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# Devonport High School Magazine

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No. 94

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# The Devonport High School Magazine.

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*(All contributions for publication should be addressed to the Editors, Devonport High School Magazine, c/o the Headmaster, Devonport High School, ; and should be written legibly, and on one side of foolscap paper only).*

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## Editorial.

A few days before half-term took place an event which marks an important step in the history of Plymouth—H.M. King George VI unveiled a replica of Drake's Drum, and thereby officially commenced a period during which, under the Plymouth Plan, will be constructed a city to be the supreme example of modern town-planning.

In the modern world this idea of a city built upon a definite plan appears new, although ancient Greece contained many examples of deliberate, clearly-considered building. Villages in England have grown into cities almost accidentally, and only isolated districts have been built with any idea of symmetry or arrangement. Bath and other cities have had their individually beautifully-planned crescents and squares, but Plymouth is the first in which an existing portion is to be reconstructed according to a definite plan.

As Plymouth, like most cities, has grown up almost by chance, so by chance have we been given an opportunity of building a centre for the city in which up-to-date ideas of construction, lighting and traffic control may be put into practice without considering the property owners and business firms. Certain visitors in 1941 levelled out vast areas which no municipal council would have dared to touch. Unintentionally the German pilots have given Plymouth a unique chance of rebuilding.

To the majority of outsiders Plymouth is known as the place from which Drake and the Pilgrim Fathers set sail, and as the city which stood its ground firmly in the Civil War rather than a great Dockyard town. It was therefore feared that a reconstruction of Plymouth on modern lines would ruin the historic atmosphere of

the city. The " Blitz " of 1941 settled this issue. Plymouth must now be reconstructed, and since any historic period of architecture would be merely a sham if built in the twentieth century, the planners have taken the wise step of constructing the city in accordance with modern ideas.

Fortunately, the bombs of 1941 have left us many historic buildings, and these it is intended to preserve in a separate quarter of the city while allowing them to continue their present function. This section of the city will become a working exhibit with ample opportunity for its inspection by visitors to Plymouth. Cafés and parks will be set upon spaces provided by the removal of " blitz " ruins of uninteresting buildings; from these the historic buildings and narrow streets of the Barbican area may be viewed in comfort. It is, however, hoped that eventually its people may be housed in modern buildings in the residential section of the city instead of in the museum-like surroundings of the Barbican area which will, however, still be used for its present industries. By keeping the Barbican area as it is now the planners will enable visitors to the town to see how Plymouth looked in past times.

The only quarter of the city rivalling the Barbican area in historical associations—the Hoe—will receive different treatment from that meted out to the historical quarter around the original Plymouth harbour. The Hoe itself will remain much as it is, but attention will be concentrated on it much as attention in Paris is concentrated on the Arc de Triomphe. A wide thoroughfare, ornamented with parks and green strips will lead the visitor from North Road station in a gently-rising slope straight to the War Memorial on the Hoe. Another road will lead the visitor by sea from Millbay Docks to the Hoe. Around the Docks, amusement centres are planned, including an open-air theatre and a stadium, which will greatly add to the attractions of Plymouth as a holiday centre.

All these arrangements mainly concern the visitor to Plymouth and those whose living depends on him. Plans to preserve the historic quarter of the City and for the concentration of attention upon the Hoe will not materially concern the ordinary citizen of Plymouth. There are however details of the Plan which will do much to add to the comfort and enjoyment of normal day-to-day life.

It is suggested that in rebuilding the bulk of the city, portions or precincts of the city should be assigned to different purposes, as are the different sections of a school. Each of these precincts will be cut off from others and from the main flow of traffic. Separate precincts will be assigned to Government Offices, to shops, to Municipal Offices, and to Banks, Theatres, and the like, and these will each be separate from the residential quarter of the town.

The convenience of this system is obvious. Shopping also will be safer and easier in an area cut off from traffic where all the main stores may be found side by side.

In the residential areas, neighbourhoods and communities will be formed, each with its centre, so that each of these communities will be like a village. In place of the village hall there will be a social centre for various activities. There will be the post office, police station, stores, school and church of a normal village, besides such modern aids to leisure as swimming-baths, libraries and cinemas. Thus it is hoped that the communal activities of the city will increase. This attempt to provide means to enjoy the greater leisure brought about by the machine is perhaps one of the most interesting of the plan's suggestion.

The Plymouth Plan is a practical attempt to build that elusive ideal—the perfect city, and given the full and steady support of the citizens of Plymouth it should become an accomplished fact—a Plymouth which will be the wonder of the realm, and a supreme example of the combination of Art and Science, beauty and utility, and of idealism and practical values. We in this school, and all our generation, can make or mar the plan. We shall have to struggle and work for the new Plymouth, but we shall be the generation which will at last reap the first-fruits of its growth, and we shall, perhaps, live to see its final achievement.

## School Notes

It seems not long ago that we gave our readers good wishes for Christmas; they were for Christmas 1946. Now we are all twelve months older, our school life is that much shorter, and perhaps we are that much wiser. We wonder. Here are the best of all good wishes for the New Year, 1948.

Once the shortest day is past and evenings lengthen again we begin to look forward to the summer and to cricket—and examinations. The best of wishes, too, for good sport, good work, and good examination results in the coming year.

We welcome to the Staff this term Messrs. E. F. C. Fabray, B.A., G. R. Glinn, B.Sc., J. P. Reynish, M.Sc., F. Wayne, B.A., and B. A. Poole, B.Sc., who has just joined us. We hope and think that they will continue to be happy with us.

In this issue we publish an account of a refreshing visit by Lady Astor, who came to present to Allan Wales, of 6a, the prize for the winning Astor Essay last year. Congratulations to Wales, and many thanks to Lady Astor.

For some weeks this term Horton, who left Up. 6 Science last term, and Mr. Cotton, another old boy, gave us valuable teaching service. The former is now at Oxford, and the latter has joined H.M. Forces. Much thanks and good luck to both.

## House Notes

### DRAKE HOUSE.

The beginning of this School year saw a number of changes in the House, the most notable being the loss of Mr. Mallinson, who has been associated with us for many years ; we thank him sincerely for all he has done for us, and wish him every success in his new role as Housemaster of Grenville. To compensate for his loss Mr. White and Mr. Reynish have joined our ranks, and to them we extend a very hearty welcome.

This term we also received a large influx of new boys, whom we exhort to uphold the fine traditions of the House ; it is to them we look for future academic and athletic success. Some of them have already taken part in House games, and we hope that as time goes on they will all make loyal and even fanatical support of Drake one of the guiding principles of their School life.

So far the results of House matches have been rather mixed : the senior Rugger team beat Gilbert 37—0, and drew with Grenville 12—12, while the juniors, a very small team, lost both games. In Soccer on the other hand, the failure of the seniors by 4—1 against Gilbert was off-set by a great victory for the juniors over Gilbert by 6—0, and a defeat in the match against Grenville. A Chess tournament has now been organised, but the first round was lost by three matches to none.

The House warmly congratulates Ham on his appointment as Captain of the School and Vice-Captain of the 1st XI, as well as on his success in gaining the award of the Dyke Exhibition. Congratulations are also extended to Wattley on his election as Hon. Secretary of Rugger, to Widdicombe on his election as Hon. Sec. of the Literary and Debating Society, and to Allin on being chosen to play in the Plymouth Schools' XV against Mid-Devon, and in the final Devon Trial.

The House has also been well represented in School teams : M. King, Hugo, Wattley and Duddy have played regularly for the 1st XV., while Ham and Hitchens are members of the 1st XI. This record is sufficient to show that Drake can do more than merely hold its own with the other Houses ; it is evident that with more whole-hearted co-operation on the part of the rank and file Drake will once more rise to the supreme position.

P. J. LE P. QUANTICK (*House Captain*).

### GRENVILLE HOUSE.

The end of the School year brought with it news of the departure of two stalwart members of the House, Mr. Harris and Mr. Sparrow. The former became House Master in September, 1945, and during his term of office worked hard and enthusiastically for the benefit of the House. The latter has been connected with Grenville since

1934 ; in exile, at the Rookery, it was his particular task to welcome and encourage the newcomers in our midst, a task which he tackled with great success. To them both we extend our heartfelt thanks, and wish them the best of luck in their new appointments (both being Headmastership).

We gladly welcome Mr. Mallinson, who accepted the vacancy made by the departure of Mr. Harris, and who comes to us from Drake. I feel sure we shall do well under his guidance. As is customary at the commencement of a new year, we also welcome the young new arrivals, and we hope they will do their utmost to retain the good name of the House.

