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A WESTMINSTER NOTEBOOK

VISITORS to Yard on a cold and windy night towards the beginning of term were seriously impeded by the cables and lengths of flex that lay across the pavement. Outside the archway into Yard stood a B.B.C. Mobile Transmission van, and inside an enthralled gathering of members of the School surrounded a personable lady with a microphone. Other Westminsters were huddled over radio sets in their respective houses, waiting for a familiar voice to break the silence of the ether. At last the announcement came—In Town Tonight was Mr. J. D. Carleton, Master of the Queen's Scholars. First came the ringing tones of J. H. Simpson, son of a former Master, in a somewhat abbreviated, though extremely accurate, version of a "Hamilton's Coming". Next came a short description of Yard from the interviewer, and three individuals, apparently chosen at random from among many lovers of London, were invited to guess where the broadcast was coming from. Even the magic name of Hamilton failed to inspire them, and their guesses ranged from the Inner Temple to less salubrious quarters. Finally the mystery was revealed, and the Master gave, in a few well-chosen words, a description of the School and the role of the Queen's Scholars in the approaching Coronation.

* * *

UNIVERSITY AWARDS

The following University awards have been made.

Westminster Election to Christ Church, Oxford.
Recommended to Scholarships :

- D. M. Renshaw Q.S. (Classics)
- B. R. Green T.B. (Modern Languages)
- R. G. Palin T.B. (Mathematics)

Recommended to Exhibitions :

- J. F. Ormond T.B. (History)
- D. R. B. Sawers T.B. (Modern Languages)

Westminster Election to Exhibitions at Trinity College, Cambridge :

- T. H. Beale T.B. (Modern Languages) with Open Scholarship
- E. A. Farmer Q.S. (Classics) with Open Exhibition
- S. L. C. Tester Q.S. (History)

OPEN AWARDS

C.P. Smith T.B. (Classics) Anne Shaw Scholarship at Magdalen College, Oxford.

J. M. T. Willoughby Q.S. (History) Demyship at Magdalen College, Oxford.

J. W. Maslen Q.S. (Modern Languages) Scholarship at The Queen's College, Oxford.

* * *

IN the traditional atmosphere of expectation and conjecture, the nineteen competitors lined up beneath the bar for the Pancake Greaze on February 17th. Before the throw, the Head Master announced that in future there should be no Press attendance at the Greaze. He hoped people would concur with him in this. The throw was a mighty one and the pancake landed almost among the cheering spectators. For the allotted two minutes the mound of gasping, tousled humanity fought for possession of the sticky but much-coveted "crêpe". When the whistle sounded it was discovered that B. P. Griffiths was 1953's best greazer, and he was consequently awarded the golden guinea.



Photos : R. T. Fowler-Farkas

THE boathouse recovered from the record high tide of February 1st remarkably quickly, thanks to the efforts of Brocklesby. Nevertheless its mark still remains along the wall, and on the door of the tea room a small memorial has been erected. Several boats floated off their racks, but fortunately the damage sustained was not very serious. On the weekend a fortnight after the incident the tide was again high, but only came up as far as the boathouse door. Any waterman who had not reached Putney fairly soon after lunch was ferried to the boathouse in the dinghy or a tub pair. Station, however, went on as usual, although eights and scullers found themselves rowing along the public highway in the company of sailing dinghies, irate motorists, and paddling children who appeared to obstruct their passage in both directions.

* * *

THE news, made general last term, that all the boarding houses were to share College Hall for breakfast and supper drew long faces from many a Queen's Scholar and Busbite. Whatever their fears, the change-over has turned out, on the boys' side, comparatively effortless and nothing of the radical change it had promised to be. True it is that all except the more senior boys are obliged to come to breakfast at 7.50 instead of eight o'clock, and true that for both meals their seating is full to capacity. While if the others, who sit in four small groups scattered over College Hall, also want their grumble, they may at least com-

plain that they have to lay their own places. The adjustment would not have been nearly such a mild one for them if Mrs. Burd and her staff had not at the same time worked out that minute co-ordination of cooking and serving which governs so smoothly such operations as the switch from one shift to another and the accurate distribution of lunches over the whole school. The minimum figures for meals now stand at one hundred and eighty-nine each for breakfast and supper, and five hundred and forty for lunch, including the Under School. As a proof that all this has been effected by pure organization can be mentioned the fact that no addition to the personnel was made, though the cooks must arrive a little earlier than they did before. Surprisingly also, no mechanical advance has been necessary. Some time ago the scout troop volunteered to help lay the concrete floor for a new cellar, needed to contain the extra stores. They found themselves working in a region known as "the stables," part of the honeycomb still largely unreclaimed which stretches as far as the Abbey itself. It was here, the story goes, that the "little princes" were kept before they were taken to the Tower; perhaps because College Hall has always been so used to feeding boys that no situation could find it unprepared.

* * *

NO place of worship could possibly be so convenient for the school as the Abbey. Whether that was fully appreciated before its

sequestration by the Ministry of Works the daily walk to St. Matthew's, Great Peter St., begun over a term ago, has emphasized it quite adequately. Nevertheless, but for the infinite kindness of the vicar, Rev. Fr. Royle, Westminster might have found itself without a chapel at all, much less one which accommodated it so exactly. It was noticeable in the early days that the policeman detailed to help with the crossing was from time to time otherwise engaged: even so we are pleased to record that the school has up to now suffered the chicken's-eye-view unscathed. The Chapel of Convocation in Church House, kindly made available to the school for the Sunday morning

service, is of course primarily intended for periodical use by the Bench of Bishops. Doubtless few of those sitting in the upper stalls can name the shield above their heads, and it must be admitted that one housemaster who insists on Hereford has always been left to show himself to his seat. The connection with the Abbey has to some extent been preserved here, since most services have been conducted by members of the Chapter. As greater space is needed for the Sunday services at the beginning and end of term, the Rev. G. Reindorp, vicar of St. Stephen's, Rochester Row, has generously invited the school to his church for matins.

THE MODERN LANGUAGES SOCIETY

THE majority of this year's meetings have been in a somewhat lighter vein than those held last year, owing to the advent of a new Secretary, D. R. B. Sawers. Under his guidance the Society has read nothing but comedies, has gathered to gossip and play party games in French, or to sing hearty German songs, all with the sole object of raising members' spirits, which tend to droop when they are confronted with the seemingly impossible task of reading all French and German literature in two terms. However, there have also been one or two meetings of a more or less serious nature.

The Society's year began on October 15th, with a successful innovation: a Liederabend, at which those members who had been to the Innsbruck University Summer School at Mayrhofen performed the songs that they had learnt there. More important from the academic point of view was the meeting held on November 24th, at which M. Bernard de la Salle gave a full and authoritative account of the life and work of Alfred de Vigny. The subject was, unfortunately, rather too familiar to most of those who understood the

speaker's eloquent, fast-flowing French, and, allowing their attention to wander, they missed some of his most interesting and original ideas.

