

THE FARNHAMIAN.

Vol. XXX., No. 1.

June, 1943.

Editorial Notes.

One more *Farnhamian* is offered to its readers under the shadow of war, fulfilling its dual purpose of recording the events in our little school world and taking them to the many Old Boys scattered all over the wider world, and of bringing news of those elder brothers to the present generation. The tale of tragic loss and of the rewards of glorious endeavour goes on along with the more peaceful story of young minds and bodies and wills being made fit to play their part, whether in war or peace. Please God it will be the latter.

Another loss there was (but in the course of nature) just as the last issue of the Magazine was being published. It marked the end of an epoch, for the name of Stroud has been associated with the School since the middle of the last century; and now Mr. William Stroud, who since his retirement had been regarded as an emeritus member of the Staff, has gone. The School hastened to pay its tribute at once; in this issue an Old Boy does homage to his memory, and gives a considered evaluation of his life of service which all his old pupils and friends will welcome.

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And yet another link with former days has been broken by the death of Mr. W. H. Allen at the age of seventy-nine years. He was for many years Principal of the Farnham School of Art, and as a visiting master was responsible for the teaching of Art at F.G.S. A large number of Old Boys will read with regret of the passing of one who, out of a sensitive and cultured personality, not only taught their fingers to draw, but inspired them with his own passionate love of beauty.

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Perhaps the outstanding event inside the School this term has been the setting up of a democratic constitution under which the boys elect their officers, not only House Captains but Prefects and Sub-Prefects as well. That is all we shall say here and leave it to an abler pen (appropriately that of one of the boys) to tell the full story.

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In December we rejoiced to hear that D. B. Boulter, after leaving us for only a few weeks for further study, had passed third in the Navy (Special Entry) Examination. Again, in April, we had the good news that J. T. Sheehan had passed the same examination, he also being placed third in the full order of merit, but first among candidates for the Accountants' Branch, which he had selected. Congratulations and good wishes to both of them.

Our older boys continue to leave (or are about to leave) for the Services. At the end of last term D. A. Barnes and I. Watts left to take University Short Courses as a prelude to entering the R.E. and R.A. respectively. This term A. R. Morgan has been selected for the R.E. Course and D. L. P. Hopkins has been accepted by the Fleet Air Arm, and so we shall all too soon be losing two more senior boys with regret.

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Congratulations to the two boys who took and passed the School Certificate in December. Both of them, G. Flook and G. M. King, gained exemption from Matriculation. G. E. A. Snaith, who had already obtained his Certificate, passed in French, and so he too now has matriculated.

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Valete: D. A. Barnes, E. L. Brewer, W. F. P. Cate, J. P. Clark, A. J. Cornish, W. J. Cox, G. P. Edmead, G. Flook, M. R. Harry, R. G. Hearn, P. Huntingford, G. M. King, S. J. King, T. W. Knowlden, A. S. Macmillan, J. Morgan, D. M. Robinson, A. P. Reilly, A. T. K. Seville, J. T. Sheehan, I. Watts, D. E. Wood.

Salvete: C. G. Dolley, P. J. Downham, S. A. Gaydon, I. P. H. Gerard, D. P. Griffiths, J. O. Hutchinson, M. P. Power, D. T. Smith, D. J. F. Slater, R. F. Tingley, K. J. Wilkinson.

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The following are the officers for the Summer Term:

Prefects: A. R. Morgan (School Captain), G. C. Ricketts (Vice-Captain), J. G. Fletcher, D. L. P. Hopkins, D. G. Sturt.

Sub-Prefects: P. B. Atkins, G. A. Brehaut, J. W. Brine, J. M. Cadier, T. H. Kelly, P. E. Larby, L. S. Phillips, K. C. Reeve, W. Sturt.

Athletics: D. L. P. Hopkins (Captain), A. R. Morgan (Vice-Captain), G. A. Brehaut (Committee Member).

Cricket: D. L. P. Hopkins (Captain), P. E. Larby (Vice-Captain), B. T. Kirk.

Swimming: J. G. Fletcher (Captain), A. R. Morgan (Vice-Captain), T. H. Kelly.

Assistant Editor of the Magazine: J. G. Fletcher.

Assistant Games Secretary: A. R. Morgan.

Assistant Librarian: D. G. Sturt.

House Captains: A. R. Morgan (Childe), D. L. P. Hopkins (Harding), D. G. Sturt (Massingberd), K. C. Reeve (Morley) and T. H. Kelly (School).



Approach to Democracy.

Since the last issue of the Farnhamian was published, a great change has come over the School, and, as a result, every boy is now a member of a small democracy. There will be those who think the step unwise in a school, but at heart the schoolboy is a serious being, and, provided he remains so, it is surely right

that he should help to govern his own school to the general advantage of his fellows and himself.

Briefly the system, as it stands now, is this: All members of the School, from the IVth Forms upwards, are voting members of what is called the General Assembly, together with captains and vice-captains of lower forms, who have no vote but attend meetings to fit themselves for future responsibility and maintain contact between their forms and the Assembly. The duty of this body corresponds to that of the adult population of our country (in peace time); that is to say, it elects executive officers, in the form of prefects and sub-prefects, and exercises a general supervision on the affairs of the School by means of a second body, the School Council.

The School Council is an advisory body consisting of two or more representatives of each of the IVth and Vth Forms, together with sub-prefects and prefects. In addition, members of IVth, Vth and VIth Forms not already on the Council may be co-opted by a majority vote. The Council meets whenever it is called by the Headmaster or by the School Captain (elected from the prefects by the prefects and sub-prefects), and discusses any matter put before it to determine the course of action to be taken. Then, with the approval of the Headmaster, the matter is put into effect by those concerned.

The executive officers of the School are, of course, the sub-prefects, prefects, masters and Headmaster, and the usual method of control, which is quite elastic, is by the prefects with the Headmaster. He holds meetings with the prefects, at which are discussed any matters brought up by himself, the prefects or the School Council. Later he may put any matter before the masters for further discussion if it is found necessary. In addition, at the beginning of each term, it is usual for all the executive officers to decide upon a policy for the term, which is adhered to by everybody. For matters which concern the whole School, the Headmaster makes an announcement after prayers.

At this stage it is natural to ask if the scheme is working efficiently and well. The answer is that, bearing in mind the fact that it is at the start of its career, it is working very successfully. It must be realised that to put the scheme into full operation at once would mean disaster. It has been demonstrated time and again that putting much authority into untrained hands leads to major calamities, and this applies to the Assembly, Council, sub-prefects and prefects. It is for this reason that new prefects can only be chosen from sub-prefects of two or more terms' standing. In fact, the scheme is now growing in a very healthy way under a certain number of restrictions which, in the future, will prove unnecessary and be scrapped. Proof of the vitality of the system lies in the number of matters put before the Council by its various members through the School Captain, among which have been the organisation of Houses, School prayers, the Cadet Corps, School charities, School games and

many others. There will be many others upon which the School must decide its policy.

Finally, in case it may be thought that there is too much danger in the scheme (and with some types of less public-spirited people there would be too much), it should be stated that the Headmaster has not had to exercise his authority in opposing actively the wishes and recommendations of the Council, or rejecting any nominations of the School for sub-prefects and prefects before putting the list before the Assembly. It can be assumed that, while the schoolboy is concerned with his School, this will be unnecessary. Meanwhile the authority and scope of the Assembly and Council will increase, and the health and vitality of the School body will bear witness to the fact. May the process continue to completion.

J. G. FLETCHER.

Debating Society.

Alas! It is still the Cinderella of all the out-of-school activities. Working under almost insuperable difficulties, we managed to get in four full-scale debates and two impromptu. The meetings were well supported (with one exception), the average attendance being about twenty members.

The first meeting was held on Thursday, October 1st, when Mr. J. G. Fletcher was elected vice-chairman, and Mr. J. Brine honorary secretary; committee members elected were Messrs. J. W. Donaldson, T. Fletcher, G. Ricketts and J. T. Sheehan. At the same time a series of debates was arranged, the first of which was held on November 26th. In it Mr. Flook proposed that the transport of heavy goods should be confined to the railways. His speech was not very spirited and did not raise much enthusiasm among hon. members present, but Mr. Barter, opposing the motion, began with the challenging statement: "No competition, higher prices." Needless to say, however, the motion was carried.

On December 3rd there was an impromptu debate, and on January 20th a general meeting was held, which re-elected the officers. The debate on January 26th was interesting because of the extreme views of some of the members. Mr. Watts, proposing that "co-education is the best form of education," raised some good points, but failed to elaborate most of them. He strongly denied the contention that co-education produces effeminate men. Mr. Woods, opposing the motion, was less idealistic than Mr. Watts, and used more concrete examples to illustrate his points. The thought in the mind of hon. members was that toughness was taken out of sport in co-educational schools. The motion was narrowly carried by one vote.

The most interesting debate of the season was held on February 2nd, when the motion was: "To obtain equality with

men, women should give up their exclusive rights." Mr. J. G. Fletcher, proposing, was logical, but the phrase, "There is social and legal equality," recurred too often in his speech. Mr. A. R. Morgan, the opposer, drew an analogy between the customs of animals and human beings. When the motion was thrown open to the house, many destructive and illogical arguments were brought forward, the chief being that women are mentally and physically inferior and should never be allowed to obtain equality with men. A discourse on the reason why a man takes the outside position on the footpath when accompanying a lady was thoroughly enjoyed, but had no direct bearing on the debate. The motion was lost by four votes.

The last meeting was devoted to an impromptu debate. We have shown that, with an enthusiastic nucleus of members, debates can be both interesting and enjoyable, and I hope the Society will not expire for lack of general support. We thank all those who loyally came to every meeting, and we are much indebted to Mr. Beeken for giving us the opportunity to hold the debates.

J. BRINE (*Hon. Secretary*).

Chess Club.

We started off well in September under the leadership of Mr. Knight, but unfortunately enthusiasm has waned and attendances have dwindled. It has been decided, therefore, by the Committee to suspend meetings during the summer, and to hold subscriptions in reserve for future expenditure.

Although we have had a slight set-back, it is only temporary, and we expect the Club to function again next term on a sound basis.

J. W. DONALDSON (*Hon. Treasurer*).

Spotters' Club.

Since the last report, many changes have taken place in the Club. The membership has fallen from forty to twenty, both on account of boys leaving and also because others have not been able to attend the meetings. Unfortunately—we believe it to be on account of late business hours—our original officers have not been able to attend. Still, sorry though we are that they cannot come, we would like to thank Mr. K. R. Cable, R.O.C., Mr. S. Temple, Mr. G. Tilford, Mr. H. Boulding, R.O.C., Mr. R. W. Small, Mr. G. H. Morice and Mr. H. Spencer for all they did to give us a start.

A visit to Vickers' Aviation Works at Weybridge was enjoyed by a party of six boys last summer. Unfortunately, the day chosen for the visit was Saturday, when we were not able to see all we might have done any other day.

A library has recently been started and seems to be quite a popular feature.

The Club is now to be in two groups: (i) For boys who have not yet passed the Third Class Test of the N.A.S.C.; and (ii) for those who have Third Class and wish to sit for Second Class.

Many short tests have been held with the epidiascope kindly lent to us by Mr. Tilford.

Little progress has yet been made in the President's Cup Competition, but it is hoped to hold a series of tests for it in the near future.

As aircraft recognition is such an important subject nowadays, we hope that any boys interested will join. J. M. POTTER.

Cadet Corps.

The appointments for this term are as follows:

C.S.M.: J. W. Donaldson.

Sergeants: A. R. Morgan, D. L. P. Hopkins.

Corporals: T. H. Kelly, J. M. Cadier, D. Skillin, P. Nash.

Lance-Corporals.—M. E. West, A. J. Barter, G. C. Ricketts, J. W. Brine, L. S. Phillips, K. Tomlin, K. C. Reeve, A. Player, P. B. Atkins, D. W. Chitty, G. A. Brehaut.

This term we have twenty-four of our senior cadets entering for War Certificate "A" in spite of the new P.T. standards, and next year we hope to have an even greater number.

We owe our most grateful thanks to Major Robins and R.S.M. Elsey, of the Farnham Cadet Corps ("A" Coy.), for inviting us to three very interesting demonstrations. The first was a tank display, but this was only a makeshift, because the unit which was to have given the original display was moved from the district about three days previously. A certain Canadian regiment, however, stepped in and gave us a very interesting display with "Ram" tanks, which was enjoyed by all. The second was a demonstration of a troop (four guns) of twenty-five pounders. This was probably the most interesting of all; we saw the guns go into action as if it had been the real thing, and after about five minutes the guns were zeroed up and commenced firing blank rounds at an unseen target. A little while later the guns fired an ear-splitting salvo, and then, as a climax, we saw the guns used as field guns against an enemy armoured fighting vehicle, in this case the Gunnery Position Officer's truck. The cadets then climbed all over the guns, looked down the spout and tried to take the guns to pieces in general. After thanking the Canadians for giving up their Sunday morning, we returned home in buses well pleased with ourselves.

The last demonstration was perhaps the biggest of all. We paraded in the Railway Station yard, where, with our Hants and Surrey brothers, we were inspected by Colonel Hicks, the

Commanding Officer of an airborne battalion. After the march past we moved to Coxbridge to attend a bomb and weapon display by G.S.M. Palmer. We then marched back to the station, where we were dismissed.

The main other event of interest this term was the visit of the Public Relations Officer of the S.E. Command, who gave us an interesting talk on the Battle of El Alamein, and a lot of hopeful news about the Battle of Tunisia which later events have justified. Afterwards he distributed photographs and gave us the latest information on ways of entering the Army. He then invited questions, which he ably answered, and everybody is looking forward to a return visit.

The Cadet Corps suffered a loss of two of its senior N.C.O.'s this term, when C.S.M. Barnes and Sergt. Watts left to join the R.E. and R.A. respectively, by way of Short University Courses. We wish them the best of luck in their new careers, and hope that they are successful.

