Won 36-3.

A broken ankle sustained by Steele after 10 minutes play did not stop the school from coasting to an easy victory. Some good tries were scored by concerted teamwork.

February 18th v. Blackpool (Away). Won 13-8.

After a slow start the team gradually found its form and tries resulted from good passing movements by backs and forwards. The game was keenly contested throughout and the result was in doubt until the end.

February 28th v. Waterloo (Home). Lost 9-15.

The game was played in real cricket weather. The school team put up a creditable performance against a strong team. This game also marked Bracken's return to 1st XV after his long absence through injury.

March 4th v. Hutton (Home). Won 14-5.

Ample revenge was attained for the School's narrow defeat earlier in the season. The School had most of the play and should have scored more. Over-eagerness cost the School a number of tries.

1st XV Criticism

Ctptain: D. M. Marsh. 1st XV Colours 1951-52-53.

Vice-Captain: R. H. D. Smith. 1st XV Colours 1951-52-53.

F. A. S. Baddeley. 1st XV Colours 1952-53.

A late convert to the game who has made good progress and developed into a useful member of the team. Powerful player in the loose but does not yet distribute the ball to the best advantage.

S. N. Booth. 1st XV Colours 1952-53.

Besides combining to form a sound second row he is outstanding in line-outs and open play. His backing-up in attack is good and covering in defence is equally so.

A. W. A. Brown. 1st XV Colours 1952-53.

The other member (with Booth) of the second row. He should make more use of his height in the line-outs and does not pack low enough at times. Makes good use of his speed when covering in defence and supporting in attack.

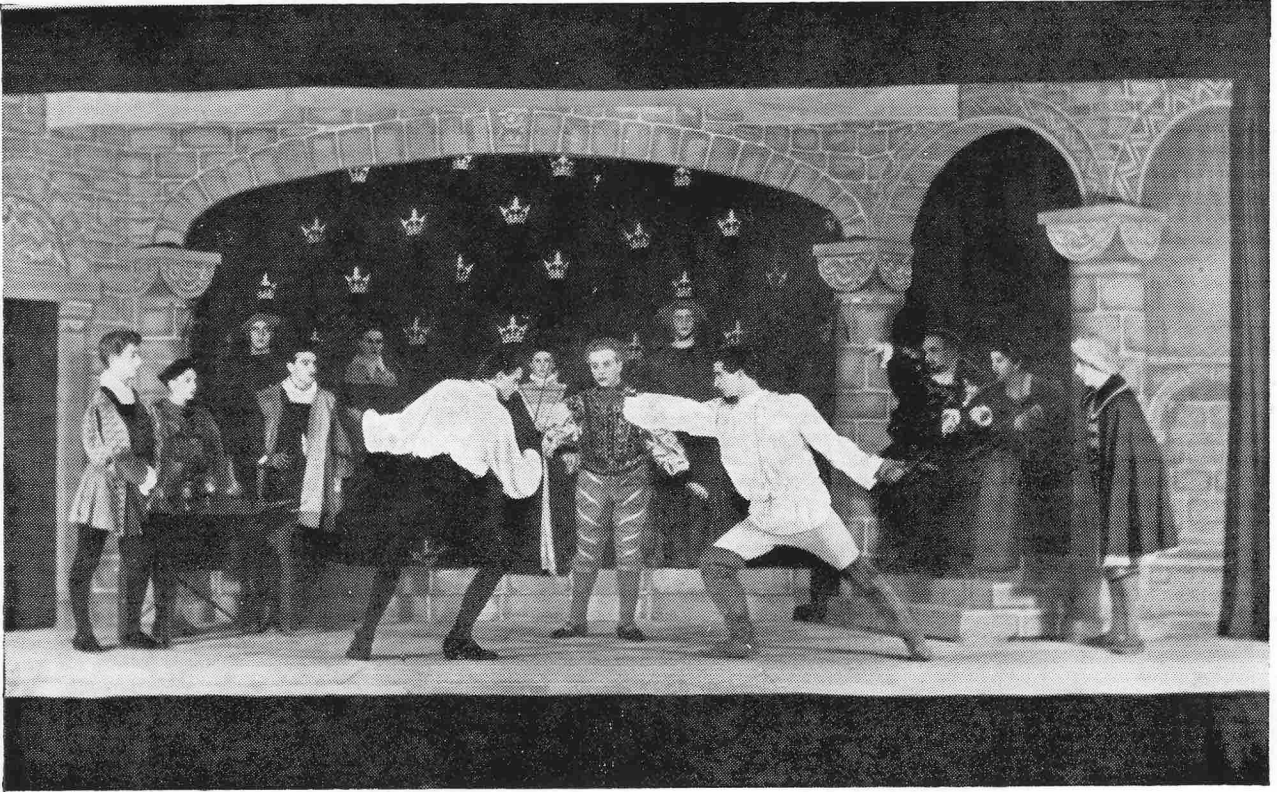
W. A. Burgess. 1st XV Colours 1952-53.

