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# The Devonport High School Magazine.

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DECEMBER, 1946

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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.

Recently, Mr. Attlee, on behalf of the Government, has made the announcement that it is the Government's policy to conscript all young men for 18 months' service in the Forces between the ages of 18 and 23, and after this they are to serve five years in the reserve. This is a very important step, and one that must be viewed with great seriousness by all students and other young men. During the war, conscription was suffered only in so far as it was seen to be an absolute necessity, but now that the world is at peace, everyone should decide for himself whether conscription is really necessary and inevitable. Conscription will come to every boy in this school, and, in the whole country, will affect over 300,000 young men each year. A proposal which has such wide and widespread ramifications must not be accepted with the same complacency as it was during the war. The youth of this Country must be persuaded of the true value and necessity of a measure which not only is a serious infringement of the liberty of the individual, but is liable to have severe repercussions on national industry and life, and on the international situation.

The dangers arising from wholesale conscription are so widespread that it would be as well to deal with these first. That the Government should have the power compulsorily to take a young man away from his studies or apprenticeship and direct him to serve for 18 months in one of the Forces, is a direct and ominous infringement of the liberty of the individual. The last five years of national emergency have instilled into the masses an idea of the omnipotence and supreme authority of the State. Recently, however, there has arisen a more widespread realisation of the intrinsic value of the human being. This belief in individual liberty has been

fully substantiated by the abuse of power in those totalitarian States, where the State was reckoned as being supreme—Nazi Germany, Fascist Italy, and Bolshevik Russia. Therefore, all restrictions on the just liberty of the individual should be regarded with the greatest possible suspicion. In spite of this, the current trend in international politics seems to be a revulsion to this totalitarian conception of the State. This is an unfortunate but natural corollary to the contemporary political situation in which practical planning for the next minute has superseded planning on ideological principles for the distant future. Our present period is one of confusion and disintegration. It is a period of a loss of communion between classes and peoples, of a breakdown in stable behaviour, of a growing emphasis on the accidental and trivial, in short, as Toynbee calls it, "a schism of the soul", in which there has been a disruption of the overall patterns of meaning. The drama of four centuries has been played out, and a new drama has to be put in its place. Therefore, in this present condition of man, for which there seems no immediate hope of any spiritual revival, statesmen have been "forced" to legislate on purely material lines. Conscription may be opposed to abstract ideological conceptions of politics, but rightly or wrongly, contemporary politicians, of necessity, can have no room for such ideologies.

The Government has announced its intention of permitting the deferment of university students and apprentices until they have finished their course of study or apprenticeship. This is sensible and fair, because a total gap of 18 months in any course is bound to be extremely detrimental, both in that the student would have lost touch with his former study, and also because of the psychological effect of service in the Forces. Even under the present scheme, however, there are ominous dangers. The potential of industry will be seriously weakened by the enforced absence of youth from its ranks. Similarly, the gap of nearly two years between the end of a university course and the starting of work might have serious consequences. These dangers may be minimized to some extent, for the new system of personnel selection attempts to place a man in that section of work where lie his aptitudes, his inclinations, and his experiences.

In 1931, Colonel J. F. C. Fuller said that conscription was the military expression of an agricultural democracy, but for an industrial nation, and considering modern military methods, it does not fill the bill, as armies now depend on the skilled mechanic and specialist. Since that date there has been an outstanding evolution in military and naval and air armaments, an evolution culminating in the atomic bomb. These developments further exemplify and substantiate Fuller's statement. If we consider developments in warfare which are likely to occur during the next few years, it would seem that what is needed is not cannon-fodder "educated" on the

barrack square and shooting range, but a highly specialized and professional body of men.

These arguments are fully obvious to many members of the Government who wholeheartedly agree with them. However, as Mr. Attlee has said, our commitments require us to have an army of such a size that it will not be sufficiently supplied by recruiting. These commitments arise from our responsibilities to the nations of the world as a result of our adherence to the United Nations Organisation. The appropriate Articles of the Charter are as follows: "Should the Security Council consider that peaceful measures would be inadequate or have proved to be inadequate, it may take such action by air, sea or land forces as may be necessary to maintain or restore international peace or security. To this end all members of U.N.O. undertook to make available to the Security Council, an agreed armed force. Also, in order to enable the United Nations to take urgent military measures, members shall hold immediately available national air force contingents for combined international enforcement action." These are our obligations to humanity, and we must face up to them. Whether history has proved, or whether it has not, that peace can be kept only by force, is at the present moment immaterial. The contemporary situation, in which a future war would lead to the extinction of civilization, has led to the practice of the Machievellian conception of politics, namely, that the end justifies the means. Unless there is a revolution in human nature, human morals and human behaviour, this conception will have to be accepted as a provisional expedient. As builders have to use the bricks at hand, so statesmen have to work on the bases of human relationships as they are. A house cannot be built with non-existent bricks, neither can an international edifice be erected on ideologies which are not based on the morals of present-day society.

## School Notes

By the time this issue is published we shall be nearing the end of the first term of a new school year. We extend a hearty welcome to some ninety new boys, and hope that they will in their time continue the great tradition and reputation for sport and academic distinction that even a world war could not quell. It is a privilege to be a member of D.H.S., and one not lightly to be undertaken, for it brings its own heavy responsibilities, both social and scholastic.

We wear a distinctive cap, which to the public at large is an emblem of our membership of a fine school with a great record. The present school is judged, not by its examination results only, but by its approach to life, by its courtesy and refinement, by its *esprit de corps*, and by the general impression it creates wherever its members go.

The School, as an institution regarded from the angle of the Headmaster and Staff, has an obligation to the boys. That seems to be very well understood, but that one-sided view is not enough. Every boy must, if he is at all thoughtful and unselfish, ask himself what he can do for the School ; he must realise that he too, has an obligation to the School. It is partly a question of pride. We cannot be proud of a school for which we do nothing to help to make it worthy of our pride.

To the new boys, then, we suggest a healthy interest in School activities, games, societies, and whatever fund or activity be promoted now and in the future. Set out to make yourselves a real live part of the School, identify yourself with as many of its activities as possible, strive to make it worthy of your pride, and be proud of it.

To the older boys, and particularly to the Upper School, we recommend a little self-searching, and a squashing of that feeling of self-sufficiency that finds an outlet in narrow disinterestedness. Education is not a question of Arts or Sciences ; it embraces both ; it is not the pursuit of only those things that please ; it is decidedly not the cultivation of a narrow and one-sided attitude to life : and our function is education in its broadest sense and the production of well-balanced mentalities that shall be broader than a mere bread-and-butter utilitarianism, and shall find their greatest satisfaction in all that is broadest and best in citizenship and the wider things of life.

It is a pleasure to record elsewhere in our pages the Parents' Association's generous and useful contribution to the School War Memorial Fund. The Garden Party was a financial success, but that is only part of its value. Functions of that sort bring parents together. They ought to have, as indeed their sons should too, a common interest in the School that is preparing their sons for the greater battle of life. Those who disassociate themselves from such an organisation are not only failing to implement the good work being done for their sons, but are also denying themselves something that will subconsciously satisfy their parental instincts.

The School Memorial Fund is a very worthy object. It is fitting that we should remember those who were launched into the wider life from D.H.S., and later lost it in the World War ; and there could be no finer memorial than the provision of something for which the School is crying out, and without which our most effective work must lose value. We want, and we must have, a library full of the best and most useful publications of our own and other times, housed in pleasing, comfortable and dignified surroundings—a peaceful home of culture, where we may browse or “ swot ”

in an atmosphere of learning, amid the great minds of all nations. We cannot urge you too strongly to support a cause so worthy. Many thanks to those who have already done so.

A reminder of the dignity of civic administration, implemented as it was by an inspiring address, is of inestimable value in the moulding of outlook and atmosphere of living. Nothing could have been more dignified than the mayoral procession on October 10th along the terrace and up through the crowded gym. to the platform. That was a colourful and inspiring gathering taking part in a simple and impressive ceremony. An account of it is to be found in our pages.

There have been many changes since our last issue. These are inevitable because of demobilization. We welcome back from H.M. Forces, Mr. H. Mallinson, B.A., Leeds; Mr. J. Pickup, A.T.D., D.A., Manc.; Mr. W. J. Tamblin, M.Sc., Lond.; Mr. E. Warn, B.Sc., London; Mr. H. Whitfeld, M.A., Cantab.; while to Mr. R. J. Werry we say "Ave atque vale" for he came back to us from the Forces, and is leaving us again to become a lecturer in an emergency training college. Good luck, too, to Mr. E. W. Clarke, B.A., who left us last term, and is shortly going to the Grammar School at Tipton, Staffordshire, and to Messrs. Ellis, Harper, Hill, Gaskin, and Reese.

