

# Cbe Elizabetban 

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## THE 'RUDENS,’ 1930.

First Night, December 13.
The Play was magnificently received, and the close of the Epilogue saw quite extraordinary scenes of enthusiasm. The theory that the First Night audience is any less intelligent than the other two was finally exploded.

## Second Night, December I5.

"Both Play and Epilogue went as well as on the Saturday, before a quieter 'but perhaps even more appreciative audience. The Dean of Christ Church was in the chair, owing to the unavoidable absence, through illness, of the Dean of Westminster. Among those present were The Greek Minister,

The Lord Tomlin, The Bishop of Southwell, The Lady Mayoress, The Hon. Mr. Justice Mackinnon, Sir William Llewellyn, P.R.A., The Mayor of Westminster, and His Honour Judge Sir Alfred Tobin.

Third Night, December 17.
The Rev. H. E. B. Arnold was in the chair ; the audience included The Bishop of London, The Rt. Hon. George Lansbury, The Sub-Dean of Westminster, The Archdeacon of London, The Rev. Canon Quick, The Rev. Canon V. F. Storr, The Rev. Canon C. S. Woodward, Mr. H. F. Manisty, K.C., and Mr. John Drinkwater.

## PROLOGUS IN RUDENTEM.

Quod faustis fiat ominibus, nunc maxime Novus ordo rerum, cives, nobis nascitur. Gregis magistro dempto en alium ${ }^{1}$ excepimus
Tanquam imperiti ignotum tirones ducem, Qui Cami fontes juvenis hausit ; postea Exercitatus peregrinis laboribus
Desiderantibusque tandem redditus Atheniensem redolet elegantiam.
Nobis quidem hercle complacuit ; jam mille ego
Nummorum facio sponsionem ni ilico
Judicibus etiam vobis palmam omnem ferat.
Auspiciis igitur hujus acturi sumus
Plauti Rudentem, quam quidem nos fabulam
Cum a longa oblivione vindicavimus
Nuper, quibusdam id facinus improbantibus,
Quis tum non venit, vidit, viso victus est ?
Neque enim est certamen, Plautus cum Terentio, Ullum ; sed uterque propriis suis virtutibus Princeps, suo stat regno inexpugnabilis.
Stet etiam nobis unanimis sententia
Antiquum in morem singulis quinquenniis
Plautinos instaurare numeros et sales.
Jamque advoletis oculis atque animo velim Cyrenas. Scenam aspicite-nam cum dixero, Aulaea non jam obstabunt,-qui fecit ${ }^{2}$ tamen Apelles noster, ingenio vir praeditus
Non singulari tantum sed septemplici,

[^0]Qui seque devovebat suasque artes diu Nobis, spe nostra citius in provinciam Majorem evectus aliis auget commoda.

Non vile id nobis damnum ; sed damnosior Fortuna invasit, quando noster Diogenes ${ }^{3}$ Abiit relicto dolio, assuetumque onus
Tum demum deposivit lustra post novem.
Aerarii praefectus rem capessere
Scitus, Musarum non minus cultor, nihil Tractavit quod non cura et arte ornaverit. Valeat bene, indefessus operetur senex.

St! auscultate. Num fabrorum illinc sonos Percipio, qui certatim summa vi manus Nituntur magnum, ${ }^{4}$ quicquid est, conficere opus ?
Sic est ; veteribus nova paratur porticus Tectis, nova ala, alumni munificentia. Auxilio tali increscunt fortunae domus.

Postremo morte abreptos de prosapia
His in comitiis pietas defleri sinit.
Quorum unus ${ }^{5}$ inter Judices fama fuit Clarus, gubernatorque consuluit scholae.
Amans amatus alter ${ }^{6}$ longum inserviit
Elizae Societati quam sanctissima
Fide bonorum custos. Accessit dolor Abhinc dies perpaucos memoratu gravis :
Qui ${ }^{7}$ res curarat nostras uno anno minus
Collega amicus vixit. Dixi prologus.

[^1]
## EPILOGUS IN RUDENTEM.

|  | Personae. |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Sceparnio | A fiscal Minister | E. R. Smith. |
| Sparax | A prime Minister | J. E. Rich. |
| Daemones | A dear old Minister | J. R. Cheadle. |
| Labrax | A press reporter | J. R. C. Engleheart. |
| Turbalio | A Canadian cousin | L. D. S. ten Doesschate. |
| Trachalio | An Australian cousin . | F. E. Pagan. |
| Amicus Plesidippi | A South African cousin (roughly) | J. G. Lea. |
| Piscator | An Indian Salt Merchant (illegal) | J. D. Argyle. |
| Gripus | An Oxford Don (aged) | W. R. S. Doll. |
| Ampelisca | An undergraduette | A. F. Stephenson. |
| Palaestra | A London Lido lady | F. G. Adams. |
| Ptolemocratia | A policewoman . | R. H. Vigor. |
| Charmides | A yachtsman | T. R. Crook. |
| Sparax | A rival yachtsman | J. E. Rich. |
| Plesidippus | A country gentleman (hobbies: pigs and politics) | L. E. de St. Paër. |
| Amicus Plesidipri . | A boy scout . | A. K. Milne. |
| Piscator | A billiard-player | J. D. Argyle. |
| Palaestra | A high-flier | F. G. Adams. |

Persona Muta.
A sculptured bust . . . . J. F. B. Stevens.
Scene: Hyde Park.
A broken-down cottage on the left bears the sign: Hospitium Liberi Commercir. It has been through stormy weather: roof tiles are missing. At the back a notice on a curtain reads : Hic Serpentini balnea mixta lacus. Part of the stage is set out with the apparatus of a miniature golf-course.
(DaEmones is discovered titivating the golf-course and here and there a flower, with loving care. Enter Sceparnio and Sparax at speed, upon a tandem.)
DaE. Tandem
Sc. (nervously) Illuc vereor, cum intus subit horror in artus,
Te comitare.
DaE.
Metum pone! Virecta patent Fortunatorum nemorum sedesque beatae.
Sp. Aspicis ? Antea erant haec loca senta situ. Dat. Agnoscis-ne locum ?
Sc.
Veteris vestigia campi
Nulla manent: ubi sim nescio prorsus.

## DAE.

At est
Idem campus.
Sc. At est quantum mutatus ab illo!
Elysium dicas (sardonically). Quis precor auctor erat ?
Sp. (indicating Daemones)
Aedilis.
Sc. Non hercle fuit plebeius ille
Aedilis, vere sed popularis erat.
DaE. Restat adhuc unum quod displicet.
Sc.
En cedo quidnam?

DAE. (pointing to the old cottage)
Haec domus.
Sc. At domus haec est bene nota tibi. Dae. Nota magis nulli domus est sua. Sed mihi nota
Displicet.
Sc. At nunquam commodiore domo Uteris.
DaE. (going up to the cottage, he pokes it with his umbrella, and so shakes it and tiles fall off the roof)
Ecce vides-ne ut ab omni parte vacillet? Rimis quam cribrum crebrius illa patet.
Sp. Tegula nulla manet porro quae protegat aedes.
Sc. Protegat? Au topper parce nefasta loqui. Tegmine nil opus est. Odi quos machina tute Conservat: tales conspuere est hominis. (There is much disgust and some dampness in his wrath, so that DaEmones must put up his umbrella, and, crouching, he sees a bullrush.)
DAE. Scirpe, tuas laudo fortunas : crescis in umbra Elavat ille caput.
(Enter Labrax, who dashes up to Daemones and claps his hand on his shoulder in a familiar way.)

Sc. (before Labrax has a chance to speak) Quid petis? Ire licet.
LA. O bone, num ignoras tu concilium imperiale? Cumfure Encelado te premat Aetna, precor. Omnes imperii nostri omni a parte coloni Huc in concilium convenient hodie.
Tune, senex, bonus es civis ?
Sp. (realizing that the Reporter has not recognized Daemones) Speculans Berenicem Mirarisne comas? Ecce comas. (pointing to Daemones' long hair and whiskers)

Quis adest?
La. Dic clare. 'Speculans Berenicem'? En omnia novi.
Salve. Stultuseram. (He now also recognizes Sceparnio) Te-ne, Philippe, voco ?
Sc. (He nods a distant assent)
At frustra conventuros hodie auguror illcs. Consilium omne odio est imperiale mihi.
Multas per terras an multa per aequora vectus
Aeriis pennis huc an adactus ades ?
(Enter Turbalio, a large Canadian, for the Conference.)
Tur. Me bene transvexit mare Mauretania. Salve. (He notices with delight the flowers.)
En gemmat flos hac. Lucus in urbe viget!
(Labrax, with his camera, manceuvres for a shot.)
 decembre
Ad mane expecto, qui bene battuerat.
(Enter Trachalio from Australia.)
Dae. Expectate venis.
Sp. (aside) Citius, non mensa parata est.
(The Conference Table is brought in.)
Sc. Quemnam miserunt Antipodes?
Tr. Vereor,
Otto, ne miram, fi! nanciscare luem me.
Sp. Afer adhuc deest.
(Enter Amicus Primus, singing and dancing. His shortest way to the front of the stage is over the Conference Table.)
A.P.
Me consuluisse, precor, Ne nolis.

