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THE ELIZABETHAN

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A WESTMINSTER NOTEBOOK

An Informal Concert was held up Library on Monday, July 4th. The recently-formed Male Voice Choir Society, which has been meeting on Friday evenings during the past year under the direction of Mr. Foster, performed a song by Purcell, and selections from the *Neue Liebeslieder-Walzer* by Brahms. There was a good performance of the Allegro from Mozart's *Clarinet Quintet in A*. The remainder of the programme was taken up by soloists who had gained high places in the recent Music Competition. Although the attendance could have been better the standard of performance was high.

★ ★ ★

The mysterious coloured signs which have recently appeared round Green mark the attempt of the Chapter to deal with the parking problem. The parking area has been divided into three zones, cars belonging to the staff of the school being allotted, appropriately enough, to the pink zone.

★ ★ ★

Preparations are being made for summer camps. The Army Section of the C.C.F. will be camping on Salisbury Plain, and the Naval Section are going to Chatham. The Scouts have chosen a site in the Western highlands of Scotland, near Taynuilt, Argyllshire.

★ ★ ★

On Field Day, July 1st, the Army section held a successful exercise on Bagshot Heath. The Cadre Course took advantage of the warm weather and

held a night operation the previous night. The Naval Section visited Portsmouth again, and this time went to sea on a minesweeper. The R.A.F. visited North Weald Aerodrome, and a number of cadets made good use of the glider at Grove Park. The Scouts arranged a camp the previous night on the downs near Wrotham. In the middle of the night, with no previous warning, they were called upon to carry out a map-reading exercise which eventually led them to another camp site where they pitched for the few remaining hours of the night. The exercise included the use of rocket signals, and telephoning the local police.

★ ★ ★

The Master of Trinity, who was created Baron Adrian in the New Year Honours, observed an old custom by attending Latin Prayers one afternoon and begging a play in recognition of his recent honour. The play was duly granted on Saturday, July 16th, the day of the cricket match against Charterhouse. School was remitted after the break, to enable boys to support the team.

★ ★ ★

In spite of the pressure of examinations and the calls of the various sporting activities, the school societies have found time to meet. On Wednesday, June 29th, the Political and Literary Society met to hear Percy Cohen, Esq., of the Conservative Party H.Q. speak on a political theme, namely, the recent general election. The Photographic, Astronomical and Natural History Societies have met, and the Gramophone Society continues to meet weekly with suitably varied programmes.



[photo : S. W. Newberg

The new Grant's seen from College



ON Monday, June 20th, the Liberty Boy Tablets were inaugurated by the Head Master in the presence of College and a number of guests. The Dean distributed the legacy of Dr. C. C. J. Webb of a pound to each Queen's Scholar and five pounds to the Captain. The guests then moved on to see the new Grant's building.

CORRESPONDENCE

SIR,

It occurs to me that this little story might interest your readers. It was told me in the early nineties, by my Father's old friend Philip Henry Lawrence, who took some pride in being a descendant of Philip Henry, Dr. Busby's favourite pupil. The great Doctor had been watching the ripening of a fig in College Garden. A day or two before he expected the fruit to reach perfection, he attached a label to it bearing the legend in his own writing, "Dr. Busby, his Fig". A day or two later when he came to pick it he found the fig gone, and the label reversed with the words, "A Fig for Dr. Busby" written on the back.

Yours faithfully,

DALLAS H. W. YOUNG (O.W. 1893-7).

[photo : S. W. Newberg
An interior view

WESTMINSTER IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM

AMONG the manuscripts in the British Museum there are a number which throw light on the history of the school. They are very varied and a note of some of them may be of interest.

The earliest is a draft of the foundation deed of the collegiate church which was to take the place of the dissolved Benedictine monastery, as one of Henry VIII's new bishoprics. The dissolution had taken place in January, 1540, and the foundation deed is dated in the following December. Both draft and deed set out the names of thirty-nine scholars for the new foundations, but many of the names in the draft are replaced by others in the deed. Was the draft merely inaccurate or does it provide a list of the school earlier than that in the deed? Fortunately the draft also gives a list of five choristers, the first two of whom appear as scholars in the deed and are there marked as former choristers. It seems to follow that the draft contains a list to be dated between the dissolution and the re-foundation.

Our next references both come from the papers of William Cecil, Lord Burleigh, in the Lansdowne MSS. In 1569 John Willoughby, then a Queen's Scholar, asks for Burleigh's influence in the forthcoming election and three years later William Vaughan writes a formal note to Burleigh praying for the latter's long life. Neither boy is known from any other source.

The only other Elizabethan item is one of several examples of a practice long since extinct. On the anniversary in 1597 of the Queen's accession, twenty-one of the Queen's Scholars composed a set of loyal verses; for nine of the names this is our only authority. This and the next three documents form part of the Royal Library presented to the Museum by George III.

In 1633 the birth of the Duke of York, afterwards James II, and, in the following year, the return of the King from Scotland provided opportunities for boys to address verses to the King; Abraham Cowley contributed to both collections.

A similar set of verses on the birth of a Princess Anne in 1637/8 contains a poem by the ill-fated Sir Edmund Berry Godfrey. The verses were written while the King's Scholars at least were "exiled" at Chiswick, during one of London's visitations of the plague.

So far we have been concerned with sources of names of boys rather than with the school itself, but in 1652 or 1653 Robert South addressed a poem of forty lines, "*In Inclutam Scholam Westmonasteriensem*", from which we learn that

there were more than three hundred boys then at the school, taught by three masters. There is a reference to Busby's habit of compiling his own textbooks; Greek, Hebrew and Arabic were among the languages taught. When the verses were written South had already left the school; otherwise he could hardly have risked the following couplet:—

*"Consurgit, crescitque puer, velut Hydra sub ictu;
Florescitque, suis saepe rigatus aquis."*

The allusion to Busby's traditional readiness to use the rod would be too pointed to be overlooked, though the aptness of the lines might have earned a reprieve.