J. W. DONALDSON, C.S.M.

The School Scout Group.

I am pleased to be able to report that, since the formation of the new Troop last September, very good progress has been made by the boys in their actual Scout work. All have passed the Tenderfoot tests, and a few the Second Class, these being Patrol Leader C. J. Batterbury, Patrol Leader P. Kent, Patrol Leader B. Paget and Second K. Ball. C. J. Batterbury and K. Ball have performed the seemingly impossible task of passing their Tenderfoot and Second Class tests in just over one month. This record effort has called for a large amount of keenness and hard work, and they are to be congratulated on the way they carried this out. The Second Class Badges were presented by the Headmaster during a School assembly at the beginning of this term.

M. Ball has proved himself highly efficient at Troop Leader; also M. Lock as his assistant. These two boys are working very hard for their First Class Badge, and we have great hopes that they will accomplish this by half-term. These will be the first two to get their First Class Badges in the Troop.

Congratulations are extended to Patrol Leader J. A. M. Aylwin on qualifying for the Artist's Badge, and to Troop Leader M. Ball on obtaining his Cook's Badge.

During the Easter holiday a "semi-camp" was held. The School field made an excellent camp site. Unfortunately the weather lived up to its doubtful reputation, driving us into the pavilion for the last week or so. The concrete floor was not too unpleasant for sleeping purposes. Lack of equipment made it necessary for boys to go home for their main meals, but we prepared satisfactorily tea, supper and early-morning tea at the

camp. A visit by the Troop to Imperial Headquarters in London for the purpose of buying uniforms and equipment proved to be unsatisfactory. The Scout Shop was as lacking as we were so far as equipment was concerned. On the whole the holiday was satisfactory and a lot of useful Scout work was done.

We extend our grateful thanks to Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Ball for their generous gesture in donating £1 1s. to Troop funds, which normally are rather low. This has been put towards the cost of a Troop flag, which is on order.

During the summer holidays we hope to camp for two weeks at Colwyn Bay, but war conditions make it impossible to say what will happen as yet. However, we will hope for the best.

F. C. W. KNIGHT (*Scoutmaster*).

Speech Day.

After several war years, in which the prize-giving has taken place in our own Hall before a limited number of visitors, we came into the open once more on Wednesday, November 25th. This time the British Restaurant was the scene of our annual stock-taking and distribution of awards, and there was room for a large number of parents and friends to hear Mr. H. V. Morton deliver a charming and thoughtful address.

From the Chairman, we learnt that the Government were not dissatisfied with the way in which we had so successfully overcome our difficulties—some inherent in our buildings, some due to the war and some caused by our growing numbers. From the Headmaster we heard of successes academic and athletic, and listened with solemn pride to the names of Old Boys who have made the supreme sacrifice.

And then Mrs. Morton very graciously presented the prizes—most of them tokens; but in spite of the war there were a few books. These latter were obtained from funds endowed with a special purpose, and, with the Headmaster, we may hope that one day all our prizes will be found from such endowments.

Of Mr. Morton's greatly appreciated address we can only quote a few sentences. "We must not lower educational standards; we must elevate them.—The new world must have red blood in its veins, not red tape.—The education of a child is a collaboration between father, mother and teacher.—Education is a process with a beginning but no end. No man is ever truly educated. One of the most exciting and wonderful things in life is to go on learning."

Afterwards there was a programme of music by the choir and the two orchestras, who overcame the handicap of cramped quarters with great success. It was the first public appearance

of the Junior Orchestra, who should now gain in confidence and be encouraged to aim at the high standard reached by the Seniors. The singing of the choir was delightful.

Here is a list of the prize-winners:

FORM PRIZES.

- Form Ic.—1, K. L. Payne; 2, K. D. Pagniez; good work, C. L. Austin, J. M. Jennings and J. R. Wood.
- Form I Parallel.—1, M. A. Farrer; 2, K. F. Lovegrove; good work, E. G. Cobb, P. F. Hartshorn and J. Morgan.
- Form I.—1, D. W. Chuter; 2, J. H. Crail; good work, A. F. Ricketts, B. D. A. Porter and G. F. B. Webberley.
- Form II.—1, D. E. Lampard; 2, J. C. Bass; good work, D. P. Archer, H. Boseley and R. A. Pooley.
- Form III Parallel.—1, G. M. D. Powell; 2, L. R. Browne; good work, A. J. C. Clark, R. Thiry and E. W. Waring.
- Form III.—1, P. J. Holmes; 2, J. W. Bunting; good work, S. A. Birch, E. A. Glaysher, T. H. Hiscock, H. P. K. Jacobson and C. W. Rees.
- Form IV Parallel.—1, P. M. West; 2, D. A. Smith; good work, P. Huntingford.
- Form IV.—1, S. A. Adler; 2, S. O. Fry; good work, G. C. Bowmer, J. M. Cadier, T. Fletcher, G. H. Jantet, D. R. Haynes, J. H. Hayward, P. E. Larby and P. Nash.
- Form V.—General School Certificates (*Matriculation standard: subjects in brackets=distinction): F. E. Brine, A. G. Brown, W. F. Cate, J. W. Donaldson (geography, mathematics and physics), G. Flook D. H. Hayes (English literature), S. Horowitz, G. M. King, A. R. Morgan, P. Morice (mathematics), T. H. Prince (English, geography, French and mathematics), B. C. Seely (mathematics), G. E. Snaith (English), *D. G. Sturt (geography and mathematics), K. E. Taylor, G. S. Tilford, *J. H. Walton (English, French, physics, mathematics and chemistry).
- Lower VI.—General School Certificates: P. S. Arnsby, D. A. Barnes (mathematics and physics), *A. J. Barter (history, mathematics and chemistry), *M. Colwill, *A. D. Hudson (mathematics, physics and chemistry), L. P. James (physics), *T. H. Kelly (English, French and history), *J. Klein (French and mathematics), *D. J. Mills, L. S. Phillips (history, French and mathematics), *K. C. Reeve (French), G. C. Ricketts (geography, chemistry, French, physics and mathematics). London Matriculation: W. G. Wickham. Additional subject: D. B. Boulter (mechanics).
- Form VI.—Higher School Certificate: D. R. Goddard, passed with exemption from Inter. science, London University (physics, pure mathematics, chemistry and applied mathematics) (Surrey County Council Major Scholarship), D. W. Nicolson, passed with exemption from Inter. arts, London University (Latin, English, pure mathematics, applied mathematics and subsidiary Greek) (London County Council Senior Exhibition), and J. G. Fletcher (passed physics, chemistry and pure mathematics).
- Woodwork.—R. A. Pooley.
- Gardening.—W. Sturt.
- Reading.—Senior: W. J. Walter. Junior: M. B. Ogle.
- Headmaster's Prize.—J. W. Brine.
- Michael Kilburn Memorial Prizes.—A. J. Barter, A. D. Hudson and G. C. Ricketts.
- George Sturt Prize.—M. Colwill.
- Dr. George Brown Prize.—D. R. Goddard.
- C. R. Gibson Prize.—D. B. Boulter.
- War Certificate "A."—P. S. Arnsby, D. A. Barnes, J. P. Bentinck, D. B. Boulter, A. G. Brown, J. M. Cadier, W. F. P. Cate, M. Colwill, J. W. Donaldson, D. L. P. Hopkins, A. D. Hudson, L. P. James, T. H. Kelly, A. Laidler, A. R. Morgan and I. Watts.

The Concert.

First of all we have to express our very sincere thanks to the Governors of the Girls' Grammar School and Miss King, the Headmistress, for allowing us to use the Hall of their School. The acoustic properties and the comfortable seating made the occasion enjoyable for performers and audience alike; in fact, never before have we produced an entertainment under such good conditions.

We have called it an "entertainment" here, because it was rather a hybrid affair. Fundamentally it was a musical concert, but, this year, as last, Brother Joseph acted as compère, and made us chuckle at his stories and gasp at his conjuring virtuosity. We are grateful to him for giving so largely of his time and skill, and to those others who contributed to the musical part of the programme—Miss Doris Cowen, Alex Frankel's quartet and the girls of the Grammar School. Nor should we pass over our own boys, who had worked so hard under the inspiring care of Mr. Crute. But they have had their reward. To this member of the audience it seemed that they derived as much enjoyment from their performance as did the hearers, and that was great indeed.

A glance at the programme, which is printed below, will show what a feast of good things was provided. It is impossible to pay tribute individually to all the items, but mention must be made of some. Perhaps the most outstanding contribution was Handel's Largo sung by Miss Cowen, accompanied by the School Orchestra—not only because it was a finished performance of a lovely song, but also because of the remarkable way in which the orchestra played their complementary part. They performed like veterans. Another of Miss Cowen's songs which must be given special mention was the Easter Hymn, with its moving words and satisfying rhythm.

The soloists and duettists all gave good performances, but we can only refer specially to J. Brine's encore, "Souvenir" by Drdla. In this his intonation, phrasing and bowing were excellent. Of the choral items, the Dance Duet from "Hänsel and Gretel" was a most happy and exhilarating conclusion to the first half of the programme, and the Finale, "England," by the massed choirs and orchestras, was magnificent.

Yes, we have been invidious in naming a few things, but this was inevitable when so many were good. The Red Cross Society benefited by £57, but everyone present must have felt still in debt after such a delightful afternoon.

PROGRAMME.

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM.

1. March: "Calling All Workers".....*Eric Coates.*
School Orchestra.
2. "In Autumn"*McDowell.*
Piano Solo: Jeffrey Bunting.

3. "Largo"*Handel*.
Doris Cowen, Contralto.
4. Spanish Dance No. 1.....*Moszkowski*.
Violin Solo: John Brine.
5. The Rev. Joseph Gard'ner.
6. (a) "Here's a Health Unto His Majesty" }
(b) "My Bonnie" } *arr C. Delmaine*.
Junior Orchestra (augmented by Seniors).
7. "Early One Morning".....*Old English Air*.
Senior Choir.
8. (a) "Nymphs and Shepherds".....*Purcell*.
(b) Dance Duet from "Hänsel and Gretel".....*Humperdinck*.
Junior Choir, accompanied by Orchestra.
- Interval.*
9. "La Source" Ballet Music.....*Delibes*.
School Orchestra.
10. "Alleluia"..... Old German Hymn (*arr. O'Connor Morris*).
Doris Cowen, Contralto.
11. "Where'er You Walk".....*Handel*.
Treble Solo: Colin Batterbury.
12. (a) Skye Boat Song.....*Traditional*.
(b) "Ursula Dancing".....*Ethel Boyce*.
Girls' Grammar School Choir.
13. "Serenade" (arranged for Recorders).....*Schubert*.
Girls' Quartet.
14. The Rev. Joseph Gard'ner.
15. "Negro Symphony".....*Dvorak*.
Alex. Frankel Quartet.
16. "Toumbillon" *Mélan Guérault*.
Piano Duet: Barbara Killick and Donald Sturt.
17. "England" *Parry*.
Combined Choirs and Orchestras.

"A Thing of Beauty."

Not many days ago, quite near our garden, I heard for the first time the sound of a nightingale singing. He sang beautifully then and has done so often since, but I don't really care whether or not I hear the voice of a nightingale again. For, in the early light, when I first heard the startling beauty of the call above the rustling of the trees just before dawn, it made a deep impression on me, one that will last a long time.

Many people must have got the same impression as I did, and many more will do so in the future. Poets and writers of all generations and civilisations have praised the song in many languages, and yet all the accounts I have read failed to convince me. Now I know how right were all those many people, and how lacking in belief I was.

But, before I heard the start of the dawn chorus that morning, I had fully changed and was no more sceptical; and when the chorus of birds had begun and the nightingale sang out against all the opposition, and sang more beautifully than before, then I realised how futile it was for me to think that all the beauty attributed to it was in the imagination of poets. Keats, who wrote an Ode to the Nightingale, also wrote what seems to me one of the truest statements of fact—"a thing of beauty is a joy for ever..."

J. G. FLETCHER.

Aircraft Carriers.

Most fighting ships have a kind of beauty. Destroyers are quite graceful; many cruisers have lovely lines; battleships can be as grand and as terrible as their names—names like Nelson and Rodney and Hood.

But an aircraft-carrier is not really a fighting ship; she is simply an armed and armoured platform from which are launched the fighting ships of the air. And she isn't beautiful at all; she is hideous.

An aircraft-carrier is a kind of sea-monster, but she is treated by her crew with a strange and humorous affection, and the men who fly the aircraft are certainly very glad to see her after a long flight over lonely waters.

At the outbreak of the war Britain had seven of these monsters, with others building. Later were added four more, and now two more have been laid down. Of the original seven, the Ark Royal was the most modern. She was completed early in 1937 and carried about sixty aircraft (about five squadrons), with a complement of 1,575 men. She could do over thirty knots, and it is rumoured that in the early days of the war she broke the Atlantic crossing record both ways. She was built by Cammell Laird on Merseyside, and cost two and a quarter million pounds to build. This figure is above average mainly because she took four years to build. Her flight deck was over 800ft. long, and she had eight more decks below. Her only superstructure was the "island" of the bridge, mast and funnel. The Ark's armament was mainly designed for anti-aircraft use, and consisted of sixteen 4.5's, four multi-pom-poms and some multi-machine guns.

I have described the Ark Royal fully, not only because she was a good example of our aircraft-carriers, but also because, with her active service record, she deserved all the explanation and praise. When Lord Haw-Haw asked many times per night, "Where is the Ark Royal?" she was actually seeing service very near the European coast with her home base at Scapa. From there she went out to South Africa and helped in the U-Boat hunt of the Atlantic, as well as in the chase of the Graf Spee. She then came home for a refit and went straight out to the Mediterranean, back home for the invasion of Norway, then out

again to the Mediterranean. Here she became Gibraltar's own aircraft carrier and, while serving there, beat off many air attacks and came out best in all. Her aircraft were of the newer F.A.A. type: Fulmars and Skuas. It was through the Ark's Swordfishes that the Scharnhorst and Gneisenau had to take refuge in Brest as, when on one of their Atlantic patrols, they sank three of the German supply ships. On another of these patrols came the chase of the Bismarck, after which excitement she went back on Mediterranean convoys. She was returning from one of these when she met her end, and although in sight of her base at Gibraltar, she just couldn't reach home.