On February 9th we received our annual visit from Madame Iza Reiner, and even here the year's more light-hearted spirit was in evidence; for she included in her dramatic recital some amusing pieces, to which her style of presentation was admirably suited.

Play-reading has generally been of quite a high standard, but there has been a certain lack of enthusiasm for it among the less senior members. We have read two German comedies—"Das Biberpelz" by Gerhardt Hauptmann and "Leonce und Lena" by Georg Büchner—and one French play, "Dr. Knock" by Jules Romains; no one could wish for greater variety.

It has been a pleasant and interesting, if not erudite, year for the Society, which has seen the eclipse of one great era of Modern Linguists at Westminster, as one by one our most brilliant members leave, and, we hope, the dawn of another, as a new generation of linguists begin to play their part in the life of the Society.

THE PLAY TERM CONCERT

THIS year, the Play Term concert was planned with Christmas in view, for the programme consisted of carols and a selection from Bach's Christmas Oratorio. Works by Mozart and

Beethoven completed an unusually classical bill of fare. Mozart was represented by the relatively early symphony in D, K 297, the "Paris", in three movements only. No other composer's

music has as much power in exposing incompetence of performance as Mozart's. The perfection of polish, intonation and phrasing that his lovely music demands, however, did not discourage the Orchestra from again tackling one of Mozart's lesser-known works. Although one could pick out a few points where intonation and ensemble went astray slightly, they were eclipsed by the enthusiasm of the performance, and the orchestra seemed genuinely imbued with the spirit of Paris.

The carols which followed fell into two pairs, one comparatively rare and the other well-known. The first, "Shepherds all, and Shepherdesses" by Guillaume Costeley, was not only charming but also of historical interest, as being one of the earliest examples of the modern rondo form, and also illustrating the transition between modal and diatonic composition in the late sixteenth century. It is a most refreshing and welcome addition to our repertory of carols, and Mr. Foster is to be thanked for bringing this unknown work to light. Unfortunately the performance did not do the carol full justice. As it was, the number of the choir was reduced, but an even smaller body would have achieved a buoyancy where there was only heaviness, and would have handled the changes of tempo, rhythm and syncopation more deftly. Holst's plaintive and beautiful "Lullay my liking" was more successful with P. J. Dunlop as the sympathetic soloist.

"In dulci jubilo" and "Ding Dong! merrily on high" were as competently sung as is required of a traditional carol, although the bell-like quality of both did not ring out as it should. C. P. Smith followed these with a performance of the first movement of Beethoven's C minor piano concerto. This is an undertaking which must be admired even before being heard, but on hearing

it our admiration increased. The soloist was in full possession of his technical capabilities, and gave an almost note-perfect performance. What he did lack for this titanic movement, however, was the power and grandeur which is inevitably associated with Beethoven in the key of C minor. But what he lost in the grander passages he gained in the more lyrical and ornate ones, though Clara Schumann's cadenza, where both these techniques are brought to play, did not wholly succeed. The orchestral accompaniment was well balanced with the piano, although its intonation was a little strident in places. Altogether it was a very praiseworthy performance.

The rest of the concert after the interval was devoted to a selection from Parts I and II of Bach's Christmas Oratorio. It was very apparent that the choir found the two big choruses "Christians be joyful" and "Glory to God in the Highest" a constant strain. The unusually high writing for the voice parts caused a tension, a tendency to drag, and thus a heaviness which made Bach's thick texture even heavier. However, when the choir divided for the separate arias "Prepare thyself, Zion" and "Mighty Lord", the singing was much purer and better controlled, and the result was most pleasing. The Chorales were sung in a very robust and straightforward manner. The most notable number, however, was the lovely Pastoral Symphony for the Orchestra, where the playing from the muted strings and the woodwind was ravishing. The intonation was not always impeccable, but by virtue of its overall excellence of playing and intensity of feeling the orchestra showed its full capabilities. Here it was the concert ended with the carol "Adeste Fideles" in which the audience joined. So ended a concert memorable for a new carol, C. P. Smith's performance in the concerto, and some fine orchestral playing.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

| | | | | | |
|-------|------|--|------|---------|--|
| April | 29th | Election Term begins. | May | 23rd | 1st VI v. St. Pauls, up Fields. |
| May | 7th | 1st XI v. the Staff, up Fields. | | 26th | The Challenge. |
| | 9th | 1st XI v. Eton Ramblers, up Fields. | | | 1st XI v. Radley (11.30), at Abingdon. |
| | | 1st VI v. Queenswood, away. | | | 1st VI v. Radley, at Abingdon. |
| | | 1st Fencing Team v. City of London. | | 27th | The Challenge. |
| | 12th | 1st VI v. Haberdashers, up Fields. | | | 1st VIII v. Tiffins. |
| | 16th | 1st XI v. Home Office, up Fields. | | 28th | The Challenge. |
| | | 1st VI v. Mill Hill, up Fields. | | 29th | 1st XI v. Sherborne (11.30), up Fields. |
| | | 1st Shooting VIII v. London and Middlesex Rifle Club, at Bisley. | | | 2 day. |
| | 19th | 1st XI v. Buccaneers, up Fields. | | 30th | 1st VI v. Tonbridge, away. |
| | | 1st VI v. U.C.S., away. | | | 1st Shooting VIII v. Old Westminster, at Bisley. |
| | 20th | 1st VIII v. Latymer Upper. | June | 2nd | The Coronation. |
| | 21st | 1st XI v. Incogniti, up Fields. | | 4th | 1st XI v. St. Pauls (11.30), at Hurlingham. |
| | 22nd | C.C.F. Inspection. | | 5th-8th | Exeat. |

AUSTRIAN SKI TRIP



Photo : R. T. Fowler-Farkus

OVER the Christmas holidays, Dr. Sanger took a party of twenty-five to Ober-Lech in the Arlberg. Arriving at Lech in the afternoon of January 5th, they were conveyed, five at a time, in a small metal cylinder suspended by overhead cables to Ober-Lech. The Hotel, modernized by funds from E.R.P., was over half-filled by the Westminster group and a party from Cheltenham College ; the latter left after a week and only then were the Westminsters able to spread themselves properly.

The first evening was spent fitting skis, some of which were little more than warped boards with odd bits of metal and wire on top. Next morning the old hands put their skis on early, assured themselves that they were not out of practice, and then began to show off in front of the beginners. At ten all were split up into groups and sent to various classes for instruction. The beginners, of

whom there were ten, had an instructor to themselves whilst the rest joined up with the various existing groups.