Although, for the first time in many years, Grenville was beaten in the Athletic Sports, we still retain the House Championship by a narrow margin from Raleigh. For deciding the issue we must congratulate the cricket teams who did so well last term.

The new year commenced in fine style. The football teams of both codes have been doing well under Mr. Mallinson and Mr. Evans, each team having won one match, and the Senior XV drawing with Drake after a very hard game. It is noticeable, however, that more attention must be paid to Chess, from which some valuable points can be gained.

The improvement in team spirit and enthusiasm has been most noticeable, and I am sure that the continued existence of this improvement, coupled with a resolute determination throughout the House can but lead the way to success, to the retrieving of the Athletics Shield, and to the continuance of our status of "Cock House."

J. D. PEAKALL (*House Captain*).

#### GILBERT HOUSE.

Results for the year 1946-7.

	Junior.	Senior.	House.
Athletics	—	—	Fourth
Chess	—	—	Third
Cricket	First		
Rugby	First	Fourth	Fourth
Soccer	First	Fourth	Fourth

So far this term we have had two successes—our Senior Soccer team won its only game by four goals to one against Drake, while our Junior Rugby team won its match against Drake by eleven points to three. Our teams are showing great keenness. Their aim must now be to raise their standard of play.

Our Juniors, through the loss of key players to the Senior teams are having but little success. New players are being trained to fill the gaps. Much of this construction work is being done by Mr. Barkell, who is giving weekly coaching lessons to the Soccer team. The captain of last year's Junior Soccer team, Goldthorpe, has now

left the School. He was an outstanding leader, and will be badly missed. We wish him the best of luck for the future. Tremeer, another member of this team, is the captain of the Plymouth Schoolboys' Football team, which recently beat Cirencester by seven goals to nil.

We have great pleasure in welcoming to Gilbert Mr. Wayne, who kindly volunteered to take charge of our Rugby activities. Under the guidance of Mr. Barkell and Mr. Wayne our teams should soon show signs of improvement.

This year the cricket results were decided by knock-out competitions. Our Juniors, capably led by Goldthorpe, obtained first position, beating both Drake and Grenville. Our Seniors, who also fielded a strong team, were unfortunate to be knocked out in the first round by losing 29—31 to Raleigh. These results are a great improvement on those of last season, and reflect great credit on those concerned.

On behalf of the House I wish to congratulate the following on being elected House officials:

B. Holliday—House Vice-Captain.

K. Blundell—Rugby and Athletics Captain.

A. G. McKenzie—Junior Rugby Captain.

D. Hosking—Junior Soccer Captain.

I trust that they will appreciate their responsibilities and will, by their own examples, produce even greater enthusiasm in the House.

K. BIRD (*House Captain*).

### RALEIGH HOUSE.

This term we welcome a new member of the Staff, Mr. Glinn to the House. We also wish Powell the very best of luck now that he has left us, and thank him for the hard work he put in last year to enable the House to do so well. Unfortunately although the House did so well, we could not take the title of Cock House from Grenville.

We are determined to obtain the title this year, and I call for the utmost support from every member. We must make every effort to make up for the defeat of the Senior Soccer team, and make sure we win the next two games. The Senior Rugger team has played two games; they were beaten by Grenville and beat Gilbert, while the Junior team has won its only match. The Junior Soccer team has drawn one match and won another.

All these teams have done their best, while those who are not playing are content to let them play without supporting them; support can mean a great deal to a team, so come and cheer the teams on, and make sure of the championship.

R. GEORGE (*House Captain*).



## Soccer Club

*President* : The Headmaster.

*Master in Charge* : Mr. Warren.

*Captain* : B. Holliday.

*Vice-Captain* : A. C. Ham.

*Secretary* : J. C. Dugdale.

This season has shown that there is no diminution in enthusiasm and we are regularly turning out four or five official teams. In addition many forms have arranged unofficial challenge matches.

The 1st XI is enjoying reasonable success, having won its matches with Kingsbridge, Totnes, Plympton, Liskeard and Tavistock. The team, somewhat on the small side, should indulge in less dribbling and make greater use of the open spaces. The game which aroused most enthusiasm was that against the Staff, which resulted in a draw of two goals each. The Staff are thus unbeaten this season !

The 2nd XI started the season indifferently, but has recently found its form with creditable wins over Tavistock and Plympton.

The Colts XI is doing extremely well and has won all its matches except that against the Plymouth School boys team which recently defeated Colchester 7-0. There is a number of promising players in this team who should render good service to school teams for several seasons.

The League XI, after losing its first two matches, has settled down to better things, but they still lack punch in front of goal, which prevents them from turning good midfield play into convincing victory. They have won the only cup round played to date.

The Junior XI has many promising players who, with more experience and coaching, should develop into a capable team.

We have been pleased to see more supporters at both home and away matches, and would welcome many more. Encouragement from the touch line can certainly inspire a team to greater effort as the Staff match proved.

This season has seen a deterioration rather than any improvement in the washing facilities and changing accommodation at our field.

Finally, our sincere thanks are due to masters who readily and frequently referee ; Messrs. Warren, Way, Vanstone, Berry, Tamblyn, Barkell, White, Truman, Wayne, Evans and Glinn have all helped, to them we extend our thanks.

House Match results :

SENIOR—Grenville, 11 ; Raleigh, 1. Drake, 0 ; Gilbert, 3.

JUNIOR : Raleigh, 1 ; Grenville, 1. Drake, 6 ; Gilbert, 0.

Grenville, 1 ; Drake, 0. Raleigh, 7 ; Gilbert, 1.

## RECORD :

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.
1st XI.	9	6	1	2	25	11
2nd XI.	6	3	0	3	24	14
Colts XI. ....	7	6	0	1	30	12
League XI.	7	4	1	2	17	10
Junior XI. ....	4	1	0	3	10	11

1st XI. : Hitchens ; Ham, Churchward ; Letcher, Dugdale, Holliday ; Bramidge, Thompson, Townsend, Kelly, Hingston. Master in charge : Mr. Warren.

2nd XI : Cotton ; Taylor, Stander ; Harris (D. A.), Bossom, Furzeman ; March, Hurd, Mildren, Dart (capt.), Woodfield. Have also played : Thomas, Willmott, Williams (E.), Collings, Downing. Master in charge : Mr. Way.

Colts XI : Nicholls ; Henderson, Shobbrook ; Yate, Boyce, Walker ; Northcott, Coakley (capt.), Harris (C.), Cottrell, Rowe (K.) Have played also : Westwood, Rippin, Burrows, Ede. Master in charge : Mr. Vanstone.

League XI (Under 14½) : Miller ; Thorne, Burrows ; Tremear (capt.), Tait, Bowley ; Metters, Bray, Quick, Rich, Middleton. Have played also : Dewdney, Hoskings, Watson, Rippin, Davis, Rich (T.). Master in charge : Mr. Berry.

Junior XI (Under 14) : Hayward ; Lang, Burrows ; Joint, Ede, Shinner ; Rich (T.), Pike (capt.), Berry, Harris (B.), Watson. Have played also : Dewdney, Rothwell, Bray, Marshall, Green, Thorne. Master in charge : Mr. White.

## SCHOOL, 2 ; STAFF, 2.

The revival of the annual fixture between the School and the Staff brought with it one of the finest expositions of the kicking code ever witnessed on the School's shining sward. The great god Mars dispensed his fortunes with meticulous equity and the players finally retired to the pavilion with the scores level.

A noteworthy feature of the game was the sparkling fare served up by the School forwards, who battered incessantly against the rock-like solidity of the Staff defence, in which the mighty clearances of Mr. Warn were a potent factor.

The Staff took the lead when Mr. Mallinson, cutting in from the right wing, found the net with a low ground shot, which passed just inside the upright. Just before the interval however, following a slight defensive lapse by the Staff, Kelly nipped in to bring the scores level. The second half was still quite young when the Staff again went ahead, on this occasion through Mr. Barkel, but in the concluding minutes of the game, the roar of a hundred lusty throats proclaimed the equaliser by the School skipper, Holliday.

Referee Warren wielded the whistle with exemplary aplomb, and controlled the contest "con spirito." Yet, although the game tended towards the robust, not one "soupcon" of the too-clever tactics or the will-to-win at all costs could be observed by the most zealous partisan. The game was played in a most sociable spirit, at the same time providing excellent entertainment for the great mass of howling scholars, together with a few more profound professors who foregathered to witness the battle.