Having sketched the history of the Ark Royal, it is only right to say that all our aircraft-carriers have had as fierce and as hectic a fight for existence in this war. Instead of using the one name, I should have added Courageous, Glorious, Furious, Eagle, Argus and Hermes, plus the four new ones: Illustrious, Victorious, Formidable and Indomitable. Aircraft-carriers are an absolute necessity to any sea-going fleet. This has been proved over and over again in this war. They will go on being built, being made bigger, faster and more heavily armoured. Although the F.A.A. is the junior partner, it is still a growing part of the Senior Service and is living up to the highest standards of the Royal Navy.

D. L. P. HOPKINS.

Gardening Hints.

Gardening is the most enjoyable, most profitable and most beneficial of all hobbies; and I feel that it is my duty to pass on some of the hints that I have acquired through experience, which make gardening a pleasure instead of the tiresome labour which it often becomes.

Digging is essentially the first task in the garden. I strongly advise beginners to spend a complete day at digging and not leave it to the evening, when, owing to homework and other things, only a short time can be devoted to it, and thus the operation is spread over several weeks. The whole art of digging is to keep at it, not to seek for an excuse to leave off at the first sign of backache. This usually occurs after about two hours; therefore I suggest something to take your mind off it, such as counting the number of worms you dig up. You will become so absorbed in this that you will suddenly realise that you have been digging for a solid five hours.

Then there is the trouble about the compost heap. This is such a valuable form of converting waste garden rubbish into manure that it cannot be neglected. However, it has its drawbacks, and to overcome these I suggest building a rose arch to the heap; you will then really appreciate the beautiful scent of the roses.

I find seed planting the most tiresome of the gardening operations. I don't mind planting potatoes, and I can even put up with peas and beans, but when it comes to planting some tiny seeds that can only be seen through a microscope, I almost give up. I only said "almost," for when I get to this pitch I just look at my great ugly hands and tell myself that if it wasn't for those little seeds, these hands would lose their delicate touch; in fact, they are losing it now, so I had better get on and plant the seeds.

In my opinion, fruit growing is the most enjoyable of the many branches of gardening, and to make this really worth while the fruit trees must be grown and trained by oneself. This means grafting a cutting from a really good tree to the stem of a crab or poor quality tree. However, there are some people who fight shy of this just because the pug used is a mixture of cow dung and clay, which has to be moulded with the hands. I would advise these people to think of the future, and not to let a few minutes' uncleanness interfere with the changing of a useless crab into a delicious cox's orange.

There is, however, one stage of gardening that I find very heart-breaking. This is the final one when the vegetables that you nursed from infancy and helped over their weaker stages are served up on the table. Here is that cabbage of which you have boasted to your neighbours; there are those prize carrots, all to be consumed in a few minutes. This is hardly a satisfying recompense for many months of hard labour.

A. R. MORGAN.

Facts and Fallacies.

A pillory is a place where they make patent medicines.

Quod ab omnibus means a Black Maria.

An animal is said to ruminate when it chews its cubs.

Syntax is the duty on a bottle of whisky.

Pas de deux is the French for "father of twins."

Coup de grace means a lawn-mower.

A navigator is a strap worn by labourers below the knee.

Tertium quid means six and eightpence.

Oxygen is an invisible gas with eight sides.

Equinox is the jarring suffered when riding a horse.

The moon is more useful than the sun because it gives us light in the night when we need it, while the sun gives light in the day when we don't need it.

A man saw an advertisement: "Buy one of our stoves and save half your coal." So he bought two in order to save all of it. I am not conceited, for I don't think I am half as clever as I really am.

You are thin and I am thin; but he is thinner than both of us put together.

A man, watching some pigs wallowing in the mud, said: "No wonder they are called pigs."

A man, who had bought a dog, complained to the seller that the dog's legs were too short. The seller replied: "What are you complaining about? They reach the ground, don't they?"

Meditations of the Sixth Arts.

Bear with us, we poets three, for but a modest time,
While we pursue "things unattempted yet in prose or rime."
In vain our Muse besought we, with sweat upon our brows;
Nights of sleeping wakefulness, long days of toil were ours.
We write 'midst noise of singing, and ribald laughter's sound,
Political discussions—new theories boys expound.
We hear the famished herd without; above, the racing feet,
Then away, in thund'rous tumult, flies inspiration sweet.

Oftimes by woeful reason of accommodation's lack,
Surrounded and outnumbered, while tongues of science clack,
We work 'midst evil odour and nauseating scent,
As would-be Merlins potions mix, on some weird purpose bent,
They set down in their little books dour labour's fruits, and see
That they have proved a fact, long established though it be!
While we, the noble "Arts," aspire to drink the heav'nly bliss
Of Wisdom's everlasting fount, and claim Parnassus' kiss.

Then wearily we wend our way to huts of sombre hue,
And huddle round a cheerless fire, for wild winds whistle through.
Or in oppressive summer heat, our humid state bemoan,
Dejected, and with fevered brow, unsung but now alone.
Next we to our haven go, the school's true seat of learning,
To ponder over weighty tomes, their complex pages turning,
If not with burning ardour, at least with due address,
For even though we persevere, we fear that we digress.

Think not 'tis study only that occupies our time,
Eke for the season's pleasures, ourselves we duly prime.
Yet sad it is, we must relate, that they, the mighty Powers,
Allow the Sixth's pursuit of sport no Academic hours.
So, after scholar's work is done, when from dull care releas'd,
We hie ourselves unto The Field, our apathy now ceased,
And there with joy disport ourselves, unshackled, unrestrained,
Till with complete exhaustion, the zest for life's regained.

Debates and Shooting, Music too—you'll find an "Arts" man there,
He's always in the foreground, he'll give performance rare.
'Tis truth to tell we have admired the realms of yesteryear,
But there is, too, a present one, that is to us more dear.
We are a glorious brotherhood, uphold a glorious name,
Though unending perseverance is our only call to fame—
But when the sweet, yet harsh, bell sounds, and each boy hence
departs,

Who is for ever in the van? Why, 'tis the noble "Arts"!

K. C. REEVE, L. S. PHILLIPS, T. H. KELLY.

Spring.

"O to be in England now that April's there..." How right the poet was when he wrote those immortal words. Surely there is no country that has the beauty of the English spring, with its fields covered in a mantle of buttercups and daisies, and the hedge-rows sprinkled with the red and white blossom of the hawthorn. And the sides of country lanes are covered with all the signs of nature's beauty—violets, wild parsley and the splendour of numerous other wild plants. The woods are covered in a thick carpet of primroses and bluebells, the boughs of the trees, green and leafy, forming a lofty dome above one's head.

There is no sound of noisy civilisation—just the silence of the woods, save for the rustle of the wind as it softly caresses the branches above. And faintly can be heard a cuckoo calling in the glade. Then a walk through a leafy path, until one arrives out of the wood into a blaze of fiery sunlight. Far away can be seen a farm house, nestling among the hills, the cattle browsing in the lush meadows of verdant grass. In the distance can be heard the tinkle of sheep bells, accompanied by the occasional bark of the sheep dog, tending its flock. And a lark is singing in the blue heaven above. The sun glitters on the silver ribbon of the river as it lazily meanders through the valley, accentuating the grandeur of the luxuriant countryside, when nature is at its zenith.

This is only a small portion of the glory that is spring. There is yet to be mentioned the magnificence of the lilac and the laburnum, the birds busy making their nests, the bloom of the many gorgeous spring flowers, and all that goes to make the wondrous pageant of nature.

K. WATTS.

Football, 1942-43.

Captain: D. L. P. HOPKINS.

Vice-Captain: D. A. BARNES.

Committee Member: W. H. STURT.

Colours awarded to D. L. P. Hopkins (re-awarded), D. A. Barnes, B. T. KIRK, P. NASH, D. STURT, W. STURT.

First Eleven.—Played, 16; won, 10; drawn, 0; lost 6; goals for, 100; goals against, 70.

Second Eleven.—Played, 10; won, 4; drawn, 2; lost, 4; goals for, 26; goals against, 40.

The First Eleven have reason to feel pleased with the season: a good record, kindly weather, and an almost full fixture list, to which they did ample justice. All members of the team showed great keenness, and made good use of lessons learnt in talks and discussions. The standard of their play continued to improve,

and it was pleasant to note the progress in footwork and constructive play generally. It would be invidious to pick out individuals, but mention must be made of the good work Hopkins did as Captain, and also Kirk's bag of no fewer than sixty-one goals.

The following have played for the team: Arnsby, Barnes, Brehaut, Chitty, Hopkins, King, Kirk, Larby, Morgan, Nash, Sheehan, D. Sturt, W. Sturt and Tilford.

The Second Eleven, ably led by Ricketts, had a fairly successful season. There was much keenness here. They started off the season by beating Guildford, but failed to keep such exceptional form.

The following have played for the team: Brine, Cate, R. E. S. Clark, Fisher, Gudge, Jantet, Kelly, Milburn, Ricketts, Riseborough, Webb, Wood.

The Colts played three matches, winning two and losing one.

RESULTS.

FIRST ELEVEN.

Sept. 26.—v. Guildford R.G.S. (away): 4—9 (Lost).
 Oct. 3.—v. Camberley C.S. (home): 11—4 (Won).
 Oct. 10.—v. Eggar's G.S. (away): 11—3 (Won).
 Oct. 17.—v. Sir Walter St. John School (home): 4—8 (Lost).
 Oct. 21.—v. Farnham Wednesday (home): 6—7 (Lost).
 Oct. 24.—v. Eggar's G.S. (home): 7—2 (Won).
 Nov. 14.—v. Camberley C.S. (away): 6—3 (Won).
 Nov. 21.—v. Old Farnhamians (home): 4—7 (Lost).
 Dec. 12.—v. Guildford R.G.S. (home): 2—3 (Lost).
 Jan. 23.—v. Old Farnhamians (home): 8—4 (Won).
 Feb. 20.—v. Old Farnhamians (home): 6—5 (Won).
 Feb. 27.—v. Eggar's G.S. (away): 7—1 (Won).
 Mar. 6.—v. Farnborough G.S. (away): 4—7 (Lost).
 Mar. 13.—v. Eggar's G.S. (home): 9—1 (Won).
 Mar. 20.—v. Farnborough G.S. (home): 3—2 (Won).
 Mar. 27.—v. Salesian College (away): 8—4 (Won).

SECOND ELEVEN.

Sept. 26.—v. Guildford R.G.S. (home): 3—1 (Won).
 Oct. 3.—v. Camberley C.S. (away): 7—2 (Won).
 Oct. 10.—v. Odiham G.S. (home): 3—2 (Won).
 Oct. 17.—v. Sir Walter St. John's School (away): 2—8 (Lost).
 Oct. 24.—v. Odiham G.S. (away): 4—1 (Won).
 Nov. 14.—v. Camberley C.S. (home): 4—4 (Drawn).
 Dec. 12.—v. Guildford R.G.S. (away): 0—12 (Lost).
 Mar. 6.—v. Farnborough G.S. (home): 3—3 (Drawn).
 Mar. 20.—v. Farnborough G.S. (away): 0—3 (Lost).
 Mar. 27.—v. Salesian College (home): 0—4 (Lost).

COLTS' ELEVEN.

Oct. 24.—v. West Street School (home): 1—4 (Lost).
 Oct. 28.—v. Bourne School (home): 7—0 (Won).
 Nov. 18.—v. Wrecchlesham School (home): 9—0 (Won).

INTER-HOUSE FOOTBALL.

AUTUMN TERM.

FIRST ELEVENS.

Harding 5, School 4; Massingberd 6, Childe 0; Harding 5, Childe 3; School 7, Childe 0; School 4, Morley 3; Harding 2, Morley 1; Massingberd 2, School 2; Morley 7, Childe 1; Massingberd 1, Harding 0; Morley 3, Massingberd 1.

Positions.—1, Harding, 6 points; 2, Massingberd and School, 5 points; 4, Morley, 4 points; 5, Childe, 0 points.

JUNIORS.

Massingberd 14, Morley 0; Harding 3, School 1; Massingberd 6, Childe 2; School 5, Morley 0; Childe 4, Harding 0; Harding 0, Massingberd 0; Childe 6, School 0; Harding 8, Morley 0; Childe 8, Morley 0; Massingberd 6, School 0.

Positions.—1, Massingberd, 7 points; 2, Childe, 6 points; 3, Harding, 5 points; 4, School, 2 points; 5, Morley, 0 points.

KNOCK-OUT COMPETITION.

SPRING TERM.

FIRST ELEVENS.

Preliminary Round.—Morley 4, School 3. *Semi-finals*—Morley 3, Harding 2; Massingberd 8, Childe 2. *Final*—Massingberd 1, Morley 0.

JUNIORS.

Preliminary Round.—Harding 1, School 0. *Semi-finals*—Childe 5, Harding 2; Massingberd 8, Morley 0. *Final*—Massingberd 4, Childe 0.

Boxing.

The Boxing Competitions took place as usual in the Gymnasium during the last week of the Autumn Term. The entry was good; no fewer than 142 boys entered the ring. The first four classes were according to weight, and the other according to an index figure arrived at by taking into consideration both age and weight.

Thanks are due to Mr. E. Howell and Major Harper, of the Canadian Training School, for acting as referees.

Here is a list of the results:

CLASS 1 (Over 11st.).

Semi-Finals.—K. C. Reeve (Morley) beat P. B. Atkins (Childe); A. R. Morgan (Childe) beat J. G. Noyes (Childe).

