Standing Left to Right:
P. R. BETTS  P. P. YORK  F. J. SULLIVAN  S. P. HIGHAM  E. WILLMOTT  G. LEES  P. W. HAGGAR  D. ANGEI

Seated Left to Right:
(Vice-Captain)  (Captain)  (Hon. Secretary)
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The Annual Speech Day and Prize-giving will be on June 5th this year, when the chief guest will be Mr. Peter Scott.

We congratulate Mr. R. B. Taylor on being a member of the Lions R.U. team to South Africa. Mr. Taylor has played for England again this season. Mr. W. J. Walker has also played as scrum half for Northampton R.F.C.

The School basketball team tour this Easter, led by Mr. Taylor, will be to Bournemouth. The seniors will play local teams from April 15th to 21st.

Mr. and Mrs. Wrenn and Mr. and Mrs. Cheale will be taking a party of boys to Italy during the summer holiday.

The Field Survey Society will again disappear into the wilds of Wales at the end of term led by Messrs. Hyde and Tussler.

Mr. M. J. Parkin has left us to join the staff of Kettering Technical College, and Mr. A. R. Kingston is now teaching in Huddersfield. We welcome Mr. R. H. Farey to the staff.

A publishers' paperback exhibition was arranged by Mr. Stevenson and MacDougall during February. Considerable interest was shown in the school and it appears that the occasion was profitable to all concerned.

We regret that the Old Boys' section of this issue has had to be held over.

IN MEMORIAM
Albert George Siddons (W.G.S. 1930-1935) died 4 December 1968.

PARENTS' COMMITTEE
The Annual General Meeting of the Parents' Committee was held in the School Library on 24th September, 1968. Four new members were welcomed by Mrs. Wrenn.

The Committee were able to make grants to the following School Societies:
- Recorder Club; Fencing Club; Folk Club; Stamp Club; Scout Troop; Arts Club; Photographic Society; Railway Club; Field Survey Society; Brass Group; as well as provide the Medals for Sports Day.

GRYPHONS
House Masters: Messrs. A. J. B. Tussler, D. S. Wilson, R. D. Beacham

This term has so far been one of reasonable success for Gryphons. We won the House Music Competition thanks mainly to the hard work
by Hughes. Rugby teams have had mixed fortunes, the junior team winning both of their matches played so far and the seniors losing their one match played.

We say farewell to C. R. Missebrook as the Head of House and congratulate G. N. Phillips on his appointment to this position and wish him a successful term of office.

Finally we must look forward to the Summer Term's activities. The most important of these is athletics and the only way that Gryphons can win this is for everyone to try for as many standards as possible.

**STAGS**

**House Masters:** Dr. A. Jackson, Mr. H. C. Phillips, Mr. M. F. Hendley  
**Head of House:** A. G. Wilson  
**House Secretary:** C. Allen

The Autumn and Spring terms are quiet as far as House activities go, the only competition having been completed is the Music Competition. Stags suffered a defeat although we were first equal in the solo section.

Hopes are now concentrated on the forthcoming House Drama under the direction of Street. In Rugby the House has had mixed successes. The Seniors have won their match but the Juniors have been defeated twice.

**DRAGONS**

**Housemasters:** Messrs. C. A. Pine, A. E. Sparrow, A. W. Leftwich.  
**House Captain:** P. W. Warburton  
**House Secretary:** H. L. Davies.

Although the number of activities has been limited, the House shows great promise. Due to the work of the Joyces, Watts and Choir, Dragons attained second place in the Music Competition, which was a splendid achievement.

In the House Rugby, Dragons have made an excellent start with several crushing victories, and the confidence within the House points to further success.

The House looks forward to more rewards from the Drama, Athletics, and P.E. Competitions; but while thanking those seniors responsible for their efforts, the lower sections of the House must realise their duties to aid to the best of their ability.

**ENTRANTS**

**FIRST YEAR**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A. J. Bailey</th>
<th>G. R. Course</th>
<th>M. A. Kiellor</th>
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<tr>
<td>C. R. Bailey</td>
<td>P. J. Cox</td>
<td>L. E. King</td>
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<td>M. R. Bamford</td>
<td>M. G. Darnell</td>
<td>P. W. Kirk</td>
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<td>A. R. Bates</td>
<td>P. R. Davison</td>
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<td>S. J. Bean</td>
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<td>N. Beavis</td>
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<td>M. J. Birt</td>
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<td>C. P. Briggs</td>
<td>C. S. Ellson</td>
<td>P. F. Mantle</td>
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<td>M. W. Ferry</td>
<td>R. J. Marriott</td>
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<td>D. A. J. Brooks</td>
<td>P. A. Fitch</td>
<td>D. J. Materna</td>
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<td>N. J. Ford</td>
<td>N. P. C. Mayes</td>
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<td>S. Brown</td>
<td>M. A. Graham</td>
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<td>R. G. Chambers</td>
<td>J. Harbour</td>
<td>M. P. Miles</td>
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<td>S. M. Chambers</td>
<td>J. A. Harris</td>
<td>S. L. Mitchell</td>
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<td>R. A. Clarke</td>
<td>D. L. Holloway</td>
<td>D. W. Morris</td>
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<td>M. W. Cleaveley</td>
<td>D. S. Homer</td>
<td>P. S. Newnham</td>
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<td>A. J. Cobley</td>
<td>D. J. Howard</td>
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<td>M. A. Coleman</td>
<td>R. Huddart</td>
<td>J. W. Norton</td>
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<td>T. L. Cook</td>
<td>D. I. Johnson</td>
<td>P. D. Osborn</td>
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K. F. Park
I. W. Parkinson
J. G. Perkins
S. G. Peverell
D. G. Potter
J. P. Rice
S. Rose
D. S. Rowley
J. A. Saunders
N. Scarborough
C. J. Scroxton

M. J. Shcri
M. J. Shouler
M. J. Smith
P. J. Smith
M. D. Southcombe
M. A. Sparrow
T. Stanford
R. P. Steele
D. C. Swailes
J. R. Vendy

T. R. Waterfield
M. E. White
R. S. Whiteman
G. B. Widd
D. Wildman
R. Worrell
S. York
J. K. Margetts
K. J. Morrell
G. W. Thompson

SECOND YEAR

G. C. Andrews
D. H. Burton
I. Campbell
J. C. P. Hale

A. J. Gunnings
D. G. Hey
G. Hind
J. D. Purkiss

M. Bennett
A. C. Murray
D. C. Blore
M. G. Carrea

S. D. Simpson
A. Wright

THIRD YEAR

J. J. O'Neil
B. W. Summers
J. O. Upton
P. G. Upton

D. J. Briggs
C. E. Packer
R. J. Marchant
E. Willmott

FIFTH YEAR

S. P. Wrigley

SIXTH YEAR

R. P. Steele
D. C. Swailes
J. R. Vendy
G. W. Thompson

AWARDS

P. J. Cave
E. W. Davies
H. J. Elliot
N. A. Fairy
D. J. Hill
A. W. Jessop
B. Liddington
J. J. O'Neil
B. W. Summers
J. O. Upton

Alan Gilchrist Memorial Exhibition in Agriculture at Newcastle.
Kitchener Scholarship to University College London.
Kitchener Scholarship to Fitzwilliam College Cambridge.
Douglas Gilchrist Exhibition in Agriculture at Newcastle.
Mathematics Scholarship at Imperial College of Science.
Entrance Scholarship in Mathematics at Imperial College of Science.
Kitchener Scholarship at Queen Mary College London.
Enterance Scholarship at Swansea.
Civil Engineering Trust Scholarship to University College, London.
Kitchener Scholarship to Fitzwilliam College Cambridge.
Kitchener Scholarship to Fitzwilliam College Cambridge.