## Rugby Club

*President* : The Headmaster.

*Rugby Master* : Mr. Mallinson.

*Captain 1st XV.* : R. P. George.

*Vice-Captain* : P. I. Reid.

*Hon. Secretary* : G. R. Wattley.

With the aid of a practice and two House matches, in which much unknown talent was found, the committee were able to pick four fairly substantial teams. An excellent fixture list has so far not been hampered by the weather, and the teams have taken advantage of the fact to bring home a large proportion of success from their matches, having won twenty, lost seven, and drawn one.

The First fifteen have a very strong pack with an excellent hooker in Duddy, with George—last year's hooker—playing extremely well in the second rank. Part of the pack's success is due to the capable leadership of Reid. The backs of the first fifteen are moderately good at both defence and attack, although the handling and passing is still rather weak. The first fifteen matches have been exciting; particularly the Old Boys' match and the Plymouth College match. We lost the former after a keen struggle, but next term we hope to nullify this result in the return match. The Plymouth College match was won by a fairly clear margin after an extremely exciting game. Eleven of the first fifteen played in the Plymouth Trials.

The Second Fifteen have a fairly strong pack of forwards but they should get the ball back more regularly. Rickard and Southern put a great deal of energy into the game. The three-quarters however are quite strong, and their backing-up is quite a merit to the School.

The Colt and Junior Fifteens have also been doing quite well. Outstanding amongst these are Allin, Dunn, Perkins, Selley and Reid, who have all been selected to play for South Devon.

It is to be hoped that the standard of Rugby in the School teams at present will be continued throughout the season. Support from the School would be useful in this respect.

The following is a record of the School matches :

Team.	Played.	Won.	Lost.	Drawn.	For	Agst.
1st XV.	10	9	1	0	229	54
2nd XV. ....	6	4	2	0	120	39
Colts XV.	6	3	3	0	50	47
Junior XV.	7	4	2	1	101	53

G. WATTLEY (*Hon. Secretary*).

## Cricket Club

*President* : THE HEADMASTER.

The School Cricket teams enjoyed a very successful season. The weather was exceedingly good, and very few matches had to be cancelled. The fixture list was a heavy one and enabled all teams to keep in constant practice, which is so necessary for success. A very great measure of the success was due to the hard work put in by the cricket master, Mr. Nash.

The home ground was Collings Park, which was used on three evenings a week and every Saturday afternoon. The same facilities have been granted for the season 1948. "Net practice" was a feature of the season. It should be borne in mind that no boy can hope to be successful at cricket without regular net and fielding practice. The Staff match was a great success, and nothing could have been more fitting than that the result should have ended in a draw. It would be more pleasing next season to have more boys watching the School home games. The support given to School teams was very poor.

Next season fixtures have been arranged for four teams, *viz.*, 1st XI, 2nd XI, Colts XI and Junior XI. Before the start of the season lists will be published asking for the names of boys who wish to have a trial for the teams. It is hoped that as many boys as possible will interest themselves in cricket, so that no talent can be possibly overlooked.

### COLOURS, 1947 :

Re-awards—1st XI. Full Colours—Quantick, Page.

Awards 1st XI Full Colours—Holliday, Way, Hyde, Hitchens.

Awards Half-Full Colours—Blundell, Wattleley, Parker, Hussey, Letcher.

Awards 2nd XI Colours—Lakeman, Moore, Pengeley, Ham.

1st XI. :

Played, 12 ; Won, 9 ; Lost, 2 ; Drawn, 1.

## BATTING.

	<i>Innings.</i>	<i>Not out.</i>	<i>Runs.</i>	<i>Average.</i>	<i>Best Innings</i>
Hussey	10	2	119	14.88	36 n.o.
Page	10	0	120	12	28
Hitchens	11	2	84	9.33	20 n.o.
Way	12	0	108	9	23
Wattley	12	0	101	8.4	46
Hyde	12	0	99	8.25	27

## BOWLING.

	<i>Overs.</i>	<i>Maidens.</i>	<i>Runs.</i>	<i>Wkts.</i>	<i>Aver.</i>	<i>Best Performance</i>
Blundell	66	19	119	29	4.1	7 wks. for 4 runs
Page	88.6	40	128	30	4.23	4 wks. for 5 runs
Way	13.5	3	30	7	4.28	2 wks. for 3 runs
Holliday	96	34	155	35	4.42	6 wks. for 10

Team : Quantick (captain), Holliday (vice-captain), Page (Hon. Secretary), Way, Hyde, Hitchens, Blundell, Wattley, Parker, Hussey and Letcher.

Also played : Lakeman, Moore and Reid. Scorer : Cotton.

2ND XI. : Played, 7 ; Won, 4 ; Lost, 1 ; Drawn, 2.

Team : Lakeman (captain), Moore, Pengelley, Ham, Peakall, Reid, Southern, Thompson, March, Downing, Brockshaw, Townsend, Coakley and Davies.

JUNIOR XI. : Played, 7 ; Won, 4 ; Lost, 3.

Team : Dewdney (captain), Atkins, Goldthorpe, Goswell, Selley, Pike, March, Quantick, Holloway, Watson, Bray, Quick, Walsh, Murston and Constock.

## Out of School Activities

### A.T.C. NOTES.

This term the strength of the Squadron is the lowest it has ever been as there are only a few boys of the required age whose time is not fully occupied with School work and activities.

The age for enrolment is fifteen, but a boy may be attached to a unit and attend parades before that age.

For those interested in the A.T.C. the best policy is either to join early and work for proficiency before the pressure of School Certificate becomes too great, or to find a period of about six months between School and Higher School Certificate, when the necessary work can be done. At present a small group is working steadily for Cadet First Class, and we aim to have some successes in the Proficiency Examinations next February and May.

We have room for all who are interested and want to prepare for service in the R.A.F., and recruits can be enrolled now.

O.C. No. 197 SQUADRON,

## CHESS CLUB.

The Club started its inter-schools matches with a defeat at Sutton High School. The team drew, four points each, but a match between the reserves decided the match in favour of Sutton.

The Club has lost a few members, but newcomers are coming along to take their place. These "junior" members are showing great promise, and Taylor and Lee of IIIA and IIIG respectively were included in the School team that met Sutton.

Our "Ladder Competition" is still in progress, and the top rungs are occupied by: Allin IVG, Honey 6Sc, Goldthorpe IVL, Lee IIIG, Blundell, Cotton 6Sc, and Taylor IIIA.

We have a match arranged with Plymouth College for October 31st, and a School v. Staff match is under consideration.

Our School's record at time of writing, October 21st: Played 7, won 3, drawn 3, lost 1.

We extend a cordial welcome to all boys from First form to Sixth who are interested in Chess. We assure them expert guidance from Mr. Berry, and a new member is always an extra contestant for our School team. We meet now in the Junior Dining Hall on Tuesdays, 4.10 p.m. So come along and join.

M. COTTON, 6Sc (*Secretary*).

## THE DRAMATIC SOCIETY.

*President*: The Headmaster.

Work has already begun on the full-length play to be produced next February. The bold and ambitious choice of play, Dorothy L. Sayer's "The Zeal of Thy House," and the high standard set by the successful productions of last February, will make the task of all hard, though within our reach.

The loss of many senior members of the Society, who have left for University or National Service, has been a heavy blow, and but for the junior members who have already gained experience, the casting difficulties would have been great.

We welcome our many new members to the Society, and hasten to assure them that the overcoming of difficulties experienced in rehearsals is well worth the reward of a successful production. The value of the large cast of the play is two-fold: it has made it possible for all old and new members to be accommodated; and the large proportion of younger members who will gain acting experience as a result will form the back-bone of future productions.

The responsibility of setting the Society on its feet again, after its war-time disbandment, rests not only on its members, but also on the rest of the school. It is hoped, therefore, that the School will support enthusiastically the efforts of the Society this coming February and in the future.

## SCOUT LOG.

Since the publication of the last Magazine, the Troop has had the misfortune to lose the services of Mr. Sparrow, the Scout Master. I take this opportunity of congratulating him on his promotion. Old boys will remember that it was Mr. Sparrow who restarted the School Troop in 1934. From that date until 1941 the Senior Scout Troop took a prominent part in Plymouth Scouting. On the return of the School to Plymouth he again restarted the Troop, and, although a very busy man, managed, with the help of a few efficient Patrol Leaders, to run a small band of enthusiastic Scouts. Mr. Sparrow will be very hard to replace, and at present the Patrol Leaders are running their patrols more or less as separate units.