Finals.—Morgan beat Reeve. Morgan, who had an advantage in his superior reach, used his straight left to good effect on Reeve's face and body. He frequently swayed and fainted, and proved himself to be a stylish boxer with a strong punch. Reeve fought pluckily, taking punishment, but was unable to hit Morgan many times.

CLASS 2 (11st. and Under).

First Series.—T. H. Kelly (School) beat L. S. Phillips (Harding); G. C. Ricketts (Childe) beat A. Westley (School).

Semi-Finals.—J. W. Donaldson (Massingberd) beat A. J. Barter (School); Ricketts beat Kelly.

Final.—Ricketts beat Donaldson. Both contestants used their lefts, but whereas Rickett's punches usually got home, Donaldson's were usually blocked. Donaldson therefore tried to close with Ricketts, and rushed him on to the ropes. In the second round Ricketts did most of the attacking; Donaldson tried to smother his punches, but was rather groggy at the end.

CLASS 3 (10st. and Under).

First Series.—P. Cody (Harding) beat R. E. S. Clarke (Massingberd).

Semi-Finals.—Cody beat R. E. Roberts (Morley); D. W. Chitty (Morley) beat P. Huntingford (Childe).

Final.—Chitty beat Cody. Chitty attacked strongly at the start, ducking and weaving disconcertingly, and several times rushed Cody on to the ropes. He again attacked in the second round and, although Cody managed to start Chitty's nose bleeding with his left, on which he mainly relied, he was decidedly beaten.

CLASS 4 (9st. 7lbs. and Under).

First Series.—T. Fletcher (Harding) beat J. S. Pinsent (Massingberd); P. E. Larby (Childe) beat J. T. Sheehan (Massingberd); B. T. Kirk (School) beat W. F. P. Cate (Harding); C. W. Rees (Childe) beat E. A. Glaysher (Harding).

Semi-Finals.—Fletcher w.o. Larby (scr.); Kirk beat Rees.

Final.—Kirk beat Fletcher. Kirk attacked fiercely from the start, and very frequently scored on Fletcher's face with hard punches. He soon had the latter in difficulties, and the referee stopped the fight.

CLASS 5.

First Series.—D. R. Skillin (School) beat D. L. P. Hopkins (Harding); A. J. Cornish (School) beat J. W. Brine (Harding).

Semi-Finals.—A. Player (Childe) beat I. Watts (Harding); Skillin beat Cornish.

Final.—Skillin beat Player. In the first round Skillin attacked mainly with his left; so did Player, but he was forced rather on to the defensive. In the second round Skillin attacked two-fisted and punished Player pretty heavily. The latter fought well, but was out-matched in the close fighting by his opponent.

CLASS 6.

First Series.—K. Tomlin (Harding) bye; P. Nash (Massingberd) beat N. P. Chuter (Childe); P. Waite (Harding) beat H. P. K. Jacobsohn (Childe); G. A. Brehaut (Morley) beat J. M. Cadier (Massingberd); G. H. Jantet (Massingberd) beat J. G. Fletcher (Harding); D. G. Sturt (Massingberd) beat K. Watts (Harding); R. Thiry (Massingberd) beat D. V. Hayes (Harding).

Second Series.—Nash beat Tomlin; Waite beat Brehaut; Jantet beat Sturt.

Semi-Finals.—Waite beat Nash; Jantet beat Thiry.

Final.—Waite beat Jantet. There was a fierce exchange of blows at the beginning of the first round, and the contestants seemed fairly evenly matched. However, Waite's attacking was better than Jantet's, his straight left and upper-cutting being especially good. Jantet relied too much on his straight left, and Waite several times had him on the ropes. Waite has certainly a promising style for the future.

CLASS 7.

First Series.—R. C. Roberts (School) beat D. E. Wood (Harding); P. W. Ventham (Harding) beat H. James (Massingberd); A. J. C. Clark (Massingberd) beat D. R. Haynes (Harding); G. S. Tilford (Massingberd) beat H. J. Hayward (Harding); R. E. Mansfield (Massingberd) beat S. A. Birch (Childe); J. A. Donald (Harding) beat R. H. Collings (Morley); R. J. Wallis (Morley) beat M. J. Lock (Massingberd); E. D. Milburn (School) beat G. B. Piper (Massingberd); G. C. Bowmer (Morley), bye.

Second Series.—Ventham beat Clark; Tilford beat Mansfield; Donald beat Wallis; Milburn beat Bowmer.

Third Series.—Roberts beat Ventham.

Semi-Finals.—Roberts beat Tilford; Milburn beat Donald.

Final.—Milburn beat Roberts. Milburn attacked fiercely from the start, but although his style was promising his punches were rather wild. Roberts, though not so impressive, boxed soundly. In the second round Roberts attacked, and there was a fierce exchange of blows. Milburn avoiding many by ducking. The referee congratulated both on a good fight.

CLASS 8.

First Series.—A. F. Ricketts (Childe) beat J. M. Pawley (School); R. L. Southon (School) beat R. G. Holdsworth (Morley); P. W. Riseborough (Childe) beat A. J. Wiseman (School); R. G. Hearn (Harding) beat J. Nicholas (School); T. S. James (Massingberd) beat G. R. Dalrymple (Harding); J. McMullon (School) beat G. J. Baker (Harding); L. R. Browne (School) beat R. V. Woods (Harding); W. Band (Harding) beat D. M. James (Massingberd); J. P. Clark (Massingberd) w.o. A. S. MacMillan (Harding), scratch; D. J. Sykes (Childe), bye.

Second Series.—Ricketts beat Southon; Hearn beat Riseborough; McMullon beat James; Browne beat Band; Sykes beat Clark.

Third Series.—Sykes beat Browne.

Semi-Finals.—Hearn beat Ricketts; Sykes beat McMullon.

Final.—Sykes beat Hearn. Sykes boxed very well, using his left to good effect, and he several times rushed Hearn into the corner with two-fisted attacks. Hearn fought pluckily, but relied too much on his left, which Sykes easily countered with his left.

CLASS 9.

First Series.—I. M. F. Perkins (Childe) beat J. H. Harrington (Harding); K. N. Anderson (School) beat B. D. Lewis (Massingberd); M. J. Ball (Morley) beat J. A. Brake (Harding); J. C. Bass (Massingberd) beat E. G. Cobb (Childe); J. R. Wilkinson (Childe) beat J. D. Banks (School); J. H. Wisdom (Massingberd) beat C. L. Austin (Harding); P. T. Sheehan (Massingberd) beat H. W. Glover (Morley); G. M. Powell (Childe) beat D. P. Archer (School); J. D. Hart (Morley) w.o. J. D. Baker (Harding) absent; I. F. Mitchell (Massingberd) beat E. H. Hanney (Harding).

Second Series.—Powell beat Sheehan; Mitchell beat Hart.

Third Series.—Perkins beat Anderson; Ball beat Bass; Wilkinson beat Wisdom; Mitchell beat Powell.

Semi-Finals.—Perkins beat Ball; Mitchell beat Wilkinson.

Final.—Perkins beat Mitchell. Perkins attacked from the start, using his left frequently. His fierce hooking and upper-cutting were too good for Mitchell and the referee had to stop the fight.

CLASS 10.

First Series.—B. H. Creasy (Massingberd), bye; A. A. Karn (Harding) beat R. D. Parsons (Morley); S. J. King (Massingberd), w.o., A. L. White (Childe), scr.; P. Luxon (School) beat J. M. Sargent (Childe); K. M. Gordon (Childe), w.o., P. Spiers (Harding) absent; R. I. Harris (Massingberd) beat C. Woods (Harding); D. W. Townsend (Harding) beat D. Dawes (School); C. K. Young (Harding) beat W. J. Howard (Childe); G. H. Denyer (Massingberd) beat R. C. Bowtell (Harding); J. Morgan (Childe) beat P. F. Hartshorn (Harding); A. J. Honey (Harding) beat J. E. Sercombe (School); D. H. Garner (School) beat O. Good (Harding).

Second Series.—Karn beat Creasy; Luxon beat King; Harris beat Gordon; Young beat Townsend; Denyer beat Morgan; Garner beat Honey.

Third Series.—Young beat Harris; Denyer beat Garner.

Semi-Finals.—Luxon beat Karn; Young beat Denyer.

Final.—Young beat Luxon. These two were evenly matched, and Luxon's right lead served him well. Young's punches, however, were harder and he was better in the close-range work. In addition, Young had the better defence.

CLASS 11.

First Series.—W. J. Clifford (School), bye; J. E. Lunn (Morley) beat F. W. Lassam (Childe); P. M. Honey (Harding) beat P. Jantet (Massingberd); P. G. Naylor (Massingberd) beat V. K. Winstain (Harding); R. W. Wearing (Childe) beat K. D. Pagniez (School); J. E. Player (Childe), w.o., R. A. Parker (Harding) absent; A. J. Aylwin (School) beat J. W. Hawkins (Morley); K. E. Ball (Morley), w.o., J. H. Crotty (Massingberd) absent; K. D. Paget (School) beat P. W. Briggs (Harding); C. J. Batterbury (School) beat P. D. Wilding (Childe); R. G. Nixon (Childe), w.o., M. H. Glynn (Harding) absent.

Second Series.—Clifford beat Lunn; Honey beat Naylor; Wearing beat Player; Aylwin beat Ball; Batterbury beat Paget.

Third Series:—Aylwin beat Wearing; Batterbury beat Nixon.

Semi-Finals.—Clifford beat Honey; Batterbury beat Aylwin.

Final.—Clifford, w.o., Batterbury absent. Batterbury was unable to box, unfortunately, because he had hurt his hand.

CLASS 12.

First Series.—J. R. Wood (Harding) beat M. J. Barnard (Massingberd); M. Player (Childe) beat H. F. Clark (Massingberd); P. J. Mulheron (School), w.o., J. S. Mitchell (Massingberd), scr.; J. L. Robertson (School) beat J. Thrower (Childe).

Semi-Finals.—Wood beat Player; Robertson beat Mulheron.

Final.—Wood beat Robertson. Robertson did his best, but was definitely outclassed by Wood, whose feinting and two-fisted attacks showed promise of a good boxer.

P. Huntingford was adjudged to be the best loser in the Senior Classes (1 to 5) and J. McMullon in the Junior (6 to 12).

Inter-House Competition.—1, School, 61 points; 2, Childe, 56½; 3, Harding, 55½; 4, Massingberd, 40½; 5, Morley, 24½.

House Shooting.

AUTUMN TERM.

The conditions for the first stage of the Inter-House Competition, which was shot on Monday, 21st December, were somewhat altered. Each competitor fired ten rounds, five on each of two targets. On the first target, points were awarded for grouping solely, as follows: One inch group, 50; two inch group, 40; three inch group, 30; three inch group and one wide (on target), 20. For the second target, points were scored in the usual way for application, with a maximum of fifty. The result was that there was not a great difference between the House totals.

G. A. Brehaut and L. S. Phillips tied for the "spoon" with the highest individual scores.

Results (G=Grouping; A=Application; T=Total):

1.—Massingberd.

	G.	A.	T.
P. Nash ...	50	31	81
G. H. Jantet ...	40	37	77
W. J. Walter ...	40	35	75
M. J. Lock ...	40	34	74
J. T. Sheehan ...	40	34	74
J. W. Donaldson	30	33	63
	<u>240</u>	<u>204</u>	<u>444</u>

Counted out—

F. W. Harris ...	30	28	58
R. E. Thiry ...	30	26	56

3.—Childe.

	G.	A.	T.
S. A. Birch ...	40	42	82
A. Player ...	40	34	74
P. B. Atkins ...	40	33	73
P. W. Riseborough	40	33	73
E. W. Waring ...	30	34	64
A. R. Morgan ...	40	20	60
	<u>230</u>	<u>196</u>	<u>426</u>

Counted out—

G. B. Tingley ...	30	24	54
C. W. Rees ...	30	21	51

2.—Morley.

	G.	A.	T.
G. A. Brehaut ...	50	40	90
D. A. Barnes ...	40	37	77
J. W. Lloyd ...	40	35	75
D. W. Chitty ...	30	39	69
K. C. Reeve ...	30	37	67
G. F. Morley ...	30	33	63
	<u>220</u>	<u>221</u>	<u>441</u>

Counted out—

H. J. Gudge ...	40	23	63
R. F. Webb ...	30	23	53

4.—School.

	G.	A.	T.
M. E. West ...	50	38	88
G. Flook ...	50	32	82
P. B. Morice ...	40	35	75
J. McMullon ...	40	33	73
B. T. Kirk ...	30	25	55
D. R. Skillin ...	30	20	50
	<u>240</u>	<u>183</u>	<u>423</u>

Counted out—

L. Hoyle ...	0	32	32
A. L. Westley ...	20	11	31

5.—Harding.

	G.	A.	T.
L. S. Phillips ...	50	40	90
K. Watts ...	40	34	74
I. Watts ...	40	32	72
D. E. Wood ...	40	29	69
P. H. Cody ...	30	27	57
J. W. Brine ...	30	27	57
	<u>230</u>	<u>189</u>	<u>419</u>

Counted out—

J. G. Fletcher ...	30	18	48
E. A. Glaysher ...	0	10	10

SPRING TERM.

The conditions were the same as for the Autumn Term.

1.—Childe.

	G.	A.	T.
E. W. Waring ...	40	44	84
A. R. Morgan ...	40	42	82
C. W. Rees ...	40	42	82
S. A. Birch ...	40	40	80
A. Player ...	40	34	74
P. W. Riseborough	40	31	71
	<u>240</u>	<u>233</u>	<u>473</u>

Counted out—

P. B. Atkins ...	40	29	69
P. E. Larby ...	0	27	27

2.—Morley.