The copy of the verses in the Museum was taken by Michael Maittaire from a copy given to him by South himself and was sent by Maittaire to Edward Harley, Earl of Oxford, in 1736.

Three other items are directly concerned with Busby; the first is a letter written by Sir William Morice, the Secretary of State, dated Nov. 19, 1664, introducing Humphrey Prideaux to Busby; in a letter written from Paris on April 2, 1675, Welbore Ellis asks his brother John to let Busby know that his books are on the way and that he will receive them "by Mr. Mareschall his scholar".

The third is an undated bill for work done for Busby by John Aungier. It seems to refer to the repair and fitting-up of some building for a dormitory, as one item is for "deale lining against the wall att the bedsheads". There is a charge "for two days apeice for two Men to Waite on the Dr att Chiswick", so perhaps the work was done there.

Also of Busby's time is a draft of the Parentelae or parentage and places of birth of the Minor Candidates of 1687; it is in several hands and may perhaps have been written by the boys themselves. One of the boys is Francis Lynn, who recorded in his diary that "In May, 1689, I was elected into the foundation as a King's scholar, having been put by two elections before, for want of friends".

To the latter years of Busby probably belong two stories of tricks played by some of the boys on their schoolfellows; they are preserved in Harleian MS. 6395, a collection of anecdotes told to the anonymous compiler, who, if not actually a member of the family of L'Estrange of Norfolk, was closely related to it. I am indebted to Mr. T. J. Brown, of the Department of Manuscripts, for calling my attention to them.

J. J. WHITMORE.



The 1st VIII at Henley.

[photos : G. Bushell & Son.]

SOON after the Vesta Dashes, the 1st VIII retreated to Molesey to practise on the quieter reaches of the Thames. Despite several changes, the crew developed well and their next race was at Walton Regatta where they drew Walton R.C. in Junior-Senior eights. On the day of the race there was a strong headwind which proved to be the decisive factor, since they were so much lighter than their opponents. They held them well for three or four minutes, but Walton went away strongly at the finish to win by two lengths. They proved to be much the fastest crew in the event and went on to win the next event the school was entered for, the Junior-Senior eights at Reading Regatta. In this event Westminster drew King's School, Canterbury. The race was very closely rowed, though King's soon built up a short lead which Westminster could never quite recover. They won by a quarter of a length in the fast time of 4 min. 31 secs. Although the eight had a good row the result was a little disappointing.

The following week the eight raced St. Paul's on the Tideway. As has happened so often in the past, it had an extremely bad start, a disaster one cannot

afford against St. Paul's, and was soon three-quarters of a length down. Westminster held them for over half the course rowing most of the time in their wash but towards the end of the course St. Paul's rowed right away to win by two and a half lengths. This was a great blow, as the eight had not won since the Vesta Dashes and it was not an encouraging record with which to go to Henley.

The week after this race was spent at Putney and the bad conditions there did little to restore confidence. The greatest setback came when it was learnt that Westminster had to row an eliminating heat in the Princess Elizabeth Cup against Beaumont College the Saturday before Henley.

The eight left for Henley on Friday, June 24th, and rowed Beaumont the following morning. Conditions for the race were not good, but although Westminster had an indifferent start, it was soon half a length up. By maintaining a high rate of striking over the whole course the eight held off Beaumont's challenge and finished a quarter of a length up. It was a good effort and it proved that the eight was fit and prepared to fight the whole way even though they were a light crew.

After this the crew settled down to normal preparation, growing accustomed to the heavy water and rowing with other crews. 1st and 3rd Trinity, Cambridge, "B" crew, with three Old Westminsters, were held in a minute's row, and a row was also had with Reading R.C. On the Monday the eight rowed half a course and were paced as far as the Barrier by Selwyn College, Cambridge. All these rows showed great promise. From the draw it was learnt that Westminster was to race Shrewsbury, who were widely fancied to win the Cup and certainly looked powerful in practice.

Wednesday afternoon came and after the usual preliminaries Westminster got off to a good start. Immediately Shrewsbury showed in front and they were clear soon after the Barrier. Despite several spurts the crew could not draw level with them and in fact they drew away to a three-length victory. Right from the start they were clearly too fast for the eight, which could not, with its disadvantage in weight, overcome the slight head-

wind. They had as good a row as ever and the rate of striking never went below 36, once again proving their fitness and determination. Shrewsbury eventually went on to win the Cup after good victories over St. Paul's and Oundle.

Mr. Hamerton managed the crew magnificently and must be thanked for performing such an unenviable task so well. Mr. Hartley is also to be thanked for coming so far to give the eight advice.

Of the other VIIIs only the Colts and Juniors can be said to have had good seasons. The Colts VIII produced very good form at Pangbourne to beat Bryanston and King's, Canterbury, but lost to Shrewsbury, the eventual winners, by one and a half lengths in the semi-final. On the Tideway, they were unbeaten, as were the Juniors, an extremely encouraging sign for the future, which seems to get brighter every year.

First Eight : Bow, C. L. Fisher ; P. P. G. B. Bateson ; T. A. Williams ; G. L. Stemp ; S. C. H. Douglas-Mann ; G. Francis ; D. L. Biscoe ; Stroke, R. H. B. de Vere Green ; Cox, P. Pilkington.

MUSIC

THE Music Competitions this year were held on Wednesday, June 8th. This gave six weeks from the beginning of the Term in which to practise the two set pieces. It was found quite sufficient in most cases for the necessary number of House Choir rehearsals ; but it is to be regretted that, as usual, most of the competitors in the Senior Piano Solo event failed to give a fluent rendering of the set piece, an *Aria* from Partita No. 4 by J. S. Bach.