Has improved with each game, though he must realise that his primary duty is to pass the ball out to the three-quarters. Very good in defence.

M. J. Harris. 1st XV Colours 1952-53.

A solid prop-forward who pushes well in the set scrums. Sometimes forgets himself in loose scrums owing to keenness, but generally manages to make his presence felt.

The Debating Society's Production of "Hamlet," December, 1952.



J. B. A. Hyde. 1st XV Colours 1952-53.

His leadership of the forwards has been invaluable throughout the season, as also is his hooking from set scrums. A very good all-round player.

B. Shaw. 1st XV Colours 1952-53.

An excellent loose forward, making up for his comparative lack of height and weight by fast well-timed play in the open and loose. Is adept at starting three-quarter movements.

D. Buckels. 2nd XV Colours 1951-51-53.

Is inclined to stand around at times during play, but when he puts his mind to the game proves a sound player.

M. S. Davidson. 2nd XV Colours 1951-52-53.

A good rearguard, having a safe pair of hands and is a reliable kicker. Uses good judgment when linking up with the three-quarter line.

E. W. Durham. 2nd XV Colours 1951-52-53.

A strong runner but lacks the agility to start quickly. Is sometimes apt to take his eyes off the ball when catching it. A good tackler.

D. D. Steele. 2nd XV Colours 1952-53.

Although sometimes tempted to cut inside has proved that he can be an effective attacking force. A good goal-kicker.

G. Topping. 2nd XV Colours 1952-53.

Has made good use of his speed when scoring tries but latterly has been inclined to hesitate. Should prove a powerful attacker with more experience. Often tackles well when taking his opponent from the side.

A. Bond. 2nd XV Colours 1952-53.

Is most effective in the loose and open play, making good use of his ball control.

C. E. Bracken, 1st XV Colours 1951-53; J. E. Brocklehurst, 2nd XV Colours 1951-52-53; S. Johnson, 2nd XV Colours 1952-53, had the unfortunate experience of being injured and were thus prevented from playing for the rest of the season. All three commanded regular places in the 1st XV up to time of injury.

Also played. Ball, Wareing, Robinson, Taylor, Woodfine.

D.M.M.

BANTAMS

During the first half of the season the team was very fortunate in having a captain and pack-leader of Burdell's ability. By his

own vigorous example he produced an energetic, enthusiastic pack, with Kissenisky, Cain and Charter outstanding. Farrant was the most dangerous attacker, while Ellis improved steadily throughout the term.

After Christmas, many changes were necessary; but the new XV soon settled down, Bennett, E. M., proving a worthy successor to Burdell as captain, and Batty a reliable pack-leader. Bennett's soundness at full-back, and his courageous tackling supplied the necessary stability to the side.

Throughout the season Wright A., has been a plucky scrum-half and served first Gautrey, and later Barton, F., well. Probyn has been the most consistent three-quarter, his defence is always reliable; in attack at his best, he is a strong, determined runner. His unselfish play has created many tries for Davies on the wing.

After an indifferent start to the season, the outstanding forward was Bennett, R. He is a whole-hearted player, being particularly strong in the lineout. Others who have done good work in the pack are: Kershaw, E., Marshall, Wright, C.R., Perry, Forshaw and Whittaker.

Towards the end of the season a number of new comers were tried. Rostron, Morton, Harrison, Jackson, Swindlehurst, Barton, J., and Whitehead, R., all proved that with more experience and added weight they will make useful players.

RESULTS

2nd XV.

Wed. Feb. 11—A	v.	Wallasey G.S.	30—0	W
Wed. Feb. 18—H	v.	Blackpool G.S.	35—0	W
Sat. March 7—H	v.	Accrington G.S.	26—3	W

Under 16 XV.

