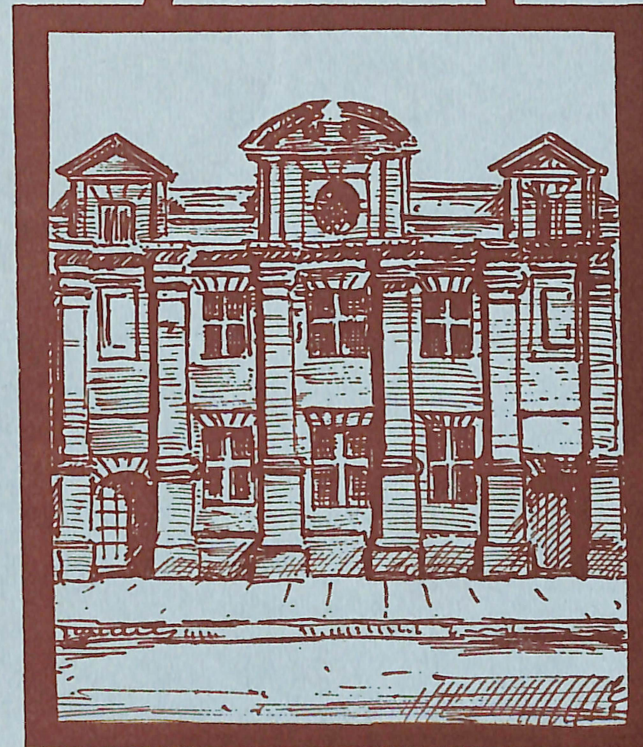


“RYA”

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MAGAZINE OF RYE GRAMMAR SCHOOL  
SUMMER  
1956



# "RYA"

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No. 35

Summer, 1956

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*The Magazine of  
Rye Grammar School*

*New Series*

Editors :

D. H. F. Morris

Marion Saunders

Jacqueline Cole

P. J. Hole

J. S. Gage

B. J. Beeching



- P. Hole. School Prefect; Open Scholarship in History to Wadham College, Oxford.
- J. S. Gage. School Prefect; Open Scholarship in History to Queen's College, Oxford.
- B. Monk. School Prefect; to Bristol University to study Theology.
- B. W. Smith. To Loughborough College to train as a Teacher of Handicrafts.
- R. Dengate. School Prefect. Into farming.
- P. Stone. Cpl. A.T.C.; into the R.A.F.
- M. Barnes. Into the R.A.F.
- H. Crouch blazes a new trail by entering the E. Yorks Regimental Band as a horn player. His good experience with the Rye Town Band won him a direct place into the Regimental Band.

#### University Degrees 1956

- Joy Baker. B.Sc. (Biology); Bristol University.
- B. J. Baker. B.Mus. Birmingham University. F.R.C.O. (Fellow of Royal College of Organists)
- D. Hodgson. B.Sc. (2nd Class Honours) in Engineering Science; Brasenose College, Oxford.
- D. Jackson. B.Sc. in Science; Southampton University.
- D. Monk. B.A. in Languages; Reading University.
- A. Smith. B.Sc. (2nd Class Honours) in Science; Southampton University.

#### LIBRARY NOTES

This must surely have been a vintage year for new books added to the Library. The Geography, Physics, Chemistry and Biology sections have all benefited from the special grants made in the last year by the Education Authority, while the Junior Fiction shelves have borne a good many 'triplets'—sets of three of such works as Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress, Hans Anderson's Fairy Tales, Robinson Crusoe and Stevenson's Treasure Island. The old Edwardian Encyclopedia Britannica has been replaced by the latest Chambers' Encyclopedia. Keen scientists and economists may now consult these pages without fear of being misled.

Much excellent work has been done in the Library this year by a few devoted members of the Library Staff. The card-index catalogue, which was a snare and source of confusion to the few who consulted it, has now after two or three terms' conscientious work been revised and brought up to date. The arrears of rebinding have almost been cleared again thanks to the generosity of parents and the Education Authority. Parents' contributions have made it possible to buy a large number of books on a wide range of subjects from Roman Roads to Canine Psychology.

The Librarian wishes to thank the following for their gifts of books to the Library—



Madge Wood (Old Scholar)—The Musical Companion: A. L. Bacharach  
Hilary Webb (Old Scholar)—A Choice of Kipling's Prose: Chosen and  
introduced by Somerset Maugham

Mrs. Goldie—The Waverley Novels: Sir Walter Scott

The School Committee—Dutch Painting: R. H. Wilenski.

Augustus John: J. Rothenstein

Titian: Hans Tietze

M. Jupp (L4)—Hornblower and the Atropos: C. S. Forester

The Kon-Tiki Expedition: Thor Heyerdahl

The Dam Busters: P. Brickhill

The long list of missing books at the end of term suggests considerable carelessness on the part of some borrowers. It is essential that all who use the Library should invariably observe the rules and use the correct procedure for borrowing books.

### SALTCOTE PLACE 1955-56

At the beginning of the Autumn Term, Saltcote welcomed six new girls in place of the six prefects who had left at the end of the previous term, and later during the term two more came. They soon settled down and quickly became enthusiastic Guides or Red Cross Cadets. Other boarders joined the Sea Rangers and some continued the tradition of bell-ringing in Rye. Among the highlights of the Term, November 5th should be included. The boarders set off in small groups and stationed themselves at strategic points to watch the lighting of the bonfire and the fireworks. At the end of the Christmas Term we had a party for the Juniors and a dance for the Seniors, each of which was a great success.

The Spring Term was short and uneventful except for the table-tennis tournament which was unfortunately not completed until the beginning of the following term, when it was won by Susan Smith. At the end of this term we were sorry to say good-bye to Miss Hague who had been of great assistance during her short stay with us.

At the beginning of the Summer Term we welcomed Miss Cannings in place of Miss Hague. Mr. and Mrs. Jacobs kindly gave us a cup for the tennis singles which was won this year by Gillian Lauder, and the doubles cup, which was given by Miss Collings when she left, was won by Geraldine Saunders and Gillian Sewell. One of the features of this term was the tennis match, Saltcote v School Staff—the result was a victory to the School. Towards the end of term we held a party out-of-doors for the Juniors. We were favoured with fine weather and had a good time. The following Saturday the Seniors held their annual Summer Dance which was an unqualified success. On the last night of term, Saltcote visited Canterbury where they saw Gilbert and Sullivan's 'Mikado' which they all enjoyed. This provided a fitting ending for the Summer Term.

Unfortunately we had to say good-bye to Miss Cannings to whom we wish every success at her new school and we would like to take this opportunity of expressing our appreciation for all that Miss Nelson is doing for Saltcote and for Miss Turner's untiring work as Matron.

Jean Morrison and Clare Filgate

### MERYON HOUSE REPORT

House Mistress	Miss Lumb
House Master	Mr. Allnutt
House Captains	S. Dobbie, B. Beeching
Treasurer	R. Dengate
Secretary	P. Cooper
Prefects	B. Beeching, R. Dengate, P. Cooper, S. Dobbie, A. Wood, J. Morrison, C. Filgate

The first event of the Summer Term was the election of Athletic Captains, but in spite of their efforts and some good performances on Sports Day, we were finally placed third.