LEAVERS

J. D. Ainsworth
K. Alexander
B. L. Anker
J. M. Ashton
M. B. Aveyard
R. T. Bailey
J. F. Baldwin
K. P. Barley
G. L. Bates

Cardiff University (Architecture).
Bristol University (Spanish).
Borough Polytechnic (Baking).
Cooperative Building Society.
St. Catherine's College, Oxford (Arabic).
King's College, London (Mathematics).
A very raw side, containing only four of last year's team, was soundly defeated in the first match and the manner of the beating gave little encouragement for future prospects.

However, from this unworthy beginning came a rapid improvement and a thoroughly respectable fifteen emerged. Strength was found in the right places. The front was solid, sturdy and efficient, working well in rucks and mauls. The halves were a neat and resourceful combination, dangerous in attack and stalwart in defence and covering. At full back we were very well served, Howes' fielding and tackling inspiring confidence, and his sorties in attack being adventurous and effective. On this framework was built a side that grew in stature. The forwards were inexperienced and not at their best in open play, but a very good fighting spirit was engendered and many times they did more than might reasonably have been expected. The threequarters ran straight and strongly and tackled uncompromisingly, so that a side was produced that played the orthodox game very well.

We lacked a domination line-out forward and were handicapped in broken play by the lack of handling skill of the pack, which often did not...
gain as much secondary possession as might have been desired. Too often we depended on the success of the first phase attack. Inexperience and lack of flexibility meant that attack was insufficiently varied and improvisation limited, so that against tight defence, scores were difficult to engineer. The same two factors led to far too many mistakes in handling, even to the final touch being misapplied when a try seemed a certainty. Sometimes this proved costly, as in the last match played. Only against Oundle, though, were we outplayed a second time, and then because Phillips was injured after only five minutes. In spite of some deficiency in finesse, a good standard of play was achieved, due in no small way to the example and captaincy of Jessop. Some excellent games were contested, some with spectacular finishes, as those against Wyggeston and Nuneaton. The season can be accounted successful in standard, effort, enjoyment and results.

Team


Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Score</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 25</td>
<td>Northampton T.H.S. 1st XV</td>
<td>(A) Lost 6-28</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 3</td>
<td>Towcester G.S. 1st XV</td>
<td>(A) Won 19-0</td>
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<tr>
<td>,, 5</td>
<td>Deacon’s G.S. 1st XV</td>
<td>(H) Won 19-0</td>
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<tr>
<td>,, 9</td>
<td>Wyggeston G.S. 1st XV</td>
<td>(H) Won 13-8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>,, 12</td>
<td>Kettering G.S. 1st XV</td>
<td>(H) Won 24-8</td>
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<tr>
<td>,, 19</td>
<td>Pilgrim School 1st XV</td>
<td>(A) Won 32-8</td>
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<tr>
<td>,, 31</td>
<td>Oundle 2nd XV</td>
<td>(H) Lost 0-24</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 2</td>
<td>King’s G.S. 1st XV</td>
<td>(A) Won 3-0</td>
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<tr>
<td>,, 9</td>
<td>Corby G.S. 1st XV</td>
<td>(H) Lost 3-8</td>
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<tr>
<td>,, 12</td>
<td>Stowe 2nd XV</td>
<td>(H) Won 26-0</td>
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<tr>
<td>,, 16</td>
<td>Dunsmore School 1st XV</td>
<td>(H) Won 19-11</td>
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<tr>
<td>,, 30</td>
<td>Cambridge G.S. 1st XV</td>
<td>(A) Won 17-11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 7</td>
<td>King Edward VI, Nuneaton 1st XV</td>
<td>(A) Won 8-3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 11</td>
<td>Northampton G.S. 1st XV</td>
<td>(H) Lost 8-19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>,, 25</td>
<td>King’s, Grantham 1st XV</td>
<td>(H) Lost 6-11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 5</td>
<td>Northampton T.H.S. 1st XV</td>
<td>(H) Won 13-8</td>
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<tr>
<td>,, 26</td>
<td>Kettering G.S. 1st XV</td>
<td>(A) Lost 3-8</td>
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2nd XV

The 2nd XV have had another fine season. It was thought at first that we would be struggling, but our strength in depth found us able to meet any calls.

We were beaten once, by Bedford Modern, who taught us a salutory lesson in the meaning of ‘Good ball.’ Cambridge Grammar School produced an odd result to say the least, and our draw at King’s, Peterborough was unfortunate insofar as an early try was disallowed because the referee was blocked. Wyggeston, Northampton and Daventry provided us with the toughest opposition and produced a fine fighting spirit in the side. Old enemies such as Kettering and Corby were thrashed by mountainous scores, and in most games we were in the twenty point bracket.

We were lucky in having some old hands to start us off in September. Clark S., Anker, Munday and Porter all helped to mature a side which lost them at Christmas. We were lucky to find a first class skipper in Betts who welded his men into a fine unit, inspiring them with his play and control, qualities which helped him collect 117 points. Hooker Jacobs
was never outooked, and we were only once beaten in the lines. Our backs tended to be young and inexperienced, but they turned out to be a great striking force. Halves Bird and T. Lawson were steady and not over adventurous, but capable. Norman proved himself to have a great deal of potential and was one of the great successes of the year.

In the pack, Smart, Edmunds, Ekins, Clark, Robinson and Owen all worked very hard and produced flashes of brilliance at times.

One of the pleasing things is how the younger members of the side have developed. Clark M., Smart, Edmunds and Norman all have come on very well this year.

The outstanding features of the season has of course been the team spirit. It has been a keen, happy side. A lot of this is due to the captain, but the efforts of the past, to train, to think and to play good rugby, have been very much appreciated. I would like to extend my thanks and congratulation to the XV, the reserves and all members of staff who have aided and abetted us this season.

I.A.MD.

3rd XV

A moderate season with the forwards only occasionally working together as a unit and the backs showing a reluctance for really determined straight running.

The later matches showed some improvement but the team never managed to dominate their opponents and play the type of rugby they wanted.

Individually, Edginton and Clark N., on the wings, had their moments while Upton and Skelton both did much hard work among the forwards.

Partridge proved a quiet but effective captain.


UNDER 15 XV

The Under 15 XV could have enjoyed a very successful season. On paper, at least, we had players the equal of any in the district. In practice things did not work out so well. The success of a team depends on the co-operation and serious work of all its members, and this was lacking. Training sessions were poorly attended and maximum effort was rarely given. There was great enthusiasm among a few players and they should be congratulated for their dedication in the face of increasing lethargy.

J. Wilson was a tower of strength in the scrum and his game improved considerably. With Mankiewicz and S. Groome (lately promoted from the threequarters) in support we could look very dangerous, but too often a movement broke down through lack of quick, clean possession from the rucks and mauls.

When given the opportunity our threequarter line looked very capable. Tivey, Manning and Farrar proved difficult to stop, and they were quick to defend. Behind them, Nevett could be relied on to find an accurate touch.

The Spring term with its snow and rain saw precious little rugby, but a number of this year’s U.15 XV can look forward to Senior school rugby next year and the gaining of new and much wanted experience.