It was most unfortunate that Dr. C. Armstrong Gibbs, who was to have been our principal Adjudicator, was taken ill three days before the Competitions. However, we were very fortunate in being able to call on Dr. Hubert Clifford at this extremely short notice. Dr. Clifford heard the Senior events and the Wind Solo performed up School, while the String Solo and Junior events were judged by Dr. Donald J. Hughes in the Music School.

There was a satisfactory number of entries for the Broken Voice Solo, but Davis and Simpson, who were placed respectively first and second, showed a good sense of presentation which was lacking in the other competitors. The Adjudicator's table was at the back of School, contrary to recent practice, and from this position it seemed that those voices which could surmount the difficulty of being clearly audible at so great a distance gained in quality from the acoustics of the empty hall. In both this event and the Wind Solo which

followed, Mr. Mullinar's able accompaniments were greatly appreciated.

In the Music School, Dr. Hughes, with commendable patience, listened to twenty-three performances in the Junior events, after judging thirteen String Solos. Most competitors were closely marked, except for Aufenost, whose Vitali *Chaconne* took the first place with ease, and the winners of the Junior Piano Duet, Willett and Milner-Gulland.

The afternoon brought a curious repetition of the heavy rainstorm which occurred during Dr. Clifford's last visit to Westminster as Adjudicator eight years ago. The College Vocal Ensemble came first in their event with a lively three-part madrigal by John Wilbye ; the singing of madrigals still seems to be the best form for this event, although Rigaud's tried a rather involved part-song with some success. The two top places for the Exeter Cup for House Choirs were closely contested by Rigaud's, who eventually were put first after some extraordinarily delicate singing, and Ashburnham, whose performance of a Gilbert and Sullivan extract was very popular. The Adjudicator was particularly impressed by the work of all the Choirs.

The Erskine Cup was won by College again with a majority over Ashburnham of nine points, six of which were due to the efforts of their three composers. Dr. Gibbs was able to judge the Original Compositions, and offered very helpful and thorough criticisms.

The winners of events were as follows :—

Senior Piano Solo—D. V. Klein (A.HH.) ;
Senior Piano Duet—Klein and Wertheim (A.HH.) ;
Junior Piano Solo—N. J. Milner-Gulland (Q.S.) ;
Junior Piano Duet—J. I. Willett and N. J. Milner-Gulland, Q.S.S. ; *Wind Solo*—C. P. Danin (A.HH.) ; *String Solo*—M. M. Aufenast (WW.) ;
Broken Voice Solo—A. de R. Davis (A.HH.) ;

Unbroken Voice Solo—B. G. A. Saunders (A.HH.) ;
Vocal Ensemble—Queen's Scholars ; *Original Compositions*—T. E. Radice, Q.S. ; *House Choir*—Rigaud's ; *Chamber Music*—C. P. Danin, A. S. Cairns, J. I. Willett.

The points for the Erskine Cup were—Queen's Scholars (28), Ashburnham (19), Grant's (8), Wren's (3), Rigaud's (2) and Busby's (0).

LAWN TENNIS

BOTH the 1st and 2nd VI's have won all their school matches in a most successful season : but to set against the great improvement in 2nd VI results the school was narrowly beaten in the Area Final of the Glanvill Cup.

D. P. Gordon and G. S. Clarke have been a class above most school pairs. They played particularly well at Stowe and U.C.S. but had an off-day and lost at Tonbridge.

T. F. Richter and J. S. R. Benson have had some success but are erratic and not yet as strong as a second pair should be. Richter has been unlucky not to have found a steady partner over the years though Benson has greatly improved since last year and has a good backhand.

N. N. M. Cohen and T. J. M. Farquhar-Smith combine well and make a formidable third pair who never give up. Their wins at Eton were notably good and Cohen's lobs have worn down many a hard hitter.

Weak volleying, slow reaction and lack of anticipation are still noticeable in the second and third pairs, though they have shown determination and good fighting qualities. The best example of this was when Benson and R. G. Hay (substituting for Richter) beat the Aldenham first pair after being 2-6, 0-5 down.

The 2nd VI has varied its fixture list and had both a more enjoyable and a more successful year which included wins against a strong Marlborough side, and against U.C.S. whose 2nd VI has only been beaten twice in twelve years. Hay has been an excellent captain : he and J. N. L. Packer only lost one of their seventeen matches. H. Gorell-Barnes and G. F. Coulouris had a good record as second pair though they were too inclined to ease off when in a winning position. J. A. K. Garrett and P. M. Godfrey also won some useful matches as third pair.

The Colts, although keen, are not strong this year, but Mr. Hicks' coaching has brought about a steady improvement. R. Munro-Faure and J. G. Edwards are the first pair ; as matches are only just beginning the second pair is not yet

settled. Two pairs will represent the school in the Thomas Bowl, played at Wimbledon the week the term ends.

In the Glanvill Cup, after an easy second round win against Haberdashers and Harrow County, the school had to play K.C.S., Eltham and Brentwood in the Area Final. Both K.C.S. and Westminster subsequently won all the matches against the other schools, but, unluckily perhaps, were drawn to play each other first. Richter and Benson were off form and lost quickly. Both the other matches went to a final set. Cohen and Farquhar-Smith held on and won theirs 9-7. Gordon and Clarke failed to maintain their good form in the middle set and lost. K.C.S. have a strong, well-balanced side and should now win the final.

The school has yet to play St. Paul's, which should be the closest match of the year, and the Old Westminsters, who thanks to our 1952 captain, N. B. R. C. Peroni, are likely to field their strongest side since the war. On Tuesday, July 26th, at 1.30 we play Dover in the first round of the Youll Cup at Wimbledon. Supporters are most welcome at this match—and, we hope, several more.

