



**THE  
OLDBURIAN**

**OLDBURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL  
MAGAZINE**

**1953**



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## EDITORIAL

**F**OREMOST among our activities during the past school year we record the celebration of the Coronation of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II. All concerned agreed that our main object should be to provide something of lasting value, which could be handed on to future generations of pupils in the School. It was therefore decided to add to the dignity of our Assembly Hall by providing for the platform a well-designed chair, table and lectern, suitably carved to commemorate the Coronation, and to bear the School Crest. With this object in view a Coronation Fund was established, to which contributions were invited. Starting with a generous collection at our Christmas Concert, the fund was well supported by efforts in all Forms. Pupils worked keenly and parents gave freely, so that a total of £300 was readily reached. One noteworthy effort was that made by Mr. Russell and a select group of boys who gave spectacular displays of gymnastics to parents on three successive evenings. After many consultations an order was placed and the furniture made to our requirements. It certainly displays superb workmanship, and will for years to come be a worthy addition to our Assembly Hall. The Cresconians decided to mark the occasion by presenting the School with a large, finely bound copy of the Bible for the lectern. Mr. Hawley designed and made a beautiful reading desk for the table. To all who co-operated in these efforts the School extends its sincere thanks.

We also record that the Vice-Chairman of our Governors, Alderman G. W. Rose, J.P., and other representatives of the Oldbury Borough Council, paid us a visit, to present copies of the Coronation publication, "Elizabeth Our Queen," by Richard Dimbleby, to all our pupils. The School Captains expressed the thanks of all to the Borough Council for these gifts, and for the three days' Coronation holiday.



Apart from these material matters associated with the Coronation, the deeper meaning of the occasion was made evident and deeply appreciated in the School. When Her Majesty was dedicating herself to the service of her peoples, we felt that personal dedication was called for from us all. A service of dedication was therefore arranged, in our Assembly Hall, just before the Coronation holiday. It was conducted by the Vicar of Oldbury, Canon H. Fletcher, M.A., and the Rev. J. D. Crosland, representing the Free Churches. The two School Captains, Ronald Kitchen and Anita Page, assisted with readings. The Mayor and Mayoress of Oldbury, Councillor and Mrs. F. W. Thompson, with the Chairman of our Governors, Alderman B. T. Robbins, J.P., C.C., and many other public representatives and officials, joined us for the service. In the course of his sermon, Canon Fletcher stated, "At this time the Queen needs our help to sustain her in the great task which lies before her, and we, as her subjects, should rededicate ourselves to serve God and our Queen, as she has dedicated her life to serve us." That statement well expresses the spirit of our School, the spirit of loyal service to the highest.

Referring now to other matters, we report that staff changes have fortunately been few, although one of them, to which we shall refer specially, the retirement of Mrs. L. G. Quayle, involves a major change. The only other member of the staff to leave us during the year was Miss J. Keay, M.A., who has gone to take up a post as Senior Mistress in the County Grammar School, Hyde, Cheshire. Miss Keay had been a member of our staff since 1944, and during her nine years of teaching here, she had proved herself to be a most capable teacher. We are grateful to her for her contribution to our progress, and we wish her well in her more responsible position.

We welcome two new members of the staff, Miss Valerie Jones, B.A., who teaches English and French, and Miss S. M. Pickett, A.T.D., who takes charge of the Art Department. We hope they will be happy and successful in their work. Mrs. Quayle's duties as Senior Mistress are being taken over by Miss G. Jones, M.A., who, as we all know well, has for so many years been prominent in our school life. We congratulate her on the promotion, well knowing that Mrs. Quayle has a worthy successor.

To report adequately on Mrs. Quayle at this time of her retirement is an impossible task, her record being so outstanding. No other individual has served this School for such a long period



of time, as she has to her credit, over thirty-nine years in all, and no one has served the School with greater devotion to its best interests. She came to the School in April, 1914, with excellent qualifications from the Liverpool School of Art, and she continued unbroken service here until July, 1953. Three headmasters have been fortunate in having her as a loyal and hard-working assistant, for she was here during the time of both the late Mr. G. H. Crisp, and the late Mr. J. G. Howarth. She was always responsible for Art, and in 1937 undertook the duties of Senior Mistress also. Under her skilful direction the Art of the School has always flourished, and high standards have been attained. In her capacity as Senior Mistress Mrs. Quayle was likewise most thorough and successful, having an extraordinarily detailed knowledge of successive generations of girls, and coupling with that a most sincere interest in their welfare. The School owes an enormous debt to Mrs. Quayle for her life's work on behalf of its members. We wish her great happiness in her well deserved retirement.

At the time of her leaving, Mrs. Quayle received gifts as tokens of the high esteem in which she was held. The gifts included a Pel table from present pupils, rose trees from the staff, art materials from the Joint Societies and from the prefects, and a silver Guide Enrolment Badge and a seed germinating apparatus from the School Company of Girl Guides. We must record also a most generous gesture of Mrs. Quayle at the time of her leaving, in that she has offered to provide rose trees sufficient for a rose garden, to be laid out around an ornamental pool, in the school grounds. Seats in this garden will provide a pleasant resting place for girls, close by the tennis courts. This kindly action is typical of one who has served the School with such earnestness and success for so long. It merits our most cordial thanks, and will be appreciated, not only by present members, but by generations of pupils yet to join our School.

C.C.H.



**SPEECH DAY, 1953**

Chairman – Alderman J. F. GOODE, O.B.E., C.C.  
 in the absence of the Chairman of the Governors,  
 Alderman B. T. Robbins, J.P., C.C.

The School Song

Chairman's Remarks

Boy Captain's Report – – – – B. J. BABINGTON

Girl Captain's Report – – – – PAULINE GOREHAM

Instrumental Quartet

“ Minuet and Trio ” from Divertimento No. 17 (*Mozart*)  
 JOY HOWARD, B. J. BABINGTON,  
 R. G. BIRCH, ALMA LANGLEY

The Headmaster's Report

Speech and Presentation of Prizes by

THE VISCOUNT COBHAM, T.D., J.P.,  
 Deputy Lieutenant of Worcestershire

Part Songs by Senior Girls

“ Music when Soft Voices Die ” (*Wood*)

“ Over Hill, Over Dale ” (*Shaw*)

Vote of Thanks

Proposer: Councillor J. D. BEARD, M.B.E., C.C.

**LORD COBHAM'S SPEECH**

**I**N his speech, Lord Cobham, after a much appreciated humorous introduction, quickly embarked upon his main theme, which was the need for balance in life. An apt illustration was drawn for the necessity for balance in sport, and his lordship quoted Don Bradman's comment to him that, in his opinion, poise was the most important factor in the batsman's art. In connection with this Lord Cobham emphasised the importance of timing, pointing out how, when Bradman made a strike, there seemed a perceptible pause before the bat met the ball, and he reinforced this by quoting Schnabel, the great interpreter of Beethoven, who declared that the greatest crime a musician could commit was to be too early on the note.

Developing his theme, Lord Cobham quoted lines placed beside an inlaid casket made by a great craftsman, and which is on permanent exhibition at the Eton School of Mechanics:



“ Once to a Craftsman I displayed  
 This casket which my friend had made.  
 I praised its inlaid woods with pride;  
 The wiser craftsman looked inside  
 And said, ignoring all the rest,  
 ‘ I like those secret dovetails best ’.”

Lord Cobham acknowledged the importance of technical efficiency, but emphasised that two things were of greater importance in a well-balanced life. First came integrity—“ Honesty is indivisible ”; second came the power to write and speak English. He asserted that the power to transmit thought in speech and the written word is more sadly lacking than ever in our history, and he advised pupils to learn the bones of our language, then clothe them with adornment and aim at the majesty of Shakespeare and Milton. “ If you can write English,” he said, “ you are far more use than if you know what goes on top of a bunsen burner.”

The Chinese had the same word for crisis as opportunity, and Lord Cobham’s final advice was to re-act powerfully to any crisis, which would then become an opportunity.

The vigour of Lord Cobham’s address, with its blending of humour and wisdom, was vastly appreciated by his audience, which thoroughly enjoyed the fresh breeze of humanity that blew through the academic hall.

## AWARDS, 1953

### Form Prizes for General Proficiency

FORM 1C	GILLIAN M. ELSTON H. W. ROBERTSON	FORM 3A	JEAN W. MCLELLAND SHEILA SMITH
FORM 1B	R. STURMAN DOROTHY WESTWOOD	FORM 4C	J. A. JACKSON LINDA KING
FORM 1A	NORA C. REYNOLDS D. C. OWEN MARGARET A. BLOOMER	FORM 4B	M. D. SPOONER ANN ELSDON
FORM 2C	PAMELA A. BATES B. W. DAVIES	FORM 4A	A. F. PRICE VYVIAN M. WELCH
FORM 2B	M. ANN HUXLEY DOREEN R. TETHER	FORM 5S	BARBARA M. LANG PATRICIA K. WILCOCK
FORM 2A	J. S. SMITH A. DODSON	FORM 5M	GRACE E. STURMAN CHRISTINA HILL
FORM 3C	JANET L. MOORE JOAN HOLLYHEAD	FORM 5G	JOY V. HOWARD BERYL FANTHOM H. S. WARD
FORM 3B	SHEILA F. HARRISON VALERIE M. DAWES	FORM 6X	R. J. OAKEY D. EDGE



General Certificates of Education  
at Ordinary Level

B. J. BAILEY	R. A. ROUND
D. T. COOK	B. WHITE
D. EDGE	R. W. H. WILKES
J. S. JENNINGS	B. J. WILLEITS
R. J. OAKEY	NADIA J. BURTON
A. W. POOLER	DIANE CARE
D. E. M. PRICE	RUTH M. CHALK
G. V. RAXTER	MAUREEN L. CLEMENTS
W. J. ROBINSON	OLGA M. L. CLIFT
R. W. SIMMONDS	JOYCE CORKINDALE
C. J. SMITH	DIANE V. DAVIS
A. C. R. STRINGER	NORMA DAVIS
AUDREY K. BRADLEY	PAMELA A. GRANT
CHRISTINE M. CHADBOURNE	ELEANOR HACKETT
JANICE E. CROSS	CHRISTINA HILL
JANET C. CUTLER	BERYL HOLLINSHEAD
JUDITH A. GREEN	JUENNETTA E. P. HORNE
MARGARET JORDAN	VALERIE D. JARRATT
JEANNE PALMER	EILEEN E. LOWE
GILLIAN M. PEARCE	MARGARET E. MILLS
GILLIAN M. PLIMMER	JEANNE C. NICHOLLS
PATRICIA SEALLEY	GABRIELLE A. P. SHAW
CHRISTINE P. SLIM	MARGARET E. SIVITER
PAULINE A. SUCH	BETTY M. SMITH
M. ANN WHITTINGHAM	HAZEL J. SPRIGGS
VALERIE M. WILKINSON	GRACE E. STURMAN
R. J. BARRATT	MARGARET J. THOMPSON
A. J. BENBOW	JEAN M. WHITEHOUSE
N. C. ELSTON	K. C. BELT
M. J. FARDON	B. J. BLAGDEN
N. C. GROSS	E. BUTWELL
B. W. HYDE	K. J. FULLWOOD
M. P. OSBORNE	T. J. GILLARD
K. W. PARKES	M. E. HADLEY
J. C. ROLLASON	A. HARRIS
B. W. WILLIAMS	R. R. HOLDEN
G. V. SMALLMAN	A. J. PYE
A. V. TIPPER	A. SPITTLE
H. S. WARD	R. M. H. THOMAS
P. J. WILCOX	C. E. TONGUE
G. K. WITHINGTON	DIANA E. J. ALLBROOKE
BETTY E. ALLISS	ANN M. BEARD
BERYL M. DOUGHTY	AMY BROOKES
BERYL I. FANTHOM	GILLIAN M. CARTER
MARGARET J. FIELD	JILLIAN R. CRYER
KATHLEEN HADLEY	CYNTHIA M. HARROLD
GILLIAN M. HANCOX	ADA L. JONES
MAVIS K. HARRIS	BARBARA M. LANG
SYLVIA P. HOLLAND	MARGERY PAYNE
JOY V. HOWARD	JANET E. RICHMOND
ANNETTE HURST	ROSEMARY WALKER
JANET A. READ	PATRICIA K. WILCOCK
JEAN A. ROGERS	A. P. BENNETT
MARY RUSTON	H. J. H. MOSS
KATHLEEN A. SEWENTON	B. S. PYNE
GILLIAN F. WARD	D. W. D. SLIM
VALERIE WOOD	L. D. STEVENS
R. G. BIRCH	CHRISTINE M. COX
T. S. BRAYNE	EVA M. CROFTS
D. E. BULLOCK	JUNE D. SAUNDERS
R. F. DAFFERN	JOSEPHINE STAMP
A. W. HUGHES	MARY WATSON
J. J. PRICE	GLORIA B. WHITE



