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“RYA”



MAGAZINE OF RYE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

AUTUMN
1946

LEWIS HYLAND & Co.

(Tailors & Outfitters)

HASTINGS

have pleasure in announcing
that they have been appointed
Official Outfitters to Rye
Grammar School as from the
Easter Term 1947

Supplies of good clothing are still very scarce but
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first, we hope to be able to maintain adequate
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A few words
from

Dibleys Ltd.



Builders and Decorators
of Winchelsea

Many of those who scan this page have reason to remember with gratitude (perhaps not altogether unmixed with pleasure), quite recent occasions when we were able to be of considerable service to their well-being and comfort.

Although, as we deeply regret, it is as yet still impossible to meet many of the demands of our Friends, we are proud to announce that in one way or another we have contrived to get their really urgent repairs completed.

At the present, Controls are being ever more rigorously applied, but we confidently look towards that time when we will again be in a position to meet any reasonable requirements.

Meanwhile, we wish to assure Property Owners that we are always ready to discuss their problems, and quite often it IS found possible to carry out that long awaited repair or decorating job.

It should be noted by those of you who prefer a chat over the telephone that our number is now

WINCHELSEA 277

FRANK GOLDEN

(F. & C. M. HALL)

Boys' and Girls' School Outfitters

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but you can be assured  
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best to meet your  
requirements**  
~~~~~

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and Sports Coats in Stock*

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"RYA"

No. 6

Autumn 1946

Vol. 2

The Magazine of Rye Grammar School

New Series

Editors :

L. Allen

Geraldine Hall

Pat Barfoot

I. Smith

A. Shearer

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Editorial

At a meeting of the Editors held this term it was decided that in future each Society and Organisation in the School should be asked for a report for the magazine only once a year instead of every term. It was felt that this would make the magazine more interesting as the space freed by the adoption of this suggestion could be filled by more interesting articles contributed by pupils of the School. The new arrangements were first made public in the School Committee Meeting held on December 12th, and the editors hoped that they would receive a flood of contributions for the Autumn magazine. In this they were disappointed, but they did get something—something which they have never got before and which they can never remember seeing in back numbers of "Rya," yet something for which they have been asking in every edition printed. In short, at 3.45 in the afternoon of Friday, December 20th, 1946, the editors were handed a letter of criticism and thus was history made.

The letter was from R. Catt, author of "My First Driving Lesson" ("Rya," Vol. I, No. 3) and "Ugh" ("Rya," Vol. I, No. 4) and as it was a direct attack on us we have decided to devote this Editorial to answering it. Here is an exact copy of the letter:

"To the Editors of 'Rya.'

Sirs,

"As each new edition of the School Magazine is published, it is loudly proclaimed as being by far the best one to date. So therefore it is quite a logical conclusion that the standard is always improving. Now I hear that you editors have decided to have society and house reports only once a year, and so in the space provided put more articles, poems, and illustrations in order to make the magazine more interesting. In order to carry out this alteration, you cry out for more articles, but will you get them? I do not think your ways as editors encourage writers. Regularly half-way through the term you appeal for articles. Nearer the end of the term you make another more frenzied appeal. This has little more result than the former one. So, so you stoop to compulsory writing: an English homework. Pshaw! I know a person who, when you editors were at your wits' ends trying to think of something to put in your rag, wrote an article for you. One editor, knowing who wrote it, immediately screwed it up and threw it into the wastepaper basket. Another editor, knowing the same, rescued it and convinced the Dictator (I refer to the one whose name heads the list of editors) that it was worth a place. Due to an editor's hurried re-writing the pen name was altered and the whole sense was altered. It was noticed in the proofs, but with stupid stubbornness the Dictator refused to alter it. Thus,

when it appeared in the magazine the whole effect that the writer intended was spoilt. That is only one instance, but I have heard and noticed numerous others.

"So I suggest that following your revision of the contents of the magazine, you revise your methods of obtaining articles, and after that you find a way of encouraging contributors to carry on with the work.

"Yours, etc.,
"R. CATT."

Thank you for your letter, Mr. Catt, and let us say, here and now, that on one point we do agree with you. We regret very much that we should "have to stoop to compulsory writing," but you see we must get articles somehow, and since you and your kind cannot produce them voluntarily—well. . . . However, we hope that next term, when we have our box placed outside the VIth form room (see School Committee Report) we shall get enough articles to dispense with the compulsory homework.

But there are two points on which we must disagree with you. That bit about the Dictator, is a bit exaggerated you know. The person concerned admits that he did throw your article into the wastepaper basket, but only to amuse the assembled company, for they all knew that that is where the greater number of your articles end up. He had every intention of rescuing your article later (as indeed it was rescued) for essays like that are rare nowadays. Still, as we remarked in our last Editorial: "The editors humour is not others' humour" and you probably did not appreciate this eccentricity.

The other point we feel cannot be allowed to go unheeded is the question of the standard of our magazine. You have never heard us say publicly that one magazine is better or worse than another—although we may draw our own conclusions privately. We leave all the criticism to people like you, Mr. Catt, for we are sure that in your inestimable wisdom you can do it far better than we ever could.

THE EDITORS.

Mr. Pigrome

After teaching at the School for over a quarter of a century Mr. Pigrome left at the end of this term. Everybody will be affected by his departure, for mathematics is a subject that is not easily dodged in any part of the School—not that many people wished to dodge Mr. Pigrome's lessons, for he made them as interesting as any man can, and his little impromptu talks on astronomy and the Greeks were looked forward to by all. But mathematics is not his only line. During the last term he took over the teaching of Latin in the School, and his many other

activities are well known. He founded the Chess Club many years ago and under his guidance it reached a very high standard, entering many tournaments and on one occasion winning the Sussex Cup. Now the Club is once more beginning to find its feet, and it is hoped that it will regain, even without Mr. Pigrome's guidance, its former status.

While we were in Bedford, Mr. Pigrome agreed to become the C.O. of a school flight of the A.T.C. This position he still holds (and we are very glad to hear is going to continue to do so) and during the five years he has held it many cadets have been helped in their life in the forces by his guidance and teaching, and the A.T.C. itself is as strong and as enthusiastic as when he first founded it.

So Mr. Pigrome's departure will leave a place that will not easily be filled and it is up to everybody to carry on with fresh vigour and enthusiasm the work that he started and to join us in wishing him the best of luck in the future.