	G.	A.	T.
G. A. Brehaut ...	40	38	78
J. W. Lloyd ...	40	37	77
R. F. Webb ...	40	37	77
K. C. Reeve ...	40	35	75
H. J. Gudge ...	40	32	72
D. W. Chitty ...	30	37	67
	<u>230</u>	<u>216</u>	<u>446</u>

Counted out—

D. Arnold ...	30	34	64
G. F. Morley ...	40	19	59

3.—School.				4.—Massingberd.			
	G.	A.	T.		G.	A.	T.
M. E. West ...	50	38	88	W. J. Walter ...	40	41	81
J. McMullon ...	40	41	81	G. H. Jantet ...	40	38	78
A. L. Westley ...	40	37	77	P. Nash ...	40	32	72
D. R. Skillin ...	30	40	70	M. J. Lock ...	40	30	70
E. D. Milburn ...	40	21	61	R. E. S. Clark ...	40	27	67
A. J. Cornish ...	30	30	60	P. J. Daly ...	30	35	65
	230	207	437		230	203	433
<i>Counted out—</i>				<i>Counted out—</i>			
B. T. Kirk ...	30	29	59	R. E. Thiry ...	40	25	65
R. C. Roberts ...	0	10	10	J. M. Cadier ...	0	23	23
5.—Harding.							
	G.	A.	T.		G.	A.	T.
L. S. Phillips ...	40	42	82				
H. J. Hayward ...	40	37	77				
P. H. Cody ...	30	39	69				
J. G. Fletcher ...	30	37	67				
G. P. Edmead ...	40	24	64				
D. L. P. Hopkins ...	40	24	64				
	220	203	423				
<i>Counted out—</i>							
K. W. Tomlin ...	30	33	63				
K. Watts ...	0	37	37				

The spoon was won by M. E. West, 88.

Inter-House Athletic Sports.

The Inter-House Athletic Sports Competitions were held on various evenings in March. The events and points were as in previous years, but in order to stimulate interest in athletics and to encourage training, "standards" in certain track and field events were introduced. These were entirely separate from the usual House events. The "standards" were based on times and distances in House events of previous years. They may have to be altered in the light of experience. No boy was allowed to enter for more than one track event and one field event. The events chosen were 220 yards, half-mile, long and high jumps (open) and 100 yards. 440 yards, long and high jumps (junior). The "standard" for each event is given in the detailed results. Each "standard" reached gained one point for the competitor's House—the combined events and standards points deciding the trophy winners. Results:

OPEN.

440 Yards Relay (4 x 110).—1, School (M. E. West, D. R. Skillin, T. H. Kelly, B. T. Kirk); 2, Morley (D. W. Chitty, H. J. Gudge, G. A. Brehaut, D. A. Barnes); 3, Harding (J. W. Brine, P. Waite, K. H. Tomlin, D. L. P. Hopkins); 4, Childe (G. C. Ricketts, G. M. Powell, P. E. Larby, A. R. Morgan); 5, Massingberd (P. Nash, J. W. Donaldson, W. H. Sturt, G. H. Jantet). Time: 52 secs. (Record, 1942, Morley, 51.8 secs.)

Mile Relay (4 x 440).—1, Morley (Chitty, Gudge, Barnes, Brehaut); 2, School (A. L. Westley, Skillin, Kelly, Kirk); 3, Massingberd (Nash, G. S. Tilford, W. H. Sturt, D. G. Sturt); 4, Harding (Brine, Tomlin, J. G. Fletcher, Hopkins); 5, Childe (Ricketts, P. W. Riseborough, Larby, Morgan). Time: 4 mins. 11.6 secs. (Record, 1942, Morley, 4 mins. 11.1 secs.).

Mile Medley (440, 220, 220, 880).—1, Morley (Chitty, Gudge, R. E. J. Roberts, Brehaut); 2, School (Kelly, West, Kirk, Skillin); 3, Massingberd (W. H. Sturt, Donaldson, Tilford, D. G. Sturt); 4, Childe (Ricketts, C. W. Rees, Larby, Morgan); 5, Harding (T. Fletcher, Brine, J. G. Fletcher, Tomlin). Time: 4 mins. 23.4 secs. (Record, 1938, Massingberd, and 1942, Childe, 4 mins. 18.2 secs.).

Hurdles (3 x 100; 3ft. hurdles; 9 flights).—1, School (Kirk, Kelly, West); 2, Childe (Ricketts, Morgan, Larby); 3, Morley (Chitty, Gudge, Brehaut); 4, Massingberd (W. H. Sturt, Jantet, Tilford); 5, Harding (D. R. Haynes, Tomlin, J. G. Fletcher). Time: 53 secs. (Record, 1942, Morley, 49.2 secs.).

Long Jump (teams of three).—1, School (Kirk, West, Skillin); 2, Morley (Brehaut, Gudge, Barnes); 3, Childe (Morgan, Larby, Ricketts); 4, Massingberd (Nash, Jantet, Tilford); 5, Harding (Hopkins, J. G. Fletcher, Waite). Aggregate distance: 50ft. 9½ins. (Record, 1934, School, 53ft. 0½in.).

High Jump (teams of three).—1, Morley (Chitty, Gudge, Barnes); 2, School (Kelly, A. J. Barter, Kirk); 3, Massingberd (Tilford, Jantet, W. H. Sturt); 4, Childe (Larby, Ricketts, Morgan); 5, Harding (Hopkins, Tomlin, Waite). Aggregate height: 14ft. 4ins. (Record, 1940, Childe, 14ft. 8ins.).

Half-Mile Team Race (teams of two).—1, Brehaut (Morley); 2, D. G. Sturt (Massingberd); 3, Morgan (Childe); 4, Hopkins (Harding); 5, Chitty (Morley). Time: 2 mins. 22.9 secs. (Record, 1938, M. C. Colwill (Childe), 2 mins. 15.6 secs.).

Points.—Morley, 46; School, 42; Massingberd, 20; Childe, 19; Harding, 8.

JUNIOR.

440 Yards Relay (4 x 110).—1, Massingberd (A. J. C. Clark, H. James, J. A. Harris, G. B. Piper); 2, School (J. E. Barnard, D. P. Archer, R. A. Bicknell, P. C. Luxon); 3, Morley (M. J. Ball, K. E. Ball, H. Boseley, R. D. Stacey); 4, Harding (G. J. Baker, J. A. Brake, C. K. Young, F. J. Carpenter). Time: 61.6 secs. (Record, 1942, School, 59.4 secs.).

Half-Mile Relay (4 x 220).—1, Childe (I. M. F. Perkins, G. P. Hewes, P. C. Read, D. J. Sykes); 2, Massingberd (Clark, P. T. Sheehan, James, Piper); 3, Harding (Brake, J. H. Crail, Carpenter, Baker); 4, School (Barnard, A. J. M. Aylwin, K. D. Paget, Luxon); 5, Morley (M. J. Ball, H. W. Glover, M. B. Ogle, Boseley). Time: 2 mins. 6 secs. (Record, 1942, School, 2 mins. 3 secs.).

Half-Mile Medley Relay (220, 110, 110, 440).—1, Childe (Sykes, Read, A. F. Ricketts, Perkins); 2, Massingberd (Sheehan, R. I. Harris, James, G. H. W. Denyer); 3, Morley (Stacey, K. E. Ball, M. J. Ball, Boseley); 4, Harding (Crail, Brake, Young, Baker); 5, School (Paget, W. J. Clifford, Barnard, K. N. Anderson). Time: 2 mins. 11.4 secs. (Record, 1942, School, 2 mins. 6.4 secs.).

Hurdles Relay (3 x 75; 2ft. 6in. hurdles; 7 flights).—1, Childe (Perkins, Read, Sykes); 2, Massingberd (James, Sheehan, R. I. Harris); 3, Morley (Glover, M. J. Ball, Boseley); 4, School (Barnard, Paget, Anderson); 5, Harding (Crail, Brake, Young). Time: 43.6 secs. (Record, 1935, Childe, 40.2 secs.).

Long Jump (teams of three).—1, Childe (J. R. Wilkinson, V. P. Barrett, Hewes); 2, Massingberd (P. J. Kent, J. A. Harris, Piper); 3, School (Barnard, Archer, Luxon); 4, Harding (Young, V. K. Winstain, Baker); 5, Morley (Ogle, Glover, Stacey). Aggregate distance: 43ft. 7½ins. (Record, 1942, School, 45ft. 6ins.).

High Jump (teams of three).—1, Childe (Sykes, Hewes, Read); 2, Massingberd (Piper, Clark, Sheehan); 3, Morley (M. J. Ball, Boseley, Glover); 4, Harding (Winstain, Baker, J. R. Wood); 5, School (Luxon, R. L. Southon, Paget). Aggregate height: 12ft. 5ins. (Record, 1942, School, 12ft. 8ins.).

440 Yards Team Race (teams of two).—1, Denyer (Massingberd); 2, Hewes (Childe); 3, Piper (Massingberd); 4, Baker (Harding); 5, Perkins (Childe). Time: 72 secs. (Record, 1941, W. H. Sturt (Massingberd), 65.1 secs.).

Points.—Massingberd, 46; Childe, 45; Morley, 16; Harding and School, 14.

STANDARDS.

OPEN.

220 Yards (28 secs.).—P. E. Larby, A. R. Morgan, G. C. Ricketts (Childe); D. L. P. Hopkins, J. W. Brine (Harding); D. A. Barnes, H. J. Gudge, D. W. Chitty (Morley); B. T. Kirk, M. E. West, T. H. Kelly (School).

Half-Mile (2 mins. 45 secs.).—H. P. K. Jacobsohn (Childe); J. G. Fletcher, T. Fletcher, K. H. W. Tomlin, D. R. Haynes (Harding); D. G. Sturt, G. S. Tilford, W. H. Sturt, G. H. Jantet, R. E. S. Clark, P. Nash (Massingberd); G. A. Brehaut, G. F. Morley (Morley); A. J. Barter, J. McMullon, D. R. Skillin (School).

Long Jump (15ft.).—G. C. Ricketts (Childe); J. G. Fletcher, P. Waite (Harding); P. Nash, J. M. Cadier, J. W. Donaldson, G. H. Jantet, R. E. S. Clark (Massingberd); G. A. Brehaut (Morley); D. R. Skillin, M. E. West (School).

High Jump (4ft. 3ins.).—A. R. Morgan, P. E. Larby (Childe); D. L. P. Hopkins, K. H. W. Tomlin (Harding); G. S. Tilford, W. H. Sturt (Massingberd); D. A. Barnes, D. W. Chitty, H. J. Gudge (Morley); A. J. Barter, E. D. Milburn, B. T. Kirk, T. H. Kelly (School).

Points.—Massingberd, 13; School, 12; Harding, 10; Morley, 9; Childe, 7.

JUNIOR.

100 Yards (14 secs.).—P. C. Read, R. G. J. Nixon, J. R. Wilkinson, D. H. Hall, A. F. Ricketts, D. J. Sykes (Childe); G. J. Baker, J. H. Crail (Harding); J. A. Harris, A. J. C. Clark, H. James, G. B. Piper, P. J. Holmes, A. E. Waind (Massingberd); R. D. Stacey (Morley); P. C. Luxon, J. E. Barnard, K. N. Anderson, R. A. Bicknell (School).

440 Yards (75 secs.).—G. P. Hewes, I. M. F. Perkins (Childe); G. H. W. Denyer (Massingberd).

Long Jump (12ft.).—G. P. Hewes, W. J. Howard, V. P. Barrett, A. F. Ricketts, J. R. Wilkinson, R. A. Pooley (Childe); J. H. Crail, C. Woods, G. J. Baker (Harding); J. A. Harris, G. B. Piper, H. James, J. C. Bass, I. F. Mitchell, P. J. Kent, M. J. Barnard (Massingberd); R. D. Stacey (Morley); J. E. Barnard, P. C. Luxon, D. P. Archer, K. D. Paget (School).

High Jump (3ft. 6ins.).—D. J. Sykes, I. M. F. Perkins, L. R. Archer, G. B. Main-Smith, P. C. Read, J. H. J. Cherryman (Childe); C. K. Young, D. W. Townsend, J. R. Wood, V. K. Winstain (Harding); P. L. James, A. E. Waind, P. T. Sheehan, G. H. W. Denyer, L. D. Kelly, A. J. C. Clark (Massingberd); H. Boseley, H. W. Glover, M. J. Ball (Morley); K. N. Anderson (School).

Points.—Childe and Massingberd, 20; Harding and School, 9; Morley, 5.

HOUSE TROPHIES.

(Awarded on aggregate points of Events and Standards).

Open.—Morley, 55; School, 54; Massingberd, 33; Childe, 26; Harding, 18.

Junior.—Massingberd, 66; Childe, 65; Harding and School, 23; Morley, 21

OLD FARNHAMIANs' ASSOCIATION.

MEMBERSHIP.

Since the last issue of the Magazine the following Old Boys have joined the Association:—

Durham, B. H. (1933-1937), 21 Market Place, Frome, Somerset.

Kirk, K. R. (1933-1940), Ridgway Road Stores, Farnham.

Goddard, D. R. (1933-1942), The White Cottage, Lancaster Avenue, Farnham.

Chuter, J. A. L. (1934-1941), "Westgate," Frensham, Farnham.

Gardner, T. K. (1928-1935), "Gorsedene," Lemon Grove, Whitehill, Bordon, Hants.

Colwill, M. (1936-1942), 1, Prospect Villas, Vale Road, Ash Vale, Aldershot.

Wearing, P. B. (1938-1941), "Allington," Ash Road, Tongham, Farnham.

Watts, I. (1934-1943), "The Owls," Anstey Lane, Alton, Hants.

Barnes, D. A. (1935-1943), 76, West Street, Farnham.

James, L. P. (1936-1942), "Little Lyndridge," Folly Hill, Farnham.

Nicolson, D. W. (1940-1942), "The Lynch," Broomleaf Road, Farnham.

Edwards, E. G. (1935-1940), "The Good Intent," Puttenham, Guildford.

Edwards, M. V. (1935-1941), "The Good Intent," Puttenham, Guildford.