**General Certificates of Education  
at Advanced Level**

P. J. ABELL  
I. G. BETTELEY  
J. HAWKINS  
R. KITCHEN  
A. C. POOLE  
T. E. SMITH  
G. J. WALKER  
J. H. WHITE  
D. A. WOOD

MARGARET A. BENTLEY  
MARJORIE E. COXILL  
PAULINE GOREHAM  
BARBARA GREGORY  
EILEEN P. HARRIS  
CHRISTINE M. MIDDLETON  
PATRICIA C. NEWWEY  
ANITA M. PAGE  
VALERIE WILLIAMS

**Special Awards**

State Scholarships :

Worcestershire University and College  
Awards :

R. KITCHEN  
VALERIE WILLIAMS  
MARGARET A. BENTLEY  
I. G. BETTELEY  
MARJORIE E. COXILL  
BARBARA GREGORY  
G. B. MOORE  
PATRICIA C. NEWWEY  
PATRICIA NEWMAN  
ANITA M. PAGE  
A. C. POOLE  
T. E. SMITH  
JEAN WOODHOUSE  
AWARD DEFERRED

Albright University Scholarship :  
Dawes Memorial University Scholarship :  
Oldbury Educational Trust Scholarships :

AWARD DEFERRED  
MARGARET A. BENTLEY  
MARJORIE E. COXILL  
ANITA M. PAGE  
G. J. WALKER  
R. WESTWOOD  
R. KITCHEN  
VALERIE WILLIAMS  
R. KITCHEN  
ANITA M. PAGE

O.S.A. Prize for Outstanding Achievement :  
Frank Dawes' Prize for Leadership :  
Lydia Dawes' Prize for Leadership :  
Best General Certificate of Education  
—Girls :  
Best General Certificate of Education  
—Boys :

JANET C. CUTLER  
R. J. OAKY

**Prizes for Best Use of Leisure**

Senior Boys' Prize, awarded by the  
late Mr. A. P. Hands :

A. P. BENNETT  
J. LINES

Senior Girls' Prize, awarded by Mrs.  
C. T. Barlow :

CHRISTINE COX  
PAULINE GOREHAM

Junior Prizes, awarded by the late  
Mr. C. T. Barlow :

NORA REYNOLDS  
S. HAINE

Certificate of Merit in Leisure Time  
Activities :

97 AWARDS

**Awards for Games, Athletics, Swimming, Etc.**

Girl Guides Prize :  
Games Prizes :

MARGARET A. BENTLEY  
P. J. ABELL  
I. G. BETTELEY  
MARGARET A. BENTLEY  
AUDREY K. BRADLEY  
MAUREEN BREHAUT  
R. STUBBS

Girls' Junior Champion :  
Boys' Junior Champion :



Girls' Intermediate Champion :	JEAN SHERWOOD
Boys' Intermediate Champion :	M. SUFFIELD
Girls' Senior Champion, awarded Albright Cup :	ANN ELSDON
Boys' Senior Champion, awarded Vernon Cup :	I. G. BETTELEY
Parents' Cricket Match — Cricket Shield :	THE SCHOOL

### House Cups

Davies Cup for Music :	SCHOOL HOUSE
Swimming :	SCHOOL HOUSE
Howarta Cup for Inter-House Games :	TRINITY HOUSE
Jephcott Cup for Athletics :	QUEEN'S HOUSE
Davies Cup for Junior and Middle School Studies :	KING'S HOUSE
Hadley Cup for Academic Achieve- ment of Seniors :	TRINITY HOUSE
Winning House in National Savings Campaign :	QUEEN'S HOUSE

### Some Recent Successes of Old Scholars, 1953

#### Cambridge University

I. D. HOWARD

First Class Hons. in Final Tripos Ex-  
amination (Part I)  
Awarded Foundation Scholarship and  
Prize in Natural Sciences at  
Queen's College  
First Class Hons. B.Sc. of London  
University.

#### Birmingham University

##### *Faculty of Medicine*

S. H. TAYLOR

Passed Final M.B., Ch.B. Awarded  
L.R.C.P. and M.R.C.S.  
Awarded the Queen's Hospital Joseph  
Sampson Gamgee Prize in Surg-  
ery. Appointed to the Neurosurg-  
ical Dept. of the Queen Elizabeth  
Hospital.

A. WOOTTON  
M. A. COLE  
J. M. SHEPHARD

Passed Second M.B., Ch.B. (Part II).  
Passed Second M.B., Ch.B. (Part II).  
B.Sc. Hons. Class II in 1951 (Physiol-  
ogy and Anatomy).  
Passed Part I of M.B., Ch.B., with  
Distinction in Forensic Medicine.

##### *Faculty of Arts*

L. N. GREEN

Passed 2nd year exams. in Hons.  
School of Geography.

G. E. BROWN

Passed 1st year exams. in Hons.  
School of English.

R. L. DITTRICH

Passed 2nd year exams. in Hons.  
School of History.

OLWYN RUSTON

Passed 1st year exams. in Hons.  
School of History.

##### *Faculty of Science*

P. J. WHITTINGHAM

Passed B.Sc., Hons. Class II (Chem-  
istry).

#### Leeds University

E. V. DULSON

Passed Final M.B., Ch.B. (Part II).

#### University of Nottingham

J. MORSE  
W. G. K. TAYLOR

Passed B.Sc. Hons. Chemistry.  
Completed 2nd year of Hons. Course  
in Chemistry.  
Completed 1st year of Hons. Course  
in History.

B. E. S. TRUEMAN



University of Sheffield	
H. J. H. DUNN	Completed 2nd year of Medical Course.
University of Manchester	
JANET C. HAWLEY	Passed Preliminary exam. for Hons. in Politics and Modern History.
University of Wales—Swansea College	
J. M. LOMAX	B.Sc. Civil Engineering (2nd Class Hons.) Awarded Post-Graduate Scholarship for Research.
	<b>Bangor College</b>
A. J. LAMBERT	B.Sc. Forestry.
Edinburgh University	
D. E. JOHNSON	Passed 2nd Year M.R.C.V.S. (1952).
Training Colleges	
<i>University of Southampton, King Alfred's College, Winchester</i>	
A. W. LEE	Gained Certificate of Institute of Education.
T. T. PAYNE	Gained Certificate of Institute of Education.
<i>Dudley</i>	
DINAH BAKER	Completed Two Year Course for Teaching Diploma.
MARGARET WEBB	Completed Two Year Course for Teaching Diploma.
JOYCE STANDLEY	Completed Two Year Course for Teaching Diploma.
BARBARA COMLEY	Completed First Year of Course.
JUNE HALL	Completed First Year of Course.
<i>Birmingham</i>	
ROMA BARDILL	Completed Two Year Course for Teaching Diploma.
CONSTANCE BAGLEY	Completed Two Year Course for Teaching Diploma.
CYNTHIA ROLLINSON	Completed Two Year Course for Teaching Diploma.
MARGARET POLLARD	Completed Two Year Course for Teaching Diploma.
MARGARET A. LYCETT	Completed Two Year Course for Teaching Diploma.
<i>Saltley College</i>	
R. J. C. BLEWITT	Completed Two Year Course for Teaching Diploma.
<i>Worcester</i>	
R. WESTWOOD	Completed Two Year Course for Teaching Diploma.
<i>Shenstone</i>	
JUDITH JEAVONS	Completed Two Year Course for Teaching Diploma.
BERYL WHITEHOUSE	Completed Two Year Course for Teaching Diploma.
<b>Birmingham School of Music</b>	
MONICA HARES	Gained A.B.S.M. and L.R.A.M.
OLWYN RUSTON	Gained A.L.C.M. (Pianoforte Playing).
<b>Birmingham College of Technology</b>	
M. G. SPENCER	Completed Third Year Ph.C.
JOYCE WESTON	Passed Final Examination of the Pharmaceutical Society.



**Birmingham Dispensary (Foot Clinic)****PATRICIA ROOKER**Completed First Year of Training in  
Chiropody.**Nursing****VALERIE ELSTON**Gained 1st place in England in the  
Junior Orthopædic Nursing Association  
Examination.**HILARY LANE**Passed the 1st year Examinations of  
the Royal Orthopædic Hospital.  
Passed the Junior Orthopædic Nurs-  
ing Association Exam.**JEAN WOODHOUSE**Passed the Junior Orthopædic Nurs-  
ing Association Exam.**DOREEN PUGH**Gained 2nd place in Junior Hospital  
Examination of Royal Orthopæ-  
dic Hospital.  
Passed Final Examination for State  
Registered Nurse [S.R.N.] Gold  
Medallist in Training at Burton-  
on-Trent.**Institute of Municipal Treasurers and Accountants****J. W. HADLEY**

Passed Final I.M.T.A. Examination.

**Institute of Chartered Accountants****M. B. PEARSON**Passed Intermediate I.C.A. Examina-  
tion.**MR. J. G. HOWARTH**

**O**LD students and many of the present staff heard with regret of the passing of a former headmaster, Mr. J. G. Howarth, M.A., at the age of 81 on April 6th, 1953.

Among the many schools in which Mr. Howarth taught were Reigate Grammar School, where he was second master and senior science master from 1906 to 1917, and King Edward's School, Stourbridge, where he was second master from 1917 to 1920. From 1920 to 1936, when he retired, Mr. Howarth was the headmaster of the County High School, Oldbury, as it was then known. It was in his term of office that the school was transferred from Flash Road to the present buildings.

During his long life, Mr. Howarth engaged in many activities. He rose to the rank of Major in the Cadets, played Rugby football for the County whilst he was in Gloucester, rowed, and as a pastime indulged in heavy weight lifting, for which his powerful frame was eminently suited.

Mr. Howarth was most admirably supported by his wife, who supervised school dinners at the school during his term as headmaster, and the closely united couple were rarely seen apart out of school hours. Mrs. Howarth's death three years ago was a blow from which he never recovered.



A familiar memory to most of us is of a powerful, white-haired figure presiding with dignity on the platform of the school assembly hall. His strong, but quiet, personality illuminated by frequent flashes of humour affected staff and pupils alike, many of whom affectionately welcomed him on the rare visits he made to the school in later years.

Mr. Howarth lived for his work, and loved the school to which he contributed so much. In return he was respected and beloved. He will long remain in our memories.

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### JOINT SOCIETIES

September 25th.—The President of the Society opened the meeting by welcoming the new members and installing the new officers. The meeting took the form of an inter-house quiz. Questions were asked upon various topics by Miss Scriven, Mr. Swain, Miss Bryant, Mr. Partridge, Mr. Morris, Mr. Bennett, Mr. Laycock, Mr. Lawton and Mr. Woodward. King's were first, followed by School, Trinity and Queen's.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Eileen Harris and seconded by Smith.

October 2nd.—Members of the Sixth Form described their holiday in France. Walker described the outgoing journey, Price gave his impressions of various towns, Babington told of their stay in Paris, and Walker concluded with a description of the journey home.

A vote of thanks was given by Hawkins and Marjorie Coxill.