A better show was put up by the Cricket Teams of Lower and Middle School boys, and it was only due to the Seniors losing to Peacocke that we lost the shield by two points from Sanders.

In consolation for losing the Sports Shield, the House continued to work hard to win the Work and Merit Shield. Well done Meryon!

The House collections could have been improved, but we sent 4 gns. to the "Church of England Children's Society" and it was gratefully accepted.

At the end of the Term we were unfortunate in losing our two Captains, S. Dobbie and B. Beeching and our Treasurer R. Dengate. We thank them for all the hard work that they had put into the House, and we wish them every success for the future.

To all the other members of the House who are leaving we say goodbye and good luck for the years to come, and to those returning we say "Work and play hard to try to make it a more successful year next year."

Last, but certainly not least, we thank Miss Lumb and Mr. Allnutt for the work that they have done for the House, and for their continued interest in our welfare.

### OPEN DAY

On Saturday, July 21st we were once again blessed with a fine day despite heavy misgivings occasioned by the unsettled weather. With nature smiling on the event a happy atmosphere seemed to prevail, and many people came away at the end with memories of what had certainly been one of the most pleasurable and useful Open Days we have yet had.



It may have been that the fewer organised activities than usual gave more opportunity for talk, and for getting acquainted with one another. After all, the main purpose of the day is to give a chance to parents to see the School and its amenities, the progress of the new buildings, to conjecture to what it will look like when it is finished, to meet the Headmaster and Staff, and to get to know more about them and each other. The fact that there were more parents there than ever before is no doubt partly due to the increased numbers in the School, but also to the fact that many parents are beginning to realise that if their children are to make the best use of a Grammar School education, then they, too, have very definite duties as parents.

It was therefore a very happy and successful idea by the Headmaster which time-tabled Form Masters and Mistresses in their Rooms from 4.0 to 4.45 p.m. where many parents made good use of the opportunity to establish contact with their child's Form teacher, and to talk over any doubts and difficulties.

The displays in the School included an Art Exhibition, Woodwork and Technical Drawing, Metalwork and Engineering Drawing, Domestic Subjects, Commercial Subjects in the new Commercial Room (Room 9) and new equipment in the Physics Laboratory. All of these were of a high standard.

The Events began with an attractive Boys' Vaulting Display under Mr. Mitchell, Scottish Dances by girls from the Lower and Middle School (run by Miss Murray and Miss Cannings), and ended with two very good Sports Events. The Final of the Girls' Doubles, where Verity James and Valerie Mitchell were eventually beaten by Susan Dobbie and Raine Goddard after a struggle lasting 1½ hours, was one of the highlights of the day and kept a large number of people interested in a very hard fought game.

The Parents had to bow to defeat by the School Cricket XI for when Rogers (31 not out) and the captain, J. Clarke (20 not out) made victory possible with some good, attacking batting.

In the Hall two talks on Careers were very well attended. Parents nowadays are realising how important it is to find a suitable career for their children and, what is more important still, to get their children thinking along these lines **before** they leave school, rather than **after**, when it is too late to do much.

Commander Davey, R.N. and Second Officer Archer, W.R.N.S., in giving talks on the Navy as a career for boys and girls, were batting on a good wicket in a town so traditionally connected with the sea as Rye.

Miss Swinton from the School of Catering at Hastings was well known to us from her previous talks, and we already have proof of the interest she has aroused in Catering as a career for boys as well as girls.

The A.T.C. had mounted a good exhibition in their Headquarters, and the Library had an exceptionally good showing of new books.

Perhaps the most generally popular exhibition was, however, that of cakes and teas, displayed, eaten and washed up in the Dining Hall by girls skilled in the culinary arts.

The heaviest task in the organisation of what is really a very complicated day, although it passed so easily and pleasantly, was carried out by Mr. J. Bagley with his usual quiet competence, and everyone must be grateful to him for the hard work he put in to make possible so very successful an Open Day.

## ATHLETICS, 1956

Once again the School has been very successful in the field of Athletics and the outlook for the future seems even brighter. The School Sports produced several records, the most notable being those set up by K. Ziegfeld in the Shot and Discus events. R. Seeley in the 100 yards, K. Huckstepp in the High Jump, M. Jarvis in the Javelin, M. Ovenden in the Senior Javelin and Peacocke Middle School Boys Relay Team all smashed the previous records. Peacocke again won the Athletic Shield with a clear victory from Sanders, with Meryon a good third; the points awarded being Peacocke 403, Sanders 344½ and Meryon 282½.

On the results of the School Sports a strong team was selected to compete at the East Sussex Schools Athletic Association meeting at Hailsham, where Ann Sewell and Jane Turner set up new records for the Intermediate Girls' Discus and Senior Girls' High Jump respectively. Ann Sewell and J. Pellett, K. Ziegfeld, R. Day and R. Seeley who also reached a high standard in their events, were awarded their East Sussex County Badges.

A number of competitors were chosen on their performance at Hailsham to represent East Sussex at the Sussex Athletic Championship at Withdean, Brighton, and the following were placed.

Jacqueline Cole—1st Senior Girls' Javelin  
 Jane Turner—1st Senior Girls' High Jump  
 Cathrine Layzell—1st Senior Girls' 100 yards (equalled record)  
 Jane Turner, Susan Small, Cathrine Layzell—1st Senior Girls' Relay  
 R. Catt—2nd Senior Boys' Hurdles  
 Susan Small—2nd Senior Girls' Long Jump  
 K. Ziegfeld—2nd Intermediate Boys' Shot  
 Valerie Mitchell—3rd Senior Girls' Javelin  
 Ann Sewell—4th Inter Girls' Discus  
 R. Seeley—4th Junior Boys' High Jump  
 H. Burgess—5th Senior Boys' Discus  
 J. Pellett—5th Inter Boys' 880 yards  
 Barbara Axten—5th Inter Girls' Hurdles  
 R. Day—5th Inter Boys' High Jump  
 Margaret Bourne—6th Inter Girls' High Jump  
 Jean Burgess—6th Inter Girls' Discus



Jane Turner and Cathrine Layzell were selected to represent Sussex in the All England Inter County Athletic Championship at Plymouth where they were fortunate enough to see outstanding performances by the two young A.A.A. champions John Young and Madeleine Weston, and an exhibition 880 yards by Gordon Pirie.

Colours have been awarded to J. Cole, V. Mitchell, A. Sewell, L. Tubbs and L. Grout.

It is with great regret that we say goodbye to Miss Murray and Miss Cannings, and we wish them every success in their new schools.

C.R.R.L

#### **Athletics—Boys**

Colours have been renewed to K. Huckstepp and awarded to—

R. Catt, K. Ziegfeld, R. Day, J. Pellett, R. Seeley, H. Crouch, M. Ovenden and M. Jarvis.

#### **Gymnastics—Boys**

Colours were renewed to Catt and Ovenden, and awarded to—

Adams, Greenhalgh, Rankin, Relf, Wilkinson and Wood.