We welcome, too, the following new members of the Staff. They have been with us for some time now, and we have learned to value them and to know their quality: Mr. I. H. Evans, B.A., London, and Mr. J. E. Vanstone, M.A. Cantab, who have come to take History; Mr. K. Lovell, B.Sc., London (Maths.), Mr. Nash, who is taking P.T., and Mr. T. Potts, B.A., Cantab. (English).

Mr. Friend will be with us again after Christmas. We wish God-speed to Mr. C. Foster, who leaves us on retirement. May he have a happy time and live long to enjoy it. To Mr. R. Drake, too, we wish good luck on his appointment to the Headship of Compton Primary School. We shall miss his dulcet tones.

Finally, we wish everybody a happy Christmas and a successful and prosperous New Year.

## The Lord Mayor's Visit

On October 18th we received the long-awaited civic visit by the Lord Mayor (Rt. Hon. Isaac Foot, P.C.). One of the tasks that Mr. Foot set himself during his term of office was to visit each of the 60 schools under the Plymouth Education Authority. As the Headmaster said in welcoming the Lord Mayor, we felt that he was leaving the best school till last. However, when the day finally arrived he was awaited with expectation and even curiosity. The setting of the scene seemed a fitting blend of the modern and the ancient; the gym. provided the modern background to the age-old

pageantry which accompanied the Lord-Mayoral party. The Lord Mayor, clothed in his scarlet ceremonial robes, and wearing his Elizabethan chain of office, was preceded by two mace bearers carrying the 235-years-old maces. Following him was the Deputy Lord Mayor in his purple robes. The whole scene was one of scholastic splendour mingled with civic dignity; where the gowns and hoods of knowledge were seen beside the robes of municipal authority. The dominant impression that the present writer experienced was of the wedding of civic duty and custom to education, a natural union which has, in the past, not been fully recognised.

Welcoming the Lord Mayor, Mr. Buckley said that we had long awaited his coming. As the weeks had rolled by, and the months, we have consoled ourselves with the thought 'He is leaving the best school until almost the last.'

And now he was here, and we were delighted to have him, and the Lady Mayoress, and the Commander-in-Chief, and all the other distinguished guests who were assembled on the platform.

This, as he need not tell them, was a great school—great not only in numbers, but in tradition, in endeavour, in achievement, in its plans and hopes for the future. It triumphed over the hazards of evacuation, and was triumphing over the still greater hazards of re-habilitation.

This was one of the few Plymouth schools which drew its students not only from the immediate neighbourhood, but from every part and corner of the City.

Before him was a cross section of the youth of Plymouth; a representative sample of the seed which was destined to blossom and to mature into the new Plymouth. He knew that the seed was excellent. He knew, too, that the Lord Mayor had made a magnificent contribution towards its maturing.

The Lord Mayor was coming to the end of a memorable year of office, a year in which he had consistently put himself last, and Plymouth first. It was not for us to assess the sum total of what he had accomplished in the City's service. But the Headmaster could, he thought, appropriately say this—that nothing the Lord Mayor had done would bear more splendid fruit than his organized visits to the schools. His great predecessor, Drake, whose memory he delighted to honour, brought water to Plymouth. He had performed an even greater task, for in his own person he had brought the living spirit of Plymouth itself to the children.

He had proved himself to be in very truth the children's Lord Mayor. No one could achieve, or even hope for, a greater honour than that.

Mr. Foot delivered his address in that same voice and expression which we have all come to know, respect and love; a voice which is more typical of the speaker than perhaps of any other rhetorician

of today ; a voice whose slow, deliberate, and, above all, earnest syllables typify the Lord Mayor as a man. The criterion of oratory is that, not only should the manner of delivery be of an exceptional standard, but also that the subject of the speech should be so worthy of note as to become almost proverbial. Mr. Foot's speech, judged by this criterion was of an exceptionally high standard. Some of the things he said might not appeal to the blasé Twentieth Century adolescent, who might even be tempted to laugh at them in his "superior knowledge," but on reflection they are seen to be some of the very essential bases of the ideal life. Mr. Foot said that no boy was too old to kiss his mother before going to bed, and every boy, without telling his mother that he was told so, should do this. Whether this is accepted literally or as a symbol of the manifestation of love, in its wider sense, Mr. Foot impressed on us the importance of this most important principle of the Christian life in connection with the community, either civil or educational. He quoted to us those words of Tennyson which are engraved around the base of the statue of Captain Robert Falcon Scott : "To seek, to strive, to find, and not to yield," a slogan which applies to each and every one of us in our everyday life in the community. In Mr. Foot's opinion a revolution in morals based on the true principle of love, and inspired with the example of Scott as typified in these words, would bring mankind to that state of mind without which everlasting peace is impossible. At the end of his speech the Lord Mayor took the opportunity of the presence of the Commander-in-Chief (Sir Henry Pridham-Wippell, C.V.O., K.C.B.) to give him two brass replicas of the statue of Drake, one for himself, and one for Admiralty House. The C-in-C. lived up to the reputation of being a member of the Silent Service by being excused the necessity of making a speech.

A vote of thanks to the visitors in general, and the Lord Mayor in particular, was made by the School Captain, B. Horton. Horton's speech was a feast of intellectualism, and was typical of the high standards which have always been an essential part of the tradition of this School. He was ably seconded by a member of the First Form, B. Porter.

Prayers were conducted by the Rector of Stoke Damerell and the Lord Mayor's chaplain. Other familiar faces on the platform were those of Mr. Councillor Leatherby (the then Chairman of the Education Authority), Alderman Oke, Alderman (Mrs.) Daymond, besides many other distinguished guests. With the sound of Blake's "Jerusalem" still ringing in their ears the School filed out to take up their positions along the drive. As the Lord Mayor's, and C-in-C.'s cars, with those of the other guests drove through the grounds they were greeted with rousing cheers from the School, an ideal way of sublimating the youthful exuberance which had been suppressed for an hour.

M. J. JORDAN (Upper VI. Arts).

## Soccer Club

*President* : THE HEADMASTER.

*Master-in-charge* : MR. WARREN.

*Captain* : DUGDALE.

*Vice-Captain* : ELLIS.

The season has started promisingly, and there is keen competition for places in the teams. The general standard of play in House matches, and in games played during time-table periods, has noticeably improved; the value of good positional play is being appreciated. The team spirit is high, and, while enjoying their game to the full, most boys are making serious efforts to eradicate their faults and improve the standard of play. With this end in view we now have a training period after School on Wednesday afternoon.

The 1st XI. is smaller in physique than it was last season, having lost Ingham, Grigg, Scott, Meyler and Fields, but it has made a good start, and looks forward to a successful season.

The 2nd XI. has a fuller fixture list than it had last season, and they have already settled down to a workmanlike side, little inferior to the 1st XI.

The Colts XI. has a moderate programme of games, and it is hoped to add to that programme as the season progresses.

The Junior XI. has entered the Plymouth Schools' League, and has made a satisfactory start. Their play has greatly improved since the beginning of the term, and they should win many matches.

Our best thanks are due to Messrs. Way, Vanstone, Berry and Warren for their sustained interest and their willingness to referee.

The lack of support from boys who do not play is still very marked. There is a fixture list on the notice board in Block C, and details of matches are posted on the notice board and announced in School Assembly. It is time that this matter should be remedied, both for the encouragement of the teams and the well-being of the School.

Record to date :

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Goals.	
					F.	A.
1st XI.	4	3	0	1	17	6
2nd XI.	3	3	0	0	15	3
3rd XI.	1	1	0	0	3	2
Jun. XI.	6	5	0	1	28	9

## Rugby Club

*President* : THE HEADMASTER.

*Rugger Master* : MR. MALLINSON.

*Captain of 1st XV.* : P. J. QUANTICK.

*Vice-Captain* : C. J. PEARCE.

*Hon. Secretary* : R. P. GEORGE.

This term we welcome back two masters from the Services : Mr. Mallinson, who has resumed his position as Rugger Master, and also Mr. Warne ; and Mr. Nash, who has taken Mr. Ellis' place. Mr. Nicholas and Mr. Harris have again taken over the coaching of Colts and Juniors respectively, and although the Juniors have not yet played, we are sure that they will uphold the record of the best Rugger school in the city.