October 9.—The meeting took the form of a series of debates. Molly Biddulph and Carter spoke on "Men's Fashions," Tongue and Barbara Lang on "Girls spend their leisure time more profitably than Boys," Withington and Valerie Wood on "Are prefects really essential?", Audrey Bradley and Price on "Comics," Christina Hill and Valerie Jarratt on "Is television really beneficial to the home?" and Pat Newey and White on "Sunday cinemas."

A vote of thanks was proposed by Lines and seconded by Janet Tibbetts.

October 16th.—Members of the Sixth Form Biology Group described "The Social Aspect of the History of Medical Science."



Wood spoke on "Anæsthetics," Walker on "History of Surgical Science," Valerie Williams on "The Rise of the Germ Theory," and Anita Page on "The Wide Application of Medical Science."

A vote of thanks was proposed by Kitchen and seconded by Barbara Gregory.

November 6th.—The Society was fortunate in having an old boy of the Society, Mr. Wagg, M.A., to speak on Spain. Mr. Wagg described the different languages, physical features, climates and customs of each area.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Pat Newey and seconded by Abell.

November 13th.—The Society was entertained by Mr. Maule of the British Naturopathic Association, who spoke on "Health and Fitness."

A vote of thanks was proposed by Bennet and seconded by Christine Middleton.

November 20th.—The Sixth Form Physics Group took the meeting, which was entitled "Physics can be fun."

Two short films on Electricity were shown by Mr. Lee, after which the members were taken to the laboratory and saw and tried many experiments and demonstrations.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Pauline Goreham and seconded by White.

November 27th.—The Society were privileged to hear Professor Smout, Dean of the Medical School, Birmingham University, who came to speak on "Moral Rearmament."

A vote of thanks was proposed by Anita Page and seconded by Kitchen.

December 14th.—Members of 6A presented a play reading of "The Importance of Being Earnest," by Oscar Wilde. The cast was

Mr. Algernon Moncrieff—Walker.

Lane, his butler—Wood.

Mr. Worthing—Kitchen.

Lady Bracknell—Anita Page.

Gwendoline, her daughter—Christine Middleton.

Cecily Cardew, John Worthing's ward—Janet Tibbetts.

Miss Prism, her governess—Pat Newey.

The Rev. Canon Chesuble—Smith.



A vote of thanks was proposed by Carter and seconded by Josephine Stamp.

January 8th.—Dr. Howard, President of the Society, gave a talk entitled "The Building of a Concerto."

A vote of thanks was proposed by Jennings and seconded by Audrey Bradley.

January 15th.—Members of 6x Geography Group spoke on "Weather." Judith Green introduced the speakers: Jennings, describing various weather-indicating instruments, Price, dealing with the formation of anti-cyclones and depressions, Margaret Jordan, giving an account of the recognition of the above elements, and Cook concluding with an outline of weather organization.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Christine Chadbourne and seconded by Oakey.

January 22nd.—The Sixth Form History Group read papers on "The Life of Elizabethan Seamen." Christine Middleton spoke on Sir John Hawkins, Eileen Harris—Sir Francis Drake, Mary Watson—Thomas Cavendish, Marjorie Coxill—Frobisher, Josephine Stamp—Sir Richard Grenville, Pine—Sir Humphrey Gilbert, and White—Sir Walter Raleigh.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Gross and seconded by Kathleen Shenton.

January 29th.—Members of 5G and 6x commented on modern poems taken from "An Anthology of Modern Poetry." Beryl Fanthom described the circumstances under which the poems were written and Joy Howard introduced each reader of 5G:

"Journey of a Magi"—Valerie Wood.

"The Future is not for us"—Parkes.

"By Severn's Banks"—Fardon.

"Saint Joan"—Kathleen Shenton.

"Abnormal Psychology."—Sylvia Holland.

"The Repentance of Dr. Faustus"—Annette Hurst.

The poems read by 6x were:

"Coverings"—Christine Slim.

"Horses on the Carmargue"—Oakey.

"Fish"—Margaret Jordan.

"Mrs. Reece Laughs"—Cooke.

"The Goat"—Jennings.

"Mrs. Hague"—Christine Chadbourne.



A vote of thanks was proposed by Juanita Horne and seconded by Birch.

February 5th.—Mademoiselle Laissais entertained the Society with a short talk on Brittany.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Jillian Cryer and seconded by Thomas.

February 26th.—Mr. Stilton, of Albright & Wilson, spoke to the Society on "The Phosphorus Industry in Great Britain."

A vote of thanks was proposed by Hawkins and seconded by Anita Page.

March 5th.—Forms 5M and S gave two play readings. 5M gave two short scenes from "Happy and Glorious," by Laurence Hauseman. The characters were:

Queen Victoria—Beryl Hollinshead.

Prince Albert—Birch.

The Duchess (Queen's Mistress of the Robes)—  
Juanita Horne.

Lady Jane—Maureen Clements.

Mr. Barron (Prince's private secretary)—Brayne.

A Maid—Norma Davis.

5s presented "Meet Mrs. Beeton," by L. Du Garde-Peach. The caste was:

Mrs. Jennings—Ann Beard.

Mr. Jennings—Fullwood.

Mrs. Beeton—Ada Jones.

Mr. Beeton—Hargreaves.

Phoebe, a maid—Barbara Lang.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Walker and seconded by Christine Middleton.

March 19th.—Mr. Walton, of the Youth Employment Department, gave advice and help on the choice of careers.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Jeanne Palmer and seconded by Cook.

23 April 25.—The last meeting of the 1952-53 session took the form of a most enjoyable dance.

July 2nd—In connection with the annual outing, Mr. Goodyear of the Birmingham Waterworks, came to speak on the supply of water to Birmingham.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Kitchen and seconded by Anita Page.



## GUIDE ACTIVITIES

## OFFICERS:

Captain—F. D. TWEEDIE.

## Lieutenants—

B. PINE. M. MORRIS. D. NICHOLLS. C. BAGLEY.

## Cadets—

H. BENTLEY. M. COXILL. C. COX. M. JORDAN.  
M. BIDDULPH. A. BRADLEY.

## Leaders—

RUTH CHALK	...	...	Primrose.
JOAN HOLLYHEAD	...	...	Chaffinch.
ANN WHITTINGHAM	...	...	Scarlet Pimpernal.
HAZEL SPRIGGS	...	...	Snowdrop.
DIANE DAVIS	...	...	Orchid.
VALERIE JARRATT	...	...	Nightingale.
SYLVIA HOLLAND	...	...	Robin.

**F**OLLOWING in chronological order from the 1951-52 issue, the first important date after our return to school was the Remembrance Service and Parade which took place on the 9th of November. Unfortunately the weather was not at its best, but still the Company was represented by a large number.

The following evening we held our Christmas Bazaar in the School Assembly Hall. The Bazaar was opened by Mrs. Barlow, an old friend of the School and the Guides. She was introduced by the Headmaster and Margaret Jordan proposed a vote of thanks to her. The evening was a great success and when the stalls were empty at about 9-30 p.m., approximately one hundred pounds had been taken.

On November 24th, we held our annual enrolment. Many recruits were enrolled as Guides and a number of second class badges was awarded.

Another annual event is the Jumble Sale in the Parish Hall, Oldbury. This was held on November 29th. Again the weather turned against us and our total was disappointing. We wish to thank Mrs. Quayle and Miss Williams for the generous way in which they helped us.

At the beginning of the year, Cadet Margaret Jordan was chosen to represent the County with two other Cadets at a Cadet Conference at Headquarters, London. The conference was also attended by the World Chief Guide, Lady Baden-Powell. Our Cadet had the pleasure of meeting the Chief personally.



On February 22nd the Thinking Day Service was held in St. Michael's Church, Langley. The service was very enjoyable, but it was to be regretted that the number present from our Company was very small.

The Oldbury Guide Local Association held their Annual General Meeting in the School Hall on the 3rd of March. Miss Edwards, the Welfare Officer for Oldbury, talked to us about her work and then our Company formed the horseshoe in which some local association members were enrolled.

On Empire Youth Sunday, a service was held in Edgbaston Old Church at 3 p.m., at which our Company formed the choir. Later in the evening the service was broadcast on the radio and listeners heard our choir render a three-part anthem called "The Greatness of God."

The morning of Wednesday, May 27th, brought with it the visit to London to see the Coronation decorations. Whilst in London, we visited Guide Headquarters. On arriving at Westminster Abbey, we saw the red carpet being rolled up. We had missed seeing the Queen by about five minutes. Coaches took us around London and after a very enjoyable day we caught the train home.

On May 31st, a Coronation Service was held in Oldbury Parish Church. It was attended by a large number of our Guides.

Cadet Margaret Bentley was fortunate in being chosen to stay at Imperial Headquarters and see the Coronation Procession from a position opposite Westminster Abbey.

On June 5th, twenty Guides paid a second visit to London, this time at night in order to see the illuminated decorations. The Guides, with the exception of the smaller members of the party, saw the Queen leaving Lancaster House.

On June 12th, a second Coronation Service was held, this time in St. Martin's Church, Birmingham. After the service, the Guides paraded around the city.

On the occasion of Mrs. Quayle's retirement as the Senior Mistress, the Guides decided as a gesture of appreciation of her interest in the Company, to enrol her as a Guide and member of our Company. We hope that this tie will enable us to see much of Mrs. Quayle in the future.

As we approached the end of term and also the end of the school year, with examinations concluded, our thoughts again



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turned to the annual camp. Again we had chosen to camp at Beer in South Devon. Considering the summer weather, we chose two of the best weeks in which to camp, thus completing a marvellous holiday.

In conclusion, may we offer our very sincere thanks to Miss Tweedie, the rest of the Guiders and our friends and supporters outside the movement, for making this eventful guiding year a most enjoyable and memorable one for all Guides and Cadets.

Margaret Jordan.

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### MUSICAL ACTIVITIES

**T**HE past year has seen keen interest maintained in all branches of our musical activities. As one generation of enthusiasts leaves, another comes to take its place.

The orchestra has remained at its normal strength of thirty players, with the proper balance maintained. There is once again no lack of candidates for admission, for the various classes of learners are stronger than ever. There is evidence of marked musical ability among our younger players who are coming on, as well as in the already well-known seniors who have appeared on our platform many times already.

The Girls' Choir likewise is still flourishing, as is the Four-Part Choir. The part-singing of both choirs is greatly enjoyed. The boys of the Assembly Choir form an important section of our Large Choir, which has excelled all its previous performances by the achievements of the past year. Our singing is thus progressing well in all sections.

Musical appreciation groups have met at mid-day during part of the school year, and the meetings have again been enjoyable.

A recent innovation into our morning assembly has been the playing of the piano by various pupils. This experience in accompanying the singing at assembly is most valuable to them, and is an added interest to all concerned. Many of our pupils have proved their competence in a marked way.

Musical activities of the year have given scope for all groups of our musicians in corporate work. Our regular mid-day practices have kept the standard of singing and playing at a high level. The Christmas concert was considered to be the best of its kind, while



the concert at the end of the summer term was again voted to be the very best up to that time. All this is evidence of progress, and is most encouraging to all concerned. A critical summary of our last concert was made by Mr. Percy Ward, a well-known local musician who has been responsible for many musical productions in the Borough of Oldbury for many years past. It will be well to follow the factual part of this report by quoting his appreciation of our last concert:

**T**HE Choral and Orchestral Concert on Thursday evening, July 16th, was the most successful yet held in the School Hall.

The playing of the orchestra was very good indeed. The tone on the whole was firm and solid—volume commendably controlled—pitch, phrasing and balance very satisfactory.

The Allegro from the Second Symphony by Haydn was the opening item and set a high standard of performance well maintained in the Minuet and Trio from the Surprise Symphony by the same composer.

Perhaps the orchestra was not quite so much at ease in Warlock's Capriol Suite—but in Beethoven's Allegretto from the Seventh Symphony all was well; the rich and round tone of the violas was outstanding.

Bach's Largo from Concerto in D Minor for two violins and pianoforte was extremely well done. The playing was most impressive and the phrasing and tone colour uplifting.