THE EDITORS.

Society Reports

In future every Society and Organisation (except Houses) in the School will be asked for a report to go into this magazine once a year only. The various reports will be distributed among the three magazines published every year as follows:

AUTUMN TERM

Library Report.
Science Society Report.
Chess Society Report.
Needlework Society Report.

SPRING TERM

Football XI's Report.
Hockey Report.
Running Report.
Netball Report.
Dramatic Society Report.
Music Society Report.

SUMMER TERM

Cricket XI's Report.
Tennis VI's Report.
Swimming Report.
Art Society Report.
Geography Society Report.

A.T.C. Report.
Scout Report.
Guide Report.

House Reports will continue to be published every term.

House Reports

Peacocke

House Master : MR. BAGLEY.
House Mistress : MISS STEVENS.
Girls' Captain : DOREEN STANDEN.
Boys' Captain : S. CHAPPELL.
Prefects : AUDREY BRAKEFIELD, M. METIANU.

Peacocke House has welcomed Miss Stevens this term as the new Housemistress, and welcomed Mr. Bagley back from the R.A.F. at the last house meeting of the Summer term, who has again taken the post of House Master that he held before the war. Doreen Standen and S. Chappell were elected girls' and boys' captains respectively, and new winter sports' captains were also elected.

Our sports, however, this term have not been very successful ; the Senior Boys have lost both the football matches they have played, with only 2 goals scored for them, but 9 goals against them. The Juniors, both girls and boys, have done better ; the girls won a hockey match against Meryon, 7-1, and the Junior boys have done just as well in their football. At present the Senior Girls are taking the second place in hockey to Meryon's first, with 5 goals scored against them, and 10 in their favour. All the junior netball matches have been played, but the seniors have not yet played any, so it is impossible to give an indication of the final results.

The main work of the term has been on the Speech and Music competition, but again no results are yet known. A House Choir has been formed of 30 odd of the best singers in the House, and Doreen Standen is to conduct at the competition. So far 120 marks have been obtained by the singing of duets and solos and piano solo players, but the House will lose marks by not having a pianist on the day. In fact there does not seem the enthusiasm and keenness about this competition in the House that there should be ; we seem quite prepared to sit back and let the "willing horses," which are few in number, do all the work.

The whole of our House collection, 56s. 1d., is to be sent to the "Save the Children" Fund. Many members of the House have added to the fortnightly collections by giving money they have collected by carol singing and similar voluntary under-

takings, and 1d. a week funds during the last few weeks of term. Ann Teasedale undertook the responsibility of collecting clothing and comforts which we send off as soon as possible in the hope of arriving in Europe in time for Christmas.

It may be that the general rowdiness and disregard of the chairman and business in hand by certain members of the House has a lot to do with our defeats, both in games and work competitions. It is rather a wrong note to end a House report on, especially at Christmas time, but if Peacocke is to regain her "old glory" she must "pull up her socks."

A.F.B.

Sanders

House Master : MR. DOUGLAS.
House Mistress : MISS DANN.
Boys' Captain : R. CATT.
Girls' Captain : MARY FROSTICK.
Prefects : PAULINE BAKER, SHEILA HOULSTON.

During the last term Sanders has not done too well in House Matches. The boys have won two and lost one of their matches, while the girls, at hockey, have won one match, drawn one, and lost two. The Junior Girls have won both of their netball matches, but the Seniors have yet to play theirs.

The collections for this term have been sent to the "Save Europe Now" Fund. It amounted to £3 4s. od., and this included the result of a penny-a-week fund for the S.E.N. Fund. The House has also collected clothing, shoes and mending material for the same fund.

In the Work and Merit Competition, Sanders is second, but Meryon are only a few points ahead, and if the House works harder we may possibly overtake them.

G.W.S.

Meryon

House Master : MR. BROOME.
House Mistress : MISS TUNSTALL.
Girls' Captain : I. LEEDS-GEORGE.
Boys' Captain : I. SMITH.
Prefects : G. HALL, P. BARFOOT, R. RAY, ALLEN,
SHEARER, PAIGE.

The term began with another record influx of new members, among whom we were very pleased to welcome two English boys who had experienced the horrors of war in a German prison camp.

It was also a great honour to have both Captains of the School, G. Hall and Allen, chosen from Meryon. G. Hall deserves special congratulations for the very rare honour of gaining a distinction in French in her Higher School Certificate.

During this term, while Gerry was continuing her studies in France, R. Ray was elected temporary treasurer and has carried out her duties with considerable success. Sufficient money has been raised to send two donations of one guinea each to the "Aid to Greece Fund" and to Miss Eleanor Rathbone's Appeal.

During the term we have gained a slight lead in the Work and Merit Competition and our prospects are fairly good in the Hockey and Football Competitions.

Early in the term we said good-bye to Audrey Ashdown, Williams and Streeter; we were sorry to lose them and we wish them the very best of luck in the future.

A.A.S.

School Committee Report

During the past term the School Committee has met on three occasions and despite past scepticism on the worth of this "democratic institution," it has brought forward several constructive suggestions for improving the efficiency of the School.

Allen has taken the chair on all three occasions and the meetings have been attended by various members of staff, including the Headmaster. At the first meeting the Committee went through the list of school rules, the old "bugbear" about school uniform soon cropped up and it was generally felt that times, when the school uniform must be worn, should be specified. Finally, it was agreed to word the rule as follows: "School uniform must be worn on all occasions going to and from School and at all School functions." This alteration was agreed to by the Headmaster. There were also two other minor alterations in the wording of rules, but the Headmaster said he could not agree to these and gave very sound reasons for not doing so. The School Captains were elected to sit on the War Memorial Committee, which was being formed to decide what form of memorial there should be to commemorate those members of the School who had fallen in the 1939-45 War. An Entertainments Sub-Committee was then formed, consisting of Miss Turner and six members of the School, two from the Upper School, two from the Middle School and two from the Lower School.

At the second meeting Miss Baker gave a report of the War Memorial Committee. She said that suggestions for a memorial had been: (i) Trees around the School field, (ii) A more imposing entrance to the School, (iii) A prefects' room, and (iv) A series of books on International Understanding for the School Library.

After much discussion the last suggestion had been accepted and it had been decided to erect in the centre of the north wall of the library a section of shelves containing books on "International Understanding." This would be surmounted by a panel bearing the names of Old Scholars who had fallen in the war 1939-1945 with the simple inscription: "In remembering those who lost their lives we remember also that they hoped for a happier and kindlier world." Mr. Thompson was designing both the book-case and the panel.

Suggestions at this meeting were: (a) That each girl should have a bag on her peg containing her gym equipment; (b) That pound money should be used to provide sports equipment rather than to be used to provide books for the library; and (c) That a box should be placed outside the VIth Form room, in which articles, criticisms and suggestions for the School Magazine might be dropped. The Committee agreed that all these suggestions should be put forward for the Headmaster's consideration.