Sat. Jan. 31—A	v.	Upholland G.S.	0—16	L
Wed. Feb. 4—H	v.	Hutton G.S.	6—6	D
Wed. Feb. 11—H	v.	Wallasey G.S.	5—18	L
Wed. Feb. 18—A	v.	Blackpool G.S.	0—8	L
Wed. Mar. 21—A	v.	Hutton G.S.	0—29	L

Under 15 XV.

Sat. Feb. 14—H	v.	Ormskirk G.S.	45—3	W
Wed. Feb. 25—A	v.	Stonyhurst College	11—17	L

Bantams.

Wed. Jan. 21—A	v.	Lancaster R.G.S.	11—0	W
Sat. Jan. 31—H	v.	Upholland G.S.	34—3	W
Wed. Feb. 4—H	v.	Hutton G.S.	43—0	W
Sat. Feb. 7—A	v.	Merchant Taylors'	8—8	D
Wed. Feb. 11—A	v.	Wallasey G.S.	0—15	L
Wed. Feb. 18—H	v.	Blackpool G.S.	0—16	L
Wed. Feb. 25—A	v.	Stoneyhurst College	8—13	L
Sat. Mar. 21—A	v.	Hutton G.S.	8—0	W

Chicks.

Sat. Jan. 31—A	v.	Upholland G.S.	15—11	W
Wed. Feb. 4—A	v.	Hutton G.S.	0—6	L

BADMINTON

The House Competition this year was very keenly contested and in the final Rogers' beat Woodham's 21-8, 21-12. The teams in the final were: Rogers'—J. B. A. Hyde and P. T. Walsh. Woodham's—M. S. Davidson and B. Shaw.

The School team has had two fixtures this year, both against Hutton Grammar School at K.G.V.

At K.G.V. the result was a win for the School by 7-2.

At Hutton the result was a win for Hutton by 5-4.

The School was represented on both occasions by J. B. A. Hyde, M. S. Davidson, B. Shaw, D. Walker, A. Bond and R. H. D. Smith. Reserves were P. T. Walsh and D. Mansell.

J.B.A.H.

Miscellaneous Reports

THE SCHOOL PLAY—"HAMLET"

The Debating Society presented its annual play on the evenings of December 11th, 12th, and 13th, 1952.

"Hamlet" has been described by one eminent critic as "the world's most difficult play" and, certainly, no other play has had so many different and contradictory theories put forward to explain it. Consequently, it is sometimes with trepidation that one approaches a production of the play lest common-sense should have been sacrificed for the sake of something new. But, of this production by Mr. Wakefield, there was no need for us to feel afraid. Here, "the play was the thing" and the producer, avoiding any temptation to venture upon some new psychological study of Hamlet's character, gave us an interpretation which was, at all times, interesting, entertaining and firm.

Much of the success of the play depends upon the skill of the actor who undertakes the role of Hamlet, and the play can either stand or fall with his portrayal. C. A. Whatmough gave an excellent performance. His movement and his gestures were exceptionally good, flowing naturally and in perfect accord with his lines, and in this respect he stood head and shoulders above the rest of the cast, with the possible exceptions of Polonius and the First

Gravedigger. In the quieter, contemplative passages, he brought out to the full the turmoil existing in Hamlet's mind. It was a pity therefore that, handicapped as he was with a rather light voice, he tended to shout and to become indistinct when he was excited or angry. However, this single fault may well be ignored when we remember the skill with which he brought out alternately the beauty and the callousness of Hamlet's nature, and evoked the tragedy of "a noble mind o'erthrown."

The great difficulty which faces the actor portraying Horatio is to prevent interest diminishing when he is on the stage and Hamlet is not, and also to prevent himself being completely overshadowed when Hamlet is "on stage." J. C. C. Meunier overcame these difficulties splendidly. He established a character which was sympathetic and scholarly and far more level-headed and more sane than that of Hamlet, and which, while acting as a foil to Hamlet, was also of interest in itself. Meunier has a good voice and he used it effectively, but his movements were rather stiff and formal.

Polonius, as played by C. Dyer, was a great success. He brought out all the senility of the old man, but, while making the character a source of amusement, both he and the producer are to be congratulated on preventing the wisdom of much of what he says from being obscured. We saw his Polonius as a somewhat stupid old man, yet one who, in his time, had been a wise and valuable counsellor. Dyer in both his mannerisms and his walk was indeed an old man. When he died, we felt pity and sorrow even though we had laughed at his foolishness while he lived.