The snow conditions were ideal and the party were lucky with the weather. The first three days were sunny, then came four overcast days with a heavy fall of snow and then sunshine for the rest of the time. The Nursery Slopes were right outside the Hotel and the ski-lift to the Kriegerhorn was easily reached. The beginners spent the first few days on the Nursery Slopes and then graduated to longer runs : the others soon made acquaintance with the Kriegerhorn and found it as good, if not better, than the Lauberhorn at Wengen. All obtained practice in deep snow conditions as well as piste-running, and the arguments arising over the relative merits of the two could be heard on most evenings above the chatter of Canasta players, the checking of Chess

players, the mendacities of Dice-throwers and the gramophone's perpetual rhumba.

There were the usual number of bad falls and minor injuries and unfortunately two of the party were put out of action by a strained ligament and a broken ankle. People fell off the ski-lifts but nobody fell out of the chairs on the Sessellift. The latter, again a product of E.R.P., carried one for nearly 1,000 feet up to the top of the Kriegerhorn whence there were good runs either to Lech or Zug.

A particular feature of the course was the tours. By putting skins on one's skis it was possible to climb to several of the surrounding saddles and peaks. From one of these, memories of Wengen were stirred by the sight of the Jungfrau 120 miles away in Switzerland. From the tops were long runs down over slope after slope of fresh uncut

snow. For those who preferred piste-running the Standard Course soon presented a glazed surface covered with innumerable small bumps around which the more skilful were able to twist and jump at high speed.

The course ended on January 19th. On the Saturday before this races were held for "experts" and beginners. Each group had a Slalom, the experts had a down-hill race and there was a combined relay race.

The results were as follows :—

Slalom : 1 D. M. Renshaw and D. B. K. Harrison (a tie).

Downhill : 1 D. B. K. Harrison ; 2 D. M. Renshaw.

Beginners Slalom : 1 I. H. Kerr ; 2 A. G. Charles.

Relay Race : Winning Team—A. P. N. Goodier, J. R. Maybank, A. G. Charles.

THE POLITICAL AND LITERARY SOCIETY

THIS term has been a total rest from politics and literature. Instead, the first three meetings were tours behind the scenes of three very different types of organization : and all conducted by experts.

Mr. Peter Masfield O.W., who is Chief Executive of the British European Airways Corporation justified the metaphor by illustrating part of his talk on "Civil Air Transport—Present and Future" with a number of photographs. Having thus far committed himself to diverging from the Society's traditions, he fell to with a will, and when rising graphs made an appearance, it became evident that here for once was a speaker who could look forward to the future with optimism. He began by describing the condition of civil air transport in Britain immediately after the war, giving details of the obsolete types with which the two corporations were obliged to face American competition. Superior organization had made the best of this poor material, and now that the British aircraft industry had had time to catch up, and with its successful essays in jet propulsion actually overtake the United States, the era of profit-making in transport was at hand. Part of the trouble had been the excessive amount of custom automatically given to the railways, but improved types,

extended routes and advertisement would soon adjust the balance.

Mr. Masfield lightened his subject with a dry humour, and it was to his credit that the Society's powers of concentration were rarely overtaxed by his minute knowledge of technicalities and working figures.

To her talk, "The Films and You", Miss E. Arnot Robertson, the well-known film critic, brought a delightful and stimulating personality. She was herself for a long time engaged in the making of films, chiefly as a script writer, and so was admirably qualified to provide the Society with a basis for good criticism. She was appalled by the disproportionate importance of names in the cinema : audiences were not ready enough to judge each separate film on its merits. For that reason she was at pains to describe the functions of as many studio people as possible ; how large, for instance, were the contributions of the producer, the cutter, the cameraman and the effects man, quite apart from those of the actors. With many revealing anecdotes she told of the unusual human qualities and all the devices necessary to see that a work of art came out of so much chaos.

The atmosphere of a typical film studio as the speaker conjured it was a little on the feverish

side, though one could hardly fail to enjoy the sight of two men blowing ammonia fumes into the actress's eyes in order to provide a convincing close-up for the emotional climax. Comparison may be thought odious, but once Miss Arnot Robertson had begun to compare British film-making with American and French, the Society would not allow her to stop, and most of the questions she was called upon to answer centred round this point.

On Monday 23rd February the Duke of Norfolk was kind enough to come and talk on the "Coronation Preparations". The duties of the Earl Marshal, as very soon became apparent, commanded a great part of his time, and the Society was indeed gratified to learn that he had been able to accept no other invitation of this kind. Moreover, most of what he said was at the time for Westminster ears alone.

When the arrangements for the various processions were published in the Press some days later, however, everyone felt that they had got far better value from the chief himself. For his talk was more than a spoken time-table: it was a view from the centre over the whole area of coronation activities. So easily was the work of

the little headquarters in Belgrave Square described, with busy assistants poisoning their coloured pins by the wall maps and happy pressmen feeding all day on telephone enquiries, that scarcely anything would seem left for the Earl Marshal's attention. But this impression was of course quite false; and each mention of Committees, claimants and deputations spoke of another demanding responsibility, which none save he could tackle. His tasks are chiefly with the Abbey, and it is good to know that the problems of seating, timing and parking hold some amusement even for the organizer.

This meeting, which had been most eagerly awaited, left a clear picture of the concentrated effort being spent, and even without the exhortation, "see you do those vivats good and loud", would have inspired the school to look to its own contribution.

At the fourth and last session of the Term Mr. S. C. H. Woolrych, until recently British Consul in Strasburg, gave a polished and well-informed discourse on the Council of Europe. His appraisal of the European situation marked him as a shrewd observer, and nearly all he said was new to his audience.

THE NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

A POPULAR REVIVAL

ANOTHER term of inclement weather has curtailed the Society's outdoor activities, but several meetings appropriate to the time of year have been held. The Bishop of Portsmouth, the Rt. Rev. Launcelot Fleming, took an evening off from his ecclesiastical duties and gave us an extremely interesting account of the Antarctic expedition in which he took part before the war. He dealt with the topography and climate of the country, the difficulties of navigation both on land and among the ice-floes, and he mentioned the bird-life as well as his own particular interest, the geological structure of the ice-shelf near the coast. His talk was illustrated by some excellent lantern-slides, and the attendance was extremely good for the first indoor meeting since the Society was re-founded.

More recently two films were shown dealing with the bird reserves at Havergate and Minsmere in Suffolk, with particular emphasis on the Avocet. The meeting was very successful, and it

is hoped to obtain other films on different aspects of Natural History in the near future.

In addition to the Society's own meetings, members have attended various meetings of the London Natural History Society, to which we are affiliated. One lecture which was especially interesting to those whose field of study is confined to the Royal Parks dealt with the birds of Central London, and prospective ornithologists were most encouraged to hear of the surprising opportunities which London offers.