Wood, D. E. (1935-1943), 6, Cranmore Lane, Aldershot.

The following members have changed their addresses:

King, E. G., 38, Hastings Road, West Ealing, W.13.

Loveless, R. B., "Oakenshaw," Oak Hill, Surbiton.

Scofield, G. E. J., c/o Lady Baden-Powell, Hampton Court Palace, Middlesex.

The following members have been killed on active service:

M. C. Colwill (previously reported missing), D. W. C. Jepp, A. L. W. Cale.

Roll of Honour.

A. L. W. Cale (1930-1933), Sergeant (Flight Engineer), R.A.F., killed in action, January, 1943.

D. W. C. Jepp (1929-1936), Pilot Officer (Navigator), R.A.F.V.R., killed on active service, January, 1943.

S. S. Dawes (1925-1931), Flight Sergeant, R.C.A.F., previously reported missing, now presumed killed in action, April, 1942.

C. L. Merricks (1928-1935), Sergeant (Wireless Operator/Air Gunner), R.A.F., previously reported missing, now presumed killed in action, April, 1942.

M. C. Colwill (1932-1940), Sergeant (Observer), R.A.F.V.R., missing, believed killed in action, December, 1942.

SALUTE TO THE BRAVE.

All of these gallant five were known by most of the staff, and two of them were school-mates of many boys still in the School. I find it difficult and possibly presumptuous to sum up what each of them meant—and means—to the School. Those many of us who remember them would select different characteristics to dwell on, but all of us know that, in their different ways, they were young men of merit and promise; and they have given their all for a great and vital cause. May we prove worthy of their sacrifice, and may their dear ones draw comfort from the knowledge that their sacrifice is not proving fruitless.

F.A.M.

MISSING.

B. G. Louch, D.F.M. (1932-1937), Flight-Sergeant, R.A.F., missing in December, 1942.

H. F. Wood (1931-1935), Craftsman, R.E.M.E., Autumn, 1942.

W. J. Lickfold (1936-1939), Air Fitter, Fleet Air Arm, missing in Mediterranean, November, 1942.

PRISONERS OF WAR.

S. Wells (1931-1937), Sergeant, R.A., prisoner of war in Japanese hands, January, 1942.

C. M. Mould (1924-1926), Captain, Lincolnshire Regiment, prisoner of war in Tunisia, March, 1943.

G. C. Blake (1928-1933), Special Boat Section, Autumn, 1942.

W. S. Milsum (1928-1930), Lieutenant, R.A., Singapore, February, 1942.

 WILLIAM STROUD.

It must be the unnatural circumstances of the moment that have left it to me to pay formal tribute to William Stroud, when there must be so many others better fitted to do justice to his sterling character. But these are distracting times, with so many away from home, so many gaps in the ranks of the young men, and so many others of his own generation who have slipped away, tired out by a world of speed without purpose. Some of these latter could have told us more about how this Farnham boy developed into the unique character we knew within the Grammar School influence which he stored and radiated. To the rest of us, the miracle had happened, and William Stroud, monumental and changeless, was there in the furthest recesses of memory.

But it does not need a Boswell to claim for him the quality of greatness, and few of us would deny him this, even in times when great men are measured to a Churchillian scale, flying from one corner of the earth to another to meet their peers. His landscape was bounded by the little hills and woods of ancient Farnham. It would seem a small sphere until we remember

the generations of boys and young men who have gone out far afield, each with a memory of their old master—some hard subject made clear as crystal to them; some clear understanding of the mysterious ways of boys; and clearest of all to most, a picture of a man dropping on his knees as Samuel Priestley read familiar daily prayers while the rest of us stood awkwardly and inattentively. Those were days when boys had little use for the marks of piety, but I cannot remember one who dared make fun, or, indeed, who saw in the act anything other than the humble self-effacement of a good man.

I have often thought that if all the schoolmasters I have known, most of them learned, many of them brilliant, were sent back to school again, William Stroud would, inevitably, become the head of the School by sheer merit. With the others, the chart of progress would show lofty peaks of achievement thrown the more into prominence by deep valleys of weak subjects. With him the line would show firm and regular across the whole syllabus, for he had a mind that was thirsty for knowledge and, to him, specialising was just another name for the incomplete. Art, drawing, mathematics, history, geography, shorthand, book-keeping, gymnastics, field sports, athletics, physical drill, military drill, archaeology, carpentry and handwork—what other man would have presumed to assume authority for all these diverse activities and subjects? And having presumed, how many would have handled them all with such ability and success? It might be fair to dub William Stroud "Jack-of-all-trades," but only to disprove the proverbial sequence, for not only did he make himself master of everything he undertook, but he had that special and gifted genius for handing on knowledge to the boy so that it stuck for life.

I can well imagine some Inspector of Art Education to-day raising his hands in horror at William Stroud's ways of teaching boys to draw. But somehow we did learn to draw, and to enjoy the art period; and I know well that it was he who first introduced to me the fun and interest there is in recording solid form within the conventions of a sheet of paper, and thus initiated for me a career, insignificant in achievement, but rich in personal pleasure and experience. I believe also that even R. R. Tomlinson, now ranking high in the world of art education, would attribute to William Stroud the first beneficent influence to set him on the track of his heart's desire, even though William Allen might follow him close.

How many of us have been under military discipline since those distant school days? Yet I doubt whether the most regimental of sergeant-majors ever made us "jump to it" with more alacrity than did this dear and mild-mannered man when he took to the square. And did ever a man succeed better in instilling hard playing and good sportsmanship?

It would not need a handwriting expert to make a just assessment of his character from those clear round letters with

which we were so familiar. They cry aloud the qualities of his character—honesty, single-mindedness, constancy, vigour and lack of pretence—which we know to have been his. It seems such a little time, and, indeed, is but a few years, since we saw him writing on the blackboard the events and winners at the Town Swimming Sports, with every line bold and unbroken, and every word clear to the most distant spectator, and differing in no detail from the writing on similar blackboards twenty, thirty, yes, forty years ago. That, despite the fact that the man was eighty years old, and that his failing eyesight did little to help the certain precision of the work. But he loved to do it, and the feel of chalk and board was a breath of life from the past.

I have not presumed to write a biography, for dates and sequences mean little, and a life so rich in ordinary but precious incident cannot be treated on a sheet of notepaper. Rather may I hope that some day some other man more gifted in the power of expression, may contrive to set down on paper a living picture of William Stroud, so clear, even to those who never met him, that this man may live again in a world that can well do with others of his fibre.

OLD BOY.

OLD FARNHAMIANs' LEAVING SCHOLARSHIP TRUST.

The Fund, which stood at £1,072 9s. 3d. at the end of the last financial year, has increased by a further £20 in the few months since, and will have reached the next round figure by mid-summer.

Donations represent our most important source at the present time, and will be most gratefully acknowledged. We make no personal appeal for such assistance, knowing the difficulties that abound, but merely make this reminder, that the fund is still open, and still needing all the help it can get.

G.M.A.

NEWS OF OLD BOYS.

DECEMBER.

P. M. Charles (1938-1940) reported as working at the Air Transport Auxiliary Headquarters as an aero engine fitter. He was at the time waiting to go before an Air Crew Selection Board. He had had his first "flip," thoroughly enjoying it.

F. S. Peachey (1872-1877) was reminded by some remarks of the Chairman at Speech Day that the rush of the boys over West Street to the Hop Gardens and on to Farnham Park used also to take place on coming back. Mr. Stroud told them that if they were caught they would be punished, as it was dangerous. One night he did catch them, and they were all punished—lines, he thinks. He also recalls that in his time the greatest number of boys was ninety-nine; could not quite get to one hundred.

W. J. Haydon (1931-1933) writes: "Still being very actively engaged on the 'Farming Front,' . . . I should almost lose touch with the School were it not for the Magazine. I rarely see any Old Boys, except occasionally John or Gordon Parker, or Ivo Ewens. . . . I was very sorry to hear of the tragic death of Bill Dimmock, a class-mate of mine and always a good friend, who visited this farm, with the Regnal Club, on more than one occasion. . . . I find almost all the daylight hours, all the year through, pretty energetically filled with my agricultural activities, but it is well worth while when one sees the very rich return. In spite of the exacting nature of the life, I definitely wouldn't change it for any other. We, in agriculture, now begin to feel we are doing a necessary job. Latest figures show that British farmers are now producing two-thirds of the total of food consumed in these islands . . . a good effort when it is taken into account that we started from scratch, before the war."

W. A. Riseborough (1932-1937) sent greetings for the "holiday season" (!) from abroad. He returned to England later in the year.

I. C. Patrick (1924-1934), by airgraph, sent greetings to the staff and boys, and to all members of the O.F.A., from Colombo.

F. S. Peachey, writing later in the month on the occasion of Mr. Stroud's death, mentioned a photograph of a football team in which were Mr. Stroud, Mr. Humphreys and a Frenchman, all masters, the last of whom had no control over the boys and was given a "devil of a time." The only boys he can remember still living who were with him at F.G.S. are A. E. Thorpe and Will Langrish, his second cousin. Langrish went to Canada, bought and farmed land on which there is now a town. He states that Alfred Dryland, an Old Boy, has been County Surveyor to Surrey and Middlesex C.C.'s. He retired after a most successful career and has been Mayor of Surbiton.

B. C. Job (1937-1940), who wrote from M.E.F., was enjoying seven days' leave, after having done what he terms "our fair share." He is a Trooper in a mechanised regiment. "I find it very strange living in a house again. I had not slept in a bed or had a hot bath for six or seven months. I'm now getting used to having my tea out of a teapot instead of from an old petrol tin. There are not many things of historical interest here—only the catacombs and Pompey's Pillar. There is an interesting zoo, and I have been finding out all about the numerous creatures I've seen or kept as pets in the desert. There is an amazingly large number: gazelle, hares, jerboas, jackals and, I believe, foxes; numerous lizards, chameleons, snakes, insects of various kinds and quite a few birds. I was always under the impression that the desert was a vast stretch of sand, on which nothing lived. Chameleons are very fascinating, with their huge eyes which move independently, one eye watching the rear, the other the front. He can also produce a colossal squint. He will sit on one's hand and catch flies as they land on one's arm with the end of his

tongue, which is about six inches long. I had a jerboa (kangaroo rat) for a time, but he ran away one night; he became amazingly tame. . . . I have not met any Old Boys out here, but I did meet one fellow who worked in the Sports Shop in The Borough who knew quite a number."

E. G. Glynn (1924-1930), now a Lieutenant in the R.A.S.C., sent news from P.A.I. Force. At the moment he was in hospital from a dose of malaria followed by jaundice! He hoped to be back with his unit in a week or so. "It is a lot cooler now, but a short while back we spent a time in the desert with a shade temperature around the 120° mark—and not a drop of beer within a hundred miles! ! ! Since then we've had a spell in the mountains (5,000ft. up)—very nice but dreary, nothing but mountain ranges as far as the eye could see. . . . I was terribly sorry to hear about Geoffrey Lawrence. He was a grand lad both in the office and on the sports field. . . . The Association seems to be making its full share of sacrifice, and it makes one sad—but proud!"

D. Bentall (1926-1931) sent greetings also from P.A.I. Force. He is A/C in R.A.F. His airgraph was a charming sketch of canal, palm, minarets—and aeroplane.

A. R. King (1932-1941) called at School. He is a wireless mechanic in R.A.F.V.R.

E. G. Ashton (1902-1909) sends a tribute to the memory of William Stroud. "With thousands of others I was sorry to read in the Press the notice of the death of Mr. Stroud. . . . Among those thousands I believe I am the only one who shared with him the distinction of having been both a boy and a master at the School. . . . I am sorry I cannot be at the Parish Church to witness to the debt I feel I owe to him. The nature of the debt is not easy to define. He laboured truly and thoroughly. He was true and just in all his dealing. He was, of course, an ardent Farnhamian. As boys we were well aware that his was a standard to be respected and followed. The perspective of the years has emphasised these cardinal traits of his sterling character, as it has emphasised also the genuine affection in which he was held by all the boys who came under his care."

C. E. Jones (1923-1929) was reported to have gone out to the Middle East to take up an appointment. He is commissioned in the R.N.V.R. He had the misfortune to undergo an experience as a "survivor," being picked up with the loss of everything—money, clothes and papers. [Latest news is that Cyril is safe at his destination.]

B. H. Durham (1933-1937) tells of his experiences after leaving Farnham. He attended another school at Chipping Norton, where he took Oxford School Certificate (Matric.) and Civil Service Clerical Classes Examination. "After pining in the Ministry of Health until I was 18, I volunteered for pilot duties in the Navy, and was called up for this about nine months later. Unfortunately, I 'dipped' in my course at the flying school on

landing, and was sent to sea for three months. This was to qualify for a selection board for executive officer, but while in the Channel on small craft an air attack put a lot of cannon shell splinters into me and knocked off one of my fingers. This set me back by three months in hospital and one in barracks. I was then sent to do my sea-time again in a destroyer. I have now taken my preliminary board and am due for my Admiralty selection board. If I pass this I shall be almost out of the wood (I hope!)."

W. M. Robertson (1929-1936) has started teaching mathematics and mining science at his local Technical College in the evenings. "I have found myself saying quite often, 'Now what would Mr. Munton do here?' Needless to say, I haven't always been able to supply the answer! . . . I am still in 'civvy street,' helping to get the black diamonds out of the earth—we are always very busy."

J. M. Aylwin (1930-1939) called at School. He was on O.C.T.U. course (R.E.).

R. A. Jeffery (1930-1937) was delighted to hear that H. V. Morton had honoured the School with his visit on Speech Day. Jeffery visited the School in August—one Sunday—to find all the H.G. lads had gone home and Mr. Homer "shutting up shop" with the aid of a pike—apparently the first time he had had occasion to use one. He has had a week's course at the H.G. Command Weapon Training School. He met Geoffrey Evans in the early part of the year when he had an accident in the town and spent some weeks in a local convalescent home. He reports J. M. Hutchings as working in Southampton.