D. H. Hamilton brought out the two different sides of Laertes's character. In him we saw both the scheming rogue and the kindly brother and son, though in his manner, as emphasised by his dress which was soldierly and somewhat sombre, we missed that other aspect—the well-dressed courtier, rich and luxurious.

The characters so far reviewed have been either youngish or very old men; both types are comparatively easy for schoolboys to play. Far more difficult is it to portray the middle-aged, and it is probably for this reason that Claudius and Gertrude were a little less successful. D. R. Isenberg made a very brave attempt at the part of Claudius, bringing out on the one hand his cunning, and, on the other, his courage and his ability as a king.

P. A. McLean was a stately Gertrude and produced a remarkable middle-aged woman's voice. The effect was rather spoiled by her rather too youthful make-up, which made it difficult to imagine her as the mother of Hamlet. McLean effectively brought out Gertrude's affection for Ophelia, but lacked attack in the Closet Scene.

R. J. Elliott, though handicapped by a paucity of hand and arm movements, played Ophelia sympathetically and quietly and gave a very moving performance. This is particularly true of the mad scene, where a most effective touch was that flowers were made to exist only in Ophelia's imagination.

Of the smaller parts, two excellent performances were given by R. Platt as the First Grave-digger and C. Hershon as the First Player. Platt's accent was good, although, occasionally, he was a little difficult to follow. His actions were very good indeed, and it was largely through his efforts that the Churchyard Scene was one of the best in the play. Hershon brought out all the roughness and coarseness of the First Player, and yet he also managed to infuse fire and nobility into his portrayal of Aeneas. As Osric he was less successful. His rather rough voice was a little unsuited to the courtier, who could have been more foppish without overplaying the part.

P. W. Brunt and J. B. A. Hyde were both good as Rosencrantz and Guildenstern, the two good-for-nothing courtiers. Their movements, particularly their over-elaborate bows, their voices and their costumes were all well in character. M. H. Irving as the Ghost was suitably ghostlike and statuesque, his costume and make-up being very effective. As Fortinbras, D. Goldberg was rather inexperienced and lacking in confidence. C. H. Slater and N. H. Freeman were competent as the Player King and Queen, Freeman's performance showing promise of good things for the future. M. F. Savage, N. Wolstenholme and T. M. Burstall as Marcellus, Bernardo and Francisco, all lacked confidence and were somewhat weak in voice. As a result, the opening scene, although very effective visually, was, to the ear, very slow and rather stilted and uninteresting.

From this slow beginning pace soon increased and was well maintained until the end of the play. The entrance of the ghost was well done and most impressive, the spectral effect of the scene being heightened by a judicious use of the orchestra. Of the three positions that have now been tried by the School Orchestra for these performances, this year's seemed to me to be the best. The music was complementary to the action on the stage; particularly good was the 'cello theme before the murder of Polonius.

The murder was very gripping and extremely well produced; Hamlet callously hooking Polonius's arm behind the curtain with his foot remains strikingly in the memory. The Grave Scene, too, was impressively done; but, for me and far many other people, the play reached its climax in the Duel Scene. Both Hamlet and Laertes are to be congratulated on the high standard they achieved in their duelling, and it provided what was probably one of the most effective scenes enacted on the School stage since the war.

Tension was maintained until the end, when the play was brought to a close most movingly as Hamlet's body was borne forth and the lights began to dim. Nor can I forget the telling dramatic use of the one remaining "spot," picking out the corpse of Claudius in a vivid pattern of black and white.

The costumes in general were indeed delightful and most satisfying in texture, colour and design. The sets, as usual, were masterly, appealing grandly to the imagination in the implied spaciousness of the battlement scenes and depicting the apparent magnificent solidity of the castle interiors.

"Hamlet" was a very ambitious production, but the producer actors and stage staff made of it a triumph. It was a production of which any school in the country might be proud. C.G.B.

Prose and Verse

"THE REVENGE"

(As it might have been written by another Poet Laureate).

At anchor in the blue Azores,
In a little fever port called Flores.
Sir Richard Grenville stamped and swore
And chewed glass bottles by the score,
A roving ranting rat was Dick,
He swore so much he made you sick,
The terror of the billowing main,
A bellowing bull without a brain;
And while he swigged his gin and beer,
The Spaniards crept up in the rear.

"—You soger! Go and fetch Lord Howard!
What! Gone and left me like a coward,
Because to fight he isn't willin'?
The closhy funk, the blanky villin!
Seeing half of my men are sick,
I'll have to pick 'em up," thought Dick
"Because I think I didn't oughtcher
Leave 'em to the cruel torcher!"