Tr. Sed fuscus is est: non competit. Exi.
La. (is nice to the Zulu, and claps him on the back) Heus, bone, tu palles.
A.P. (moved) Pallidiore, reor,

Africus ille Hertzog post paullo erit ore minister ;
Non semper mea gens serviet.
(Enter Piscator, an Indian, from Bombay. He carries sandwich-wise two placards inscribed: In sale sola salus and Peregrinas exue vestes.)

LA.

## Indus adest.

Quid stas ? Nonne tuam ipse vales portare pusillus
sarcinulam?
Pisc. Immo ubi sit mensa rotunda rogo.
(A Round Table is produced for him. He sits upon it and works away at his salt (illegal).)
(All sit down at the Conference Table.)
Sp. Quid tibi summa boni est ?
Sc. (as if settling it all for ever)
Commercia libera sunto.
Hac ratione suas Anglia divitias
Condidit. Haud alia poterit servare paratas. Morem majorum deseruisse nefas.
Tur. Ten consanguineis quoque deesse ? Britanne, memento
Imperii populos jungere amicitia.
Tr. Tu mercare meas merces: exclude alienas: Sic certe poteris
Sc. (decisively) nempe perire fame.
A.P. Imperio exaucto, bacas (they all put their samples upon the table).
Tur.
frumenta,
A.P.
metalla.
Tr. Lignum, argentum,
A.P. aurum,

Tr.
Tur. poma,
A.P. oleum,
Tur. Cuncta quidem ad verbum possunt praebere coloni.
Sic peregrina tibi sumere nil opus est.
Sc. (aside) Quid dicunt ? Timeo Danaos et dona ferentes.'
Sp. Olim credebam, care Philippe, tibi. At statui mutare fidem.
Sc.
Vae, proditor, exi.
Omnes Proditor ? At minime : nos eadem cupimus.
Dae. (addressing Piscator, who is taking no part in the proceedings and merely making salt)
Tu modo nugaris? Vel adhuc quae causa vagandi?
Nam recreantur opes non sale sed salibus.
Pisc. (parrot-wise)
Ghandi Mahatma jubet 'peregrinas exue vestes.'
Indigena Indigenis in sale sola salus.
DaE. (vicariously tapping the hollow head of Sceparnio)
De nihilo nihilum gigni dicunt: per inane Res geritur.
La. Cessas? Huncine an hunc sequeris ?
Omnes (voting for Sparax) Victrix causa placet nobis
Sc.
at victa Philippo.
(Fidgety Phil overbalances backwards on his chair and, as he falls, pulls off the tablecloth and the fruits of Empire with it. He emerges from the débris unconcerned.)

Haec ego non curo: quod sapio satis est. (The representatives collect their 'samples' and withdraw.)
DAE. Triste ministerium fecisti.
Sc. (happy now)
Desine, amabo. Nunc abeamus, Io Bacche! Sed est Corydon.
Nympha comes sequitur (as Gripus and Ampelisca in a long frock enter from Oxford.)
DaE.
Quae te dementia duxit
Londinium ?
Sc.
Cur non sufficit Isis ?
DaE.
Aquas
Nostras cur petiisti?
Gr. Exul sum.
Dae.

## Exilio te ?

Gr.
Immo me pepulere domo
Mores mutati quibus ipsa Oxonia cedit.
DaE. Tanta-ne vis moris ?
Gr.
Perdere quippe valet Omnia.
Am. Jam fit nostra Academia fabrica. Miror Quod tantum vexat vita hodierna senes.
Gr. Vivimus obsessi. Motorum transitus arcto Vicorum in flexu nos prohibet veteres Egressu.
Am. Nec ut ante quidem Collegia pacem Praebent, inque dies Americana cohors Magna viatorum ipsa usque in penetralia rumpit.
Vocibus argutis tota domus resonat.
Dae. Non cuivis, dicunt, contingit adire Chicago. Ne doleas, ubivis ipsa Chicago venit.
Gr. Nugae : nam quaerit, Tamesis jam valle relicta, Musa novas sedes.
Sc.
Insula Kilda vacat.
Gr. De conducendo sed enim jam rhetore Thule Nil loquitur. (He is given a new interest by the sight of the lake and the prospect of a piscine meal therefrom.)

Pisces iste lacus peperit ?
DaE. (not interested) Nonnullos. Sed et haec (interested) quae te comitatur ad urbem
Gr. Haec-ne ? Vides nostro de grege discipulam.
DaE. Invideo pastori ovium. Num femina tantum Discit apud vos, an vir quoque ?
Ам.
Nempe viri
Olim complures.
GR. Sed nunc in gurgite nostro Apparent rari. Plurima namque fremit Unda puellarum.

La.
Migrantes quippe virorum Concursus unda caelibe Granta fovet.
Unda gradu et Grantam turpabit degener.
Gr. (moving to back of stage, where a drapery conceals, and reveals the shape of, a bust)

Omnes
Huc decet, huc fausto deproperare pede.
(All follow. Gripus feels deeply: it is a great moment.)
Est vatis notus pueroque patrique per orbem.
Natalem fas est commemorare diem.
Marmoreum signum placuit posuisse poetae.
(He begins to unveil the sculpture.)
LA. Detegere ecce senex incipit effigiem.
(A bust of Vergilius is revealed. The poet wears
a laurel wereath and perhaps a smile.)
GR. (his voice and heart are full)
Aeneadum genitor, nostrum divomque voluptas,
Vergilii volitet fama perennis,
Omnes.
Ave!
Am. Me miseram, pereo : quam res in seria versa est.
(Turning to Daemones.)
At tu, Magne Puer, pone supercilium.
Dic age tu: quae sunt spectacula in urbe videnda?
(At the mention of spectacula' Labrax chips in.)
La. 'Ecce puer' 'Cynara' et 'Psmittius huic sat erit.'
DAE. (ignoring the cutting-in)
Pelliculas-ne optas an ludicra viva videre ?
Partibus Hesperiis cuncta quieta silent.
Contemnensque suos dat plausus aeraque Mauris
Plebs. Sine maestitia mortua Musa jacet.
La. Non omnis moritur robigine. Tuque, Geralde,
Deliciae, nondum tu moriere, meae.
Quid fles? Astoriae cinematogrammata monstrant
Omniloquo omnicano magnicachinnichoro.
Sc. Jam titubant montes, apparet ridiculus mus.
(He produces from his tailcoat a model of a Mouse, well known and liked. So he is human after all.)

Quis melior Michio Mure jocosa ciet ?
Gr. (who had left Vergil, to examine the Mouse, in disgust)
Divinas-ne opico scaenas invadere Mures ?
Ire volo ad pisces Graeculus esuriens.
(He retires to the water's edge at back and fishes.)
DaE. (half puzzled by and half admiring AmpelISCA's long frock)
Quid juvat ornato procedere, cara, capillo,
Et longos coa veste movere sinus,
Dum saliunt aliae succinctae more Dianae ?

Am. Estis vos, proceres, haud minus instabiles. Estis polliciti Saturnia regna, sed illa

Diversis comites vocibus accipiunt.
Glasgua enim ' nostro redeant jam tempore ' clamat,
Cunctando Fabiis res statuisse placet.
LA. (chipping in as usual)
Tum mos hic melior, sed nunc mos ille videtur
Esse.
DaE. Sed est unum quod mihi et unanimi Gratantur factum.
Am. Ut vellem cognoscere quid sit.
DaE. (proudly drawing her attention to the notice at back about Balnea Mixta)
En Serpentini balnea mixta lacus.
(He walks up the steps to pull back the curtain.)
At cur non mecum venies? Aulaea reducam.
(The Lido Lady, Palaestra, is poised, about to dive.)
Quam lepida specie diva. Puella, sali.
PA. Immo hic perpetuo maneam. Phaethontis amans sum.
DAE. (staring at her sun-browned limbs)
Nempe ultra violat te radiis.
PA.
Caveas.
DaE. Nunc operam, virgo, da: si obviam adire liceret
Praesenti tibi qui gaudia tanta dedit, Quas ageres grates ?
PA.
Illi bona praemia ferrem
Basia pro tantis.
DaE.
Hic vir, hic est, ego sum.
PA. Indulgere volo Bacchis me, euge, orgia miscens.
Insanire juvat.
Dae.
Dulcia dicta cies.
(His reward is about to be given him, when a bolt from the woman in blue parts them asunder. Enter Ptolemocratia, a police-woman.)
Pт. Ah restim apporta. Pacis sum publica custos.
LA. (being funny)
Dic mihi nomen habes quale ?
Рт.
Roberta.
Tibi
Publica commissa est res? Quis custodiet ipsas
Custodes, mea lux. (He chucks her under the chin.)
PT. Improbe, ne quid agas.
LA. (changing the subject)
Dic mihi sis, custos, quid vult concursus ad amnem?
Pt. Protinus hic pandent aemula vela rates Ecce duae.
(Enter the yachtsmen Charmides and Sparax with their model yachts.)
Ch . et Sp .
Salvete omnes.