The last meeting of the term was taken up largely with Sub-Committee Reports, in which the activities of Sub-Committees during the term were reviewed. The only suggestion was: That the music part of the Speech and Music Competition be revised. This was unanimously agreed to by the Committee.

The election of next term's Chairman followed and Smith and Allen were proposed and seconded. The voting was 11-11; a recount was taken and the result was the same. Allen, as Chairman, gave his casting vote in favour of Smith, who is thus Chairman for next term.

A.A.S.

Chess Society

This term the Club had many new members, making the number up to twenty-one. Three members, Delves, Clayson and Hickman, were elected to help Ashwin, who was the only committee member left after Robbins and Apps left. Only one committee meeting was held and at this it was decided to have a tournament and the winner to be awarded a cup. This tournament was started, but owing to several school activities and football we had only one full meeting and so we did not get far with it. These, however, are not the only things which are slowing the tournament up. I think, with more co-operation from the members, more interesting and valuable work could be done.

I was asked, during the term, if the club played any matches with other schools, and I regret that I had to say "No," but if the members would concentrate more when being aided by the

club leader, the standard of play would be very much higher and matches with clubs outside the School could be arranged.

One great thing that the club lacks at the moment is enthusiasm, and if there was more of this the meetings would run smoother and more advance would be made.

Mr. Pigrome, who has been invaluable to the club, is leaving this term. Most of us who have been in the club for any amount of time will not forget how much aid and encouragement he has given to us at all times. He was always very cool, never losing his temper, though at times it must have been very trying, and I think all the members will join me in saying "Good-bye" and "Thank you" to an invaluable helper and leader.

"CHECKMATE."

The Science Society

The Science Society was formed this term and is under the supervision of Mr. Douglas. At its first meeting it was decided that an Experimental Plot should be cultivated; this plot, part of school field, has been ploughed up. The experiment to be carried out is to show the effect of infestation and control of wireworms on potato crops. A high proportion of wireworms were found, and have come under the scrutiny of the microscope. Chemical analysis of the soil is being attempted, but as only five meetings have taken place, work has been hampered.

A collection of insects which are economic pests is being arranged and a model of a gasworks has been started. The Society was given a lecture and shown some slides on the "Types and Construction of Sea Walls" by Mr. Dobie of the Rother Catchment Board.

E.P.

Library Sub-Committee

In the middle of the term it was decided to form a Library Sub-Committee to govern library affairs and help with the business of cataloguing now in progress. Consequently one was formed. The members elected were: Iris Leeds, Pauline Baker, Rosemary Ray and Glass. The Committee has not had a meeting this term as there has been no urgent business to discuss.

R.J.R.

Commemoration Day

This year we were lucky enough to have Mr. Lane (our School Chaplain while we were in Bedford) to come and preach at our annual Commemoration Service. In the morning of the day on which the service was held (Thursday, October 15th) he

came round and talked to us in our classrooms and recalled old memories of our stay in Bedford. Somehow it seemed very strange to have him as our guest, after being his guests for so many years.

At the service in the afternoon, the church was almost filled with parents and friends. The Rev. F. Haward conducted the service (the Headmaster reading some of the prayers), while the School Captains read the lessons. Mr. Lane began his sermon by telling us how glad he was to be in Rye and saying how he and those who attended St. Cuthbert's Church in Bedford had missed us when they saw the empty pews in the south aisle where we used to sit. He went on to preach, in the style that we knew so well, a short inspiring sermon. He reminded us that Christianity was definitely a minority movement and was fast becoming even more so and he begged us, as members of a great school and a town with great traditions, and all of our generation, to do what his generation had failed to do, make this world peace-loving and Christian.

After the service parents and friends were entertained to tea at the School and talked to Mr. Lane.

Speech Day

On November 21st the School held its annual Speech Day. Owing to the lack of accommodation, for the first time in the history of the School, some pupils, namely Form II, had to be excluded from taking part in the function in order to make room for as many visitors as possible. For the second year in succession the Rev. W. Wilton Wright, Chairman of the Board of Governors, took the chair, and, after the singing of the Commemoration Hymn, started the afternoon off in his usual jocular style. He then called upon the Headmaster to make his report on the progress of the School during the past year.

On rising, Mr. Jacobs began by welcoming Mr. and Mrs. Bickersteth to the Speech Day. Mr. Bickersteth, who is Chairman of the East Sussex County Council, had a great deal of work to do in connection with Local Government, but agreed without hesitation when invited to come. The Headmaster then said how pleased he was to see the Mayor of Rye, Alderman Stutely, at the gathering, especially as he was an Old Scholar, and it also gave him much pleasure to see so many Governors of the School with him on the platform.

In beginning his report, the Headmaster remarked on the number of changes which had taken place among the members of staff. Mr. Morgan left us in June to occupy a position at Goldsmith's College. Mr. Morgan had raised the standard of the handicraft in the School to a very high level, and in his place we welcomed Mr. Thompson, recently demobilised from the R.A.F. Mr. Bagley, who also has spent several years in the Air

Force, has rejoined the School and it was hoped that both would settle down happily in the School. Miss Hill has left on account of her mother's illness, to take up a position nearer home.

Examination results were up to average, though Higher School Certificate were a little disappointing. In the School Certificate twenty scholars had gained certificates and in Higher School Certificate Pamela Whiting obtained Inter-Arts exemption, John Bull, Inter-B.Sc. exemption, Kathleen Batehup, distinction in botany, and Geraldine Hall, distinction in French. Here, Mr. Jacobs said, that owing to the additional work which had been thrown upon her recently, Miss Turner had been obliged to relinquish her post as librarian in the School. The Headmaster emphasised the splendid work she had done in building up the library and proposed that a special "Thank you" should be given as a token of our gratitude.

School societies had shown a marked revival during the year, and the Music Society, under the enthusiastic guidance of Miss Merry, had started a fine tradition by arranging recitals for the School twice during each winter term and for adults in the evening. The recitals are given with the co-operation of both the Rye Community Association and C.E.M.A. The Headmaster continued by saying that one person at least had been taken back to some of the triumphs of pre-war days when the Dramatic Society produced Shakespeare's "As You Like It." Stephanie Orford, Pamela Whiting, Alan Shearer and Leonard Allen were particularly commended for their acting. The Society had been coached, and the play produced, by Mrs. Curran, who had been greatly encouraged by the fine support the general public had given to the performances. A newly-formed Needlework Club had made a good start and a School Council for International Understanding had already organised film shows and lectures for the School. Exchange visits between school girls and boys of foreign countries were hoped to be made later. Nurse Rhodes and Nurse Hudson had given lectures in Mothercraft and Miss Kingdon and Mrs. Morgan in Red Cross work. Thanks were due to them and to the examiners. Guides and Scouts had made good progress and the School A.T.C., in spite of many set-backs, was now definitely on the upward climb.

