

# This school cares, says 'sacked' head

Mr. L. E. Jennings, the headmaster of Oldbury Grammar School who will lose his job when the school goes comprehensive, said at the School's Speech Day: "Let there be no doubt that I believe in good comprehensive schools."

Mr. Jennings, who has taught in the school for three years said; "This school cares about the individuals which make up its community. It cares that what it does is worth doing and is done well."

"These are qualities which I would be proud to see reflected in any school with which I was connected, whether it be comprehensive, grammar or bilateral, or any other title which might become fashionable."

He paid special tribute to his staff who, he said, had shown "tremendous loyalty at a time when change was in the

air and when personal futures were in doubt, as I have found to my cost," he said.

In the years from 1968 to 1970, the school averaged the "very commendable standard" of five 'O' level passes per candidate. In 1971 it rose to 5.4; in 1972 to 5.5; in 1973 it remained at the remarkably high level of 5.4.

The quite excellent results at both 'A' and 'O' level in 1973, he said, had something to do with the miners' strike.

During this time there was an intensity of effort and an air of determination about the school. So I feel that we should say a word of thanks to our miners," he said.

The Lord Bishop of Birmingham, the Rt. Rev. Laurence Brown, was principal speaker at the Grammar School's last speech day.

"The position of you young people is not an enviable one. Yes, you have the choice of more things to opt for than

your fathers ever did, but you are living in a very unsettled world now. At the moment there are so many uncertainties," he said.

Awards are as follows:—

## FORM PRIZES

1L: Wendy A. Picken, David J. Wathen. 1S: Jacqueline Deeley, Thomas O'Toole. 1W: Wendy E. Lake, Robert J. Taylor. 2C: Julie A. Aldridge, Ian Millership. 2J: Elaine G. Mills, Stephen G. Sturman. 2R: Terence P. Young, Anthony J. Fenton.

3B: Lynne C. Bailey, Robert D. Gwynn. 3D: Linda Davis, Susan T. Peake. 3W: Beverley A. Syson, Vincent J. Mantle. 4PA: Beverley J. Gripton, A. Paul Huskinson. 4PR: Sheree A. Gabel, David J. Tucker. 4D: Peter Inett, Aqbal Singh.

## SUBJECT PRIZES

Pearson Memorial Prize for English: Annette Gartland; Governors' Prize for Science: Malcolm Cassells; Governors' Prize for History: Patricia M. Long; Governors' Prize for Languages: Patricia M. Long; Governors' Prize for Music: David R. Parkes; Quale Prize for the Arts - Art: Susan M. Breckles; Quayle Prize for the Arts, Woodwork: Ian C. Williams.

## ATHLETICS AWARDS

Guide Prize: Patricia Salisbury; Guide Prize (Presented by Mrs. E. Randell): Carol L. Simkins; Game Prizes - Boys: Stephen A. Wallin, Stephen P. T. Green; Game Prizes - Girls: Elizabeth A. Sadler, Elizabeth L. Taylor; Girls' Athletics Champion (Albright Cup): Charlene B. Dyer; Boys' Athletics Champion (Vernon Cup): Stephen A. Wallin; Parents Cricket Match: Won by the School; Chess - best individual prize: Robert A. Hackeson.

## HOUSE CUPS

Howarth Challenge Cup: Kings; Jephcott Cup for Athletics: Kings; Swimming Cup: Queens; Beard Cup for National Savings: Trinity; Davies Cup for Junior and Middle School Studies: Queens; Hadley Cup for Academic Achievement of Seniors: Trinity; Davies Cup for Music: School; Cup for Public Speaking: Kings; Chess Cup: Trinity.

## SPECIAL AWARDS

Frank Dawes' Prize for Leadership - Boys: Stephen R. Wood; Lydia Dawes' Prize for Leadership - Girls: Pamela J. Hawker; George Rose Prize for Public Speaking Senior School: Stephen M. Paim; Alderman Mrs. E. Pine Prize for Public Speaking Middle School: Charles Wood; Cresconians Prize for Public Speaking Junior School: Joy Cottrell; Governors' Prize for Best Academic Achievement Boys: Stephen R. Wood; Governors' Prize for Best Academic Achievement Girls: Patricia M. Long; Prize for Best 'O' Level - Boys: Anthony R. Thompson; Prize for Best 'O' Level - Girls: Christine Plant.

## HAND CRAFT BEATS CRISIS

A Cradley Heath furniture firm is reverting to pre-industrial methods to keep up production during the three day week.

By using hand tools, Spacemaster believe they will be able to maintain production even if power cuts are added to the three - day week.

Mr. Ron Cotton, chairman of Spacemaster said: "Our men are using hand tools on non-power days already.

"If the national situation deteriorated so that we even reach the extreme of having no power whatsoever, we shall still be able to carry on."

The firm, which specialises in unit furniture, employs about 30 workers at the factory in James Scott Road, Park Lane Trading Estate, Cradley.



Congratulations from the Bishop of Birmingham, for one of the prize winners, during Oldbury Grammar School's Speech Day.