The following colours have been awarded : Pinks : T. J. M. Farquhar-Smith, N. N. M. Cohen ; Pink and Whites : J. S. R. Benson, R. G. Hay ; Thirds : J. N. L. Packer, H. Gorell-Barnes, G. F. Coulouris.

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FIFTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

I HAVE been asked by the Editor of *The Elizabethan* to dig out of my memory a few reminiscences of the general state of things which prevailed at the Abbey when I arrived on Ash Wednesday, 1900.

I said goodbye to that peerless building, the Cathedral of Ely, that morning, when I took the Celebration in St. Catherine's Chapel. I arrived at Westminster in time to sit in my stall under Archdeacon Wilberforce, the preacher at Evensong.

The name of the latter, one of the most lovable and sympathetic of men, reminds us that the Abbey was at that time enjoying a very special renown by reason of its pulpit oratory. The memory of Dr. Farrar and the oriental splendour of his style had in times past drawn thousands of middle-class Londoners to the Sunday afternoon services whenever he was in residence. He had only departed for Canterbury a very few years at the time of my arrival. The great outstanding figure was, of course, Charles Gore. The number of good works and good thoughts which are rightly attributed to him are legion, but it may be doubted whether even he ever accomplished anything more fruitful than his work at Westminster, which covered just seven years. The crowds who came to sit at his feet on Sundays and also at his Friday Lectures in Lent were simply enormous. At one time we even had the gates of the north and south ambulatories thrown open for the Sunday afternoon service in order to accommodate the people who simply poured into the Abbey.

Neither was Gore alone in his glory. Archdeacon Wilberforce possessed a marvellous gift of eloquence and he did the work of a giant alike at the Abbey and at St. John's Church, of which he was also Rector, among crowds of unorthodox people who probably never attended church at all except when he was preaching. So far as congregation-drawing was concerned he was not one whit behind his most distinguished colleagues in the Chapter.

Dr. Armitage Robinson had arrived from Cambridge only a few months before I set foot in Westminster and was hardly known as yet. He gave the impression to most people at that time of being something of a dark horse. He found a very heavy burden laid upon him for he was condemned to the impossible task of trying to serve two masters ; on the one hand the maintenance in good order of the highly important church and parish of St. Margaret, and on the other the keeping up of the invaluable theological studies to which he had devoted the whole of his life without a break from the time he first set foot in Cambridge. Small

wonder was it that when an opportunity came through the death of one of his capitular colleagues, Archdeacon Furse, he availed himself of the opportunity to leave No. 17 Deans Yard for the Abbey Garden and devote himself to his more strictly professorial studies. His place at St. Margaret's was before long filled, and filled most adequately, by one possessed of superb gifts which the congregation of St. Margaret's were destined to enjoy for a long spell of years. The departure of Canon Henson when he moved north to Durham was felt by many as a personal blow.

The Dean of those days, Dr. Bradley, I remember as a beautiful, kind-hearted and most lovable old man, a picturesque figure for whom the Abbey formed an ideal setting. He was beginning to fail and before long his health gave way badly. He just managed to perform two of the ceremonies assigned to the Deans of Westminster at the Coronation of King Edward VII in 1902 and in a few months the dear old man departed to his well-earned rest, leaving many affectionate traces of his beautiful character in Westminster and elsewhere. Archdeacon Furse was much about the same age as the Dean and only two or three months before my arrival he was smitten with paralysis in the Abbey pulpit just after giving out his text. He was a strong man and he rallied very considerably, but it was realized that the end could not long be delayed.

As an old Cuddesdon man I naturally felt an instinctive reverence for one who had been the fourth Principal of that beloved College. My veneration knew no bounds when I first set eyes upon his noble presence. Neither can I forget certain acts of kindness which I experienced at the hands of this grand old veteran when he was on the brink of the grave.

Last of all, I come to the beloved Sub-Dean. Canon Duckworth had come to the Abbey many years before, having been appointed to his stall on the death of Charles Kingsley. He was the friend of all and was of a splendid presence. When on some great occasion he appeared in the full robes of an Oxford D.D. and wearing his numerous decorations, for he was in close contact with Queen Victoria and her Court, he looked perfectly superb, in fact Henson used to speak of him as Belisarius ! He was a preacher of no mean order, though of necessity much overshadowed by some of his capitular colleagues. Among other things he was Vicar of the parish of St. Mark, Hamilton Terrace, where he did a fine piece of work among a great congregation who loved him dearly. The

fact that he was an ideal parish priest has, I fear, been forgotten but it was true, and there are people still living who can corroborate this statement.

The Abbey pulpit had long been a source of great spiritual power. What are we to say then as regards the music and the choral establishment generally. I came from Ely, a Cathedral in which a very high standard of devotion prevailed in those days. To give one illustration only. Twice a day with unflinching regularity (holidays not excepted) did the daily offering of prayer and praise ascend from St. Audrey's Church to Heaven. The resources were limited: the organ needed rebuilding: many of the instruments of worship were lacking but the choral Service was *never* interrupted. The Cathedral Statutes were observed in those days to the very letter. Behind all was the Bishop, the official Visitor of the Cathedral. I remember on one occasion the Minor Canon on duty omitted some of the State Prayers, the result of some misunderstanding at Mattins. Before the day was out a letter found its way from the Palace to the Deanery written by that most exemplary Prelate Lord Alwyne Compton!

To my great delight I found much the same state of things at the Abbey. The day I was tried, an ordinary afternoon in the Trinity season, the anthem was that grand work of Samuel Sebastian Wesley, *Ascribe unto the Lord*. A few weeks later I happened to be present more or less accidentally at Evensong for I had not at that time actually left Ely. To my delight and amazement the Choir performed with the utmost gusto that gigantic anthem by Walmisley, *If the Lord Himself had not been on our side*. There was nothing exceptional about either occasion. Neither of them was anything more than a week-day, nonetheless there was the Abbey Choir simply taking these grand works in their stride, as it were.