The season opened with much vigorous training for the teams. This has brought its reward, as the School has not yet lost a match. Both the 1st and 2nd XV.'s beat our old rivals, Plymouth College, by 29 and 28 points respectively, and neither team had a point scored against it.

We extend our thanks to Mr. Coombe, who has looked after our fixture lists in the absence of Mr. Mallinson, and consequently we have a very full fixture list ahead of us. We wish the best of luck to Mr. Gaskin and Mr. Rees, who did much for the School Rugger last season, and have now left the School.

The following is a record of the School matches :

Team.	Played.	Won.	Lost.	Drawn.	For	Agst.
1st XV.	6	5	1	0	138	27
2nd XV. ....	3	3	0	0	106	3
Colts XV.	4	3	1	0	64	17
Juniors XV.	3	3	0	0	50	18

R. GEORGE, *Hon. Secretary.*

## House Notes

### DRAKE.

The Annual Athletic Sports held last term showed that with more co-operation and enthusiasm, Drake could have been second instead of fourth. However, special mention must be made of W. H. Ingham's fine performance in winning all his three events and attaining the honour of Senior Victor Ludorum. Another bright feature was the success of both senior relay teams in gaining first place. M. Brereton, D. Walker and Allin also ran well. Cricket occupied the greater part of the term, and the senior team did well to win two of the three matches, losing the third by two runs.

The end of the School year saw the departure of such stalwarts as R. E. Cambridge, W. H. Ingham, and the home captain, R. M. Meyler. The loss of these three, who represented the House in every field of sport, was a severe blow, partly offset by the large number of newcomers, to whom we extend a hearty welcome, trusting they will uphold the high standard expected of every member of Drake House.

This term, after a hard struggle, the Senior Rugby team gained a victory over Gilbert by a very narrow margin; M. Brereton, G. Wattley and King being outstanding. The Senior Soccer and Junior Rugby teams have lost their matches, but it is hoped they will atone for these defeats in future games. Congratulations are due to G. S. Moger and A. C. Ham on being appointed Vice-Captains of the School, and M. Brereton and G. Wattley on gaining their places in the 1st XV. Our congratulations are also extended to all who obtained their Higher and School Certificates.

The House gladly welcomes the return of Mr. Pickup and Mr. Mallinson from the H.M. Forces. Their coaching and support should prove invaluable in the future.

From this brief and by no means complete bit of the part played by members in all spheres of School life, it may be seen that Drake's position is not one from which members can derive entire satisfaction. More spirit and drive will bring about the day when Drake need yield pride of place to no one.

P. J. LE P. QUANTICK, *House Captain.*

## GILBERT.

Once more we have come to the beginning of another year in the history of Gilbert. The past year has not been a very successful one. We have lost all our cricket matches, but succeeded by sheer hard work in gaining second place in the Athletic Sports, which was a very good result. We congratulate Longworth, Bustin, Mackenzie and Hexter on their splendid performances, and also all the other boys who gained positions in the various events. Our heartfelt thanks are extended to Marshall, who so ably looked after the arranging of our teams.

We welcome our new housemasters, Mr. Lovell, Mr. Potts and Mr. Vanstone, and also congratulate the following boys on their appointments as House officials: Captain Soccer, Holliday; Captain Rugger, Bird; Junior Soccer, Goldthorpe; Senior Rugger, Mackenzie.

This year, up to the present, we are suffering from an absolute lack of enthusiasm amongst certain sets of the Seniors. Much difficulty has been experienced in fielding Senior House teams; this must improve, for success can only be achieved by wholehearted co-operation.

The enthusiasm amongst the Juniors is very apparent. They are backing up the House well, and will become a grand lot of seniors in time. At the present they are anxiously awaiting more fixtures, for they have only had one rugger match, which they won 20—6 points against Drake. The Seniors have played two matches, one soccer, which they lost to Grenville 4—1, and one rugger, which they lost to Drake by the narrow margin of 9—11 points.

Despite this poor start, it is hoped that the situation will change for the better, and with it will return the House spirit which is at present lacking in certain quarters. In the Athletic Sports, next year, the enthusiasm in the House must be more general, and then it should be possible for Gilbert not only to hold its second position, but to become at long last the "Cock House."

B. K. JANE (*House Captain*).

### GRENVILLE.

It was with much regret that the House received the news of the departure from its midst of Mr. E. W. Clarke. He was greatly instrumental in producing soccer and cricket teams of approved merit, and in uniting and improving the House. For all this we thank him. We welcome Messrs. Evans and Hopford to Grenville. Mr. Hopford's valuable work at the Hotel Royale, Penzance, is still fresh in our minds.

As usual, at the commencement of another School year, we extend a truly Grenville welcome to the boys of the first forms who have become members. All those who for years have striven to make Grenville the best House would, I am sure, wish me to impress on these boys the high standards of loyalty and enthusiasm which will be required of them if they are to enhance our grand reputation.

Our victory at the School Sports of the last School year was gained solely by a team spirit, for much of which we have to thank our House Masters. I am confident that with continued support of all House activities we can improve this team-spirit.

Few football games have yet been played, but of these, Grenville has won two and lost one. I would like to congratulate C. J. Pearce (U. 6 Sc.) on his unanimous election as Vice-Captain of the House to replace D. G. Parsons, who did so much for us. The House Senior Soccer and Rugby teams will, I am sure, enjoy a successful season, whilst the success of the two Junior teams can be safely left to the keenness and ability of our younger members.

J. C. DUGDALE (*House Captain*).

### RALEIGH.

On behalf of the House, I would like to extend the heartiest of welcomes to Mr. Warne (who is now in charge of House Rugby) and Mr. Whitfeld, who are now back in the House once more. I would like also to welcome the new members of the House, bidding

them realize its great traditions, and resolve that they will do their utmost to maintain fittingly its fine record, both in the scholastic and athletic fields.

The House Senior Rugby XV. has so far played only one match, which it lost ; but it hopes to do much better in the near future. The House Junior Rugby XV. has started the season well by winning its only match to date. The House Senior Soccer XI. has convincingly won its match to date. The House Junior Soccer XI. has as yet had no opportunity to show its merits. (Of last term's cricket matches, the Senior XI. won).

The enthusiasm and effort so far shown have been considerable, but there still persists in certain quarters a lack of enthusiasm and effort which is fatal to the aspirations of the House. I sound no clarion call ; I merely say that we have a hard task ahead if we are to reach the position of top house. The opposition is strong, but if we are a House united, we can go forth strong in our unity, in sober confidence and stern resolution to do what has to be done, and much more than that—the mere minimum ; so that to have been a member of Raleigh, will be indeed a surpassing honour.

A. G. POWELL (*House Captain*).

## The School Garden Party

This function was held at the School on June 29th. The fete was held under the auspices of the Parents' Association, and its specific aim was to assist in raising funds for the Headmaster's £1,000 Memorial Fund.

The opening ceremony was performed by the Commander in Chief (Admiral Sir Henry Pridham-Wippell, C.V.O., K.C.B.), who pointed out that this function had only been made possible by the tri-partite co-operation of the Headmaster and Staff, parents and boys. A vote of thanks to the C.-in-C. was proposed by the Deputy Lord Mayor (Mr. H. Lawrence Spear), who paid him a warm tribute. This motion was seconded by the Secretary of the Parents' Association (Mrs. F. M. Kenshole).

The events included displays, exhibitions, side-shows, and a School concert. Side-shows, which included darts, "throwing-the-penny" stalls, a fortune teller, and the inevitable "Aunt Sally," provided guests with "all the fun of the fair." The first and most spectacular display was one of physical training carried out by groups of boys under the direction of Mr. Ellis. This was followed by a display of arms drill, carried out by the School Company of the A.C.F. All the afternoon demonstrations of Physics and Chemistry were given by members of the Science Sixth. Mr. Coombe gave an extremely interesting and lucid series of experiments in colour and light, which appealed even to many arts

"intellectuals." The A.T.C. exhibition showed some of the many and varied aspects of this pre-Service organisation. There was also an exhibition organised in the Biology Laboratory by Mr. Sparrow, and an exhibition which showed the varied hobbies of the boys. The Scout troop set up a typical Scout camp on the lawn.

The most enjoyable event of the day was the School concert, which completed the proceedings. There were so many turns of such a high standard that it would be impossible to mention them all. However, outstanding was the comic act of Messrs. Whitfeld and May, entitled "Two minds with not a single thought." (Do we hear rumours that these two have since been approached for a B.B.C. audition?). Thus ended another day which will for long remain in the memories of all present.