During his report the Headmaster said that the School had done equally well on the games side of its activities and referred to the mysterious football team known as the "Rye Juniors," which was really the Rye Grammar School, and which had made itself so popular.

The Chairman then called upon Mrs. Bickersteth to present the prizes, after which Mr. Bickersteth gave a very amusing and interesting speech. The two main points of advice which he gave to the School were, to take an active interest in Local Govern-

ment, and to regard education as a means of freeing a person from boredom. The work attached to Local Government, he said, was most interesting, and local affairs really affected people's lives more than the affairs connected with the central government. If a person goes through life bored, that person's education can be said to have failed. Being Chairman of the County Council he said he naturally had quite a bit to do in connection with education. Six million pounds, he continued, was to be spent on education by the Council during the next few years and he hoped that the School would benefit by at least some of the money. Mr. Bickersteth concluded by saying that the School had experienced a very successful year, and he was confident that everyone would do just as well in the future.

A vote of thanks was then proposed to Mr. Bickersteth by the Mayor and this was followed by the Mayoress, Miss Warren, M.B.E., proposing a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

Speech Day for 1946 was brought to an end by the singing of the National Anthem.

PRIZEWINNERS

School Captain's Prize and Trollope Award	PAMELA WHITING L. FUGGLE
The Old Scholars' Prize	MARY FROSTICK
The Parents' Association Prizes for Progress	CLARA KING T. SAUNDERS
The Molyneux Jenkins' Prize for Mathematics	KATHLEEN BATEHUP
The T. Phillips' Prize for Mathematics (presented by W. Dunlop, Esq.)	SHEILA HOULSTON
The Mayor's Prize for Geography (presented by Ald. E. H. Stutely)	N. BARCLAY
Prize for History (presented by Brig.-Gen. E. G. Wace)	IRIS LEEDS GEORGE
Prize for Domestic Science (presented by Mrs. Wace)	MAY BREEDS
Prize for Divinity (presented by Miss Prentice)	R. B. WIGG
The English Essay Prize (presented by J. W. Foster, Esq.)	L. ALLEN
Prize for Art (presented by Mrs. Karr)	JOAN HOBDEN
Prizes for Handicraft (presented by Major Luxmore)	P. BOYCE M. BARCLAY G. WHITEMAN
The Headmaster's Prize for the best Literary Article in the School Magazine	L. ALLEN
Prize for the best Poem in the School Magazine (presented by Miss Stenning)	PAMELA WHITING

Prize for the best Illustration in the School Magazine	C. TEASDALE
Prize for Mothercraft (presented by a friend of the School)	STEPHANIE GAIN

FORM PRIZES

<i>Form VI.</i>	English	PAMELA WHITING
	French and Latin	GERALDINE HALL
	Botany and Zoology	KATHLEEN BATEHUP
	Biology	C. SAUNDERS
<i>Form V.</i>	English Language	ROSEMARY RAY
	English Literature and History	PATRICIA BARFOOT
	Languages and Science	MARY FROSTICK
	Mathematics	G. ROBERTS
	Art	L. PARKS
<i>Form Upper IV.</i>	R. B. WIGG, T. SAUNDERS, G. SEXTON, LILIAN BARNES	
<i>Form Lower IV.</i>	B. BAKER, GILLIAN PRATT, E. FROSTICK, D. CLAYSON.	
<i>Form Remove.</i>	EILEEN STOODLEY, J. FARROW, OLGA CLARK, G. HICKMAN	
<i>Form III.</i>	R. WOOD, C. GODDEN, M. STUNT	
<i>Form II.</i>	N. D. MONK, JOYCE BRAILEY, W. H. GOODWIN	

HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATES, 1946

KATHLEEN BATEHUP, GERALDINE HALL, PAMELA WHITING,
JOHN BULL

SCHOOL CERTIFICATES

December, 1945. STEPHANIE ORFORD, ELAINE WATTS
July, 1946. B. APPS, N. BARCLAY, M. BOYCE, B. CUTTING,
J. FUNNELL, M. METIANU, D. MORRIS,
E. PAIGE, L. PARKS, G. ROBINS, G. ROBERTS,
I. SMITH, PATRICIA BARFOOT, MAY BREEDS,
KITTY DIBLEY, MARY FROSTICK, JOAN
HOBDEN, CLARA KING, ROSEMARY RAY,
S. CHAPPELL.

HOUSE COMPETITIONS, 1944-45

<i>Football</i> —Dunlop Shield	PEACOCKE
<i>Hockey</i> —Old Scholars' Shield	MERYON
<i>Netball</i> —Hepworth Shield	PEACOCKE
<i>Swimming</i> —Gasson Shield	MERYON
<i>Athletics</i> —Bishop Shield	MERYON-PEACOCKE
<i>Cricket</i> —Heron-Wilson Shield	MERYN-SANDERS-PEACOCKE

<i>Tennis</i> —Lady Maud Warrender Shield	PEACOCKE
<i>Gymnastics (Girls)</i> —Howlett Cup	PEACOCKE
<i>House Championship Shield (Games)</i>	PEACOCKE
<i>Speech and Music</i> —Gwynne Shield	MERYON
<i>Work and Merit</i> —Hanby-White Shield	MERYON

Speech and Music Competition

The annual Speech and Music Competition took place between December 12th and 19th. From the start there was a marked improvement on last year's competition, especially in the music.

Form II commenced by reciting Rudyard Kipling's "Puck's Song," and for their Bible reading they read the story of Naaman the leper. Form IIIb recited an anonymous poem entitled "Preparations" and read "The Launching of the Argo," an excerpt from Kingsley's "The Heroes." "Meg Merrilees," by Keats, was said by Form IIIa, whose reading of A. T. Quiller-Couch's "The Cry in the Night" was one of the highlights of the Competition. "A Cinque Port," by John Davidson, and "A View from a Window," by Henry Kingsley, were spoken and read by Form L.IV Remove. From Form L.IV we had "The Old Ships," by Fletcher, and Addison's "Moll White." "Venice," by G. M. Trevelyan, was read by Form U.IV and their recitation of "The Patriot," by Robert Browning, was enthusiastically received by the audience. "A Passer-by," by Robert Browning, and "The Instability of Human Glory," by Defoe, were given by Form V. A letter of Richard Oastler's condemning the use of child-labour in Bradford mills was read by Form VI. Members of Form VI also gave a speech in the form of a vote of thanks to the donor of an imaginary swimming bath. Allen, for Meryon, gave an amusing speech, the cause of much laughter from the audience.

In the music part of the Competition there was an increased number of individual efforts. As well as the vocal solos and duets there were numerous entries for the pianoforte solo. The solos were: under 14, "Moonbeams"; over 14, "How Soft Upon the Evening Air"; and for the boys, "Bees." The only duet was given by the Senior Girls, who sang "Harebells." The choirs' performances of "England" and "Under the Greenwood Tree" were of a higher standard than in previous years, and those responsible for their coaching have reason to feel pleased with themselves.

Thanks are due to Miss Turner and Miss Merry for the work they have put in to ensure the success of this year's Competition, and to Mrs. Curran for adjudicating. I would also like to take this opportunity of thanking all those House captains, conductors and

accompanists who have worked so hard for their various houses.

The Competition throughout was keen, resulting in a win for Meryon with Sanders as runners-up.

The Christmas Parties

THE JUNIOR AND MIDDLE SCHOOL PARTIES

As is the custom at this time of the year, the Hall was brightly decorated with holly and mistletoe (but, unfortunately, not with paper chains) by Form VI towards the end of the term, and the Junior, Middle and Senior Schools gathered, at different times, to celebrate the festival of Christmas. The Junior and Middle Schools' parties were held on Tuesday, December 17th, the Juniors coming in the afternoon, and the Middle School joining them at teatime and staying until eight o'clock.

When the Juniors assembled at 2.30 p.m. it was seen that a great number of them were in fancy dress—and very fine fancy dresses they were, too. It was a pity that more boys were not dressed up, but perhaps next year they will follow the girls' lead. Catt, aided and abetted by his fellow-sixth-formers (who certainly enjoyed themselves as much as the Juniors), soon got the games under way and soon "Bigamy," "Winking," "Musical Laps" and the rest had come and gone. At about three o'clock the door opened and in walked Jam Sahib Thompson (looking as though he had not fed on English rations long), accompanied by two of his wives (Miss Stevens and Mrs. Sorenson). Loud cheers greeted their entrance and a game of "Bigamy" was immediately played in their honour.