Team from

Nevett; Farrar; Manning; Tivey; Smith, M.; Leggett; Wilson, J.; Fletcher; Mankiewicz; Coblley; West; Groome, S.; Cole; Atley; Huxley; Neal; Miller.
October
5 v. Deacon's School  (A) Lost 10–22
12 v. Kettering G.S.  (A) Lost 3–20
16 v. Bedford Modern  (H) Won 23–8
19 v. Rushden S.M.   (H) Won 15–0
31 v. Oundle      (H) Lost 3–12

November
9 v. Corby G.S.  (A) Won 9–5
16 v. Dunsmore  (H) Won 43–0
23 v. Rushden S.M.  (A) Lost 6–9
30 v. Cambridge G.S.  (H) Won 23–0

December
7 v. K.E.S., Nuneaton   (H) Won 3–0

January
11 v. Northampton G.S.  (A) Lost 0–26
25 v. King's, Grantham  (H) Lost 10–20

U.14 XV
Our problem has been one of psychology. The overriding team conviction seems to have been one of doom when confronted with real, live opposition in the shape of another school. Had there been more confidence in our sheer ability to win, the defeats would have neither been so numerous nor so heavy. Make no mistake, there is talent in the team and we look forward to a more mature realisation of potential next season.

Ellson captained the team through the season, and made a solid, workmanlike job of his difficult task. Backed by a hardworking pack he led by example and effort. The outstanding forward was Hind, who tackled and ran with strength and enthusiasm. However, the pack knitted together increasingly well and were playing as an effective unit encouragingly soon. More matches in the Spring term than were allowed by courtesy of the weather would surely have shown them in greater command of the match situation than before Christmas.

Purkiss has shown great promise at scrum half and should, next season, be able to set his line away fluently and with effect. The line itself owed much all season to the resolute Davis at full back, whose tackling was a model of determination and willingness to run with the ball most welcome. Next season should see more encouraging results and much greater development all round.

U.14 XV Fixtures

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<tr>
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<td>Lost 3–28</td>
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</table>
| Away U.14 XV v. Deacon's G.S. U.14 XV | Lost 0–41
| Away U.14 XV v. Kettering G.S. U.14 XV | Lost 0–24
| Home U.14 XV v. Bedford Modern U.14 XV | Lost 6–21
| Away U.14 XV v. Rushden Sec. School U.14 XV | Won 17–3
| Away U.14 XV v. Oundle School U.14 XV | Lost 0–63
| Home U.14 XV v. King's School U.14 XV | Postponed
| Away U.14 XV v. Dunsmore School U.14 XV | Lost 8–19
| Home U.14 XV v. Daventry G.S. U.14 XV | Won 30–0
| Home U.14 XV v. Cambridge G.S. U.14 XV | Won 23/0
| Away U.14 XV v. K.E.S., Nuneaton U.14 XV | Lost 3–19
| Home U.14 XV v. Lawrence Sheriff U.14 XV | Postponed
| Home U.14 XV v. Kettering G.S. U.14 XV | Postponed
| Away U.14 XV v. Daventry G.S. U.14 XV | Postponed

U.14 XV 11 3 0 8 93 246
UNDER 13 XV

The Under 13 XV has enjoyed a very successful season, losing only one game. This was due mainly to the work of the whole side in gaining possession of the ball, but in particular to the teamwork amongst the forwards, where Lowe, Abbott, Lutter, and Siwakowski, who captained the side well, were especially noticeable. The supply of good quality possession was well used in the backs, where some elusive running by the half-backs, Biggs and Oliver, and some hard straight running in the 'Threes', especially by Read, who was top try scorer, and also by Higgins and Andrews, broke down the opposition's defences.

If this side maintains the same high standard of team work, with the emphasis on the final score, rather than individual performance, it should have an equally successful season at Under 14 level.

Record

v. Kettering G.S.    Won 25–3
v. Rushden Secondary School    Won 43–0
v. Cherry Orchard School    Lost 8–11
v. Rushden Secondary School    Won 48–0
v. Bedford Lower School XV    Drew 8–8
v. Northampton G.S.    Won 22–3
v. Daventry Secondary School    Won 16–5
v. King's School, Peterborough    Won 36–0

CROSS-COUNTRY

There have been three matches this season.

We were third out of five in our first ever match, at Northampton G.S. on the 11th December. Hager was the first man in for us in 8th position, with Phillips a couple of places behind.

Against Kettering G.S. on 26th February, we had a convincing win by 31 points to 49. (Of course, in cross-country, the lower score wins.) In this match Whittaker and Hager were first and second respectively. Other school scoring positions: Sturgess fourth, and Nowak, Rising and Allen in seventh, eighth and ninth positions.

We did not do quite so well on 5th March against Luton and Bedford Pilgrim School. Scores: Bedford 39, Luton 57, Wellingborough 81. Hager and Sturgess finished fifth and sixth, but our other runners had an off day. In fact, two of them got lost and arrived just as a search party was setting out to look for them.

In the county championships, Phillips did very well to get second place and an almost certain selection for the county team. Whittaker was eighth and should be a reserve. Hager and Sturgess in eleventh and twelfth positions may also be selected.

MUSIC NOTES — MARCH 1969

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The Christmas Concert, held on Tuesday, 17th December, 1968, had a very varied programme. It began in martial style with a piece from the Brass Group by Kenneth Cook, called "March for a Pageant".

Joyce's flute solo, "Fantaisie" by Fauré, provided a direct contrast in style. This was played with a high degree of technical accomplishment, and showed well Joyce's increasing skill as a flautist.

Mr. Cox's recorder group, augmented by a large body of percussion players in an amusing arrangement of Garrod's "Funeral March of a Marionette", played with obvious enthusiasm and commendable ensemble, and evidence of careful preparation and attention to detail.

In place of their usual selection of seasonal carols, the Junior Choir presented a work by W. H. Parry for readers, choir and small instrumental group, called "Christmas Day and Every Day". This is the kind of piece which is invaluable in schools, but which is unfortunately in short supply
from music publishers. Consisting of settings of eight poems, mainly secular in character, it provided excellent material for the musical forces available. The linking readings were well presented by P. Bailey and C. R. Misselbrook, and the instrumental group consisted of C. J. Legg and L. Joyce (Flutes), J. D. Willmott (clarinet), with parts for large and small glockenspiel, xylophone and untuned percussion.

After the interval the main item was the Senior Choir's presentation of Gordon Jacob's cantata "The New-born King", with the baritone solo part effectively sung by J. Joyce. This piece has many of the sounds of modern music without many of its attendant difficulties, and the choir did well to capture so much of its spirit. The accompaniment was provided by I. Downing and Mr. C. J. Cox at two pianos.

The audience joined the choirs in the singing of seasonal carols to complete the programme.

LIBRARY

We are very grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Tanner, parents of Brian Tanner, Mr. and Mrs. Rawlings, parents of R. C. Rawlins, Mr. G. W. Wild, Mrs. F. W. Webb, Mr. V. Bennett, Mr. and Mrs. Aveyard parents of M. B. Aveyard, D. J. Mills and Scott Bader Commonwealth Ltd. for generous gifts of books or money.

SCHOOL PLAY

"Sweeney Todd the Barber"

Produced by M. K. Wright

"Our Dad said he thought some of the actors in it were better than those at the Rep." Such was the account of praise lavished on this year's School play by the father of one of our junior members. And perhaps this was not such a wild eulogy of the most enjoyable production of recent years. Performed on four evenings in the Mountbatten Hall, from 3rd to 6th December, it received delighted applause and participation from an enthusiastic audience on each night.