M. J. JORDAN, Upper Sixth.

## The Parents' Association

Dear Parents,

The Editor has very kindly offered me space in this issue of the School Magazine in order that I may tell you something about the Parents' Association. Its purpose, very briefly stated, is to link up home and school by fostering co-operation between parents and staff.

Since the Association was formed in 1934 an ambitious programme has been carried out, and comparatively large amounts of money have been allocated towards the School's purchase of a film projector, Scout equipment, and School prizes, among other things.

During the war years very little could be done in the way of holding social functions, but the Association was carefully nursed, and Committee and Annual meetings were held in Plymouth, the Headmaster and President, Mr. W. H. Buckley, B.A., B.Sc., travelling specially from Penzance for the purpose of being present.

Since the return of the School from Penzance last year, the Committee have worked untiringly to promote the interest of the parents in the Association, and have ended the first School year at home with a membership of over 200. We had several successful social evenings, such as whist drives and dances, during the winter months, and with the very generous co-operation of the Headmaster and Staff ended the year's activities with a Garden Party at the School in June. Many of you attended this, and know how great a success it was. The proceeds of this Garden Party were given to the Headmaster towards his War Memorial Library Fund, and we were able to present to him a cheque for £84. Also this year we were able to give substantial sums towards the cost of the School prizes, and to the Sports' Fund, to assist in the purchase of new jerseys, etc., for the Rugger and Soccer teams.

We are now commencing a new School year, and already 100 parents of new boys entering the School have become members of the Association. This is very gratifying, but it is the parents of boys who have attended the School for a year or longer whom we would like to enrol. There are some 700 boys in the School, and if the parents of all these boys became members then indeed our programme could become ambitious, and our work increasingly helpful.

May I, therefore, invite all parents who have not yet become members of our Parents' Association to come along and join us. The membership fee is 1/- per parent each year, and can be paid through the boys to our Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Way, who is a member of the School Staff. A receipt will be given for amounts received, and membership cards will be issued. Notices of Association functions and activities will be announced in School by the Headmaster, and in the Press.

(Mrs.) F. M. KENSHOLE, *Secretary*.

## Out of School Activities

### DRAMATIC SOCIETY.

Despite initial casting difficulties, work on the one-act plays to be produced next term is well under way, and two of the plays have been entered for the competition organized by the Plymouth Youth Council. A Junior Society has now been formed, and those who would like to participate in future productions of the Senior Society are advised to join it as a necessary preparation.

As a member of the Plymouth Drama League, the Society is eligible to take part in the week-end courses arranged by the County organiser. It is hoped that an increasing number of members will attend these courses and gain valuable experience from them.

To Harris, who was to have been a member of the cast of one of the plays, we extend our condolences at his enforced retirement, due to illness, and our best wishes for his complete and speedy recovery.

B. HORTON, *Secretary*.

### 197 SQUADRON A.T.C.

Now that the reorganisation of the A.T.C. as part of R.A.F. Reserve Command is accomplished, the prospect of more varied activities for cadets is better.

Those who went to R.A.F. stations for training during the summer holiday gained valuable knowledge and experience of Service life, and incidentally had a thoroughly enjoyable holiday. Their experience makes the routine parades and instruction throughout the year far more valuable and realistic. Next summer we

hope to have enough enthusiastic cadets to hold our own squadron camp. Our numbers at present are small, as they always are for a time after the end of each School year, but a few recruits have come along, and more are expected during the year.

Our activities in sport have been well maintained. In July seven of our cadets competed in the National Athletic Championships at the White City. This is a considerable achievement, as the standard of these competitions is extremely high. The cadets concerned are to be congratulated on being able to compete against some of the best athletes the country has produced. Already this season four of our cadets have played football for Plymouth Wing against Cornwall, and some are expected to go further as the season progresses.

S.H.Q.

#### A.T.C. CAMP.

The A.T.C. camp which five members of the School squadron attended, was at the Fleet Air Arm Station, St. Merryn. The camp lasted a week, which was full of interest and excitement. We left a week before the end of summer term, glad of a week's respite from examination results.

The aerodrome, named H.M.S. Vulture, was conducted in strict Naval fashion. There was in the camp a quarter-deck and liberty men were said to "go ashore." After the initial strangeness had worn off, chiefly on account of good food, the camp life became interesting. There was plenty to eat, and if anyone felt hungry, as many of us did, there was a well-equipped N.A.A.F.I. which sold good tarts and buns.

In the evenings there were dances, and sometimes a cinema show. The cinema showed up-to-date films, and the dances—no matter, let that pass. Our A.T.C. contingent consisted of five cadets, the Sea Cadets numbered 42, this being a Naval Camp. Flying was the chief interest, the chief airplanes being Seafires and Fireflies, and we were shown over them. Most of us had at least one flight in an Oxford trainer.

We also went sailing in a whaler, regarded by many as the most exciting of our trips. Good swimming was to be had near the camp which is close to the North Cornish coast. Our other trips included a visit to a remote Radar Station, a visit to a .303 shooting range, instruction on dinghies and parachutes—this place being called the "Temple of Safety." The Sea Cadets included boys from Wales, London, the Midlands, and Lancashire, and these contacts with other pre-Service units brought added experience.

All five who attended this camp can sincerely say that they enjoyed themselves immensely, and at the same time gained experience of Service life which will be useful in the near future.

R. B. SQUANCE, 6 (Economics).

## A.C.F. NOTES.

Since the publication of the last Magazine, the Company has had the misfortune to lose Capt. B. W. Harrison, who was the Commanding Officer. It will be remembered by those students who were evacuated to Penzance, that on the arrival of Mr. Harrison, the School Company was formed in April, 1943, mainly due to his enthusiasm. And, under his guidance, the Company created and maintained a magnificent reputation in the D.C.L.I. On the return of the School to Plymouth, the Company was transferred to the Devon Regiment, and although Capt. Harrison was greatly handicapped by living outside the town, he still played an active part in the welfare of the Company.

It might have been thought that no other person could completely fill the gap left by the departure of our founder, but the loss of Capt. Harrison has been greatly recompensed by the arrival of a new C.O., whose enthusiasm is as great as that of his predecessor. Capt. K. Lovell took command of the Company towards the end of May, and he again is handicapped by living outside the city, but nevertheless he takes an active part in the life of the Company.

It was Captain Harrison who formed a Company shooting team, and this team won the Bush Cup three times in succession while in Cornwall. On returning to Plymouth, several members of the Company shooting team were selected to shoot for the Battalion in the Battalion shooting team, and at the end of the last season, five cadets of the eight in the team were from "E" Company. By the time this article has been printed, the 1946-7 season will have started, and it is hoped that "E" Company will again enter several representatives for the team.

In addition to those Cadets who had already qualified for their Marksmanship badge, six more Cadets qualified, under Empire Test conditions, for their First-class Marksmanship badge, and two qualified for their Second-class Marksmanship badge.

The Company has had numerous successes in other examinations in which the Cadets are encouraged to participate. Three Cadets passed War Certificate "A" Part 1 in May, and another passed the second part of the same examination in June.

During the Easter vacation, two Cadets attended the Automobile Engineering Course at Arborfield, and both passed the examination for Certificate "T." During the summer vacation, three other Cadets attended the same course, and all three passed the above examination. Two Cadets attended the Advanced Physical Training Course at Aldershot, and both qualified for Crossed Swords, which is the badge of a Physical Training Instructor.

The Company provided a Guard of Honour at the School for the Commander-in-Chief, Admiral Sir. H. D. Pridham-Wippell, C.V.O., K.C.B., on Parents' Day; and on the same day the Company gave a display of arms' drill. The Company also took part

in the Victory Day Parade, and, at the Cadet Tattoo at the Citadel in July, a squad from " E " Company gave a display of squad drill.

Thirty Cadets attended the Summer Week-end Camp at Staddon for one week-end, but, unfortunately, bad weather prevented another visit to the same camp at a later date. The Annual Summer Camp this year was at Braunton in North Devon. Thirty-four Cadets attended this camp for one week, and a few Cadets remained for a second week. While at camp, the Company were detailed to mount guard for twenty-four hours, and in a competition which had been organised, this guard was adjudged to be the best for the week. The camp was well provided with training grounds, and although the weather was not good, all the Cadets thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

The first week in October was extremely busy as regards special parades, for, during this week, a pre-Service Units' Exhibition was held in the city. On October 2nd, the Company provided a Guard of Honour, again for the Commander-in-Chief, at the opening of the Exhibition, and on October 5th, the Company provided a guard to watch over the premises. On the following day the Company sent a contingent to the General Parade on the Hoe.

