

THE ELIZABETHAN

WESTMINSTER · IN · HEREFORDSHIRE

DECEMBER, 1944

VOLUME 23, No. 16

CONTENTS

THE RETURN	347	HOME GUARD SUPPER	361
FOUR YEARS IN EXILE	348	WHITBOURNE HOME GUARD	361
SCHOOL NOTES	348	ENTERTAINMENTS COMMITTEE	361
SCHOOL OFFICERS	349	POLITICAL AND LITERARY SOCIETY	361
AN OXFORD LETTER	349	THE UNDER SCHOOL	362
"THE LINK"	349	THE ELIZABETHAN CLUB	362
THE BUSBY LIBRARY (continued)	350	THE ESSAY SOCIETY	363
THE WESTMINSTER HOME GUARD	351	SCHOOL MISSION	363
CAMBRIDGE LETTER	353	WESTMINSTER WAR MEMORIAL	363
WHITBOURNE RECTORY (photo)	354	O.W.W. LODGE No. 2233	363
THE HOUSES	354	THE MUSIC	364
FOOTBALL	356	FOLK DANCING	364
GYM	357	SCHOOL CONCERT	364
CRICKET	358	CONCERT AT THE ALICE OTTLEY SCHOOL	365
PHYSICAL TRAINING	358	ART COMPETITION	366
THE WATER	359	A BOOK REVIEW	366
TENNIS	359	WESTMINSTER SCHOOL SOCIETY	366
FENCING	359	THE WESTMINSTER TEA	367
SHOOTING	360	CORRESPONDENCE	367
SCOUTS	360	"THE ALTAR OF PEACE"	368
AIR TRAINING CORPS	360	OLD WESTMINSTERS	369
JUNIOR TRAINING CORPS	361		

THE RETURN

Suffused through the pages that follow will be seen to be a restless spirit of enquiry and expectation. The question of our return to London looms large just now, and the present fluid state of the war adds to the abnormal atmosphere. A few weeks ago, expectation ran high, and there seemed an imminent prospect of some or all of the School returning to London at Christmas. Now the tide of hope has ebbed a little and we are gradually settling down to the prospect of another term in Herefordshire, but always with the thought of return uppermost in our minds.

Different strata of Westminsters, present and old, take different views of the impending move. It is the heartfelt desire of all O.W.W. who are still connected with the School to return as soon as possible, and to resume, as quickly as may be, all the customs and traditions that war has suspended. There are some less ardent spirits who are actually questioning the wisdom of our return to London, but there seems to be no authenticity in the report that any other alternative is being contemplated by the authorities. The main body of the School regard the question without firm feelings either

way—nor is this in any way surprising. No single Westminster at School at the moment has ever seen it in its proper surroundings, or known any of the unique benefits that O.W.W. attribute to the School in London. So they cannot be expected to welcome with unmixed feelings a move that will for a time, at any rate, prove highly unsettling. Everyone here has, to a greater or smaller extent, derived considerable enjoyment from the life we lead, and finds it rich in new experiences.

The boys and masters that first made their way to Bromyard and forged their way through barrier after barrier of difficulty, all carried with them Westminster's own *ἦθος* and it has successfully been maintained through all the multifarious external changes that inevitably had to be made. The extra freedom and unwonted pursuits made possible by our sojourn in the country, together with the necessity of meeting and overcoming the most wildly unexpected difficulties as they crop up, have led us all to appreciate our life down here to a very large extent—though in what way it is comparable to the benefits of life in London, we are not, of course, in a position to say. It may seem hard

to realise, but there will be some who will feel, during the first few weeks of our return, many of the emotions of the exile that their predecessors did five years ago; certainly there will not be many who will not feel a pang of regret at leaving Herefordshire. The scenery of which we have, by now, become a part, and the warm friendships here that we have made, will exert a pull which, even if it is small indeed compared with the ties of Westminster in London, nevertheless, will not be without its effect. An experience such as we have shared with our School for the last five years may prove of inestimable benefit to Westminster—a phase in our history that sees the extinction of one glory and the kindling of another that may shine with an even greater effulgence.

FOUR YEARS IN EXILE

Since our last issue, a minor stir has been caused by a tentative proposal in our columns and, in the case of a well-known journalist, a definite rumour that Westminster might make its permanent home in the country. The Dean of Westminster, himself, made a formal declaration of the School's intention to return, and now, with the successful progress of the war, the outlook of the School, in every way, is being influenced by the ever-approaching event. In fact, as this may well be the last ELIZABETHAN of Westminster-in-Herefordshire, perhaps we can look back and attempt to survey what we have accomplished here. There is no boy left in the School now who can tell us, even in the most sketchy manner, our mode of life in London, but there can be no doubt on how different it was to our life to-day. There are but a few who remain to tell us of the initial evacuation to Lancing and Hurstpierpoint; a few more to tell us of Exeter; and a handful or so more, of the balmy days of Saltmarshe, Clater and Fernie Bank.

It is, indeed, no small thing for a school to be torn up from its roots and dumped down, lock, stock and barrel, a hundred and thirty miles from its traditional home, and we are inclined to think that we owe a great deal to the senior boys of that generation in preserving the life of the School at all. We remember the teething problems of those days; the carrying of water by hand to College; the enormous task of unloading some sixty-five pantechinons; the dank and forbidding disuse of Buckenhill. It seems, indeed, that our water difficulties will never be overcome, but, undeniably, we have built up a community of some innate strength and virility; whether more or less so than in our rightful home, we cannot tell.

Naturally enough, we have suffered many penalties; the numbers of our day-boys have shrunk to none; the standard of our games has deteriorated very greatly, through lack of grounds and,

of course, through the diminution of the pool whence we may draw our talent. But still, hitherto, the scholastic, musical and, indeed, dramatic side of the School's activity remains high.

At the time of going to press, the plans of the School appear nebulous, but, whenever we do return to Westminster, let us regard our stay in the country, not as a time of depression and tribulation, but as a proof of the School's inherent strength and power to surmount difficulties, a power which remains as strong now as when Westminster was forced to leave London by reason, not of bombs, but then, of plague.

SCHOOL NOTES

A. N. Hodges, K.S., has been elected to a Heath Harrison Exhibition at Brasenose College, Oxford.

The Ireland Greek Prose prize was awarded to R. W. E. Law, K.S.; the Phillimore Latin Verse prize to R. M. Sweet-Escott, K.S.; the Phillimore English Essay and the Gumbleton English Verse prizes to W. W. Mellor; the O.W.W. Masonic Lodge Science Essay prize to F. C. A. Hermann.

The Clifton-Gordon Reading prize was awarded to G. S. Brenton, K.S., and Orations at the end of the Election Term were won by M. B. Geidt in the Senior, and S. L. H. Clarke, K.S., in the Junior.

A Commemoration service will be held in Whitbourne Church on November 17th.

A Concert will be given to the girls of the Alice Ottley School by the Westminster School Orchestra Society (augmented) on November 8th.

Election Service was held in Whitbourne Church; the School was addressed by the Dean of Christ Church, the Very Reverend John Lowe, D.D.

An early play was granted on October 23rd in honour of the award to Major Richard Wakeford of the Victoria Cross.

On December 9th the School Concert will be given at the Christopher Whitehead School, at which the main item will be Dyson's "Canterbury Pilgrims."

Hall Epigrams were recited at Election Breakfast. The Theses were: "Triste Ministerium" and *ἂ σοι τύχη κέχρηκε, τὰτ' ἀφέλιτο.*

The Editors apologise for the appearance in the last issue of THE ELIZABETHAN of a photograph of Whitbourne Court under the caption "Whitbourne Rectory." A photograph of the Rectory is included in this issue.

All Contributions for the April number of the ELIZABETHAN must be received by the Editors at Whitbourne Court, Worcester, not later than March 1st.

SCHOOL OFFICERS

SCHOOL MONITORS

- A. N. HODGES, PRAEFECTUS, Captain of the King's Scholars, Secretary of Football, Captain of Gym, Head P.T. Instructor.
- W. J. GERRISH, PRINCEPS OPPIDANORUM, Head of Busby's, Captain of Cricket, Captain of Athletics.
- J. O. EICHHOLZ, Head of Grant's, Flight Sergeant in the A.T.C.
- G. W. P. P. REGENDANZ, Head of Rigaud's, Captain of Shooting.
- D. R. MORRIS, Head of Homeboarders and Ashburnham, Senior Sergeant in the J.T.C.

OTHER OFFICERS

- Captain of Football—D. A. TREBUCQ.
- Captain of Lawn Tennis—D. A. TREBUCQ.
- Secretary of Cricket—R. A. DENNISTON.
- Head of School Music—R. A. DENNISTON.
- Editor of THE ELIZABETHAN—R. A. DENNISTON.
- Secretary of the Essay Society—R. A. DENNISTON.
- Captain of Fencing—P. H. L. Willsher.
- Secretary of the Political and Literary Society—J. N. Murphy.
- President of the Essay Society—J. N. Murphy.
- Secretary to the Mission—J. N. Murphy.
- Assistant Editor of THE ELIZABETHAN—G. S. Brenton.
- Head of School Art—R. M. Bannerman.
- Leader of the Scout Troop—D. J. Candlin.

AN OXFORD LETTER

SIR,

At no time, we believe, since the war has Westminster been so well represented here. Mr. Ray has at last gone down and yielded his post as patriarch and guide of the Westminster community, to Mr. A. J. Croft, who inhabits the most remarkable rooms in Christ Church: they were painted blue by an allegedly Etonian predecessor. Also to be seen at Christ Church is Mr. Sampson, who is reading English and giving his celebrated imitation of a man working very hard. He has just succeeded by devious machinations in substituting Mr. Murray, who is reading Maths., for the gentleman with whom he was previously sharing his rooms. Mr. Newman impressed the whole of College the other morning when his tall and manly figure appeared in R.A.F.'s cadet uniform; and with him is usually to be seen Mr. Geidt, who is reading . . . well, no one has yet discovered *what* Mr. Geidt is reading. Mr. Law is in the same quadrangle, and

has recently contracted a very impressive limp, which, however, does not prevent his finding his way to the buttery with speed and certainty when port is in the offing. We also see Mr. Grummitt at intervals. He is up at Brasenose, who are living in Christ Church. The suggestion that, in view of their numbers and importance, a table in Hall should be reserved for the use of O.W.W. and their guests, while causing the President and Committee of the J.C.R. at Christ Church pardonable alarm, has not received the attention it deserves.

The School is represented outside Christ Church by Mr. Mellor, a resident of Lincoln College, who are now at Exeter College. A party did set out the other day with alpenstocks and ice-axes to assault the climb to his rooms, but without success. Mr. Almond has mysteriously turned up at New College, where he is said to be studying Modern Languages, surrounded by bevvies of Old Wykehamists. We have heard that Mr. P. Davidson and Mr. A. Davidson are up at Trinity, but their fieldcraft is so good that their movements are shrouded in obscurity. Mr. de Mowbray, whose lanky and distinguished figure has been discerned in the environs of Worcester College, and Mr. J. P. Johnston, the *doyen* of Oxford Old Westminsters and a pillar of Balliol, have unfortunately hitherto eluded the enquiring, but not infallible, eye of

YOUR OXFORD CORRESPONDENT.

THE LINK

The two issues of *The Link*, which have so far appeared, have been admittedly limited in scope, the articles being chiefly concerned with literature and art. But we hope in future to widen the field of interest and perhaps some contributors will find in *The Link* a means of bringing forward their views on the international situation, or other political and psychological problems. The sharp discussions already provoked in the musical world may thus be extended to other topics of common interest and importance.

M. S. G-D.

CONTEMPORARIES

Rossalian (2), Wykehamist (2), St. Edward's School Chronicle (2), Sotoniensis (2), Penn Charter News, Melburnian, Sedberghian, Carthusian, Ousel, Marlburian (3), Aldenhamian (2), Taylorian (2), Fettesian, Dunelmian (2), Leys Fortnightly (6), City of London School Magazine, Christ's College Register (2), Eton College Chronicle (4), Bradfield College Chronicle (2), Reptonian (2), Edinburgh Academy Chronicle, Lancing College Magazine, Tonbridgian (3), St. Michael's Magazine, Lodestone, Glenalmond, Etonian.

THE BUSBY LIBRARY

(continued)

A few years ago an attempt was made to discover whether the library had, in fact, as was believed, belonged as a whole, or at least in great part, to Dr. Busby. It soon became apparent that out of 2,100 volumes about 400 had been presented at various times during the past three centuries and a half, and we have the names of some forty donors, starting in the sixteenth century with Lord Burleigh himself and Mildred his wife. Another who presented a large number of books was John Pell, the possessor of an interesting mathematical collection. Of special note among the donations are two volumes of an edition of the History of Matthew Paris, sometimes known as Matthew of Westminster, but in reality a monk of St. Alban's, and a most industrious chronicler. These were presented by Sir Simonds D'Ewes, and contain in the wide margins copies in water-colours of a number of the illustrations from the manuscript in the British Museum. Some of these are shields, some are delightful vignettes of historical scenes, including the death-bed of Edward the Confessor with the Norman Abbey Church in the background.

Before we pass on we must not omit to mention what is probably the most attractive volume in the collection. It is a manuscript bound in its original oak boards with clasps, written on vellum, and pronounced to be the work of an Italian scribe living in England about the middle of the fifteenth century. The initials are rubricated, and the first letter of the book is richly illuminated and contains a charmingly executed portrait. It is a folio volume of forty-five leaves, entitled *Liber Doctrinalis Alexandri Galli*, and is a Latin grammar in hexameters for the use of schools. The inside of the front board bears an inscription stating that it was presented to the School Library by Richard Barnes, of Reigate, in 1793.

After a list of the presentations had been completed there remained some 1,700 volumes to be identified. Some of these were clearly Busby's, as they bore his shield on the covers. They consisted mainly of bibles in different languages, and among them the Red Indian bible before noticed, and are remarkable for the very stout boards in which they are bound. But these are a mere handful. For the rest, there was observable in a large number of books published before 1700 a pencilled group of numbers that might be conjectured to have something to do with the Busby collection, and by a strange coincidence, while these were under review, the Abbey Librarian discovered in the Chapter Library a manuscript catalogue headed "A Cata-

logue of all my best Bookes both in the Upper and Lower Study in Order as they stand in the severall Presses, every Booke being mark't with black lead where it stands." It proved to be, indeed, Busby's catalogue, carefully compiled; against the name of each book was its size, position on the shelves, and the date and place of publication, and wherever it was possible to make a comparison the numerals corresponded with those of the volumes in our possession. Such a comparison was not always possible, for sometimes the shelf-marks have been lost in rebinding or from some other cause—Busby has a note against one volume "to supply leaves eaten by ye Rats"—and there seems to have been a second catalogue which has not come to light. Suffice it to say, however, that it has been possible to identify about 1,000 volumes with certainty, and there is little reason to doubt that most of the remainder also belonged to Busby and were dealt with in accordance with his will, a codicil to which dated February, 1695, only a few months before his death, begins: "Whereas I have for some time intended to have a catalogue made of all my books and to have placed great part of them in the library belonging to the King's School at Westminster built by me at my own great costs and charges . . ."