"Sweeney Todd" is the creation of Brian Burton, who has contrived to 'send up' Victorian Melodrama, adding to the fun by including a number of songs. This play is an excellent choice for a school since it gives so many chances for 'character' roles. Its richness in this respect was well exploited by a producer who knew how to get the best out of a talented cast.

The quality of entertainment to be offered was made immediately apparent by the urbane presence of Downing. With immense dignity he invited the audience to boo and hiss at their pleasure, even to jump on their chairs if they wished! A disdainful flick of his tails indicated that he, Downing, would not participate in such frivolity. He turned to his piano and played throughout with a sense of timing and atmosphere that added greatly to the success of the production.

The demon barber himself was played with verve and maturity by Kris Misselbrook. His cheerfully malignant presence (strangely reminiscent of Terry Thomas!) quickly goaded the audience to boo and hiss with gusto. He presented an evilly sloping, hand-wringing figure and worked hard to produce the malevolent voice needed. The pivot on which the whole production turned, night by night, Misselbrook showed an increasing mastery of his difficult role. He has to be evil enough to justify committing his monstrous deeds, yet sufficiently likeable to allow the audience to enjoy his nastiness. Had Todd not been so effectively portrayed the rest of the cast would have been faced with problems they could not have overcome.

As it was they coped magnificently. "Flannel" Allen as the harassed husband, Jasper Oakley, cut a splendid pathetic figure, squawking defiance with "I'm the master in this house." Brian Hodgkin obviously
relished playing the leering, patch-eyed Jonas Fogg. "Does he rave?" was in expectant tones of nasal gloating that boded genuine ill for the hapless Tobias.

A touch of professionalism was evident in the performance of Kevin Street. As the toping Dr. Lupin he showed remarkable talent for portraying a burlesque figure. His florid cadences reached a peak in his song "Verily, Verily", which was sung with great skill. Also, a new dimension has been added to the phrase "gird up your loins"!

Andrew Bailey obviously relished his part as Tobias, Todd’s apprentice and butt to his malignity. An acrobatic budgerigar, his diction was excellent, as was his rendering of ‘Sailing’ and ‘My Mother’s Birthday’. A tendency to overact was but youthful enthusiasm, and we look forward to some accomplished performances in future productions.

Hero and heroine of this grisly tale are Mark Ingestre and Johanna Oakley, who were played by Frank Poulton and Jane Millard. Neither part is strongly written and both need strong projection if they are to convince. As it was both suffered from a lack of emphasis. Poulton lacked the intense, courageous mask of the hero in adversity, whilst Jane Millard seemed unconvinced of her passions. However, the parts were not easy and were well enough handled to add much to the evening’s enjoyment.

Jane Millard also provided a wistful touch of femininity to contrast with the performance of that unholy trio of ‘drags’, Cotter, Tunn and Wynd. Of them the most impressive was Roger Tunn as Mrs. Oakley, Todd’s buxom accomplice. A wry, dumpy figure, Tunn produced some inspired business. The bosom hitch was mastered as was the arch patting of ‘her’ mob cap. In the duet with Todd, Tunn excelled ‘herself’ and must be congratulated on a very nice performance. However, both Richard Cotter, as the gypsy hag, Mrs. Poorlean, and ‘Jock’ Wynd, as Mrs. Oakley, were amusingly successful. Skinny, cackling and black-toothed, Cotter greatly entertained in the brief time he was on stage. Wynd quickly established ‘herself’ as a sharp-tongued harridan, lean and hungry enough to devour ‘his’ ineffectual husband.

Two parts that are most difficult for boys to play are those of Colonel Jeffrey and Jean Parmine, the lapidary. Geoffrey Grey, as Colonel Jeffrey, was a young and mournful figure, showing almost reverential concern for Johanna. Lawrence Joyce, as Parmine, cut something of a tribal figure, and had no chance of portraying age successfully. Yet both tried very hard and merit sympathy rather than criticism.

David Thacker was well-cast as Mr. Smith, a mechanic. A rubber-faced Cockney, he was memorable creeping in to the Dead March, and even more memorable on his return in Todd’s chair! William Sheehan played the Judge with suitable bravura, bolstered by a splendid wig and Dr. Jackson’s even more splendid doctoral gown. Michael Poole, John Wilson and Richard Stevenson appeared in supporting roles.

One must not, of course, forget the immense amount of work done behind scenes. Every year a great debt of gratitude is owed to Mr. Cheale and his army of workers for all the time and effort they expend on making the School Play a success.

In “Sweeney Todd” they had a difficult task. There were 15 scenes, requiring no less than 10 sets. That it took, on an average a total of 20 minutes each night to change sets is no criticism but praise of prodigious efforts and the placating presence of Downing. Yet perhaps much of this effort and delay could have been avoided by the use of more imaginative, less representational scenery. Additionally, there were so many sets to construct, that naturally the quality of their appearance was less than in more static productions. Much can be and was done with lighting alone.

And here we must end. But wait! Surely we have forgotten . . . ? No, we have not! Let us not end with technicalities, but a character. At the last it is not technicalities that make the play, but flesh and blood, life and laughter. In no character were these qualities so forcefully united as
in Jarvis Williams. With zest, Graham Phillips leapt and clogged, ate and scratched his way through the play. This cheerful yokel, so well played, epitomises the real quality of 1968's production: enthusiasm. The cast enjoyed themselves, and so did the audiences. Oh, lar!! A.P.G.M.

I would like to add my own thanks to all those who assisted in this production: to Mr. Cheale and Jackson, who with the stage staff devoted much time and effort in preparation of the sets; to Buckler and the lighting crew, who coped well with a complicated plot; to Mr. Chesters and Downing, who spent much time revising the score; to Dr. Jackson, Mr. Wilson and D. J. Clarke who obviously enjoyed themselves with the make-up; and to Mrs. Cheale and Mrs. Butler who were in charge of dressing.

I am extremely grateful also for the enormous amount of time, including week-ends and half term holiday, that was given by the members of the cast. Their aid and practical suggestions were much appreciated.

To all who in any way contributed, but who I have omitted to mention, I offer our thanks.

M.K.W.

CONTINENTAL HOLIDAY 1968

A party of 76 boys, (82 people) from this school visited Switzerland during the last summer holiday. This party, the largest the school has ever taken, was divided into two groups, one led by Mr. Wrenn and the other by Mr. Cheale. Both groups started the holiday in the same way — sleepily — at 06.40 on the morning of August 15th. The two groups assembled at school and as in previous years, were taken to Victoria station in London by coach where the boat train to Dover was boarded. By mid day the party was in the Dover customs shed prior to fighting its way onto the Ostend boat. On board ship, 'lunch' was served to those who had ordered it and the rest of the party dined in comparative luxury on home made delicacies.

With a margin of only 31 minutes to disembark and go through Belgian customs and passport control, we were allowed a very rare concession. We were told the correct deck from which disembarkation would begin and we were also allowed to move our luggage into the first class compartment so that we could be the first off the boat. In less time than it takes to tell, we found ourselves on the Brussels train having cleared all landing formalities in record time. Changing at Brussels, we boarded a through train to Lugano. Somewhere along the route which took us through Luxembourg, Thionville, Strasbourg, Basel, the Gotthard Tunnel, and Bellinzona, we lost Party I with Mr. Wrenn who boarded another train to get to their first centre Locarno.

Arriving in Lugano at 07.07 we found that the couchettes had been removed from the train and were not due in for an hour so Mr. Cheale waited for them at the station while the rest of the party were taken to the hotel in Tesserete by coach.