### **TENNIS REPORT. SUMMER 1956**

On the whole the season has been a good one for all teams.

The 1st VI played three matches and had one cancelled due to rain. The first match was against Hastings High School at home. The whole team played well and the final score was a win to us by 59 games to 40. The next match was away at Ashford Grammar School and we were unlucky to be beaten by one game—the results being 41 games to 40. The final match was a return against Hastings on their courts. The conditions on the grass courts were not ideal but we won by 44 games to 37.

The annual match against the Boys saw us facing a more formidable team than last year. However, they had little chance to practise together and we beat them although not without some difficulty.

The first VI also played an Old Scholars' team and showed considerable superiority in an easy win.

The team has been chosen from the following: Verity James, Jacqueline Cole, Ann Sewell, Valerie Mitchell, Stephanie Lauder, Diana Dolan, Jacqueline Mitchell, Raine Goddard, Susan Dobbie.

The 2nd VI captained by Linda Tubbs played only one match; against Ashford Grammar School which they lost by 48 games to 33.

The Under 15 VI have played three matches. The first against the Convent of the Holy Child they lost by 3 games to six. Their second match against Hastings at home brought revenge in the shape of a win by 33 games to 26 and the third match, a return against Hastings by two couples only, was a drawn game 22 games all.

The team has been chosen from the following: S. Lauder, F. Wiggle, J. Burton, S. Robbins, J. Bourne, M. Smith, G. Lauder and J. Smith.

Peacocke did well to win the House Tennis Tournament against stiff opposition from both the other houses who finished up one game apart.

Raine Goddard and Susan Dobbie were the successful couple in this year's Doubles Championships.

There were many promising young players and the outlook for next year is indeed very rosy.

Verity James

Upon examination it will be seen that out of nine matches played the teams have won 5 and drawn 1, a much more cheering analysis than in previous years.

The House matches were surely the highlight of the term, causing considerable astonishment and pleasure by the admirable exhibition particularly in the Middle School matches when the school playground became temporarily transformed into a veritable Junior Wimbledon. The best of luck to all those young players ! !

I must also add my very sincere thanks to all those Upper School girls who have so patiently and good-humouredly given their services as umpires throughout the term and to Verity who has proved a reliable and conscientious captain.

Colours were awarded to Susan Dobbie, Raine Goddard and Valerie Mitchell.

B. Murray

### **ROUNDERS REPORT 1956**

The Under 14 team had a successful season. They played three matches, winning two and drawing one, the rest unfortunately had to be scratched. The team was strong and the fielding and hitting were both good. The following played particularly well—Alison Dobbie, Gillian Lauder and Phyllis Huckstep. Alison and Gillian already have their Rounders colours and colours are awarded to Phyllis Huckstep. Alison Dobbie has been a very helpful captain throughout the season.

The Under 13 team lost all three of their matches but only by a very narrow margin. They were a promising team and with more alert fielding and better placing of hitting they should do better. Susan Roser has been awarded her Rounders colours this term; she has played very well and has been an efficient captain.

#### **Results**

1. Hastings High School (12.5.56)  
Under 14 IX won 3—1  
Under 13 IX lost 2½—4
2. Ashford Grammar School  
Under 14 IX drew 5—5  
Under 13 IX lost 5—6



3. Hastings High School (7.7.56)  
Under 14 IX won 4—0  
Under 13 IX lost 3—4

### CRICKET REPORT—1st XI

This season's First Eleven has probably been the youngest fielded by the School, as it has contained seven boys from the Middle School. The only Sixth-Former has been P. Stone, who has played in about half the matches. The experience gained by the young players should prove invaluable during the next few years.

Of the thirteen matches played, five were won, three drawn and five lost. Unfortunately home games against Bexhill Grammar School and the Old Scholars and an away game against Hastings Grammar School were cancelled on account of rain.

The most successful batsmen have been the captain J. Clarke, D. Rogers and K. Huckstepp, who all showed great promise, while P. Monk has made marked improvement. The bowling has been mainly in the hands of A. Lawrence and B. Rankin, with help from J. Clarke, D. Rogers and J. Roberts. C. Edwards has developed into a sound wicket-keeper.

The team has been chosen from—J. Clarke, A. Lawrence, B. Rankin, D. Rogers, K. Huckstepp, C. Edwards, P. Monk, M. Jarvis, M. Bryant, M. Hills, P. Stone, J. Roberts.

Colours have been renewed to J. Clarke and A. Lawrence and awarded to B. Rankin, D. Rogers and K. Huckstepp.

### CRICKET RESULTS—1st XI

Eastbourne Technical School—Home

R.G.S. 59 (J. Clarke 29, P. Stone 11); E.T.S. 60 for 3;  
(A. Lawrence 3 for 19). Lost by 7 wickets

Goudhurst School—Home

R.G.S. 67 (J. Clarke 28); Goudhurst 52 (A. Lawrence 5 for 16,  
J. Clarke 3 for 16). Won by 15 runs.

Goudhurst School—Away

R.G.S. 52 (J. Clarke 13, M. Jarvis 10); Goudhurst 31  
(A. Lawrence 6 for 14, J. Clarke 4 for 12). Won by 21 runs

Ashford Grammar School—Away

R.G.S. 41 (D. Rogers 21, C. Edwards 10); A.G.S. 42 for 4  
(B. Rankin 2 for 15, D. Rogers 2 for 15). Lost by 6 wickets.

Hastings Grammar School—Home

H.G.S. 71 (A. Lawrence 5 for 22); R.G.S. 53 for 5 (K. Huckstepp  
25 not out, D. Rogers 13). Drawn.

Duke of York's R.M.S. (Dover)—Away

D.Y.R.M.S. 105 for 7 dec. (B. Rankin 3 for 26, D. Rogers 2 for  
28); R.G.S. 63 for 8 (J. Clarke 21 not out, K. Huckstepp 16).  
Drawn

Brickwall School—Home

Brickwall 82 (B. Rankin 6 for 19); R.G.S. "A" 86 for 1  
(D. Rogers 42 not out, P. Monk 30 not out). Won by 9 wickets

Eastbourne Technical School—Away

R.G.S. 63 (P. Stone 15 not out); E.T.S. 67 for 7 (D. Rogers 4 for  
13, J. Clarke 3 for 21). Lost by 3 wickets

Brickwall School—Away

Brickwall 28 (B. Rankin 4 for 16, A. Lawrence 3 for 9); R.G.S.  
"A" 63 for 5 (D. Rogers 22, C. Edwards 11 not out). Won by  
7 wickets

Bexhill Grammar School—Away

R.G.S. 85 (K. Huckstepp 30, C. Edwards 16, M. Jarvis 10 not out)  
B.G.S. 87 for 0. Lost by 10 wickets.