Also on October 5th, an inter-county Rugby match was played between Devon and Glamorgan Cadets. For this match, six of the fifteen Devon Cadets were selected from " E " Company, and all enjoyed the keen game. Glamorgan won the match, the score being sixteen points to six points, both tries for Devon being scored by members of " E " Company.

It would be hard to find an equal to the above record, and if the members of the Company display in future the same amount of enthusiasm as they have in the past, the next report will be even more gratifying.

G. EVANS (C.S.M.).

#### SCHOOL CHESS CLUB.

We congratulate Allin, J. E. G., on gaining last year's Devon Junior Chess Championship for the School. He played Bragg, of Junior Technical School, and Clegg Hill, of Kelly College, Tavistock, and defeated them both.

Wyatt, Goldthorpe, Allin and Dudney are now taking part in a tournament to decide who will be our representative in this year's Championship.

The Plymouth Chess Club grants a year's honorary membership to one boy from every school, and Allin, being then our star player, was our representative at the Plymouth Club. A competition to decide our nominee for this year will be started shortly. It is open to boys of all ages.

Great interest was shown in our first fixture with Junior Technical Secondary School. A representative team composed of Allin,

Honey, Blundell, Cotton, Goldthorpe and Scott defeated them by five points to one. In April we played Plymouth College; the same team, with Dudney and Paul, was beaten by the narrow margin of  $4\frac{1}{2}$  points to  $3\frac{1}{2}$ .

We look forward to a match with Sutton High School, and return matches with Junior Technical School and Plymouth College.

Team players are selected by means of the ladder tournament, by which members play those on the same rung, and the winner goes up to the next, the loser staying where he is. Last year's top three were Allin, Blundell, and Goldthorpe.

Last year's House matches were contested with the usual heated house rivalry, Drake (6 points), Gilbert and Grenville ( $4\frac{1}{2}$  each), and Raleigh (3). It is expected that House matches will be held again soon.

The School Chess Club holds its meetings at 4.10 in the Art Room, on Monday. Chess can also be arranged for Club members during the dinner hour. New members will be welcome, but even more welcome will be chessmen and boards, which the Club will be very willing to buy, borrow, or secure by any other means in its power.

If anyone wants to learn to play, in order to join the Club, Mr. Berry will be willing to coach him. G. D. SCOTT, *Hon. Sec.*

## THE LITERARY AND DEBATING SOCIETY.

In this, the first report of our 1946 session, I must first of all pay a sincere tribute to our last session's treasurer, P. Taylor, who has now left us, and wish all our past members all success in the future.

At the end of last term we held our first inter-schools debate, in which Plymouth High School, Plympton Grammar School, and Plymouth College took part. The function was a "Trial of Science," with Mr. Clark ably taking the part of Science, in the Dock, and Mr. Jenkyns officiating as the Judge. Counsel for the Defence and Prosecution were members of the various schools, and there was a jury picked at random from those present. After an intensive cross examination of several witnesses, the jury retired, and brought in the verdict of "Guilty." "Science" was then sentenced to spend the rest of his life in reading the classics.

Also, last term, L. W. Tucker, of Upper Six Arts, gave an able and interesting paper on "D. H. Lawrence." Tucker, who was a keen student of Lawrence, conclusively disproved many of the fallacious criticisms which are commonly levelled against this most misunderstood author, and enlivened his paper by reading several excerpts from his works.

We have started this term with great hopes and expectations for the future, based on the experience of last session's meetings.

This spirit is reflected in the character of our first two functions. The first of these was a paper given by Mr. N. May entitled "France, 1946." In this paper, Mr. May gave an account of the impressions that he gathered on a recent visit to France. The second was a "Brains Trust," in which Mr. Nicholas, Mr. Harris, Jordan (U6A), and Powell (6A) took part, with Mr. Clark as question master.

On the 18th October, Jordan and Hatch, of Upper Six Arts, gave a talk entitled "The True Meaning and Present Day Significance of Anarchism." This was followed by a lively discussion.

Our future programme promises many extremely interesting activities, such as three inter-schools functions, a talk, we hope, on "The Organisation of the Library" by the Deputy Librarian of Plymouth. In the future we are also hoping to have talks by other prominent personalities. The success of any functions that we intend to hold depends on the co-operation of the boys; and with more such co-operation we shall be able to provide an even more varied and interesting programme.

M. J. JORDAN, Upper Six Arts (*Hon. Sec.*).

#### SCIENCE CLUB.

The latter half of last year's session commenced with a talk on "Radar," by Mr. Holsgrove, who was closely connected with the extensive experimental work on this subject. Naturally, he was able to dwell on but little of the wide ramifications of this expanding science, but presented a first-hand account of the difficulties experienced in such matters as the provision of suitable ware guides and valves. The large audience went away with a much greater realisation of the initial setbacks which had to be surmounted in Radar before it could be perfected for use.

At our next meeting a film on "The Production of Gas" was shown, followed by a lecture by P. W. Taylor on "The Coal Tar Industry." He started with the actual distillation processes to yield the basic coal-tar derivatives, and then continued to deal with some of the enormous range of products obtained from them, with particular reference to the dyes, which comprise an industry in themselves. Many of the dyes, previously prepared by the lecturer, were shown, and the wide range of colours, chiefly derived from aniline, excited much interest.

Mr. K. Ford, one of our Old Boys, gave the next lecture, on "Coal Mining." He gave a detailed account of work in the mines, including a description of the manner in which each shift equipped itself for work underground. The method of actually working the coal at the face, with reference to the ventilating and conveying systems received adequate treatment. The lecturer then went on to deal with the methods of controlling the dust content in the air by pumping in water, including in his account the ways in which

the actual number of particles present was checked for safety purposes. It was altogether a most interesting and complete lecture.

This year's activities commenced with a talk by Mr. Hurrell, the well-known naturalist, who, in addition to his lecture, brought along an excellent colour film, which he made himself. The brilliance of the latter was a demonstration of the rewards for patience required in all branches of science.

Several provisional fixtures for future visits and lectures have been made, and as the pattern of this year's programme unfolds itself, we trust that all Club members will derive from it much benefit and enjoyment.

B. HORTON, Up.6.Sc.

### BIOLOGICAL FILMS.

Each Friday this term, from 1.15 p.m. to 1.45 p.m., two films of biological interest are being shown in the Biology Lab. to a group of 60 boys who have financed the venture. The films, produced by Gaumont-British, range from "Looper Caterpillars" to "Animals of the Hedgerow," and "Animals of a Rocky Shore." If these films are successful, Mr. Sparrow hopes to arrange a further series.

### SCOUT LOG.

**Garden Party (Parents' Day).**—A small demonstration camp was arranged to give parents some idea of the lay-out of a typical Scout camp. Between three and four hundred people paid 1d. admission fee, and some sixty odd purchased a sausage sandwich—the sausages cooked in the camp kitchen.

**Patrol Camps.**—Two camps were organised—one by Patrol Leader Kenneth Renton in the Millbrook area, and the other by Patrol Leader Derek March in the Bickleigh Valley. In spite of somewhat unfavourable weather, the camps were successful, and the campers had an enjoyable time.

**Kandersteg.**—Through the kindness of Mr. A. Jenkyns, S.M. 12th Plymouth, two of our Patrol Leaders—Wattley and Way—were privileged to visit the International Scout Chalet at Kandersteg, Switzerland. Some account of the experiences of the party appeared in the local Press.

**Autumn Term.**—The Troop consists of four Patrols, with eight Scouts in each. Some slight progress is being made with tests, but it is not easy to fit everything into the School week when there are so many other things to do.

Patrol Camping boxes are being equipped, and training gear purchased.

The Patrol Leaders hope to take part in Area meetings for senior Scouts, and our seniors also hope to gain the Ambulance Badge this term.

S/M. D.H.S.

## D.H.S. STAMP CLUB.

The Stamp Club, although just founded, has already many activities. Competitions have been held, and prizes have been given. These competitions include "Subject Sets" and "Perfect Sets." In the "Subject Competition," members were given a subject and had to save twenty-five stamps illustrating their subject. A stamp exchange is held every week, in which members can exchange their duplicates with other members. Mr. Hopford has given one very interesting talk on "Stamp Collecting," and we look forward to its successors, and also one from G. D. Scott. Approvals have been sent for, and Sampson has been elected "Approvals Secretary" to deal with this activity.

All stamp collectors in the School are invited to the meetings which are held in III.G room, Block B, on Thursdays, at 4.10 p.m.

A. W. HONEY, L.G.S.

## WEDNESDAY HALF-HOUR.

In response to a number of requests (from boys), it is hoped to arrange a series of programmes for next term. Suggestions will be appreciated.