The Troop at present consists of three Patrols, with ten Scouts in each. Nearly all members of the Troop have reached Second Class Standard and are pressing on into the First Class.

Early this term Patrol Leaders G. R. Wattleby and K. E. Renton took part in "Operation Spartan," a County Competition, and can be congratulated upon finishing fifth on the list. This shows the high standard of the Troop, as these Patrol Leaders have only been in the Troop since its re-formation in the Autumn of 1945.

S. P/L: D.H.S.

## DEBATING SOCIETY.

*President* : The Headmaster.

The first meeting of the Society was remarkably well-attended and numbers have been maintained.

At its second meeting, the Society defeated a motion, proposed by Downing (6 S.) and opposed by R. Morrell (6) that : "Nationalisation in a beneficial policy."

On Friday, 10th October, we had a Brains Trust, consisting of Mr. Evans, Mr. May, D. Pinches (6 A) and A. Honey (6 Sc). Our thanks are due to them all for a very interesting and often amusing meeting.

The Society also had a debate on the motion that "The B.B.C. should be commercialised," proposed by E. Widdicombe (U 6) and opposed by C. Ralph (U 6). The subject aroused much enthusiasm but few polished speeches and the silent numbers of Lower Sixth caused a defeat of the motion in a vote.

One of the high spots of the term has yet to come, namely, an inter-schools debate organised by Plympton Grammar School. This has now been held. An account will appear in our next issue.

We already have ambitious plans for next term. We hope the Society will still maintain the interest it now holds. We invite every member of the Sixth Form to join in the Society and to share its benefits.

## A.T.C. CAMP.

The camp visited this year by eight members of the School Squadron was that of the R.N.A.S. at St. Merryn. The camp lasted a week, and was very enjoyable.

The aerodrome, H.M.S. Vulture, was run in a traditional naval manner. There was a quarter-deck and liberty-boats took us ashore, that is, lorries took us to the camp where we slept, about one and a half miles from the station each evening. After the strangeness had worn off the camp life became interesting. There was plenty of good food and a well-equipped N.A.A.F.I. which sold good buns and cake.

In the evenings there were varied recreations. The cinema showed up-to-date films, or there was for the more energetic badminton, tennis or cricket. On the last evening a boxing tournament was held in which the cadets themselves took part. The camp being a Fleet Air Arm Station, flying was the chief interest. Most of the cadets had one trip in an Anson.

The planes on the station were Fireflies and Seafires, and we were shown over these, and an old Seafire was set alight and the fire promptly extinguished by the station fire-tender to demonstrate fire-fighting.

Some of us went sailing in a whaler in Padstow harbour, while others less lucky had to row in a cutter. Swimming was to be had at several good beaches near the camp. Other trips were to the R.A.F. camp at St. Eval, where we were shown over Lancasters, and visits to the .303 and .22 rifle ranges. At the camp with us were a hundred Sea Cadets from the London area.

All the Cadets who attended this camp can say that they had a thoroughly enjoyable week and gained some good experience of Service life.

## A.C.F. NOTES. "E" COY. 2ND BN. D.A.C.F.

This term we started again without the services of Mr. White and Under-Officer Andrews, the latter having been called up.

The Company has also lost C.Q.M.S. Cook, who has also been conscripted. Both Andrews and Cook have done well at Exeter, as each has been put forward for W.O.S.B. We wish them the very best of luck.

Among other successful ex-cadets from the Company, are Mackintosh and Adams, both of whom are doing well at the Royal Military Academy at Sandhurst.

During the summer holidays many of the Cadets attended a camp at Dorchester. The weather kept fine and all enjoyed themselves. Parents will be glad to know that no further Cadets were affected by the outbreak of infantile paralysis which came at the end of the second week.



By the time this article is printed, the Company will have had a field day on the Moors. For this we have obtained much help from headquarters. Although exercises have been held at Staddon during week-end camps, this is the first field day to be held in the battalion.

In correspondence which I have received from the aforementioned ex-Cadets, it has been stressed that a Cadet training makes an immense difference to the treatment of a conscript; and even more to the treatment of a boy who has passed his Certificate "A." If there are any boys in the School interested in the Army, then why not join the School Cadet Company? Remember you have to join one of the services, so if you are over fourteen come and join.

As usual we have had more successes during the holidays. C.S.M. John attended a course on armoured vehicles, while Honey and Pitts obtained their Certificate "T."

Five members of the Company competed in the inter-battalion sports. Four were successful, but only two of these were available for the Devon A.C.F. team, owing to rugby calls. Those successful were: Peakall, who won the junior 100 yards, 220 yards and discus; Honey, who won the mile, Hill who was second in the junior high jump, and myself gaining a second in the shot. Only Honey was able to compete for Devon.

R. GEORGE, U/O.

## SCIENCE SOCIETY.

*President:* The Headmaster.

The Society commenced its activities this term without the support of two members of the Staff whose work for the Society in the past has been invaluable. Mr. Harris, who revived the Society during the early days of our exile, remained its Chairman until his departure last term to take up a post as Headmaster. Mr. Sparrow was also keenly interested in the Society, and he, too, has been promoted to a Headmastership. We wish them success in their new work.

Our first lecture was by Mr. Peter Taylor, who will be remembered with affection by many as our former School captain. Mr. Taylor delivered a fascinating lecture on the problems that beset the oil-mining engineer. He also described the many forms of apparatus used, the type of terrain where oil is to be found, and the circumstances under which it is considered profitable to "work" the oil.

The next business of the Society was the annual meeting dealing with the election of the officers of the Club. The Society welcomes all members of the Science Staff as Vice-Presidents.

The Committee has considered several suggestions for future lectures, particularly in photography, radiography, radioactivity, and Biology. In addition, it is hoped to arrange visits to local factories and installations of scientific interest.

Meanwhile, Mr. Coombe delivered a repeat lecture on colour photography, by request of the Society. His lecture, dealing with Primary and Secondary colours, additive and subtractive processes, development of colour films, etc., was exceptionally precise and arresting, and fully enjoyed by all members.

The Lectures and visits of the Society, both past and present, are held with a view to fostering an interest in Scientific subjects which obviously cannot be dealt with in the School syllabus. Therefore, it is hoped that all boys in the Upper School who are interested in any branch of science, even if they are more concerned with the Arts, will come to the meetings of the Society; all of which are held in a cordial, informal atmosphere. N. LEY (*Secretary*).

## Muck Bath

or

WHEN SHALL WE THREE MEET AGAIN?

"The time has come," the red Bear said,  
 "To talk of many things;  
 Of oil and gold and atom bombs,  
 The Eagle's spreading wings."  
 The Eagle's nest is safely lined,  
 The atom bomb she wields,  
 She's gold with which she's loath to part,  
 And oil in Persian fields.  
 For in Iraq and Palestine,  
 The Lion slinks with stealth.  
 He says he's there to keep the peace,  
 But guards great Nature's wealth.  
 But though the Lion strives full hard  
 To foster Western power,  
 The Eagle's strong and pointed claws  
 Attempt to make him cower.  
 The Eagle then, her talons bares,  
 And soars o'er jealous Bruin.  
 He'll feed the rest of Europe though,  
 To save himself from ruin.

(With apologies to Lewis Carroll).

A. KING, Lower VI Arts.

## The Royal Visit to Plymouth

I was fortunate enough to be allowed to go to see, in company with other members of D.H.S., the King with the Queen mark the beginning of the rebuilding of Plymouth by naming the two main axis roads of the city—Royal Parade and Armada Way.

After being welcomed at the city boundary, their Majesties proceeded slowly towards the city centre, where they arrived on time at 3.25 p.m. Before this the Marine Guard of Honour, carrying the King's Colour, and the Marine Band in full dress uniform, with white-pipe clayed helmets, had arrived and taken up position. Upon the arrival of the Royal procession the band played the National Anthem, and the sailor who stood alone by the flagstaff during the whole ceremony completed his sole duty, that of "breaking" the Royal Standard. The King was then requested to inspect the guard of honour, which he did, being much impressed by their smartness; and the Lord Mayor presented the Bishops of Exeter and Plymouth, the City Surveyor, several other City officials, two workmen who had been engaged upon the construction of the new roads.