Interest in the Society continues to grow, and and it is fortunate that most of the members who are not yet preoccupied with other duties can devote more time and energy than is the case in a society made up largely of senior boys. Next term, with its longer evenings and more inviting weather, promises to provide many interesting outdoor meetings, which will enable members to gain the first-hand information which is so valuable in the study of Natural History.

THE ESSAY SOCIETY

THE Essay Society, revived only recently from a state of complete inertia, has been continuing its activities in a persistent if somewhat convulsive fashion throughout this school year. The Play Term's activities were delayed at the beginning for some time, largely because of the more pressing claims of scholastic preparation which were absorbing the attention of both President and Secretary, as well as of many members. However, half-way through the term the Secretary (J. W. Maslen) roused himself and delivered an essay on "the History of Language Planning" which, although less erudite than might have been expected, was enlivened by glimpses of the amusing foibles of Volapükists and others. This essay was followed by one which has as its subject the single word "Hypnotism". The mysterious effect was increased by the behaviour of the joint authors, J. W. Madge and C. D. N. Borg, who began by spreading a mat on the floor before the assembled Society and gravely squatting on it. The Secretary closed the proceedings by resignedly reminding the Society that *all* types of essay are welcome and that variety should be encouraged . . .

The next essay, S. M. Gray's "The Renaissance of Hinduism" was on a very different level. The author dealt instructively but interestingly with a period of Indian history of which none of us could claim prior knowledge; he spoke of the great revival in Hindu art, religion and literature which took place in the XVIth. century of our era. As well as quoting examples of the renaissance

from literature, he also showed us some others from the field of painting. His talk went on to include consideration of the traditional aspects of the nationalism of modern India.

This term the Society has met three times so far, to hear H. A. P. Picarda on "The Lusiads," S. L. C. Tester on "Hamburg" and J. Speaight on "Parsees". In the first of these, as in the last, the subject was little more than a name to most of the audience, which was duly intrigued. Picarda gave us a thorough general account of various aspects of the great epic of Camoens: he compared it, very successfully, with the *Odyssey*, and pointed out the most interesting of its features—its combination of paganism with Christianity, of Mombasa with Venus, of artificiality and pedantry with freshness and the naive spirit of adventure.

Tester, one of the School's most eminent historians, gave an historical account of the evolution of Hamburg—a city with which he can claim some familiarity, since he actually lives there. He combined interesting local details with the tracing of Hamburg's development from the "Hamma-burg" or "forest-fortress" of Charles the Great into one of the greatest ports of Europe.

Speaight's essay, characterized by a charming lightness of touch combined with a by no means negligible knowledge of his subject, was marred slightly by indistinctness and hesitancy of reading. It is becoming increasingly obvious that the standard of reading in general is considerably below the general standard of essay-writing.

100 BEST POEMS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

CHOSEN BY STEPHEN GRAHAM

THIS little anthology is, in the first place, excellently produced. Not only is it solidly bound and printed clearly, but its poems are also set out generously enough to make for comfortable reading without that loss of composition which comes from too precious lavishness.

As for the choice of poems, the reader would be well advised to take no notice of Mr. Graham's discouraging title. What he means is that they are favourites, which have undergone the test of repeated recitation at odd moments during the greater part of his crowded life. Most of them are universal favourites too; though in printing them once more he has run no risk of being tedious. Restricted as they are in number and being side by side with several that have usually escaped

anthologies, they achieve a texture which gains both from the editor's personality and the necessity for deeply-considered selection. The Romantics are treated best, being allowed half-a-dozen apiece, and worst perhaps in modern eyes the Metaphysicals, who must be satisfied with six altogether: two Donnes, three Herberts and a Vaughan. America is not badly represented, but it would not be unreasonable to ask for more of the twentieth century than Chesterton and Yeats.

Whatever the connoisseur feels to have been left out, this book cannot help but achieve its double purpose of pleasing him with what has been included, and the newcomer with a hundred of the best in a comparatively small compass.

THE CORONATION ANNEXE

At present the West Front of the Abbey is in the news, mainly because it is the only part of the Abbey which the public can see. Day by day the Annexe grows. It is now a gaunt structure steel-framed and concrete-ribbed, but by June 2nd, we cannot doubt, it will be a majestic £50,000 worth with the Queen's Beasts flashing in the sunlight and with the great procession marshalling itself with snake-like movements in its tapestried halls.

The procession, as most people know, was formerly marshalled in the Palace of Westminster, and came on foot to the Abbey along a covered way through the streets where Parliament Square now lies; but the outcry against the immense expenditure on George IVth's coronation caused the custom to be dropped in 1831 (and with it the Banquet in Westminster Hall), and at Queen Victoria's coronation the modern carriage procession from Buckingham Palace took its place. The Annexe, then, is a "token" Palace of Westminster, erected for one day, and whatever the doubts about its design or cost, no one who knows the immense complexity of the coronation

ceremonial will question the Minister of Works' spirited defence in Parliament of its necessity.

The Annexes at the last three coronations have faithfully reflected the changes in architectural taste during the past fifty years. In 1902 and 1911 they were conventional Gothic, traceried, battlemented, and "plastered to look like the stone of the Abbey itself". In 1937 the Annexe was designed in the streamlined Gothic of the day, which has since achieved its apotheosis in the re-built House of Commons. This year there has been a clean break with tradition, and as Mr. John Betjeman and others have rather unkindly pointed out, it will closely resemble a pavilion in the British Industries Trade Fair. But there it is, and if it dwarfs and suppresses the Jerusalem Chamber and Abbot Islip's West Front, no one will worry very much on Coronation Day.

One small point which nobody seems to have noticed is that for the first time, for at all events three coronations, the Annexe is being built on the Abbey's own property. It was in 1943 that it



was formally established (or rather re-established) that the triangle of land, which runs from the corner of St. Margaret's churchyard to the corner of Great Smith Street belongs to the Dean & Chapter. In a High Court action in that year the Dean & Chapter sought an injunction to restrain from trespass one of the "unofficial guides" who at that time infested the precincts and batted on innocent American G.I.'s. For two days the legal battle swayed doubtfully, with old and ever older witnesses swearing that in their young days there had been posts and rails to keep the public out and that the "area coloured brown on the schedule attached" had been private property. Elizabethan charters, rights of way, and modern road repairs undertaken by the Westminster City Council were hurled into the welter of conflicting evidence; but during the luncheon interval on the third day, Mr. Gerald Slade, K.C. (for the Dean & Chapter) opportunely discovered that the land in question had been held for centuries in frankalmoign, and that whatever the Chapter's inadvertence in failing to put up posts and rails, it could not be alienated. Maitland says drily that tenure in frankalmoign is "somewhat exceptional", but in this case it saved the day, and visible evidence of the doctrine that the Dean & Chapter "owe spiritual service and are bound to pray for the soul of the donor who has given them this land" may be seen in the "No

Parking" notices which now adorn the Sanctuary.