SP.

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## IKE, THE SCRIBE

Now hearken once again, my children, to the voice of Ike the Scribe that ye may learn what befell the peoples of Dee-Aitch-Ess. For it came to pass that the war between the men of Ger and the land of Eng being over, the tribes of Dee-Aitch-Ess did return to the land of their fathers.

And their numbers now being great, they did entreat the Powers-that-Be that they might have a new home in which to dwell. Now the Elders and wisemen of the city deliberated amongst themselves, and did say "Let them dwell in the house of Stok, which is within the city." And the tribes of Dee-Aitch-Ess did rejoice, for this Stok was a great building, set in sloping meadows, with a river nearby, and sometimes during the long afternoons their thoughts would wander to other slopes at Pensans.

Now after many moons had passed, the tribes of Dee-Aitch-Ess, Grenvil, Gilburte, Ralee and Drak, did gather together and hold some games in honour of the victory of the land of Eng over the men of Ger. Now each tribe did send the best of its men, and they did gird their loins, and some did run and some did hurl the discus, while others there were that did leap the bar. And many there were that did stand and watch, and the men of Ralee did shout with a great shout, and did cry out for one Dinger, but, at the end

of the day there was much rejoicing in the house of Grenvil, and great was their boasting because they did win the trophy.

Thus many moons passed, and the men of Dee-Aitch-Ess did dwell in peace, and did grow in stature and learn much wisdom. And it did come to pass upon a certain day that the fathers of the tribes did visit them, and the chief men of the city did also come, and there was much rejoicing. But there were some amongst the tribes whose faces were troubled, yea, verily, they had a haunted look about them. For did they not have the two demons to pass, the little demon Skul Surtt and the bigger demon Hiyer Skulz ? But the tribes of Dee-Aitch-Ess were mighty even as they did boast and so they did slay those demons.

And having slain the demons they did pass out into the world as many had done before them, and more did rise up to take their places.

S. R. HATCH, Upper VI (Arts).

## ASSEMBLY

Should you ask me, whence this story,  
Whence this legend and tradition,  
With the odour of the schoolroom,  
With the murk and damp of " Tinkies,"  
With the rushing of great classes,  
With its frequent repetitions,  
And its wild reverberations,  
As of Six Arts in the classroom,  
I should answer, I should tell you,  
From the corridors and play grounds,  
From the great rooms of the buildings,  
From the land of ceaseless learning.

In the high desk of the school hall,  
O'er the gay and ordered meeting,  
Great Chief Texaco the Mighty,  
He the Master quelled the conclave,  
In the high seat of the mighty  
Stood erect and called the classes,  
Called the tribes of boys together.  
From his dais leaped the mighty,  
Leaped into the throng rebellious ;  
To the younger braves advancing,  
Laid his finger on the culprit,  
Led him out by winding pathways,  
To the front of the assembly,  
Nigh the footstools of the mighty.

Greeting to the Great White Chieftain,  
 Cried the great men, cried the young men,  
 When in silence came the Chieftain,  
 With the sacred tribal wiseman,  
 From the region of his wigwam,  
 From the Kingdom of the Staffroom,  
 From the dwelling of the mighty.  
 When esconced upon his dais,  
 Having spoken to the tribesmen,  
 Who with faces full of interest  
 Listened to the great inspired one,  
 Listened to the words of wisdom ;  
 Wisdom flowing as a river.

When the Chieftain and his wise men,  
 Had retired to their own wigwams,  
 When the young braves and the great ones,  
 Leaving all their days behind them,  
 Had returned to distant classrooms,  
 Had returned to tribal duties,  
 Then in truth began the pow-pow,  
 All the lessons then were started.

K. STOYLE, VI. Arts.

## "AENEAS IN THE UNDERWORLD"

By REX PONDERIS.

*(The author wishes to express his gratitude to Virgil, on whose idea this story is based).*

The good Aeneas, distinguished alike for piety and prowess, makes for the "Administratio Laboris," the distant retreat of the dread Sibyl, into whom the seer of Delos breathes a mighty mind and soul, and reveals things to come. Having crossed over the threshold, the hero begins to speak thus: "Night and day the portal of gloomy Dis stand open. One boon I crave: let it be permitted to me to visit the lower world. Take pity, gracious lady, for thou hast all power; and not for nought hast thou been placed in charge of the groves of Avernus."

The Sibyl then addressed him thus: "Not to all mortals is it given to visit the realms of the dead. But so great a longing possesses thy mind, so strong a desire to undertake a mad enterprise, learn what must first be accomplished. When thou hast registered thy name for National Service, a number will be allotted to thee. To none is it permitted to enter the depths of the earth before he has acquired his own special designation. But if the gods favour

thee, they will grant thee the number which will admit thee into the groves of Avernus. Go forth!" So she spoke, and closing her lips, lapsed into silence.

Then without delay, Aeneas hastens to do the Sibyl's bidding.

In the mountainous country inhabited by the tribe of the Silures, there was a pit, deep and of vast size, from which there swept a noisome draught of air, laden with dust and dirt from the world below. Hither, to the very jaws of Avernus, a gibbering crowd was streaming in disorder—men advanced in years, and youths, with the first dawn of manhood showing on their unshorn cheeks; among them were men, skilled in the arts of war or well-trained in philosophy—all cut off by a cruel fate, all condemned to suffer a life of perpetual darkness. Close by the edge of the pit there hangs a huge cage to transport these luckless shades to the world below; this a grim cageman guards, Charon, of dire foulness, his head covered by a mass of unkempt grey hair; his eyes are fixed in a fiery glare, and a dirty cloak hangs from his shoulders by a knot. The sullen cageman takes in now these, now those, while others he repels and drives far from the brink. Not until Aeneas has disclosed the revered number is he given leave to step aboard. The murky cage creaks and groans beneath his weight, and through its chinks lets in a flood of marshy water. Then the gate clangs to, and, at a signal from Charon, the cage, amidst a rushing of air and rattling of chains, drops swiftly into the depths. At last it comes to rest, and lands the hero safely on the unsightly slime and grey sedge. In the darkness around him can be seen the feeble glow of lamps worn on the heads of the shades.

The good Aeneas toils along the path, the appointed road. Here he sees unsubstantial and disembodied shades flitting about under the hollow semblance of a form. From afar groans are heard, and cruel blows resound, then the clank of iron and the dragging of chains. Aeneas halts and drinks in the din.

Seek not to be told what punishment or what form of crime or misfortune overwhelms the men. Some strain at heavy, loaded trams, others roll huge stones; these swing heavy mandrils, those swing huge shovels. There are those who kneel, and for ever will kneel. Over them all a vast black rock hangs, ever on the point of falling and actually seeming to fall.

Had I a hundred tongues, a hundred mouths, a throat of iron, I could not recount all the forms of crime, I could not mention all the names of the penalties.

In this same region Aeneas sees those guiltless of crime, who brought upon themselves by their own hand this unhappy lot, and hating the light of day cast away their lives. How willing would they now be in the upper air to endure alike poverty and weary toil! And others whom the black day of calamity carried off and

overwhelmed are compelled to occupy regions rugged with neglect. Until after a long period, when the cycle of time is completed, they, unmindful of the past, may wish to revisit the arching vault of heaven. Aeneas stood still and stayed his steps, thinking of many things, and pitying in his mind their hard lot.

Thus he wanders in every direction over the whole region, and traverses each part. And when he has been led through every single place, he is escorted to the shaft and thence to the upper air. Having cleansed from his body the dirt and grime of the underworld, Aeneas goes his way with sad countenance and downcast eyes, pondering in his mind the cruel lot of his former comrades.

## A HOLIDAY IN MALTA

During the recent summer vacation I was given at comparatively short notice the opportunity of a trip to the Mediterranean in order to visit my parents in Malta. I attempt to record here not only the voyage, but some of my principal impressions of the place.

The ship in which I sailed, H.M.S. Fencer, a lease-lend converted aircraft carrier, left her berth in Chatham Dockyard on the morning of Saturday, 10th August, and by the afternoon was pitching and tossing in a gale in the Straits of Dover. Later on that day speed was reduced, the two canvas balls, denoting that the ship was not under complete control, were hoisted, and the next morning anchor was dropped off Spithead for repairs to one of the propeller shaft bearings. Twenty-four hours saw a repair completed, and the following morning the ship was under-weight and once more in the English Channel.