After the Royal Party, with the Mayor and Mayoress and other persons, had gone into the gaily bedecked royal stand, the Mayor, in a speech which came clearly over the loudspeakers, reminded his listeners of our gratitude for the two previous Royal visits in wartime, and spoke of how, even while Plymouth was still being bombed, a plan to rebuild the city on fine spacious lines was being conceived. He was very proud that Plymouth was the first city to have the beginning of its rebirth marked by a Royal visit, and also that it was indeed alone with Coventry in having started the building of its permanent centre. He requested His Majesty to unveil the foundation stone and name the two roads. The King replied, complimenting the citizens on their courage during the raids, and said the Queen and he remembered with pleasure their two previous visits.

After dedicatory prayers led by the Bishop of Exeter, the King walked over to the flagstaff and pulled a rope allowing the cloth previously veiling the base to fall aside and exposing to view the replica of Drake's Drum, and the names "Royal Parade" and "Armada Way" set in Cornish granite at its foot. The King saluted and returned to the stand, where he was presented with a silver replica of Drake's Statue, the Queen receiving a bouquet from the Lady Mayoress.

The Royal entourage then left the scene of the ceremony amidst cheers from the crowd, and after going along King Street and back along Union Street to the Art Gallery they inspected models and illustrations of the city's rebuilding. After presentations their Majesties had tea with Vicount and Viscountess Astor, and entrained at Devonport G.W.R. Station.

A. WALES, 6A.

## “The Weapon”

It was nine o'clock on a chilly, quiet, autumn evening, and I was one of the few passengers on the Tavistock-Plymouth 'bus. I found it almost impossible to believe that the vehicle was moving at all, for the windows seemed to be covered with black velvet; I saw only the light of an occasional cottage as we flashed past, and the noise of the engine seemed all the more raucous on such an almost uncannily quiet evening. Suddenly the 'bus jerked to a standstill. "Yelverton," announced the conductor. "Nobody took the slightest notice of him, and only one person entered the 'bus; to stop seemed almost a waste of time."

There were plenty of vacant seats, but the new passenger took an inside berth beside me. He was a wizened little man, wearing a large black hat, and an overcoat of the same sombre hue. As the feeble light fell upon his face, I saw how white it was, and noticed his leaden, sunken eyes. A small brown paper parcel rested in his lap. It was during the last cursory glance that he returned my idly curious gaze, and spoke.

"I see you're looking at my little parcel," he said in a pathetically thin, shaky voice; that of a frail old man. "You may well do that," he continued, without allowing me time to make a polite reply. "It is of great importance."

"Oh," I replied, in a singularly uninspiring tone; conversations with old people invariably bring forth strings of infuriating reminiscences. However, he was not to be deterred.

"You may never see anything to rival the contents of this small package in power and importance." This statement was in a more subdued tone, as though he feared to be overheard.

I was unable to think of another reply, so I again resorted to the faithful "Oh?" Only, this time, more colourfully.

"It contains an immensely powerful weapon." The last few words were almost inaudible, so softly were they uttered. His dull eyes had suddenly brightened; he gave me a strange look, the like of which I had never seen before, and a cold shiver ran down my spine.

"Pull yourself together, you fool," I told myself, "it is only a harmless little crank."

He smiled, and his face grew more noticeably furrowed; a few blackened teeth were revealed, and the expression of cheer succeeded only in lowering my spirits. "This tiny weapon is capable of exerting more power over the world than any instrument of war yet discovered."

Terrifying thoughts of "improved" atomic bombs, and of all sorts of bacteriological plagues flashed through my mind; but such

conceptions were ridiculous, as the parcel was little larger than my clenched fist. That was the most convenient comparison ; my hands were sore where the fingernails dug into them, and my knuckles showed white. The parcel, becoming more sinister every fleeting second, as the 'bus rushed through the black night, was less than a foot away from me.

" Nobody can tell when it will begin its great work—not even its Inventor," the little man murmured, almost to himself. I began to wonder what it felt like to be in small pieces. He moved, and it fell from his lap to the floor. I shuddered, fearing lest the 'bus, and its contents, should be blown sky-high.

" For heaven's sake, be careful man ! " I cried.

His only reply was that same broken smile ; he, like his parcel, was becoming more gruesome every moment.

Then increasing curiosity began to outweigh my fears, and I began to wonder what the package contained. Would it be of glistening blue steel ? Would it be a glass phial, containing seething millions of bacteria ? Or, perhaps, it would be composed of some glinting, phosphorescent material. Several possibilities occurred to me, increasing my desire to snatch the parcel from his feeble old grasp, and tear it open ; perhaps I would be the second person ever to behold it. My longing knew no bounds.

I was aroused from my reverie by a sudden lurch of the 'bus ; with a squeal of brakes, it drew up at Crownhill. My companion rose quickly, as though he were in a great hurry.

" I must leave you here," he said, and hurriedly dismounted from the vehicle ; I looked in vain to see him walk away, and wondered where he had gone. Giving up this hopeless inquiry, I settled down to complete the journey. As I was moving across the seat I noticed something lying on the seat beside me. It was the parcel. Stunned, I sat there staring at it ; then, realizing that my curiosity could now be satisfied I snatched it up and tore at the string which bound it. That first obstacle removed, I then began to unwrap the brown paper. Beneath this there was cotton wool ; I felt this to be the last covering, so that I was about to see the most powerful weapon upon the earth, I reverently laid aside the last coverings, and there it was, before my wondering eyes.

It was a small, roughly-carved Cross.

D. HAMLEY, L VI. A.

#### CORRECTION.

We are glad to correct an error in our last issue. It was not McKenzie of Gilbert who won the Junior Championship Cup at the Athletic Sports, but Kelly of Grenville.

## “The Moon is Down”

This story written by America's John Steinbeck is a simple account of life under the German conqueror, one concerning the every ordinary individual whose routine has been suddenly interrupted in an alarming way, and who has to confront new difficulties with which he is not sure how to cope. This story is no “thriller” in the modern sense, it is not of the exciting Hollywood brand, for its value rests not in glorified action, but in the description of the ordinary person's reactions.

The plot is centred about a certain town in a certain unspecified country of Occupied Europe. This is a clever move on the part of the author, for then the reactions of the subjected people are not just those of Belgium or Holland for instance, but are those of all peoples who find their town or country over-run by the enemy. Thus the scope of the book is widened for it is of universal application and interest. We have also but little description of the town itself, except that it is a mining centre, and Steinbeck has succeeded in isolating it from the rest of Europe by very little reference to external events or the course of the war; thus it can be said to have an entity all its own. The fact, too, that its streets and roofs become coated with snow in winter is a neat touch as the harsh, frigid weather is symbolical of the inhabitants' hatred for their conqueror.

The main characters in this novel are important, not so much because of themselves, but because they are representative of their people as a whole. Thus Mayor Arden reflects the gradual development of the citizens' attitude to the Germans. At first he is confused and uncertain of his line of approach to the foe, in his first meeting with the German Colonel and staff he is more concerned with his hair than anything else, then he becomes cold and aloof to them, and finally actively hostile. In the German staff we meet three totally different military types, with totally different ideas and conceptions. In them are personified the many qualities and desires of the German race. Colonel Lanser is an old experienced soldier of the First World War, and is completely free from any rosy illusions concerning the future of Germany and her “Empire.” No one sees more clearly than he that such an occupation cannot be prolonged for any length of time; there will be revolts and reprisals, more revolts and still more reprisals, ending eventually in the complete overthrow of his country. Captain Loft, he is a typical German brought up on the strictest military lines, and thriving on his belief in Leader and love of discipline. Lastly, we have Lieutenant Prackle, a young lad to whom war meant a great adventure and a chance to wear a fine uniform and to swagger the streets of Europe.

Thus as a drama it is excellent and portrays accurately the feelings of both conquered and conquering. Steinbeck has shown us why Hitler and the Nazis failed to conquer the world and to establish a military empire, for all empires founded on force alone are bound to crumble away. Man cannot be suppressed indefinitely, and sooner or later he will rise against the foe and never is truer than the following words of Mayor Arden : " The people don't like to be conquered, sir, and so they will not be. Free men cannot start a war, but once it is started, they can fight on in defeat. Herd men, followers of a leader, cannot do that, and so it is always the herd men who win battles and the free men who win wars."

N. DAVIES; 6 A.

## The Dream

I was on a ship, one which was ancient, for I perceived its one and only yellow sail, upon which was embroidered a large, red dragon. The air was tense and still, a white mist enveloped me ; when suddenly, from out of this shrouded white blanket came several sweet notes, as if they were being played upon a harp : this was a stranger, sweeter melody than any harp could have produced ; I tried to decide who had composed this melody—Handel, Schubert or Bach ? How strange and attractive the music seemed.