In some uncanny way Sir Frederick Bridge always managed to have a tiptop solo boy. I well remember a few days after I actually started work at the Abbey the anthem was that most touching and pathetic work by Michael Wise, the 17th century Organist of Salisbury, *The Ways of Sion do Mourn*. A feature of the anthem is the two solos, one by a treble and the other by a bass. Never to my dying day shall I forget the consummate artistry of the Choir and the two soloists, Lawrence Collingwood, since famous at Sadlers Wells and elsewhere as the treble, and Dan Price as the bass.

The Lay Vicars of Westminster of those days were a remarkable lot of men, nearly all of whom became well known as time went on on the concert

and in some cases on the operatic platforms. The combination of basses was truly superb: that grand old man Robert Hilton matched by an old Choirboy who had not long returned to Westminster, Bertram Mills, Harry Dearth and Frederick Ranalow, who took the place of Dan Price when the latter left us for a Professorship of Singing at the Royal College of Music. Neither were the tenors in any way behind, including as they did H. Branscombe and Harper Kearton, whose voice was one of the most beautiful I have ever heard. The amount of work accomplished by the Abbey Choir in those days was truly remarkable. In one year, I think it was 1907, in my early days they actually rendered 400 different Anthems and 138 Services. All this was done, moreover, by a Choir containing only twenty-four Choristers who were inadequately housed in an unsatisfactory house outside in Little Smith Street. I know the striking figures which I have given will very likely be questioned by some, but the lists are available for those who are curiously inclined.

Bridge was a man of boundless, nay, mercurial energy. I do not believe he ever left off working except when he happened to be in his Scotch home. He had been at the Abbey about twenty-five years at the time of my arrival. He had managed to get the very old-fashioned organ rebuilt and just before my arrival the two magnificent cases designed by John Loughborough Pearson were *in situ*, genuine works of art fully able to hold their own among some of the masterpieces of organ cases in Spain. It went to my heart to see the organ builders ruthlessly demolish that beautiful work when the organ was rebuilt in view of the Coronation of George VI and Queen Elizabeth in 1937. Little did we think how many years were destined to come and go before Pearson's beautiful work would reappear in its appointed place or that those two eyesores of pipes which annoy one's sense of beauty every time one looks at them would have been present in all their hideousness at two Coronations!

Before leaving the subject of music I must say a word about one who was the dear friend of many, many people, our distinguished Sub-Organist, Walter Alcock, the most delightful of men and unrivalled in his particular branch of art.

There is much I could say and would like to say about Walter Alcock, but I confine myself to one of many memories. In those days it was the custom to precede the anthem by a Voluntary of some dimensions. To my mind it is a real loss that this custom seems so largely to have faded away in our Cathedrals. On those occasions notably, on a Monday afternoon, when our friend usually played he rose to his full height. We seemed as it

were to be caught up to the very heavens by the beauty of his extraordinary gifts of improvisation. I remember one occasion when coming out of the Abbey with the dear old Sub-Dean we were both of us so intensely moved by what Walter Alcock had given us that afternoon that we found it difficult to speak. He left us for Salisbury in 1916. It was a grievous mistake. He never ought to have been allowed to go.

As regards the ceremonial side of things the furniture and so forth the Abbey was deplorably lacking. My dear predecessor, the late Canon Daniell-Bainbridge, had arrived in 1890 and in a quiet though effectual manner had done a great deal to bring about a more seemly state of things. He had started in his work as Sacrist pretty nearly at zero. I had the good fortune to succeed him in the office of Sacrist, while he became Precentor, a post which he held till 1909. I shall never forget the value of his kindly counsel and information generally, for I had in those days an immense amount to learn from that best of friends.

The poverty-stricken condition of the Abbey would hardly be believed today. St. Faith's Chapel, long used as a lumber room, had been set apart for spiritual purposes a few years before I arrived, largely, I believe, owing to the influence of Gore, supported by Bainbridge. The beautiful little place as soon as it began to be used showed that it met a real need, but its cheap furniture was altogether beyond words. I seem to remember

having heard a whisper to the effect that the setting apart from the Chapel of St. Faith did not wholly commend itself to all the Chapter and hence Gore and Bainbridge had to get things done on the cheap and hope for better things later on!

The altar in St. Edward's Chapel in 1900 was not even a dream and the dreadful commonplace structure which Gilbert Scott had designed for Henry VII's Chapel was only redeemed from utter bathos by the fact that some of Torrigiano's genius had been incorporated therein.

A year or two after I arrived the contents of the Sacristy including, of course, the beautiful plate, were overhauled by the late Mr. J. T. Micklethwaite, who was the Surveyor of the Fabric at that time. The old man remarked to me that in all his experience he had never come across any great Church so utterly poverty-stricken (save for one thing, the Plate) as what he had seen in the Abbey that afternoon.

There I must end these very inadequate notes, for the great difficulty when one gets on to the subject of the Abbey is that of compression. Looking back with thankfulness over a period of upwards of half a century and also looking hopefully forward to the future, I feel I cannot do better than remind my readers of some very great words indeed,

Vexilla Regis Prodeunt. The Royal Banners Forward Go.

JOCELYN PERKINS.