Sp.
Iam tempus agi res.
CH. Incipianrus : at est ista parata ratis ?
(They both lie down at the water's edge to launch their boats.)
LA. Incumbunt pelago.
Sp. (jumps up in sudden inspiration)
Prius est, mi care, bibendum.
Non prohibent leges.
(He drinks from a hip flask.)
Quod bene vertat, Io.
Expulsa ah redeat rescripto Consulis uva.
Naturae, ut nobis, est odio vacuum.
CH. Heus, ista arte regat cursum. Ista dabit stationes.
(Ptolemocratia steps forward.)
Sp. Tu rector ?
Pt. (her sex impugned) Rectrix. Ordine uterque suo
Praecipitate moras. Una stent litore puppes.
En unum duo tres, reddite vincla, voco.
Ch. Anglia praecedit.
Sp. Minime : tu nonne tacebis ?
Euge.
CH . Eheu perii : nunc animo male fit.
(Sensation at back: Gripus has caught a fish.)
Gr. O decus Oxoniae virgo, quas dicere grates
Neptuno magno quasve referre parem ?
Me juvat et miro piscatu mittit onustum.
Piscem incredibilem retia quippe tenent.
(He cannot land his catch.)
Est-ne rudens? nequeo solus. Succurrite, cives.
(All are now tugging together at a rope.)
Una sint omnes. Vidulus ecce subit.
(The fish turns out to be a trunk, upon which the initials ' B. M. G.' are prominent.)
Sp. Pisciculos sanctos!
(They start to unpack it, out falls a pipe.)
Hostis vestigia nostri Agnosco.
Am. (peering in, jumps back with a scream). Miseram me.
Sp.

## Ecce cadaver inest.

Am. Injecit miserum quis atrox ?
(Plesidippus is lifted out.)
Gr.
Extollite, amabo.
Hisco ut voce petam, qui dare forte viro Noverit inflatum.
(Enter Amicus Secundus, a boy scout, who attempts artificial respiration.)
DaE. Fortuna est unica honestus Languenti vultus.
A.S. Labra movere potest.

Dae. Vinum infunde. Reviviscit. Tu dic modo, quis te
His ignominiis afficere instituit?
Pl. Ibam forte via classis-

DaE. Via plena pericli est-
Pl. Nugarum, ut mos est, nescioquid meditans, Cum me latrones subito rapuere.
Am.
Latronum
Nonne referre vicem saevitia poteras?
PL. (abject)
Cum rixa est illi pulsant, ego vapulo tantum.
Am. Inspice terga.
DaE. Babae verbera quanta tulit. Non bene latrantes dicas, sed belligerantes.
Pl. Immo crucis geritur bellum et ego excrucior.
Tale malum nunquam mea vox in gutture pressa
Praetereat.
Сн. Factis, desidiose, opus est.
Am. Tu dux es : ducis est, audivi, ducere.
PL.
Nos-ne
Dux ? Oblitus eram: nec meminisse juvat.
Ch. Quo modo pane beem jejunos nescio amicos, dum messor messes improbus ille facit.
Pl. (trying to avoid the menacing camera of Labrax)
Hic locus infestus. Rus ibo-visere porcos. (He bolts.)
Gr. Erepit velox. Effugit, insequere.
(Exeunt, right, Charmides and Sparax in pursuit. Trachalio strolls on from left.)
DAE. (for his miniature golf course has not yet been noticed) Ludamus, socii.
LA. (sarcastic and offensive)
Num ludere possumus urbe
In media?
Dae. Hic homines ludere, belua, avent.
Scaenam igitur causa hac spernunt: defenditur arte
Morborum sic plaga officioque meo.
Tr. Ah quota puncta?
DaE.
Novem sunt. Num experieris, amice,
Tu decus Antipodum, cui pila recta volat?
(Trachalio, at golf, proves not only inefficient, but, with his crocket strokes, positively a danger.)
Tr. Clavam alii absurdam porgamus.
DaE.
Siste ferocem

## Nixum.

(They rush up to stop him.)
Tr. Fraudasti me: mea pila satis. (Enter Piscator, fresh from his billiards.)
Mensarum sphaerista reportans nobilia adsum
Praemia quae cepi, flectere doctus ebur.
DaE. Gratulor o versute, at et hic conare, precamur.
Pisc. Experiar. (But he fails.)
Solitae sed rationis ero
Jam memor: usus acutum me multus quoque reddet.
(He is playing now with a red ball, and has chalked the wrong end of the golf club, which he uses as a сие.)
Tr. Ecce ferire potest clava reversa pilam.
La. O miserande puer, si qua jura aspera rumpes,
Tu punitus eris. Non violare pudet
Ante oculos canones horum te? Sed tu es inanis.
Nonne pila est mi ter nunc ferienda? Cedo.
Dae. (to Labrax)
Iste ignominia muta caput abdere debet.
(Labrax holes out by means of some clever but surreptitious foot-work.)
La. En.
(But Amicus Secundus, the boy scout, has watched it all.)
A.S.

O perfide-
DaE. Quid ?
A.S.

Nonne pilam pedibus
Tunc involvisti, tu prave, latenter in urnam ?
(Uproar. Labrax at last is cowed.)
Dae. Ferte duas clavas huc. Properate viri.
(Two people raise their clubs on high and stand threateningly above the miserable man. They pick him $u p$ and drop him in the Serpentine. The engines of an aeroplane are heard, and in a moment a Moth is seen flying above the audience towards the stage. It lands, off. Enter Palaestra in Alying kit.)
Pisc. Rara avis est ?
Tr. Lapsam videas ex aere plane
Daedaleam natam.
Pisc. Quo ruis ?

Unde venis?
A.S.

PA. Noctes atque dies sum vecta per aethera curru
Alato.
DaE. Nullo subveniente tibi ?
PA. Nempe dedit quidam gratis ecastor olens $j u s$, Sic citius veni sospes ad Antipodes.
Omnes. O domina o salve!
PA. Joannem, care, voca me;
Sic comites nostri, sic genus omne virum.
A.S. Quot vis ingenio tibi inest propellere equorum Monstrum horrendum, altum cum geris ales iter?
LA. (himself again)
Scribe, precor, mihi pauca : talentum do tibi magnum.
(He has his hand upon her shoulder.)
Sc. Ne digito attigeris. Lex bene nota vetat :
' Quicquid conspicuum pulchrumque est aethere toto
Res fisci est.' Illa lege puella mea est.
La. Immo etiam mea sis, qui jam tibi multa talenta-

PA. Nec tibi nec cuiquam sed mihi sum propria.
DaE. Tu bene dixisti, virgo : sed praemia factis Qua mihi digna tuis inveniam-
Pal. (who has been standing with her back to Vergil's bust, suddenly sees his white face and cries out in alarm) Ecce quid est ?
Dae. (reassuring her) Vergilium video tantum.
LA.
Vitta ornat. Vittam transferat ille tibi.
(Vergil himself obliges and put his wreath upon Palaestra's head.)
LA. (coming forward to audience)
Finis adest operi. Vobis, haec nostra benigne Qui spectavistis ludicra, abire licet.
Post Plautum temptare jocos res ardua ; namque Apparet vitium proximitate boni.
Sed veniam, quaeso, mori indulgete vetusto
Quem schola nostra novis viribus usque tenet, Et quamvis humilis conceptum voce poetae Votum iterate meum, 'Floreat Alma Domus.'

FLOREAT.

## Correspondence.

## THE 'RUDENS,' 1930.

## To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

SIR,-It is, I have heard, the part of a critic to criticise. It is a part which, as I watched the performances of the 'Rudens ' in Dormitory last December, I constantly forgot; nec meminisse juvat. For the oldest Old Westminster can rarely have enjoyed such spirited acting or have been delighted by so swift and smooth-running a production, and there can be few left to mourn still the final laying of that mangled ghost, the ' Famulus.'

Yet the substitution of a farce for what was supposed to be a comedy is not entirely to the advantage of the players. It is true that the broadly drawn types of Plautus are easier to represent than those more subtly depicted by Terence, that the interest does not depend, as in the 'Adelphi,' for an obvious instance, upon the delicate interplay of the characters, but rather on the direct development of a vigorous plot; nevertheless so much of the humour of Plautus rests in the dialogue that the actors are driven to trust far more in the understanding of the audience, which if it does not signify immediate appreciation of each joke, the whole effect of the play is lost, and the actors are nonplussed (though in this case assuredly not disheartened). And to a great part of the spectators the 'Rudens, was clearly so unfamiliar as yet that it must have seemed to them a much poorer play than in fact it is; perhaps before another four years have elapsed they will spend eighteenpence on the official crib.

Many of us, I suppose, must have arrived in Dormitory filled with the doubts and fears that any menace of a break in tradition always arouses in the breasts of loyal O.WW. ; briefly, we suspected Mr. Pentreath. With how little cause was very quickly demonstrated, and suspicion
gave way to enthusiastic admiration ; still, so successful a combination of tradition and vitality had to be seen to be believed. Not merely was there in the production a satisfactory absence of hitches and embarrassing anticlimaxes, but also each player was inspired with a zest some of the credit for which may perhaps fairly be given to Mr. Pentreath's leadership. Criticism is bound, indeed, to be of detail alone.