V. H. Rumble (1925-1933) has been working on a job directly connected with R.A.F. development, which has helped him to feel that he is doing something towards the war effort. He's still busy with Home Guard duties and digging for victory in spare moments. "We are now blessed with a baby daughter, nearly five months old [Congratulations.], a great treasure . . . my only regret is that *she* cannot attend the old School!"

W. A. Chapman (1933-1938) went overseas in May, 1942, and is somewhere in India. He writes home cheerfully and seems to enjoy the travelling. He was later reported to have spent a week-end in Calcutta. He is an A.C.1 in the R.A.F.

Christmas greetings were received from J. E. Sims (R.A.), A. J. Hall (War Office), H. S. North (R.A.F.), H. W. H. Hern (R.A.), E. A. F. Barker (R.C. of S.) and T. M. Lee (California).

D. C. Horry (1925-1930) sent good wishes for Christmas and the information that he was an Orderly Room Quarter Master Sergeant, holding the acting rank of Warrant Officer, Class II. "I am working hard, but conditions are good. . . . If I remember rightly, I read in a Magazine (there's only one Magazine with a capital 'M') that E. A. W. Morris received a certificate for Good Service. I also was fortunate enough to receive one last summer."

W. E. Carter (1920-1924) wrote that he had been home on leave for five weeks from the Gold Coast. "With luck I should get three, or possibly four, months at home. The voyage wasn't all it should have been, as our ship was torpedoed at night and sank in seven and a half minutes. We were picked up the same night by a naval ship and finished the voyage with the Navy. I have to return, and shall probably sail in February or March."

E. Sichel (1937-1939) is a Private, working in Base Workshops, M.E.F.

H. P. LeClercq (1933-1938) is a Craftsman in the R.E.M.E. Latest news of his brother "A.W." is that he is in North Africa—a Corporal in the R.A.S.C.

JANUARY.

E. A. Thurston (1929-1934) writes that he has now taken up a trade which was not at all in his mind a year ago. He spent a few weeks at a Government Training Centre and then took a course in aero engine fitting in preference to one in drawing. He finished his course, qualified and was posted to an R.A.F. unit. "I was very sorry to read of the passing of Mr. 'Bill' Stroud, and, although not having been very closely connected with him, feel that F.G.S. and the O.F.A. have suffered a great loss."

D. J. Mills (1933-1942) has been accepted for the Royal Navy under the "Y" scheme. He has to wait some time to reach the age for actual calling-up. His cousin, John Mills, was reported in Canada as having been seen by Hubert King!

H. P. Joyce (1913-1921) is still at Edgware in the ranks of the fighting civilians. Farnham and School seem a long way off in these days of war and upheaval.

R. A. Edmondson (1933-1938), in the Royal Corps of Signals, had the misfortune to fracture his elbow whilst on P.T. After several weeks in hospital and convalescent home, he is back with his unit—very interested in his work as wireless operator.

D. E. P. Raggett (1934-1936) went overseas in November. He finally arrived safely in North Africa. We are privileged to be able to quote from one of his letters home, whilst on the voyage: "As you see, I shall not be home for Christmas. Still, I think there is a good prospect for next year. Things should be well under way by then. . . . It is impossible to describe the sea at night. The ship is fringed with white foam, the water around full of the phosphorescent stars made by fishes flung back from the bow, until it seems as if the vessel were borne forward upon light. Other ships are dim shapes beyond, fringed by foam. Overhead the mists are black outlines against a mass of stars, white clouds, maybe a moon. . . . You can have no idea of the effect of floating day after day upon a barren waste of water out of sight of land, of the ceaseless motion of the ship and the unending sound of the waves. It seems the ultra-fascination of it must get one in the end. There is a queer sense of detachment at sea—of the unknown. The nearest land is two miles below you.

It has a beauty and attraction peculiarly its own." Later he wrote: "Here is North Africa. That is all I'm allowed to tell you. The weather is just right, not too hot. . . I'm very glad to have been able to come here. I've made one or two friends already. I had dinner with one yesterday—a large quantity of spaghetti, then lettuce, oranges and afterwards coffee accompanied by wine. I got him to write down the recipe for spaghetti, but whether or not I'll make head or tail of it when I translate it, I don't know."

E. G. King (1923-1926) left Hindhead in September, 1941, and has been a Senior Country Negotiator with Hamptons for the last eighteen months. "It took a little time to find my feet, but I am now firmly established. . . . I had to give up Home Guard duties owing to my heart trouble, but do quite a fair amount of fire-watching."

J. W. Mack (1923-1931), a Sub-Conductor in the R.A.O.C. (Home Forces) has been boxing again! He promised he would fight if some opponent heavy enough was found. To his surprise, a cook was produced—and after his first time in the ring since leaving School he was still on his feet, alive but without much kick left. He had the pleasure of making a record for the local ground by scoring 108 not out—the first century there.

J. T. Ballett (1931-1936) is still at the R.A.E., on testing and research of materials. He reports Barnard in the R.A.E. on armament work; Binning also. The latter was awaiting call-up for the R.A.F. as a pilot, having volunteered some time in 1942.

A. H. Wellby (1935-1941) has been called up for ground duties with the R.A.F. He was not medically fit for air crew.

A. S. Nutt (1925-1932), a sergeant in R.A. (A/A battery), has gone overseas.

S. C. Hall (1927-1932) is in the R.A.S.C.

J. A. L. Chuter (1934-1941) is in the Royal Armoured Corps.

FEBRUARY.

P. L. Causley (1937-1939) has been on active service in Iceland since September.

T. K. Gardner (1928-1935) sent a lengthy account of his experiences. He got into radiolocation soon after he joined the Army, in the days when it was considered very secret and those who worked on it—in however humble a capacity—very nearly sacrosanct. "They were a good lot too—hand-picked from volunteers. In the same band to whom I was sent there was an international chess player, a baronet, an amateur radio enthusiast who had constructed several transmitters in the early days of amateur radio, and a distant relative of the Archbishop of Canterbury; there were lovers of music and poetry, too, and those who would discuss philosophy and religion. . . . Then radiolocation lost its secrecy . . . there were many partings. I applied for an instructors' course, on which I eventually went. . . . Now I've been an instructor for 4½ months."

W. G. Little (1934-1940) takes his Finals in July of this year. "I must admit I am sorry this grand University [Reading] life must soon end, for how I have enjoyed my privilege of a University education! . . . I was deeply grieved to read of the sad losses sustained by the old School. I feel the loss of Malcolm Colwill as the bitterest blow of them all. We spent so many years together in the same forms and doing the same work. . . I was sad, too, to hear of the loss of Mr. Stroud. I knew him as a fellow member of the Farnham Field Club. It was only by reading the warm appreciations from every side that I realised the immeasurable debt the F.G.S. owed this truly great man. . . . I am receiving regular air letters from B. C. Job—now spending his time on the borders of the fertile Nile valley. He spent Christmas Day exploring the pyramids and climbed the largest—after his Christmas dinner! I had a surprise Christmas card from William Chapman in India."

G. E. J. Scofield (1933-1939), L.A.C. in the R.A.F., was expecting to go overseas. He had just been on a course and successfully passed out as a mechanic.

A. J. Clifton (1925-1929), after two years' service, has a commission as Sub Lieutenant in the R.N.

We understand that W. N. B. George (1929-1932) transferred to an A.A. Battery in January, 1942. His original C.O., who escaped to Colombo, said that Bruce was a shining example to his men, and left him full of confidence when they parted. It is rumoured that he is now a prisoner of war in Japanese hands.

L. G. Simmons (1924-1928) is a Corporal in an Air School in South Africa.

S. H. Mason (1931-1936) went to India in the autumn of last year. Unfortunately he contracted dysentery immediately after his arrival, and has been in hospital ever since. He is now making slow progress towards recovery. He went to India to do his O.C.T.U. training prior to taking a commission in the Indian Army.

A letter from C. E. Jones, written in December, announced his safe arrival in the Middle East after his eventful trip. He has been able to look in at a few odd spots in the world. He had a most pleasant fortnight or so in South Africa.

P. K. J. Digby (1935-1940) called at School to report that he had been accepted for an Engineer Cadetship. After some twenty-one months he hopes to be eligible for a commission in Army, Navy or Air Force!

News has reached us that C. J. V. Fisher-Hoch (1935-1939), Lieutenant in the 3rd Battalion Nigeria Regiment, was mentioned in despatches June 30th, 1942.

Wing Commander C. A. Masterman, O.B.E. (1923-1928) is doing brilliantly. After being mentioned in despatches in 1938 for services on the North-West Frontier, he was appointed O.B.E. in the New Year Honours List of 1941. Now, for brilliant leadership over the Sicilian Channel in November, 1942, he has been

awarded the D.F.C. In an engagement, seven enemy aircraft were destroyed, and of these a S.M.81 was destroyed by Masterman himself. Within two weeks his Squadron destroyed sixteen planes in combat, while in attacks on shipping, trains and fuel dumps much damage and disorganisation were caused.

J. I. Norton (1936-1941) has passed both parts of War Certificate "A" and is Q.M.S. of his School Cadet Corps.

A long letter from T. C. Aldridge (1927-1934), written in January, gave news of his experiences in the R.A.M.C. in Malta. "I am keeping quite fit. . . . We did have a pretty hot time, notably last March and April [1942]. . . . It is very monotonous out here and a few air raids now and then used to liven things up a bit. There are plenty of nice deep holes in the rocks to take shelter in, so one is pretty safe, unless unlucky enough to be caught out in the open. Someone with a mind for statistics worked out that it takes thirteen tons of bombs to kill a person on Malta, but didn't say whether the unfortunate individual had the whole thirteen tons dropped on him at once or whether he managed to survive the first twelve and was then hit by the unlucky thirteenth! I heard about the other Aldridge ["R.C."], of the Merchant Navy. . . . I'm afraid I can't tell you much about the place—all very 'hush-hush.' Shall have to write an article for the Magazine when I get home. . . . The "Heralds" I have been getting lately have taken anything from six to fourteen months to arrive, but then circumstances have been very exceptional. There has been a big improvement lately. . . . Glad to know the Cadet Corps has started again at School. I used thoroughly to enjoy myself in that, especially the signalling section under Mr. Munton.

MARCH.

W. A. Smallman (1927-1934), Major in the Commandos, has joined the ranks of the fathers. [Congratulations on the birth of a son.]

J. J. Lowry (1930-1938) is now a Flight-Lieutenant.

N. S. Davies (1932-1936) is reported as now with the P.A.I. Force. His brother Donald (1933-1939), R.A.F., was, we understand, undergoing his pre-operational training.

The only news we have of D. C. Frost (1931-1939) is that he asked his father (who is also in M.E.F.) to send along his subscription to the O.F.A. David was apparently too busy galloping after Rommel!

W. A. Riseborough (1932-1937) called at School after his return from a station abroad. He is now E.R.A. Fourth Class, ranking as Chief Petty Officer. He hoped to sit for a commission in October.

P. H. Lillywhite (1933-1936) is a Flying Officer in the R.A.F.V.R. He also has joined the ranks of the fathers. [Congratulations on the birth of a son.]

We were highly privileged to be allowed to read the letters home from N. S. Davies, lance corporal in the 7th Queen's Own Hussars, after his exciting campaigning in Burma—a fine record!

F. E. Hobbs (1926-1930) sent news of E. A. Sheppard, who has now left the "briny" part of the Navy and is on a shore station for a while—apparently in training for some very hush-hush job. Hobbs himself is in the N.F.S.

R. M. Craigen (1923-1930) is a Lieutenant in the R.A.O.C. An airgraph written in February announced that he had been nine months in India. "Owing to my having more than enough work to do, the time has simply flown, and it hasn't seemed so bad as it might have been. Am pleased to say I am now pretty well acclimatised and the heat no longer worries me. . . The climate suits me admirably. This can be said about the people, their habits and way of living. . . You can assure Mr. Ridout that all those pleasant words written in geography books about the attractions of India are ——!!! The real reason for this airgraph is to let you know I have come across yet another Old Farnhamian, or perhaps I should say he came across me. About a fortnight ago a lanky individual who seemed vaguely familiar drifted into the Mess. . . . It was not until next day that, in the course of conversation, it came out that he was none other than Shrubb, who was at the old School from 1921 to 1928, I believe. He is now a Lieutenant ostensibly in the Infantry, but in actual fact attached to the R.A.O.C. . . . It was a pity he had to leave at 6 a.m. the day following, as I found he was a fellow photographer, and a miniature camera fan at that! . . . I send my salaams to all at F.G.S. who had the unenviable task of trying to educate me, and to all Old Farnhamians, through the Magazine, wherever they may be."

C. H. Wadmore (1935-1937) is a Sergeant in A/A, R.A., somewhere in England, after four years in the Army. He was at the time of writing on a course for Staff Sergeant, radiolocation being his special subject. He had been on it since November, 1941. He announced his marriage in June, 1942 [Congratulations!] He desires news of Judd and Withers.

L. G. Simmons (1924-1928) sent an airgraph from the Air School in South Africa. He is a Corporal. "I have been at my present station for the last two and a half years, so am almost a South African. I have run across only one Old Boy. I was on leave in Cape Town a few months ago and met Ronald Moore, who is now a Petty Officer in the Navy. We had some interesting yarns about old times. He had had many thrilling experiences, but seemed to be enjoying himself. . . . We are very lucky to be stationed in South Africa with its first-rate climate, fruit and distance from the war area, although one wishes for some more active part again."

APRIL.

H. E. Cook (1926-1933) has a commission in the R.A.O.C.

E. G. Glynn gave us the surprising news that he was in the Middle East! An airgraph written from M.E.F. in March says: "I have just had my first experience as defending officer on a court martial. . . . We gained the verdict!"