Soon after this the fortune-teller arrived—a sixth-former in disguise, and a very clever disguise it was, too, that deceived many people for many hours. She was led to her den and got busy.

Meanwhile the games went on and at 4.30 tea was served. This had been prepared by Miss Green and the senior girls and was an excellent repast, most people going away satisfied (even the Middle School).

After tea everybody gathered in the Hall to see a play presented by the Junior Dramatic Society, called "The Stolen Prince," and produced by Mrs. Sorensen. This was very amusing and was well acted, but it would have been better had some of the girls managed to stop giggling while they were on the stage. This is bound to spoil a play—even at Christmas time.

The Juniors then left and the Middle School, with Miss Dann, Mr. Allnutt, Mr. Bayley and the Headmaster now present, took over. There were three highlights during the evening. The first was a game of Musical Hats, in which the Staff sat in a bunch and amused the party by the way in which they rammed their hats on their next door neighbour's head (Miss Dann reached

the "semi-final" of this game); the second was a game in which we saw the Staff, dressed in ridiculous hats, and very short football pants, dash round their teams; and the third was a game of postman's knock. This last game would have kept everybody present quite happy all the evening.

At 8 o'clock the prizes were presented (those for the best fancy dresses were won by Sylvia Croft as autumn and David as a highwayman) and everybody went home tired but happy. In concluding we must thank the Entertainments Committee who organised all the parties and made them such a splendid success, and also Baker and Foster who provided music at the piano.

THE SENIOR CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Senior Christmas Party, which was held at the end of term, went off with an extra big swing this year. This is probably due to the fact that there have been fewer social gatherings since our return from Bedford and therefore the party was looked upon as a bigger event than usual.

The apparatus which supplied the evening's music was a little late in arriving, but after 7 o'clock the "Christmas atmosphere" seemed to be well and truly amongst us. The appearance of the one and only Allen, complete in evening dress, gave rise to much laughter and one person (I suppose to show his genuine gratitude to the School Captain) wrote his initials boldly on Allen's spotlessly white dicky within five minutes of his arrival. A fast and exciting game of "Bigamy" was then played and a great deal of mirth was aroused when Miss Turner and Mr. Douglas were discovered sitting side by side under a large bunch of mistletoe. These two unfortunate people (whose faces well disclosed their feelings) immediately removed themselves to a safer position and the game continued with great gusto. Later in the evening a quiz was conducted by Catt, who asked such difficult questions that the great majority of the people taking part found themselves with a forfeit to perform. The gloating audience greatly enjoyed this, especially Baker's effort of imitating a school-master reprimanding a small boy for drawing his face on the blackboard.

Refreshments were then served by the sixth form girls in Room I and, judging by the way in which the "grub" disappeared, there seemed to be some pretty large appetites present. For the rest of the time dancing was the most popular entertainment. Mr. Douglas seemed to be rather puzzled during one dance (namely, the "black-out" dance when couples had to change partners after the lights were switched off) because he said someone kept on trying to force a large topee on his head. We can't think who that person was!

Quarter past nine soon arrived, however, and after standing for the National Anthem the people who had buses to catch left quickly, and the others stayed behind for a minute or two, just to see if there was a bun left over—there was *not*!

I.J.S.

Personal

Mr. Leonard Allen wishes, in reply to many enquiries, to make it clear that the evening dress which he wore at the Senior Christmas Party, held on December 19th, 1946, is *not* a family heirloom, and that he does not know the year in which it was tailored. Also the rumour that he received tips, as many dancers thought that he was an official waiter, is entirely untrue.

The Scout Summer Camp

On Friday, July 26th, at 9.30 a.m., the members of the Scout Troop who had plucked up enough courage to endure a week of camp, started off for Broadstone Warren (near Forest Row) in one of Wright and Pankhurst's lorries. Two members (of which I was one) cycled as we thought it safer. On the whole, I think it was, as the lorry broke down twice on the way and the others arrived at the official camping ground at about 3.30 p.m. to find that the cyclists were two hours ahead of them. We made quite a good job of pitching the tents in the rain and then settled down for a wet night.

Next morning the rain was still pouring down and continued to do so until the following Monday evening, except for very short breaks. During one of these breaks we attended the Camp Chapel and took part in an outdoor service sitting on logs instead of pews.

On Tuesday it was reasonably fine and we were able to swim and hold some wide games. Despite the rain we were able to swim at least once every day, some of us getting up early to do this. One highlight of the Camp was some very interesting and successful deer-stalking done by some of our scouts. Many deer were seen and many spoor collected, which the S.M. tenderly cleaned and explained to us.

On Wednesday we attended a camp fire, organised by a group of Dutch scouts who were also camping at Broadstone. Although they knew very little English and we knew no Dutch, we got on famously. Luckily the language of signs is the same in all countries. At the camp fire the Senior Patrol gave an amusing sketch showing what happened when they stalked a cow which they thought was a deer. The Dutch scouts seemed to appreciate this!

Friday seemed to be on us in no time and soon it was time to strike camp and get loaded into the lorry again. This we did

successfully and, surprisingly enough, with no accidents. This time the lorry did not break down and we got home without mishap or excitement.

Deer Stalking

Deer stalking is a sport in which very few people are interested. I myself would rather have an afternoon stalking than shooting. Even although I am new at the game I was thrilled with every minute on the two days that I went during a Scout camp held last summer.

There are three kinds of deer in the British Isles: the Red, the Roe, and the Fallow, and it is as well to be able to identify these before you start to stalk them. Our Senior Patrol went stalking one day and it was not long before they saw a brown animal ahead and immediately they flung themselves on to the ground and crawled up to it, stopping occasionally to stare at it through the binoculars. They reached the would-be deer and patted it triumphantly on the back, whereupon it turned its head and moored in their faces. It was a cow! The moral of this story is "Look before you stalk."

One day, while we were in camp this year, three boys came back from a walk with the news that they had seen deer spoor. Derek was one of these and that evening he and I set out, armed with binoculars and plaster of Paris, and obtained several casts, but did not see any deer. Next morning two other scouts went stalking and returned at dinner time with the news that they had seen a fawn and obtained its spoor.