Sir Gilbert Scott's Gothic skyscraper which now separates the Sanctuary from Dean's Yard was put up only in 1861. Before that, a narrow cobbled street ran northwards from Dean's Yard, flanked by eighteenth century houses. In one of these, celebrated as late as 1839 as having been the abode of Edmund Burke, was embedded one of the arches of the medieval Gatehouse in which Raleigh was confined on the night before his execution. Some drawings by William Capon, the early nineteenth century topographical draughtsman, gave a good idea of what the entrance to Dean's Yard was like in his day; and a pleasant, carefully-drawn water-colour now in the possession of the school shows the same scene perhaps thirty years later. By the side of the archway is a tall building with sixteenth century mullioned windows, alongside which is a little lean-to shed, perhaps a smithy. Outside it, on the cobbled street, are two fat dray-horses, one with a rider and the other led. And sprinkled around, as befits the neighbourhood, are portly figures in full canonicals, the predecessors of the less decorative canons and masters of the Westminster of to-day. It is a far cry, certainly, from the Westminster of the 1850's to the Westminster of the 1950's, but perhaps on June 2nd when we are all arrayed in our finery we shall put back the clock.

THE ABBEY APPEAL

THE Westminster Abbey Appeal Fund was opened by the Prime Minister at a ceremony in the Jerusalem Chamber in January of this year. A sum of a million pounds is needed to make the Abbey secure for the future.

It is most unfortunate that the tragic damage and loss caused by the floods this winter have somewhat lessened the psychological impact of the Abbey Fund's inauguration, and the attention of public charity was drawn, as was only right, to the more pressing need of the flood victims. However, when the more serious national emergency is past, the need of the Abbey will remain.

It is proposed that after the Coronation in summer a play shall be performed in the Abbey, which will remain as for the Coronation for a short

time. A trailer film is also being made in connection with the Appeal Fund.

It is to be hoped that many Old Westminsters, parents and members of the School will find it possible to help in this worthy cause. The Abbey is, after all, our School Chapel, and everyone connected with Westminster should feel it his duty to care for its preservation.

Subscriptions should be sent to

The Dean of Westminster,

c/o Barclay's Bank,

Abbey House.

London, S.W.1.

or to the Appeal Office, Westminster Abbey.

THE CORONATION: A CITY PREPARES



Photos: B. A. Agnew

THERE is a popular misconception rampant these days to the effect that Westminster Abbey is being remodelled for the Coronation. In its way, this is true, but it is also very wrong. It isn't the Abbey that's undergoing changes in anticipation of June 2nd—It's the whole city of London.

Wherever one walks he finds evidence that 1953 is no usual year. Even if posters were not already advertising their Coronation wares, even if the souvenir shops were not already choked with sixpenny teacups priced at 10/6 because whenever the proud purchaser finishes a cup of tea he will see peering up at him from between the leaves "E I I R," and halfpenny pencils marked down to a shilling for similar reasons, no one walking in London today could escape the fact that something is afoot. Where stands are not in the process of construction, windows are being lovingly washed.

One who wishes to follow the Procession route may do so with almost no guide other than the unbroken progression of stands—and when confused, need only look about for a small green hut with "John Mowlem, Ltd," painted upon it—mute, or maybe not so mute, evidence that if a stand is not to be erected here, it isn't because the Ministry of Works isn't willing.

"The Coronation" has replaced "the weather" as the Londoner's chief topic of conversation . . . "Are you going to have a chance to see it?" . . . "How about a party on the pavement along Regent Street starting about 8.30 June 1st?" . . . "Would you know where I could borrow a television set?" . . . "What if it rains?" (Correction: "The Coronation" is second only to "the weather" as the Londoner's chief topic of conversation.) An advertising agency that can't somehow connect every one of its clients

to this the most talked of event of 1953 might just as well close down now. The newspaper which has yet to realize that the word "Coronation" on its front page automatically doubles its circulation no longer exists. The Coronation, there is no room for doubt, has taken over. It has captured the imagination of all England, and indeed of most of the world. It has supplied the Ministry of Works with no mean construction job—and it has set the deadline for that construction at June 2.

Fittingly, the work began in Westminster Abbey. Early in December the Nave was closed as the first steps in the remodelling began. The Abbey is to seat 7,500 on Coronation Day. Two tiers of stands will line the walls of the Nave, and will extend far back into each of the Transepts. The floor beneath these stands will be protected by a wooden floor built directly on top of it; the statues and memorials along the walls, after having been covered with protective burlap, will be hidden behind new walls of wood, reaching from the "floor" to the windows. Then the double tiers of stands will be constructed, and on June 2, 1953, the interior of Westminster Abbey will bear a closer resemblance to a football stadium than to the Westminster of six months before.

Day by day, the Annexe-to-be approaches more nearly its completed state. From a confused mass of scaffolding it has become recognizable as something akin to the model the newsreels displayed last November. From a hazy conception in the minds of most Londoners it has taken on concrete existence. The Annexe is not being built for its decorative value alone. It is here that the processions which make their way up the Abbey aisle will form, and it is here that the newly crowned Queen Elizabeth II will spend the hour between the end of the Coronation Service and the start of the triumphal procession through the streets of London and back to Buckingham Palace. By June, Westminster Abbey will have ceased, temporarily, to exist. In its place will stand an almost entirely new and different

structure, built around and within the Abbey as we know it. The north side will be hidden by stands; the façade, with the addition of the Annexe, will present an appearance somewhat, but hardly more than somewhat, similar to that of its original; and the interior will have become virtually unrecognizable.

Wherever there is space along the Coronation routes, stands will have been constructed. Already they can be seen throughout London—some nearly completed, others barely more than begun. The tubular scaffolding of a few is even now hidden by woodwork, while others remain but iron skeletons, and still others seem merely confused masses of misplaced drainpipes. London, by June, will be little more than a mass of these stands, a vast stadium in which the traditional drama of the Coronation will be performed.

The audience will listen over international wireless, or watch over television, or from a window, or from stands, or from miles of scrums along the pavements, or in a few instances—few in relation to the hugeness of the total audience—from within the Abbey itself. But more people will watch from the pavements lining the routes than from any other single vantage point. By sunrise on the morning of June 2, London streets will have been choked for hours by thousands packed both along the routes and down adjoining streets, and by yet more thousands trapped helplessly along parallel streets, hoping to catch a glimpse of the Procession as it winds its way back to Buckingham Palace.

The Ministry of Works is doing its best. The seating capacity of the Abbey will be the largest possible. Stands will dot the Procession routes wherever there is space, and in some cases, even where there isn't. But no one yet has come up with a plan explaining how London is going to be made large enough to take care of the crowds which will come flocking to England in the spring of Coronation Year.