CRICKET

IT is too early to pass judgment on this season as there are a few matches still to be played. So far the record has not been impressive, but the last match played—against Tonbridge—gives hope for better things to come even if it is late in the day. With six old pinks and some quite promising material we embarked on the season with interest. It looked like being a competent batting side, at any rate on firm wickets, capable of making lots of runs. The attack was speculative, with the certainty of hard labour for M. J. Hyam and considerable mental and physical exertion for D. J. A. Delmotte. In the first seven matches the batting was disappointing. Delmotte, Stout, and Saunders the backbone of experienced performers, could not get going and so there was a general lack of confidence in the batting with too much responsibility on the newcomers. W. D. J. Turner played two useful fighting innings, but was forced into

defensive tactics where his more aggressive approach would have been useful. Indeed the aggressive approach was what the batting chiefly lacked. Too often the bowlers were allowed to settle down and get on top by negative, over anxious batting. This was particularly noticeable in school matches, where the spin bowlers were given the opportunity to settle down and, thus encouraged, were more successful against us than they deserved to be. No spinner likes to go on against a quick-footed batsman who refuses to let him settle down. His death warrant may be signed in his first few overs for it takes a strong man to go on fighting and spinning against a determined attack. Equally, it takes a strong-minded batsman when newly in or not perhaps in top form to advance to the attack. Somebody must take the risk before the side is forced entirely on the defensive. Our batting failed in school matches

because it was too crease bound—or rather too block bound. Our bowling, on the other hand, has more than come up to expectations. Delmotte has had a difficult task to make his resources go round, for he had little scope for experiment. Hyam has been the mainstay and there must have been times when the captain regretted that the rules prevented him from bowling at both ends. J. F. Mortimer shows promise as a leg spin bowler for he has good control of spin and flight, and he has two very good performances to his credit. Delmotte has a fair turn of pace and accuracy, with the occasional very good ball that too often beat bat and wicket. N. C. Roope may come on with increased experience as a slow-medium, left-hand bowler. P. C. Bonavia has been handicapped by a knee injury which is a pity for he looked potentially hostile in the early days of the season. Turner was occasionally tried with the new ball which he propelled with considerable determination but no marked success. These constituted our attack and much praise is due to Delmotte for his handling of it, ringing the changes around Hyam and Mortimer so as to get the best out of them without overworking them. Behind the stumps there is J. A. Lauder, a good and on occasions extremely good wicket-keeper. The fielding in general has been sound and frequently has reached an excellent standard, the returning to the wicket being particularly good. Stout and Turner have both powerful and accurate returns which have often caused the more venturesome batsmen some regret. If only our batting had come somewhere near expectations we might have had a good season. Of the newcomers J. W. Myring has been the most successful and he and Mortimer look like being a really useful opening pair. Myring's 50 against the Free Foresters and his 58 against Sherborne were very good innings.

The most recent match was against Tonbridge. On this occasion the side came into its own and did well to defeat decisively what is obviously a good school side. We batted first on a wicket that was doing something after a storm on the previous night, with sun and breeze to dry it out. Our batting showed much more determination. A total

of 194 against accurate bowling in these conditions was good. Delmotte looked like business, made an excellent 29 and seemed set for many more when a ball lifted unexpectedly. Saunders played a very sound innings of 43, and Gordon and Myring also showed eagerness to attack the bowling. A quick 30 from Stout when we were in danger of getting behind the clock showed something of the form we had been hoping to see earlier in the season. Excellent bowling, fielding, and wicket-keeping prevented the Tonbridge side from settling down, although they looked a good batting side down to No. 9 and there was always the danger of a good partnership turning the game. Hyam, with 6 wickets for 47 in 26 overs, bowled magnificently, making intelligent use of flight and moving the ball off the pitch. He frequently beat the batsman and was unlucky not to return even better figures. Mortimer also bowled well—2 for 32 in 21 overs. Delmotte handled his bowling well, relying on these two but using the resources he had to rest them and give variety. This was a most satisfactory game from our point of view. We hope we shall see this more aggressive and purposeful approach against our remaining opponents.

- Eton Ramblers 229-6 dec. (Mortimer 5-39)
- Westminster 169 (Mortimer 44, Hunt 34).
- Butterflies 259-6 dec. (Hyam 4-62)
- Westminster 111-8 (Turner 35*).
- Radley 166 (Mortimer 7-62)
- Westminster 92 (Turner 28*).
- Free Foresters 248-6 dec. (Mortimer 3-57)
- Westminster 164 (Myring 50, Delmotte 35).
- Sherborne 198 (Hyam 5-80) and 1-0
- Westminster 57 and 141 (Myring 58, Saunders 28).
- M.C.C. 133-6 dec. (Hyam 3-54)
- Westminster 127-8 (Hunt 34, Myring 30).
- Lancing 198 (Hyam 3-59)
- Westminster 93.
- Westminster 194 (Saunders 43, Stout 30, Delmotte 29)
- Tonbridge 106 (Hyam 6-47).

*Denotes not out

COLONEL MARTIN-LEAKE, V.C., F.R.C.S.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL Martin-Leake, who died on 21st June, 1955, aged 88, was the first of only three men to have won the Victoria Cross twice. After leaving Westminster and University College Hospital he went to the Boer War, where

he won his first V.C. He was awarded a bar to it in the Great War.

Of the first occasion the *London Gazette* said this: "For great devotion to duty and self-sacrifice at Vlafontein on 8th February, 1902,

when he went out into the firing line to dress a wounded man under heavy fire from about forty Boers only a hundred yards off. When he had done all he could for him, he went over to a badly wounded officer and, while trying to place him in a more comfortable position, he was shot three times. He only gave up when thoroughly exhausted, and then he refused water until other wounded men had been served."

A ceremony was held recently at which his medals were presented to the R.A.M.C. The following message from H.M. Queen Elizabeth

the Queen Mother, Colonel-in-Chief, R.A.M.C., was read: "I have heard with the greatest interest of the ceremony you are holding today. The supreme gallantry and courage of Colonel Martin-Leake, of which these medals are the abiding symbol will, I know, be an inspiration to the Royal Army Medical Corps. I am sure that these historic medals will be treasured by all ranks, not only for themselves, but as a symbol of that devotion to duty for which you have so long been famed."

ELIZABETH R.