Cooper's School—Home

Cooper's 100 for 6; R.G.S. 56 for 5 (P. Monk 12 not out, C.  
Edwards 12, D. Rogers 10, J. Clarke 9 not out). Drawn

Parents—Home

Parents 62 (Roberts 3 for 4, A. Lawrence 3 for 25, D. Rogers 2  
for 18); R.G.S. 72 for 2 (D. Rogers 31 not out, J. Clarke 20 not  
out, P. Monk 11). Won by 8 wickets

Old Scholars—Home

O.S. 93 for 7 dec. (D. Rogers 3 for 35, B. Rankin 2 for 21, A.  
Lawrence 2 for 33); R.G.S. 55 (K. Huckstepp 15). Lost by 38  
runs

### 2nd XI

Goudhurst School 2nd XI—Home

R.G.S. 68 (J. Hackman 34); Goudhurst 56 (R. Dengate 3 for 14,  
P. Knapp 3 for 20, M. Young 2 for 3). Won by 12 runs.

Goudhurst School 2nd XI—Away

R.G.S. 93 (C. Relf 28, P. Monk 17, M. Young 11); Goudhurst 47  
(P. Knapp 4 for 10, B. Smith 2 for 1, M. Young 2 for 16). Won  
by 46 runs

### JUNIOR CRICKET XI

Results—Played 6, Won 3, Drawn 1, Lost 2

v Hastings G.S. (Home)

R.G.S. 72 for 4 dec (Pennell 23, Clark 23); H.G.S. 54 (Seeley  
5 for 7, Clark 3 for 19). Won by 18 runs.

v Ashford G. S. (Away)

A.G.S. 110 (Seeley 5 for 28, Turner 2 for 4, Clark 3 for 31);  
R.G.S. 92 (Jarvis 28, Pennell 25). Lost by 18 runs

v Duke of York's Military School, Dover

D.Y.M.S. 108 for 8 dec. (Seeley 3 for 29, Swaine 2 for 13);  
R.G.S. 76 (Jarvis 38, Pennell 14). Lost by 32 runs



v Goudhurst

Goudhurst 75 for 9 dec. (Jarvis 3 for 14, Swaine 3 for 24);  
R.G.S. 76 for 4 dec. (Jarvis 27, Clark 25). Won by 6 wickets

v Bexhill G.S.

B.G.S. 118 (Jarvis 4 for 42; Clark 3 for 34; Swaine 2 for 20).  
R.G.S. 116 for 6 (Jarvis 52; Pennell 29) Drawn.

v Cooper's School

R.G.S. 84 (Turk 15; Seeley 15; Turner 11; Waters 10).  
C.S. 47 (Seeley 6 for 12; Jarvis 3 for 15) Won by 37 runs.

**Under 13's**

v Southlands (Away)

Southlands 50 (Beaney, D. 5 for 11; Breeds 2 for 9).  
R.G.S. 15 (Bourne, G. 5; Blacklock 5). Lost by 35 runs.

### JUNIOR XI CRICKET REPORT

1. **Jarvis A.** Alan Jarvis in his first season for the Juniors opened the batting in every match. He shows great promise with his forceful batting. He scored a total of 154 in six games, including a half-century against Bexhill. He has also bowled frequently and has taken quite a few wickets this season with his ability to swing the ball in the air. He finished the season with a bowling average of 7.1.

2. **Waters.** In the first half of the season Waters was put in to open with Jarvis. But he was not a great success and in the latter half of the season he went in at number 4. His fielding was good at times and against Bexhill Grammar he brought off a brilliant catch.

3. **Pennell.** Pennell is an excellent batsman. He has faced some fast bowlers during the season and has played their bowling with the utmost confidence. He ended the season with an average of 15. He is a very good slip fielder.

4. **Clarke, E.** During the latter part of the season Clark opened the batting instead of Waters; he also opened the bowling with Seeley.

5. **Swaine....**Swaine is a good stroke player, but he has had few opportunities to show his ability as a batsman. He is also a leg break bowler and he has bowled quite well this season, his bowling average being 10.8.

6. **Turk.** Turk is a forceful batsman, but his inability to cut the ball has proved his downfall. Fortunately he found his form in the last match of the season with top score of 15. He is a useful fielder and he has held two or three good catches this season.

7. **Turner.** Turner was in the team as an off-break bowler and in a crisis he has proved a good defensive batsman. His best bowling figures this season were against Ashford Grammar when he took 2 wickets for 4 runs.

8. **Bourne, G.** Bourne was the regular wicket-keeper and he played very well in most games. When playing against Ashford Grammar at

Ashford, the ground was rough and the bowling erratic, and as a result he was unable to prevent a number of byes. When batting he rarely plays strokes, as he is essentially a "slogger."

9. **Seeley.** Seeley was the opening bowler in all matches in which he has played. He bowls very fast for a boy of his age. He can bat quite well when he puts his mind to it as he proved in the last match when he scored a useful 15. He was top of bowling averages with a very good average of 4.2.

10. **Sherwood....**Sherwood was one of the youngest players in the side. He shows great promise for next year, as he is able to play forward very well.

11. **Blacklock.** Blacklock has a very good eye but at the moment he tends to try and hit runs off every ball.

Colours have been awarded to Clark (captain), Seeley, Swaine, Pennell and Jarvis, A.

### EDUCATIONAL VISITS

A little editing was necessary in some articles, but, generally speaking, from the accounts received it would appear that the Juniors go on these visits to be educated, the Middles to extract any fun that can possibly be found, and the Upper School to be bored and rather blasé.

But possibly all of them, from the very sophisticated to the very simple, learn more than they realise at the time. If education is "what remains after you have forgotten all you learned at School," then, probably, things encountered outside the classroom and looked at under discipline, may in later years have made more impression than we thought at the time. Certainly more impression than the thousands of words and figures which every pupil must have read off blackboards in a School life of 6 or 7 years!

The one really "super" educational visit which befell us was a trip by the whole school in 1924 to the British Empire Exhibition at Wembley. The memorable things which remain of that wonderful Exhibition are:—being allowed to get on the foot-plate of an express locomotive from the South African Railways (it was stationary, of course!), the African Kraal (village) of wood and straw-covered huts, the superb figure of a Canadian North-West Mounted Policemen in full uniform, some large, very red, eating apples in the Canadian House (it was a very hot day!), and going down the giant water-chute (at 6d. a time).

### THE VISIT TO CANTERBURY

On Friday, July 13th, I went on the bus to Rye station where I met the others who were going. We went to Canterbury by train and when we got there we first visited Canterbury Cathedral. On the way to



Canterbury there was a change in the land from pasture to ploughed land. At Wye we saw the crown that is cut out of the turf in the downs.

At Canterbury, in the Cathedral, we had a guide to show us round. We first had a little service when a soldier of the "Bufs" came in and turned over a leaf of the book, which has all the names of the men who died in the war. The ship's bell was rung by a sailor and a few prayers were said. After this we were taken to a small platform, where we could see down the nave. This looked like an avenue of trees which were the stone pillars that interlaced at the top like the boughs of trees. Directly above us there was a wheel pattern on the ceiling, which was the top of one tower.

We saw many other interesting things, including the Black Prince's shield, gauntlets, surcoat and helmet. Copies were made of these and about two thousand pounds were spent in doing this. We also saw his tomb which is made of marble, with his image in gold on the top. We moved from there to look at the tomb of Henry V. After this we looked at a few of the windows which were beautifully pictured in stained-glass.