R. J. Turner (1926-1934) is still at the Post Office Radio Branch (Research Station). "The work is very varied and usually interesting; one tends to get rather jealous of other folks who are doing new things and seeing new places. I finished off my degree in the summer of 1940 and gained second-class honours . . . it seemed of very little importance when one came from the examination room and heard the news of Dunkirk and then of the fall of France. I have seen A. G. Morton in the course of my official duties. Harry Eavis is now a lieutenant in the Signals and John Puttick is with the R.A.S.C."

Congratulations to W. J. Kingcome, Lieutenant (A), R.N., on his marriage in the United States.

D. E. P. Raggett (1934-1936) sent an interesting letter from North Africa. He is Corporal in the R.A.F. "I met Larmer on my way here. It's quite enjoyable in many ways. . . . French is coming in very useful and I'm picking up Arabic. . . . The weather still leaves much to be desired and it is very muddy indeed! I'm no longer near to any large towns, but those I have seen are quite modern. Constantine is a very striking place; it is built on the top of a chunk of rock. It's fascinating, too, to travel along a mountain road, among the clouds!"

P. French (1934-1940) wrote also from North Africa—he's in one of our county regiments which has done so well out there. "I'm somewhere in Tunisia, wallowing in mud! We've had some extraordinarily heavy rain, which, theoretically, I should have thought impossible in a Mediterranean type of climate. . . . anyway, the weather appears to be breaking, the last two days we have experienced broiling sunshine, which has baked the ground hard. Yesterday I received, to my intense delight, the School Magazine! . . . I am glad to learn that the Chess Club is functioning again, and I wish it the best of luck. . . . I am no longer in the Signals, but have been transferred to the Orderly Room. I have been offered a commission—I refused it!"

News received that S. H. Mason has been discharged from hospital (India) after four months. He was awaiting a new company with which to train, but apparently knew enough Urdu to sit for an examination.

MAY.

E. C. Patrick (1920-1926), now Captain in Searchlight Battery, R.A., writes of many moves up and down the country on A.A. defence. "The only grumble generally is that there are no Huns to have a crack at these days! I hear that Oliver Taylor is a Staff Captain somewhere in the South."

R. R. Kirk (1932-1937) is in the middle of an O.C.T.U. Course. His brother Ken has been called up for the Army and reported this month.

T. Tidd (1935-1938) called at School whilst on leave. He is commissioned in the Royal Armoured Corps.

An "In Memoriam" notice in the *Farnham Herald* on his 22nd birthday states that G. H. Lawrence (1933-1938), Sergeant (Observer), R.A.F.V.R., was killed on August 15th, 1942, and buried at Freetown, Sierra Leone. We share in the proud and loving memory.

T. B. Lock (1934-1940) is now in the R.A.F.—an L.A.C. He had, at the time of writing, finished his I.T.W. Course and was awaiting posting to a Grading School. He saw W. G. B. Simms, who was just being posted to a Grading School. He is anxious for news of Charlie Johnson.

C. B. A. Wade (1917-1926) is a Corporal in the R.A.F., on a course at a Radio School. He is in a place well known to us—and agrees with our former observation "that 'X' is a very grand place!" About two months ago he met Farrant, in the R.A.F.—they arrived opposite one another at breakfast one morning. He, like ourselves, would be glad of news of Jack Gwillim. Can anyone oblige?

F. H. C. Wimbledon (1922-1927) is a Flying Officer, R.A.F. When he finished his O.C.T.U. Course he was commissioned in the R.A.F. Regiment, but has since transferred to Flying Control—a most interesting job and very enjoyable in every minute of it.

M. V. Edwards (1935-1941) called at School to report that he had been called up for preliminary training for the Royal Armoured Corps.

J. E. Hamilton-Jones (1932-1941) is now an A.B. He is not wireless as was last stated, but is in a "new and very special" branch of the Royal Navy. He was intrigued to discover that the scroll under the crest of H.M.S. "Edinburgh" contained the School motto.

J. R. Killick (1933-1936) is a Corporal in a motor battalion of an Armoured Division. He is in North Africa. He keeps in touch with Bunny Briant, Douglas Reeve and Michael West. Reeve is in India. Briant wrote to Killick recently that he had had a special leave in Bombay and was ready to jump on the Japs in Burma! Killick, mobilised just before the war, just missed going to France and went to North Africa in November of last year. He was married in September last. [Congratulations!] He hopes to fence again with Mr. Wickens and taste George Boyce's ices at some future date. His most earnest wish is to hear of Harding as Cock-House this year!

E. G. Glynn wrote again from Middle East. "How I wish I could be on the School Field for an Old Boys v. School match this year! . . . It is beginning to get pretty hot here again, but luckily not so hot as one had it in India or in the Iraq Desert.

We certainly have been through a few climatic changes. When we were in the Persian mountains it was well nigh impossible to sleep at night, although I used to have five blankets, a greatcoat and a fur-lined sheep skin on top of me. . . I occasionally hear from Norman Lowry, who is in Southern Rhodesia, and from Smither, who is somewhere in M.E.F."

This month also brought another airgraph from D. F. Wagstaff. He is now A.Q.M.S. in R.E.M.E. in the Middle East. "I am now in a really interesting job and am very happy. . . . I had a most interesting journey to these parts. I did not expect to come so far, but it is a change for the good. . . . I don't like the hot weather. There are also too many insects, but one soon gets used to them."

Another air mail letter card from C. E. Jones acknowledges the receipt of the School Magazine after what must have been "a record-breaking passage around." He says that L. E. Lord is still in Kenya, at present on an O.C.T.U. Lord mentions L.A.C. Hugh Robins as in Ceylon. Sergt. A. E. Clifton, R.A.F., is in India. "Despite not having stars like the other Forces, the R.N. can field sides in all sports to hold their own and beat them up. [Cyril is an R.N. Recreation Officer.] . . . We have just finished a short athletic season. . . I was organiser, coach and performer. I feel rather proud of the fact that at the ripe old age of thirty I can still do 10.4 in the 100 and 23 in the 220. I was asked to run at Cairo for England twice, but, alas, a torn muscle put paid to that!"

News of A. G. and W. E. Styles! "A.G." joined R.A.F.V.R. in August, 1940, and went to Southern Rhodesia in February, 1942. He met P. C. Dainty (actually Dainty was his officer). He plays football—and bowls! "W.E." joined R.A.F. as wireless operator, ground staff, in November, 1940. He went overseas in August, 1941, and reached Malaya a month before the Japs invaded. He got down from an up-country aerodrome to Singapore and left in February. He was not able to tell much, but it appears his boat was torpedoed before he finally reached Ceylon. He gets a lot of cricket and football. Both brothers were married just after the war started.

JUNE.

A. E. Briant (1930-1936) is a Sub-Conductor in the R.A.O.C. in India.

C. D. Barrow (1928-1936) called at School. He is now Flying Officer in the R.A.F., carrying on the same type of work as before—Meteorology.

D. B. Boulter (1934-1942) is having a wonderful time at R.N. College. "The work is very interesting, and we get plenty of sport and games—and a good bit of sailing and boat work." In spite of a stay in hospital he did very well in the half-way examination, gaining 81 per cent.

Extracts from letters received from G. A. Bacon (1926-1937), Sergeant in R.A.F. (air crew), who has been out in Middle East since last summer. [December] "At long last my hearing has recovered. I left hospital after a stay of seven-eight weeks and am now with the Squadron. The days are sunny and warm, but the nights are often very cold. It is, of course, very dry; in fact, I've seen no rain since leaving home. . . . Imagine my surprise to see Dennis Williams here; he's an L.A.C. electrician and has been with the Squadron since February. . . . It's hard to imagine this is Christmas Day; the sun is very warm. One or two 'do's' have been arranged for us—a donkey Derby this morning, films, a concert and various sports and games. . . . Have just come back from watching football and recalling old School days with Williams. . . . Seeing Dennis in goal was quite like old times. We heard the whole afternoon's programme [the King's speech on Christmas Day] very well here. [January] Dennis has just let me have some *Farnham Herald*s, a little behind times, but nevertheless news of Farnham. . . . I'm quite enjoying tent life. Recently we've had some heavy rain. . . . During the past few weeks I've visited Benghazi. The town has had a terrible bashing from the air; life is just returning now that the fighting has moved on. [February.] Have played some football. Yesterday I spent the whole day washing clothes; these we boiled over a wood fire, using old petrol cans. We get all the B.B.C. news here on the short-wave programme; reception is quite good. . . . We have just returned from five days' leave in Alexandria; had some meals which would make you envious. . . . saw King Farouk too! . . . I'm feeling a little upset myself as my best friend has not returned from "Ops" last night. [March] We've been on leave again; I have not left camp this time except daily trips, hitch-hiking to places of interest in the neighbourhood. . . . I'm once again under canvas; lot of trouble with wind and sand. The days are still sunny, but the nights often *very* cold. I've had a chance of visiting the country in the vicinity of the 'Med.,' still sand, of course, but quite fertile. Grass and small flowers grow as in our fields at home. I saw my first mirage the other day: aircraft and trees on the horizon appeared to be standing in water. . . . The winds have been terrific. The sand here is a nuisance, but it's a fertile strip of country. Saw a kangaroo rat the other evening. This creature is a rat-sized replica of a kangaroo, having a long tail and strong hind legs. Have also seen a black scorpion. . . . I have managed to enjoy some swimming again. I must say I've swum in some strange waters since leaving England. . . . I've found a real Yorkshire cricket enthusiast in the Squadron. You can guess we've exchanged some yarns. . . . The country is green and pleasant, except for the sand or fine soil. The place swarms with small creatures such as lizards (some 2ft. in length), frogs, toads, snakes, scorpions and large beetles. Yesterday I saw ants with bodies nearly one inch long, excluding legs! . . . There's some

grand swimming, which makes up for lack of baths. There are small villages in the vicinity, but the natives are not a particularly good type, living in dirty conditions and looked down upon by the true Nomadic Arabs. . . . Yesterday I played football for Aircrew v. Ground Staff; Williams was referee. [April] Much too cold for swimming. We get lettuces, radishes and various fruits, including oranges and dates. . . . Have just got back from swimming, a very cold dip. This really is a strange climate—hot sun, cold winds, short but heavy rain storms. We've started cooking suppers again, using an old petrol tin as a frying pan. The "locals" have plenty of eggs. . . . Have just spent an enjoyable afternoon reading the School Magazine. Recent rains have turned the scenery to a pleasant green. I have been stationed in the hot, sandy desert, but here the country is quite pleasant and fertile. We're surrounded by fields that were once cultivated and which are now coloured by many small flowers. The skyline is broken by scattered smaller trees, including Australian gum, fig, peach and almond. The soil is very fine and is swept in great clouds before strong winds; hardens like clay after heavy rain. The natives tend their sheep and cattle in the vicinity of our tent site. This shepherding seems to be the lot of the small children. I've not seen many birds or butterflies, but, as you know, the insects are extraordinary in shape and size. The scorpions live at the bottom of holes, the entrance to which resembles that of the grass-snakes at home. These creatures do not bother one unless they are aggravated. . . . To-day we had a particularly rough swim, both in the water and out. Still windy, except early in the morning and at night, when it is often perfectly calm. There are no morning mists; the country is flat, so that there is bright sunlight as soon as the sun is above the horizon. We caught and killed a 4ft. snake yesterday. In its stomach we found a fully-grown undigested stoat. Had a cricket practice last night. . . . Have just returned from trotting round the running track. It's just about 10 p.m. My companions are preparing for bed. Our tent is thrown open to a quiet moonlight night and, as usual, there's plenty of noise from the insect world and various other rustlings. . . . The weather has turned really hot, bringing into action thousands of flies and other winged pests. The heat and lack of rain have produced a very fine surface dust, which blows about in clouds at the slightest breeze. It is impossible to keep clean; I wash, on an average, two pairs of socks per day! . . . We wander about in various forms of abbreviated dress. . . . [May] Am keeping fit with daily swimming for exercise and relief from the hot sun. Insects and other pestering creatures seem to be waking from their winter hibernation. Our tent at night becomes a playground for mice, lizards, beetles, spiders, crickets and moths. We now take no notice of thumps, squeaks and rustlings. The surrounding cornfields have turned from green to brown, and any movement brings forth clouds of thin dust. Dennis keeps wicket for the

Squadron. . . . There are huge crickets jumping around outside the tent. These creatures are commonly mistaken for locusts; in fact, they do fly in swarms and cluster in hundreds about green shrubs, etc. They cause a lot of trouble inside the tent. . . Outside it's a beautiful clear evening; there'll be a bright moon later. . . . The natives have begun to harvest the corn. Whole families turn out into the fields and laboriously pull the stalks by hand. The corn is stuffed into great sacks and slung across the backs of long-suffering but very patient mules. What weights these poor creatures carry! They apparently take no notice of beatings and kickings, and merely let forth a most unearthly succession of 'He-haws.' We see no camels here, but one or two fine horses. Dogs add to the general din at night. I found my first chameleon a few days ago. . . . Still enjoying cricket, but my form is so far very disappointing. We play on matting and use a whitened ball. . . . Swimming is a pastime and a precaution. . . . I'm very brown, but the business has been gradual, no peeling or sore skin. My hair has turned very nearly white! . . . I enjoy the *Heralds* and have been very amused at Mr. Morgan's witty replies to questions at Farnham's Brains Trust. I'm running 220 yards in a mile relay on Wednesday. Believe it or not, I opened for an Aircrew team against the R.A.F. Regiment and made 50 out of 77 in 75 minutes. We eventually lost the match, 96 for 8 declared v. 118. . . . I was unable to take part in the running owing to the calls of duty. Swimming continues to make life enjoyable for two or three hours each day. We're getting used to the attentions of insects; some are not nearly so persistent now that spring is over. . . . Cricket will be my main off duty interest for the next few days. Had a terrific wind and rain storm the other night; the tent stood the battering well. It certainly settled the sand for a while. I decided to wear the same socks two days running!"

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