ADDITIONAL APPOINTMENTS

SCHOOL MONITORS

- M. W. M. DAVIDSON, Head of Grant's.
A. F. JACKSON, Head of Wren's.
D. M. RENSHAW Q.S.
D. M. LLOYD-JONES, Grant's.

Editor of *The Elizabethan*
B. A. AGNEW.

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FOOTBALL SEASON COMPLETED

GOOD SCHOOL RESULTS

AFTER somewhat mixed results in the Play term, the School completed the season with some fine performances. The first match of the term, against the Lancing Old Boys, was lost 2-0. Lancing scored two quick goals in the first half and Westminster were unlucky not to reply later in the game, but lacked thrust in front of goal. The next match, against Chase of Chertsey, was a welcome return to top form, although lost 2-4. The strong Chase side led by two goals, but the School drew level through Griffiths. However the result was put beyond doubt with two more late in the game.

Westminster put up a good fighting performance against Duke of York's R.M.S. Dover to draw three goals all, after being 3-1 down at half time; and lost rather unluckily 1-2 against the Old Aldenhamians side that, at the time, was still in the Arthur Dunn Cup.

Westminster defeated Winchester decisively by 3 goals to 1 in the first School match of the term, at Winchester. This was the outstanding performance of the season, as it was the first time that a Westminster side has ever won at Winchester since matches were started in 1858. The sun was strong, giving way to brief sleet showers, and the pitch was heavy, suiting the School's style of play. Although Westminster had more of the ball, it was not until late in the first half that Griffiths scored an opportunist goal from a pass by Tourlmain, the latter and Blume having missed chances early on. Westminster went two goals ahead when Turner hit a fine shot, receiving a back-pass from Blume. After half-time the School set about the uphill task into the sun, with closer defensive marking, especially by Jeeves; consequently the forwards began to play well together. Winchester still persisted in forcing the ball down the centre, but Anderson and Sandford were always a match for their opponents. The result was put beyond doubt when Hillyard scored a fine goal from a cross by Blume. Westminster held the upper hand until the final whistle, in spite of Winchester scoring from a penalty kick, after Henry had lowered his shoulder at an opposing forward. Crook and Turner inspired the team to play football rather than adopt the more

direct method of their opponents, playing as they were into the hands of a defence whose positional sense was always one move ahead.

The following Saturday the School drew at home with the Corinthian-Casuals, two goals all, who were unable to find the answer to sound defensive tactics. Had not Henry made an elementary mistake in goal, the School might have won the match, being the more accomplished side.

In the last School match of the season, Westminster beat Eton, for the fourth year running, by one goal to nil. Crook was unable to play, owing to a sprained ankle, and Anderson captained the team very ably. Turner was moved to left half, and his thrust was missed in the forward line, especially in front of goal. Eton produced an exceedingly fit and heavy side, which was always on the ball faster than the School. Westminster, by their delaying defensive tactics, although allowing Eton free use of the ball in midfield, never allowed them to penetrate the penalty area. Hillyard was energetic in attack, and it was from a penalty, after he had been charged, that Turner scored with a perfect shot. The School continued to play as much football as their opponents allowed, the hard ground and light ball favouring their more direct methods. The defence remained quite steady throughout the game, Anderson dominating the middle of the field, Jeeves marking tightly, and Sandford covering particularly well. As a team there could be little doubt of Westminster's superiority, and though Eton seemed to have more of the play in midfield, it is significant that Henry was only called upon to save a direct shot on one occasion.

The last match was against the O.W.W., who produced a comparatively young side. However it soon became obvious that Griffiths was still suffering from a leg injury, and then, after ten minutes, during which Westminster had held the initiative, Anderson was injured and could not return. Despite the dislocation caused by the loss of two key men, the School were only 2-1 down at half-time, Hillyard scoring. But the O.W.W. settled down to evade the School defence with good football and finally triumphed by 5 goals to 1.

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Boys' 'Clydella' School Shirt, in grey or cream. Replacement collars available. Sizes 11½" to 15". Price 19/11d. to 32/11d.



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Boys' 'Clydella' Pyjamas in stripe designs. Soft, warm, intensely hard-wearing. Sizes 24" to 36". Prices from 32/6d.

Tourlamain played well in a depleted forward line that could do little against strong, hard tackling, while Jackson held Hornsby. The O.W.W. team was : T. Davies ; P. Houston, C. Williams ; I. Momtchiloff, P. Whipp, N. Peroni ; C. Davies, A. Hornsby, R. Anderson, K. Hinge (capt.), A. Gymer.

Existing Colours : *Pinks*—D. G. Crook, P. G. Jeeves, S. L. Henry, R. P. C. Hillyard, W. Anderson, J. W. Tourlamain, K. G. Sandford, B. P. Griffiths, W. D. J. Turner, A. F. Jackson. *Pink and Whites*—D. M. Renshaw. *Thirds*—

J. M. Blume, D. M. Owen, S. L. C. Tester, S. J. H. Gray, D. M. J. Jones, J. O. Crosse, M. D. Garcia. *Colts*—D. M. Lloyd-Jones, E. S. Palmer, E. J. N. Kirkby, J. S. Woodford, D. B. Glauser, J. A. Lauder, R. T. Clark, D. J. A. Delmotte, C. H. Prince, D. S. Perrett, J. E. Housego. *Junior Colts*—T. J. B. Mackeown, G. D. M. Willoughby. I. R. Rutherford, R. S. Houston, P. G. K. Saunders, T. F. Richter, L. G. Marks, P. M. Godfrey, R. H. Brown, N. N. M. Cohen, M. A. Marshall, J. F. Shepherdly, G. S. Clarke, A. G. Gordon, D. B. Wilkins.

FENCING

So far this term, the first and second teams have remained unbeaten. This comparative success has been aided perhaps by the cancellation of the Oxford and St. Paul's matches. Though it would be unfair to say that the team would not have beaten them, their withdrawal has left the piste clearer than it might have been.

The first match of the term, against Marlborough, showed several weaknesses, notably in the sabre. After a scrappy 5—4 win in the foil, the épée was won 6—3. The School then showed a surprising lack of imagination in losing the sabre 4—5. The result of the match came out fifteen points to twelve for Westminster.

The team settled down after that, and in a five a side foil match beat R.N.C. Greenwich by eighteen points to seven. The opposition was on the whole more experienced, but very much out of training. The next and traditionally hardest match was against Eton. After several assault points, and dubious judging on both sides, Westminster took the foil 6—3. This time the épée collapsed and was lost 6—3, leaving a 5—4 decision necessary in the sabre. The score mounted dramatically to four-all, when Westminster won the last fight, so winning a very keen and enjoyable match by fourteen fights to thirteen.