Strong rhythmic playing by the String Quartet was a feature of Bach's Two Gavottes and balance and phrasing marked their work in Mozart's Minuet and Trio from the Divertimento.

The standard of singing by the Girls' Choir, the Four-Part Choir, and the Large Choir was excellent. The national songs by the Four-Part Choir delighted the large audience and the Large Choir with the orchestra gave us some rich and brilliant tone in Perry's "England" and "Britain"—words by Mr. B. C. Pearson, M.A., a member of the Staff, set to music by Dr. Cyril S. Christopher, D.Mus., F.R.C.O., a former pupil of the school.

A special word of praise is due to the Girls' Choir. It was a real joy to listen to their fresh and rich voices. All their songs were beautifully rendered but perhaps the one that stands out as the most moving was "Ring Out, Wild Bells," by Peake.

At the end of the concert one felt a sense of deep gratitude to Dr. C. C. Howard, the staff and pupils for such a wonderful evening's enjoyment."



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In conclusion may we express the hope that our music will continue to flourish and provide much enjoyment in the future as it certainly has in the past.

Joy Howard.

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### THE ANNUAL OUTING OF THE JOINT SOCIETIES

**T**HE annual outing of the Joint Societies took place on Friday, July 10th, when a visit was paid to the Elan Valley.

Four coaches left school at 8 a.m., arriving back some fourteen hours later. During this time, we had stopped at Clee Hills, toward Ludlow Castle, and picnicked on the hills at Pen-y-bont.

The whole afternoon was spent in the valley, where we visited the new Claerwen Dam and the three dams situated on the River Elan.

We had tea at the Elan Valley Hotel, after which we started home, passing through many delightful villages and pausing briefly at Bewdley.

Once more our thanks must be accorded to Miss Jones for this most enjoyable trip.

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### VISITS TO STRATFORD, 1953

**D**URING the summer term two parties from the School visited the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre at Stratford-upon-Avon. In May, a party of Fifth and Sixth Formers saw Glen Byam Shaw's production of "Antony and Cleopatra," and in July a party consisting mainly of Fourth Formers saw George Devine's production of "The Taming of the Shrew."

We left School at 11-15 a.m. on a Saturday morning, and after our usual stop at Henley-in-Arden to sample some of the famous ice cream we arrived in Stratford determined to enjoy ourselves. The weather, fortunately, was fine, and in spite of a brisk wind many of us went on the river before going into the theatre.

"Antony and Cleopatra" has not been performed at Stratford for some years, and therefore was entirely new to me. In some ways, I was entranced by the production, but, in others, I must admit I was a little disappointed.



Peggy Ashcroft gave a good performance as "The serpent of Old Nile," although she seemed to lack some of the fire we have come to expect of a Cleopatra. The scene in which the dying Antony is brought to her is easily her best in the play, since Miss Ashcroft always excels herself in the more dignified and emotional scenes. However, one must not forget the famous scene in which she kills herself, which can scarcely be called less than great.

Michael Redgrave also deserves praise for his performance as Antony, though it would have improved the play had he looked and spoken a little less like Macbeth. It was perhaps unfortunate that some of us had seen Anthony Quayle's delicate portrayal of Antony in "Julius Caesar" in 1950, a character which seems to me to bear little resemblance to the "rough soldier" Antony of this play.

Marius Goring was superb as the icy, almost inhuman Octavius Caesar. I say "almost inhuman" because in one delightful scene Caesar does forget his dignity and has to be carried off the stage since he is too drunk to walk. This scene on board Pompey's galley was the most hilarious in the play, reverting almost to slapstick in places.

The part of Enobarbus, the rough soldier with a heart of gold, becomes a gem when in the skilful hands of Harry Andrews. Mr. Andrews has, for several years, played leading parts in the productions at Stratford, and it was a great disappointment to many of us when he was not able to be there last year. I, for one, hope that he will continue to grace the Stratford stage for many years to come, as he is a fine, and accomplished actor.

There are many others such as Rachel Kempson as the charming Octavia, Donald Pleasence as Lepidus, and Robert Shaw as Dolabella, who helped to make this play such a success. I must mention the wonderful scenery and costumes by Motley and the skilful lighting by Peter Streuli. Between them these two artists give the play a greatness it would not otherwise have achieved. The Egyptian scenes were all played in settings of warm reds, yellows and purples, with the warm lighting adding to its intensity. But the Roman scenes with the icy Caesar as its central figure, were in direct contrast, with the setting and lighting in cold whites, blues and greens. Thus a magnificent contrast was drawn not only in characters but also in stage design.

In July, a party of Fourth Formers visited Stratford to see 'The Taming of the Shrew.' After stopping at Henley and going on the river, activities which have become a tradition in School parties,



we went to the Memorial Theatre to see a play which was absolutely delightful in every way.

The players seemed to enter completely into their parts, and appeared to be enjoying themselves as much as we were. Marius Goring made a fine dashing Petruchio who looked equally attractive in satins or rags.

Yvonne Michell was an attractive but not very shrewish Katherine. One felt that, apart from a few tantrums, Petruchio would not have much difficulty in taming her.

Michael Warre as Christopher Sly was extremely good, occasionally showing us that his long white nightgown concealed quite a fine pair of legs. But sometimes one thought he looked like a comic version of John of Gaunt.

Bianca was prettily and sweetly portrayed by Mary Watson, but one did wonder where she found the spirit to disobey her husband at the end of the play!

Donald Pleasence as Grumio gave a delightfully witty performance and often had the audience roaring with laughter at his asides. This, together with Basil Hoskins' portrayal of Hortensio helped to make the play such a success. Mr. Hoskins played his Hortensio as a type of Sir Andrew Aguecheek and wore the most delicate shade of primrose yellow satin.

There are many others such as Tony Britton as Lucentio and Peter Morris as Vincentio who contributed greatly to the success of this play, and although it cannot be said to have been as great as "Antony and Cleopatra" it had a charm of its own, and is in my opinion, with the exception of "Volpone" last year, the best comedy play I have seen at Stratford for some time.

In conclusion I will say that although this may not have been Stratford's most outstanding season, it has given us great variety both in plays and acting and will leave its mark upon theatre history. I must extend our thanks to Miss Jones for organising our parties, and to Mr. Partridge for braving the coldest weather in order to queue for our tickets.

Patricia C. Newey, VIA.

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### "THE TINDERBOX"

ON January 13th, 1953, a party of about ninety First Formers visited the Repertory Theatre in Birmingham to see a Christmas play. The play was taken from Hans Andersen's charming



fairy story "The Tinderbox." We left School at about 2-0 p.m. in coaches which were especially hired for the occasion.

The scenery was very attractive and considering the size and shape of the theatre the actors and actresses spoke very clearly, as every single word was audible. Quite a number of boys and girls enjoyed ices during the interval and as it was another way of spending their money it made the ices even more enjoyable. The parts of the Witch, her servants Shemozzle and Kufcuffle and the three dogs were well acted. The pantomime ended and so we made our way to the stairs which would once again lead us into the dull streets of Birmingham. The coaches were waiting to take us home again after a very happy and enjoyable afternoon. We arrived back at School at about 6-30 p.m.

Joan Donachie, Pamela Barnsley, Nora Reynolds,

Form IA.

### EASTER VISIT TO SWITZERLAND

**O**UTSIDE the School gates promptly at 12 o'clock came the coach which was to bear us across the Channel to Switzerland. Goodbyes to parents and friends were said and at last we were on our way. Needless to say, no one slept for long that night.

Soon we arrived at Dover, and from there we saw our last sight of England for 10 days. It was a perfect day for a crossing—brilliant sunshine and the sea was indeed like the proverbial mill-pond.

About one o'clock, we arrived at Boulogne where we were entertained by the efforts of Mr. Tibbs to make himself understood in very Anglicised French. We then made our way through France towards Bruges. On the way, we passed through the badly bombed French ports of Dunkirk and Calais.

It was very easy to tell when we had left France behind and entered Belgium because of the neatness and care with which houses, land and trees were set out in great squares and lines. The countryside was extremely flat and the roads were straight and uninteresting. On the way we passed through several holidays resorts and the general impression from these was of many sand dunes. Sand seemed to be everywhere!

Bruges, we found to be very interesting and we were given two chances of sight-seeing. In the evening, we were able to see the ancient square, with its very old and famous cloth-market and



bell tower. The shops seemed to be very lovely, but, unfortunately, at this time we had no money. The following morning at 9-0 a.m. before we left, we were able to walk by the canals running by the side of the houses.

Soon we were on our way to Metz, in France, and went via Brussels, which seemed to be a very modern town, and through the small country of Luxembourg. As it was the day of the wedding of the Crown Prince and Princess Josephine of Belgium, we hoped for a glimpse of the festivities, but the rain poured down and we had only a view of the decorated streets.

After a fairly uneventful journey passing through the industrial region of France, we finally entered Switzerland and in heavy rain at about 6-15 p.m. we arrived in Interlaken. After the low country of Belgium and the higher country of the French Juras, the Alps were a thrilling sight. We were always craning our necks to catch a glimpse of them, but unfortunately we could see only the lower slopes because of low cloud. Everywhere along the road were the picturesque chalets that we had only ever seen in pictures.

Our first morning in Interlaken we spent shop-gazing and exploring the beauty of the lakes in brilliant sunshine. The afternoon saw us on the way to the famous Trummelbach Falls. The scenery on the way was unbelievable in its beauty with the mountain tops towering above us, and the waterfalls dropping down to the valleys.

We were all up early on the Sunday, ready for a morning on the Harder which could be seen from the windows of our hotel. The ascent was made by mountain railway. Many of us walked through deep snow to the summit and some of our party enjoyed a vigorous snowball fight! From the Harder, we were able to have a lovely view of Interlaken, Brientz—and the two lakes of Brientz and Thun, a glorious blue, while towering above were the mountains and in the distance the snow-capped Jungfrau.

On Sunday afternoon we set out for Grindelwald. Here we were to make our way up to the glacier by ski-lift. But we were disappointed; the ski-lift did not function until May! So a party of us climbed up to the Lower Glacier on the Eiger, and were rewarded by a view of the chalets scattered below us around Grindelwald.

We also visited Brientz, famous for its wood carvings, and, in spite of rain in the afternoon, we made the journey to the Blue Lake and the famous trout hatcheries there. On the Tuesday



morning, we visited the limestone caves, and saw the rushing underground streams and various stalactites and stalagmites. Arriving back in Interlaken, we made a journey up the Heimwehfluh to see the model railway there.

In the afternoon we made the journey to Thun by boat across the lake.

On Wednesday morning we said goodbye to Interlaken and began the journey home. When we looked out of our bedroom windows we were surprised to find Interlaken covered with snow. We left in a snowstorm and as somebody remarked, we had experienced every kind of weather except thunderstorms in our travels.

France was bathed in sunshine and after spending an exciting night at Vittel and another at Arras we arrived once more within sight of "the white cliffs of Dover."

We reached the School on the stroke of one o'clock on the Saturday morning, sorry that our lovely holiday had finished but happy to be home again. Thanks to Miss Keay and the other members of the Staff, we had a most wonderful holiday.

Eileen Harris and Christine Middleton.

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### BOYS' EXCURSION TO SWITZERLAND

AT 12-30 a.m., August 24th, a very excited party of Oldbury schoolboys boarded a shining cream and blue motor coach in Stockland's Garage, Erdington. At 9 a.m. a very bedraggled and not so excited party of Oldbury schoolboys arrived at Dover in pouring rain, faced with a 2½ hour wait for the boat.

Being up all night was not an ideal start to our holiday, but our spirits soon rose when the weather cleared and we went on board the "Princess Josephine Charlotte" which was to take us to Ostend. A delicious lunch was served aboard and we were soon steaming across the channel which was as calm as the most optimistic could have hoped. Ostend was reached by 4-30 p.m. and the customs passed without difficulty.

No longer fearing to exceed 30 m.p.h., Mr. Tibbs, our inimitable driver-courier, took us through the Belgium countryside at a steady 50 m.p.h. to arrive in Bruxelles at 7 p.m. This is a most colourful city by night. It is just one blaze of neon lights which better those of Piccadilly Circus.