Tesserete is a small village (pop. 600) 10Km. to the north of and 800 feet higher than Lugano at Lake level. It has a Gothic church and used to be connected to Lugano by a small tram/railway which ran alongside the road. This has now been taken out of service and replaced by large blue motor coaches with loud horns and balding Grand Prix drivers. By the time Mr. Cheale arrived, the rooms had been allocated and most of the party were changed and eating their breakfast in the capacious dining room. After breakfast, boys were free to explore the village prior to the afternoon excursion to Lugano.

Arriving at the bus station after lunch, we were shepherded onto a 'special' coach together with half the Swiss army and whisked off to the Lugano bus terminus/railway station at double quick speed where we transferred to the much safer funicular railway which descends some 200 feet to the centre of the town. Lake Lugano, being half in Italy and half in Switzerland, has very warm weather with over 2200 hours of mild intensity sunshine every year. Parents whose boys accompanied the party will no doubt be pleased to learn that this climate is 'ideal for convalescence, (especially in the elderly), it also aids those with bad heart
complaints, kidney trouble, degenerative rheumatism, chronic bronchitis, nervousness and insomnia!' (Lugano Tourist Guide). Lugano is indeed thought a very pleasant town. The shops in the central older parts have characteristic arcaded fronts and in the suburbs, coco, eucalyptus, camphor, banana, olive, cork, palm, mammoth, and pomegranate trees can all be seen growing. At about 18.00 the party reassembled at the station and was taken back to the hotel for dinner. The past 36 hours had been very tiring and strenuous making one appreciative of those now immortal words, 'Adequate rest before departure will increase enjoyment of tour.'

On the following day we had our first real excursion. Leaving the hotel during a sub-tropical thunderstorm which, we were assured, would soon clear up, we reassembled at the boat station in Lugano. Here we boarded one of the lake steamers and after three hours, during which we ate lunch, furthered diplomatic relationships between England and the church of Rome and got thoroughly drenched, we disembarked at the village of Morcote. Although the rain had nearly stopped the cloud was still very low and there were short sharp showers occasionally. Morcote is a very small but interesting place with an imposing 13th century church dominating it. The main street has the lake on one side and the other is lined by old houses with stalls set out in their arcaded fronts. We were assured that the village of Vico Morcote set five hundred feet above the lake afforded many 'fine views' of the surrounding scenery. A small party of the more athletic people and Jessop therefore decided to ascend to this viewpoint. After a 20 minute scramble up a cobbled footpath, this intrepid band of pilgrims emerged at the Vico Morcote to find themselves in a cloud. Through occasional breaks in this cloud, it was just possible to see the lake far below and sometimes even the hills on the far side. Unfortunately, this long climb for nothing had broken the spirits of our staunch heroes and they were forced to seek consolation in a nearby 'cafe'.

On returning to the village, the party reassembled and boarded another boat which steamed through the narrowest part of the lake, where one bank is Italian and the other Swiss, and then on to Ponte Tresa. The town of Ponte Tresa is half Swiss and half Italian, the frontier being conveniently marked by the river Tresa. Customs houses are situated at either end of the bridge from which the town receives its name. Disembarking on the Swiss side, an hour was spent sightseeing, shopping, quenching thirsts and feeding one armed bandits before returning to the hotel by train and coach.

After dinner we were met at the hotel door by a special coach which took us to sample the colourful night life of Lugano. There are many street cafes in the centre of the town, the majority of the larger ones having bands playing; the fountains are brightly illuminated and five large fountains in the lake itself have changing coloured lights played onto them.

Next day we awoke to find the sun streaming into our bedrooms. There was not a cloud in the sky, no wind and no haze. Once again the party assembled at the lakeside boat station prior to boarding a steamer bound for the village of San Margherita on the Italian shore of the lake. After a very enjoyable journey of about three quarters of an hour, we arrived at San Margherita and walked up a narrow path to the 'Funicolare del Belvedere.' Boarding the funicular everyone was reminded to correct their watches to Italian time. Twenty minutes later and 2100 feet higher we found the village of Belvedere Lanzo d'Intelvi, one of the most popular holiday resorts in Lombardy. From a cafe parapet, pre-eminent views of the lake, Monte Rosa and Matterhorn were obtained. After eating lunch most boys went walking around the village before returning to lake level by funicular. Boarding another boat, we sailed back into Switzerland stopping at the village of Gandria Vedetta. Reputed to be the most picturesque village on the lakeside, its houses seem to grow out of the hills. After a short stop here we returned to the hotel for dinner.
The following day, the weather was perfect again. As the morning was free, a small group of white skinned boys armed with towels, bathing costumes, suntan cream and packed lunches made for the Lido in Lugano. Four hours later a small group of red skinned boys sadly left the Lido with a memory of the tingling cool water and the red hot concrete slabs on which they had sunbathed. It should perhaps be noted here that one of the swimmers thought for one glorious moment before he went flashing in, that the water in the pool was only three feet deep. It was nearer seven! (Name supplied for extra physics tuition.)

The party of swimmers met the rest of the group at the station where they boarded a train to get to Lugano Paradiso, the next station. Here ‘most’ of the party ascended Monte San Salvatore by funicular. At 3000 feet, some 2000 feet higher than Lugano, the summit affords a matchless view of the enchanting shores of the Lake and also the Plain of Lombardy and Lake Maggiore. The Swiss, Savoy and Maritime alps and on clear days, the Apennines, form a majestic backcloth for this magnificent scene. After two hours the party reassembled and caught the train back to Lugano. After dinner, the evening was free in Tesserete.

The following day was somewhat similar. After a free morning the party met at the bottom of the Monte Bre funicular. I should perhaps point out here that Lugano lies in a valley which is guarded by two large hills — Monte San Salvatore and Monte Bre. Monte Bre is advertised as Switzerland’s sunniest mountain offering a splendid panorama of the Bernese and Valais Alps and also the Monte Rosa. Whether all this is true or not we cannot say as the weather was unkind to us and although the sun shone there was a considerable amount of haze. At the summit some boys walked to the village of Bre but others were content to sit in the cafe and complain about the stale cake, high prices and rotten service. Thoroughly disgruntled, these boys descended the 2063 feet back to Lugano by funicular (maximum slope 61%) where they caught the bus back to Tesserete with the rest of the party. Rumour has it that Party I was in town on that day but nothing was seen or heard of them. A special coach was hired that night to take everyone for a last fling in Town and this was greatly appreciated.

That was our last full day in Lugano and the next morning was spent packing bags and buying souvenirs. After lunch, the coach met us at the hotel door and took us with our luggage to the station. Our route to Interlaken took us through Bellinzona, Airolo, the Gotthard tunnel, Göschenen, Flüelen, Brunnen and Arth-Goldau to Luzern. The railway line ran alongside Lake Luzern for some distance and afforded a magnificent view of the jagged peaks of Mount Pilatus with the lake in the foreground. As our train was late arriving at Luzern, we only had one minute to make our connection. However, thanks to the efficiency of Swiss Railways we all managed to scramble on board before the train left. We did have one rather unfortunate accident on this leg of the journey. While putting the luggage on the racks, one suitcase slipped and with a very spectacular crash, went flying out of the window. The ticket collector was informed and at the next station, rang back to Luzern to tell them what had happened. At the next station, Luzern rang back to tell him the suitcase had been collected and would be put onto the next train. Although the case was a write off only two articles of clothing had been damaged and these of course were covered under the party insurance. The boy got a brand new suitcase before he went home. From Luzern, we travelled through Alpnachstad and the Brunig pass to Meiringen. The Brunig pass is extremely steep for a train to negotiate, 1 in 9 in places, but it manages to keep up a speed of some 20 m.p.h. once it goes onto the rack. From Meiringen we passed through Brienz and arrived at Interlaken Ost at 19.33 where a coach was waiting to take us to our hotel. Rooms were quickly allocated and the party then went into the dining room for dinner. Party I arrived about an hour later and they also retired to the dining room for refreshment. The evening was free and boys wandered about the town finding their bearings.
With over eighty people in the party now it was obviously imprac-
ticable to take everyone on the same excursion at the same time so on each
day in Interlaken there were two different excursions and boys could go
on either one or the other.