Next day Derek and I determined to re-visit the stalking ground. We left the camp at about 10.30 a.m. and at about 11 o'clock we reached a small wood. Here we found deer spoor round a yew tree and these we followed along a narrow path. Across the path was a log and we could see the marks where the deer had jumped over it. We followed the trail down the side of the wood until we came to a cross paths and here we struck into the wood, walking along a raised path obviously used by the deer. Suddenly ahead of us we saw a water hole, so we climbed a nearby tree and waited. But we saw nothing. Then, as we were retracing our steps, I heard a rustle just ahead round a bend in the path. Into view came a stag. He stopped and stood there with his lovely shining brown fur and his two antlers with three branches each. But he stood thus only for a minute, then he stamped his feet, turned round and trotted away. We jumped up and started to follow him, but he was gone like the wind.

We wandered to the edge of the wood and out on to the hill beyond and sat down and had our lunch. About an hour later we walked towards the wood and were just about to enter it when

I happened to turn round and there, trotting down the hill, was a doe. I looked at her through the binoculars and then gave them to Derek. When she had disappeared we ran to the place where we had first seen her and took two casts of its spoor, and then we followed her trail into the wood and there, by some small trees, we found a well-trodden-down area which was obviously her resting place. That was the last thing of interest we saw that day, and we returned to camp to tell our story to the others as we prepared the stew for supper.

Icklesham Church

I am always fascinated by old churches. They remind me of ages long ago, of old customs, and old ideas. They form a link between us and our ancestors. East Sussex is rich in old churches and I think that one of the best is at Icklesham. This is dedicated to St. Nicholas and lies in the eastern half of the present village. Once it was partially obscured from view by evergreen trees, but these have now been cut down and the church, on its little rise, commands a great deal of the surrounding country as, indeed, it deserves to do.

The tower is to the north of the main body of the church and contains a clock which faces west. In the west wall there is a pentagonal porch with two doors which can be alternately opened to suit the weather, and there is a belfry door at the foot of the tower. In the south-east corner is a Lady Chapel and the chancel lies between this and the tower. The main aisle of the nave has columns down each side which possess some fine carvings round their capitals.

The organ is a two-manual instrument and is situated on the north side of the chancel. It has about twenty speaking stops and is powered by a small "Dixus" electric blower. Originally it was a much smaller instrument, but a good deal was added when the organ was rebuilt about 1930.

On the south wall is a very interesting plaque bearing the names of all the incumbents since the church was originally dedicated round about 1107. Also on the south wall is the war memorial, and on the opposite side of the church there is a stained glass window presented to the church by some soldiers who were stationed in the village during the first Great War.

During the second World War war came to the very doorstep of the church, but the only damage sustained was when the west window was broken. This has since been repaired and now the church stands unharmed, surrounded by the peaceful countryside, as it has stood since the first incumbent crossed its threshold in 1107.

B. Y. BAKER.

Fairlight

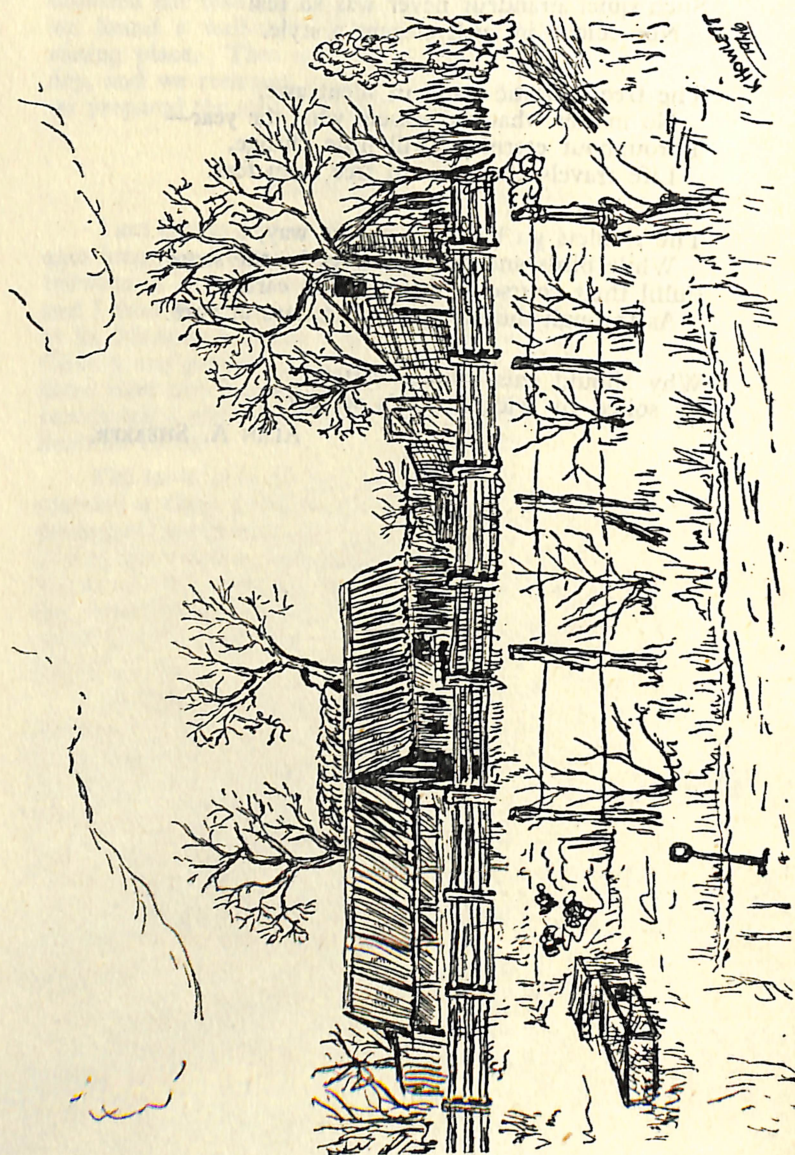
Such wealth of beauty Nature ne'er bestowed
Upon a portion of this sceptred isle;
Such quiet grandeur never was so real
Nor colour in such elegant a style.

The tree majestic stand in silent awe,
No matter what the season, what the year—
Throughout eternity 'twill little change,
Life travels ever onward free from fear.

The rivulets go babbling on the way,
While birds and tiny creatures by the score
Fulfil their course of duty on this earth
As through the ages past from days of yore.

Why should this infinite variety
Be soiled by wicked man's society?

ALAN A. SHEARER.



"A WINTER'S TALE" by K. Howlett, U.I.V

A Visit to East Malling

During the Summer term certain senior members of the School paid a visit to East Malling Research Station in Kent. The visit, which was arranged for the Science section, was intended to be primarily educational, but turned out to be very interesting as well.

The Research Station was concerned mainly with fruit trees and, on arriving there, we were split into two parties and were shown round some of the large orchards. The orchards were divided up into sections and in each section a different experiment was being carried out. There were various manural experiments in which trees had been treated with different artificial manures. The results were being carefully recorded to see which manures were most beneficial to the different types of apple, plum or pear. In this way, we were told, considerable information had been collected and passed on to the big fruit constituencies of the country.

Another series of experiments was being carried out on "root stocks." The "root stock" consists of the entire root system together with the lower part of the main stem and is responsible to a large extent in determining the nature of the adult tree. We saw sections of orchard where cuttings from one type of fruit tree had been grafted on to the "root stock" of another type. These experiments, we were told, had produced some amazing results and working on the same principle many years ago Mr. Cox had produced his immortal "orange-pippin."

Just before lunch we were shown a new idea for storing fruit. It was a large air-tight metal room with the inside of the walls vasolened. By means of electrical apparatus and helped by the breathing of the fruit, the carbon dioxide concentration of the room is maintained at approximately 20 per cent., which preserves the fruit in perfect condition.

After lunch we were shown an entire fruit tree which had been carefully removed from the soil with all its roots intact. It was indeed an amazing sight which one has to see in order to believe, with a greater portion of the tree below the ground rather than above it. Later we were shown round more experimental orchards where different fruit diseases were being kept under observation and treatment. We were also shown many picturesque ways of pruning fruit trees, certain methods were employed to improve the look of the orchards, other methods were used to try and increase the fruit production and finally a happy medium in which both improvements were attained to the highest possible degree.

Our visit ended at this point, but I feel that I cannot conclude without saying how much we appreciated the help, patience and

co-operation of certain members of the staff of the Research Station, who did everything possible to make our visit both pleasant and interesting.

A.A.S.

"Christmas"

Now hang up your stockings and be of good cheer,
For Santa is coming, and Christmas is here;
We'll bring in the holly and cut down the tree,
And hope there'll be turkey for you and for me.

Altho' we're all rationed and food is still short,
That will not prevent us from having some sport;
Let's all pull together with never a fear,
And say "Merry Christmas and Happy New Year."

J. TANNER,

Form II.

"Going to School"

At seven every morning, there's a knock upon my door,
I know that I must hurry up and wash myself once more;
I can't linger in the bathroom, nor cuddle back in bed,
Because if I don't hurry I'm sure I won't be fed.

As soon as I am ready I wake my sister up,
It's her turn for the bathroom, while I take out the pup;
Then she wakes up my brother, who is a sleepy head,
It's really quite a both to get him out of bed.

We all troop down to breakfast, without a bit of fuss,
We eat it rather quickly, in case we miss the bus;
There's a hunt for gloves and satchels, for shoes, and coats
and caps,

While Mother says impatiently, "Do hurry up you chaps."

At last we all are ready, and off to school we go,
There's me, and John, my brother, my sisters, Anne and Jo.

C. TANNER.

On Location