Next morning we arose at the unearthly hour of 6-30 a.m. to proceed on our way to Freiburg. The late nights and early mornings were now beginning to take their toll, for most of our party lapsed into oblivion during the day, and the coach provided a very comical sight of gaping mouths and queer postures.

The hotel at Freiburg was not expecting us till the next day, so some of the party had to sleep elsewhere. When Mr. Tibbs lodged a firm protest the usual calm efficiency of the Germans broke down. Finally some of us were transported to another hotel in a truck on the back of a volkswagen. People in the streets burst out laughing when they saw us—evidently it is unusual to travel in such a way in Germany. This was not a very favourable impression of the German people, but we did notice that they are not afraid of work, and it is easy to see how they have made such a remarkable recovery as a nation.

The following morning we had a little time to spare as the journey to Montreux did not necessitate an early start. We spent the time looking round Freiburg, and sampling "lis mit sahné" (ice cream and whipped cream). They are delicious.

It was not long before we were approaching Montreux and anticipating our first view of Lac Lemman and the Alps. We were not disappointed, for on coming to the top of a rise we were suddenly confronted with the great expanse of Lac Lemman and the majestic Alps rising sheer from the water's edge.

We arrived in Montreux at 7 p.m., and after establishing ourselves in the Hotel Terminus, we all went out to take a look at the town. Montreux is an ideal tourist centre and we saw countless things in the shops which we longed to buy but could not afford.

On our first whole day in Montreux everyone did as he pleased. Most, on acquiring their Swiss currency, went once more around the city and some bought it, along with Lac Lemman—at least that is how it seemed when the money started to flow. The weather was good and improving all the time. In the afternoon a party, by this time decked in fancy caps and Swiss badges, went swimming in the lake.

The following day we all went up the Grand St. Bernard Pass. Our own coach took us up the Rhone valley as far as Martigny. Thence we went to the small village of Orsieres by train and then completed the journey in specially adapted motor coaches. The hairpin bends of the unmetalled roads were most frightening because the end of the coaches would hang over the edge of precipices, Nevertheless our view from the top more than recompensed us for



our nerve-trying journey. The enormous snow-capped mountains, the great precipices and huge deep-cut valleys made us wonder if it could possibly be real. Some of us made a point of climbing to a snow patch and snow-balling or even sledging (on an abandoned sled) in the month of August.

Next morning—Saturday—a number of the party paid a visit to the Rochers de Naye. These are mountains near Montreux which can easily be reached by rack railway. Once again we were enthralled with the beauty of the scenery.

The following afternoon Mr. Tibbs kindly took the party to Evian—a village on the French side of Lac Lemman. Everyone made the most of a last swim in the warm water of the lake. The last evening was spent in having a final walk round Montreux and spending what few francs we had left.

Once more it was time to travel, this time to Reims. No one wanted to go home, and it was a very melancholy party which arrived at the hotel Continental in the late afternoon. We spent the evening wandering around this old cathedral town, and since this is the centre of the champagne industry, we felt that we simply had to sample "une bouteille de champagne."

As a fitting end to our stay in Reims we visited the famous "caves" of the Pommery Champagne Company. We quote our Americanised guide's apt comment on the life history of this famous product: "five years to make, five minutes to drink, and five hours to sleep it off."

It was therefore on a gay note that the party left Reims and continued on the homeward journey to Dunkirque.

We crossed the again placid channel on our friend the "Saint Germain." Dover was reached at 6-0 a.m. Once more it was raining—but that was to be expected.

The last stage of the homeward journey was uneventful and at 6-0 p.m., a tired but contented party of schoolboys arrived back from an excellent holiday in Switzerland to the awe-inspiring sight of Oldbury!

We should like to conclude by thanking Mr. Swain, Mr. Laycock and Mr. Tibbs for making this unforgettable holiday possible.

John S. Jennings, Roy J. Oakey.



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### PHYSICAL EDUCATION—Boys

**DURING** the year under review, great strides have been made in some directions in the boys' physical education activities. We enjoyed a fairly successful football season and the firm establishment of an Under 13½ XI promises even better Senior XI's in the future. The road races had another excellent entry and cross country running is rapidly taking its place as one of our winter sports. Gymnastics in the school reached a new peak in the Coronation Display, a standard which it is hoped, will be maintained in the future. Our cricket season was a very good one, many records were broken in the athletic sports, the swimming gala went off better than ever before with excellent entries and we can at last see a whole playing field again. In short, the future looks rosy. We can forge ahead with confidence, improving the present physical education facilities and widening our scope more and more until every boy in the school will be able to take part in competitive physical activity of some sort. We are ready to start on the second mile.

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### FOOTBALL

The 1st XI started the 1952-53 season in a disastrous manner by losing their first six matches, but by dint of hard work and concentrated practice the team gradually improved and in the Spring term lost only one of their twelve matches. The team was well captained by Abell, and Moss made a most efficient honorary secretary. The School lost their annual fixture with the Cresconians by 5 goals to 2. An innovation this year was a match against a Loughborough College XI played on Chance & Hunt's ground. A thrilling game in which both teams played picture football rightly resulted in a draw, 2 goals each.

The 1st XI played 27 matches of which they won 13, drew 2, and lost 12. The XI scored 101 goals against their opponents' 69. Two matches had to be cancelled.

In the Birmingham & District Grammar Schools Cup, the School XI won the first round match against Redditch G.S. by 6 goals to 3. They were unfortunate to be knocked out in the second round by West Bromwich G.S. with a penalty goal scored during extra time. This was particularly disappointing as we beat the eventual runners-up in the Cup by 6 goals to nil.



The Staff and members of the team wish to express their appreciation to Messrs. Chance & Hunt for the loan of their ground at the times when we needed it most.

For consistent good play and loyal support the following boys were awarded their football colours: Turner, Betteley, Ward, Cook and Poole.

The 2nd XI had a fairly successful season after a slow start. They did not lose a single match in the Spring Term and their final results were: played 17 matches, won 8, drew 3 and lost 6. 65 goals were scored by the 2nd XI as against their opponents' 54. Five of their matches had to be cancelled owing to ground difficulties.

The Colts (Under 15) XI was at a difficult stage of development during the season under review. Of their thirteen matches, they won only 3, two matches were drawn and 8 were lost. The XI scored 34 goals and had 47 scored against them.

As an experiment, a Junior XI (Under 13½) was entered in a local league competition. They met some shocking pitches early in the season and their first two matches were the only two that they lost. By winning 5 of their eight games in the League, drawing 1 and losing 2, the School team finished second in the league table. They also played a friendly match with the West Bromwich G.S. Junior team which resulted in a 2 goal draw. During the season, the team scored 27 goals and had 18 scored against them. It is hoped that friendly fixtures against other Grammar Schools can be arranged for the 1953-54 season and that this XI will prove a fertile training ground for the Colts team.

In the House matches, King's House won all three of their games scoring 15 goal against 2 and so becoming worthy Champions of the year. Trinity were second, having won a match, drawn a match and lost a match with 8 goals to 7. School won a game and lost two and Queen's drew a game and lost two. The Champion House beat The Rest by 3 goals to 1.

Harris played regularly for Oldbury Schools XI throughout the season and was selected to play for the Worcestershire School-boys.

Congratulations to the members of all teams for their continued good sportsmanship, keep play and grand team spirit and grateful thanks from the teams to all the members of the Staff who devoted so much time to them.



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**ANNUAL ROAD RACES**

As a preliminary to the road races last autumn, many inter-form and inter-house team and relay races were run off during training periods. These proved immensely popular with all who took part. The road races were run on the afternoon of Friday, 28th November over the usual courses.

The Junior Race was won in 11 mins. 52 secs. by Kite of Trinity; Ashley of King's was second and Templeton of School House third. There were 53 runners in all and, counting the first ten home from each House, the House results were: School 155 places, scoring (including individual points) 7 points; King's House was second with 190 places and 6 points; Trinity had 201 places and scored 5 points and Queen's did not score with 276 places.

The Intermediate Race with 91 runners was won by Suffield of King's in 13 mins. 6 secs. Blewitt of Queen's was second and R. Hargreaves of King's was third. The House results (including individual points) were: Queen's first, having 402 places with the first 15 men home and scoring 8 points. School had 439 places and scored 4 points. King's had 453 places but with individual points scored 6. Trinity failed to score with 561 places.

In the Senior Race there were 87 runners and again the first 15 home from each House counted for Inter-House points. The individual results were: Cryer of Trinity, with a time of 11 mins. 49 secs., and within a second of him came Betteley of School House, Carter of Queen's was third. The House results and their scores, including individual points, were: Queen's, 311 places and 7 points; School, 517 places, scoring 6 points; King's, with 520 places scored 2 points; and Trinity, with 563 places scored a total of 3 points.

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**CROSS COUNTRY RUNNING**

There were six cross country fixtures during the season under review. Through the kindness of Messrs. Chance & Hunt we were able to mark out a Home cross country course around the Blue Billy Banks. In the first match, a home fixture, we ran second to Moseley, Holly Lodge and West Bromwich following us home. At West Bromwich we were beaten by Moseley and the home team in a seven team competition. At Holly Lodge, we ran second to the home team when four teams competed. The next run we had



was for boys under 15 and was run from Dudley G.S. The home team were again winners in this eight team match, our team running well to come into fourth place. The annual open competition for youths was again organised by the Harborne Harriers. The team entered ran exceedingly well and their individual positions were: Cryer, first; Carter, fourth; Betteley, fifth; Kessler, eighth; Moss, tenth. The team results were: 1, Oldbury G.S.; 2, Moseley G.S.; 3, St. Philip's G.S.; 4, King Edward's (Five Ways) G.S.; 5, 227 (Wylde Green) Scout Group. Finally, in a triangular match held at Holly Lodge, Moseley were the winners with our team running second to beat the Holly Lodge team.

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### GYMNASTICS

The high light of our gymnastic programme during the last year was the ambitious and highly successful physical training display which was given by junior boys of the School in aid of the School Coronation Fund. The display, held in the School Hall, was open to the public on three successive evenings and was well attended on each occasion. A repeat performance was given for the benefit of pupils in the School. The magnificent sum of £45 was added to the Coronation Fund as a result of the efforts of these junior boys.

The programme opened with a series of rhythmical free-standing exercises carried out by 28 boys in their first year at the school. This was followed by a unique demonstration of vaulting in which two teams of boys from the Second Forms performed a number of vaults alternately along and across the vaulting box. The item finished with some exciting vaults across the box in which two boys performed simultaneously.

The balance group which followed was one of the star items of the display. Franklin, Horton, Taylor and Key, assisted by Mr. Russell, performed a number of balancing feats requiring a great deal of skill, nerve and confidence. It is particularly to the credit of the boys involved that they learnt and practised all this difficult work in their own time.

In the next item, two teams of boys went through a series of agility exercises becoming progressively more difficult and culminating in advanced exercises like fly springs, one hand springs, front somersaults and finally a long dive forward roll over eight other boys.



After a short interval, the show re-opened with a display of Judo self protection. After a demonstration of various methods of release from an assailant's hold, a fight was staged in which one boy, Horton, attacked by one, two and three assailants, Vaughan, Walmsley and Taylor, successfully overcame all three by Judo methods.

Then followed a most amusing item in which a number of quite difficult exercises with a partner were carried out. Most of the boys in this item came from the Second Forms.

The boys of 3B and 3C who carried out some intricate pyramids were outstanding for their skill, courage and accuracy of movement. The final rotating pyramid with the boys forming a tower by standing three high on one another's shoulders brought the hearts of many of the spectators into their mouths, a state of affairs which was repeated several times during the last item—the advanced vaulting.

Extremely difficult spring board vaults over the high box were carried out with a precision rarely attained by boys under fifteen years of age. All who saw them were amazed at the standard reached by these junior boys and it is particularly to their credit that most of their training took place in their own time. The exercises demonstrated were progressively more difficult, reaching a climax with the most difficult vaults possible over a five section box.