After the Ushant lights came the inevitable Bay of Biscay. The crossing of this notorious corner of the Atlantic Ocean was, although rough, not quite as bad as I had anticipated. Some of the crew compared it with a mill-pond, others however were not to be seen. After having crossed the "Bay," the reassuring sight that land still existed presented itself in the shape of Cape Finisterre. Following closely the coast of Spain and Portugal southwards, we soon passed Cape St. Vincent, and the ship sailed through the Straits and into the Bay of Gibraltar, where it anchored for twenty-four hours.

Gibraltar came up to my full expectations. The abundance of almost-forgotten goods in the shops surprised me most I think. It was indeed wonderful to see a sunrise over this panoramic view of Spain and Spanish Morocco, with the "Rock" in the foreground. On leaving Gibraltar, the coast of North Africa was closely followed, until, three days after leaving Gibraltar, the western side of Malta's satellite, Gozo, was sighted. That same afternoon, the ship sailed into and anchored in the Grand Harbour,

Valetta, one of the great natural havens of the world. On either side remain some of the ancient fortifications of the Island. After a short delay with police formalities, we were allowed to disembark.

Never having seen Malta before, it is difficult to say if my first impressions were what I had expected. I think, however, the first thing that came to my notice was the colour of the place. Apart from the deep blue of the sea, everything presented itself in the same drab light-brown hue; the roads, the lime-stone and soft yellow sandstone buildings, and even the fields of imported ballast earth. Look at any street or scene here in England, and a multitude of independent shades and colours will at once be seen and appreciated by an observant eye. Not so Malta. It is, I believe, this sameness of colour, scarcely broken in the summer by any greenness of trees or plants, that disillusioned so many persons upon their first arrival on the island.

During my all-too-brief stay there I was able to visit the principal attractions of Malta. What impressed me most was, I think, the cathedral church of St. Peter and St. Paul at the former capital, Rabat. The interior of this impressive building is indeed a church-lover's paradise. From floor to ceiling it presents an awe-inspiring and unique spectacle. Black marble pedestals surmounted by effigies of St. Peter and St. Paul; a ceiling composed of beautiful square paintings, requiring many hours of careful study; the floor, composed of mosaic memorial tablets to former bishops and archbishops are marvels which no pen can describe. In fact, the whole of this Roman Catholic Church presents a certain rich atmosphere that even the most beautiful of our ancient English cathedrals somehow do not possess. Close to this building the mosaic floor of an ancient Roman Villa has been excavated, complete, even with a well-shaft. This floor is in the shape of a square courtyard. Around the yard, at one time the rooms of the villa existed. The enterprising local inhabitants have enclosed this floor inside a Roman Museum, containing objects of interest, not only Roman, but dating from when the Phoenicians occupied Ogyia (as the island was then called) in 1500 B.C. Relics of the Greek occupation of "Melita"—the name given the island by them—are also to be seen in this museum, along with relics of the Carthaginians and the Byzantine Empire. All these remnants of past ages require many hours of interesting study.

No matter how short is one's visit to Malta, it is not complete without visiting the Governor's Palace. This imposing building mainly surrounds a square garden, and contains many treasures belonging to the "Knights of St. John." The greatest attraction of this huge building is the tapestry-room, wherein are hung large intricately-worked tapestries, the beauty of which can only be realised by actually seeing them. Each of these tapestries contains

a story or some distant event woven into the design and characters of the fabric. Adjoining the tapestry room, a door opens upon the splendour of the luxuriously furnished "Pink" ballroom, unfortunately slightly damaged during the recent war.

The Royal Malta Library or "Bibliotheca Publica" holds a place high on the programme of a sight-seeing visitor. This building was decreed to be erected in 1776, and was completed in 1796, at the expense of a certain Bailiff, Perrey de Sare, the architect being Stefano Iltar, of Rome. As well as a wealth of ancient volumes, this Bibliotheca contains over seven thousand manuscript volumes of great importance and rich in interest to the student of European history. The oldest document in this library dates from the year 1107; by it, King Balduin of Jerusalem gave a piece of land to the Knights on Mount Chabor. Other outstanding documents are the Act by which Charles V. gave Malta to the "Order of St. John"; the confirmation of the Order by the Pope, dated 1113; Henry VIII. constituting himself Protector of the Order; and a document of Philip and Mary reinstating the Order in Ireland. Besides these, autographed documents of Henry VIII., Charles II, James II, Queen Anne, Marie Antoinette of France, Frederick the Great, and Catherine of Russia are to be seen. Also well-worthy of mention are some valuable beautifully-illuminated manuscripts of the 15th and 16th centuries, the most important being the Life Picture Book of St. Anthony Abbate, painted in 1426. When I visited this library, I was able to see in an adjoining room some sets of very costly armour, which had recently been brought up from their underground shelter. The most impressive of these is an exquisite inlaid-gold suit which belonged to the French Grand Master, Alophius de Wignacourt (1601-22), the author of this masterpiece of gold and iron having been Geronimo Spacini of Milan.

A holiday in Malta is incomplete without a visit to its satellite island Gozo. Here one of the chief industries of the two islands is carried on, that of lace making. It is an education in itself to watch the women of all ages sitting outside their doorways, intent upon this age-old industry amidst the continuous rattle of bobbins, fashioning with nimble fingers designs which can almost be compared with those of a spider. Imagine a strip of fabric, hanging from which are several threads with bobbins attached. These bobbins are passed over and under each other by the fingers in such a way as to form the required pattern of lace. This is done at such speed that it is impossible to follow the course of any one bobbin.

The people of this gallant, thrice-sieged George-Cross Island, I have left to the last in order that my impression of them will remain foremost in the mind of the reader. Let me first, however, give a short account of their past history. The Phoenicians arrived as callers to this island at about 1500 B.C., and their call there lasted

for almost 700 years. They were followed by the Greeks, the Carthaginians, the Romans, and the Arabs, who left a language closely resembling that of Malta today. Then, in the 16th century came the first siege of the Island by the Turks, when the Knights of St. John, headed by La Valette, whose name is remembered in the name of the capital, Valetta, today, fortified and defended Malta in the cause of Christianity. The second siege came in the late 18th and early 19th centuries, when Napoleon attempted to include Malta in his Empire. He was beaten off by Nelson, after which the Maltese petitioned the King of England that "Great Britain might ever remain the bulwark and asylum of liberty, fidelity and religion."

So it was that Malta came to be included in the British Empire. Opposite the Palace of Valetta, bearing the date 1815, and in Latin is an inscription, the translation of which runs: "The love of the Maltese people and the Voice of Europe have for ever entrusted the guardianship of these islands to Great Britain, the Unconquerable." The British have kept their part of the treaty which was ratified by the Council of Paris in 1814, and the Maltese have remained loyal to the British Sovereign. At the outbreak of the recent war, these folk could have saved themselves and their island great hardship by surrendering to the Axis. No! not the Maltese. Britain was not entirely alone in Europe in the early days of the war struggling for her existence, some 300,000 other people of a grand little island were with her. They showed their loyalty through endless months of siege, famine and chagrin, the like of which would have cracked and broken many a larger country. Surely these gallant people are well-worthy of belonging to a Great Empire.

One final word. No matter where I went, or whom I met in Malta, I was treated with a very high standard of generous hospitality and friendliness, which added considerably to my enjoyment.

GEORGE R. A. ANDREWS, Form 6 Arts.

DEVONPORT HIGH SCHOOL OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION

## ANNUAL DINNER

THE CONNAUGHT ROOMS (*Tavistock Road, Stoke*)

FRIDAY, 27th DECEMBER, 1946

TICKET 7/6

6-30 p.m. for 7-0 p.m.

*Dress Optional*

Tickets may be obtained from Mr. E. W. R. Warn either at the School or at 112 Fort Austin Avenue, Crownhill ('Phone Ply. 71002.)

## 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.

*General Secretary and Treasurer*: H. Ferraro, Esq., B.Sc., "Bella Vista," 68, Bickham Road, St. Budeaux, Plymouth.

*Committee Secretary*: Cyril E. Gill, Esq., F.C.S.,  
14, Haddington Road, Stoke, Devonport.

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

*London Secretary*: L. S. Mills, Esq., B.Sc., 38, Anglesey Gardens,  
Carshalton Beeches, Surrey.