It might be supposed that Busby's interests lay chiefly in Divinity and Classical Literature, and it is true that these subjects occupy half of the library; but his tastes were far wider than this—indeed, it is hard to find a subject upon which he did not possess some knowledge, or at least some books. The majority of European languages, as well as several oriental ones, find a place on the shelves. There was one cupboard devoted to every branch of mathematics, and others to history, biography, geography and archaeology. Among the miscellaneous curiosities is a handbook on heraldry; another volume is entitled *Stone Henge restored* by Inigo Jones; a third is a remarkable one devoted to a comparison between Oliver Cromwell and an olive tree whose boughs and branches represent the good qualities of the Protector; and a fourth is a large quarto with drawings of medieval siege-engines. Two volumes of considerable value and rarity are *The Art of Stenographic*, a manual of shorthand of which only two other copies are known, and a book known as the Quartermaster's Maps, being a collection of maps of the whole of Great Britain, engraved by Wenceslas Holler, one of the leading engravers of his day, and designed with a view to the movement and quartering of troops.

The curious sketch of Cromwell's character before mentioned cannot have met with great sympathy at the hands of so staunch a royalist as Busby, but there is another volume which we should more readily expect to find in the possession of the Head Master who publicly prayed for the King on the morning of his execution. It is *Ikon Basilike*, which appeared in 1648, supposedly from the King's own pen, but actually composed by Dr. Gauden. It is a book of meditations upon the acts and events of Charles' life, and admirably sets forth his aspirations and sorrows, his devotion and piety, rallying many to the cause of the royal martyr. Our copy was originally bound in black velvet, but this has now entirely perished. It is remarkable for the engraved frontispiece by William Marshall, which in the earlier editions is beautifully executed.

Finally, mention must be made of some volumes which have a special interest for our own School. Among the autographs that appear on fly-leaves are the signatures of Warren Hastings, John Locke and Jonathan Trelawney. More interesting for the collector is a first edition of the Greek Grammar compiled in 1595 by the Head Master, William Camden, as well as a first edition of *Spicilegium*, by his predecessor, Edward Grant, which Camden

used as the basis of his own, and a copy of Busby's metrical grammar in Latin hexameters *in usum Nobilium Puerorum* in Westminster School.

Among the books of distinctively Westminster interest is one of a slightly later date than Busby, entitled *Musae Sacellum, The Muse's Address to the Right Honourable Richard Earl of Burlington, On the Erecting of the New Dormitory for the King's Scholars at Westminster in 1722*. This production consists of quarto leaves pasted on to large folio sheets and surrounded with ornately conceived and crudely executed designs in scarlet and gold, bound in red leather with coats of arms and other ornamentation on the sides. The Muse's mouthpiece on this occasion was Elkanah Settle, Old Westminster and writer of bombastic tragedies so popular as to make Dryden jealous, and so bad as to secure frequent mention in the *Dunciad*. We can but say that here the language of the address is in keeping with the style of the volume. None the less, the occasion was memorable, as we to-day are well able to realise, and maybe the long line of Westminster poets will not fail when *mutato nomine* the time comes for a new address on the same theme.

D. C. S.

THE WESTMINSTER HOME GUARD

REMINISCENCES OF FOUR YEARS

[N.B.—*Since the Westminster Home Guard has for the past four years been an integral part of the lives of many boys, we publish this history of its progress as the record of an activity which has not only been enjoyed by many, but which has spread abroad Westminster's good name in numerous parts of the country.*—Editor].

Like the L.D.V. everywhere else, we were grimly confident of our ability to repel the Wehrmacht; at Hurst one member of our staff "learnt more about the rifle in half-an-hour from the Serjeant-Major than he had resisted learning in four years at School"; at Lancing we promenaded round the "Boiler" and had one serious operational patrol after offending lights; we had a flying start on many of our fellow units by our large proportion of armed and uniformed members. At Exeter we seemed more purposeful still; guarding the G.W.R. near Cowley Bridge, where our vicar, arrayed in a bandolier chock full of ammunition, was all but shot by a recruit who had got a round up the spout by mistake and blazed off past the vicar's nose! Nerves were on edge; one who is now a gallant and experienced naval officer was chilled

to the marrow by the sound of, as it seemed, occasional planks being dropped. It could only be sabotage on the railway track; it turned out to be the normal operating of the signals!

Except for individual activities during those summer holidays, Home Guard service was in abeyance for us until the following spring. Some of us did A.R.P. and, indeed, fire service at Westminster when the blitz started but, on evacuation here, we were unnoticed by the Home Guard authorities and were far too busy to bother them about us in our first months. However, May saw us once more in harness—genuine battle-dress now, for the first time as we had missed the denim period—and we were all, from both centres, enrolled in the local company under Mr. Blunt; at that time there were no officers' ranks. Before long, however, a new battalion was formed under Col. Knott; Major Blunt (as he was shortly to be) took command of a company which was to contain Westminster personnel from Buckenhill; Major Baldwin included in another company those of us from Fernie and Whitbourne.

From then onwards we got down in all seriousness to our Home Guard responsibilities. Some from Buckenhill will have vivid memories of the church tower and of those trenches near the cattle market. The Whitbourne group, at first left to themselves and planning their own war in the construction of a defence system overlooking Elmores Hill, were shortly to be welcomed into the Whitbourne platoon by a far-seeing and appreciative Mr. Ballard. Many will remember nights by the Jubilee Oaks and, later on, at Parson's Hill; that 5 o'clock in the morning when an over-enthusiastic Dickey, bicycling to duty, broke his leg; that evening during prep. when the "parachutist came down" and the ground was combed until a stray barrage balloon was run to earth and proudly guarded. Of necessity the training of the Westminster groups at the two centres was separated, but opportunities were taken now and then to link them up. The most memorable occasion was the night at Orleton and the running fight back to Bromyard between the two groups on the next morning. Mr. Young's reputation as an all-in fighter endures in Brimfield to this day.

In the summer of 1941, by virtue of strings pulled in London and the patriotic foresight of the Head Master, I was allowed to spend a week on a course at Denbies. Courses then were not two-a-penny as they became later, and I shall always count myself lucky to have seen Denbies in its early days. Many O.W.W., no doubt, found places on these courses—some, I know, were on the less comfortable but even more adventurous ones at Osterley Park. But there was still a predominant atmosphere of amateur initiative among army and civilian instructors alike, and realistic efficiency and enthusiasm abounded. With no qualifications except a wish subsequently to instruct in it, I was accepted for a rather exclusive bombing class. This not only provided me (after an exhaustive examination!) with a certificate of competence to conduct live bombing practices, but it gave me a model on which to pattern these practices safely and sanely.

I mention this personal episode only because it influenced indirectly the Westminster Home Guard; the following autumn it transpired that I was the only person in the battalion trained in any bombs other than the 36 grenade, and as a result I got the job of battalion W.T.O.! In two ways this led to a bridge between the groups; I was asked to do a course of instruction in the new weapons with the Buckenhill group, and the first (and best) battalion weapon demonstration, to which both groups made contributions, was staged in the Buckenhill grounds. The Buckenhill group astonished the authorities by a platoon attack which

(unknown to us) was almost exactly like the battle-drill procedure which was then not published and only under discussion in inner circles; and Maynard astonished them by his lucid and competent compèring of this demonstration, spoken with the utmost assurance, to an audience including very senior officers, by a mere boy!

At the Bromyard end, events went on to include the formation of 11A platoon, to be composed of the Westminster group from Buckenhill and local men from the neighbourhood. This was cast, most suitably, for the rôle of a company mobile reserve in the days of static defence, and it took every opportunity of rehearsing its part all over the countryside. In successive years the Buckenhill group organised "Home Guard Sports" for the entertainment of their neighbours in which adjoining units competed. The Whitbourne group also, for a short time, was the mainstay of a mobile platoon formed from the Whitbourne platoon; this ceased, however, when the platoon was split territorially, half of it being taken by another company. From then the group became virtually separate from the local platoon and started training in reconnaissance and intelligence work as a company headquarter section.

When Grant's moved to Buckenhill, the intention was that they and I should continue to work with the Whitbourne group in our old company. Distance might not lend enchantment but would have provided the chance for some "halfway there" combined operations. Fate ordained, however, that ill-health should compel Major Blunt's retirement and that I should be translated to his company to take command of it. This being so, the Fernie group followed me into the fold.

This last year is still fresh in the memory. There was a more rigorous organisation of company headquarters operations and signals staffs, and these services were to a large extent provided by Westminster. They were tested out first in the important sector exercise "Lion," and after that in other exercises, both with and without troops. Tactics changed from static to mobile defence and, when urgency for trained snipers on the German model was apparent, Buckenhill was the scene of an experimental condensed snipers' course which, if successful (as it turned out to be), would be used as a pattern elsewhere.

No account of the Westminster Home Guard would be complete without a reference to the employment of some of its boy members for instructional and demonstration purposes, often outside their own units. This started in the autumn of 1941 when Maynard and I toured the platoons of our company with a double-event programme of

German weapons and unarmed combat. In the following spring it was obvious that I could not get through all the bombing instruction of the battalion; I started to hold classes for bombing instructors and two or three Westminster boys came to them. Shortly afterwards the War Office sanctioned the appointment by a C.O. of instructors to conduct live bombing practices within his battalion, subject to their passing a rigorous practical and theoretical test of competence. Three boys in succession—Williams, Gregg and Baron—qualified in this and were appointed as regular battalion bombing instructors, though by a "gentleman's agreement" with the C.O. they were, in view of their age, only to be employed as assistants with an adult in charge. They proved of great value in different parts of the battalion area, and sometimes further afield still, not only for direct instruction but also for assisting in the demolition of blinds of all sorts—spigot mortar, Smith gun and so on. The weapon training demonstration mentioned already was followed by small demonstrations of camouflage, sentry posts and obstacle work, primarily for the benefit of the Whitbourne platoon but attended by the C.O. and a number of other officers. In the autumn of 1942, just as battle-drill was getting to the Home Guard, a demonstration was given of the parade ground version, the section attack being done by a squad from the regular Whitbourne platoon and the platoon attack by Westminster members. The sector commander attended this together with officers from both his battalions; as a result Westminster boys were asked to stage a series of four demonstrations of a section attack done tactically in four different localities of North-west Herefordshire. This provided much fun, a chance of seeing unexplored parts of the county and some very hard work; the long crawl at Pembridge will not be forgotten by those who had to do it! More recently a demonstration of the working of a headquarter operations and signals staff was given at Buckenhill to officers of our battalion, and an encore was given in Leominster to the sector commander and officers of his other battalion. All this work of the boys outside their immediate locality has provided the School with some valuable contacts and many very good friends all over North Herefordshire.

The curtain is falling on the Home Guard and activities here have just closed with an inter-platoon weapon competition. The real climax of this meeting will probably be remembered as the free beer all round, but the semi-climax was a series of five volleys fired by the whole company (or, strictly speaking, by that large percentage of it which voluntarily came on parade!) at five targets which were named after Hitler and others of his

gang; the noise was impressive, and the destruction of the targets devastating! A notice is given elsewhere of the supper given at Buckenhill by the Head Master and the Westminster Home Guard to other Home Guards of all ranks with whom we had been associated.

History will record in due course the social effect of the Home Guard on national life; History may, in miniature, consider that it has had no small influence on the present life and future development of Westminster. T. M. M-R.

CAMBRIDGE LETTER

The small band of O.W.W. in this grand old town of cycle-thieves and one-way streets never wore faces greener with envy than when it heard of the School's impending restoration. Some of us here never even knew life at Westminster, and the others could only advance most uncomfortably along the cloisters, fearful of treading on forbidden epitaphs. Indeed, we sometimes feel that a few secret lessons from Mr. Carleton would best help us to conceal our ignorance.

But to enumerate our party.

Mr. Pratt was described in a previous letter to THE ELIZABETHAN as being a strong and silent man. Strong indeed—but far from silent: he is the energetic chairman of the Astronomical Society, where he calmly attributes his success to prolonged perusal of the wall-charts at Bromyard. But even stronger than his theories about the Milky Way are his views about the blackness of coffee. Mr. Young, who is a recognised connoisseur on all types of food, is no less deprecatory on this subject. Both, however, are living reflections of their gratitude for the dropping of the compulsory Home Guard and S.T.C. parades (which I gather has also been much appreciated at School).

The oldest inhabitant among us is Mr. Andrews, who studies Medicine at Queens'. He has been joined at St. Bartholomew's this term, which is evacuated there, by Mr. Simmons. In his spare time, Mr. Simmons is said to teach bends and hitches to Mr. Bunting, who gets very tied up at the Naval Division where he on a Short Course. Mr. Bunting tells me that his bed-side photograph of Kreisler is lost, but adds with gratification that he has replaced it by one of Menuhin. Mr. Smith has now definitely refuted the allegation that his success as a concert-promoter is due to any hypothetical photograph of Harold Holt, and fails to see his efforts as any more brilliant than any other ensemble secretary of the University Music Club. Both these latter gentlemen appear to be party to an organised noise that emanates from the Music School every Tuesday evening. They have the nerve to call it a "Walk to a paradise garden"; and we feel they should pursue it to the bitter end.

YOUR CAMBRIDGE CORRESPONDENT,



WHITBOURNE RECTORY

THE HOUSES

COLLEGE

There have been no startling events in College during the past year, no floods or snow, and not even any ice on the moat for skating. However, inwardly the house has been thriving. Although one or two of College's societies have died out, the most notable being Printing, after the final collapse of the press from sheer overwork, others have come to take their place. Design Society has revived in a small way after a lapse of a year, and the astronomers have formed their own Star Society, which is affiliated to the British Astronomical Association. Since the resurrection of the Political and Literary Society there have been many enjoyable meetings at the Court, and the Essay Society, too, has been able to meet there fortnightly.

The success of the "Westminster at Whitbourne" Players' production this year of "The Tempest" at the end of the Lent term is to be shared with Rigaud's, while our more outstanding achievements in the field have been the victory of Cricket Lamprobatics, the draw of Football Lamprobatics, and

the gain of the Inter-House Relay Cup, the Standard Points Cup in Athletics, the latter for the second year in succession, and yet again, we won the Erskine Music Cup.