So the "Revenge," his little ship,
(It's always given me the pip)
Sailed out to sea, and sighted soon
The Spanish fleet, the crescent moon,

The curving line of might and main,
The Spanish fleet sent out from Spain.
—I cannot run, they'll think I funk it,
Think that will they? Well when they've thunk it,
They'll have to think again! I won't, I'm
Blowed if I will, I ain't got time!"
And on he sailed to fame and glory,
(Or else he would have spoiled the story).

The shining sun shone on the sea,
It made the wavelets laugh with glee,
It blazed upon the Spanish ships,
Tipping their masts with golden tips,
Making their sails as red as rose,
Like pimples on a parson's nose,
And from each Spanish gun there came
A cloud of smoke, a spurt of flame,
A burning fire, a smoky pall,
Not to mention a cannon ball,
But the little "Revenge" fought on and on
And on and on and on and on
And on, till the heavens lost their light,
And the stars came out, as they do at night.

The moon rose on the starboard quarter,
It made the ocean look like water,
It made the ship's side look like wood,
As look like wood the ship's side should.
And all thro' the night the thunder roared,
Till a great black cloud o'er the pale moon loured,
Like a great black shroud on a dead man's knee,
And a deep doom dropped on the silent sea.

Then on the dim horizon dark
A leaping flame leapt like a spark,
It lighted up the Spanish fleet,
A shocking shambles, far from neat,
It burned upon the bloody water,
On all the fire and all the slaughter,
Just like the ruddy cherubim,
It did look fierce. It did look grim.
A fiery ball, a great big red 'un,
A great, grim, grisley Armageddon.
O vengeance from the flaming sky,
O vengeance from the host on high,
Come with thy fiery, flaming wrath,
Burn up the evil in thy path,

Burn all the brutes and all the villins,
Then p'raps we won't have no more killin's,
Burn all the nasty, horrid folks
Who laugh at nasty, horrid jokes,
Burn all the drinkers, all the fools
Who spend their pennies on the pools,
Then p'raps there'll be some, two or three,
Lovely and pure and clean like me.

So day broke, and Sir Richard said,
"—Ain't it grand to be bloomin' well dead,
Sink me the ship, you horrible crew,
I've had quite enough to do."
But they sailed to the Spaniards' side and yielded.

Dick died, he died, Sir Richard did,
He said he'd did as duty bid,
There was nothing more to be done about him,
So the little "Revenge" sailed away without him.
Then a storm arose and the weather howled,
And the south wind moaned and roared and growled.
The great waves heaved and the grey seas fell,
They reared to the heavens and plunged to hell,
The yards were stripped, the flags were tattered,
And the mastless hulls by the storm were scattered,
But the little "Revenge" was out of luck,
And she sank in the sea, like a dying duck.

B. Sourbut.

"THE PEER AND THE CANDLESTICK"

He shuddered.

The rain crashed against the windows and the furious wind swayed the coach as it bumped along the narrow lane. The storm raged on and at intervals flashes of lightning would light up the sky in cascades of diabolical frenzies. On either side were the bleak moors surmounted by bare, black crags.

The coach strove on into the night. Picked out by the guttering camp at its side it threaded its way along the winding, stony path until it was finally lost to view in a belt of trees crowned by a tall, gaunt house.

* * *

"Show him in, immediately."

The silent footman retired.

William Thomas Ford, third Earl of Blackford, rose from his

chair and walking to the window drew back the curtains. The storm had not subsided. He returned to the fire and remained there for a few seconds, then lifting his head as if remembering something he took a key from his pocket. Quickly he walked across to an old oak bureau, unlocked it, and withdrew a leather wallet. Then he went back to his chair and sat facing the door, his cold, steely eyes unflinching.

The door opened and a man appeared. He was tall and thin and his face was an ashen grey. He was still draped in a travelling cloak and his boots were spattered with mud. His face was expressionless and his only movement was an almost imperceptible twitching of the mouth. He had a shaply, sensitive jaw and clear-cut features but his pale face was worn with fatigue and worry.

"Welcome to Blackford," said the Earl deliberately. The manservant closed the door and they were alone.

Thames got up and going to the door locked it. He poured out two glasses of claret and set them on the table. Then he sat down, motioning to the visitor to do likewise. The room was dark and the only light came from a small candelabra and the dying embers of a fire. The silence was broken only by the ticking of a grandfather clock. Neither spoke.