First, the speed was allowed to slacken rather unfortunately towards the end. The last act is raggedly constructed, and the only way to make it entertaining is to take it at a pace dashing enough to cover up its comparative inferiority. There is nothing in it essential to the plot-or rather, to what the spectator is led by the first part of the play to regard as the plot-and apart from the administering of the oath (the occasion of one of the most signal of Mr. Engleheart's triumphs) there is less humour in the dialogue than in that of the earlier acts. By allowing us to suspect that their interest was flagging, the actors encouraged us to lose ours.
The grouping was on the whole good. In view of the smallness of the stage it is doubtless practically impossible to make the Three Friends of Plesidippus appear any less like constables hustling him off to Vine Street; perhaps it was through fear of emphasising that effect that Mr. Pentreath did not present them ' chlamydatos cum machaeris.' Alone in the recognition scene were the players grouped in a really awkward fashion : that stationary echelon, with Ampelisca dumped beyond all hope of escape just by the door whose sudden opening had once already sent her into ungainly flight, became so oppressive that one almost hoped for the door to open and jolt her and her neighbours into life. This lack of movement, of course, always threatens when the Westminster stage is crowded, but it was made practically unavoidable this year by the curious behaviour of the householder Daemones in placing a bench right in the middle of the main road to

Cyrene. For casual visitors who wanted to take a rest and admire bulrushes it may have been convenient, but for Plesidippus and his friends and still more for Ampelisca it proved a wretched nuisance. It is surely a reasonable principle of production that properties must not be introduced for the purposes of one act if they are likely to hamper the action of another. Away, then, with that bench; let Labrax be sick over the altar.

I note that various of my predecessors have protested against the wearing of wigs by young men and slaves; I note further that their protests have been of no avail. For form's sake I would, however, add my voice to the chorus, asking why Sceparnio was surmounted by that strange yellow monstrosity, why one of the luckless Three Friends was in perpetual danger of the agonies of suffocation, why, above all, the point of Trachalio's remark about qualifying for the profession of hariolus was deliberately destroyed. Another protest must be made against the wanton belittling of Ptolemocratia's efforts to be hospitable; indeed, her ministrations to the two castaways appeared to have had no effect whatever. It can hardly be demanded that Palaestra and Ampelisca should enter dripping from the shower ; but need Palaestra's wig be so conspicuously dry, Ampelisca's so very smooth and tidy ? Could they not at least come on barefoot, to be allotted sandals by the guardian of the Chapter House, or rather of the temple? Thirdly, in this matter of costume, Labrax should be clad, as he himself observes, in tunic and pallium ; he might also be more ventriosus.

The acting was remarkable not only for one outstanding performance but also for a more uncommon quality - the absence of weak spots, None will dispute Mr. Engleheart's pre-eminence : his talent, his finish, the subtle variety of tone, of gesture, and above all of speed at his command combined to make his presentation of the slavedealer the finest piece of acting seen at Westminster since the war. Even the strange capers which he executed under the stress of excitement added by their unexpectedness to the comic effect of his performance. He had further what is often lacking in the naturally gifted but little trained actor-a sure judgment; nowhere did he distract our attention when it was properly given elsewhere, never was he content merely to exce] his fellow-actors, but rather supported them to the full extent of his power. Whenever he was on the stage they might easily have suffered by the comparison; instead the spirit of the whole company was quickened and their abilities appeared increased.

The acting of Mr. Smith also deserves singling out for special praise. Whether he would prove
equally good in a part of a different sort it is impossible to tell ; he has not yet Mr. Engleheart's polish; but as Sceparnio he displayed a naturalness so engaging that his disappearance so early in the play was altogether regrettable. His description of the shipwreck, his meeting with Ampelisca, and his ' Ubi tu es ?' were things to be remembered long with relish; and he shared Mr. Engleheart's faculty for remaining alive when he was not speaking without distracting attention from those who were. Moreover, he spoke up ; for one who sat in the Young Old Westminsters' Pit the quietness of some of the voices was not of much moment, but it is doubtful whether more than about three-quarters of, say, Ampelisca's part can have been audible in the gods.

Mr. Pagan's talent was less natural, but he carried through his part with a fine swing and succeeded in making it really individual. He was not just ' a slave' ; he was Trachalio, and none but Trachalio. At times he exhibited rather too much stern determination; he was apt to talk at the audience with a severity that nearly sent me conscience-searching; but otherwise his impersonation of the casual impertinent Harlequin was executed with great consistency and unflagging zeal.

Mr. Cheadle's interpretation of Daemones struck me as a little too cultured. True, by being so he provided an amusing foil to the other players; true also that he was not born an Athenian for nothing ; but was Athens even in decay quite so reminiscent of Hampstead? Had it no salt? Was it content with the paling glories of past elegance, and looking towards Cyrene to murmur whatever was the Attic equivalent for Miss Cicely Courtneidge's dictum, that 'Clacton his not 'Arringay?' To speak thus is certainly to exaggerate the effect of Mr. Cheadle's gentle suavity, and to forget that the easy skill with which he held our interest in a part that is not in itself very exciting was quite out of the ordinary ; but particularly in the scenes with Gripus he tended to sacrifice dignity to politeness. There was a point where I half expected him to 'keep his temper, say "Pig!" and sweep out of the room.'

On the first night I was inclined to quarrel with Mr. Stephenson's interpretation of Ampelisca, and even now I am not entirely satisfied that she was as meek and modest a maiden as he would have us believe ; but it must be admitted that his ability to infuse into his speeches a quiet and entirely natural animation made them very effective. It was unfortunate that the liveliness disappeared as soon as he relapsed into silence. I still believe, however, that Ampelisca was intended by Plautus to be a rather forward arch
young person, not averse to striking up acquaintances without much formality with promising young men like Sceparnio.

Palaestra's is the more difficult of the two girls' parts to render interesting, but Mr. Adams made it seem far less difficult than it really is. Even that first entry-surely rather a terrifying passage for a Westminster actor-did not daunt him. He managed furthermore to endow the freeborn Palaestra with a dignity which was in itself highly appropriate and contrasted well with the more unreserved character of her companion.

Mr. Doll, on whom as Gripus fell the chief burden of sustaining the interest towards the end, tended to overdo his part. Admittedly the acting has to be broad and emphatic in the last scenes ; but naturally limited as he was in gesture and tone of voice he would perhaps have done better to stress Gripus' stupidity rather more and his excitement rather less.

My only complaint in Mr. de St. Paër's case is that he was barely fatuous enough. Plesidippus was, after all, a hopeless boob, and as the play proceeds the more foolish he becomes, to reach a climax of imbecility in the scene with Trachalio. Here Mr. de St. Paër was indeed fairly Wodehouseish, but between them he and Mr. Pagan lost some of the fun of the absurd dialogue.

Charmides (Mr. Crook) was scarcely rogue enough, but he supported Mr. Engleheart well in their exchange of mock heroics, and gave a most convincing display of misery. The part of Ptolemocratia might easily be burlesqued, but Mr. Vigor, wisely choosing the path of straightforward seriousness, produced a far better effect than burlesque could have done. Turbalio and Sparax were adequately brutal, but appeared to better advantage in the Epilogue. Mr. Argyle was content to be purely farcical as the leading fisherman, Messrs. Lea, Stevens and Milne purely pictorial as the Tres Amici Plesidippi.
A word must be said in praise of Mr. Engleheart's tune for the fisherman's song. It did not sound too convivial, but was sufficiently beautiful in itself to make us hope that it will be permanently retained.
The lucidity and dignity that we have come to expect in the words of the Prologue were finely brought out by the steady voice and well-judged expression of the Captain: rarely, indeed, can the writer and the speaker of the Prologue have served each other so well.

The Epilogue certainly did not lack fun; the only fear was that 'saturation point' might be reached before it ended, that the audience would become simply too tired to laugh any more. And, in fact, towards the end many of the puns did
fall flat just because the spectators, ruefully feeling their sides, could no longer afford to show their appreciation of any but the best. Some of them were so extraordinary and involved such remarkable distortions of the Latin that it is permissible to wonder if they were real puns at all-whether they were not in essence macaronic. There were, however, many of great felicity: ' memor: usus acutum me . . .' was among the cleverest of recent years. The matter was on the episodic side. That is of little importance provided the several parts are neatly joined; but the troughs between the waves were this year somewhat unfortunately noticeable. Still, the wayes were boisterous enough to bowl the spectators over, and the only real fault was the poverty of the part assigned to Labrax; his abilities deserved better material. The whole company showed a fine gusto ; I have not space to mention the individual excellences of each actor, but I may be permitted to compliment Mr. Argyle on his extraordinary versatility; his impersonation of the Indian satyagrahi (is that right?) was particularly worthy of note.

The orchestra increases every year in quality and quantity; this year it merited far more applause than it received or is ever likely to receive, and contributed much to the pleasure of a performance which I scarcely dare hope to see equalled ' ad annos sedecim.'

I have, Sir, the honour to be
Your humble and obedient servant,


It has been decided not to publish a translation of the Epilogue this year. Instead we are reprinting the following synopsis from the New York Times of January 4:-

## TOPICAL LATIN.

In the dormitory of Westminster School, before the usual assembly of bigwigs, the annual 'Westminster play' was given in mid-December. It was the 'Rudens ' of Plautus; but at Westminster not the play but the epilogue is the thing. ${ }^{1}$ It is a sort of topical review in Latin, full of outrageous puns and irreverent digs. The scene is in Hyde Park. On the left a decrepit cottage bears the sign 'Free Trade Inn.' A sign at the back reads: 'Serpentine Baths for Both Sexes,' Mr. George Lansbury, Commissioner of Public Works, who has done much to 'popularise' the park, is spoofed as no plebeian but a real popular ædile. There is a miniature golf course with its paraphernalia on the stage. A Fiscal Minister, a Prime Minister, a dear old minister, a press reporter, cousins, Australian, Canadian, South African ; an Indian salt merchant, an Oxford don, an under-graduette-unda gradu et-are among the characters.
${ }^{1}$ [? Ed.]