On our first full day in Interlaken, boys had a choice of going either
to Niessen via the longest European funicular or to the Niederhorn by
chairlift. I went on the latter and found it a very enjoyable excursion. Leav-
ing the west station by Postal Coach we soon started the long climb to the
chairlift terminus. The chairlift is in two sections but it is possible to get
to the top of the Niederhorn 'without leaving your seat'. At the summit we
found a herd of mountain cattle with bells on, a hotel that sells enormous
meringues, thin air (6394 feet), a harmonica player and some superb
views over the Jungfrau range with Interlaken and Lake Thun spread out
below us. The party reassembled at the bottom of the chairlift and walked
down the road to the Beatenberg Funicular which took us to lake level.
Here we boarded a steamer which took us to the Interlaken West boat-
station, a three minute walk from the hotel. This was only a half day
excursion, done in the afternoon, so that boys could find their way about
the town in the morning.

On the following day, the sun was shining and apart from the
inevitable haze and patchy low cloud, the weather was perfect so we
decided to risk going on our most enterprising excursion; a trip to the
Jungfraujoch. Starting at the Interlaken Ost station (1860 feet) we
boarded the brown and yellow train of the Bernese Oberland Railroad
which took us via Wilderswil-Zweilüüthen through the charming valley of
Lütschine to Lauterbrunnen (2612 feet). Here we changed into the green
and yellow train of the Wengernalp Railroad, the longest rack railroad in
Switzerland. Via Wengen, (4180 feet) and Wengernalp, (6145 feet), we
arrived at the Kleine Scheidegg, (6762 feet), where we boarded the
brown and yellow coaches of the Jungfrau Railroad. This train started off
slowly and soon came to a stop at the Eigerletscher (Eiger Glacier
7612 feet) where husky dogs are kept and there is also a marmot colony.
After several minutes we entered the 4\ mile tunnel which cuts right
through the heart of the Eiger. It took fourteen years between 1898 and
1912 to construct and it has a gradient of 1 in 4. There are two observa-
tion stations in the tunnel but our train only stopped at the first. This
station is the Eigerwand and it is situated right in the heart of the north
face of the Eiger. There is a window cut into the rock to allow passengers
to see the view mountaineers get when they scale this famous test of
skill and nerve. The altitude here is 9400 feet and it is noticeably cold.
At 11.45 we arrived at the Jungfraujoch — altitude 11,333 feet — where
we took the free lift out onto the plateau. Here, special footpaths are
marked in the snow. When we arrived we could see little but cloud. How-
ever as the day progressed, visibility improved and exhilarating views of
the Jungfrau (13,642 feet), and Monch (13,449 feet), were obtained. The
Jungfraujoch is the highest railroad station in Europe and the journey is
a truly fascinating experience. Corridors and tunnels in the interior of the
mountain lead to the Sphinx Observatory, the ski training school, the
husky dogs, the ice palace carved out of solid ice, the Hotel Berghaus
and the restaurant. After some three hours at the top, everyone was ready
to leave. It was very cold and it had even snowed a little while we were
there. Descending to Kleine Scheidegg we changed trains and boarded
one bound for Grindelwald.

This journey took us below the vertical north wall of the Eiger and
into the Schwarze Lutschine valley. Grindelwald (3393 feet) affords a
magnificent view of the Wetterhorn. We had an hour free here during
which time we saw a gentleman in national costume playing requests on
his enormous Alpine Horn. The day had been very interesting and we
had covered over forty miles of electrically operated mountain railroad,
climbing nearly 10,000 feet from Interlaken to the topmost point.

On the following day, a small party of boys had an early breakfast
and left Interlaken station at 09.15 for Zweisimmen. At Zweisimmen we
walked to the two section cableway about a quarter of a mile away.
Clambering aboard the brightly coloured bubbles which had perspex windows proudly announcing the fact that ‘Fred’ had been there, was in itself an art, but once inside, the three mile journey to the top of the Rinderberg was very pleasant and from the 6000 feet summit, the Wildstrubel range and Wildhorn were clearly visible. Many protected alpine flowers were spotted that day including the Orange Lily which has a little duck like design on the petals. Considerable ill feeling was caused, when, after waiting for over twenty minutes to be served at the local cafe, no waitress materialised despite combined efforts to attract her attention. Five boys decided not to wait any longer and as the cableway had stopped operating for lunch, they walked down to the first station. Here they boarded bubbles and descended the rest of the way in style. At the bottom they were disgusted to meet three other boys who had walked the whole way down. The party joined up again at the railway station and caught the train to Spiez where we went to the pier by bus. At this point the party split again, the majority catching the boat to Thun where they viewed the castle and arcaded streets before returning to Interlaken by train, while the intrepid few caught the boat to Beatenbucht and walked along the ancient ‘Pilgerweg’ or Pilgrims Way. This two hour walk, which Jessop didn’t go on, was very interesting and in one section took us through a nature reserve while in another part we nearly ended up as moving targets for a Swiss army exercise.

The majority of the party however accompanied Mr. Wrenn to Giessbach that day. Here they inspected the torrential falls and then proceeded to Brienz where they ascended the Rothorn by steam rack railway. After about an hour at the Rothorn they returned ot the hotel in Interlaken.

Our last full day excursion from Interlaken took us by rail to Kandersteg. From Kandersteg, we walked to the Stock cableway where we had to wait for about half an hour before we could ascend. During the ascent, a magnificent panorama was spread before us which might have been appreciated far more had we not known of the 1155 foot drop below. At Stock, we quickly changed onto the chairlift which took us to Sunnbühl, where we ate our packed lunches. The party then split up into several groups. The first group were last seen disappearing in a cloud of dust towards a ‘Fish and Chip Emporium’, the second group went on a short walk to some nearby lakes while the third group of vigorous and robust young gentlemen walked to Gemmi Pass some five miles away. This walk along stony dusty paths entailed a climb of over 1100 feet in temperatures well into the eighties. About a dozen boys ventured out on this treacherous journey and they managed to create quite a stir, when, in their open toed sandals they went romping past other hikers who where all wearing plus fours and hob nailed boots. The journey took them past the Schwarenbach hotel (6762 feet), and the Daubensee (7264 feet) to the 7598 foot summit which afforded spectacular views of the Wildstrubel range and the valley of the river Dala. The official time for this route and the return journey is some six hours. The fastest time recorded by four boys from our school was two and a half hours. The party reassembled at Kandersteg station and returned to the hotel by train.

The other excursion that day was to the Niederhorn and Thun of which I have already written. The Gemmi people were very lucky indeed that day because it started to rain soon after the last group of people arrived at the station.