Finally Thames began.

"It is just a year ago isn't it? I remember it quite plainly. It was a cold, dark November night and you and Monsieur Lonfèvre were walking down the Rue de Sorbonne when that coach drew up. I can see it all now. The door opens and a cloaked figure emerges. You feel the prod of a pistol in your back. He asks you for a letter. That very same letter that I have here."

The expressionless gaze of the visitor did not alter. Thames continued.

"Slowly you turn and see who it is. With a cry you draw your sword. In the scuffle the pistol goes off and Monsieur Lonfèvre gasps and falls to the ground. You lunge with your sword but miss and stagger forward. Out of the dark arms stretch out and drag you into the coach and away you go.

"After some hours the coach draws up at a large, cold chateau and everyone gets out. Quickly you are led down into the dungeons. First you are shown into a small cell where an old man is lying. He is thin and pale and his eyes are sunken and dull. You start back with a horrified stare and your companions snigger quietly.

"Then you pass to another subterranean room where a collection of instruments of torture is laid out ready. There is a brazier in one corner. In the other corner three silent men stand. Then you remember no more. You seem to recall glimpses of the following hours, do you not? You recall pain, the thumbscrew, the rack, the devil's kitchen and the boiling oil. You search vaguely in your memory for the picture. You seem to remember a young girl with you at the time."

Thames paused. Did he perceive a slight start in the visitor? Perhaps not. The stare remained fixed.

"Yes, those last few hours were horrible, weren't they? All that for the contents of a letter which I now have in my possession; all for one truth which you, poor fool, would not reveal; all for one person in your life. You remember, don't you? In case you don't I will help you a little and give you something more to think about. I shall get up and go to the table. I shall take a small wallet which is there and remove a letter which I shall read to you"

Thames got up and turned to the table then staggered back horrified. Could he believe his own eyes? Was the candelabra actually moving? Yes it was. The heavy wrought brass stand was moving along the edge of the table very slowly, as if guided by unseen hands. The Earl caught his breath as it slid mysteriously up to the wallet. Then the same unseen hands seemed to take the wallet up. Gradually the letter was removed and held by the hands in the flame until only a charred, black mass remained. Frozen still, Thames was powerless and remained rooted to the spot. Suddenly the candelabra seemed to leap towards him. He put his hands to his face, but a searing pain shot down his body. It was as if a red-hot poker had been thrust right through him. The hands seemed to grip him and squeeze his neck. Vainly he tried to claw himself. He staggered round clutching the chair and turned towards his visitor.

There was nobody there.

P.W.B.

SCHOOL DINNER

Noon is an hour symbolic,
And students, answering the call
Of rumbles gastronomic,
Are entering the dining-hall
By twos and threes and then by scores,
Filling the hall with hungry roars.

On every table food is placed
Mid scenes of much elation.
The roars fade, and are replaced
By noise of mastication.
Great mounts of food soon disappear,
With shouts for more heard loud and clear.

Lean and Hungry they appear,
Full and fat they go away,
Students drawn from far and near.
Ninepence is the sum they pay,
(Plus contribution from the State)
For this munificence so great.

B. Whittingham, 4B.

School Societies

ART SOCIETY

This term the Art Society has been well supported by the juniors and members of the middle school. The work has been as adventurous and fresh as usual. All boys are invited to attend in the next term. In the society meetings boys have the opportunity to try out new media and materials, all of which are free.
J.C.C.M.

BEE CLUB

This term the club has gone into hibernation because we are dependent, as are the denizens of the rectangular box in the junior quadrangle, on fine weather for our activities. The bees, however, are being stimulated to effort by means of a "slow feed" of sugar-syrup and on warmer days a few of the livelier inmates are to be seen carrying out their dead, crawling about the hive roof, and flitting around the quadrangle.

With the coming of spring the hive will shortly be opened for weekly inspection when two committee members and two members will inspect it while the remainder of the club stands behind the examiners. The new boys of the school will find bee-keeping an interesting hobby and they are cordially invited to come along.

J.B.K.

CHESS CLUB

This term the Senior Championship Competition has been revived after an interval of several years. At the time of writing the semi-final stage has just been reached. It is hoped that the name of the winner will be known in time for it to be announced at the end of term.