A short time ago I was employed as an extra with the Ealing Studios mobile unit while they were shooting parts of the film "Joanna Godden." As you can guess, this was very interesting work (and it was work!) and working every day with famous stars makes you realise they are human! I will try to give you some insight into a day's filming.

At 8.15 you are hurrying along to the day's shooting place—people stare to see the latest Edwardian fashions complete with long skirts and feathered hats. By 9 o'clock pay chits are distributed and you are "on set" ready to start. Everyone hopefully regards the sky, wondering if the sun will condescend to shine, because, as I expect you know, open-air shooting can only be done in the sunshine. So when the weather experts think the sun is about to shine—"On set, everybody, starting positions!" shouts the co-director. Then the stars arrive amidst great excitement from the spectators (not the extras, we get rather sick of the sight of them!). Up bustle the make-up man, the wardrobe mistress and the hairdresser (a glamorous beauty, typically "filmy"). When these three people have decided that the stars look good enough to face the cameras, the shot is rehearsed three or four times, and then comes the great moment—"O.K. everyone? Right, mark it—rake!"—and you are off. Then—"Cut!" and you groan—somebody's tie is crooked, or somebody looked at the camera, and we start again. This goes on for about an hour, until the director is absolutely satisfied that it is perfect. Then, at last, the shot is taken and everyone relaxes—but not so the stars; they are immediately mobbed for autographs, pose for snapshots and film "stills" and altogether have to look as pleasant as possible after a strenuous hour or two's work! So just remember, next time you see a film, that every shot lasting about half a minute when you see it, takes about two hours' work shooting it!

Time passes like this till about 6 o'clock, when you queue up for your pay and drag yourself home, tired out—but it was good fun while it lasted, and valuable experience. By the way, we did night work as well, 6 p.m.–6 a.m., and after sitting on a roundabout all night in the bitter cold, supposed to look happy (it was a fairground scene), you'd think twice about being a film star!

ROSEMARY RAY.

Old Tom

Within the hearth the log's aglow;
Outside the world is hid in snow;
The children in the field do play,
But Tom's the wisest one to-day
For in the fire-light, curled asleep,
He dreams that round him grey mice creep.

But when the stars shine overhead
And all the children lie in bed,
Puss stretches and a-hunting goes,
Stalking the mice, on padded toes,
While children small with sand-filled eyes,
Dream of dark snow-laden skies.

E. FROSTICK.

Dudley Dunn—'Tec

One fine wet morning the famous private detective, Dudley Dunn, was lying on his sofa eating a breakfast of bread and cheese and vaguely tickling his pet bloodhound, Blinker, behind the ear, when suddenly the ringing of the telephone bell made him jump alertly to his feet and reach for the receiver. "Who's there?" inquired a voice. "Dudley Dunn, private detective," answered our hero solemnly. "Dunn," said a voice trembling with emotion (which Dunn recognised as belonging to a wealthy client Sir Charlie Chuch), "my gold watch and diamond tie-pin have disappeared. I took them off and laid them on my kitchen table and when I came back they were gone. Dunn—will you help me?" Our hero thought a minute and then, realising the urgency of the matter, said, "Never fear—I am with you," and a few minutes later was mounted on his best scooter and speeding toward the scene of the crime.

When he arrived he found Sir Charlie and his pet cat having hysterics in the bathroom, but he soon calmed them and began his investigations. Sir Charlie managed to calm himself enough to tell him that at the time of the robbery there had been in the house himself, his butler (Ferdinand Flatfeet) and his butler's pet Raven (Roger). Immediately he heard this, Dunn did not hesitate. "This is a case for Blinker," he cried and drawing out his penny bazooka he played "Auld Lang Syne" backwards and in bounded his faithful hound, who immediately began licking the polish off Sir Charles' shoes. "That mongrel must be very hungry," Sir Charlie managed to blurt out. "Oh, no!" cried Dunn. "He's on the track of the thief." At that moment Blinker bounded off upstairs and sat barking under the raven's cage. Quickly Dunn wrenched open the cage and brought out a gold watch and a tie-pin. "Are these yours?" he asked Sir Charles. "I would recognise them anywhere," said that worthy, "by the curious markings on their backs." Dudley looked and, sure enough, the words "Made in Japan" were clearly visible. "Ah," said he. "Yet another case successfully concluded," and he lay down on the sofa where Sir Charles' butler brought him more bread and cheese, while Bouncer bounded happily through the window and chased rabbits among the cauliflowers.

[In our next issue: Read how Dudley Dunn saves Sir Charlie's goldfish from being kidnapped. Order your copy now.]

MYRDDIN J. DAVID.

Education in the R.A.F. (Overseas)

Unknown to the majority of people in Britain, a scheme is in operation in the Forces which is the biggest experiment of its

kind ever known—I refer to the Educational and Vocational Training Scheme. The Army and Navy have their own individual organisations, but I have only experience with the R.A.F. E.V.T. Scheme as it operates overseas and I feel that a few condign words of appreciation would not only reveal some of the difficulties with which it has to cope but also stimulate interest among adults concerning this vital process of education.

The opinion which I heard expressed by a Doctor of Philosophy that upon leaving University you are highly instructed but that education is about to begin, becomes increasingly significant but nevertheless the importance of extensive instruction is not to be underestimated. E.V.T. then provides an opportunity for continuing this interrupted instruction and the response has been very great but can, and will, be greater.

Broadly speaking, the scheme provides for the release from duty, for one hour daily, of anyone desirous of instruction in a subject that is likely to be of importance in the future. That sounds simple enough in writing but in practice a very different picture is presented and to trace some of the difficulties let us start with the Education Officer, who has become increasingly important (and busy) since E.V.T. was implemented immediately following Germany's defeat.

E.O.'s are in great demand everywhere, but owing to the fact that demobilisation has taken toll of so many, a station frequently finds that it has to give the responsibility to someone like the Sports Officer or, failing that, a Senior N.C.O. At Almaza (a Personnel Transit Centre just outside Cairo) I was told by an exasperated Flight Sergeant Air Bomber that there had been many E.O.'s on their station but that they had been posted so quickly that it was impossible to hang on to one—that was why he was sitting behind this ruddy typewriter! Even assuming that an E.O. is available he is so hard worked that he becomes something of a Scarlet Pimpernel on the Station; someone is always looking or waiting for him. He has to provide, where humanly possible, instruction for every E.V.T. student, and the range of subjects is very wide, including, on the Educational programme, Physics, Maths., Biology, Chemistry, Latin, Hebrew, French, Art, etc., and on the Vocational syllabus, Woodwork, Metalwork, Basket-making, Leatherwork, Bakery, Confectionery, etc., etc., and where there are insufficient instructors he has to either send students to other nearby stations or colleges, or, as a last resort, apply for more instructors.

Instructors, too, are pitifully few in number, but then facilities for training men for that work are inadequate to say the least and No. 2 E.V.T. Instructors' School, El Gedida, is an amazing organisation which I am sure is unique. I recently attended as a student on Course No. 20, the three-weeks' instruction