On the last day in Interlaken there were two half day excursions but very few boys took advantage of them. Seven members of the party left the Ost station shortly after 09.00 and went to Lauterbrunnen. Here they sprinted across the railway track to the Grutschalp funicular which rises over 2000 feet and gives an excellent view of the Staubbach falls. Arriving at Grutschalp, they transferred to another train which took them to Mürren. Unfortunately there was not enough time a Mürren to allow us to ascend the local funicular to the famous viewpoint of Allmendhubel so boys had to be content to photograph the “Magnificent Three” (Eiger, Monch and Jungfrau) from Mürren. The weather was perfect and in the
words of the master, "The mountains showed very well". A similar sized party visited the Schwnige Platte that day and the view from there was much the same as that from Mürren.

So, sadly, the tour had come to an end. In the afternoon some boys sat in the hotel playing cards, some used their season tickets to go on the lakes and others frantically did last minute shopping and posted those postcards which they had been meaning to post for the last ten days. At 20.37, we left Interlaken by train and travelled through Spiez, Thun, Olten, Basel, Strasbourg, Thionville, Luxembourg, and Brussels to Ostend. Owing to very thick fog during the night the train was over an hour late in getting to Brussels and most of the party were beginning to feel hunger pangs. These were soon forgotten though, for when we got to Ostend we were delighted to find that the boat was half empty and the restaurant was ready and waiting to serve us breakfast there and then. (By now it was nearly 11.00). An hour later, we were called over the loudspeaker system to the dining room for lunch. Both meals were excellent but we rather sadly noted that the British Rail Continental Breakfast is now served with the infamous British Rail cup of tea instead of with steaming hot black coffee.

We arrived in Britain at 13.40. We had made up the hour that we had lost and it looked as though we would arrive in Wellingborough on time. After clearing customs and passport control we boarded the London train and arrived at Victoria station fifteen minutes EARLY. After a very essential pause, the party resumed its journey, this time on two York Bros. coaches. The driver of one of the coaches was given a lesson on how to find his way about the Wellingborough area and at the same time he let boys off the coach into the eager arms of their parents. One poor boy obviously thought he was still on the continent and remembering the golden rule, 'Traffic on the right — FAST' nearly succeeded in converting himself into a pancake. By 19.15 the last members of the party had dispersed. The tour had been very successful and everyone had thoroughly enjoyed it. The hotels in which we had stayed were clean and comfortable but above all we appreciated the friendly hospitality afforded us by both management and staff.

Our thanks must of course go primarily to Mr. M. S. Cheale who did the vast amount of organisation that was needed to make the tour possible. As has already been stated, this was a record breaking party and as it was split up into two groups, Mr. Cheale really had two completely different holidays to book. Our thanks also go to Mr. Wrenn, who led the other party with his usual sang froid, to Mrs. Cheale and Mrs. Wrenn who were always on hand to minister to the sick and lastly but by no means least, to Mrs. Rowlatt who managed to tuck all the younger boys so neatly under her wing without ruffling any of her own feathers.

J. Rodney Parkinson.

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

ARTS CLUB

Since the previous publication of the Magazine, the Arts Club have held 20 meetings and travelled to London, Coventry and Birmingham.

The Speakers have been, as always, varied (as has the attendance) and talks have been as follows: Mr. C. H. Stevenson: "Sweden", a very comprehensive, entertaining talk. Mr. Alan White: "Character and the Medium". Mr. White spoke of the various mediums in which he had worked: "T.V., films, novels". Mr. Paul Coleman: "Catalonia", a good all-round talk of the area and its people. Mr. N. S. F. Wills: "Arts in twentieth century society". Mr. Wills spoke and led a discussion on the changing form of the Arts. Mr. Russell Davis: "Experiences as a Labour Party Agent". Mr. Davies outlined his job and the procedure of elections. Mr. D. S. Wilson: "Dialects". Mr. Wilson presented a well-ordered interesting talk. Miss M. A. Bandey: "Indian Music". Miss Bandey played recordings and explained the art of playing Indian music. Mr. John Gott:
"Motorways". The Chief Constable explained the problems facing motorway planners and suggested remedies. Mr. Victor Feather: "Trade Unions". In his capacity as Vice-General-Secretary of the T.U.C., Mr. Feather explained the changing rôle of the Trade Unions. Mr. Rik Butcher: "Student Power". Journalist Mr. Butcher explored the possibilities of sixth-form councils and the Young Liberal approach. Mrs. Gwen Brown: "Local Archeology". Mrs. Brown showed slides and told us of the archeology of the area, an interesting talk. Mr. Neville Dilkes: "Life of an Orchestral Conductor". Mr. Dilkes spoke of his travels and training to be conductor of the English Sinfonia. Mr. R. B. Taylor "British Lions' Tour of S. Africa". With the aid of a 'magic-lantern' Mr. Taylor showed a film of the tour. Mr. C. H. Stevenson (again): "Situation in N. Ireland". Mr. Stevenson explained in great detail the problems facing N. Ireland and the causes of them. Mr. C. D. Allen: "Radicalism". The inimitable Mr. Allen expounded his views on the evils of Radicalism. The Rev. L. R. Misslebrook: "A Room in Our House". The Rev. Misslebrook provided an interesting insight into human nature while telling us of the people who sought shelter in his house at Watford.

A new feature of the Arts Club this year has been the staging of Panel Games. With the aid of an ingenious contraption of flashing lights and infuriating buzzers, a nerve-wracked Mr. Wills presided over two contests, both of which produced the expected results: Messrs. S. K. Clark and C. R. Misselbrook 70 points, Messrs. Butler and Sturman 350 points, and Arts Club 405 points, Toc H (despite the gallant efforts of Mr. Beacham) 350 points.

We are pleased to report that attendance from the fifth forms has greatly improved and the Second Year Sixth are responding. The Lower Sixth, however, with notable exceptions, still prefer to rush home in time for "Jackanory".

FOLK CLUB

Activities this term have progressed in the usual fashion with our evening meetings on every alternate Wednesday. Before half term we were very fortunate to have three of Mr. Turville's friends from Nottingham come down to sing for us, fortunate because they were professionals.

This term saw the dawn of new talent unseen before in the domain of room six on Wednesdays, namely Mr. Stevenson, who has been subjecting us to his repertoire of Irish folk songs. Just after half term we held a Ceilidh in the hall which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Ian Stuart our guest folk singer for the evening entertained us with a good selection of songs and also played the bagpipes while our own Scotsman danced a Highland fling. Again we saw the famous "Nene Valley Wassail troupe" perform a mummer's play and a Morris dance. Once again, fancy dress was very popular, modes of dress ranging from Latin American to the roaring twenties.

We hope that all 5ths and 6ths will support this club and should they come we can assure a very entertaining evening for everybody.

G. Keech

TOCH H


Toc H had another successful term and the group's membership has risen steadily. Whether the increase was due to, or in spite of, our recruiting gambit, "free tea" is a point for debate. The group would like to thank those ladies in the kitchen for their valuable work in this respect.

So far this year funds have been raised by carol singing, a jumble sale (and another one is on the way), and the now annual event, "The Toc H Concert". All have proved fairly lucrative and the latter especially so, profits being £50. Ideas for raising more funds are already in hand. (Would anybody interested in sponsoring a ten mile non stop Conga please contact us?)
Members have heard two interesting outside speakers this term; Mr. Mitchell from the Birmingham Toc H H.Q., and Mr. Longby from the Wellingborough Borstal.

The Toc H group has stimulated activity inside the school, challenging the Arts Club to a football and rugby match. Not to be outdone on both these occasions a collection for the Toc H funds is to held amongst the spectators.