On Wednesday, March 11th, a team of ten senior boys were entertained by the Southport Chess Club in their Clubroom at the Y.M.C.A. building. Although we were well beaten the match was very enjoyable and instructive and all the games were keenly contested. Mansell secured a win on the fourth board and Eccles, eighth, and Drake, ninth, were awarded a win and a draw respectively by a kindly adjudicator.

A cordial invitation was extended to all our players to continue their chess when they leave school by joining the Southport Chess Club as Junior Members.

CHRISTIAN UNION

Last term the two principal features were a Brains Trust and a visit from Mrs. F. J. Glendenning. In the Brains Trust, the Headmaster and Mr. Berry kindly consented to represent the staff and two senior boys made up the team. A variety of interesting questions was asked and an equally interesting variety of answers given. Mrs. Glendenning, who is regional secretary of the Student Christian Movement gave a talk on "Christianity in Schools."

This term there have been several study-group meetings. The main attraction, however, was the showing of a series of "Fact and Faith" films prepared by the Moody Institute of Science. So far the first two "Dust or Destiny" and "God of Creation" have been shown and have proved most interesting. The attendance has been good. The other three films—"Voices of the Deep," "Hidden Treasures" and, "God of the Atom," will be shown before the end of term. On Friday the 20th of March there is to be an S.C.M. conference at Ormskirk and the School is expected to be represented by about a dozen boys.

P.W.B.

DEBATING SOCIETY

October 31: Debate, "That a scientist is more broad-minded than is a classicist." The motion was carried.

November 7: Mock United Nations Session. This was a most lively and humorous meeting.

November 14: Junior Play Reading, "The Rehearsal," by Maurice Baring. This rather poor play was creditably played.

November 21: Debate, "That Democracy is the world's most inefficient political system." There were good speeches from the floor and the motion was only just carried.

December 10, 11, 12, 13: School play "Hamlet." The play was very well received.

January 9: Debate, "That this House condemns the practice of hitch-hiking." There were some good speeches from the floor, all of which were against the motion. The motion was defeated by a substantial majority.

January 16: The Senior Play Reading. "The First Act of the Apple Cart." This was one of our less successful meetings.

January 23: The Impromptu Speeches which incorporated a session of "One Minute Please." This meeting was extremely successful.

January 30: The Junior Debate, "That Prefects are not responsible for their actions."

The motion was carried practically unanimously.

February 13: A Brains Trust. Perhaps it was because the meeting took place on Friday the thirteenth that this was not very successful.

February 27: The Senior Elocution Contest. The judges expressed concern in this competition at the small number of entries and the generally low standard.

March 6: A joint Debate was held with the High School. This was a most successful meeting, marred only by the lack of female speakers from the floor. The meeting was extremely well attended and the motion, "That woman is ever man's confusion," was carried by a substantial majority.

March 13: The Old Boys' Debate, "That Progress is an illusion." This meeting was as successful as previous meetings with the Old Boys.

This session of the Debating Society has, on the whole, been most successful. The sole criticism to be made about the debates concerns the lack of speakers from the floor from the middle and junior school. As a general rule it is the same small group of Upper Sixth formers who can be relied upon to speak, but there is very rarely any one else.

The Committee of the Debating Society would like to express their thanks for the discreet advice given them on occasions by Mr. Wakefield.

J.C.C.M.

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

Chairman/Secretary: I. H. Bass. Librarian: D. K. Seddon.

Committee: A. W. A. Brown, B. A. Davies, C. Dyer,
K. F. Edwardson, D. R. Holt, N. R. Nutter, B. H. Sutton.

The series of lectures held the previous term concluded with a demonstration of enlarging. The lecture stressed the importance of carefully estimating, by means of a test strip or otherwise, the exposure time in the enlarger so that the ensuing print could be fully developed out, rather than being forced with the necessity of being removed prematurely.

On January 19th the society was favoured with a visit from Mr. E. Hall of the Wigan Photographic Society. His lecture on "Portraiture" was very well received by a small though enthusiastic audience. Mr. Hall suggested many lighting ideas and demonstrated his lecture with an excellent collection of portraits taken and processed by himself.

The Committee is pleased to note that a full use of both the darkroom and the Photographic Society Library is being made. The print glazer and drier purchased last term has proved to be an efficient piece of apparatus although it has not yet been used by many members. I.H.B.

SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

Chairman: E. W. Durham. Vice-Chairman: R. M. Burstall.

Hon. Secretary: D. E. Rimmer.

Hon. Projectionist: P. Seal. Biologist: F. A. S. Baddeley.