College suffered two notable misfortunes during last year. The first, chronologically, was the Captain's serious bicycle accident which kept him out of school for more than half the Lent term; and the second was the Master's unfortunate illness during the Election term, which resulted in his having to go to hospital. His place was taken for the last fortnight of that term by the Head Master, an honour which College probably has not had for several hundred years in her history.

This term we were extremely pleased to see the Master fully recovered and able to take part in all College's activities from the start. The house is now larger than at any other time of the war, and is settling in very easily to the time-table with all its problems of bicycles, P.T., and packet lunches, and is preparing hard for the concerts and seniors matches towards the end of term.

There is quite clearly a feeling of expectancy and preparation in the house for our return to Westminster, caused, not only by the severing of our rural activities, such as Home Guard and farming, but also by the Master's recent visit to London in order to look for any possible accommodation for College, by the wholesale felling of our remaining pine trees for fuel in Dean's Yard, and by the buying up of no less than fifty tea chests. There are hardly half a dozen boys left now in the school who have had experience in furniture removing, and it is very much to be hoped that everyone with all their country upbringing will be as successful with containers and pantechinons as their town-bred predecessors.

A. N. H.

RIGAUD'S

The House has settled quite thoroughly at Whitbourne after four years, and the well-established routine, which was apt to get boring at times, is greatly varied by the numerous stations revived one after the other, as the facilities become available. The Election term in particular affords us with opportunities sufficient to employ even the weak and ailing. The revival of Water has given us fresh opportunities for the exploration of a station which is new (in practice) to everyone in the School. Those up House who do Water are more especially eager to get back to Westminster, with all the rowing facilities at Putney.

With the deterioration of the weather, walking to school is no longer the vogue; the bus provides transport for one half of the House, since our numbers are not so great as they were, while the other half procures bicycles by devious methods. The field which was used for Athletics in the summer has rapidly been transformed into a football ground and will be well worn by the end of term.

The Literary Society, which was formed about two years ago is going to be replaced by a similar society, at which it is intended to have essay reading, discussions and debates. It will be confined to Upper, Under, and Upper Hall, so as not to interfere with the activities of L.H.S.A.C.U.

It would not be too optimistic to say that by this time next year, or even next term, we ought once more to be safely installed in Little Dean's Yard.

G. W. P. P. R.

BUSBY'S AND HOMEBURNHAM

Busby's and Homeburnham have, of course, been intimately connected for a year, under the same House Master, and joining in the same activities

except for games. This term there is a likelihood that the Houses will once again function separately, since the numbers in Homeburnham are now increasing. Many senior boys from both Houses left at the end of last term, notable among them being L. G. Hunt, Prin. Opp. and Captain of Tennis and of Shooting, who is returning for some weeks this term to act as master; also P. L. Bunting, whose untiring efforts for promoting music at Buckenhill, and particularly among Homeburnhamites, brought such conspicuous success to his house in the Music Competition, and resulted in a great interest in musical activities all over Buckenhill.

In the realm of literary activity, the *Clarion*, originally a Busby House paper, is now largely contributed to by Homeburnhamites, whose own House paper made an appearance at the end of last term, through the generosity of the *Clarion* staff and of Mr. Fisher.

Now that the long-awaited return from exile is no longer a dream, but is rapidly becoming a reality, the extensive gardening station which most boys have participated in for the last few years, has ceased: this enables many boys to play two games of football a week, and for fencing station to take place on a larger scale. M. R. Johnson is in charge of this, to help the Captain of School Fencing, who lives at Whitbourne.

Mrs. Burd has very kindly come to act as matron at Buckenhill in the regrettable absence of Miss Macrae, who is undergoing an operation. We trust it will not be long before she will return to us in our rightful quarters in London.

W. J. G. AND D. R. M.

GRANT'S

Events have made us less sensitive to change than before. Few can have realised, for instance, that nearly half our numbers have joined us during the last year. It is good to think that there will be so many of us to hand on, in future years, the lessons of evacuation.

The main problem of the year has been the water shortage, and we are lucky to have suffered so little discomfort on that account. The springs which provide our water here need annual snow to keep them full, and there has been no heavy snowfall for two years. Besides this the engine which pumps our water has given constant difficulty. The water shortage, nevertheless, has not again compelled us to enjoy the comfort of our neighbours' baths, and only very occasionally have we been forced to pump water manually.

The various societies to which Grantites belong,

have grown in number and popularity. Old established ones, like the Literary Society, have carried on as before. Every Saturday evening, the Society has met to read a play, and the choice has been so varied as to include Ibsen and Ben Travers in successive weeks. The Gramophone Society now has a very large number of records, and is attended by members of Busby's, Homeboarders and Ashburnham, as well as Grantites. Several members of the house belong to the Buckenhill Branch of the Choral Society, and there is a large and thriving Spotters Club. For two years now the members of Hall have contributed to their paper, *The Mouth-piece*, which usually appears twice a term.

Miss Macrae has been recovering from an illness during this term, and Mrs. Burd has been kind enough to deputise for her as Matron. We are glad to hear that Miss Macrae is progressing well.

We continue to make as great a war effort as our

school life permits. Our hens are laying well, and the rabbits have had another litter. As in previous years, several members of the house stayed at the Housemaster's cottage in Dorset while doing their fortnight's holiday work on the land. Many of our afternoons are devoted to heaving coal, chopping wood and making bonfires. Attempts have been made to make the Buckenhill drive navigable, and experience has taught some of us the rudiments of drainage.

In conversation nowadays, one hears very often the phrase, "When we return to London." It is thither that our thoughts are now turned. Let it be placed on record now, before the evacuation is a thing of the past and partly forgotten, that its pleasures have far outweighed its discomforts. Grantites look forward to seeing what Number Two, Little Dean's Yard, looks like.

J. O. E.

FOOTBALL

This is the sixth year of evacuation and football, like most of the other sports, has suffered continuously for those six years. This is due to lack of any expert coaching (except for the first year, when we still had Mr. Moss) and of no smooth pitch. However, this year's team should be promising. There are five of last year's team left, of whom four, Trebucq, Hodges, Furber and Wilkinson are Pinks. The fifth, Alcock, is a half-pink. Of these, all except Wilkinson, are in the defence. For the rest, we have a very good goalkeeper in Low, a half-pink, and two very fast wings in Brenton, a half-pink, and Anderson, Thirds, both of whom did, on occasions, play for the first eleven.

The main criticism of the team is that it is rather inclined to rush and kick tactics. This may seem to be a bit hard, but it is especially noticeable in the defence, who, having collected the ball, clear it without any intention of going to the attack. Sometimes, it is lucky, at others, very unfortunate. The attack suffers greatly through not being able to co-operate with one another, their passing being rather weak. Also it seems to suffer from an inability to shoot in front of goal, a defect from which we have been suffering for the last three years.

The Colts team should also do well. The forward line ought to prove formidable, though Anderson, on the wing, is rather wasted. The brothers Almond have always co-operated well, and Lapage, a very fast forward also with a good sense of co-operation

should prove good. Guymer in the defence should turn out to be an excellent half, while Law, though slow, has a good kick. The main criticism of the team is that they do not open the game out enough. I have not, as yet, seen them do any good cross passes.

There is not a second eleven at the moment, as no matches have been fixed up for them. Should we return to London, however, these will be started up again.

This year we have had a very extensive fixture card, including nine first eleven matches. Also there are four Colts matches. Some of the matches, we hoped, would be played at Brockhampton, but since Colonel Lutley, who has, up till now, kindly lent us the field on which we play, has had to plough up more land, we are unable to use it. Those matches will probably, therefore, have to be played at Whitbourne where, we hope, we will have the full support of the School.

D. A. T.

FOOTBALL ACCOUNTS

WESTMINSTER v. H.M.S. "DUKE"

(Played at Whitbourne on Saturday, October 21st)
Lost 2-1

This was the first match of the season, and was really the first occasion that the team had played together. The game started rather slowly. It seemed to take both teams some time to get settled down. Westminster, as yet, seems to lack experience and team spirit. This should be overcome when the team has had more matches.

Westminster started off by strongly harrassing the

opponents until ten minutes before half-time, when the team suddenly collapsed, and Duke scored a couple of quick goals.

The rest did Westminster a lot of good. Duke appeared a little over-confident, and Westminster took advantage of this to press forward. Duke then came back to the attack, but Westminster, after a strong defensive fight, passed the ball out to Wilkinson, and the ball was moved up the right wing, swung across the centre, where Murphy had an open goal. For the remaining fifteen minutes, Westminster put everything they had to try and equalise, but Duke managed to hold them off. The final score was 2—1.

Team.—R. C. Low ; J. C. O. Furber, B. St. C. Alcock ; J. A. Guymer, A. N. Hodges, D. A. Trebucq (Captain) ; R. G. Anderson, P. S. Wilkinson, F. J. Somerset, J. N. Murphy, G. S. Brenton.

WESTMINSTER v. I.T.C. WORCESTER

(Played at Norton on Saturday, October 28th).

Lost 4—1

The wet and muddy pitch did much to upset the Westminster team, still as yet unsettled. The I.T.C. kicked off. The Westminster defence, completely immobilised by the mud, were unable to cope with the fast moving forwards of the I.T.C., who soon scored a goal. A second goal quickly followed. The Westminster forwards, still fresh, did a lightning attack from the kick-off, Somerset passing the ball to Wilkinson, who took it up and passed it back to Somerset, who scored Westminster's only goal. After this the game slowed up, neither side gaining any advantage over the other. The Westminster defence seemed to be content with clearing the ball away, and never gave the forwards any chance of scoring or starting a movement. Near the end of the first half, the I.T.C. succeeded in scoring another goal.

The second half, Westminster defended the dry end. They attacked hard, but probably owing to bad passing, never succeeded in scoring a goal. The game degenerated towards the end into sudden bursts of energy, and during one of these efforts, the I.T.C. scored again. This left the I.T.C. the winners, the final score being 4—1.

We were sorry to lose Furber for this match, but he has left us to go to an Agricultural College in Reading. Though never really brilliant, he was very reliable.

Team.—R. C. Low ; A. N. Hodges, B. St. C. Alcock ; J. A. Guymer, D. A. Trebucq, B. Eccles ; R. G. Anderson, P. S. Wilkinson, F. J. Somerset, J. W. P. Bradley, G. S. Brenton.

WESTMINSTER v. LANCING

Drawn 1—1

This match, played at the Worcester City Football Ground on November 8th, began in unfortunate circumstances owing to the fact that four of the Lancing team failed to arrive on time. With the help of linesmen the first half was played with ten men aside, and though much energy was expended by both teams the play was rather disconnected and not of the highest standard. Towards the end of this half Lancing got their goal out of a scrimmage in the Westminster goal area from a corner ; both sides made great efforts to score after this, but were unable to through lack of co-operation.

At half-time the rest of the Lancing team arrived, so after a short interval we started on another forty-five minutes with full teams. The game now opened up, and though Westminster attacked hard, Lancing succeeded in shooting several very difficult shots which were excellently played by the Westminster goalkeeper. It was not long after the start of this half that the Westminster forwards got going with some excellent cross passes and scored their only goal. From that time on both sides went very hard

and often came close to scoring, and in spite of some good play from both teams the score stood at one all when the final whistle blew.

The teams were :

Westminster.—R. C. Low ; A. N. Hodges, B. St. C. Alcock ; J. A. Guymer, D. A. Trebucq (Captain), B. Eccles, R. G. Anderson, P. S. Wilkinson, J. N. Murphy, J. W. P. Bradley, G. S. Brenton.

Lancing.—M. J. Stone ; R. N. Woodhouse, M. Zinn ; I. S. Ewers, T. J. Horniblow, R. D. Glascodine ; N. Campin, J. M. Whitehead (Captain), J. N. Hartly, A. K. Hendry, J. A. Parrish.

WESTMINSTER v. H.M.S. DUKE

Won 2—1

The match was played at Malvern in continuous drizzle and deep mud, and so the standard of play was not particularly high. Although we played uphill in the first half, we were able to attack most of the time ; this was facilitated by the fact that our opponents' forwards were slower on the ball than their defence, who, therefore, did not find clearing difficult. Westminster scored their first goal shortly before half-time after a determined breakthrough.

In the second half the play was more even. H.M.S. Duke's forwards were individually rather dangerous, but their passing in the mud was bad ; but not long after, they equalised with a shot into the bottom corner of the net. However, shortly afterwards Westminster, after several menacing attacks, took the lead by a long shot from the left-half that went in off one of their defence. From then on the game deteriorated, as the mud got the better of the players, and there was no further score. The team was the same as against Lancing.

GYM

As two years ago, the Senior and Junior Gym competitions were held at the end of the Election Term. Owing to the large number of entries they were held in two parts—the floor and horizontal bar at Buckenhill, and the parallel bars and horse at Whitbourne. The standard was not as high as might have been owing to most gymnasts having their time taken up with other sports. The results were as follows :

Senior : 1st D. A. Trebucq (A.HH.), 71%
2nd R. C. Low (K.SS.), 67%

Junior : 1st S. L. H. Clarke (K.SS.), 62%
2nd D. S. Whitelegge (K.SS.), 61%

The Inter-House Gym competition was based on the places of the first three entries of each House and was won by College with Grant's as runners-up.

The annual Gym display was given at Whitbourne Court on the last Thursday of term, and was, so we are assured by those who have watched previous ones, as great a success as last year. The credit for this, as well as for the competitions is, as in earlier years, very largely due to the enthusiasm and energy with which Mr. Monk has helped and coached us through all weathers with untiring patience.

A. N. H.

CRICKET

RESULTS (continued from THE ELIZABETHAN).

- June 24th v. Worcester City. Worcester City 173 for 4 declared, Westminster 83.
 June 29th v. R.A.F. Pershore. Westminster 31 (Ede 8 for 15), R.A.F. 33 for 3 (Gerrish 3 for 16).
 July 6th v. R.A.P.C. R.A.P.C. 163 for 6 declared (Gerrish 3 for 56, Bruckmann 2 for 46), Westminster 18 (Rees 7 for 5).
 July 13th v. H.M.S. Duke. H.M.S. Duke 128 for 8 declared (Gerrish 5 for 57, Bruckmann 1 for 50), Westminster 50 (Stubbing 3 for 13).