At a Round Table Conference the Indian-who is a sandwichman between two placards: 'In Salt Alone Is Safety' and 'Off with Foreign Togs !'-sits down and makes illegal salt. The other visitors put samples of their wheat, timber, and so forth, on the table. The Australian cousin has been saying to Fidgety Phil (Mr. Snowden) :

- You buy my goods and keep out those of other folks.

Certainly in this way you will be able-
Unmoved, the Fiscal Minister completes the sentence : 'To die of hunger all right.' Whereat all yell: 'We are for the winning side, Philip for the losing.' At this moment the Catonian Philip, unable to maintain a balance in his chair better than in his prospective budget, topples backward, clutching the tablecloth desperately, and pulls the table and Imperial products down with him in his fall. There are no fidgets about him. He is as calm as a cucumber : ' I don't care a rap for this; what I know's enough.'

It is all pleasant fooling. After Mr. Snowden's Jowettian remark we shall stray from politics, except to mention that a trunk labelled 'B. M. G.'-Baldwin Must Go-is dragged out of the Serpentine. Its halfdead contents are finally identified by the pipe. Artificial respiration is tried by a Boy Scout. 'Ibam forte via classis,' says Stanley redivivus, 'I was walking in Fleet Street.' There he was attacked by robbers and soundly beaten, as his back testifies to the spectators. We shall leave him just as a sympathizing bystander commits against Lord Beaverbrook this felonious and crippled pun, which calls for an ambulance from the orthopedic hospital: 'Babae! verbera quanta tulit'; in plain, punless English,' Jiminy crimps ! what a licking he got!'

Can we get wall space for a little bit of domestic genre ? Gripus, the old don; Ampelisca, the undergraduette, and Daemones, the dear old minister, are conversing :

Am. Our college is become a factory. I wonder
Why our life of to-day makes oldsters so sore.
Gr. We live obsessed, the passage of the motors
Leaves none for old folks at the narrow crossings.
Am. Peace no more is found at the colleges.
Day by day the gang of American
Travellers breaks into our holiest midmost;
The whole place shrills with the sharpness of their voices.
DaE. 'Tis not everyone can go to Chicago.
Don't you worry. Chicago goes everywhere.
The classical allusions and parodies invite the scholar. The gaiety of the makers of these plays-schoolmasters, we suppose-invites improving comparisons between the joviality of so many English writers and some of their melancholy American brethren bound to the Muscovite tradition, but our first 'resolution' for this year was to 'swear off' moral reflections.

## 玉cbool inotes.

E. C. Baughan has been elected to an open Science Scholarship at Balliol College, Oxford ; L. D. S. ten Doesschate to an open Exhibition in Mathematics at Clare College, Cambridge ; W. R. S. Doll to an open Exhibition in Mathematics at Caius College, Cambridge, and N. C. Masterman to an open Exhibition in History at Christ's College, Cambridge.

The results of provisional election to Christ Church were as follows: J. R. C. Engleheart and P. Hacker to Classical Scholarships ; F. W. Deakin to a Scholarship in History. Exhibitions were awarded to C. A. Witney-Smith and S. E. Mangeot.

The Masonic Essay prize was won by W. Hawthorne.

The Senior Cheyne prize for Mathematics was won by L. D. S. ten Doesschate and the Junior by G. D. Everington.

The Mure Scholarship was won by P. Hacker.

A prize for an Architectural Design for a Fountain was divided between G. W. Scott and C. J. S. Ward.

The Junior Rouse Ball Prize for Mathematics was won by J. R. Squire.

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Tues., Feb. I7-Pancake Greaze, 12.30 p.m.
," ," 24-Winchester Match (away).
Sat. ", $28-0$. WW. Match.
Mar. 2I-Sports Finals.
,", ,, 28-Sports at Eastbourne.
Mon. ", 30-Triangular Meeting with Achilles and Aldenham. School Concert, 8.15 p.m.
Tues. ,, 3 - - Term ends.
Thurs., Ap. 30-Election Term begins.

> THE FIELDS.
> WESTMINSTER $v$. LANCING.
> $($ Won, $5-2$.

Played on November 27 at Vincent Square. After defeats at the hands of Malvern and Charterhouse it was pleasant to secure a decisive victory by 5 goals to 2 over Lancing. Actually, I think, there was less difference between the two sides than the score would suggest, and the game was a fine one to watch, being fought out with the utmost sternness right up to the final whistle. I have seldom seen such relentless tackling as was employed by both sides, and the wholeheartedness of the play was a joy to the spectators. Many
old Lancing boys had come to Vincent Square to see the match, and the rivalry between the spectators was almost as keen as that between the two teams.

The first half was a very level affair. Westminster gained a great moral advantage within the first minute, when Bingham gained possession some thirty yards out, and, finding none of his forwards in a favourable position, put in a powerful drive, which passed high into the top left-hand corner of the net. Lancing fought back valiantly, and Hearst at centre forward was a constant source of danger. He was very thrustful and accomplished many fine break-throughs. He was, however, not well supported by the other forwards, whose play ran on too stereotyped lines. Atchison at centre-half was clever, but held the ball too long. Had he been content to pass sooner, Hearst would have had many more chances than he actually got.

At half-time and for some little while in the second half it looked as though there would be a very tight finish, but then Lancing began to tire, whilst Westminster, who have throughout the season been a notably fit side, remained apparently as fresh as ever. The half-backs got well on top of the Lancing forwards and, having secured possession of the ball, used it well and gave the forwards many opportunities. Marshall at outside right struck his best form-and, despite his size, his best is very good-and constantly eluded the defence, and himself scored two pretty goals. Munro saw to it that he was well supplied with the ball and had time to score a goal himself, whilst Argyle, whose ball control throughout was magnificent, kept the line well together. The backs during this period were not much troubled, but during the earlier period of Lancing pressure, they had answered to most of the calls made on them, and in goal Myers, though often failing to leave his goal when the occasion obviously demanded it, was safe with his hands and quick on his feet.

So it was that in the last half-hour Westminster, chiefly owing to superior fitness, established a definite superiority which enabled them to win much more comfortably than at one time seemed probable.

The goals were scored for Westminster by B.ngham, Argyle, Munro and Marshall (2), and for Lancing by Hearst and Quill.
C. H. T.

Westminster.-J. G. K. Myers ; J. R. Moon, M. H. Matthews ; L. P. B. Bingham, E. H. G. Lonsdale, P. N. Labertouche; A. R. Marshall, I. K. Munro, J. D. Argyle, M. Broadhurst, J. G. Byrne.

Lancing.-R. E. Churcher ; R. J. Gordon-Walker, J. W. F. Lance ; J. K. Quill, I. A. N. Atchison, B. C. de May ; R. W. H. Purcer, F. P. H. Pearce, K. G. Hearst, D. C. Mclagan, I. F. Barker.

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\begin{aligned}
& \text { WESTMINSTER v. O.WW. } \\
& \text { (Lost, 4-8.) }
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$$

Played December 6. Westminster goals were scored by Byrne, Marshall, Broadhurst and Munro, O.WW. goals by Cooper (3), Symmington (3) and Gardiner (2).

Westminster.-J. G. K. Myers ; J. R. Moon, M. H. Matthews ; L. P. B. Bingham, E. H. G. Lonsdale, P. N. Labertouche ; A. R. Marshall, M. Broadhurst, J. D. Argyle, J. K. Munro, J. G. Byrne.
O. WW.-A. Clave ; D. Brown, A. C. Grover ; F. M. Radermacher, M. S. Murphey, J. D. Evans; N. L. Foster, K. J. Gardiner, K. H. L. Cooper, I. W. A. Symington, C. F. Bull.

## WESTMINSTER $v$. CASUALS. <br> (Won, 3-2.)

Played, January 22. Our goals were scored by Byrne (2) and Broadhurst, Casuals goals by Collins and Faulkner.

Westminster.-J. G. K. Myers ; J. R. Moon, M. H. Matthews ; L. P. B. Bingham, E. H. G. Lonsdale, P. N. Labertouche ; A. R. Marshall, I. K. Munro, M. Broadhurst, J. D. Argyle, J. G. Byrne.

Casuals.-A. Hilder ; P. Sargeant, F. V. Smith; A. Steven-Jones, M. Van de Burgh, J. Ingle ; A. F. Faulkner, H. Partington, L. S. Daws, G. A. Collins, R. Cronin.

## WESTMINSTER $v$. OLD LANCING BOYS. (Lost, 3-6.)

Played at Vincent Square, January 24. Our goals were scored by Marshall, Broadhurst and Munro. Their goals were scored by Collins (3), Choly (3).

Westminster.-J. G. K. Myers ; P. D. Bonas, M. H. Matthews ; L. P. B. Bingham, E. H. G. Lonsdale, P. N. Labertouche ; A. R. Marshall, I. K. Munro, J. D. Argyle, M. Broadhurst, J. G. Byrne.

Old Lancing Boys.-A. L. Hilder; A. MacGarry, J. C. Frith ; F. H. Chrestien, G. W. Shaw, A. R. Brown ; L. H. Johnson, G. R. Taylor, G. H. Choly, G. A. K. Collins, A. V. Cooper.