Committee: C. E. Bracken; J. E. Brocklehurst; P. Rushton;
C. J. Taylor.

The last meeting of the Autumn Term took place on November 18th, when Mr. M. B. Whelan, M.A., of the International Wool Secretariat lectured on "The Scientific Story of Wool." The I.W.S. was formed mainly to publicise the uses and qualities of wool and, as might be expected, the talk was well prepared and delivered.

This term started with the Chairman's Lecture on January 27th. Durham's talk on "Petrol Engines" was illustrated with his own slides and also with a borrowed machine. He tried to cover rather too much, however, and was unable to include a few important points. Even so, it was well up to the standard of previous years.

A fortnight later Burstall gave a talk about "Mathematical Diversions," consisting of problems in logic, together with an introduction to various scales of notation and useful hints on constructing Magic Squares.

The late meeting to date was on February 24th, when Mr. Cross, of Tate and Lyle Ltd., talked on "Cane Sugar." Although he had taken over the rôle at the last minute, he had no difficulty in putting across his material convincingly, and everyone enjoyed his remarks and the film which followed. Several of our younger members regretted that the samples produced were not of an edible nature!

The attendances recently have been good but not exceptional, surely the 50 or so boys who turn up every time are not the only ones interested in science. The Society is not an extension of school lessons (if it were the senior offices would not be held by members of Upper VI Schol.) but its aim is to demonstrate the interesting aspects of certain branches of Pure and Applied Science. D.E.R.

THE SCHOOL LIBRARY

It is much to be regretted that of the books which disappeared without record during the Autumn term thirty have still to be returned. We are convinced that this alarming drain on the Library's resources is due principally to carelessness and we appeal once again to borrowers to make sure that they have no books in their keeping for which they have not signed or deposited a ticket. Unless special permission is granted, unrecorded borrowings should never be made, even for periods of less than a day.

"Musical Opinion" has been added to the periodicals available, and bound copies of "The Illustrated London News" for the years 1951 and 1952 have been added to the reference section.

We are grateful for gifts of books from C. Dyer, A. Haigh and L. Watson. The Librarians.

HISTORY ROOM

The History Room Library has received the following gifts of books which have been gratefully accepted.

"The Fleet Papers"—an original document from Mr. H. D. Bayley through Mr. Woodham.

Three volumes of the Cambridge Modern History—from Mr. T. H. Evans.

“More Things That Matter” by Lord Riddell.

“The War Lords” by Gardiner.

“Life of Nelson” by Mahon.

“Philip II of Spain” by Hume.

And from Miss Margaret Haigh through Mr. Marsden we have gratefully received the following:

“Leaders of the Reformation” by Tulloch.

Macaulay’s Essays on “Ancient Rome.”

“Robert Owen” by Padmore.

“Emperor Charles V” by Armstrong.

We also gratefully acknowledge the gift to the school of two volumes—“States and Morals” by T. W. Weldon and “Tudors and Stuarts” by Reese, from Mr. Burton of Westbourne Road, Birkdale.

GEOGRAPHY ROOM

We are grateful for a gift of National Geographical Magazines from T. R. Crossley (LVX).

SCOUT TROOP

Once again we have to report a term of progress in tests. N. McCandlish, P.L. of the Otters has now completed his tests for the First Class Badge.

Early in the term we had timely and informative talk from Mr. Drake on “Local Birds.” After an Identification Competition (in which at least one Scout thought that fourteen out of the twenty-five birds illustrated were sparrows), Mr. Drake went on to describe the appearance and habits of many birds of the Southport shore and countryside. We all found his talk interesting and some boys became bird-watchers from that day onward.

Another highlight of the term was a talk on Camping by J. Wareing, P.L. of the Curlews. Wareing dealt chiefly with camping under hiking conditions and gave the Troop, from his own experience, many useful hints to help them pass their nights under canvas in tolerable comfort.

We shall be glad when the light nights are here and we are able to start our outdoor activities again.

IMPORTANT DATES

Summer Term begins	April 21st.
Athletic Sports	May 13th.
Half-term	May 25th, 26th.
Coronation Holiday	June 1st.
Coronation Day	June 2nd.
G.C. of E. Examinations begin	June 8th.
Summer Examinations begin	June 25th.
Summer Examinations end	June 30th.
G.C. of E. Examinations end	July 2nd.
Coronation Holiday	July 6th.
Term ends	July 17th.