WESTMINSTER v. I.T.C. WORCESTER

at Norton Barracks

R. C. Low, b. Smith	18
G. Law, lbw., b. Smith	8
B. Almond, lbw., b. Smith	0
R. Law, c. Hughes, b. Smith	13
R. A. Denniston (not out)	17
A. N. Hodges, c. Taylor, b. Smith	19
W. Gerrish, lbw., b. Loney	0
K. J. Bruckmann (not out)	10
(B. Alcock, J. C. O. Furber, J. W. P. Bradley did not bat)	
Extras	9
TOTAL (for 6 wkts. de d)	94

Major Harris (not out)	34
Sergeant Smith, b. Gerrish	4
Sergeant Layton, b. Gerrish	46
(Sergeant Hughes, Corporal Brian, Lance-Corporal Lambert, Lance-Corporal Loney, Private Humfrey, Private Andrews, Private Taylor and Corporal Ward did not bat)	
Extras	16
TOTAL (for 2 wkts.)	100

This season found us with no outstanding players. The side especially lacked batsmen. R. C. Low and G. Law were the only steady batsmen, although both have a lot to learn; but they alone of the XI showed that they had any idea of the fundamentals of batsmanship. B. G. Almond, however, if it had not been for his lack of cricket practice during the four years prior to his return to the School, would certainly have proved to have been a good, solid, defensive batsman. Occasionally J. C. O. Furber, A. N. Hodges and W. J. Gerrish succeeded in scoring runs, but their batting, in most cases, was more lucky than skilful. It is significant that owing to the total absence of any even moderately good pitches, that the bowling was stronger: for a batsman to attain confidence and style, which are the essentials of the art, it is necessary for him to have a very nearly perfect wicket, but a bowler, whose byword should be practice, can plug away on any third-rate wicket, such as we have at Whitbourne or Buckenhill. W. J. Gerrish and K. J. Bruckmann, both medium-fast, bowled fairly constantly through the whole of the season; the latter owes much of his success to his keenness and tenacity. Of the remaining bowlers, R. A. Denniston and F. J. Somerset, both of slow pace, could be relied on to get a difficult wicket. R. A. Denniston, the least expensive of the two, could usually bowl as the captain wished; in passing it should be mentioned that he was also a good No. 5 batsman in a crisis, but his greatest deficiency in batting was his timidity. F. J. Somerset, rather an erratic and unreliable bowler, had his days, and shows that in

addition to his capabilities as a bowler, he should be a useful batsman next year. It must have been disheartening for the team to suffer in most cases crushing defeats, and it is not surprising that their fielding was on occasion very shabby in comparison with other schools.

Two matches were arranged for the Colts this year, one being cancelled. In the one match that was played, against a very experienced and well-coached Lancing side, they suffered badly. But from their performance it could be clearly seen that Guymer and D. Almond were all-rounders of promise; the rest of the side showed talent which needs developing.

With the possibility of a return to London at the end of this term the standard of cricket should improve. However, it is very likely, for the first year, that the facilities will be almost non-existent as they are here in Hereford. The mere fact that the School is in London, though, should enable us to have regular and adequate coaching.

I hope that next season those in authority will focus their attention on the younger boys, who will represent the School in 1946. I am confident that School cricket will soon return to its pre-war standard if this system is adopted.

LAMPROBATICS

As Lamprobatitics this year was the most evenly-contested and enjoyable game that was played, besides being the oldest recorded match in the history of the game, it is fitting that some mention of it should appear. It was held on Worcester County Ground, for the first time since the evacuation, with none of the usual impromptu devices employed that usually precede the game. Townboys batted first, and with good scores by Hunt and Trebucq, the first pair of the tennis six, and Guymer, a Colt, they reached 146 by tea-time. College was left with two hours to knock up the runs, and by the generosity of the Townboys' Captain, an extra fifteen minutes was granted at the end, which enabled them to do so. The Law brothers, Low and Eccles, all batted steadily, against bowling that never lost its sting; but no decision would have been reached had not A. N. Hodges, well supported by D. S. Whitelegge, another Colt, by an exhibition of the most blatant slogging, knocked Bruckmann off his length, and with a sublime four hit over his head, brought victory to the King's Scholars. The standard of play in this match was uneven, to say the least, but the energy and enthusiasm displayed on all sides, showed that skill is not the only merit in cricket; and that a keenly-contested game, with many different strata of cricketing experience co-existing, is far more conducive to real enjoyment than some of the dismal defeats that the first eleven suffered at the hands of many who were so obviously their superiors in strength and skill.

W. J. G.

PHYSICAL TRAINING

Once again we found a new organisation for Physical Training on our return to School. This term P.T. is done more often but for shorter periods of time—at Buckenhill on Mondays and Fridays and by Houses on the other days. Gym is now done in conjunction with P.T., but as an alternative, as are the J.T.C. physical efficiency tests for prospective Certificate "A" candidates. At first this new scheme was rather disrupting, but now it is working well and there can be little doubt that P.T. done for short periods, but often, is far more beneficial for the individual than the long periods of last term.

A. N. H.

THE WATER

Surprisingly good progress was made during the Election Term and by the end of July there were several watermen who would not have disgraced a pre-war third eight. Variety was added to the training during the last fortnight by being able to get out two fixed seat eights, and though on occasions these were rather scrappy, at times they got going well and quite considerable journeys were undertaken: many have painful cause to remember the last outing of eight miles. Both crews and coxes gained valuable experience, and the latter have so far brought back their boats intact.

Most of the older watermen are, this term, back in tub fours on sliding seats and enjoying their relative comfort. A light sliding seat pair (with cox) adds to the variety and sometimes to the excitement of the afternoon. Unfortunately, there are at our disposal no two boats alike, so it is impossible to fix up any sort of race. We should badly like, too, a sliding seat eight and some Rum-Tums, but we are lucky in what we have got, and are, I think, making good use of them while we can. The Severn has once already risen alarmingly and stopped our activities for a week, and it is a matter of conjecture how long into November we shall be able to continue.

C. H. F.

TENNIS

The greatest drawback to tennis this year is the large number of boys who play both cricket and tennis. Denniston, one of the better players of the six, was only able to play in two out of the four matches. This completely disorganised the whole team. Hunt and Trebuq played together as the first pair for all four matches, but hardly ever was the second pair the same. The third pair, when required, as most other teams could only put two pairs on the courts, consisted of Petherick and Rosin, a very unfortunate combination, for Petherick is a forceful player, while Rosin's play is very defensive. Of the second pair, their play consisted too much of hard hitting, and whilst this was occasionally successful, they lost a lot of points at the net.

In this year's matches we were not so successful as last year. Of the four matches played, one was drawn, another unfinished, and the other two lost, though not heavily. The first match against the R.A.F. Hereford was lost 5—4, all six pairs playing each other. The first and second pair both won two matches, but the third pair lost all three. The score, half an hour before the end of play was 3—3

and we had to finish up by each pair playing a set each. Of these three sets, only one was won.

The second match was against Lancing; in this match no result was reached. The scores at the end of the day were: first pair against Lancing first pair, 8—10, 8—6, and against their second, 6—3, 4—6, 3—3. Our second pair against theirs: 6—1, 6—3, and against their first, 6—1, 12—10. As there were only two courts available, two pairs were played. Not expecting such a struggle for the first pair, we started late. The Westminster first pair were attacking hard, and continually coming up to the net, but the Lancing pair usually beat us when we came up, and forced us back. The second pair in their first match were completely overwhelmed, but in their second match miraculously recovered themselves and nearly won the second set.

The third match was played at Brockhampton against the I.T.C. Worcester. For the first pair, the games were very uneventful, never being really challenged, and it was rather inclined to be pat-ball. The second pair, however, had more excitement, and though they lost both matches, strongly challenged them.

The fourth match was rather unfortunate. It was against H.M.S. *Duke*, and again only two pairs played. The result was 3—1, their first pair winning both their matches. One of the two had played for Dublin and turned out to be extremely good. This was the strongest opposition we had yet met.

The standard of tennis this year was well up to last year's, though the results were not so good. Juniors were won by Busby's. The standard of these matches was very high indeed. When we return to London I hope that this competition will be continued. Seniors were won by Homeburnham.

D. A. T.

FENCING

The term started with the appointment of P. H. L. Willsher to the post of Captain of Fencing, after the sudden departure of G. R. H. Schneiders at the end of last term. As before, it has continued to be necessary for fencing to be done separately at the two centres, since no opportunity for collective training is yet available. At Buckenhill, we have found it possible for fencing to take place as a station in conjunction with other sports, whereas at Whitbourne it remains for the moment a spare-time occupation. The Buckenhill section, under M. R. Johnson, has the added advantage of having suitable indoor space, so that they are independent of the weather. At Whitbourne fencing continues under P. H. L. Willsher, and it is hoped that all Houses will soon be fully represented.

P. H. L. W.

SHOOTING

Last term, under the captaincy of L. G. Hunt, we shot the greatest number of matches since the revival of school shooting, and members of the A.T.C. have now been included in the team. We won the matches against Eastbourne and Lancing, and lost to Brighton and Dover. The result of the match against Malvern was undecided because they shot on different snap targets to ours, and although they sent us some of theirs no opportunity was found for shooting on them before the end of term. In the course of the term half-pinks were awarded to F. J. Somerset (with a full score of 100 per cent) and to G. W. P. P. Regandanz, and thirds to R. G. Acton and J. W. P. Bradley.

Since this term is rather unsettled only one match, against Charterhouse, has been arranged. The weather, transport and football all combine to make it difficult for the team to get much practice. It is hoped to arrange Inter-House shooting next term, the cup at present being in the possession of Grant's.

G. W. P. P. R.

THE SCOUTS

Scout Camp this year was held in the South West part of the Lake District, at Seathwaite, in the Duddon Valley. The Troop did work for the Ministry of Supply as in previous war years, but it took the form of clearing around young trees, instead of the usual cutting of pit-props. The site had a fresh stream beside it, and the Forestry Commission had brought a load of wood, so that the tedious fetching of wood and water was avoided. The work was about a mile away on the side of Harter Fell, for six and a half hours a day as usual. This allowed considerable time after work and before supper to go to the nearby peaks of the Coniston Range or to bathe in Tarn Beck, a fair-sized tributary of the Duddon at the end of the field.

Week-end expeditions were made by patrols to Hellvellyn, Great Gable and Windermere, which were all successful, in spite of the threatening sky under which some set out. To each patrol for week-ends was attached one member of the Elephant Patrol, which consisted of D. M. Peattie and R. A. Denniston, two of the Group Rovers, and J. N. Murphy, who was invited to camp with the troop.

Once again we had Mr. Snelling with us, who proved himself an expert at Deck Quoits, which the S.M. made from rope in a thoroughly scouty manner. He unfortunately had to leave us a day before the end of camp, as he had an engagement at home.

We had seven new Scouts from the P.E.T.S. at the end of last term, but we have lost, among others, A. T. S. Sampson, who has for five years been an enthusiastic member of the troop, and in his last year an able T.L.; also P. H. Simmons, who was an extremely efficient storekeeper for three years and was a mine of scouty information.

By the end of last term, the Scout Bridge, which was being built across the moat at Whitbourne Court had been finished, but another enterprise for work throughout the year has not been started as the School is likely to return to Westminster before much can be done.

There will be a field day on October 20th, when the Troop will go on an exercise near Whitbourne, and the new scouts will cook lunch for the Troop as part of the second-class test.

D. J. C.

THE AIR TRAINING CORPS

As usually happens at the beginning of the School year, we re-assembled without many former senior members of the Flight, but their loss was specially noticeable this term as they included all our N.C.O.'s. The majority have joined the R.A.F. or the Fleet Air Arm University short courses.

A satisfactory intake of recruits has brought our numbers almost back to establishment again.

Four cadets who sat in the Lent Term for Advanced Training examinations passed well in each subject taken.

The Midland Command of the A.T.C. organised for the first time two courses in Gliding during the summer holidays for Public School units. These were limited as to numbers, but six cadets of the Flight were selected, and they duly qualified for the R.A.C. "A" certificate. All greatly enjoyed the experience and it is hoped that similar opportunities will be afforded in the future.

The Flight paid a day visit on Friday, October 27th to the R.A.F. station to which it is affiliated and found a most interesting programme had been arranged. Bad weather, unfortunately, made it necessary to cancel the flying arrangements, though it relented just sufficiently in the afternoon to enable seven junior cadets to enjoy their first experience in the air in a trip of about forty minutes.

A most interesting talk on the work of Ferry Command was given by Wing Commander Sir Richard Barlow, A.F.C.

Eleven candidates are at present being prepared for the Proficiency Certificate, the written examination for which will be taken later this term.

J. O. E.

J.T.C.

With an uncertainty as to how long conditions would continue normal, the programme was framed so as to achieve as much as possible in the first half of the term. Certificate A, Part I, with a new and improved but somewhat more extensive syllabus in fieldcraft and P.T., was arranged for 31st October, the examination to be conducted by Major Robinson with the assistance of one of the staff officers from Wye Sub-District Headquarters, and of the regular Home Guard adjutant here. All post-certificate members and, as a temporary measure, those being trained for Part II were to do an intensive signalling course, directed every week by the Sub-District signals officer, with a view to as many classifications as possible being gained in the present signalling syllabus. A whole day exercise took the form of a visit to Norton Barracks, Worcester, the I.T.C. there once more being given the job of "mothering" us. Under appalling conditions of weather, an improvised programme with plenty of variety was arranged for us and enjoyed by us. The annual War Office visit is to be on 8th December and will again be made by Major W. R. G. Smith, M.B.E. During the Christmas holidays, courses are being held in signalling and in artillery work, and vacancies have been applied for on both of them.

HOME GUARD SUPPER

Westminster has been brought during these past years into close association with Home Guards of literally all ranks. In appreciation of this, the Head Master and Westminster members of the Home Guard acted as hosts on Friday, 20th October, at a supper given in the Buckenhill dining halls to a representative Home Guard gathering. About seventy were present, and the company included many of those with whom the Buckenhill and Whitbourne groups work: officers of both the companies which have Westminster members; the battalion commander, Lt.-Col. J. E. Knott, his staff and, to our especial pleasure, his wife; the sector commander, Col. H. R. Pettit; and, as our chief guest, the Sub-district commander, Col. G. A. Wade, Major Gen. W. H. Greenly, who was recently our zone commander, was unable to come, as were Lt.-Col. J. R. H. Harley, the sector 2nd-in-command and an O.W., and Col. H. E. P. Pateshall, an Hon. Colonel of the Herefordshire Regiment on whose recommendation the War Office authorised the wearing by the J.T.C. of the Herefordshire badge.

Two boys' day-rooms were used for receiving the guests on their arrival and the supper tables were arranged so as to intermingle as far as possible

guests and hosts. After supper the toast of the Home Guard was proposed by the Head Master and replied to by Col. Knott; that of the guests was proposed by Major Murray-Rust and replied to by both Col. Wade and Col. Pettit. After this the company moved informally about the dining halls until the time came to break up what will prove to have been a memorable evening.