## WESTMINSTER $v$ OXFORD UNIVERSITY CENTAURS. <br> (Lost, c-2.)

Played at Vincent Square, January 29. Their goals were scored by Runge and Fletcher.

Westminster.-J. G. K. Myers ; J. R. Moon, M. H. Matthews ; L. P. B. Bingham, E. H. G. Lonsdale, P. N. Labertouche ; A. R. Marshall, I. K. Munro, J. D. Argyle, M. Broadhurst, J. G. Byrne.

Oxford University Centaurs.-E. A. P. Jenkins; J. W. B. Coulsom, J. A. Smith ; C. A. Pullan, C. Middleton, J. V. Crisp ; H. E. Blyth, M. V. Fletcher, J. A. DauvalSmith, P. F. Runge, R. C. Martin.

## WESTMINSTER v. CHRISTCHURCH, OXFORD.

(Lost, I-3.)
Played at Vincent Square, January 3r. Their goals were scored by Humphreys, Milne and Williams; Broadhurst scored ours.

Westminster.-J. G. K. Myers ; J. R. Moon, P. D. Bonas; L. P. B. Bingham, E. H. G. Lonsdale, P. N. Labertouche ; A. R. Marshall, I. K. Munro, J. D. Argyle, M. Broadhurst, R. H. C. Brousson.

Christchurch, Oxford.-C. G. Ford; A. N. Other, R. N. Heaton; A. F. W. Humphreys, I. C. Dulhie, B. C. Johnson-Fergusson; H. Milne, T. R. Williams, M. Mackenzie, L. J. D. Wakely, W. R. N. Fox.

## WESTMINSTER 2ND XI $v$. EALING PRIORY.

 (Won, 7-2.)Westminster were not demoralised by an early goal against them, and led $2-1$ at half-time. In another ten minutes the score was increased to $6-$ I. Ealing Priory scored a good goal, quickly followed by another from Brousson. Westminster adapted themselves better to the muddy ground. The defence was sound and Byers played brilliantly at inside right, scoring 4 goals. The other goal scorers were Brousson (2) and Milne.

Westminster 2nd $X I .-\mathrm{J} . \mathrm{R}$. O'Brien ; J. W. Triggs, P. D. Bonas ; W. H. Studt, J. B. Latey, J. E. Rich ; G. D. Milne, C. F. Byers, F. E. Pagan, R. H. C. Brousson, J. F. Turner.

THE COLTS.
WESTMINSTER v. ST. ANDREW'S MISSION.

> (Won, 4-2.)

Played on Saturday, January 24, at Morden. The Colts' XI followed up their unbeaten record of last term by winning this match $4^{-2}$. They were two short of their regular team, Angelo being out of School and Bonas, the Captain, having to play for the ist XI, but the substitutes fitted in well and the whole team played as good a combined game as the ground would permit. This was very heavy indeed, especially in front of goal, and all the scoring was from close in to the goal mouth. The half-time score was 2-I in our favour.

Westminster.-O'Brien ; Bindloss, Quertier ; Studt, Edgar, Milne ; Holland, Byers (Captain), Alderson, Hebblethwaite, Turner.

## THE SPORTS.

Of the changes in these the most controversial will be the substitution of the A.A.A. rules for the Westminster ones in the Tug, and a statement as to the reason for this may prevent misunderstanding. The question was bound up with
the changed character of the Sports in recent years; that, instead of being a purely internal function, they now include two inter-school fixtures for which a representative team has to be chosen and trained. In the opinion of those responsible for this, the retention of the Tug in its existing form was, owing to the shortness of the period available for moulding the School team, too severe a tax on resources of time and strength. The alternatives were (a) to hold the Tug in the same form at another time of year, (b) to abolish it altogether, or (c) to replace it with the conventional type which is not open to the same objections. The Games Committee, after taking also into consideration other aspects of the question, decided in favour of the third alternative.

Relay racing is being put on a more prominent basis by the institution of a full inter-House relay meeting on a separate day. There will be three senior and three under-I 6 events, in each class a sprint, a medley and a hurdle relay. The existing relay cup will be held by the House obtaining the highest aggregate number of points, but in addition members of the Staff have presented six challenge " trophies," in the form of mounted batons, one for each event to be kept for the year by the House winning that event.
The junior events in the Sports are being reorganised to a certain extent. With the present system of having no field events in the under-16 class, little opportunity was given for discovering talent in these which would be available for the School team in the near future. So in this class there will be this year both types of hurdles and both jumps in addition to the four flat races. Further, the under-15 class will be changed to under-I $4 \frac{1}{2}$ in order to give incentive to the younger boys to train seriously by providing a wider range of events for them to compete in. This class will contain the Ioo yards, 440 yards, both jumps and a 120 yards low hurdles, but the under-14 150 yards will be discontinued as being no longer necessary.

To our great regret the Achilles Club have informed us that they cannot grant us a fixture this year. This is in accordance with their principle of visiting as many schools as possible, which involves refusing fixtures from time to time with schools which have already had them. The School match with Aldenham will take place all the same.

The institution of the relay meeting has made it possible to hold the Sports finals on a Saturday this year, and we hope that as many O.WW. as possible will come not only then but also on the Aldenham match day. T. M-R.
G. E. B. C.

## CHIEF SPORTS DATES.

Thurs. Mar. I2-Long Distance Race at Putney. Start about 3 p.m.
Mon. $16)$
Tues. ,, 17
Wed. ,, 18 Sports Heats.
Thurs.
Sat.
Tues.
, 19
,, 21 -Sports Finals.
Thur ," 24-House Relay Heats.
Thurs. ", 26-House Relay Meeting. Relay Race $v$. O.WW.
Sat. ,, 28-The School v. Eastbourne (away).
Mon. ", 30 -The School $v$. Aldenham.

## HISTORICAL NOTE.

In the Christmas number of the Illustrated London News there appeared a reproduction of a contemporary painting by Jan Griffier the Elder representing the scene on the Thames in the great frost of 1683 . The picture shows the Thames frozen from bank to bank with the Abbey on the left, while descending on to the ice from the Horseferry Road are five figures in caps and gowns who are presumably meant to represent K.SS. If so this is the first known representation of Westminster boys ! The earliest representations hitherto known were the frontispiece to Neck or Nothing (1716), which shows the punishment meted out to Edmund Curll for printing an unauthorised copy of the Captain's oration on the death of Dr. Robert South, and the bust of Philip Casteret (died at the School, I7IO) on his monument in the Nave.
L. E. T.

## LAST WORDS ON ASHBURNHAM.

By the time these remarks appear in print their readers will know the worst; for the result of six months' work upon Ashburnham will be revealed in its entirety. A few further notes, relative to the later stages of the proceedings, may possibly be of interest.

Starting with the top classroom, observe its colouring and its dignified flooring. The adjoining rooms will show what a problem is presented by the lowness of the windows on this storey. The avoidance of dark paint work, the upward-sloping window heads, and the coving of the ceiling are all aimed at counteracting the effect of this by reducing the apparent gap between window and ceiling level. The floor is of a wood called Tasmanian oak. It may come from Tasmania, but it is not oak. However, it is very tough, and it has proved a sop to Civic Authority, whose fatherly concern would otherwise have required
that the new half of the room (only) should have a fireproof concrete floor. Can it truly be said that Authority has no heart?

In the Ante-Room below, the conversion of one window into a doorway and its possible effect upon this beautiful interior were subjects for legitimate anxiety. The new room is designed essentially as part of the whole suite; and in remodelling the Novel Room-previously an irrelevant dark space in relation to the rest-an attempt has been made to provide for this fine vista the terminal interest which it lacked before.

The panelling of the new room unobtrusively incorporates five radiators of a new type, which really radiate. The ordinary sort are mainly ' convectors,' warming the air by contact; these, like the winter sun at Wengen, shoot their warming rays through the air. The oak bookcase here is the work of Mr. Joseph Armitage, one of our best designers of furniture. He has succeeded in producing something vitally modern, which nevertheless takes its place perfectly in an atmosphere of classical tradition.

In dealing with the oak-panelled Vestibule, it must be recorded that its dignity is due to the inspiration of the Headmaster, whose conception it was. In its design, care had to be taken that, while dignified, it should not by undue lusciousness accentuate too much the abrupt transition to greater austerity in the Staircase Hall.

Two other notable craftsmen are represented in the Vestibule-Mr. Eric Aumonier by the two roundels at the doorway, and Mr. Percy Smith (of the Dorian Studios) by the coat of arms and the inscription below. In its combination of gravity and lightness this panel seems to have a real affinity with the spirit of Mr. Smedley's delightful couplet. The quality of the joinery work may again be remarked by anyone who will examine the jointing of the large panels in the Vestibule.

Outside, the artificial darkening of the brick seems to justify itself, so quietly does the new already blend with the old. The continuation of the colours now seen on the cornice and windows of the new wing will help to unite the whole building-hitherto rather dark, grim and aloofto its neighbours.

And the gates and railings and ball-crowned piers . . .? Here the pen falters, and for a wound so fresh and so raw it would probably be unwise to attempt assuagement. Yet, reader, when the sun and the summer return to.us, and the builders' mess is all cleared up, look again and see whether the Yard does not seem to have gained a little in breadth and spaciousness, and whether Ashburnham does not appear rather more smiling and rather less aloof.-A. L. N. Russell.