An intense longing overcame my whole being. How I wanted to get there, whence came those sweet, melodious tones. Suddenly, and without warning, a brilliant sun shone out, revealing a crystal-clear sea. Ah, there before my eyes stood the source of the music ; upon a sharp, black rock sat three beautiful maidens, whose golden hair sparkled in the sunlight ; a throbbing filled my head ; the sea sighed ; the wind moaned ; all became deathly still and silent except that the six long fingers strummed their music upon their lyres.

Suddenly, the truth dawned upon me, the Siren Straits ! I attempted to resist, I tried to lay my hands upon that still tiller, but I remained rooted to the deck ! A fearful shudder ran through the ship. I was sinking fast. Terror possessed me. How I struggled ; but in vain. Beads of perspiration stood out prominently upon my forehead, my whole brain seemed to swell, trying to burst open my forehead, and always that sinking feeling within me, and still that music.

I awoke with a start, the morning sun was streaming through the open window, a book had fallen from my bed. I bent down, picked it up, but I had no need to read the title—"Ulysses."

MILDREN, L VI, Arts.

## FIRST IMPRESSIONS OF A FLIGHT IN AN AEROPLANE

My friend and I arrived on the aerodrome and reported at the guardroom, where we had to sign our names in the visitors' book. We met the pilot in the waiting room, and after joining company with two other men we all proceeded to the main hangar, where the De Havilland Dominie was already being refuelled. After a few preliminary tests the pilot taxied the twin-engine biplane on to the perimeter track, and we entered the aircraft by a door behind the wings on the port side.

When we were all seated inside, a mechanic shut the door. There was a sudden roar as the pilot opened the throttles and the plane began to move slowly forward along the perimeter. We fixed our safety belts and made sure that our parachute harness was all right. I shouted to my friend but he could not hear me above the roar of the engines. We were all seated by windows, so that we had a fairly good view all round.

I was beginning to shake a little and tried to stop it, but I think it was more with excitement than with fear. We reached the end of the perimeter-track, and the pilot swung the plane round on to the main runway. There was a slight hiss as the brakes were applied. Gradually the pilot opened the throttles again to see if both engines were all right, and apparently they were. The throttles were cut again and the brakes were released, the engines then roared into life as the pilot opened the throttles once more, but this time the plane moved forward faster and faster. I looked out of the window and saw the grass and tarmac and huts go speeding by as we bounced across the runway. Suddenly this bouncing ceased, and I noticed that the runway seemed to be dropping away from under us, and that I had a peculiar sinking feeling in my stomach; we were airborne for the first time.

We climbed gradually, and this sinking feeling soon disappeared as the plane flew level; I looked across to my friend and he was beaming all over his face, but I still could not hear his voice above the roar of the engines. Suddenly I felt my stomach come up and hit me under the chin, or at least that is what it felt like. The pilot told us that we had flown into an airpocket. We flew into several of these during the flight, and I was somewhat frightened at first because the wings were flapping a bit at the tips. I was looking out of the window at the ground, and then suddenly everything was coated with white, and I could not see the ground. I thought that this was cloud, and this idea was soon confirmed as we came out into bright sunlight, and stretched all around as far as the horizon was a fairly smooth layer of white billowy clouds which looked something like a layer of cotton wool or soap suds.



The pilot then told us that we were going to land, and he brought the biplane through the clouds until we could see the earth again. We circled the aerodrome, gradually losing height as the pilot brought the plane on to the runway; he cut the engines slightly and we glided in to land with only two bounces. We climbed out of the plane, thanked the pilot and started home none the worse for our expedition above the clouds.

R. G. COLLINGS, L. 6 SC.

## Lady Astor Visits D.H.S.

On October 24th we were honoured with a visit from Viscountess Astor, who came to present to Alan Wales of 6A one of the Astor Essay Prizes. She was accompanied by Alderman Oke, the Chairman of Plymouth Education Committee.

The Headmaster, in a gracious speech, welcomed her Ladyship with a pleasure that few guests could arouse. He regarded her as a friend of the weak and oppressed, and especially as the friend of the young. He would ask her to speak to the School, knowing that what she said would be of value to every boy.

Her Ladyship thanked the Headmaster for his kind remarks, and said how glad she was to come to such a fine school as ours. She urged the boys to live good clean lives, strong in their belief in Our Lord, for the evil that existed in the world today was brought about by man's desertion of spiritual ideals for more temporal things. Hitler, who had usurped God's prerogative, had led Europe to war; Washington, a devout Christian of impeccable ideals, had established his country firmly on sound foundations of liberty.

She stressed that we could not fall into the trap that had caught the Germans because we tolerated our statesmen only as long as they supported our ideals; and we had a tradition and a national heritage to be proud of. In America she had repudiated the suggestion that we were down and out, and had as an example of British courage told of the heroism of a Plymouth lad during the Blitz. She begged us to live up to the great reputation that had in the past been built up by our people.

Wales was then presented with a copy of "The Oxford Book of English Verse," and Alderman Oke thanked Lady Astor for her kindness in so willingly giving of her time to travel to the various schools to present these prizes. Only after long and careful deliberation had this prize been awarded to Wales.

The School Captain proposed a vote of thanks to our visitors, which was accorded with three hearty cheers. It was a memorable occasion. Every boy must have benefitted from Lady Astor's inspiring advice.

## Village Rumour

In the centre of a deep hollow in a range of hummocky hills was the village of Muckle. In its centre stood the church and school, while around the corner, emblazoned in shining new paint, was the local inn named "The Barley Sheaf."

Along the main road, battling against the high winds came the new Headmaster, having gained this promotion on leaving a council school in London, where he had been working with a score of other masters. All thoughts were of London, and how glad he already was to be away from the city and the foolish talk of how he would quickly regret working in a village, where he would eventually become chief organiser, adviser, and agent in all disputes.

"Nothing better than a pipe of tobacco," thought Mr. Marter at this stage, and quickly dodging into the first doorway, struck a match and was soon puffing away and enjoying his first smoke since the start of his journey six hours earlier.

At that moment, old Mrs. Cherry, toothless and bent with rheumatism, took her daily position behind the curtains of her sitting room, which was facing "The Barley Sheaf," and seeing a stranger emerge from that doorway, at once thought "That must be the new headmaster, and he a drinker!"

In less than five minutes, in some mysterious way, the rumour was around that Mr. Marter was a bit of a drunkard, for when Mrs. Appleyard repeated the rumour to Miss Berry, it was that Mr. Marter had been seen reeling along the road, so when Mr. Snow had it from Miss Berry, he aptly related the news to old Mrs. Gubbins, who promptly told the remaining village wags, there was much pondering as to the fitness of the man for this position.

Such was poor Mr. Marter's initiation to the village, and when stopping to read almost indecipherable lines on a gravestone which was level with the hedge, he heard someone say, "The new head teacher, what a pity he is—" and thinking the inaudible end of the whisper related to his bachelorhood, thought no more about it.

Only a week had passed, but the landlady at his lodgings and all the village knew that each evening had found him walking the surrounding country roads, so, with three marriageable-aged daughters of her own, and each having voiced her regrets that Mr. Marter had failed to ask her company on these walks, suppressed anger caused her voice to become louder and louder. With arms akimbo and a fixed stare, her appearance was formidable.

Selina, the brunette and eldest had never yet walked out with a young man, while Tapitha the blonde was writing to a naval acquaintance with little hope of its ever passing the platonic stage. Even Rosie, the youngest, her little red head full of wit and humour, had failed to charm.

Old Mrs. Cherry had again seen Mr. Marter in the vicinity of "The Barley Sheaf" and talking earnestly to the landlord, so immediately came to the conclusion that he had just left its precincts. Thus the rumour continued to be enlarged that each walk ended at "the local."

Poor Mr. Marter was given to understand that this was the first time she had slipped from her determination to board only total abstainers, and so in all fairness would he please accept a week's notice.

Mr. Marter enjoyed a hearty chuckle and assured the good lady to have no fears, and then ventured to ask how and why she should have any doubts after his being recommended to the house by the Vicar. When the story was unfolded of how the families of Gubbins, Berry, Snow and Appleyard had heard from Mrs. Cherry that he had emerged from "The Barley Sheaf," he realized how the simple lighting of his cherished briar pipe in the doorway of the inn had first caused such rumours, and thought of his life and actions in London, where every person lived an active life, with no time for such pettiness.