After leaving the Cathedral we went to the West Gardens of Canterbury to have our lunch, which we had taken with us. We went on the boating-pool for awhile. We were then taken to St. Martin's church which is believed to be the oldest church in England. All the walls and windows of this church are Roman, Saxon and Early English. There is a font in the church. This has the outside made by the Saxons which is worked in patterns that are all different. The inside is lined with lead which was done by the Romans. There is also a lepers' window in the church which was used by the lepers to follow the service. We went from this church to visit Saint Augustine's Abbey which is in ruins. We had a guide to show us around. The Abbey was made of Roman bricks and one wall with a window in it is still standing. This wall is almost indestructible. The building dates from about 597 A.D. After an enjoyable day we returned to Rye, and then went home by ourselves.

G. Jones, L.2.

### THE VISIT TO BODIAM CASTLE AND BATTLE ABBEY

When L.3. alone boarded Bourne's bus and started the journey to Bodiam Castle an air of excitement prevailed, and everyone was glad to dismount at last from the stuffy coach. After being warned by Mr. Thompson about disappearing down dark dungeons and clambering over unsafe masonry, we entered the Castle by means of the drawbridge. We looked up with glee at the machicolations where boiling oil and such-like were poured down on relatives and other unwanted visitors. Birds nesting in the portcullis made the building seem rather deserted, but it is well kept by the National Trust.

After looking around the lower storeys we mounted the only safe tower. We went up in two parties.

"Gosh! Isn't it dark up here!"

"Coo! Was there a step there? only I didn't step on it."

"Don't walk into that room, the floor is unsafe." (staff voice).

"Huuph! Seems safe enough."

"Come out at once!"

Pause.

"Phew! I've reached the top. It's miles down to the moat. I do feel dizzy." (female member of the party).

"Look, there's the metickleations."

"What are you doing?"

"You know how the soldiers poured boiling oil down on the enemies' heads?" "Well, I've just dropped a piece of toffee paper down and it only missed Mr. \*'s head by inches!"

We then made towards the car park or wandered around the grounds. Some settled down to a game of cricket, while others just ate. Jarvis did some successful fishing. Then we all visited the museum.

"That hook," someone observed, "was used for tearing meat." "Pity! I thought it was for torturing people."

At last it was time to leave Bodiam and make our way towards Battle. We arrived early and were permitted to wander around the Town. Entering Battle Abbey we were met by a guide who showed us round.

Approaching the old monastery, which is now a school for girls, the guide told us about the ancient battle. The shrieks of fair maidens in their school took the place of Harold's war cries, and roses now grow where once monks sung their chants and made their shivering ways, dressed in flowing habits, from their dormitories to midnight service.

The whole form is thankful to Mrs. Brown, Mr. Jones and Mr. Thompson who helped make it such an interesting visit.

### THE UPPER-MIDDLE SCHOOL AND REMOVE EDUCATIONAL VISIT TO HAMPTON COURT

It was on a grey Friday, 13th of July, that M.4, 5, 6 and Remove set out, with Miss Lumb, Miss Murray, Mr. West, Mr. Bagley, Mr. Allnutt and Mr. Allmond from Rye Station, on a special train for Hampton Court. In the same train were members of the Rye Secondary Modern School and a Hastings school. Because of the weather the view from the train windows was not very good and so most of us found something to while away the time.

Hampton Court was reached at about 12.15 p.m. and by this time the weather was better than it had been earlier. We entered Hampton Court Palace, much of which was built up by Cardinal Wolsey and Henry VIII, and pieces added and changes made by Sir Christopher Wren and also during the reigns of Queen Anne and the early



Hanoverians. The building itself was entered by the most impressive King's Staircase, which was decorated by Verrio. The first room that we saw was the King's Guardroom, where large numbers of weapons were arranged around the walls to form amazing patterns. Unfortunately we had to continue our tour of the State Apartments very quickly because of the short time allowed us at the Palace. Besides many other things we saw the Royal Pew in the Palace Chapel and the truly magnificent Great Hall.

From the Great Hall we went out into the gardens for a short time, during which many managed to find, and go round the famous Maze. Soon we had to leave (after only spending about an hour at the Palace), for a four hours' boat trip down to Tower Bridge had been planned for us. Although the weather was quite good when we left Hampton Court, later the sky gradually darkened and it began to rain. We passed Kingston on our right and through Teddington and later Richmond Locks. Further on we passed the Battersea Power Station and Pleasure Gardens and later Lambeth Palace, and at last after passing under nearly thirty bridges we arrived at the Tower Pier, where we left the boat and made our way to Cannon Street railway station, where we caught the train back to Rye after an interesting, but rather wet day.

A. Bromham, M.6.

### SIXTH FORM EDUCATIONAL VISIT

For our Educational Visit this year we went to Edinburgh Castle, which is set high up in the Austrian Tirol. This meant that we had to start the journey early last March. The organisation and supervision were, in my opinion, excellent: the charge was only \$89 at 36 degrees F. and we did not even have to take sandwiches.

We started out at 2 o'clock in the morning with only five people missing. However, they were all members of Staff, so we did not bother to wait. Our plane left London Airport in the growing morning light and gathered height until the Airport was no longer visible through the mist. It was a wonderful sight. An hour later it came back to collect us; this time we left the Pilot behind. Our first stop for fuel was Istanbul (some people call this Constantinople, but over the years the word has been mis-spelt, abbreviated and has suffered from dialect so much that it is now spelt Istanbul and pronounced Istanbul. The author regrets that he cannot enter into correspondence on this matter). The second stop, eight days later, was Swansea, where we were allowed to make phone calls home; this was very hard luck on the scholars who live in Swansea. After a further three days in the plane we were transferred to a Chinese fishing boat: The S.S. Yemilbroc, which arrived at Edinburgh Castle in time for the famous battle of flowers, held in Nice at that time of year.

We were split up into ten parties, making 2.4 members in each, and began our tour of the grand old castle. The first room we came to was

a huge hall which appeared to have four walls each quite vertical, at right angles to the one joining it and directly opposite the one on the other side of the room. These walls were made up of bricks about this long and that wide laid one on top of the other in a most cunning manner. On the walls were pictures of the Royal Family, rifles, pistols, swords, and stuffed animals' heads. When I asked the Guide why they covered up such beautiful walls with all that junk the stupid man said that it would all fall to the ground if the walls were not there. He was quite right actually, because we tried it.

Next the nine parties moved on down a long mirrored corridor into a drawing room, where the brighter amongst us expected to see a well (as doubtless did most of my readers). But we were absolutely wrong; there were two wells. Anybody not understanding that should try the next paragraph.

After going through numerous corridors, empty rooms, a library full of books, little passages and up hundreds of stairs we arrived at a bedroom. In this bedroom there was a bed and a notice set halfway up the wall saying "Queen Harold Slept Here." How she managed to get much sleep halfway up a wall I shall never know.

The six parties were then counted, to see if everybody was present. They were, except for those who were missing. The guide, at this point asked to be relieved, and his relief turned out to be another guide. The three parties were next shown the original chiming clock that was worn by King John at Trafalgar in 1932 and all that. However, despite all these amazing sights, the most interesting part of the whole Castle was the dungeons, which the party left feeling that it had had a very worthwhile day.