The display ended with the assembly of all the boys who had taken part. To the great applause which they received from their audiences it is fitting that we should add our congratulations and thanks for a good job really well done.

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### ATHLETICS

The School Athletic Sports Meeting, held on Tuesday, 21st July, was well attended by parents and other friends of the School. The boys results showed some improvement on former years and several records were broken. The results were:

#### GROUP A (under 12½)

100 yds.—1, Stubbs (T) 12.35 secs.; 2, Plant (K); 3, Pollard (Q).

220 yds.—1, Stubbs (T) 27.95 secs. (record); 2, Pollard (Q); 3, Tudor (T).

High Jump—1, Stubbs, 3 ft. 8 ins; 2, Robertson (K); 3, James (K).



Long Jump—1, Stubbs (T) 13 ft. 0½ ins.; 2, Hathaway (S); 3, Pollard (Q).

Hop, Step and Jump—1, Pollard (Q) 27 ft. 7 ins. (record); 2, Plant (K); 3, Wharton (T).

Throwing the Cricket Ball—1, Robertson (K) 153 ft. 11 ins.; 2, H. Davies (Q); 3, Onions (Q).

#### GROUP B (12½—13)

100 yds.—1, Ashley (K) 12.45 secs.; 2, Templeton (S); 3, Cox (T).

220 yds. 1, Ashley (K) 27.53 secs. (record); 2, Cox (T); 3, Moore (T).

High Jump—1, Ashley (K) 4 ft. 0 ins.; 2, Owen (T); 3, Vaughan (S).

Long Jump.—1, Templeton (S) 13 ft. 2½ ins.; 2, Dagley (K); 3, Lodge (S).

Hop, Step and Jump.—1, Templeton (S) 28 ft. 5½ ins. (record); 2, Cox (T); 3, Dagley (K).

Putting the Shot—1, G. Davies (Q) 27 ft. 2¼ ins.; 2, J. Kite (T); 3, Templeton (S).

Throwing the Cricket Ball—1, Moore (T) 186 ft. 7 ins. (record); 2, Vaughan (S); 3, G. Davies (Q).

Relay Race.—1, Trinity, 1 min.; 2, School; 3, Queen's.

#### GROUP C (13—14)

100 yds.—1, Field (S) 11.5 secs.; 2, Smith (K); 3, Taylor (Q).

220 yds.—1, Harrold (K) 25.4 secs. (record); 2, Field (S); 3, Lewis (T).

440 yds.—1, Blewitt (Q) 1 min. 5.7 secs.; 2, Lewis (T); 3, Smith (T).

High Jump—1, Law (T) 4 ft. 3¾ ins.; 2, Parker (T); 3, Taylor (Q)

Long Jump—1, Taylor (Q) 14 ft. 4½ ins.; 2, Field (S); 3, Harrold (K).

Putting the Shot—1, Harrold (K) 33 ft. 6 ins.; 2, Rollason (S); 3, Parker (T).

Throwing the Cricket Ball—1, Rollason (S) 212 ft. 10 ins. (record); 2, Taylor (Q); 3, Field (S).

Relay Race—1, Queen's, 1 min. 31 secs. (record); 2, School; 3, King's.



## GROUP D (14—15)

- 100 yds.—1, Mountford (S) 11.6 secs.; 2, Spooner (K); 3, Allaway (Q).
- 220 yds.—1, Taylor (Q) and Hancox (S) 24.8 secs. (record); 3, Mountford (S).
- 440 yds.—1, Taylor (Q); 2, Suffield (K); 3, Price (S).
- 880 yds.—1, Suffield (K) 2 mins. 22.2 secs. (record); 2, Taylor (Q); 3, Williams (Q).
- High Jump—1, Suffield (K) 4 ft. 6¼ ins.; 2, Teale (S); 3, Jeffries (S).
- Long Jump—1, Taylor (Q) 15 ft. 4 ins.; 2, Mountford (S); 3, Jackson (S).
- Putting the Shot—1, Spooner (K) 37 ft. 2½ ins. (record); 2, Mountford (S); 3, Allaway (Q).
- Throwing the Javelin—1, Allaway (Q) 99ft. 4ins. (establishes record); 2, G. Eaton (Q); 3, Jackson (S).
- Throwing the Discus—1, Spooner (K) 91 ft. 10 ins. (establishes record); 2, Teale (S); 3, Jackson (S).
- Relay Race—1, School, 1 min. 53.3 secs. (record); 2, Queen's; 3, King's.

## GROUP E (Over 15)

- 100 yds.—1, Dodson (Q) 10.6 secs.; 2, Carter (Q); 3, Fardon (K).
- 220 yds.—1, Dodson (Q) 23.7 secs.; 2, Babington (Q); 3, Kirk (T).
- 440 yds.—1, Holloway (Q) 50.15 secs.; 2, Betteley (S); 3, Kessler (Q).
- 880 yds.—1, Holloway (Q) 2 mins. 19.5 secs.; 2, Barratt (Q); 3, Wood (S).
- High Jump—1, Oakey (T) 4 ft. 9½ ins.; 2, Cook (K); 3, Betteley (S).
- Long Jump—1, Betteley (S) 18 ft. 8½ ins.; 2, Moss (Q); 3, Oakey (T).
- Putting the Shot—1, Cotton (T) 31 ft. 8 ins. (record); 2, Butwell (S); 3, Lines (K).
- Throwing the Javelin—1, Cook (K) 135 ft. 10 ins. (record); 2, Cotton (K); 3, Tipper (T).
- Throwing the Discus—1, Cotton (T) 95 ft. 0 ins. (record); 2, Barratt (Q); 3, Pooler (S).



Relay Race—1, Queen's, 4 mins. 17.1 secs. (record); 2, School; 3, Trinity.

Mile (Individual)—1, Carter (Q) 5 mins. 25 secs.; 2, Betteley (S); 3, Barratt (Q).

Mile (Team Race)—1, Queen's; 2, School; 3, King's.

The system of House points for standard performances was operated again this year and received good support as may be seen from the figures below.

The final House placings and points were as follows:

	Queen's	School	King's	Trinity
Sports, Boys' events ... ..	88½	81½	65	59
Boys' Standards ... ..	277	209	196	197
Road Races—Junior ... ..	0	7	6	5
Intermediate ... ..	8	4	6	0
Senior ... ..	7	6	2	3
Girls' events and Standards ...	124	185½	147½	123
Total Points ... ..	504½	493	422½	387

The Boy Champions were:

Junior Champion—Stubbs, Winner of 100 yards A, 220 yards A, High Jump A, Long Jump A (12 points). Runner-up—Ashley, Winner of 100 yards B, 220 yards B, High Jump B, 2nd in Road Race (11 points).

Intermediate Champion—Suffield. Winner of 880 yards D, High Jump D, Road Race, 2nd in 440 yards D (11 points). Runner-up—Don Taylor. Winner of 440 yards D, Long Jump D, 2nd in 880 yards D, Joint Winner of 220 yards D (10½ points).

Senior Champion—Betteley. Winner of Long Jump E, 2nd in 440 yards E, Mile E, Road Race, 3rd in High Jump E (10 points). Runner-up—Cotton. Winner of Shot E, Discus E, 2nd in Javelin E (8 points).

#### Birmingham and District Grammar Schools Sports

A small team was entered in the above sports more for competition experience than with any hope of success. On the strength of what was seen this year, it is thought that it may be possible to achieve some success at future Grammar School meetings.



**SWIMMING**

The boys' swimming gala was held at Langley Baths on Friday, 17th July. The results were:

**JUNIOR EVENTS**

- 1 length free style—1, Stubbs (T) 18.15 secs. (record); 2, Pearce (S); 3, Glover (Q).  
1 length breast stroke—1, Dagley (K) 26.59 secs.; 2, Pitt (K); 3, Kite (T).  
1 width back stroke—1, Stubbs (T); 2, Knowles (K); 3, Walmesley (Q).  
1 width beginners—1, Dagley (K); 2, Vaughan (S); 3, Matthews (K).  
Dive—1, Knowles (K); 2, Langley (K); 3, Pearce (S).  
Squadron Race—1, King's, 1 min. 43.95 secs.; 2, Queen's; 3, School.

**INTERMEDIATE EVENTS**

- 2 lengths free style—1, Hargreaves (K) 34.7 secs. (record); 2, Suffield (K); 3, Horton (S).  
2 lengths breast stroke—1, Lewis (T) 46.4 secs. (record); 2, Teale (S); 3, Bates (T).  
1 length back stroke—1, Suffield (K) 18.2 secs. (record); 2, Horton (S); 3, Hargreaves (K).  
1 width beginners—1, Thompson (S) 9 secs.; 2, Comley (K); 3, Marks (S).  
Dive—1, Hargreaves (K); 2, Lewis (T); 3, Mountford (S).  
Squadron Race—1, King's, 74.5 secs. (record); 2, Trinity; 3, School.

**SENIOR EVENTS**

- 3 lengths free style—1, Fardon (K) 54.6 secs. (equals record); 2, Turner (T); 3, Lane (Q).  
2 lengths breast stroke—1, Carter (Q) 42.7 secs. (record); 2, Fardon (K); 3, Hawkins (Q).  
2 lengths back stroke—1, Smith (Q) 41.2 secs. (record); 2, Turner (T); 3, Lines (K).  
Plunge—1, Cook (K); 2, Lines (K); 3, Cotton (T).



Dive—1, Cook (K); 2, Fardon (K); 3, Russell (Q).

Squadron Race—1, King's, 69.4 secs (record); 2, Queen's 3, Trinity.

The resultant House points showed a decisive win for King's House who had 64 points. Trinity were runners-up with 24 points, Queen's had 19 and School 18 points.

Junior Champion was Knowles with 8 points, Stubbs and Dagley each had 6 points. In the Intermediate section, Hargreaves led with 10 points and Lewis was runner-up with 7. There was a tie for the Senior Championship between Cook and Fardon, each of whom had 9 points.

#### **Swimming Awards**

Excellent results have been obtained by our boys this year in the Oldbury School Swimming Awards. Forty-five boys have managed to take their red stripe — this involves swimming the width of the bath. The green stripe, for swimming one length free style, one width back stroke and doing a dive off the side, has been awarded to 38 boys, and 40 boys have taken the highest award, the yellow stripe. This involves swimming two lengths free style, one length back stroke, a dive off the first board and a surface dive to retrieve a brick. Congratulations to all boys who have obtained these awards.

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#### **PLAYING FIELDS**

It is very satisfying to see that the re-levelled back field is making such excellent progress. The rains of early summer ensured a luxuriant growth of grass and if the present progress is maintained, there is a possibility that we shall be able to get on to the back field next Summer. A 440 yard track will be a great help in the training of our athletes who have for so long suffered the disadvantages of training on a 330 yard track.

P.M.R.

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#### **CRICKET, 1953**

The 1st XI had a successful season, losing only two of their sixteen matches, and winning six. In spite of coaching during the winter, the batting once again failed to come up to expectations and scores were generally low. This may be due in some measure



to the early start of the school's cricket season, when grounds are wet, and also to the poor wickets on which some of the matches were played. Three away games were played on pitches where the ball lifted head high after pitching, and orthodox stroke play was impossible.

Abell and Moss were the most consistent batsmen, whilst Spooner, a junior playing regularly for the 1st XI, played three forceful innings and should make runs regularly next season when he learns to play himself in before indulging in his powerful hitting.

The bowlers have done well and have received good support in the field. The general standard of catching and throwing in has been high, and Harris has proved himself a competent wicket-keeper. Two bowlers of promise who have done exceptionally well are Cotton and Stevens. Cotton has bowled accurately and is lively off the pitch since he brings the ball down from a good height. He has done very well in his first season in the XI and might have been used more often during the season. Stevens has developed into a good off-spinner and twice bowled practically unchanged to take 7 wickets for 14 runs against St. Philip's G.S. and 7 for 25 out of a total of 86 against a strong Saltley Training College XI. He has shown that he is not afraid to pitch the ball up to the batsmen—an essential quality in a good slow bowler—and has thrived on their mistakes.