THE ELIZABETHAN CLUB

NINETY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT

To be presented to the Annual General Meeting on Monday, 3rd October, 1955

1. The General Committee presents its 91st Annual Report.

2. The Committee deeply regrets to record the death of C. W. G. Bryan, M.C., F.R.C.S., Sir John Bowen, The Reverend D. Clark, R. Davies-Colley, C.M.G., F.R.C.S., G. E. M. Eden, J. Heard, E. T. Hippisley, O. J. R. Howarth, O.B.E., E. O. Kirlaw, P. L. Leighton, Dr. F. W. Longhurst, R. A. Nathan, C. G. Reed, E. C. M. Traherne, G. H. Viner, F.S.A., P. G. Waterfield and C. C. J. Webb, D.Litt., F.B.A.

Dr. Clement Webb was President of the Club from 1940-43 and he had been a Governor of the School since 1905.

3. At the Annual General Meeting on 30th September, 1954, Lord Rea, O.B.E. was elected a Vice-President and W. E. Gerrish, O.B.E., A. C. Feasey and D. M. M. Carey were respectively re-elected Chairman, Hon. Treasurer and Hon. Secretary of the General Committee. K. G. Allison (1939-44), D. Kleeman (1932-37) and A. L. Leighton, M.C. (1909-14) were elected new members of the General Committee.

Before the Annual General Meeting a Special General Meeting passed three resolutions:—

- (1) That the Master of the Under School be invited to become an Honorary Life Member of the Club during his tenure of office;
- (2) That Assistant Masters who have served for seven years at the Great School or at the Under School shall be eligible for election as Honorary Life Members of the Club;
- (3) That the title "The Old Westminster's Boat Club" be altered to "The Elizabethan Boat Club".

4. The annual dinner of the Club was held at St. Stephen's Club, Westminster, on 14th October, 1954, and was attended by one hundred members. The President, Sir Robert Wilkinson, was in the Chair and the guests included The Hon. Mr. Justice Vaisey, the Dean of Westminster, the Head Master and the Bursar.

5. The Accounts for the year ended 31st March, 1955, including those of the Games and Entertainments Committees, are attached to this Report.

6. It will be remembered that the Annual General Meeting last September resolved that the printing in 1955 of the Pink Book be postponed and that the General Committee should give serious consideration to the whole question of the printing and circularisation of the Annual Report and other notices, the cost of which is a heavy drain on Club funds. In consequence the General Committee appointed a sub-committee under the chairmanship of D. C. Simpson. After examining the whole problem the sub-committee made various recommendations, all of which received the unanimous approval of the General Committee as follows:—

- (1) That the printing of the Pink Book be suspended *sine die*;
- (2) That names and addresses of new members of the Club be published in *The Elizabethan*;
- (3) That the Annual Report and Accounts and Agenda for the Annual General Meeting, etc., be published in the July issue of *The Elizabethan*;
- (4) That additional space be purchased in *The Elizabethan* for O.W. news;
- (5) That a register of addresses kept at 3 Little Deans Yard be available to all members.

The General Committee realises that these are far-reaching proposals but is confident that in the interests of economy it will have the support of all members of the Club. The estimated saving is £100 a year and this money will therefore be available for the everyday needs of the active sections of the Club's activities. A Special General Meeting on June 28th, 1955, resolved that Rules 25, 26 and 28 be amended to allow the notice summoning the Annual General Meeting, etc., to be published in *The Elizabethan*.

Entertainments Committee

7. The Annual General Meeting was held on 30th September, 1954, and A. L. Leighton was elected Chairman in succession to W. E. Gerrish, who retired after three years in office.

It was resolved that the Westminster Ball be held at the Dorchester Hotel on 4th November, 1955, and that Major R. C. and Mrs. Orpen be invited to act as Presidents.



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Games Committee

8. Members will be sorry to hear of M. W. Thompson's retirement from the Secretaryship of the Games Committee. The Club owes him a debt of gratitude for all the work he has done during the past six years. At the Annual General Meeting held on the 4th August, 1954, P. G. Whipp was elected Secretary.

O.W. Football Club

9. W. M. Atwood relinquished his office of President at the end of the Season and the Club is grateful to him for all he has done. At the Annual General Meeting, E. R. B. Graham was elected President.

Twenty-seven football matches were played by the 1st XI and thirteen by the 'A' XI. The Club entered a team in the A.F.A. Senior Cup, A.F.A. Surrey Senior Cup and the A.F.A. Junior Cup. The 1st XI was defeated by the Old Brentwoods in the Arthur Dunn Cup.

Thirty-eight O.W.W. and their guests attended the Annual Supper in February.

O.W. Cricket Club

10. 1954 was one of the wettest cricket seasons on record. The normal fixture list was arranged. The Cricket Fortnight up Fields was once again a great success. Several young O.W.W. took an active part in the Season's fixtures.

O.W. Golf Society

11. Meetings were held at Royal Wimbledon Golf Club, Royal Ashdown Forest Golf Club and at Camberley Heath Golf Club. In addition matches were played against a number of other Societies.

The Society was defeated by Fettes in the second round of the Halford-Hewitt Cup after defeating Rossall.

W. A. Slark was selected to play for England and T. J. Davies for Wales in the International matches at Royal Porthcawl.

A dinner was held in the King Charles Suite at Whitehall Court in May, 1954.

O.W. Squash Racquets and Fives

12. The usual number of matches was played. The Squash Racquets team which entered for the Londonderry Cup was defeated by Winchester.

The Elizabethan Boat Club

13. An Eight took part in the London Rowing Club's Invitation Regatta last December. This crew succeeded in winning their first heat but were then defeated by their hosts.

In the Tideway Head of the River Race in March, the Club's crew, rowing in a clinker eight, finished 58th equally with several other crews in a time of 20 minutes 57 seconds.