WHITBOURNE HOME GUARD

During last term, parades were held regularly on Sunday mornings and, during the latter half of the term, on Wednesday evenings as well. Our training was directed mainly towards work for the proficiency badge, which all members were wearing by the end of term. We also took one of the signalling classification tests with equally good results; our success in this test was largely due to the able instruction of Mr. Davies, the Battalion Signals Officer.

This term our numbers have dwindled to four, three of whom are N.C.O.'s, and no parades have been held at all, except for the dinner given by Major and Mrs. Murray Rust at Buckenhill, which we were all very pleased to attend.

R. G. A.

THE ENTERTAINMENTS COMMITTEE

The Seventh Unofficial List of O.W.W. serving with His Majesty's Forces, compiled by the Entertainments Committee, has now been published.

The List includes the names of O.W.W. no longer serving owing to injuries received, ill-health or age-restrictions, or now seconded for civil duties, also members of the Home Guard.

The frontispiece is a photograph of the Under School, taken by kind permission of the Head Master and Mr. A. T. Willett.

Copies from the Hon. Secretary.

A further gathering of O.W.W. to meet the Head Master and Mrs. Christie, the House Masters and their wives will be held at the Hyde Park Hotel, on Saturday, January 13th, 1945, at 3.45 to 6 p.m.

Enquiries should be addressed to the Hon. Secretary, at 222, Strand, London, W.C.2.

POLITICAL AND LITERARY SOCIETY

Unfortunately there have been no meetings of the Society yet this term, because all the speakers who have been invited have been unable to accept, either through lack of time or opportunity. But it is hoped to hold at least two before the end of term, and to arrange for more either in London or in Herefordshire next term.

J. N. M.

THE UNDER SCHOOL

The great event of last term was the migration at the beginning of July of two-thirds of the School to Highwell House, Bromyard. Most of the party found it an enjoyable experience, once they had settled down. There was a creditable lack of complaining of their far from luxurious quarters. The boys seemed to regard it first as just a lengthy picnic. After all it was a change from London, and there were things to do and see that could not be done and seen in London. In some cases roughing it and living as a boarder in very close contact with his fellow had a distinctly good effect, though perhaps not a pleasurable one from the particular boy's point of view.

Still, everyone is glad to be back up Grant's again even if it is only for a term or possibly two before we shall find ourselves housed elsewhere to our regret. For even those to whom it had no happy memories, as it had for me, liked the old house and will be sorry to leave it. Our numbers have risen to thirty-five, which is usually about as many as we can manage with the space and the staff at our disposal. We had hoped to have had Mr. Moss back from the Army to help in this term. *Sed dis aliter visum est.* He was killed by a flying-bomb at the end of June while acting as adjutant to a battalion of his regiment at Esher. It was a great grief to those that knew him, and a great loss to Westminster.

With our large numbers, we cannot all play football on the same afternoon, but having a P.T.

and boxing instructor a couple of afternoons in the week makes it possible to have twenty-two boys that Mr. Young wants playing football, while the rest spend an afternoon boxing and doing P.T. By sacrificing one period of work we have football twice a week for everybody. At least it is possible in theory, but so far rain has prevented it, and though we try to comfort ourselves with the thought that it is providing much-needed water for friends at Buckenhill, we do not find this thought a complete consolation.

We have heard from some of those that left us at the end of last term. They sound happy and we can only hope that they have found favour with the Upper School. We shall be glad to see them back at Westminster with everyone else before long and, no doubt, they will be glad to be back, for I doubt if anyone can be even only a year at Westminster without growing fond of the place.

I cannot end without a word of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Young, and Mr. Earp. The latter is always good tempered, cheerful and willing to lend a hand at anything and everything, while Mr. and Mrs. Young, always hard-working, had to work doubly hard at Highwell House and to endure lack of privacy and ordinary comforts as well. Theirs was, indeed, a hard life for those four weeks. It was due to them that our stay was happily organised and brought to a successful conclusion.

A. T. WILLETT,
Master of the Under School.

THE ELIZABETHAN CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Club was held on Tuesday, August 1st in Jerusalem Chamber by kind permission of the Dean of Westminster. The chair was taken by Dr. C. C. J. Webb, F.B.A., in the absence through illness of the President, Sir Arthur Knapp, K.C.I.E. Only about twenty-two members were present. The 80th Report of the General Committee was passed and approved. Copies have been circulated to all members. The Hon. Treasurer's annual statement of the accounts was received and passed. The new form of the accounts was generally approved. The Games Committee's balance sheet was also approved. The Vice-Presidents, Mr. R. T. Squire, Dr. C. C. J. Webb, Mr. L. A. M. Fevez, Mr. E. R. B. Graham, Dr. G. R. Y. Radcliffe and the Ven. E. N. Sharpe were re-elected. The Hon. Treasurer, Sir Ernest Goodhart, and the Hon. Secretary, Mr. G. E. Tunncliffe, were also re-elected. The following members were elected to the General Committee, Mr. E. H. V. McDougall, Lt.-Col. H. M. Davson,

the Rev. P. Hacker, Mr. D. M. M. Carey, Mr. J. D. Carleton, Mr. J. A. P. Bowen, Mr. M. C. A. Lyell, Mr. R. F. R. Barrow, Mr. P. H. G. Wright, Sir Douglas Jardine, K.C.M.G., Mr. M. F. Young, Mr. G. Woodwark. The Games Committee nominated Mr. W. E. Gerrish and Mr. H. P. Wyatt and Mr. A. R. I. Mellor as their representatives.

The usual votes of thanks to the Chairman and the Dean concluded the meeting.

Various months, days and times have been tried for the date of the annual general meeting, and from an attendance point of view it is hard to estimate which is the most convenient month, day and time, but perhaps when war is over, we may revert to the holding of the annual general meeting on the same day as the Elizabethan Club's annual dinner, which has always been such a popular function for some seventy-five years till war put an end to it.

ESSAY SOCIETY

Since the publication of the last issue of THE ELIZABETHAN, three more essays were read: a report of one, by M. S. Graham Dixon, follows, which was unfortunately omitted in the last issue. No essays have been read so far this term.

On the 27th February, 1944, M. S. Graham Dixon read an essay on "The Early English Novel." The essayist first explained how it was that the novel originated: it was due in part to the decline of drama and in part to the increasingly large percentage of the populace that could read. The bulk of the essay was devoted to an extremely sympathetic study of Richardson and Fielding. It was a well-written and informative essay on a subject which did not at first sight present many possibilities.

On July 2nd, 1944, R. M. Sweet Escott read an essay on George Crabbe. The character of this aimable and much misjudged poet was pleasantly and humorously set forth. His work is to be divided into the nature poems and the works on social reforms, but it is on the former that his lasting reputation is based. He is "Nature's sternest critic, yet best," as Byron says. Although recognition came but slowly to Crabbe, yet at the end of his life he was almost universally popular, a circumstance which led to an exuberant sowing of wild oats quite out of keeping with the dignity of his years. A slight but pleasant essay.

On July 9th, 1944, A. T. S. Sampson read an essay on "Tragedy." To show the very essence of tragedy the essayist led off with David's lament for Absalom, and explained the reason for the prevalence of tragedy in the world's literature as being the fundamental conviction that pain is more aesthetically satisfying than pleasure. The different characteristics of tragedy were then considered: the Dejection that mounts to Melancholy and culminates in death. The essayist ended with a brief *résumé* of the history of tragedy in England. One felt, in spite of the excellence of the style of the essay, that more learning was wanted, and less conjectural theorising.

On July 25th, 1944, P. E. Lazarus read an essay entitled "Gesang ist Dasein." This was, in reality, a categorising of lyric and symbolist poets as Subjectivists or Objectivists. Of the former, Browning and Malarmée, with the world's great lyricists, are pre-eminent, while modern symbolists such as Stein, Joyce and even Eliot in later years are wholly Subjective, inasmuch as they only reveal a certain part of their emotions, and do not try to present a complete theme, which is the aim of the Objectivists. This essay appeared rather laboriously worked-out, and at times a little incoherent.

R. A. D.

 THE SCHOOL MISSION

The School Mission, after managing successfully through four years of war to retain at least a shadow of its former self, has had an unfortunate set-back. For nearly two years the remnant of the old Mission Club has been working at the Wyndham-Ashley Hall, in Regency Street. The Hall is owned by the Shaftesbury Society, and by arrangement with them the School Mission worked as a senior section of a combined Club, described as the "Wyndham-Ashley-Westminster Club." The Shaftesbury Society have now decided that their own plans make it impossible to continue this arrangement, and the School Mission Club is once more without a home. Efforts are being made to find new premises, and in the meantime the members of the Mission Club are keeping together as far as possible and are hoping to put into the field a football eleven which will try and live up to the reputation of last winter's very successful team.

Supporters of the Mission will be interested to learn that H. W. Hollis, its pre-war superintendent, who went back to the Army in 1940, is now a Brigadier.

As the Mission has ceased to include temporarily very youthful members and is consequently self-supporting through the members' contributions, it has been judged unnecessary to raise subscriptions from the School at the present moment.

J. N. M.

WESTMINSTER WAR MEMORIAL

Plans for the setting-up of a Westminster War Memorial Fund, which have for some time past been under joint consideration by the Elizabethan Club and the Westminster School Society, have now taken definite shape. At a recent meeting of the Committee of the Elizabethan Club fifteen names, representative of Old Westminsters of all ages, were selected by ballot to form the nucleus of a War Memorial Committee. As soon as the Committee have elected its Chairman and Officers, no time will be lost in setting up the Fund and appealing to all Old Westminsters for their support.

OLD WESTMINSTERS' LODGE No. 2233

The Lodge was formed in 1888 and consists of Old Westminsters. Up to the outbreak of the present war it met at Westminster School four times a year—in March, June, October, and December. It now meets four times a year at the Freemason's Hall, Great Queen Street, W.C.—the October Meeting being usually held in August to take advantage of double summer time.

The Old Westminsters' Lodge is the Senior Public School Lodge belonging to the Public Schools Union. In peace-time there was an Annual Festival at each school in turn.

Old Westminsters desiring to join the Lodge should communicate with the Secretary, H. L. Geare, Esq., Gray's Inn Chambers, 20, High Holborn, London, W.C.

THE MUSIC

Through the initiative of J. S. Potter, Mad. Soc. has been re-started at Buckenhill, the counterpart of Quartet Soc. at Whitbourne. A party of boys at Whitbourne are planning to go carol-singing during the last week of term, and practices have already started. At both centres Gram. Soc. continues to flourish, through temporarily the Gramophone at Whitbourne is out of order; furthermore, at Whitbourne, the regular Gramophone recitals are sometimes augmented by a preliminary talk by various boys.

It will only be when Arnold Foster, our Director of Music, has left this district and returned with the School to London, that Worcester will realise how much it owes him. It is through the efforts of him and a few friends that Worcester has been galvanised into a display of musical activity which it has lacked ever since the Three Choirs Festival has been stopped. Apart from the regular school concerts, he has conducted various orchestras collected together for the occasion, and has triumphed over many apparently impassible barriers of difficulty and of prejudice. And each concert that he gives, while providing pleasure to many music-lovers in Worcester, serves to increase the good name that Westminster has gained for herself, and helps to

imprint our four years in exile down here on the minds of all who are able to listen to them.

R. A. D.

FOLK DANCING

A class in folk dancing was formed in Whitbourne two years ago and boys from College and Rigaud's have attended, dancing strenuously for two hours every Saturday evening. Knowledge has been gained of two kinds of country dancing, the sophisticated dances from Playford's "The Dancing Master," and the more social traditional ones.

Some Morris, with sticks and handkerchiefs, has been taught and a sword team was formed.

Two displays have been given at Whitbourne Court by the whole class, the girls in summer dresses and the men in white flannels making a pretty picture on the lawn. The first performance, in July, 1943, was a modest one, but this year's was a more ambitious attempt to demonstrate the various kinds of folk dancing and to let people hear some of the lovely tunes connected with the dances. Simple "longways," sets of four, six and eight, were shown; a Morris circle dance and a "Morris side" of six men in traditional regalia of bells and baldericks. The vigorous sword dance "Flam-borough" was also demonstrated.

CONCERT AT THE CHRISTOPHER WHITEHEAD SCHOOL

29th July, 1944

On Saturday, July 29th, members of the School Choir and Orchestra joined with the Whitbourne Choral and Orchestral Societies and the Worcester Singers and Players to give an interesting and enterprising concert at the Christopher Whitehead School.

The Concert opened with the *Te Deum* Op. 103 by Dvorak. Although this work provides a good example of massive choral writing well presented by the choir, it does not show the Bohemian composer at his best. But the general effect is pleasing and the contrasting solo passages were very expressively and poetically sung by Miss Mary Lake and Mr. Stanley Mason. We were well served with Nationalist composers in this concert, and Hungary was represented by the *Intermezzo* for Kodaly's "Hary Janos" Suite. The orchestra patently enjoyed playing this gay movement as much as the audience enjoyed hearing it, and it was a pity that only one movement could be played.

Beethoven's Violin Concerto is always a favourite and it was unfortunate that on this occasion only the first movement could be given—though this in itself is a notable achievement when one considers that the soloist was not a professional violinist but a boy from the School. P. L. Bunting gave a very

talented and promising performance, and while we may occasionally have missed the polish and range of a more mature player, we could not but admire wholeheartedly his technical ability, and in particular his cantabile tone in the final statement of the simple second tune.

This was followed by the first performance in Worcester of a work, only two years old, by artists who have both been hailed as "coming men" in their respective spheres. W. H. Auden's poetry is seldom immediately comprehensible and in the "Hymn to St. Cecilia," the level of inspiration is unequal, though it reaches some high places. The idiom of the music is admirably suited to the theme and the work falls into three contrasted sections. The treatment is essentially programmatic and realistic, and Britten's use of unexpected tonality and harmony adds greatly to the interest of the work. Both the second and third movements are reminiscent of the sixteenth century contrapuntal style; the fugal element in the former and the ground bass in the latter are combined with great rhythmic freedom, creating a polyphonic atmosphere in spite of "Modern" chord progressions. The whole was ably tackled by the chorus, who worked hard and obviously enjoyed them-

selves. To sing unaccompanied in two keys at once with so large a measure of success is a major triumph for a relatively inexperienced amateur choir. It remains only to add that Miss Lake's solo in the last movement was particularly effective.