Bowling averages:

Cotton: 98.2 overs, 40 maidens, 165 runs, 34 wickets.  
—4.9 Average.

Stevens: 94.3 overs, 28 maidens, 213 runs, 34 wickets.  
—6.26 Average.

Abell 157.4 overs, 42 maidens, 308 runs, 40 wickets.  
—7.7 Average.

Ward: 73.2 overs, 17 maidens, 149 runs, 13 wickets.  
—11.4 Average.

For another season Abell proved to be the mainstay of the team, and proved a keen captain who set a good example in the field.

School Cricket Colours were awarded to L. Stevens and H. Moss.

The Junior XI played eight matches, of which four were won, three lost and one drawn. This team, sometimes strengthened when playing other schools' 2nd XI's, has produced some promis-



ing players. The batting has been good and over 100 runs were scored on four occasions before a declaration was made. Benbow, Teale, Corbett and Kessler have all batted well. Mountford was the mainstay of the bowling and took 29 wickets at an average of 4.03 runs each. Jackson, who should develop into a useful fast bowler, and Matthews, also bowled well.

Congratulations to Abell, Moss and Spooner on being selected to play in representative matches for Worcestershire Schools during the summer holidays. Abell played in three and Moss in two matches for the strong Worcestershire Schools senior XI and Spooner captained the junior XI in its only match against Warwickshire. He played a big part in his side's victory by taking 6 wickets for 34 runs.

#### HOUSE MATCHES

These were keenly played and the general standard of play has been good, except for some very poor fielding in the last two matches played. In one of these, King's—by far the strongest side on paper—lost to Trinity through their inability to accept eight catches, none of which could be classed as difficult.

Congratulations to Trinity on being the Champion House. They distinguished themselves by beating a strong eleven selected from the three other Houses, largely due to some inspired fielding by Oakey, their captain, and by Cotton, who took two fine catches from his own bowling. Results:

Trinity: Played 3, won 3, lost 0.

King's: Played 3, won 2, lost 1.

Queen's: Played 3, won 1, lost 2.

School: Played 3, won 0, lost 3.

J.S.E.

#### THE PARENTS' MATCH

The boys regained the Cricket Shield by defeating the Parents' XI on Saturday, July 18th, by seven wickets. The Parents, batting first, scored as follows:

Mr. Payne b Cotton 3, Mr. Gross b Cotton 10, Mr. Davis c Abell b Stevens 3, Mr. Stubbs c Abell b Stevens 0, Mr. Hollingshead c Stevens b Cotton 1, Mr. Birch b Cotton 1, Mr. Palmer c Ward b Stevens 0, Mr. Gardner c Pyne b Stevens 0, Mr. Storer b Cotton 1, Mr. Hodgetts n.o. 3, Mr. Grant b Stevens 1, Extras 4; Total for 10 wickets 27.



Bowling—Cotton: 14 overs, 9 maidens, 7 runs, 5 wickets, average 1.4. Stevens: 12.2 overs, 3 maidens, 13 runs, 5 wickets, average 2.6. Ward: 2 overs, 1 maiden, 3 runs, 0 wickets.

The School XI:

Edge c and b Mr. Hollingshead 0, Moss n.o. 28, Spooner run out 0, Pyne b Mr. Hollingshead 3, Abell c Mr. Payne b Mr. Birch 17, Harris b Mr. Davis 1, Ward l.b.w. b Mr. Davis 0, Stevens b Mr. Davis 10, Cotton n.o. 3 (Betteley and Gross did not bat), Extras 11; Total for 7 wickets 73.

Bowling—Mr. Hollingshead: 9 overs, 5 maidens, 9 runs, 2 wickets, average 4.5. Mr. Davies: 6 overs, 1 maiden, 14 runs, 3 wickets, average 4.66. Mr. Birch: 3 overs, 0 maidens, 10 runs, 1 wicket, average 10. Mr. Palmer: 9 overs, 4 maidens, 7 runs, 0 wickets. Mr. Grant: 2 overs, 1 maiden, 7 runs, 0 wickets. Mr. Gross: 2 overs, 0 maidens, 7 runs, 0 wickets.

### GIRLS' SPORTS, 1953

#### 100 YARDS

11 years—1, G. Partridge (Q); 2, S. Moss (S); 3, P. Barnsley (K).  
12 years—1, M. Rawlins (S); 2, M. Brehaut (Q); 3, P. Green (T).  
13 years—1, I. Walker (S); 2, G. Ward (Q); 3, J. Powell (K).  
14 years—1, J. Sherwood (S); 2, S. Fletcher (K); 3, M. Kershaw (K).  
15+ yrs—1, A. Elsdon (K); 2, P. Hulse (S); 3, N. Burton (Q).  
11.5 secs.

#### 100 YARDS SKIPPING

11 years—1, G. Partridge (Q); 2, S. Moss (S); 3, C. Watton (S).  
12 years—1, M. Rawlins (S); 2, M. Brehaut (Q); 3, P. Green (T).  
13 years—1, J. Powell (K); 2, I. Walker (S); 3, J. Cox (T).  
14 years—1, J. Sherwood (S); 2, S. Fletcher (K); 3, M. Kershaw (K).  
15+ yrs—1, A. Elsdon (K); 2, B. Bailey (K); 3, V. Williams (T).

#### 220 YARDS

11 years—1, G. Partridge (Q); 2, N. Reynolds (Q); 3, S. Moss and C. Watton (S).  
12 years—1, M. Rawlins (S) and M. Brehaut (Q); 3, D. Watton (S).



- 13 years—1, J. Cox (T); 2, P. Hackett (T); 3, A. Horton (K).  
 14 years—1, J. Sherwood (S); 2, J. Howard (S); 3, S. Fletcher (K).  
 15+ yrs—1, A. Elsdon (K); 2, P. Hulse (S); 3, B. Bailey (K).

## HIGH JUMP

- 11 and 12 years—1, M. Brehaut (Q); 2, C. Elvins (Q); 3, C. Gregory (S). 3 ft. 11 ins.  
 13 and 14 years—1, B. Skinner (T); 2, D. Bunce (S); 3, J. Sherwood (S). 4 ft.  
 15+ years—1, M. Bentley (S); 2, N. Burton (Q); 3, B. Bailey (K). 4 ft. 4 ins.

## RELAYS

- 11 and 12 years—1, Queen's; 2, King's; 3, School  
 13 and 14 years—1, School; 2, King's and Trinity.  
 15+ years—1, King's; 2, School; 3, Queen's.

## POINTS

	King's	Queen's	School	Trinity
Standards	98	82	119	101
	49½	42	66½	22
	<u>147½</u>	<u>124</u>	<u>185½</u>	<u>123</u>

## LONG JUMP

- 11 and 12 years—1, M. Brehaut (Q) 13 ft. 7½ ins.; 2, M. Rawlins (S); 3, C. Gregory (S).  
 13 and 14 years—1, J. Sherwood (S) 13 ft. 1½ ins.; 2, J. Powell (K); 3, S. Fletcher (K).  
 15+ years—1, A. Elsdon (K) 16 ft. 5 ins.; 2, B. Bailey (K) and N. Burton (Q).

## ROUNDERS BALL

- 11 and 12 years—1, J. Currell (T); 2, S. Moss (S); 3, A. Sault (K).  
 13 and 14 years—1, P. Rowe (T); 2, A. Ward (K); 3, J. Fenton (T).  
 15+ years—1, M. Field (S); 2, P. Such (Q); 3, M. Bentley (S).



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**ATHLETICS CHAMPIONS**

Junior—Maureen Brehaut (Queen's) 12½ points. Runner-up: Maureen Rawlins (School) 10½ points.

Intermediate—Jean Sherwood (School) 13½ points. Runners-up: Joyce Powell (Kings) 6 points and Sylvia Fletcher (King's) 6 points.

Senior—Ann Elsdon (King's) 12 points. Runner-up: Beryl Bailey (King's) 5½ points.

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**HOCKEY—Season 1952-53**

The 1st XI Hockey team consisted of Margaret Bentley (captain), Valerie Williams (vice-captain), Mollie Biddulph, Audrey Bradley, Jillian Burnell, Christine Cox, Ann Elsdon, Margaret Jordan, Naomi Northall, Pat Sealey and Mary Watson.

The 1st XI had a successful season, winning 11 of their 17 matches, losing 3 and drawing 3. Goals scored for the school amounted to 52, goals against the school 26.

Hockey Colours were presented to Mollie Biddulph, Christine Cox, Ann Elsdon, Margaret Jordan, Pat Sealey and Mary Watson.

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**ROUNDERS—Summer 1953**

The Senior Rounders team played 5 matches, they won 3 and lost 2.

Rounders scored for the school = 35, rounders against the school = 29.

Girls who have played in the team include Valerie Williams (captain), Margaret Bentley (vice-captain), Barbara Faulkner, Ann Elsdon, Pat Hulse, Eileen Kent, Linda King, Pat Sealey and Margaret Thompson.

The Junior Rounders team played 6 matches, winning 1, and losing 5.

Rounders scored for the school = 28½, against the school = 47.

Girls who have played in the team include Janet Sheldon (captain), Jeannette Bosworth, Jennifer Cox, Pat Cox, Janet Fenton, Dorothy Laville, Jean McLelland, Naomi Northall, Pamela Rowe, Anne Ward and Joy Wood.



**TENNIS TEAM—1st and 2nd Couple**

The Tennis team has had a very successful season.

The 1st couple—Pauline Such (captain) and Olga Clift—won 10 of their 12 matches, losing 2.

The 2nd couple—Pat Newey and Diane Care—won 9 of their 12 matches, losing 3.

Tennis Colours have been awarded to Pauline Such, Olga Clift, Pat Newey and Diane Care.

**HOUSE MATCHES**

Tennis—1, Queen's, played 6 matches, won 6.  
2, School and King's, played 6 matches, won 3, lost 3.  
4, Trinity, played 6 matches, lost 6.

Rounders—1, School and Trinity.  
School played 3 matches, won 2, lost 1; Rounders for School =  $16\frac{1}{2}$ , rounders against = 10. Trinity played 3 matches, won 2, lost 1; Rounders for Trinity = 8, rounders against = 4.

3, King's and Queen's.  
King's played 3 matches, won 1, lost 2; Rounders for King's = 11, rounders against = 14. Queen's played 3 matches, won 1, lost 2; Rounders for Queen's = 12, rounders against =  $19\frac{1}{2}$ .

Hockey—1, School, played 3 matches, won 3; Goals for School = 7, against = 0.

2, King's, Queen's and Trinity. Each played 3 matches, won 1, lost 2. Goals for King's = 5, against = 5. Goals for Queen's = 2, against = 6. Goals for Trinity = 4, against = 7.

**SWIMMING**

The following girls have obtained the Bronze Medal: Gabrielle Shaw, Barbara Gregory, Gillian Smith, Olwen Llewellyn, Jean McLelland, Sheila Smith.