The landlady quickly altered her attitude when Mr. Marter asked if Miss Rosie could accompany him on his next walk, for as Mr. A. G. Street had explained in a broadcast too many townfolk took it for granted that any private farm land could be traversed as short cuts, and as he had no wish to infringe the law, Miss Rosie would undoubtedly be able to show him all the by-paths.

## Reading for Pleasure

How pleasant it is, especially now that the winter evenings draw in, to pick up a book and by reading for an hour forget the weather and even the economic crisis. This reading need not, and indeed should not, if we can boast of any real taste at all, be of a low, thrilling, objective kind.

Reading should be partly self-entertainment; getting something from the author rather than just receiving something.

Like many other amusements, particularly listening to good music, reading is not necessarily a question of liking and disliking the author's theme or plot, but a question of appreciating the various merits of the work taking it piecemeal. Thus we consider the plot or theme of a book, and then perhaps the author's style, adaptation of facts, form of writing and choice of words. As we read we should be able to appreciate the author's devices in his unravelling of the plot or argument and the summing of a series of ideas in single epigrammatic phrase. These are surely marks of a good author.

By reading in this way we improve our critical faculty and widen our knowledge of the world as well as broaden our outlook, for there is no better way of learning the opinions and ideas of others than in a book.

Reading can also be likened to good music in that it is often an acquired taste, that is the more one reads the more one appreciates what is read.

Earlier I said that reading should not be merely low-brow and thrilling. The operative word here is low-brow—for many of our most thrilling novels are accepted as being good, and I refer to the standard of writing where everything is worked out for the reader without any element of originality or probability.

As for objective, a book can give the reader something to think out or to think about and still be a pleasure to read ; it need not be necessarily just a veneer of sentimentality and mystery that satisfies an aroused curiosity, but rather something solid and worthwhile.

P. REID, 6A.

## Europus Avoids the Rubicon

The paradox of the modern world is that the earth is at one and the same time both full and empty, full of material riches and yet lacking in culture and spiritual faith. In this unbalanced situation stood Europus, once a proud, rich donkey, now a miserable and forlorn sight, for it had chanced that Europus had been engaged in war with a gigantic and ferocious eagle who had a maniacal lust for conquest and savagery, called Germania. The causes of this struggle were many and extremely complex, but very briefly the direct and superficial cause was Germania's covetousness of the rich and fertile fields which belonged to Europus. The battle had been long and arduous, but finally after she had exerted herself almost to breaking-point Europus, the donkey, defeated the bestial eagle, Germania, who though sorely bruised was not dead.

Europus was indeed a particularly complex animal, the perverseness and instability of her character had nurtured strong and often violent passions within her. She was never too sure of herself, her principles, morals or ideas, which was a heavy liability in this phase of her existence. The once rich and fruitful fields which were her life-blood were now desolate and profaned. Another constant source of anxiety and worry were her children. These impetuous off-spring were unruly, scatter-brained and quarrelsome mules, and they only added to Europus's distress. During the late war they had grown selfish, pessimistic, vulgar and unruly. They despised authority, the majority of them laughed at religion through sheer ignorance, and they were cynical towards their fellow mules.

At this juncture Europus was forced to make a painful decision. She realized that if she and her kin were to survive then they must seek other sources of aid, for their own fields needed replenishing and Europus possessed no available currency. The two most powerful and useful currencies were dollari and sterli respectively, although the latter was rapidly loosing its power since one of Europus' mules called Englandia had used most of it to fight Germania, so Europus was forced to turn towards dollari; but here the problem arose.

Dollari were owned by the rich Amerigo (a succulent carrot to lure any donkey), who was selfish, mean, often childish and vulgar, and who lacked general decorum. Amerigo had the wealth, but Europus had no dollari, whereupon Trumano and Marshalli, Amerigo's advisers agreed to lend Europus some dollari, but there were naturally several hidden motives. First, Amerigo was worried about a great fuzzy bear called Russo, who lived far to the East, but who had of late shown more than a passing interest towards several of Europus's mules who also dwelt in the east. So Amerigo who wished to control Europus completely was faced with an equally unscrupulous rival, the latter had already sent a band of his children called Communisti to stir up the discontented children of Europus.

At this point Europus will certainly borrow dollari from Amerigo but she is in danger of becoming a mere vassal to the rich benefactor. Again she does not want to marry the soulless Russo for all her mules will then lose their souls and become mere asses. Here I humbly venture to suggest that Europus adopts the skill of one of her ancestors, who was called Machiavelli, and to use one of Amerigo's colloquialisms, "play ball" with both Amerigo and Russo. Thus she can steer a middle course which will be dangerous at first, but later Europus will remember with pride how she successfully baited the rich Amerigo and avoided the bleak prospect of marrying Russo the grizzly bear.

C. NEWBY, L.VI. Arts.



## D.H.S. Old Boys' Association.

*President* : The Headmaster, W. H. Buckley, Esq., B.A., B.Sc.

*Vice-Presidents* : Sir Clifford Tozer, J.P. Sir William Gick, C.B., C.B.E.

H. A. T. Simmonds, Esq., M.A.

*Chairman* : B. C. J. Rickard, Esq., M.B.E.

*General Secretary* : H. Ferraro, Esq., B.Sc.

*Treasurer* : E. W. R. Warn, Esq., B.Sc., 114, Fort Austin Avenue,  
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*Committee Secretary* : Cyril E. Gill, Esq., F.C.S.,  
14, Haddington Road, Stoke, Devonport.

*Chairman of London Branch* : A. T. Brooks, Esq.,

*London Secretary* : A. J. Swan, Esq.,  
454, Upper Richmond Road, S.W.15.

Mr. H. Ferraro, the Senior Master, and for many years the General Secretary of the O.B.A. retired from the School at the end of the Summer Term. Old Boys from all parts of the world have written saying how much they owe to "Harry" and wishing him good health and happiness in his well deserved leisure. An "H. Ferraro, Esq., Testimonial Fund" has been opened and generously responded to, and a presentation was made to Mr. Ferraro at the Annual Dinner, an account of which will appear in the next issue of the magazine.

A new club has been formed within the O.B.R.F.C. ; it is the Badminton Club which meets every Thursday at the School, and is open to former pupils and their wives. Every Old Boy in the Plymouth district should support the R.F.C., and the Badminton Club as these provide excellent meeting places for all old D.H.Sians and on their success depends the initiation of further ventures. Reports on the two clubs mentioned appear at the end of these notes.

The usual cricket fixture between the O.B.A. and the School was played at Collings Park on July 24th (Thursday), and after a close struggle the O.B.s won by 70 runs to 51 runs.

Next season the game will be played on Thursday, July 22nd, 1948.

In the first of its two fixtures the Rugger Club has defeated the School this term by 17 points to 11. It is the School's only defeat to date, and they performed very well indeed. The next fixture on 17th January should be well worth seeing.

The London Branch is active again and their Secretary's (Mr. A. J. Swan) report appears in the Magazine. It is impressed on all those leaving School and going to London that the branch there will welcome them and will help them to settle down in their new environment.

The Old Boys' register is being revised, and a full list of changes of addresses will be published in the next issue.

News and letters have been received from the following Old D.H.Sians.

G. G. Gallagher is on loan from the Patent Office to the Ministry of Supply and is on the staff of the Director of Aircraft Research and Development. He has heard from Lt.-Col. F. G. L. Lillycrap, R.E., who is stationed in the Nile Delta, and whose address is E.M.E. Directorate, G.H.Q., M.E.L.F.

E. R. Harris has left the staff of the School to become Headmaster of the Junior Technical Secondary School. Best wishes.

J. T. D. Wood is training as a Civil Engineer and is taking his A.M.I.Struct.E.

Bert Mantle, a boy at the School in 1896, whose father had the late A. J. Rider as his churchwarden, and who played cricket for Devonport Albion, has written from Saskatoon.

Norman Hughes, another senior Old Boy, has written to us from Salisbury, South Rhodesia, enclosing some interesting stamps for the School Stamp Club. He has been in South Africa many years and thoroughly recommends the life there.

J. Tremeeer is still in H.M. Forces in India.

Lt.-Col. F. Paltridge, D.S.O., has gone abroad again and is now Senior Engineer, P. and T. Dept., Gold Coast.

F. E. Johnson, after his wartime minesweeping, is now teaching once more in Reading.

N. J. Down writes from Mauripur, India, where he is in the R.A.F. He hopes to be home early in 1948 but is looking forward to the seasonal rugger tour in Calcutta, where Frank Bowen is stationed.