The second part of the concert was devoted to three works by Mussorgsky, a composer famous in Russia in the nineteenth century as one of the Five. The best-known of the three works played, is the Fantasy for Orchestra "Night on the Bare Mountain," which many of the audience must have recalled from the film "Fantasia." It is difficult now to separate the music from the dramatic scenes in the film, but as this is Programme Music at its best, the association is not perhaps altogether to be deprecated. The cold, bare, wintry feeling of the music was very noticeable and the brass was particularly good in this piece. In "The Defeat of Sennacherib" and "Joshua," Mussorgsky's interest in folk-music and also, in this case, in Hebrew thought and expression, became evident. The words are admirably set in a declamatory style, the music being primarily intended to enhance the

various points in the poem and to throw them into the greatest possible relief. The performance of these difficult works was a credit to the performers, and in particular to their conductor, Mr. Arnold Foster. The words did not always come through very clearly, but allowance must be made for the difficulties of the choir's positions; for, on a stage, much of the sound must inevitably be lost behind the proscenium. Miss Lake's solo in "Joshua" was a masterpiece of clarity and pathos, and in all three works the orchestra was very effective; particularly is this true of the strings whose tonality was markedly accurate in technically difficult writing.

A record of this concert would not be complete without mention of Mr. Paul Vogler, who ably led the orchestra, and Mr. Michael Mullinar who played the piano part with the quiet skill we have come to expect from him; while the final word of praise must go to Mr. Arnold Foster on whom the bulk of the work must have fallen, and who produced such a daring programme with so much success.

L. M. C.

ORCHESTRAL CONCERT

AT THE ALICE OTTLEY SCHOOL, WORCESTER

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Praeludium | Järnefelt |
| 2. Fantasia on Greensleeves | Vaughan Williams |
| 3. Gopak | Mussorgsky |
| 4. "Surprise" Symphony | Haydn |

- | | |
|---|-------------|
| 5. Capriccio Brillante | Mendelssohn |
| 6. "In the Steppes of Central Asia" | Borodin |
| 7. Spanish Dance No. 1 | De Falla |
| 8. Second L'Arlesienne Suite | Bizet |

Wednesday, November 8th, 1944, was a memorable day for music in the Alice Ottley School, when Mr. Foster, at the invitation of Miss Roden, Headmistress, brought the Westminster School Orchestra (augmented) to give a concert in the School Hall. War-time difficulties, of course, were many, but had it not been for the war, we should not have had Westminster School to give us this concert, and we are grateful for their having come to Worcestershire, where they have on so many occasions enriched the musical life of the County.

Great applause greeted the appearance of Mr. Vogler, the leader, and Mr. Foster; the latter started the afternoon by giving an explanatory talk on the orchestra, which was most instructive to many who have never seen one before. He first described the three groups of players, the strings, wind and percussion. He asked the members of the orchestra to give demonstrations on their instruments; in particular, the youthful exponent of the French Horn rose nobly to the occasion, when his turn came, and earned the admiration of everyone.

Before each item of the programme, Mr. Foster explained the construction and hummed the main themes: his explanations were in all cases so interesting and clear that the youngest listener could follow the music with some understanding.

After Järnefelt's "Praeludium" came Vaughan Williams' "Fantasia on Greensleeves," which proved a great favourite. At the end of Mussorgsky's "Gopak," with its gay tunes and stimulating rhythms, we all felt an almost irresistible urge to dance. Those who "did" music in the

School Certificate last year enjoyed hearing the two middle movements of Haydn's "Surprise" Symphony in the flesh after the impersonality of the gramophone.

Half-way through the programme came the Mendelssohn "Capriccio Brillante, Opus 22," for pianoforte and orchestra. The soloist, R. A. Denniston, is to be congratulated on his artistic and sensitive rendering. He showed great insight into the art of playing with an orchestra and inspired many budding pianists who heard him.

The last three items showed that the orchestra was more than capable of illustrating colour in music; Borodin's "In the Steppes of Central Asia," with its magic of the Orient, contrasted well with de Falla's "La vida breve," and the programme came to an end with two items from Bizet's "L'Arlesienne Suite No. 2," the Minuet and Farandole, which was a glorious climax.

The audience was immensely interested in the activities of the percussion players and watched with bated breath their intense preoccupation over the counting of beats.

After a burst of prolonged applause, the Headmistress thanked Mr. Foster and the members of the orchestra on the School's behalf, and said what an inspiration the concert had been to the Alice Ottley School Orchestra. We are indeed grateful to Mr. Christie for giving the orchestra a day off from School to enable them to come, and we owe a great debt of gratitude to Mr. Foster, the Westminster School Orchestra and all the additional players who kindly lent their services to give us a musical treat which we shall not quickly forget.

MURIEL SCATHERD.

THE ART COMPETITION

The Competition was held as usual last term and there were over seventy entries, mostly of a high standard. Miss F. D. Mulligan, of the Hereford Art School, acted as judge, and when the works had been marked they were hung in the Big School-room at Buckenhill.

The Inter-House competition was won for the second year running by Busby's, with outstanding drawings by H. C. Gayer, and also among the other entries were the only four models in the competition—competently built ships. Rigaud's came second with a varied selection, including good Whitbourne scenes by M. D. Cripps. Grant's put in only a small entry, but came third, and Homeburnham were fourth. Homeburnham's entry

included the year's best picture—a pleasant water-colour by I. S. Petherick; King's Scholars came fifth with Whitbourne Scenes by R. M. Golding.

The first individual competition, for scenes depicting the School in Evacuation, was disappointing, but it is hoped that a collection of drawings on this subject will be made later. The second, for plans of all sorts, had a large response, which included a careful plan of Whitbourne by C. A. Murray and many other workmanlike drawings.

The amount of keen and promising work which came from younger boys is extremely encouraging for the future of Art in the School.

R. M. B.

A BOOK REVIEW

"SEEKING THE BUBBLE," BY ESMOND KNIGHT

Mr. Knight has written an interesting and, in places, a moving book. But above all it is a specialist's book. Mr. Knight, I think, would not deny that it was written for anyone else, but as it stands, it is written, in my opinion, for three distinct groups: the fans and supporters of the author, who must be many; the devotees and lovers of the theatre who must be more; and, lastly, the followers and partisans of Westminster, who must, in number, be a great deal smaller. Perhaps we are biased in placing Westminster in such a category, but the numerous references throughout the book to his years at Westminster and the effect it had upon his later life, can only point to this conclusion. To Westminsters, both old and new, the chapter relating to his actual experiences there, which included two years in the first eight, will possibly be the most interesting, for it contains many references to contemporary O.W.W. who have won fame in various fields, whether the theatre or the athletic track, the Church or the Bar. But to us, who have as yet seen nothing of Westminster in London, his early days on the stage, his first apprentice parts in the Old Vic, his early struggles for entrance into the film world, and final recognition by the public—these are the most enthralling chapters. It is however, I am afraid, a scrappy biography, save for the last third, that relates to more modern events. This is, I suppose, largely the fault of memory, but the opening chapters explaining his family background are unduly complex and confused. Without doubt, however, after the absorbing collection of names Mr. Knight has met on his travels, the lay-reader will avidly read this last third culminating so well, from the dramatic point of view, in his own blindness through enemy action during the war.

There have been many good books by journalists about the commencement of the war, but few have caught so well the initial depression and gradual increase of momentum as Mr. Knight's. In fact, the chapters relating to his naval life on the *Prince of Wales*, the fight with the *Bismarck*, and his final return to England and St. Dunstons, are the best in the book. I would like to have spent more time in reviewing those other very adequate chapters that cover his varying fortunes in the theatre of the thirties, but they traverse such an immense amount of ground and names that our space forbids it. There is, however, one fault which continually mars the book; the ceaseless desire to introduce an anecdote regardless of its relevance to the context in which it appears. On the whole, nevertheless, this is a book well worth reading for its interest value, and we hope that on Mr. Knight's better recovery of his sight, he will give us another instalment.

G. S. B.

WESTMINSTER SCHOOL SOCIETY

The Annual General Meeting of the Society was held at No. 2, Little Dean's Yard on Monday, 16th October, 1944, at 5.15.

At the meeting the Chairman, the Rt. Hon. Lord Greene, paid a tribute to the late Mr. R. T. Squire, O.W., who had been a member of the Council since the foundation of the Society and had always shown the greatest interest in it during his lifetime. By his will, Mr. Squire left his residuary estate to the Society, and though it is not yet certain what the value of the legacy is, it is likely to be about £15,000. Such a legacy is particularly

welcome, not only because it comes at a time when the School is likely to need all the money that its sons can give, but also it shows that the Society provides, as its founders always hoped it would provide, a body to which O.W.W. could leave sums, large and small, for the benefit of their old school. Mr. Squire's legacy is the second large one (Mr. F. C. Ryde's was the first and amounted to about £12,000), and if, as the Council hopes, the practice grows for O.W.W. to leave the Society sums, large and small, and let no one think that small sums are despised, the financial position of the School will be eased and much improvement and reconstruction rendered possible.

A. T. WILLETT,
Hon. Sec.

EXTRACT FROM THE SOCIETY REPORT

Taking the full seven-year gross value of our Covenants into consideration, and after deducting those covenanted payments which will not materialise owing to deaths, the position of the Society is that since its foundation a total of some £72,601 3s. 6d. has been subscribed or promised. This includes the total value of the Ryde Bequest and also the amount spent on the acquisition and equipment of No. 17, Dean's Yard. Included in the total is the sum of £200 which has been given to the reconstruction fund by the parent of an Old Westminster. Since the close of the year under review, the Society has also received a cheque for £200 from the executors of the late Henry Fawcett, O.W., which has also been placed to the credit of the reconstruction fund.

The policy of utilising the Society's credit balance at the Bank (for the purpose of interest calculation only) as an offset against the School's overdraft has been continued. The effect of this policy has been that the Society has earned 3½ per cent per annum on its money (the rate of

interest charged by the Bank to the School) with complete security of capital. Of the interest so earned, an amount equal to 3 per cent has been allowed by the Society to the School, pursuant to the decisions of the council. The council is satisfied that this method of utilising the Society's balance has been highly beneficial, both to the School and to the Society, particularly in view of the large accumulated overdraft which the School has had to incur owing to war conditions.

During the year the Society has again contributed a sum of £500 towards the School's Fire Watching Expenses.

A. T. WILLETT,
Hon. Sec.

THE WESTMINSTER TEA

The Entertainments Committee has once more been responsible for a most enjoyable meeting when some eighty Old Westminsters, parents and friends, met at the Hyde Park Hotel on the 16th September, 1944. Mr. E. R. B. Graham again showed how to triumph over war conditions, and everyone enjoyed the excellent tea provided.

It was a pleasure to see so many of the younger Old Westminsters present, perhaps a larger proportion than ever at such a function, and it is hoped that they will continue to take advantage of such opportunities of meeting old School friends in the future.

The Head Master, on this occasion, made only a brief speech, welcoming Mr. Calkin, who was taken prisoner when in France with the Toc H, back to England once more, and recording the valour of Captain Richard Wakeford (The Hampshire Regiment), who had been awarded the V.C. for great gallantry, and suggesting that a congratulatory telegram should be sent from this, the first gathering of O.W.W. since the award. He further said that affairs were moving rapidly towards a return of the School to London.

After this there was time to meet, and talk to, old friends, whereafter the party broke up feeling very grateful once again to Mr. Graham for such a good entertainment.

S. H.

CORRESPONDENCE

COLOMBIA

To the Editors of THE ELIZABETHAN.

DEAR SIRS,

Something evidently went wrong with either my talk to the Political and Literary Society on Colombia or your correspondent's report of it in your last issue. I suspect a bit of both. At any rate I beg your co-operation in correcting the totally false impression which must have been given to the wide circle of your readers, an impression which ill repays the courtesy with which I was received by the people of a charming South American State.

You will see what I mean, I think, if I suggest the parallel case of a serious-minded historical observer from the Southern Americas, too intimate with his subject and with his audience to be content with a mere panegyric, being reported somewhat as follows: London is a provincial city of some 70,000 inhabitants. It lies along the Thames, a river much-frequented by fishermen. Prominent features of the town are the Lords Cricket Ground, the Albert Memorial and some department stores. Near the centre is the University Senate Building in North American style—and the suburbs are rather lovely.

Londoners live principally in their clubs and dine in Lyons Corner-houses. Their favourite occupations are cricket, football pools, billiards and motoring (though they are poor drivers).

It is the old story of the truth, not necessarily being the whole truth.

Yours sincerely,

W. F. MONK.

THE WESTMINSTER LODGE

To the Editors of THE ELIZABETHAN.

SIRS,

In extension of the notice about the Old Westminsters' Lodge, which appears on page 342 of your July issue of THE ELIZABETHAN, I wish to make a few general remarks about the Lodge.

(1) We are the Senior Public School Lodge, and take precedence over all other Public School Lodges. When visiting other Public School Lodges, the W.M. of the O.W.W. Lodge replies to the toast of "Sister Lodges." Remember, then, that we are the example to the rest.

(2) To become a member of the School Lodge is to join an extremely happy fraternity, where we meet other generations of O.W.W. and learn that, despite disparities of ages, they are exactly as we are, and had the same jests about the same well-known, long-established Masters as we had, *plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose*.

(3) We are visited, at our meetings and the subsequent dinners, by the W.M.'s or Secretaries of many of our sister Public School Lodges and, to meet and converse with them, whether the "W" in your "O.W." stands for "Westminster," "Wykamist" or "Wellingtonian," makes no difference. We are one body, though educated at various schools and colleges. What the House is to the School, the School is to the other Public Schools.

(4) We number among our ranks, members of most of the professions, and to mix with other brethren is greatly to widen the bounds of our knowledge.

(5) We practise Charity in its truest form *not* as a

measure of the length of your purse, but in its finest Christian sense.

FLOREAT.

Yours sincerely,
S. W. M. MACGREGOR-GREER.

A LETTER FROM CAMBRIDGE

To the Editors of THE ELIZABETHAN.
SIRS,

There are other O.WW. at Cambridge besides those whose eccentricities of habits, manners and attire are chronicled by your Cambridge Correspondent; and it may be of interest to record that recently two of the former were joined at luncheon there by two others from across the Norfolk border, the united ages of the party (F. G. Thorne, H. Withers, F. M. Yglesias and R. R. Sandilands), amounting to about 310 years. It was a very happy occasion for them all, and "Floreat" was toasted.

I am, sir,
NOT YOUR CAMBRIDGE CORRESPONDENT.

UNIVERSITY LETTERS

To the Editors of THE ELIZABETHAN.
SIRS,

There was no Oxford letter in your last issue! On page 326 of that very same issue the following words appear, ". . . and the Editors feel that, valuable as their space is, more of it should be devoted to accounts of O.WW. activities: we thus welcome any interesting news of young or old O.WW., and we hope that more attention will in future be given to this side of THE ELIZABETHAN'S functions." "Quousque Tandem!"—your latest Correspondence was in 10pt. type, and, while we do not presume to appear in anything more exalted than the customary 8pt., we would point out that the space thus filled might, with profit, be given to some account of the not uninteresting activities of the sixteen O.WW. up at the University last term.