You may be wondering why a moron like me was asked to write this account. Well, the fact is that I am the only one who got back to tell the story. Thank you again.

M. F. Barnes

### A.T.C. REPORT

The first half of the Summer term saw us all plugging away with the usual preparations, (i.e. hours and hours of square-bashing and rifle drill), for our Annual Inspection, all taken in good spirit. The Annual Inspection, surprisingly enough, takes place once a year and this year, June 8th was the fatal day. However, everything went according to plan, or as near as it is possible for the A.T.C. to make something go according to plan. The Inspecting Officer was Air Vice-Marshal Stone and he and everybody else seemed pleased with our bearing on that great occasion. The Press was also represented and some of you may have seen the shabby photograph that appeared in one of the local papers.



On June 13th, following closely on the heels of the Annual Inspection, came Field Day. This term's Field Day must surely be ranked as the best the A.T.C. has had, in spite of the date. First we went to London Airport, where we were unable to stay long owing to our late arrival. It proved to be a very impressive place and the large numbers and variety of aircraft to be seen was almost the last word to our coach-load of budding aerospotters. Also very interesting was the long tunnel which led from the road, underneath the main runway, to the terminal buildings and control tower.

From London Airport we proceeded under full sail to Earls' Court where we hove to and disembarked (this should keep the C.O. happy !). Here we saw the seventh day of the Royal Tournament. The Tournament began at 2.30 p.m. with a horse jumping competition. Following this was a P.T. display by the R.A.F. This consisted of a lot of energetic chaps throwing 80-lb. logs around in time to music.

Next came a field-gun display and competition by the Royal Navy. There were two teams and the competition took the form of a race, the winner being the first team to take their field-gun to pieces, throw it over several walls, carry it across a 'bottomless' chasm 30-ft. wide, put it together again and fire it. After this came a display by the Band of the Federation of Malaya Police and a musical drive by the King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery. The Royal Marines then showed us some drill, which we thought we could do just as well if we had a little more practice and the expert guidance from Fly. Off. Thompson.

For the next part of the programme everything went dark and we were conscious of much activity in the arena below. When the lights came on again very dimly, they revealed a very life-like scene depicting a convoy at night. The ships were even rolling and pitching. A night action was then described, during which the convoy was attacked by a submarine. This was finally destroyed and the action closed. Next came a display of dancing by the combined Women's services. Everyone seemed to enjoy this. This was followed by a display of R.A.F. Police Dogs . . . Real Ones ! ! ! Then came a Motor-Cycle display by the Royal Corps of Signals. It beats me how they missed each other and how they managed to ride their machines backwards with no hands.

A display of old-time drill and battle tactics, featuring much firing of rifles came next. The Tournament ended with a display by the massed bands and bugles of the Light Infantry Brigade. Thus it was a very happy coach-load of cadets who arrived home, having stopped only once on the way. We would like to say 'thank you' to those responsible for arranging this outing, Flt. Lt. Mitchell in particular.

On June 17th came the A.T.C. sports at Portslade. Not without difficulty our sports officer, Fly. Off. Thompson, managed to raise a senior and a junior team to send to the sports. Arriving at Portslade

Mr. Bourne, who was driving the coach, turned down through a gateway, along a thin curved drive which was, if anything, thinner than the coach, and ended up on a netball court surrounded by four walls, only to discover that this was the wrong place. When we at last arrived at the correct place we found it to be a Borstal Institution, which was a little less glamorous than Hove Sports stadium which we had previously been used to. As usual we were late and the sports had already started. However we quickly got changed and soon began to make our presence felt on the sports field. We ended up by winning the senior cup, coming second in the junior, and winning the aggregate cup, as well as collecting a large number of medals for individual events. So ended another successful day.

Mr. Elliot is leaving us this term and I would like to take this opportunity to thank him on behalf of all members of 2274 Squadron, past and present, for all that he has done for us in the form of instruction during his stay with us. Also leaving is Flt. Sgt. Lawn who, as you probably know, went on a reciprocal visit to North America with the A.T.C. We all wish him the best of luck on this trip although he will probably have returned by the time this article comes into print. As usual, Summer Term bringing the end of the school year, most of the N.C.Os. are leaving. To fill the gaps the following promotions have been made :—

Cpl. Mayhew to Sgt. Cds. Robinson and Catt to Cpl. Cpl Robinson is to take over instruction in aircraft recognition. Good luck Pete.

R. H. Dengate

## "DOLPHIN"

### The Story Of A Ship

I must obey the movements of the wind,  
And emerald hands bear me above dark depths  
As on I flow, at human will and thought,  
Obeying elements, again, which master them.  
A forest lent its daughter for my birth,  
And now they see the world which they have missed  
Uprooted, yet but one in peril's sight.  
My namesake was a citizen of seas  
And glassy depths that twine about the world ;  
A wise sagacious one, most kind and great ;  
A prophet of his kingdom—wild and free !  
The mighty wind will use me as his harp  
And break me in a fit of petulance . . .  
I know, I know ; the hands will drag me down,  
And both will bear my death in dual guilt.

Judith Burton



### ODD ODES

This is the tale of Percy Prior,  
A boy soprano in the Choir.  
Every Sunday he would sing  
Top G's to make the arches ring.  
The choir boys were a fearful lot,  
Upon the Parish just a blot.  
They passed the sermon playing whist  
Hidden from the organist.  
Though their actions grew much worse,  
Still pure in deed, and tone was Perse.  
One Sunday after Evensong  
The harassed Vicar came along,  
Said "Come, come boys, you must not fidget  
When honoured by the Bishop's visit.  
His Lordship's coming right from Grantham  
And young Prior here must sing the Anthem!"

At last there came the fateful day;  
The organist began to play,  
Old ladies' shed a quiet tear  
To see our hero standing there.  
His mouth he opened like a fish,  
Fixed cod-like eyes upon the Bish,  
But all he uttered was a croak.  
Alas poor Perse, his voice had broke!

N. J. Hauce

### UPON LOVE AND PASSION

It grieves me much, my sweet, that thou,  
Who once did love me, but not now,  
Cannot true love from false discern,  
Nor simple joys begin to learn.  
I see my folly now, and know  
That 't was not love, though I thought so,  
But passion, quite devoid of Charity,  
I sought the Truth; I've found 'la Verité.'

Anon.

### LOURDES

The country town of Lourdes is situated high in the Pyrenees and is the Roman Catholic Mecca of Southern France. We arrived at five o'clock on a sultry August day and strolled along the main street.

Shop after shop on either side of the narrow pavements was filled with prayer books, rosaries, statues of the Virgin, crucifixes and other religious mementoes. Outside some shops there were rails of short black and grey veils. Feeling the fine texture of them, we wondered what the

veils were for and it was not long before we were to find out. A deep-toned bell started tolling; traffic stopped; the small town became still and quiet. An uncanny atmosphere seemed to descend upon it. All the women and girls stopped and took out veils, similar to those we had seen displayed, and placed them over their hair. We were nursing over this seemingly strange action when a gendarme rushed up to us, waving his arms in a typically French way, and gesticulating, saying, would the English mademoiselles please put their coats on to cover up their naked arms (we were wearing short-sleeved dresses) as the pilgrimage procession was about to start. The occasion of the procession was the Annual Festival of St. Bernadette of Lourdes, when all those mentally or physically handicapped went to the grotto to take the waters, which are claimed to have healing properties.