Since the last notes appeared a number of Old Boys have returned to civilian life. Many of them have been out of touch with their School friends since the early days of the war, and owing to changes of address and a variety of other causes, contacts have not been easy to establish. For this reason an Old Boys' Reunion will be especially welcome. Our first post-war Dinner is being held on December 27th, and all arrangements are being made by Mr. E. W. R. Warn. We look forward to a record gathering of D.H.S.-ians on that date. Mr. Eric Cock, who for many years has undertaken the organizing of our Annual Dinner, has now so many calls on his time that he is unable to make the necessary arrangements. We are indebted to Mr. Warn for so readily stepping into the breach, and we desire to tender him our thanks and appreciation. It is fitting also that we should here record our gratitude to Mr. Cock for all he has done for us in the past. It will be a material help if applications for tickets (7/6) are made as early as possible.

The Annual General Meeting will be held at the School, at 10.30 a.m., on December 27th. We hope for a good attendance.

The Executive are experiencing great difficulty in contacting Old Boys. Owing to war conditions many have changed their addresses. The London Branch especially, the majority of whose members are in lodgings, is confronted with a serious problem. Will members please help by sending information of any Old Boys they may know to the Secretary, Mr. L. S. Mills, 38, Anglesey Gardens, Carshalton Beeches, Surrey.

Major L. C. G. Williams, of the R.A.S.C., has been awarded the M.B.E. "for gallant and meritorious service in North Africa and Italy." Major Williams is Superintendent of the Shell Mex and B.P. Ltd., Cardiff.

Mr. B. C. J. Rickard has been elected a Fellow of the Philosophical Society. The research thesis which gained this award was based on the folklore and tales of Dartmoor.

Mr. S. Rundle, writing from Palestine, speaks of a meeting with an old friend, Lieut. Hodgson.

Very interesting letters describing extensive cruises have been received from Midshipmen Maybourn and Scamp.

Cadet Robinson has been awarded the prize for the "best all-round Supply Cadet" on H.M.S. Frobisher. He has been promoted to Midshipman.

Mr. L. S. Mills, our London Secretary, formerly of the Exchequer and Audit Department, has been promoted to an Administrative post under the Ministry of Civil Aviation.

The London Chairman, Mr. A. T. Brooks, recently visited Plymouth. He was primarily responsible for the formation of the Old Boys' Association, and still has its interest at heart as much as ever.

Mr. W. R. Ward, of University College, Oxford, has been placed in the 1st Class of the Honours List.

Mr. R. H. Huzzey is hoping soon to take up his Scholarship at Jesus College, Oxford. He ran in the R.N. and R.M. Championship at Portsmouth, and gained second place in the 440 yards.

Mr. N. Down, former Rugger Captain, is now in India.

Sub-Lieut. A. H. Tredget, R.N.V.R., has been elected an Associate of the Bristol Institute of Radio Engineering.

Lieut. (E) J. E. Dyer-Smith, R.N., has been appointed as one of the Naval representatives at the research and development branch in the Ministry of Supply.

Lieut. Beswick, who was badly wounded, was able to attend the School sports, and has since visited the School.

Lieut. K. Rockey has returned from India. He is now demobilised, and has returned to Jesus College, Oxford.

Capt. A. J. Legg, who since his return from overseas, has spent some time in hospital, is now much better, and is returning to civil life.

Mr. F. Sutton has been commissioned in the R.E.'s.

Mr. A. A. Eddy, of Exeter College, Oxford, has rowed in the first eight for his College. Mr. M. Ball was also selected for the second eight.

Dr. R. Profitt and Mr. J. L. Deal have recently been in Plymouth. Dr. Profitt is now Senior Mathematics Master at Barnsley Grammar School, while Mr. J. L. Deal is in Chemical Industry.

Mr. D. L. Mould has been awarded a Research Scholarship by King's College, London.

Messrs. K. Mason and C. G. Westlake recently visited Plymouth. Mr. Mason is the Headmaster of a Secondary School in Aldershot, while Mr. Westlake is a dental surgeon in the Brighton district.

Mr. R. Molland has returned to Cambridge after being in Germany for some time. He obtained a first-class in his examination, and was awarded a University Prize.

Major B. Anstey, who has been Officer-in-Charge operating Palestine Railways, has returned to the Imperial College of Science, where he has been engaged in Research, and has submitted a thesis. He has since joined the G.W.R. Engineering Staff.

Messrs. Standford and Dowrick, of University College of the South West, have passed the subsidiary subject examination for the B.Sc. degree.

Lieut. (E) F. Healy, R.N., is about to proceed to Haifa to take up a two-and-a-half years appointment. We wish him good luck.

Messrs. A. Truscott and J. H. Crossley, who qualified as Japanese interpreters, have now become Instructors in the Army E.V. Course. When last we heard they were on their way to Rangoon.

Several inquiries have been received about the School tie. The whole of the stock of ties held by the contractors, Messrs. Perkins Bros., was destroyed in the blitz. The firm is making every effort to expedite the manufacture of a fresh supply.

Thanks to the efforts of Mr. A. Wingett, the Old Boys' Rugby Club has been revived. A number of games have been played with considerable success, and the Club looks forward to being firmly established by next season. All interested should get in touch with Mr. A. Wingett, 8, West Hoe Terrace, Plymouth.

Mr. K. Hunt, who joined the American Army, is now in the American zone of occupation.

We offer Old Boys the season's greetings, and wish them all happiness and prosperity on their return to civilian life.

The following changes of address have been notified :

894 A. A. Eddy, 86 Pembroke Road, Clifton, Bristol.

846 E. J. Davies, 6 Endsleigh Place, Plymouth.

818 G. Walford, 1 Hartley Avenue, Plymouth.

842 D. Walford, 1 Hartley Avenue, Plymouth.

We welcome the following new members :

902 G. A. Greenwood, 16 Emma Place, Stonehouse, Plymouth.

903 N. S. Robinson, Mid., R.N., 21 Hyde Park Road, Plymouth.

904 S. Butler, Kagera, Tor Lane, Hartley, Plymouth.

905 L. Murray, 104 Station Road, Harpenden, Herts.

906 J. Hooper, 15 Green Park Avenue, Plymouth.

907 G. H. Godfrey, 44 Cardinal Avenue, St. Budeaux, Plymouth.

908 J. Holgate, Lieut. R.N., 7 Brean Down Road, Beacon Park, Plymouth.

909 T. N. Hitchings, The Old Parsonage, Shaftesbury, Dorset.

910 A. R. Cosway, 8 Merafield Road, Plympton.

911 W. A. Porter, 76 Hillfoot Avenue, Hunts Cross, Liverpool, 19.

912 B. Stone, 5 Harbour View, Torpoint.

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We regret to record the death of Capt. A. I. Jeffery, and we offer our sincere sympathy to his family.'

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MR. J. H. D. MILLETT.

Old Boys of Devonport High School will have heard with great regret of the passing of their onetime Mathematics Master, Mr. J. H. D. Millett, M.A.

Mr. Millett began his teaching career with Mr. A. J. Rider. After taking his degree at Oxford University, he returned to Devonport and taught under the Devonport Education Authority. He was Senior Lecturer at the then Devonport Technical School, and in 1909 combined this post with a part-time appointment at Devonport High School. In 1919 he was appointed a full-time member of the Staff, and served the School in this capacity until his retirement in 1940. He will be remembered with affection and gratitude for the kindly interest he took in the individual boy, and for his unfailing good humour. Although himself a mathematician of high attainment, he could, and did, appreciate the difficulties of the backward boy. He was an earnest worker in the Methodist cause, and was a Trustee of his Church. He was a well-known Freemason, being Past Provincial Grand Registrar (Devon), a Past Master of Lodge Philammon, and a member of Mark Mason Lodge Fortitude.

Mr. Millett passed away on October 2nd. The interment took place at Fairpark Cemetery, Newquay. Former pupils were represented by Dr. R. Curnow, Medical Officer of Health for Cornwall, while Messrs. C. F. Austin and H. Ferraro represented the School.

To Mrs. Millett, Mr. A. J. Millett, and family, we offer our sincere sympathy.

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WAR MEMORIAL FUND.

Dear Old Boys of D.H.S.,

We hope that those of you who have not already contributed to the D.H.S. War Memorial Fund will now do so.

The target is One Thousand Pounds, and this amount is to be used to defray the cost of a Roll of Honour, and to equip and endow a School Library worthy of those whose sacrifice we all desire to commemorate.

Circulars concerning the Memorial have already been sent to all Old Boys whose addresses are known to us, but some of these circulars may have gone astray.

The total sum received from all sources is now about £300.

We feel sure that all of you, whatever your circumstances, will wish to contribute and to help the fund in every possible way.

Yours sincerely,

W. H. BUCKLEY, *President.*

H. FERRARO, *Secretary.*

(Will you please address your subscriptions to Mr. H. Ferraro, who is acting as Treasurer to the Fund).



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