# Tbe 正lizabetban Club. 

President-H. F. Manisty, Esq., K.C.
Vice-Presidents-Lt.-Gen. Sir Raleigh G. Egerton, K.C.B., K.C.I.E. ; the Rt. Rev. Bishop Williams, D.D. ; R. T. Squire, Esq. ; A. H. Stenning, Esq. ; L. A. M. Fevez, Esq.
Hon. Treasurer-Sir Ernest Goodhart, Bart., Benenden Place, Benenden, Kent.
Commitee-W. B. Frampton, Esq., Sir George Sutherland, E. R. B. Graham, Esq., J. Poyser, Esq., O.B.E., C. M. Cahn, Esq., H. D. Clive, Esq., Sir Arthur Knapp, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., C.B.E., I.C.S., G. R. Y. Radcliffe, Esq., A. C. Grover, Esq., W. A. Peck, Esq., D. Cragg-Hamilton, Esq., A. C. Feasey, Esq.
Hon. Secretary-D. C. Simpson, Esq., 20, Great College Street, S.W. I.
Representatives of Games Committee-P. H. Wyatt, Esq., C. H. Taylor, Esq., C. J. Pinder, Esq.

## DATES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS, I93r.

Tuesday, March 24. Tuesday, May 12. Thursday, June II. Wednesday, September 30. Tuesday, November 10.

It has been decided to open a fund for a testimonial to Elson, the School Groundsman, who is retiring shortly. Details of the appeal are published below.

## ELSON.

I895 WESTMINSTER 1931.
Jack Elson was born in Nottingham in 1866. At the age of 23 he joined the Notts County Ground Staff until he became professional to the Sidmouth C.C., with whom he remained for four years, when he went as Coach and Groundsman to the United Services College of Westward Ho !

In I895, on the recommendation of the O.WW. C.C., Elson was appointed Groundsman and Coach at Vincent Square. After 35 years' service he is retiring in the spring.

Elson's work for Westminster is too well known to need any eulogy, and the Committee of the Elizabethan Club has unanimously decided to open a testimonial fund in order to show the appreciation of all Old Westminsters for his devotion to the School.

It is proposed to make this presentation in the form of a cheque, together with a small memento, the presentation to take place at Vincent Square on July 25, I93I, when the O.WW. C.C. play the School.

Donations (however small) should be sent to E. R. B. Graham, Esq., 222, Strand, W.C. I.

Cheques and postal orders should be made payable to 'Elson Testimonial.'

A correspondent sends us this. Does it refer to us ?

## SCHOOL COLOURS AT GOLF.

## A New Fashion for Old Elizabethans.

A weatherproof golf coat in leather shaded to match colours at the neck and wrists is the latest fashion for Old Elizabethans.
' Nowadays, when public school men are taking up golf in such large numbers,' says Mr. Barnett B. Prince, the creator of the new style, in an interview, ' it is becoming increasingly important that they should be able to wear their school colours as they do at tennis, cricket and other sports.
' The departure will not only add to the dignity of the game, but it ought to increase good fellowship too ; one golf coat which I made for a man I know has certainly been the means of introducing him to many friends on the links. There is a good deal of snobbishness in golf clubs to-day, and I feel that it would disappear if golfers came to know their neighbours by their old school colours. The golf club would become more clubbable.'

## THE OLD WESTMINSTER BOAT CLUB.

Hon. Secretary-D. Cragg-Hamilton, 68, Kensington Mansions, Warwick Road, S.W. 5.

The annual subscriptions are :-

| Full rowing members . | $\AA_{2}$ | 2 | 0 |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| University rowing members . | I | I | 0 |  |
| Non-rowing members . | . | I | I | 0 |

The Games Committee has granted a subsidy to the Club, and the Committee has therefore found it possible to reduce the subscription for full rowing members. The subscription will in future be two guineas per annum.

A general meeting of the Club will be held at the Public Schools Club, 6r, Curzon Street, in March. A notice of the meeting will be sent out later.

In order to assist the Secretary in arranging crews, will members who wish to row at week-ends please inform him before Friday in any week ? (Telephone No. Frobisher 0268.)

## THE WESTMINSTER BALL.

The Westminster Ball was held at the Hyde Park Hotel on Friday, December 12, and was attended by 49 I O.WW. and their friends.

The Dean of Westminster and Mrs. Foxley Morris were unfortunately unable to be present, but the Headmaster and Mrs. Costley White and Mr. Manisty (President of the Elizabethan Club) and Miss Manisty brought parties.

The Headmaster again allowed the School Officers and Seniors to attend the Ball, but owing to its being the night before the Play a number were prevented from accepting the Committee's invitation.

Among those taking parties were :-Messrs. P. J. S. Bevan, G. S. Blaker, A. E. Bloom, C. D. Brown, E. J. Buhler, P. S. Calvert, J. D. Carleton, K. Christie, L. Clare, E. E. Colquhoun, D. Cragg Hamilton, Dr. H. Costley White, Mr. L. C. Denza, Lieutenant-Colonel F. C. Dundas, Messrs. W. B. Enever, E. A. Everington, L. A. M. Fevez, D. J. Fevez, A. R. C. Fleming, W. B. Frampton, D. F. A. R. Freeman, K. J. Gardiner, A. Geddes, E. R. B. Grabam and A. C. Grover (the Ball Hon. Secretaries), F. O. Hart, G. V. Headland, the Hon. Francis Hopwood, Messrs. A. B. Horne, F. N. Hornsby, E. H. Horton, Captain H. N. Hume, Mr. I. S. Ivonovic, Mr. P. A. Jessel,' Sir Arthur Knapp, Messrs. H. J. Kemp, E. D. Jefferies Matthews, R. H. Monier Williams, W. H. Moresby, F. R. McQuown, H. F. Manisty, K.C., P. A. Murray Hill, S. C. Neat, A. J. S. Negus, G. P. Pick, C. J. Pinder, R. F. Potter, J. Poyser, Frederick Ranalow, Esmond Rice-Oxley, G. V. Salvi, W. B. S. Sheldon, A. M. Shipley-Smith, L. B. Tansley, C. C. Sherring, I. W. A. Symington, H. J. Thomson, D. S. F. Vernon, A. B. Waterfield, P. G. L. Webb, R. T. Wells, P. H. Wyatt and M. F. Young.

Among others who took tickets for the ball were :The Dean of Westminster, the Receiver-General, Mr. C. T. Agar, Mr. Norman Bartlett, Mr. R. L. Bennett, Mr. Charles Cahn, Mr. Guy Eden, Mr. F. S. Fleuret, Sir Charles Davison, Mr. Godfrey Gardiner, Mr. W. A. Greene, K.C., Sir Edgar Horne, Captain B. S. Horner, Mr. A. L. Leighton, Mr. J. Spedan Lewis, Mr. J. D. Marks, Mr. A. H. Mure, Mr. G. H. W. Reece, Mr. Leonard Rice-Oxley, Mr. Michael Shipley, Mr. D. C. Simpson, and Mr. R. T. Squire.

The Night Watchman dance orchestra and Philbeam's band played.

The Ball was organised by the new Entertainment Committee (E. R. B. Graham, A. C. Grover and D. C. Simpson).

## fibarriages.

Colquhoun-Makin.-On December I7, Edgar Edmund Colquhoun, son of the late Ernest Colquhoun, to Elisabeth, only daughter of Lt.Col. Ernest Makin, of West Wellow, Hants.

Riley-Robin.-On January 2, in Jersey, shortly after midnight, Major Christopher Riley, M.C., Coldstream Guards, eldest son of Athelstan Riley, Seigneur de la Trinité, Jersey, to Yvonne, eldest daughter of Reginald R. Lemprière, C.B.E., Seigneur de Rosel, Hereditary Fief in Jersey to the King, and widow of Captain Harold Robin.

## OLD WESTMINSTERS' FOOTBALL CLUB. JUBILEE DINNER, OCTOBER 14, 1930. <br> Receipts and Payments Account.

## RECEIPTS.

To Sale of Tickets :-
164 Tickets@ ros. 6d. ... 86 .
38 Tickets @ 12s. 6d.
... $4^{2}$ 1о o
Donations
23 Official guests also were entertained by O.WW, at their own expense.

PAYMENTS.


Examined with vouchers and approved,
(Signed) A. CLIFFORD FEASEY, Chartered Accountant.

November 24, 1930.

## OLD COlestminsters.

The Hon. R. D. Denman, M.P., has been appointed Second Church Estates Commissioner.

Sir Maurice L. Gwyer, K.C.B., H.M.'s ProcuratorGeneral and Solicitor to the Treasury, has been appointed a King's Counsel.

Sir Edward Knapp-Fisher and Mr. L. Herbert Winckworth were the Custodians during the past year of the well-known Tobacco Box belonging
to the Past Overseers Society of St. Margaret and St. John, Westminster. To commemorate their year of office they added a silver plate to the box, according to custom, and one of the three events recorded thereon was the adding of the new wing to Ashburnham.

Mr. G. C. Brooke has had conferred upon him the degree of Litt.D. at Cambridge University.

The Rev. J. G. Tiarks is the first Vicar of the newly constituted benefice of Christ Church, Norris Green, Liverpool.