Fascinated, we stood on the pavement, which was now lined with people five to six deep, and watched the mile-long procession. While the pilgrimage wound its way through the streets to the grotto, there was no noise except for the murmur of the pilgrims telling their rosaries and the soft chantings of the priests who were accompanying them. Wheelchair after wheelchair trundled past our eyes, each occupier holding his rosary and a large card denoting how many times he had visited the grotto. It aroused a sick feeling in one to see that for some this was the 6th, 7th or even 9th visit.

By this time it was dusk and we had to board the coach again. Threading our way back through the thick crowds we noticed priests on the street corners selling little white triangular wax-taper lanterns with the Lord's Prayer printed on them in Latin, Greek and French. In the gloom, as the coach climbed up the steep white road leading from Lourdes, these lanterns could be seen bobbing, like hundreds of Will-o'-the-Wisps, in and out of the trees surrounding the grotto as the pilgrims' procession reached its destination. The chanting of the priests, which rose up to us on the cool evening air, got fainter and fainter. We drove on into the night until Lourdes, but not the memory of it, was left far behind.

Valerie Mitchell

### ROTHER IRON WORKS

On the 16th of July Mr. Hawes took a group of boys from M.4 to the Rother Iron Works where they were shown round the foundry and machine-room.

In the foundry we were shown a pattern being rapped. This means that a man hits the pattern to make it vibrate and enlarge the hole in which it lies. After wrapping, the pattern could be withdrawn with ease. The moulding sand which was used in the foundry was yellow loam sand and coal dust. The facing "sand" was a mixture of chalk dust and wax. Sand was not used because of the danger of silicosis. Cores were made of silica sand mixed with spermaline. For the making of



cores a hollow tube is fixed in the mouth of a sausage machine. The sand is compressed by a worn screw and then forced through the tube onto a tray. This tray is then placed on a metal truck which is pushed into an oven where the cores are baked until hardened.

After the foundry had been examined by us, we were shown the foundry cupola. This is a miniature form of blast furnace. In it scrap iron and pig iron are melted prior to being poured into a mould in the foundry. The inside of the cupola is lined with fire brick, but in the process of melting the inside becomes coated with slag. There was also a pool of slag on the floor beneath the cupola. The cupola is charged from the top where there is a large door. The charge that is put in the cupola is : scrap metal, pig iron and limestone. The limestone acts as a flux to make the slag coagulate on the surface of the molten metal.

In the machine room there are about twelve machines, many of which were working by themselves. One of these machines was making bolts about six inches long. Four inches of the length was threaded and the rest just cleaned up. On each end of the bolt 90 degree points were made. The operations which these machines accomplish are done by cams. Cams are small pieces of metal which are fixed to a revolving cam-shaft. These pieces of metal then push or release another piece of mechanism at specified times.

In a small assembly room off the machine shop Russel vibrators were being assembled. These vibrators are sent abroad for many widely differing purposes. The total side-to-side vibration of the vibrator is about half-an-inch.

Nerus flexible drives are also made at the works but we did not see these being made. The drives are used to give a drive to a tool such as a drill, a sander, or a polisher in positions where it would be difficult to get a motor assembly as well.

Ronald Allen, M.4.

## PARIS 1956

It was on a cold, not very warm Saturday, March 31st, when we, Mr. & Mrs. Bagley, Mr. and Mrs. Jones, and a party of twenty to thirty boys, set off from the Rope Walk on the first stage of our journey to Paris. We started at 8 a.m. and travelled by Bourne's coach to Newhaven, via Hastings, Eastbourne and Seaford. Everyone was in a very cheerful mood and the journey went very quickly. We arrived at Newhaven at 10 a.m. and without having to wait very long we went aboard the "S.S. Londres," which was to take us across the Channel. By this time most of us had taken a dose of "Kwells"; we were taking no chances, and were glad of them afterwards.

We set out from Newhaven harbour at about 10.30 a.m., and soon the English coast disappeared from view. There was a cold wind, and as we sailed further out into the Channel the waves got bigger and the rolling of the ship became more noticeable. The crossing was certainly

not smooth, as I think some of us found out, much to our discomfort. We arrived at Dieppe at 4.20 p.m. (French time), and caught the train for Paris half an hour later. The train journey was naturally an interesting one, for we were seeing French countryside for the first time, but as darkness was falling we arrived at the Gare St. Lazaire, where we were met by our guide, who took us to a waiting coach, which conveyed us through a Paris of lights to the Institution Vaysse, where we were to stay. Exactly eleven hours after starting out from Rye we arrived at our destination.

We slept in a dormitory with another school, and one does not need very much imagination to realise what the evenings were like. Only a very few got to sleep early the first night, but we did not mind. It was our first night in Paris.

The next day, Easter Sunday, dawned, and most of us were up early. After breakfast our two guides came to collect us. They were both very friendly and "good sports," but we hardly ever called them Jaques and Jenn Pierre, but referred to them as Charlie 1 and Charlie 2. We travelled to the centre of Paris by the Metro, and soon arrived at the right station, Cité, and were soon outside the Notre Dame. The guides decided to take us to the top of the cathedral first and so round and round, up and up we went. This was our first encounter with a spiral staircase in Paris, and it was not to be the last. We reached a "halfway platform" after much climbing and saw some of the famous gargoyles. Eventually we did reach the top and viewed Paris all around and took photographs. Our guides indicated several buildings that we could see from that height and then we made the long descent.

Easter Sunday was not a good day to try to see the interior of Notre Dame for when we went in there were many people crowding around as High Mass was being sung. Even if it was impossible to look around the cathedral, to hear the great organ and the choir was something to remember.

On Sunday afternoon we visited the Conciergerie, where Marie Antionette and also Robespierre were imprisoned during the French Revolution. After visiting the Conciergerie we went on to the very beautiful church of St. Chapelle. The ceiling and walls of the lower chapel are painted gold, red and blue with gold painted arches. The second chapel is the more magnificent with its huge stained glass windows. From St. Chapelle we went to the Chapel of the Sorbonne, the University of Paris, where there is the tomb of Cardinal Richelieu.

In the evening we had a coach tour of Paris to see the lights. For some reason our guide did not arrive and so Mr. Bagley had to tell us all about the different places with knowledge gained from the driver, who could not speak English! However we had a very good tour and enjoyed it.



On Monday morning we had another coach tour of Paris, visiting the beautiful Church of the Sacré Cœur and the Arc de Triomphe. We went to the top of the latter by means of a spiral staircase and got a good view of the Eiffel Tower, which we intended to visit in the afternoon, but were unable to do so as parties were not allowed up on Bank Holidays. So instead we visited the Hôtel des Invalides, where we saw the tomb of Napoleon and many other interesting things.