**VALETE**

**FORM 6A.**

- Anita Page.**—School Captain; School House Captain; School Certificate, 1950; General Certificate of Education (A) 1952 and 1953—Technology, Dudley Road Hospital.
- Valerie Williams.**—Vice-Captain; Trinity Sports Captain; 1st XI Hockey; Rounders Team; Joint Societies Secretary; General Certificate of Education (O—1951), (A—1952, 53) — State Scholarship, London University.
- Patricia Newey.**—Prefect; Queen's House Vice-Captain; Tennis Team; General Certificate of Education (O—1951), A—1952, 53)—Birmingham Training College.
- Christine Middleton.**—Prefect; Trinity House Secretary; General Certificate of Education (O—1951), (A—1952, 53)—Birmingham Training College.
- Barbara Gregory.**—Prefect; General Certificate of Education (O—1951), (A—1953)—Salisbury College.
- Marjorie Coxill.**—Prefect; Queen's House Captain; School Orchestra; Guide Cadet; General Certificate of Education (O—1951), (A—1953)—Leicester Domestic Science Training College.
- Margaret Bentley.**—Prefect; School House Sports Captain; 1st XI Hockey; Rounders Team; Choir; Guide Cadet; General Certificate of Education (O—1951), (A—1953)—Leicester Domestic Training College.
- Eileen Harris.**—Prefect; School House Secretary; General Certificate of Education (O—1951), (A—1953)—Coventry Training College.
- Peter Abell.**—Vice-Captain; King's House Captain; Captain 1st XI Football and Cricket; General Certificate of Education (O—1951), A—1953)—National Service.
- Eric Smith.**—Prefect; Choir; School House Vice-Captain; General Certificate of Education (O—1951), (A—1952, 53)—Nottingham University.
- Graham Walker.**—Prefect; School House Captain; Joint Societies Vice-Chairman; Choir; General Certificate of Education (O—1951), (A—1953)—Birmingham University.
- John Hawkins.**—Prefect; Queen's House Secretary; General Certificate of Education (O—1951), (A—1953)—Nottingham University.



**John White.**—Prefect; Choir; 2nd XI Football Team; General Certificate of Education (O—1951), (A—1953)—National Service.

**Donald Wood.**—Prefect; Choir; 2nd XI Football Team; General Certificate of Education (O—1951), (A—1953)—Research Chemist.

**Alan Poole.**—Prefect; King's House Sports Captain; 1st XI Football Team; General Certificate of Education (O—1951), (A—1953)—Birmingham University.

**Gordon Betteley.**—Prefect; School House Sports Captain; 1st XI Cricket Team; Vice-Captain 1st XI Football Team; Senior Athletic Champion, 1952; General Certificate of Education (O—1951), A—1953)—Birmingham University.

#### FORM 6B.

**Pamela Baker.**—Prefect; King's House Vice-Captain; General Certificate of Education (O—1952)—

**Mollie Biddulph.**—Prefect; School House Sports Captain; 1st XI Hockey; Guide Cadet; Choir; General Certificate of Education (O—1952)—Student Teaching.

**Eva Crofts.**—Prefect; General Certificate of Education (O—1952) Student Teaching.

**Josephine Stamp.**—Prefect; General Certificate of Education (O—1952)—City of Birmingham Training College.

**Kenneth Carter.**—Prefect; Queen's House Captain; Choir; General Certificate of Education (O—1952)—Fleet Air Arm.

**Michael Cox.**—Prefect; Choir; 1st XI Football; General Certificate of Education (O—1952)—Research Chemist.

**Peter Debney.**—General Certificate of Education, 1952—Merchant Navy.

**Hedley Moss.**—Prefect; Choir; 1st XI Football and Cricket Teams; Queen's House Vice-Captain; General Certificate of Education (O—1952)—Accountancy.

**Robert Turner.**—Prefect; Choir; Trinity House Vice-Captain; 1st XI Football; General Certificate of Education (O—1952)—Fleet Air Arm.

**Derek Wood.**—Prefect; Choir; School House Secretary; General Certificate of Education (O—1952)—Firm's Representative.



**FORM 6X.**

- Janice Cross.**—General Certificate of Education (O—1953) —  
College of Commerce.
- Gillian Pearce.**—Trinity House; General Certificate of Education,  
1953—Office, Accles & Pollock.
- Gillian Plimmer.**—General Certificate of Education (O—1953)—  
Commercial College.
- Jean Prosser.**—Prefect; General Certificate of Education (O—1953)  
—Nursing.
- Patricia Sealey.**—Prefect; 1st XI Hockey; Rounders Team; Gen-  
eral Certificate of Education (O—1953)—College of Commerce.
- Christine Slim.**—General Certificate of Education (O—1953)—  
College of Commerce.
- Valerie Wilkinson.**—General Certificate of Education (O—1953)—  
Librarian.
- G. V. Raxter.**—General Certificate of Education (O—1953)—  
Draughtsman.
- W. Robinson.**—General Certificate of Education (O—1953)—  
Merchant Navy.
- A. Stringer.**—General Certificate of Education (O—1952 and 53)  
—Accountancy.

**FORM 5G.**

- Betty Alliss.**—General Certificate of Education, 1953—Accles &  
Pollock.
- Margaret Field.**—General Certificate of Education (O—1953);  
Orchestra; Choir—College of Commerce.
- Jean Rogers.**—General Certificate of Education (O—1953)—  
Gown Shop.
- Gillian Ward.**—Choir; General Certificate of Education (O—1953)  
—College of Commerce.
- N. Gross.**—1st XI Cricket Team; General Certificate of Education  
(O—1953)—
- J. Rollason.**—General Certificate of Education (O—1953)—Elec-  
trical Engineer.
- A. Tipper.**—General Certificate of Education (O—1953)—Sign  
Writing.



5G  
(CONT)

- P. Wilcox.**—General Certificate of Education (O—1953)—Birmid Apprentice.
- B. Williams.**—General Certificate of Education (O—1953)—Accountancy.

**FORM 5M.**

- Nadia Burton.**—General Certificate of Education (O—1953)—
- Diane Care.**—Tennis Team; Choir; General Certificate of Education (O—1953)—Insurance Office.
- Ruth Chalk.**—Girl Guide (2nd); Choir; General Certificate of Education (O—1953)—Nursing.
- Maureen Clements.**—General Certificate of Education (O—1953)—
- Joyce Corkindale.**—General Certificate of Education (O—1953)—Accountant's Clerk.
- Eleanor Hackett.**—General Certificate of Education (O—1953)—Window Dressing.
- Beryl Hollinshead.**—Choir; General Certificate of Education (O—1953)—
- Valerie Jarrett.**—Guide Leader; General Certificate of Education (O—1953)—College of Commerce.
- Eileen Lowe.**—Guide; General Certificate of Education (O—1953)—Office.
- Margaret Mills.**—General Certificate of Education (O—1953)—Office.
- Jeanne Nicholls.**—General Certificate of Education (O—1953)—M.T.D.
- Gabrielle Shaw.**—General Certificate of Education (O—1953)—Drawing Office.
- Brayne.**—2nd XI Football; General Certificate of Education, 1953—Accountancy.
- Daffern.**—General Certificate of Education, 1953—Drawing Office.
- Round.**—General Certificate of Education, 1953—Draughtsmanship.
- White.**—General Certificate of Education, 1953—Mechanical Engineering.
- Wilkes.**—General Certificate of Education, 1953—



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**FORM 5S.**

- Ann Beard.**—Choir; General Certificate of Education (O—1953)  
Clerk, Municipal Buildings.
- Amy Brookes.**—General Certificate of Education (O—1953)—  
Bank.
- Gillian Carter.**—General Certificate of Education (O—1953)—
- Ada Jones.**—Choir; General Certificate of Education (O—1953)—  
—Bank.
- Barbara Lang.**—General Certificate of Education (O—1953)—
- Margery Payne.**—General Certificate of Education (O—1953)—
- Kathleen Roberts.**—Office.
- Rosemary Walker.**—General Certificate of Education (O—1953)  
—Rackhams.
- Gillard.**—General Certificate of Education, 1953—Accountancy  
School.
- Hadley.**—General Certificate of Education, 1953—Draughtsman.
- Hargreaves, R.**—Royal Navy.
- Harris, A.**—General Certificate of Education, 1953—
- Pye.**—General Certificate of Education, 1953—Accountancy.

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**POEMS**

**The Island**

Amid the fields I wander and I roam,  
And as I stand I see the waves above the foam.  
I see the cattle grazing in the field afar,  
The door of nature's kingdom stands ajar.  
The green grass sparkles with the diamond dew drops,  
The fields are full of yellow harvest crops.  
The farmer coming home from work to rest,  
Each thing upon this land is at its best.

Pamela Barnsley. IA.



**A Flower Song**

I'll bring thee a nosegay of sweet-smelling flowers,  
When spring-time doth gladden the vale;  
The deep mist of bluebells adrip from the showers,  
The fragrance of lady-smocks pale;  
And open-eyed daisies, caressed by the sun,  
And buttercups gleaming with gold;  
The vetches and clovers, where rivulets run,  
The splendours of marsh-marigold.

I'll twine thee a garland of scented delight,  
When summer makes drowsy the day;  
With tall spikes of lavender, rosemary bright,  
And bridal-pink blossoms of may;  
With deep bosomed roses of velvety hue,  
Dew-wet, breathing heavy perfume;  
With frilly carnations, forget-me-nots blue,  
And butterfly blossoms of broom.

I'll gather thee glories from hedgerow and field,  
In autumn days, mellow and mild;  
Red berries of bryony, a bounteous yield  
Of blackberries, stragglng and wild;  
The golden disorder of beech and of lime,  
And Michaelmas daisies a-fire;  
The delicate creepers, the quinces that climb,  
And the rose-hips that glow on the briar.

V. M. Webb. IVA.

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**Exmoor**

Far in the woods on the old hills,  
The bees are buzzing in the flowers  
Which deck with cheer the sunlit bowers.  
In tiny valleys tinkling rills  
Are rushing fast amongst the trees,  
Now swaying in the gentle breeze.



But higher up the moors are bare  
Of trees; and hardy ponies roam  
The wild hill-tops, their native home,  
For many a day, without a care;  
And they rejoice at being free  
To go where'er they wish to be.

Joy Howard. 5G.

### **Stately Homes**

There are strange, foreign sounds  
In the proud, dim, corridors and halls,  
Where, in the gloomy past,  
Rang and echoed the happy noises of banquets and balls  
for the lord and his friends.  
Nobility,  
Festivity.

There are strange, foreign sounds  
In the graceful noble palaces,  
The sound of countless thousand booted feet;  
Shaking down the plaster ceiling  
Beneath the floor  
Along which they march on their well-trodden route.  
The deadly dull, dry droning  
of the guide  
Trying to gloss over with glowing words  
The fading, threadbare  
Tapestries;  
The flaking, craking murals and plasterwork.

These dying remnants of an age long past.

O, what changes does the ever-rolling Wheel of Time bring in.

The impoverished lord throws open his portals  
To his former serfs  
Who, on tendering their modest charge,  
can roam and wander  
Where their forefathers dared not tread.

O, there are strange, foreign people in the Stately Homes.

D. E. M. Price. Form Vix.



**The Stars**

Primæval man looked up, and saw the stars  
Shine in everlasting beauty, pointed fire  
That seemed to reach to all eternity, and call  
To something in his mind that searched  
For more than mere life,  
And sustenance of life,  
But rather sought the purpose of it all.

And so he formed his first idea  
Of God, the force behind it all.  
His mind, responding to the call, strove  
To free him from his ignorance grim.  
He left the slime, and all therein,  
To walk upon the land upright  
Evermore, in heaven's light.

D. E. M. Price. FormVix.

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**The Flight of a Deer**

The deer looks up, what was that sound?  
He looks about and paws the ground.  
He scents the air his head held high  
Could it be that man is nigh?

A shot rings out, he turns and flees,  
He bounds and leaps through all the leaves,  
The dreaded voice of man he hears  
As through the undergrowth he tears.

He turns to neither right nor left  
But goes straight on, his movements deft.  
He thinks of nothing but to run  
Away from man and his terrible gun.

Then, just in front he sees a glade  
Lit by the sun, but patched by shade.  
He looks around, he's all alone,  
This is the place that he calls home.



East page

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No one will find the creature here,  
They will look in places drear;  
He knows he's safe, knows they won't come,  
He's here alone with the shade and sun.

But what of the hunter, what does he say?  
"That deer will fight another day."

T. Cook. Form Vix.

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### **A Hot Summer's Day**

The languid waters lap the drowsy shore,  
Red-yellow blaze the ever shimmering sands,  
Blurring the distant gulls as on they soar,  
Or perch ungainly on the rocky strands.

Rises the myriad drone of insects clear,  
Sleepily pass the murmuring bees along,  
And softly to the wondering watcher's ear  
All Nature sings her lulling, sultry song.

G. K. Withington. 5G.