We remain,
et cetera (sic),
SEGES MILITUM—QUANTA SEGES MILITUM.
K. G. A., J. D. P., J. A. R.

The Buttery,
Christ Church.

THE ALTAR OF PEACE

(The winning entry of the Gumbleton English Verse prize.)

I climbed the lonely mountain ridge
And stood upon a barren col:
There, far below the rugged steep
Before me, wondering I gazed
Upon a stony plateau, ringed
By silent, craggy, iron-dark peaks.
And there, upon the naked rock,
I saw a temple, made with hands.
Clean white and shining: new and hard.

Down the precipice I made
Descent, though slow: and stood before
The marble steps. I raised my eyes
And looked upon the architrave:
There read I writing. "War is dead:
"Rejoice, O people: Peace now reigns."
And, as I looked about the waste,
Lit by the yellow evening light,
I saw white pillars—burdens laid
Upon the gloomy, sullen rock—
Shattered and cracked: the wrecks of piers,
That, doubtless, had supported once
Temples of grandeur, raised up here
By man: and but to fall again.
Distant, some beast (I knew not what)
Gave out its cry, as though it hoped
Some mate among the broken shafts
Might hear, reply: it called in vain.
And, as the slender echo died,
I passed beneath that architrave
And through a columned door.

I paused
Inside a vast and empty hall,
A cold basilica, which stretched
Away before. The very air
That filled the chilly void, stood still,

So to preserve that calm of peace.
The floor was marble: marble all,
And silent. At the farther end
There stood an altar; nothing else.
Bare, white and cold the polished hall:
Bare, white and cold the altar stone.
Softly I trod along the hall;
Softly I trod: and yet my steps
Sounded again behind, before,
About my head.

Before the shrine
I stood, and there read further words:
"Here did we victors sacrifice
"The vanquished foe. Here did we lay
"That holocaust before the feet
"Of maiden Peace, that she might reign."
"Of maiden Peace, that she might reign,"
Aloud I read: aloud the words
Behind me rang again, as though
The hollow hall, in hollow tone
Laughed at the splendour of the words . . .
I fled the echoes, left that hall.

Outside, I found the sun was set:
The silent peaks stood sharp against
The faint-lit western sky: the wild
Was chill and dusky now. That beast
That cried before, was mute. All still:
Against the dark and cruel rock
Those dead, white ruins filled the waste.

I stole across the dreary plain
Towards the highest western peak:
From there, before it died, I hoped
I might yet see the copper sun;
Else was I certain I was lost. . . .

W. W. MELLOR.

OLD WESTMINSTERS



Major RICHARD WAKEFORD, V.C.

Richard Wakeford joined his elder brother Victor as a half-boarder up Rigaud's in September, 1934, later becoming a boarder. He showed early promise as an oar and, possessed of grand physique, rowed in the 1st VIII at Henley and Marlow in 1938 and 1939. At the end of the summer term of 1939 he was appointed Head of Water in succession to D. V. L. Odhams, a barren honour, alas, when war broke out and the Putney waterside was deserted. Very understandably he chafed more than most at the enforced evacuation to Sussex. Football was anathema to him, but he found some compensating outlet for his energies as Head of House and as an Under Officer in the O.T.C.

He left unexpectedly in March, 1940, following an accident in which a case full of books fell from the top of a cupboard on to his head, causing severe concussion.

As he had not fully recovered when the summer term began it was decided that he should continue his preparation for the 1st M.B. exam. under a coach in London.

But the soldier in him was not to be denied, and in August he threw over his plans for a medical career and enlisted in the Hampshire Regiment.

Before long he was commissioned, and April, 1943, saw him in his first action with the regiment in Tunisia. Here he won his spurs in no uncertain fashion, emerging with a mention in dispatches, promotion to captain on the field, and a machine-gun bullet in the forearm—which luckily only incapacitated him for four weeks.

By May, 1944, the Hampshires had reached Cassino via Catania and Salerno, and here let the official citation and the account in the *Eighth Army News* take up the story:

"On May 13th, 1944, Capt. Wakeford commanded the leading company on the right flank of an attack near Cassino. Accompanied by his orderly and armed only with a revolver he stormed Hill 50, a company objective, killing a number of the enemy and taking over twenty prisoners as the company came forward. Then he went on to the final objective, a hill 800 yards to the right where a German officer and five other ranks were holding a house. After being twice driven back Capt. Wakeford, with a final dash, reached the window and hurled in his grenades. Those of the enemy who were not killed or wounded, surrendered.

On the following day the company was ordered to attack and capture Massa Vertechi on the far side of the River Piopetto. On the start line the leading tanks which were supporting the Hampshires became bogged. Surprise was therefore lost and the infantry was caught under heavy enemy shelling. The resulting disorganisation and heavy casualties might easily have led to a complete shambles, but Capt. Wakeford with remarkable steadiness maintained his company under perfect control, crossed the starting line and led his men up the hill. It was here that he was wounded by a shell burst. Half-way up the hill his company came under heavy Spandau fire, but in spite of his wounds he organised and led a force to deal with this opposition so that his company could get on.

By now the company was being heavily mortared and Capt. Wakeford was again wounded in both legs, but he still went on and, reaching his objective, he organised and consolidated the remainder of his company and reported to his commanding officer before submitting to any personal attention. During the seven-hour interval before stretcher bearers could reach him, his unwavering high spirits encouraged the wounded men around him.

His selfless devotion to duty, leadership, determination, courage, and disregard for his own serious injuries were beyond all praise."

(There was most welcome and happy evidence of his splendid recovery in the photograph published in *The Times* on August 1st, showing his decoration by the King in Italy).

While there may be "no damned merit" about the Garter, it certainly abides ever more abundantly in the Victoria Cross.

Here was no isolated act of unreflecting impetuous bravery, but an example of true courage fully tried and long sustained. It is evident after reading

this and other citations, that the mechanisation of warfare, which might well have been expected to limit, has instead expanded, the field for exercise of the highest soldierly virtues.

The spirit of man, tested as perhaps never before, meets triumphantly the challenge of the machine.

Westminster will be for ever proud of Richard Wakeford.

The Reconstruction Fund of the Westminster School Society has received legacies of £100 under the will of William Lyle Selby, who died in January last, and of £100 under the will of Henry Fawcett, who died recently.

Mr. W. A. Macfarlane has been appointed Director of Fuel Efficiency, Ministry of Fuel and Power.

Mr. R. C. S. Stanley, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary, Barbados, has been appointed Colonial Secretary, Gibraltar.

Acting Air Commodore G. D. Harvey, C.B.E., D.F.C., has been appointed to the Permanent Commission Selection Board at the Air Ministry.

Mr. Peter Ustinov's play, *The Banbury Nose*, is being produced at Wyndham's Theatre. Mr. Michael Shepley is in the cast.

The Rev. J. W. Nind has been appointed Vicar of Semley.

The following awards have been made :

M.C. Captain J. Alderson, Seaforth Highlanders, attached Special Service Troops, for services in Normandy.

Major D. F. Cunliffe, Rifle Brigade, for services in N.W. Europe.

Captain R. D. Knowles, R.A. (*post-humous*).

Captain C. S. Makower, R.E., for services in Italy.

American Legion of Merit. Colonel C. D. O'Sullivan, U.S. Infantry, for his leadership of his regiment in the attack on Kwajalein Island; and Squadron Leader J. E. Dunning, O.B.E., R.A.F.V.R.

O.B.E. Major H. J. Davis (*in the Birthday Honours List, 1944*).

ROLL OF HONOUR

KILLED IN ACTION OR DIED ON ACTIVE SERVICE

Lieutenant L. C. Armstrong, Royal Sussex Regt.
Flight-Lieutenant the Hon. M. J. Wedgwood Benn, D.F.C., R.A.F.

2nd Lieutenant J. M. Dalton, R.E.
Squadron Leader J. Dugdale, D.F.C., Parachute Regt.

Captain F. A. N. Elliston, Parachute Regt.

Lieutenant T. H. Gates, R.A.

Captain E. S. Meyer, The Black Watch.

Lieutenant K. G. Neal, R.A.

Major R. H. Northcott, The Welch Regt.

Temporary Flight-Lieutenant R. T. C. Wade, R.A.F.

Lieutenant R. G. Whiskard, Welsh Guards.

Lieutenant R. H. V. Wood, Intelligence Corps.

MISSING

Major J. C. Bune, Parachute Regt.

Lance-Corporal P. W. Waite, Queen's Royal Regt.

WOUNDED

Captain J. Alderson, Seaforth Highlanders.

Lieutenant J. M. Allan, The Black Watch.

Captain H. M. G. Baillie, Intelligence Corps.

Lieutenant P. O. Bodley, Royal Fusiliers.

Lieutenant W. R. Corbould, Coldstream Guards
(*second time*).

Captain P. J. R. Deller, R.A.M.C.

Flying Officer D. O'R. Dickey, R.A.F.V.R.

Captain A. C. Grover, Coldstream Guards.

Captain G. L. Y Radcliffe, K.S.L.I.

Lieutenant A. O. Wheeler, Hussars.

PRISONER OF WAR

Flight-Lieutenant P. J. J. Roberts.

BIRTHS

BAUGHAN.—On June 15th, 1944, at Denbigh, to Daphne, wife of Lieutenant F. A. Baughan, a daughter.

BEEAMAN.—On October 13th, 1944, at Merioneth, to Maida, wife of Captain Philip Beeman, a son.

BULL.—On June 10th, 1944, at Redhill, to Ruth, wife of C. F. Bull, a son.

CARR.—On June 30th, 1944, at Totteridge Green, to Joan, wife of Robert Carr, a son.

CLARK.—On October 4th, 1944, at Rugby, to Joan, wife of J. P. B. Clark, a son.

COLCLOUGH.—On August 29th, 1944, at Wareside, to Joyce, wife of Captain J. R. Colclough, a daughter.

COLLON.—On May 11th, 1944, at Brussels, to Petronella, wife of Alexander Collon, a son.

DE BUNSEN.—On July 27th, 1944, at Cheltenham, to Peggy, wife of Ronald de Bunsen, a daughter.

DOBREE.—On June 22nd, 1944, at East Horsley, to Win, wife of Flight-Lieutenant W. B. Dobree, a son.

ENGLHEART.—On August 1st, 1944, at Lifton Park, to Daphne, wife of J. R. C. Engleheart, a son.

FITZROY.—On June 29th, 1944, to Irmgard, wife of Mark FitzRoy, a daughter.

HAMILTON.—On August 27th, 1944, at Hove, to Florence, wife of the Rev. S. H. Hamilton, a daughter.

HAWORTH-BOOTH.—On September 26th, 1944, at Salisbury, to Mickey, wife of Wing Commander R. Haworth-Booth, D.F.C., a son.

HAYNES.—On October 3rd, 1944, at Leamington Spa, to Evelyn, wife of Paymaster Lieutenant-Commander H. W. L. Haynes, R.N., a daughter.

HUMPHREYS.—On July 10th, 1944, at Sidcup, to Maureen Elizabeth, wife of Captain I. E. Humphreys, R.A., a son.

JENNENS.—On September 25th, 1944, at Leyburn, to Alison, wife of Major P. K. Jennens, Royal Signals, a son.

KNIGHT.—Recently to the wife of Flight-Lieutenant G. B. Knight, R.A.F.V.R., a son.

LEVEAUX.—On September 23rd, 1944, at Weybridge, to Roberta, wife of Captain P. D. Leveaux, 60th Rifles, a son.

LOUSADA.—On July 10th, 1944, in London, to Jocelyn, wife of Anthony Lousada, a son and a daughter.

MYRING.—On June 19th, 1944, at Bourne End, to Joyce, wife of Squadron Leader C. W. Myring, R.A.F.V.R., a daughter.

O'BRIEN.—On July 4th, 1944, at Oxford, to Sybil, wife of John O'Brien, a daughter.

PAGAN.—On October 4th, 1944, to Jocelyn, wife of Lieutenant F. E. Pagan, R.N.V.R., a son.

ROSSER-JAMES.—On June 15th, 1944, at Epsom, to Mary Joyce, wife of W. Rosser-James, a daughter.

RYLAND.—Recently to the wife of Major D. E. Ryland, a son.

SAMMEL.—On September 22nd, 1944, at Paignton, to Deirdre, wife of Lieutenant Commander R. F. Sammel, a daughter.

SHEARMAN.—On July 20th, 1944, at Slough, to Betty, wife of Squadron Leader John Shearman, a daughter.

SHORT.—On June 19th, 1944, at Newcastle, to Hava, wife of Major R. H. D. Short, R.A.M.C., a daughter.

TIERNEY.—On June 20th, 1944, at Hydon Heath, to Dora May, wife of Major T. F. Tierney, R.A.M.C., a son.

TITCOMB.—On July 15th, 1944, to Joanna, wife of Ensign A. A. Titcomb, U.S.N.R., a daughter.

TURQUET.—On August 1st, 1944, at Bradstock, to Clare, wife of Major P. M. Turquet, R.A.M.C., a son.

WARBURTON.—On July 14th, 1944, at Melbourne, to Margaret, wife of H. B. Warburton, a son.

WILLOUGHBY.—On September 29th, 1944, in London, to Hilary, wife of J. L. Willoughby, O.B.E., a son.

WOOLLEY.—On August 29th, 1944, at Leicester, to Jane, wife of Wing-Commander J. P. M. Woolley, a daughter.

MARRIAGES

ABADY-DUSE.—On October 27th, 1944, in London, H. T. Abady to Anna Duse.

ARNOLD-WILLIAMS.—On July 4th, 1944, at Sittingbourne, the Rev. Charles Arnold, son of the Rev. H. E. B. Arnold (O.W.), to Joan, daughter of Mr. J. B. Williams and the late Mrs. Williams, of Sittingbourne.

BORRADAILE-GILMOUR.—On September 1st, 1944, Sub-Lieutenant R. O. I. Borradaile, R.N.V.R., to Jean, youngest daughter of Dr. and Mrs. R. W. Gilmour, of Holme Lacey, Hereford.

BOWEN-COOP.—Recently, Surgeon-Lieutenant J. A. P. Bowen, R.N.V.R., son of Mr. J. P. Bowen (O.W.), to Elizabeth Mary Coop.

COCKS-PIRIE.—On July 28th, 1944, at Harrow-on-the-Hill, Group Captain A. H. W. J. Cocks, R.A.F., to Flight Officer Amie Theresa Pirie, W.A.A.F.