and those twenty-one days made an indelible impression on my mind. There were fifty-one all told, officers, N.C.O.s and airmen from all over the Middle East area—in the little group to which I belonged there was an R.A.F. Regiment Corporal from a station in Jerusalem, a Flying Officer Pilot from Ismailia, a Sergeant Fitter from Malta, two L.A.C. Fitters, one from Castel Benito, the other from Quastina, and a Radar Mechanic from Naples. There were also students from Khartoum, Klegenfurt Area (Austria), Asmara, Aden, Bahrein (in the Persian Gulf), and Habbaniya (Iraq, six days' train journey from El Gedida!) so there was the complicated problem of transport, even when the units from which these men came have decided to spare them.

When the student has passed the course he returns to his unit to await posting and in the meantime he may be used as his E.O. thinks fit. In most cases he is urgently needed and the fact that he has special selected subjects to instruct is usually disregarded and the "rookie" instructor in Geography and Civics finds himself teaching Physics, Economics and Maths. in addition to taking General Knowledge or Discussion Groups. This is disconcerting enough without his other drawback which is, in most cases, lack of adequate buildings and apparatus. You cannot teach a lesson on the internal combustion engine without apparatus, neither can you conduct a successful discussion on, say, "Leisure," in a Nissen hut when the temperature hovers around 117 degrees! Encouraging reports were submitted of instructors taking lessons in all manner of places, in hangars, under the wings of aircraft, in huts made of packing cases and, in Malta, both Maltese and troops have instruction together in the available buildings. These are only some obstacles to be overcome, other problems are constituted by mobile units, in signals or maintenance units, squadrons, etc., who are never in one spot for more than a month or two—such are the almost fantastic conditions under which E.V.T. operates!

There are other factors, too, which tend to complicate the difficulties already mentioned, above all the state of mind of the average "old sweat" (with regard to the one hour's compulsory Resettlement Lectures per week) is one of extreme apathy which can only be understood by consideration of his thoughts. There is no longer a war, he is no longer vital, he works less, he works shorter hours and he wants to go back home but demobilisation *seems slow, the only consolation is the thought of the boat—the boat!* The term "The boat" is the most common term out here; everyone looks forward to the Boat. The signals cabin in which I used to work had seven pictures on the door, all were boats; there is a model on my set, it was a boat, S.S. "Release." You cannot blame anyone for adopting that attitude, but if you happen to be lecturing to two hundred or so men of whom one hundred and eighty want you to dry up, then do not care, five are interested

and the remaining five are waiting for loophole so that they can "shoot you down in flames," you get a feeling of hopelessness. The initial resentment, however, has died down and good work is being done in this great pioneer scheme in adult education, but until resettlement has been effected and the new Education Act implemented, there is much to be done. No doubt when conscription is enforced greater emphasis will be laid upon such aspects and the conscript will find numerous opportunities awaiting him during his term of service, but that is only conjecture. There are innumerable other anecdotes about the uses, sometimes the abuses, of E.V.T., but I hope the facts already mentioned will give a rough idea of the task it is fulfilling.

R. G. BURNETT, R.A.F.

Old Scholars

Christmas greetings came from Roy Frehner, training for a commission in the Indian Army, at Bangalore, Kitty King, Luigi Samaden (F.A.A.) and his sister Maureen, Philip Mead, Peggy Lusted (now Rayner and settled in Canada), Dawn Messeter, Jean Pope, Elaine Watts (teaching at Frant), W. Colvin (with the R.A.F. in Malaya—he promises to write!), Graham Smith (now back at Balliol), Pamela Whiting (at King's), Trevor Pollard (at R.I.U.C., Sarai Alamgir, India), Miss Hill, Stephanie Gain (training as a telephonist at Hastings), Peter Swaine (from the War Office), Ethel Eldridge (still in Bedford), Pat Green (in Berlin), Bert Cutting (now through his preliminary training—very high on the list—and expecting to go to sea very soon), Joan Beasley, Kathleen Bateup, Monica Partleton (from Aden and expecting soon to rejoin the School), Rosalie Green, R. G. Burnett (still at Heleopolis with the R.A.F.), J. Mewse (now a regular in the Royal Sussex and attached to an O.C.T.U.), Richard Fletcher (now H.M.S. "St. Vincent"), Miss Glenister and John Pulford (still at Kidlington and hoping to go to Hertford College, Oxford, as soon as he is released).

Congratulations to Margaret and Doreen Baker on their weddings. Also to Barbara Ellis, who married a former member of the Headmaster's House at Bec School.

Jean Smith, after more than her ration of service in the Middle East, is returning to civilian nursing at Northampton while her husband, on whom we have to congratulate her, is in Germany.

Congratulations to Geoffrey Paine on his commission in the Royal Sussex. He called at School before leaving for Palestine. Brian Dawson looked in just before Christmas. He is working very long hours as a clerk in the R.A.F. and complains he gets no opportunity for study. Another ex-Captain, Eric Fellows,

was called back to the R.A.F. and is now a P.T. Instructor. Congratulations to him on his marriage. Roy Hulbert writes from Watford, where he is telephonist at a hospital. He says he has a lot of spare time and is taking up Greek for New Testament study. Kathleen Batehup writes a long letter from University College and also revels in not having enough to do. Some folks seem to be lucky! Joan Hobden is working for a manufacturing artist in Hastings. Peter Wood writes from Catterick and is another reluctant admirer of the Headmaster's county. He is in the R.A.C. and expects to be in O.C.T.U. by this. Brian Lupton writes from Loughborough; he is now U.L.M.C. and is open to take engagements as a professional conjuror (shades of Russell Park Hall!).

Congratulations to Horace Franklin, of Newhaven, and Geoffrey Blackmore, of Seaford, on their matriculation certificates. They both started with us in Bedford and went to Lewes County School for Boys when we returned home, and both wrote most generously of the start we had given them. We were also very glad to see them at Speech Day. Peter Boyce has settled very happily at Loughborough. Peter Cooper is now back at Kelham, having recovered from the bug he picked up in the Pacific. He still borrows history books from the Headmaster! The long-expected Trollope Awards brought quite a spate of letters from ex-Captains. Winnie Allen still lives in a Waterloo Road, though at Leiston, not Bedford. She appears to have taken over the business management of her school magazine, so perhaps she'll pick up a few wrinkles to pass on to Leonard! Paulina Metianu is still at her camp school in Northumberland and talks of taking an appointment abroad. Audrey Ashdown has gone to the High School, Hasham, and feels it rather large with its 600 girls. Philip Mead is now farming near Brighton, while Molly Milham, another recent leaver, has arrived safely at London, Ontario, and has joined the Central Collegiate School, where she appears to be working with very much older children. We hope to hear soon that she has passed on to High School.

Older old scholars we have heard from recently include Mervyn L. Beney ('22-'24), now in Eastbourne, and D. S. Pellett ('32-'34) of Winchelsea Beach. (Pellett, while with the R.A. in Burma, met T. L. Berry.) R. G. Burnett has written several times. A special article by him is printed elsewhere in the magazine.

Congratulations to L. J. Clark on his marriage and also to an old friend Arthur Penny. Congratulations to him also on being appointed first Chairman of the Old Scholars' Association.

To Friends and Old Scholars

Once again we are pleased to include in this Magazine an article by an Old Scholar. We are always glad to receive from you and we shall welcome more such articles, any letter or even some criticism.

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