The City of London are usually stiff opponents, but this time, after they had lost the foil 3-6, showed no real resistance. The School won the épée 5—2 and the sabre 6—3. After the foil, the match was never really in doubt, and Westminster finished by winning it seventeen fights to eight.

In the last two years, Westminster and Win-

chester have each won one match, and the results of this season's contest were awaited with interest. The foil bouts were mostly very close, but ended rather surprisingly in an 8—1 win for Westminster. Winchester's épée was weak, and in this weapon the School had little difficulty, again winning eight fights to one. In the sabre, however, they showed more technique and skill, and were only just beaten, 6—3, after some good fencing.

The second team, fighting other first teams, has had no real competition so far. In a foil and sabre match against Harrow, they won these weapons 8—1 and 7—2, and the match by fifteen points to three. Against Rugby, they won all eighteen fights without difficulty, and against Whitgift in all three weapons by twenty-two fights to five. At Winchester they won 7—2, in foil alone. Against Guys Hospital, Westminster won the foil 6—3, épée 5—2, sabre 8—1, and the match 19—6. The Colts have not been so fortunate, winning against Harrow and Eton Colts 8—1 and 6—3, but losing to the Marlborough II and City of London II 4—5 and 2—7.

This term the team has been sustained principally by the excellent efforts of J. D. I. Boyd and M. S. Makower. Both have done very well, and have been awarded Pink and Whites. On this showing, there seems to be considerable hope for the Public Schools Competition in April.

Existing Colours : *Pinks*—R. S. Clarke, J. D. I. Boyd. *Pink and Whites*—J. K. Oliver, M. S. Makower. *Thirds*—N. D. Deakin. *Colts*—T. M. B. Eiloart.

THE SCHOOLS HEAD OF THE RIVER RACE

THE seventh Head of the River Race for Schools was rowed on Saturday, 14th March, and won by Winchester in 7 minutes 51 seconds, with Eton and Radley second in 7.56. Westminster came 8th in 8.2, beating Bryanston, last year's winners, by one second. The Clinker Cup was won by Quintin A, and the Colts Cup by St. Pauls for the second year running.

The conditions were quite good, although there was a fairly strong headwind at the start. This came astern below Harrods, where the water was noticeably better. Despite the destruction of the mortar by the first maroon, the crews turned round and paddled down to the start in good order. The winning Winchester VIII, a very powerful and polished crew, started second, but overtook Bryanston fairly early on.

The Westminster 1st VIII, who went up several places, got off to a good start, and were able to use the crew ahead of them, St. Pauls 2nd VIII, for pacing. They rowed well and strongly and drew away from St. Pauls as they took her in.

The 2nd VIII also did creditably, and wore down the crew ahead of them to finish 18th in 8.19. As expected, the 3rd VIII, competing for the first time in the Best Boat Division, made an excellent row of it and beat the 2nd VIII by finishing 15th in 8.16. The Colts A unfortunately had a bad start, but they settled down by Harrods and rowed a well-judged race to finish 40th in 8.39. The 5th VIII went quite hard throughout and finished 44th in 8.44. The 6th VIII were unfortunate in starting a long way from the crews on either side of them, but they settled down and finished strongly in 8.58 ; in which time they tied for 50th place with the 7th VIII, who had a very good race and went up eight places. The Colts B, a young crew, also rowed well and finished 56th in 9.10, although they too were rather on their own for the first part of the course.

For Westminster it was a successful race, and it was gratifying to see the interest aroused in it, which was shown by the large and enthusiastic entry, and the even larger crowd which assembled to greet the announcement of the results.

WESTMINSTER HOUSE BOYS' CLUB

(formerly Westminster School Boys' Club)

BANSTEAD STREET, NUNHEAD, S.E. 15

The rebuilding work at the club has now been completed, and the membership has increased to 70 boys. The premises were formally opened by H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh, K.G., K.T., on 15th November, 1952.

Will old Westminsters and their friends who have not yet subscribed please help the work forward during this coming year by sending a Donation to the Hon. Treasurer at the Club, Banstead Street, Nunhead, S.E. 15?

FIRST ATHLETICS EVENTS

ON Tuesday March 10th the first major event in Athletics took place on the tow-path at Putney. First to arrive in the Junior event was Griffin (A.HH.) in 16 minutes 46.8 seconds, followed by Myring (A.HH.) and Saunders (BB.). Fourth was Salvi (GG.), followed by Young (BB.) and M. Frances (GG.).

In the Senior event the expected tussle between Hayes (GG.) and Gasper (A.HH.) took place, and it was Gasper who just reached the tape first, in the record time of 18 minutes 37.8 seconds. That it was a fast race may be judged by the fact that the first three competitors all broke the existing record. Jeeves (BB.) was third, with Phelps-Brown and Parker, two young Grantite runners, fourth and fifth respectively. Sandford (BB.) was sixth.

The House Cup was won by Grant's with 14 points. Second were Ashburnham with 10 points. Third Busby's with 6 points. The Junior House Cup for the Long Distance Race was won by Ashburnham with 18 points. Second were Busby's with 8 points. Third Grant's with 4 points.

Bringsty Relay results: 1. Grant's, 2. Ashburnham, 3. Busby's.

Existing Colours: *Pinks*—C. R. Hayes, M. P. Gasper.

SHOOTING

IN common with other minor sports, shooting depends for its existence entirely on the enthusiasm and loyalty of those who practise it. He who would shoot must be prepared to put himself to some inconvenience—to stay late if he is a dayboy, to deny himself regular attendance at the learned societies, to face the rigours of wind and weather on the range, and above all to expect no publicity. Not for him the glories of Fields or Putney. The errant workman is his sole spectator, the shooting ledger his only page.

Yet, strange to tell, the status and standard of shooting in the school continues to rise. This year, with the kind help of Mr. Brock, Mr. Moyes and Mr. French, we have had thirty boys in regular practice, and the performance of the first two VIII's, now armed with the long-awaited No. 8 rifles, has been very satisfactory. Our match with Lancing ended this year in a tie, (though the last firer in the Westminster team is prepared to swear by nine gods or more that five shots went through four holes). We were beaten by St Paul's, after

leading at tea-time. The disappointment of the season was not being able to go to Guildford for our annual match with the Royal Grammar School and Winchester; but we fired on our own range, and the scores compared favourably with theirs.

Thus the open range season begins. The first appearance in twenty-five years of a Westminster VIII in the Ashburton at Bisley passed almost unnoticed in the school last summer. But we were pleased to receive the congratulations of several O.W.W. and to hear whisperings among the older generation at Bisley; and observers who walked up the line even reported that there was another school with a score as low as Westminster's. Still, 'the beginning is half the battle', and though lacking in experience we are full of determination.