DAVIES-HOWELL.—On October 11th, 1944, in London, Flight-Lieutenant B. E. G. Davies, R.A.F.V.R., to S/C. Lorna Howell, A.T.S., eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Howell, of Causton, Norfolk.

FRERE-GLANUSK.—On July 10th, 1944, P. B. Frere, son of Mr. E. C. Frere (O.W.), to Victoria Lady Glanusk, only daughter of the late Lieutenant-Colonel Frank and Lady Eva Dugdale.

LONSDALE-PAYNE.—On September 16th, 1944, at Southend, Major E. H. G. Lonsdale, M.B.E., R.A.S.C., son of Mr. W. H. M. Lonsdale (O.W.), to Muriel Allison, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Payne.

MACASSEY-McCORMICK.—On July 3rd, 1944, in Calcutta, Major N. L. Macassey, to Anne, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. McCormick, of Glasgow.

MONIER-WILLIAMS-EDWARDS.—On June 17th, 1944, at Guildford, C. F. Monier-Williams, to Muriel, only daughter of the late Mr. J. A. Edwards and Mrs. Edwards.

MURISON-JUTSUM.—On September 2nd, 1944, A. B. L. Murison, to Constance, widow of Lieutenant R. Jutsum, R.A., and daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Charles Codling, of Leicestershire.

PARKINGTON-LIVINGSTONE.—On July 18th, 1944, at Johannesburg, Pilot-Officer M. W. Parkinton, R.A.F., to Peggy, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Livingstone, of Johannesburg.

PATTERSON-McMILLAN.—On August 2nd, 1944, at Wivelsfield, Lieutenant M. L. Patterson, R.N.V.R., to Margaret, youngest daughter of the late Captain John McMillan and Mrs. McMillan.

SHEARMAN-TOWNSLEY.—Recently, Captain P. M. Shearman, R.A.S.C., to Rachel Monica, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Townsley, of Harrogate.

SPRIGGE-PURNELL-EDWARDS.—On July 12th, 1944, at Danbury, J. W. S. Sprigge, to Anne Ruth Purnell-Edwards.

TEMPLE-BIRD-WOOD.—On September 6th, 1943, at Cheshunt, Lieutenant J. F. Temple-Bird, R.A., to Subaltern Winifred Wood, A.T.S., daughter of Captain E. W. Wood, M.C.

UPSDELL-DICK.—On July 29th, 1944, at Blackheath, Kent, Jack Upsdell, to Mary Eileen Isabel, only daughter of Mr. and the late Mrs. A. F. H. Dick, of Blackheath.

WALTERS-HART.—On August 24th, 1944, at Newark, Flight-Lieutenant A. Walters, D.F.M., R.A.F., to Section Officer Elizabeth Marjorie Hart, W.A.A.F., youngest daughter of Colonel C. H. Hart, D.S.O., M.C., and Mrs. Hart, of Haxby.

WARD-GLORNEY.—On September 14th, 1944, at Newton Abbot, Lieutenant-Commander Sir Melvill Ward, Bart., D.S.C., R.N., to Helene Glorney, daughter of the late Isaac Guggenheim, of New York.

OBITUARY

R. T. SQUIRE

RALPH TYNDALL SQUIRE died just before his 81st birthday. At Westminster from 1876 to 1882 he was in the football XI for three years—being Vice-Captain in his last season. As an oar he was equally distinguished, rowing 7 in the School Eights of 1880 and 1882. At Trinity Hall he got his soccer blue in 1884 and 1886—playing for England as well in three Internationals in the latter years. He only just failed to get into the Cambridge Boat.

1889 finds him Secretary of the O.W.W. Football Club—the commencement of fifty-five years of unbroken office in the guidance of O.W.W. sport. He was in the Chair in 1907, when the amalgamation of the O.W.W. Football and Cricket Clubs took place—becoming the first President of the combined Club. 1922 and 1923 again saw him playing a prominent part in the negotiations which led to the fusion of the Football and Cricket Club with the Elizabethan Club. From that date until his death he was Chairman of the Games Committee and a Vice-President of the Elizabethan Club, except for

the years from 1933 to 1937, when he was President of the Club. He was also an original member of the Council of the Westminster School Society. His Jubilee in office was to have been celebrated by a dinner in October, 1939, which was postponed and, alas, will never take place.

Married in 1891, his wife pre-deceased him by a few months. He had no family.

Possessing some leisure in the material things of life, Squire achieved equal distinction in other spheres. He was Honorary Treasurer of the Leander Club for many years; Honorary Treasurer and President of the Corinthian Football Club; President of the Public Schools Club. He won prizes at Olympia and drove a phaeton in the Park—and on one memorable summer afternoon during the O.W.W. match, he drove round Vincent Square with Doctor and Mrs. Costley-White.

A friend writes :

“At the many O.W. functions over which he presided, Squire was always at his best, a most excellent speaker and famous raconteur. His bluff, ever kindly good humour and his cheery outlook made him at all times the ideal good companion.

His abiding love for Westminster was an inspiration to all, and so with very deep regret we say farewell to a much loved friend, a great old sportsman in every sense of the word.”

We also record with regret the deaths of a number of other Old Westminsters :

LINDSAY CRAWFORD ARMSTRONG, whose death from smallpox is reported from abroad, was up Ashburnham from 1926 to 1929. On the outbreak of war he joined the Royal Sussex Regiment, and was later transferred to the Sierra Leone Regiment. He was 32 years of age.

HENRY EDGEWORTH BICKNELL ARNOLD was born in 1853, entered Westminster in 1864, and went into College in 1868. He proceeded to Christ Church, and was ordained to a Curacy at Tring in 1877. After holding successive curacies in Northampton, Watford and Horsham, he was appointed Vicar of St. Matthew's Oakley Square, a post which he relinquished in 1902 to become Curate of Bramber. In 1907 he married as his second wife Mary Hamilton Tucker, and their son followed his father to Westminster after an interval of 61 years.

The Honourable MICHAEL JULIUS WEDGWOOD BENN, whose death occurred in operations in June, at the age of 22, was the eldest son of Viscount and Viscountess Stansgate. He was admitted to the School in 1934, and rising to be Leader of the Scout Troop, displayed beneath a modest exterior an untiring and devoted sense of duty in the School's earlier evacuations. In

1940 he joined the R.A.F. and gained his wings nine months later. First as a night fighter, then in North Africa, and subsequently once again in this country, he was almost continuously engaged on operational duties until his death. In 1943 he was awarded the D.F.C.

HUGH STEELE BOMPAS was at Westminster from 1895 to 1900. From Cambridge he was called to the Bar at the Inner Temple, and practised on the South-Eastern Circuit. In the last war he served with the Air Force in France, Egypt and Mesopotamia. In 1919 he became Divisional Director in the Training Department of the Ministry of Labour, and subsequently as Secretary for Education to the Dental Board. He married in 1907 Violet Dorothy Lupton, of Leeds, and had a son at the School.

RONALD ASSHETON COATES, who died on August 20th, at the age of 50, was admitted in 1909. In 1914 he took a commission and served in the Ammunition Column of the 7th London Brigade, R.F.A., and was later employed in the Ministry of Munitions. He married Dorothy Margaret Crawford, of Berkhamsted.

JOHN MICHAEL DALTON entered the School in 1937. When he left, he went up to Caius College, Cambridge, and was a student of Gray's Inn. He received a commission in the Royal Engineers, and joined the Parachute Regiment. He was killed as the result of an accident on October 7th, aged 20.

FRANCIS HASTINGS DAUNEY, who died at Exmouth on July 9th at the age of 83, was at the School from 1873 to 1876. He became a solicitor and practised in London until his retirement in 1914.

FRANCIS ALBERT NEVILLE ELLISTON, the second son of Sir George Elliston, M.P., was born in 1907 and admitted in 1920. From Cambridge he entered Lincoln's Inn in 1925. At one time he was actively engaged in the services of the Oxford Group, in which, as indeed in all his work, his cheerful disposition and capacity for friendship won for him the deep affection of a wide circle. In 1939 he joined the Territorials.

TERENCE HORATIO GATES, son of Dr. E. A. Gates (O.W.) who has for many years been Medical Officer to the School, was born in 1908 and admitted to Westminster in 1923. He then went to Selwyn College, Cambridge. In the war he became a Lieutenant in the Royal Artillery. His death in action in Burma was recently reported. He married Margaret, daughter of Sir Henry Lyons, F.R.S.

EDWARD FRANCIS HERRIES was at the School from 1880 to 1881. He died on August 3rd, at Salisbury, in his 78th year.

EDWARD STIRLING MEYER was admitted as a King's Scholar in 1933 and became Captain in 1938. He was a boy of all-round ability, and conspicuous among his qualities was the indomit-

able courage and determination by which he triumphed over an almost excessive natural shyness and over disappointments resulting from ailments and accidents. He was training for the medical profession, but threw it up to join the fighting services. He received a commission in the Black Watch, and was wounded in 1943. In June of this year he was sent to Normandy, but was killed by a German mortar on the 26th.

GEORGE FITZMAURICE MONTGOMERY was born in 1861 and was at Westminster in 1875. He was the fifth son of Hugh Montgomery, of Grey Abbey, Co. Down, and married Mildred, daughter of the Rev. E. F. Clayton, Prebendary of Hereford.

KENNETH GUTHRIE NEAL was admitted to the School in 1932 up Home Boarders, and matriculated at Magdalen College, Oxford, in 1938. He held a commission in the Royal Artillery, and was killed in action last August at the age of 24.

RICHARD HENRY NORTHCOTT came to the School in 1923 and left in 1927. In 1932 he was given a commission in the Welch Regiment and was promoted Captain in 1940. In the following year he married Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. G. D. Budge.

VERNON FRANCIS PAGE, a Westminster of the fourth generation of his family, who died at Bodmin at the age of 84, entered the School in 1872. He was called to the Bar at the Middle Temple and practised at Bangkok. In 1900 he married Ellen, widow of A. C. Gaye, and daughter of Major General Adye.

ARTHUR GEORGE LIDDON ROGERS, whose death at the age of 79 occurred last March, was one of four brothers at Westminster. Admitted in 1878, he went into College the next year, and proceeded to Balliol College, Oxford. In 1894 he became an Assistant Inspector in the Board of Agriculture, and held various positions in the Board until his retirement in 1925. He married Emily Norah, daughter of Alexander Miller Hallett, and had two sons at Westminster, one of whom lost his life in the war.

CECIL CARRINGTON TUDGE was admitted in 1899. He went on to London University and Guy's Hospital, where he took his M.R.C.S. in 1910, and entered a practice in London. He married Louise Essell, of Wallington.

RICHARD THOMAS CHRISTOPHER WADE was born in 1921 and was admitted to the School in 1935. He was Temporary Flight-Lieutenant in the R.A.F. He died on active service abroad as the result of a road accident on August 27th.

RICHARD GEOFFREY WHISKARD, elder son of Sir Geoffrey Whiskard, was up Homeboarders for a year before being elected into College in 1934. From the beginning he took an intense interest in the School and Abbey, and was already a

considerable authority on their history and antiquities. He was granted a commission in the Welsh Guards, and was with the second battalion in Normandy. His death is described by his Commanding Officer as "one of our major losses."

RICHARD HUMPHREY VELLACOTT WOOD was up Ashburnham from 1930 to 1933. From Wadham College, Oxford, he went out to Prague, where he taught English, and afterwards worked for the British Council in Palermo. On Italy's entry into the war he returned home and was later given a commission in the Intelligence Corps. He was reported missing, and is now believed to have lost his life, when he undertook a particularly dangerous mission for which he had been specially selected.

CHARLES BEAUFOY WRIGHT, who died on June 14th in his 81st year, entered the School in 1875 and went up to Pembroke College, Oxford in 1882. He was married, and is survived by one son.

CHARLES HOUGHTON WYATT was born in 1878, and came to Westminster in 1892. He served in the last war and held a commission in the A.S.C.

CHARLES FORTESCUE-BRICKDALE was a Westminster of the fourth generation. Born in 1857, he was admitted in 1870 and was elected into College in the following year. He was one of the founders of THE ELIZABETHAN, and himself designed the frontispiece which for half a century adorned its cover. He also presented *curae monitorum* an illuminated edition of the School Prayer Book, and in later years renovated the painting on the back-cloth of the stage. After Christ Church he was admitted to Lincoln's Inn and was called to the Bar in 1883. His work was mainly in the Land Registry, of which he became Chief Registrar, but he also served on several Commissions and wrote several works connected with his special subjects. He married Mabel Beatrice Gibbs, and they had two sons. In 1911 he received a Knighthood.

W. F. MOSS

By the death of W. F. Moss in an air-raid last June, Westminster has suffered a grievous loss, and his many friends have lost one whom they were the better for knowing. Few boys now in the School can remember him, but many who may read these

lines will have clear and affectionate memories of Bill Moss during the five years before the war. Descended from a family famous in the chronicles of school-mastering, he was a born schoolmaster. Presumably he came to Westminster more as an athlete than as a scholar, and he had a fine games record at the University. But he was a rare teacher, too, full of humour and always ready for new ideas, writing shrewd, simple and unconventional reports. He cannot have had much difficulty in keeping a high spirited form in order, not because he was a martinet, but because his spirits were always a little higher than theirs and his will considerably stronger.

As master in charge of cricket and football, he had a real and increasing success. He cheerfully accepted the handicaps under which the games of a town school are bound to labour compared to the facilities he had known as a Carthusian. He made the most of the games talent that he found, and as long as a team showed the best of which it was capable, he did not worry overmuch about the result. Even when a side suffered collapse—as happens to all cricket elevens on occasions—he kept his sense of proportion, which some young games-masters find so hard to do. Boys whom he coached loved him for his sympathy and patience and obvious enthusiasm for the rigour and art of the game.

At least one boy living at Lancing in 1940 remembers a casual visit to Hurstpierpoint when Moss insisted on giving him a practice-net with as much zeal as a member of the 1st XI.

His manners to us all, in school or common room, as host or guest, were conspicuously courteous with nothing of convention about them, but a shade of formality which was refreshing in an era of easy-going "matiness" on short acquaintance.

He joined the Welsh Guards in 1940 and soon gained a commission, but a serious accident to his hand prevented him from seeing service abroad. To our great delight he returned for a short time to teach in the Under School. Application was being made for his longer release as a teacher, when the tragic news of his death cut short our hopes.

Our deep sympathy goes out to his wife and young family. Westminster will cherish the memory of one who loved all games, played them with joy and skill and vigorous fairness, and treated life as the best game of all.

FLOREAT