[^2]Examined and found correct,

> T. M. Murray-Rust. I. F. Smedley, Hon. Treasurer.

## Obituary.

We record with much regret the deaths of the following Old Westminsters :

The Hon. Cecil Thomas Parker was the second son of the 6th Earl of Macclesfield by Lady Mary Grosvenor, daughter of the 2nd Marquess of Westminster (O.W.), and was admitted up Grant's in 1856. After holding a commission in the Rifle Brigade, he devoted himself to the profession of land agent. For 30 years he managed the Eaton Estates and became one of the best known land agents and agriculturists in the country. He was a Busby Trustee from 1902-06. He married a daughter of Archbishop Longley (O.W.), and died on January 12, aged 85 .

Sir Harry Perry Robinson was a wellknown Special Correspondent of The Times. He was the third son of the Rev. Julian Robinson and was admitted in 1873. He entered College in 1874, and as Captain spoke the Prologue to the 'Adelphi' in 1877, and acted the part of Syrus. He was elected head to Christ Church in 1878 . After taking his degree he became a journalist. He was Special Correspondent of The Times during the War, in which capacity he did excellent work. He was created a K.B.E. in 1920. After the War he continued to work for The Times, where he gained the regard and affection of his colleagues. He was interested in all forms of games and sport, and had considerable reputation as a naturalist. He died on December 20, aged 71 .

A year junior at Westminster to the lastnamed was Hugh Bertram Cox, who died on December 31 in his 7oth year. He was the youngest son of the Rev. Dr. J. E. Cox, of St. Helen's, Bishopsgate, and was at the School as a Town Boy from 1874-79, when he was elected head to Christ Church. He took a double first in Classics, and was later called to the Bar at the Inner Temple. In 1897 he was appointed Assistant Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies (Legal), and held that post until IgII, when he was made Solicitor of Inland Revenue. As a Civil Servant he did much valuable work and was much liked by his colleagues. He was made a C.B. in 1902 and retired in 192I. He married, in I896, the youngest daughter of Gen. Sir Julius Glyn (O.W.).

Hugh Tempest Sheringham was the elder son of the Rev. H. A. Sheringham, Vicar of Tewkesbury. He was admitted as a Q.S. in September, 1890 , and elected to Trinity in 1895. As a scholar, a writer, and a fisherman he soon became known. In 1903 he became Fishing Editor of The Field, a position he held to his death. He had a singularly attractive personality and made hosts of friends ; indeed there was no fisherman who did not read and delight in his books. As The Times truly said, his 'premature death will be widely regretted, for there was no more popular figure in the whole angling fraternity, which, indeed, he may be said to have personified. Catholic in his tastes, he was a complete authority in both the theory and the practice of his art. In his writings he developed, together with an agreeable style, a rare gift of enabling the reader to share his own happy experience, and his books and articles were brightened by subjective reflections as well as objective descriptions of his methods and technique. He was a master of the whole philosophy of angling.' He died in December, aged 54.

Lt.-Col. Mansel Harvard Hunter was one of three brothers who were at Westminster in the ' 80 's. He was a son of William Hunter, and was a Home Boarder from 1885-88. He was a Lt.-Colonel in the Territorial Army in 1914, and commanded the 7 th Battalion (T.F.) of the Welch Regiment during the War. He died on December 7, after an operation, aged 57.

Egerton Shelley Leigh-Hunt died on January 15 as the result of a motor accident at Singapore. A son of the late Maurice Leigh-Hunt and a descendant of the Essayist and Poet, he was born in 1908, and was up Grant's from May, I922, to December, 1923.

## Our Contemporaries.

We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following :
Eton College Chronicle, Aldenhamian, Rossalian, Cantuarian, Bryanston Saga, Wykehamist, The Blue, Cholmeleian, Portcullis, Felstedian, King's College School Magazine, Meteor, City of London School Magazine, Artists' Rifles Year Book, Shirburnian, Fettesian (2), Tonbridgian, Sedberghian, Penn Charter Magazine (2), Harrovian, Blundellian, Sotoniensis, Edinburgh Academy Chronicle, The Navy, Wellingtonian (2), Lancing College Magazine, Cheltonian, Stonyhurst Magazine (2), Carthusian, Beaumont Review, Reptonian, Cliftonian, Britannia Magazine, Meteor, Salopian (2), Bradfield College Chronicle, The Brigade (2), Winsor Lamp, R.M.A. Magazine, Haileyburian, Revolt, St. Edward's School Chronicle, Radleian.

## Correspondence.

The Editor has received a letter announcing the formation of a Club in South Africa for the welcome and advice of English Public Schoolboys on their arrival in the country. Information and assistance can be obtained by communication with the Hon. Secretary, S. African Association of Public Schools of Great Britain; P.O. Box 2002, Durban.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

## 99, Muswell Hill Road, London, N. io.

## SCHOOL GAMES.

Dear Sir,-With reference to the marked lack of success of Westminster in the realms of sport in the last year or two, I am convinced that your correspondents in the matter have overlooked one important point, namely, the youthfulness and inexperience of the sides at cricket and football.

The talent and keenness are there, but confidence and experience are lacking, and will remain so until the School teams can boast of a considerably higher average age than those of the last year or two.

I am sure that without this all the coaching in the world will not suffice to raise the standard of success, and I feel that every effort should be made to allow the talent, which is undoubtedly there, to mature to its full usefulness.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { I remain, Sir, } \\
& \text { Your obedient servant, } \\
& \quad \text { REGINALD W. MAY. }
\end{aligned}
$$

## Langham House, Margaret Street, London, W. I. <br> December I7, 1930.

## O.W. F.C. JUBILEE DINNER.

Dear Sir,-In your report of Mr. P. M. Walter's speech at the Dinner, it is stated that 'he referred to F. W. Bain, who created the record of playing in 19 international matches.'

The name should be that of the late Norman C. Bailey, greatest of all half-backs that ever were, or ever could be. Further on in the report it is stated that, in giving the toast of ' Floreat,' I took the opportunity of thanking the Committee for the work done by them in organising the Dinner, but it should also be stated that I particularly referred to the really splendid work of our Secretary, E. R. B. Graham ; a very fine effort, and 'so say all of us.'

## Yours faithfully,

L. A. M. FEVEZ.

## THE SCHOOL MISSION.

The Mission was founded in 1888, and began work as a Boys' Club in Soho. In 1891 it moved to Westminster, and the work is now carried on in the parish of St. Stephen with St. Mary, Westminster.

The Mission is largely responsible for the upkeep of Napier Hall, Hide Place, Vincent Square, where the club-rooms and hall are used by the Parish (Westminster School Mission) Club for young men and boys, and by the Ist (City of Westminster) Troop B.P. Scouts. Religious instruction is provided by the clergy of the parish. Physical training and gymnastic classes, lectures and debates are held, and the club provides a library, billiards, and the usual recreations. The club has its own football and cricket ground. More personal help from Old Westminsters is urgently needed. The Hon. Secretary will give further information gladly to anyone willing to help.

Financial assistance is also given by the Mission to the ' $E$ ' (Westminster) Company, ist Cadet Battalion, London Regiment, 'The Queen's.'

Subscriptions should be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, G. L. Barber, Esq, Westminster School. Offers of service and of gifts in kind should be sent to the Hon. Secretary, J. R. Wade, Esq., O.W., 7, Park Gate Gardens, East Sheen, S.W. 14 .


## OLD WESTMINSTERS' LODGE, No. 2233.

This Lodge was formed in 1888, and consists of Old Westminsters. It meets at Westminster School four times a year-in March, June, October, and December. It is the senior Public School Lodge belonging to the Public Schools Union, which holds an Annual Festival at each school in turn.

Old Westminsters desiring to join the Lodge should communicate with the Secretary, W. J. Armitage, Esq., Longholt, Hildenborough, Kent.

## NOTICES.

All contributions to the March number of The Elizabethan should reach the Editor at 3, Little Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. I, before March 5, I931.

All contributions intended for the Literary Supplement must reach the Literary Editor, I, Little Dean's Yard, by the same date.

Contributions must be written on one side of the paper only. Back numbers are obtainable from the Editor, price Is. each.
Subscribers are requested to notify any change of address to the Secretary, 1, Little Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W. I.

The Editor is not responsible for the opinions of his correspondents.

## jfloceat.


[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ The Rev. A. G. G. C. Pentreath, appointed Master of the K.SS. 1930.
    ${ }^{2}$ Mr. C. H. Williamson, Art Master 1922-1930, has left to become Director of the Chelsea School of Art.
    ${ }^{3} \mathrm{Mr}$. J. Tyson, Bursar 1885-1930, has retired.
    ${ }^{4}$ A new wing and entrance porch are being built for Ashburnham House.

[^1]:    ${ }^{5}$ The Right Hon. Sir Montague Lush, Judge of the High Court, and formerly a Governor of the School.
    ${ }^{6} \mathrm{Mr}$. T. Staveley Oldham, formerly Hon. Treasurer of the Elizabethan Club.
    ${ }^{7}$ Mr. C. N. James, appointed Bursar January, 1930, died December 6th.

[^2]:    * These items represent the sum of $£ 16$ reserved in 1929 as provision for the refunding of Life Composition Fees, but no longer required as such, the Life Compounders concerned having kindly presented the unexpended portions of their fees to the Reserve Fund.