At the time of writing the group was occupied collecting money in the area for the Royal National Institute for the Blind. The group is also continuing its hospital library service at the Highfield and Cottage Hospitals. All in the group's activities are continually expanding.

At Christmas, presents were given to orphaned boys in the local Borstal, but the bulk of our expenditure is to be on taking local old folk on an outing at Whisun. The cost of this is expected to be around £60.

We wish to extend our thanks to Miss Bavin and "SOBOP" incorporated for their services in advertising our activities; their output was so vast that they could not be missed.

The Toc H Society welcomes any new members especially from the fifth forms and Lower Sixth — an interesting and enjoyable time can be guaranteed. An even larger membership will also lower our average overhead costs and increase our subscriptions.

SCOUTS JOTTINGS

It is simply a fact accomplished that we are now no longer Boy Scouts but just Scouts. Fait accompli, I repeat, because though the justice has been done, it has not been seen to have been done. Boy Scouts we remain to most members of that public, whom we are incited to serve with thoughtfulness and usefulness all our days. Perhaps the Americans had it cracked when they invented Girl Scouts (instead of Guides), thereby preserving the term "boy" as a mere sex-symbol, and so as a thing which never gets out of date. Still, Public Relations on the grand scale costs money, imagination and sometimes a good slice out of the finer feelings of those who are more conscientious, So, Boy Scouts or not, (though we are now enjoined no longer to whistle as we smile: I believe B.P. took the secret of that to the grave), we shall wince and bear it.

Talking of money, as we all do, what little money we possess owes much thanks to the generosity of the Parents' Committee and to the mothers (latterly, also, wives and, what, in the days when the new scout uniform was once in vogue, I believe were called sweethearts) without whom jumble sales would be far less profitable — we hope we always render this thanks, dutifully but gladly.

Much scouting activity (and some thought) goes on steadily in the junior troop: things from rip-sawing, with Mr. Huddart's saw, wood salvaged by Mr. Huddart for Mr. Huddart, all appropriated, along with Mr. Huddart (to see to fair play), into use or abuse by L-plated joiners — to photographing with Mr. Wright (or a camera) various unmentionable things of great interest. To both, together with Mr. Rowe, who has greatly assisted Mr. MacDonald with the Scout Training scheme and Troop activities generally, we can only offer our thanks (and apologies).

We camped abroad in the Lake District in 1968 of course, for summer camp purposes (nosh, kip, some activity — breathing fresh air constantly gains full marks). "The brightest and best of the sons of the morning" was supposed to be — that A.S.L. who perpetrated a magnificent typing feat headed "This time-table will be strictly adhered to" and succumbed to some irregularity of British Summer time which put the waking-up part of him out of order. The captain of Rugby took somebody's boyfriend for a projectedly long and mainly high-altitude walk, which he finished remarkably quickly by meeting a lake which wasn't there (he had a map, you see) and attempting to climb a rungless ladder called the East Face of Red Pike (presumably, we felt, to gain height so
to see where he was, since the map was hopeless). The upshot of attempting the impossible was that he split his jeans and descended shamefacedly to a public house suspiciously near a telephone. For one thing we commend him, he never lost his companion; a case of the scrum half leading the prop-forward (the scriptured angle on that, if I remember, being something to do with the blindside). The only other thing of note from camp is a photograph in the possession of Mrs. Worrell, picturing the G.S.L. actually in Lake Windermere (wearing what H.Q. would applaud as suitable "activity dress", brief "activity dress" for a "brief activity"?) I would like the negative, as Herod said, so that I may print myself a copy. Actually, of course, as I keep saying, it was all in the interests of hygiene.

The A.S.L. above libelled has now handed in his warrant (due actually to circumstances entirely within his own control — strange?) but is likely to attend in much the same capacity (for sleeping I mean) at the next summer camp possibly near Nottingham for the week Friday, 11th July to Friday, 18th July, 1969, inclusive.

Stop press — the Venture Scout Section have almost started looking at the plans for building a canoe. I just thought they might like to know. P.G.

**SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY**

*President:* The Headmaster.  
*Chairman:* B. J. Handy, R. W. Buckler.  
*Secretaries:* D. J. Onley, A. W. Warner.  
*Committee:* Messrs. Bentley, Huddart, Leftwich and Pine.

Members of the Sixth Form have given this year short lectures on a wide variety of interesting science topics, listed below. We thank the lecturers for their thoughtful preparation, which has resulted in a high standard of lecture, and congratulate in particular J. E. Nevett, who is awarded the Scientific Society prize for his lecture on Semi-Conductors.

Lectures have been on the following subjects:

- The processing of wheat — D. J. Onley.
- Some aspects of molecular structure — C. R. Clucas.
- The use of oxidation numbers in formulating equations — J. G. Nevett.
- The Torry Canyon — D. M. Norman.
- The internal combustion engine — P. J. Checketts.
- Sunspots — E. D. Roberts.
- Catalysis — E. H. Greenhalf.
- Geometric figures — S. King.
- Electronic music — S. P. J. Nowak.
- Electrical wiring — M. J. Fearn.
- Plastics — B. C. Pentlow.
- Mathematical puzzles — R. Heighton.
- Theory of Evolution — B. Hodgkin.
- Parasites — Z. Kobusinski.
- Effects of man on his environment — C. J. Legg.
- Nuclear energy — R. O. Lawson.
- Stereo broadcasting — D. Fiander.
- Semi conductors — J. E. Nevett.
- Microcircuits — P. M. Misselbrook.
- Television receivers — W. E. Jones.
- The binary system — M. F. Hagar.
- Breeding butterflies and moths — A. M. George.
- Collecting butterflies and moths — J. T. Joyce.
- Plastics — S. P. Higham.
- Coal — A. W. Warner.
- Reaction rates — H. L. Davies.
- The heart — G. L. Easton.

We are also grateful for the opportunity to attend the Faraday Lecture on Micro Circuitry and the following lectures at the Royal Institute:

- Electric charges and electric currents. Electro-magnetism, by Sir Lawrence Bragg.
- Electronics in Solids, by Professor R. King.
- Light and life. By Professor G. Porter.

We look forward to a similar programme in our next session.

**JUNIOR CHEMISTRY CLUB**

We now have a nucleus of interested members who come along on Wednesday evening.

Projects this year have included work on standard gas preparations, chromatography and qualitative analysis. Once again, however, we have found that the most valuable activity of the club has been in filling in gaps in our knowledge. There are often topics in class-work for which there is insufficient time for full investigation, and the club has enabled us to satisfy our curiosity.

L.J.A./R.P.T.
ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY

At last the season has rolled round once again and now all that we require is insects to study. We have already decided to keep ants again this term, and some time in the future we hope to visit Harlestone Firs in order to study the giant wood ants and their nests. As of yet our meetings have not quite got off the ground but we hope to be holding more field meetings this term. Any person in the school who finds an insect and is curious to find out about it should consult the experts in the Cockroft Laboratory at 4.00 o'clock on Monday evenings. J. T. Joyce

STAMP CLUB

The boom in philately has continued this year, and has been reflected in the increased numbers of beginners and more specialist collectors attending the club; average attendances have been over twenty at the weekly meetings.

New catalogues were provided by the Parents' Committee, to whom we are very grateful.

STAFF

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S. D. Simpson  
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B. J. Watson  
C. A. York  
G. N. York

2b
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P. A. G'bbons  
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G. Andrews  
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