On Tuesday we took packed lunches with us and went by train to Versailles, where we visited the great Palace in its magnificence. The ceiling of the beautiful Chapel is a mass of wonderful paintings, as are the ceilings of many of the other rooms. The first room we visited was the Hercules room, the labours of Hercules being the subject of the painting on the ceiling. The paintings in the rooms had just been cleaned and so we could see them in their beautiful colours. On the walls were large Gobelin tapestries, many depicting Louis XIV, and everywhere we went we noticed symbols representing a sun, the emblem of this King, "Le Roi Soleil." Other rooms followed, with appropriate paintings; the Mercury room, the Apollo room, the War room and the Peace room. We visited the famous Hall of Mirrors, where the peace treaty of 1919 was signed, and from thence to the King's and the Queen's bedrooms and the Salon of Ox eyes. When we had seen these and other rooms we went outside into the beautiful grounds of the Palace, where we stayed until it was time to catch the train back into Paris.

On the Wednesday we went to the Hôtel de Ville, the City Hall of Paris, where the Mayor of Paris was holding a reception for the British schoolchildren on holiday in Paris. We followed innumerable schoolchildren into the building to a large hall, on the ceiling of which were paintings, and the familiar words "Liberté, Égalité, Fraternité," and from which hung large glass chandeliers. At the far end a band was playing. We sat on the floor while Mr. and Mrs. Bagley went nearer the front with the heads of the other groups of schoolchildren. The English and French national anthems were played and then the Mayor gave a short speech in English, after which he asked an English boy and girl to say something. This was done, and then photographs and paper flags were thrown up for us to "scramble" for. After a very enjoyable morning we returned to the Institution Vaysse for lunch. In the afternoon we went to the Towne, but did not find it as interesting as we had hoped.

The weather had been very good, but on Thursday the sky was overcast and there had been some rain in the night, but despite this we decided to go up the Eiffel Tower. We all enjoyed this, even if the sight of Paris going away from us in the lift gave us a queer sensation. There was a very good view of Paris from the top of the tower, even though it was not a bright day.

In the afternoon we went to the Gobelin tapestry factory, where in the show rooms we saw some of the older tapestries, many of which depicted Louis XIV in a campaign, much the same as at Versailles. After seeing these we went to see the tapestry in the process of being made. It was most interesting to see the workers make the intricate designs in numerous colours. After visiting the tapestry factory we were allowed to go shopping if we wanted to.

On Friday, our last day in Paris, we spent an enjoyable morning in Vincennes Zoo, and then had the afternoon free to do what we liked and to get our cases packed. We had had a very good time in Paris. There may have been the times when we did not like some of the food, or when one or two of us were not well, but on the whole we enjoyed our holiday very much, and I would like to take this opportunity of thanking Mr. Bagley and Mr. Jones for arranging and making this holiday possible.

A. Bromham, M.6.

### THE MILKY WAY

"You don mind what you do, 'slong as you paz de time an' ged de money, eh?" These words, spoken by the Danish manager of a large milk Depot, admirably summarized my post-school, pre-National Service requirements.

When I reported for work at the Depot I was handed a pair of overalls and told I would soon feel the need for Wellingtons, I did. My informant disappeared, and as I stood wondering what I was expected to do next, the many wonderful machines started working. Crates of bottles began to wend their tortuous way along and down and round conveyor belts into two steaming, hungry washing machines which looked like huge armoured cars, and whose jaws rattled and snapped with insatiable hunger at the men who were feeding them with the bottles. Soon bottles started to come out again, clean. They then ran down a short conveyor belt to the rotating pumps by which they were filled with milk. An adjacent machine capped them and the bottles were then re-crated at the rate of six per second to resume their journey up to the loading dock and so to the lorries.

Eventually somebody noticed me standing watching the life history of the milk bottles, and took me to the foreman. The noise was terrific! I had, of course, no understanding of the Depot sign language and so the foreman had to try to tell me vocally what I was to do. He pointed to an iron staircase leading to a balcony. He said something which sounded like "On, past the rising" and which I later realised referred to "Ron" and "Pasteurising."

I joined Ron in the Pasteurising Department and during the morning he taught me a great deal about that part of the process and also about the other stages through which the milk passes. He also taught me how



to look busy for hours on end by just walking purposefully around holding a rag or spanner (or both).

I really began to feel the need for Wellingtons when the Pasteurising and bottling was over. Then the whole plant is dismantled and washed. In the Pasteurising department there are three tanks, one of three thousand gallons and two of one thousand, into each of which one has to climb through a man-hole-sized doorway to wash them out with very hot water. The tanks are cylindrical and stand on their curved surface. When they are washed with caustic soda they become very slippery and one not infrequently takes an involuntary bath. All the pipes, pumps and everything are stripped down and washed every day. I soon discovered that many of the screwheads on the pipes are razor-sharp and have to be treated with great respect.

After a few days pottering about in the pasteurising plant I was moved down onto the loading dock. After my first full day loading crates of milk onto large articulating lorries I was very tired and very stiff. My hands were raw and it hurt to hold the handlebars of my bicycle on the way home. The hill seemed vertical. I seemed to have just fallen asleep when I had to get up again. But after a day or two I got used to it. My hands hardened and the crates grew lighter. I certainly didn't have to worry about looking busy on this job.

Then one day they were short staffed. The foreman asked me to go onto "filling." I obeyed eagerly. It looked so easy, if a trifle boring, just picking up the bottles as they came away from the pumps and dropping them into the crates which were passing on the belt. Two men work at each machine. At first I kept picking the bottles up awkwardly and couldn't work fast enough to fill my half of each crate, but I soon became accustomed to the movements and began to "fill" quite competently. For the first hour all was fine. After four-and-a-half hours with just a 15 minute tea break I wasn't so happy. Apart from the monotony and the penetrating humming noise of the pumps, my wrists were becoming stiff, my fingers ached and I was glad I was only "filling" for the day. By the end of the day my wrists felt as if they were tightly bound with red hot wire, and I was deaf in one ear. The next morning my arms were very stiff but I was not worried since I thought they would soon loosen up with the lifting work on the dock. When I got to work I found that they were still short-staffed owing to sickness, and that I was to continue "filling." As we settled into the routine I did a little mental arithmetic (!). During the day four of us would be crating about ten thousand gallons of milk. That worked out at twenty thousand pints each per day. I hoped it wouldn't be per too many days! It wasn't. The next day Arthur's 'flu had gone, (almost), and Jim's wife was better, and I was very glad..

Since then I've been on a variety of jobs from washing lorries to bottling yoghurt. I feel I have done more than just 'paz de time an' ged de mony.' I've seen a new and entirely different side of life and

## SCHOOL FUND

Statement for Summer Term, 1956

Amount contributed by Parents—£87-10-0

Help to Pupils ... ..	31	0	0
Magazine ... ..	15	0	0
Programmes ... ..	3	12	6
Societies ... ..	8	0	0
Games (including Teas, travelling, etc.) ...	20	0	0
Hospitality ... ..	9	0	0
Miscellaneous ... ..	17	6	
	<hr/> £87 10 0 <hr/>		