R. V. Taylor rowed in the Cambridge Trial Eights and M. D. Birt rowed in the winning First and Third Trinity Boat Club crew in the Ladies' Plate and the Visitors' Cup at Henley Regatta.

O.W. Lawn Tennis Club

14. Owing to the lack of players the Lawn Tennis Section's activities were limited but some matches were played.

Fencing

15. J. L. Lee and I. R. Cameron have been elected Captain and Secretary respectively of the Oxford University Fencing Club.

By order of the Committee,

D. M. M. CAREY.

ANNUAL DINNER

The Annual Dinner of the Club will be held on Monday, 3rd October, 1955, at St. Stephen's Club, Westminster, at 7 p.m. for 7.30 p.m.

A notice containing full particulars will be sent separately to all members who have attended any annual dinner since the war. Any other member who is interested is requested to inform the Hon. Secretary, Mr. D. M. M. Carey, 1 The Sanctuary, Westminster, S.W.1, not later than 31st August so that particulars can also be sent to him.

THE HONORARY SECRETARY

All O.W.W. will regret the retirement of D. M. M. Carey from the Office of Secretary to the Elizabethan Club. The debt we owe him is a great one indeed. Taking over the reins of Office soon after his demobilisation from the Navy, he has tended the affairs of the Club with ability, patience and understanding, and he will have the pleasure of looking back on a period of service that has left the Club completely united within itself and its many sections of activity.

We hope he has shared the pleasure that his work has given to so many.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Elizabethan Club will be held at St. Stephen's Club, Westminster, on 3rd October, 1955, at 6.30 p.m.

D. M. M. CAREY,
Honorary Secretary.

August, 1955.

AGENDA

1. Minutes.
 2. To receive the General Committee's Report.
 3. To pass the Hon. Treasurer's Statement of Account.
 4. Election of Officers.*
The General Committee desires to propose for appointment :—
As President : Dr. G. R. Y. Radcliffe.
As Chairman : Mr. W. E. Gerrish, O.B.E.
As Hon. Treasurer : Mr. A. C. Feasey.
As Hon. Secretary : Mr. R. Plummer.
 5. Election of General Committee.*
By Rule 13 Mr. D. R. Mullis and Mr. R. A. Denniston are ineligible for election.
The General Committee desires to propose for appointment :—
†1939/44 Mr. W. J. Gerrish.
†1926/31 Mr. F. B. Hooper
†1922/27 Mr. J. D. Carleton.
†1919/24 Mr. K. C. Keymer.
†1903/08 Colonel B. Stuart Horner.
†1939/44 Mr. K. G. Allison.
†1932/37 Mr. D. Kleeman.
†1909/14 Mr. A. L. Leighton.
1913/17 Mr. N. P. Andrews.
1930/35 Mr. D. M. M. Carey.
1944/49 Mr. J. A. C. Spokes.
1945/50 Mr. F. D. Hornsby.
6. Any other business.

* The name and address of any other Candidate to any of these offices, together with the name of his proposer and seconder, must reach the Honorary Secretary by 26th September, 1955.

† Member of 1954/55 General Committee eligible for re-election.

9 The Westminster Ball
 will be held at
 The Dorchester Hotel
 11 Friday, November 4th, 1955
 ALL INFORMATION FROM THE HON. SECRETARY,
 ROOMS 21/22, 222 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.2.

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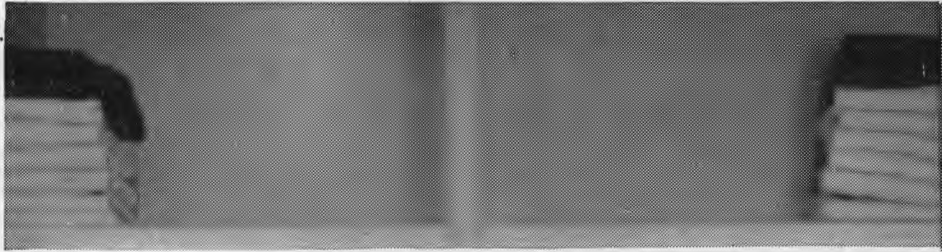
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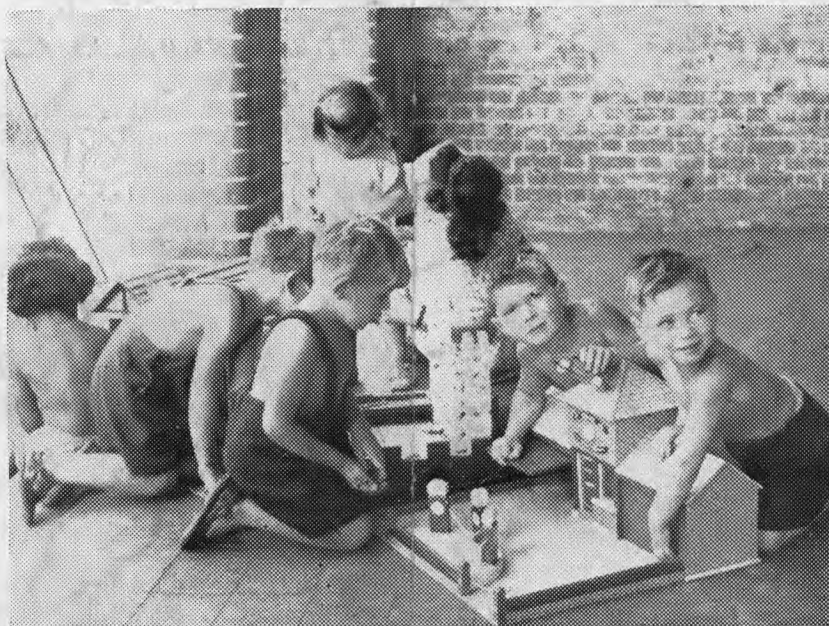
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