R. Maybourn wishes to emphasise his sea-going address to his friends. It is "Second Officer" S.S. British Commodore, British Tanker Co., Ltd., Britannic House, Finsbury Circus, London, E.C.2. He will be probably trading in Eastern waters until March, 1948.

Rev. A. Matthews, M.A., Vicar of Pinhoe, Exeter, enquires for news of D.H.Sians of his years at School:

F/O. J. Ralph is with the R.A.F. in the Middle East.

W. P. Bowden is playing rugger with the Woodford R.F.C. again and will welcome Old D.H.Sians in London without a club.

R. E. Mackintosh visited the School from the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, where he plays rugby for his "College" XV.

George Rook is actively engaged refereeing in local junior rugby, and was in charge of one of the School games this year.

T. E. Irish is playing for the Albion again after experiencing knee trouble. His brother W. T. Irish is going to the West Indies to an important post as a Barclay's representative.

Lt.-Com. (S) C. E. Smith, R.N., writes reminding us, as Mr. Ferraro retires, of the old days with the "Corps" and brings back memories of "Harry" and the late Mr. George Davis on those Wednesdays at Montpelier when the Corps trained.

Lieut. (S) J. L. Parford, R.N., visited the School, home from duty in Malta.

A. J. Legg has recovered from his recent illness and has returned to the Ministry of Supply. He is now a Senior Executive Officer.

Lieut. (E) F. T. Healy, R.N., is engaged on the Haifa patrol preventing illegal entry into Palestine. His wife and son are in Malta.

N. E. Chaff has now left the R.N.V.R. and has been appointed Cashier at the R.N. Yard, Trincomalee, Ceylon.

E. G. "Curly" Williams is home from the East, where he has spent years with the Cable and Wireless Co. Ill-health has been the cause of his return home, but he is reported to be making satisfactory progress.

Rev. J. E. C. Adams is now Vicar of West Malvern in Worcestershire.

Lt. F. Sutton, R.E., is with G.H.Q., M.E.L.F., and regrets his departure from Cairo to the sandy desert.

Lt.-Com. (S) W. A. C. Collings, R.N., is serving on H.M.S. "Bulawayo."

Com. (S) L. Budge is in H.M.S. Norfolk, and with him is the son of Com. (S) Eric Brockman, R.N.

D. F. Phillips is back from India and is now living in Scotland.

Lt.-Col. J. R. Waters is serving in Germany.

T. Hamilton has left the R.A.F. to take up teaching, and has just completed the Emergency Training Course.

K. G. Treweek and D. J. Cliffe are both on H.M.S. "Triumph."

Sir William Gick, C.B., C.B.E., has retired from Director of Naval Stores and is living in London.

Charles de Gruchy is in the Naval Store Dept. at Singapore.

Col. T. Treays is the C.E. at H.Q. Northern Command, Yorks.

Congratulations to Edwin J. and Mrs. Cox, who are now living at Risley, Lancs., on the birth of a son on 2nd October, 1947.

T. G. Orchard has moved to Hinchley, Leicestershire, from Plymouth.

D. P. Jones has left Dagenham County High School for the post of organiser of P.T. at South East Essex Technical College.

## LONDON BRANCH.

*Chairman* : A. T. Brooks, Esq.

*Secretary* : A. J. Swan, 454, Upper Richmond Road, London, S.W.15 (Prospect 5963).

*Treasurer* : L. S. Mills, Esq., 38, Anglesey Gardens, Carshalton Beeches, Surrey.

*Committee* : The above with A. J. Joint, Esq., and C. C. Mill, Esq.

The first post-war A.G.M. was held in January, 1947, when the above officers were appointed and the Committee was instructed



to arrange, if possible, two social gatherings before the following Christmas, and a London Dinner to coincide with the Autumn Half-Term. Owing to the fact that the Secretary and Treasurer have been overwhelmed with work, months elapsed before they could devote any time to O.B.A. affairs, and it was then found difficult, if not impossible, to obtain accommodation in Central London for a dinner or a social. It was clear that arrangements could not be made for a dinner this year. Every endeavour is being made to find a hall or large room with the necessary accessories in the shape of food and music, and the more convenient suburbs are now being explored. We hope to be able to arrange a London Dinner for the Spring Half-Term, and we look forward to meeting, at this event, many of our friends from Plymouth.

The London Committee would be glad to hear from any London Old Boy willing to accept the post of Social Secretary to the London Branch.

The Secretary will be pleased if Old Boys coming to London will advise him of their full names and addresses; and, please, notify any change of address.

The London Branch year ends on 31st December. Subscriptions for 1948 (5/-) should be sent direct to the Treasurer.

We take this opportunity of recording our deep appreciation of the kindness and help consistently and willingly given to the London Branch by Mr. H. Ferraro. That the London Branch was alive and very active before the war was very largely due to his enthusiastic support. That it is still alive is certainly due to the help he gave Mills through all the war years. When it is fairly active again it will still have, as one of its foundation stones, the loyal and unselfish work he did on its behalf in its very early days. Our deep gratitude goes to him—he will always be a welcome visitor to London Branch functions, and we look forward to seeing much of him in the future.

#### DEVONPORT HIGH SCHOOL OLD BOYS' R.F.C.

*President*: The Headmaster.

*Vice-Presidents*: H. Ferraro, Esq., B.Sc., C. F. Austin, Esq., M.A.,

H. A. T. Simmonds, Esq., M.A., H. G. H. Warwick, Esq.

*Chairman*: L. H. T. Warren, Esq.

*Vice-Chairman*: E. W. R. Warn, Esq., B.Sc.

*Captain*: G. R. Polkinghorne, Esq.

*Vice-Captain and Hon. Secretary*: A. F. Wingett, 8, West Hoe Terrace, Plymouth (Telephone: Plymouth 60472).

*Hon. Treasurer*: H. G. Rogers, 42, Ruskin Crescent, Crownhill.

*Hon. Asst. Secretary*: F. Squire, 47, Wombwell Crescent, Keyham.

In planning for our second revival season after the war we were very doubtful as to which players would be available, but

optimistically we hoped for the best and arranged a good fixture list. Our old players rallied around, with some new ones, and a useful team has been organised, which is having so far quite a successful season.

To date our record is : Played 11, Won 7, Drawn 3, Lost 1 ; Points for 140, points against 86. This is quite reasonable, although points against show a weakness in defence in the early games of the season which we hope has been remedied.

We welcome back to the regular side, old pre-war players in Cooper, Whittaker and Robins, in addition to last year's stalwarts. Newcomers have been Ball, Bartlett (playing well again after having sustained severe injuries and being a P.O.W. during the war), and Pearce. Casual players whilst on leave have been Tozer, Ellis, Walford, Salford and Bond.

We are sharing a pitch with Plymouth Arguam at Roborough, with changing accommodation at the George Hotel. Both pitch and dressing room are a little rugged at the moment, but are steadily improving. Our registered colour (green, black and white) shirts are still awaited and should arrive at any time—in the meantime we play in black and white rings.

There is a good programme arranged for Xmas and it is hoped that we shall have the services of senior club players on leave in Plymouth in our games against Kingsbridge, Albion United, Kingswear and Buckfastleigh during that period. The Exiles versus Plymouth Old Boys will be played on Easter Monday.

Social activities include the formation of a Badminton Club, Xmas Draw, a Dance to be fixed for the new year, and a Club Dinner to be held at Easter. It is hoped to circulate shortly another News Letter to all members of the Club.

#### D.H.S. OLD BOYS' R.F.C. BADMINTON CLUB.

*Hon. Secretary* : G. Rooke, 25, Ford Hill, Stoke, Plymouth.

*Sub-Committee* : L. H. Warren and E. J. Brimacombe.

An innovation this year was the formation of a Badminton Club as an auxiliary of the Rugby Club.

We have the use of the Main Hall of the School every Thursday evening from 6.30 to 10 p.m., the season going on to mid-April, and we welcome any Old Boy who cares to come along for a game—we even provide racquets if required.

Many pleasant hours have been spent on Thursday evenings in the company of Packer, Pester, Brenton, Warren, Vere and others. Some wives have come along and between games knit and "natter" along the side-lines. The Rugby Secretary has his eagle eyes on them with a view to occupying their time in repairing the Club shirts.



THE VALLETORT PRESS  
STONEHOUSE, PLYMOUTH

The School is presenting "Zeal of Thy House" by Dorothy Sayers at the Globe Theatre on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, February 5th, 6th and 7th. Tickets 3/- reserved, 2/- unreserved from Mr. Warn, 114, Fort Austin Ave., Crownhill (Plymouth 72271) or the School.