FIVES

THERE are Club matches and School matches. The "Club" side of Fives is a perpetual flurry of jolly telephone calls—"I say Bobby's got 'flu and Chris can't leave the office till 6.30, could you possibly make it a one pair match?" or "Terribly sorry I'd no idea you expected us to play at 2.30; we all *work*" (injured triumph). Once the Jesters turned up with seven men and the captain had to watch: but that was unique.

The School side of the game is much gloomier, and the Captain of Fives rushes about, a sad Chaplinesque figure in the Gold Rush for free station days: just as he is about to stake a modest claim a stern voice proclaims "That's the Bringsty -sorry-we've-fixed-it-all-up-with Wimbledon."

However by ceaseless opportunism some Fives is played and Westminster has so far won two school matches, beating Lancing and City of London; we are due to play Highgate and Aldenham later in March. The standard is quite a high one, but as usual there are too few competent players outside the team.

The Lancing match was very close, nearly every pair having to play five games: the first pair, D. M. Renshaw and F. D. Lorimer-Thomas, just got home for us to win by 2 matches to 1. The Colts pair (N. M. N. Cohen and T. J. M. Farquhar-Smith) won after being two games down: and later in the term won "Juniors" for Wren's, beating Rigaud's (G. Francis and J. Naylor Smith) in the final 3-1.

Existing Colours: *Half-Pinks*—D. M. Renshaw. *Thirds*—J. W. Tourlamain, R. A. Bulgin. *Colts*—N. N. M. Cohen, T. J. M. Farquhar-Smith.

NOTES FROM THE SERVICES (No. 1 ADMIRALTY)



FLYING IN THE ROYAL NAVY

THE introduction of the big gun into ships of the Navy by Henry VIII some 400 years ago, changed the duties of a Naval Officer from those of a mere sailing-master to those of Captain of a man-of-war, who had to "fight" his ship. Modern weapons and equipment of ever-increasing complexity demand specialised knowledge, so the Royal Navy now has Gunnery Officers, Submarine Officers and others who, although primarily seamen, are experts in one particular branch of Naval warfare.

The largest body of specialists is now to be found in Naval Aviation—the pilots and observers who fly and operate the aircraft of the Fleet. These officers learn not only to fly, but to fly with the skill and precision required for carrier landings at sea. They are specialists indeed. This branch of the Service has had several titles, Fleet Air Arm included, and has passed through many phases. From 1923-1939 it was a mixture of Royal Air Force and Royal Naval personnel but just before the Second World War the Admiralty assumed full control. The flying branch then became an integral part of the Royal Navy and since that time all personnel have been Officers and Ratings of the Navy, taught by the Navy, operating aircraft designed for the Navy, and working from carriers at sea and Naval Air Stations ashore. The Second World War confirmed that carrier-borne aircraft are essential in sea warfare, and the fighter, strike and anti-submarine aircraft of today form the Navy's first and most formidable weapons of attack.

The pilots and observers, who man these

aircraft, combine the pleasures and excitement of flying with the adventurous nature of life at sea. They are usually either:—

- (a) *Officers serving in permanent Commissions, who either enter as Cadets at 16 and 16½ or between 17½ and 18½ years of age, or ratings promoted from the lower deck.*
- (b) *Officers serving under 8 year Short Service Aviation Commissions, who enter between the ages of 17½ and 24 and have the chance of gaining a permanent Commission in due course.*
- (c) *National Servicemen who learn to fly as R.N.V.R. Officers during their 2 years compulsory service, and then either join R.N.V.R. Squadrons for week-end flying, or transfer to 4 and 8 year R.N. Commissions with the opportunity of making the Navy their career.*

It is essential that Aviation Officers keep in constant flying practice in order to keep abreast with the rapid development in modern service flying. Nevertheless, every opportunity is taken to keep them well trained in all their other duties as Naval Officers. You will often see Commanding Officers and Officers-of-the-watch in Destroyers and Frigates wearing wings on their sleeves. The Commanding Officer of H.M.S. OCEAN, the carrier operating against the Communists in Korea, was a Naval fighter pilot of the 1939-1945 war.

Information regarding all types of Commissions in the Royal Navy can be obtained from

**THE SECRETARY OF THE ADMIRALTY C.W. BRANCH (DEPT. BM/52),
QUEEN ANNE'S MANSIONS, LONDON, S.W.1.**

PLEASE QUOTE *THE ELIZABETHAN* WHEN ANSWERING ADVERTISEMENTS

OLD WESTMINSTERS

The following appeared in the New Year's Honours list :—

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------|
| H. V. A. M. Raikes, M.P. | K.B.E. |
| W. C. Cleveland-Stevens, Q.C. | C.M.G. |
| R. W. Foxlee | C.M.G. |

Mr. J. C. B. Lowe *proxime accessit* in the Ireland and Craven Scholarship at Oxford.

In the University Fencing match Mr. P. C. Petrie and Mr. J. L. Lee fenced for Oxford, and Mr. R. M. Barker for Cambridge.

The Ven. O. H. Gibbs-Smith has been promoted Chaplain of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem.

Mr. F. E. H. Bennett has been called to the bar, and Mr. K. G. Allison has passed the Law Society's Final Examination.

Captain D. R. F. Cambell, R.N., has been appointed to command H.M.S. *Bulwark*.

Mr. J. Hawes was successful in the Civil Service Examination for naval cadets in October.

Commander J. M. Symonds, R.N., has been appointed to *Orion* for duty with the Senior Officer, Reserve Fleet, Portsmouth.

Mr. John Gielgud is to produce *Richard II* at Bulawayo during the Rhodes Centenary celebrations.

Mr. Glen Byam Shaw has been appointed a member of the Drama Panel of the Arts Council, and is producing two of the plays at the next Stratford-on-Avon Festival.

The Reverend A. S. F. Maitland has succeeded his cousin as 16th Earl of Lauderdale.

Mr. A. C. Grover has been elected a member of the Committee of Lloyd's.

Mr. H. N. G. Allen has become first chairman of the new eastern branch of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers.

Mr. O. L. Dick, recently in the public relations department of the Esso Petroleum Co., has joined Voice and Vision Ltd.

Mr. Frank Hoppé has left the Central Office of Information and has joined the board of McCann-Erickson Advertising Ltd.

Mr. R. A. Wilson has been appointed Keeper in the Department of Printed Books at the British Museum.

The Very Reverend H. Costley-White is resigning the Deanery of Gloucester on March 25th.

BIRTHS

ALMOND—On February 1st 1953 in London to Anne, wife of Basil Almond, a daughter.

CARY—On December 15th 1952 in London to Doris, wife of T. O. Cary, a son.

CHARRINGTON—On November 30th 1952 at Bristol to Betty, wife of Harold Charrington, G.C., a son.

DUVAL—On January 30th 1953 in London to Joan, wife of the Rev. P. E. Duval, a son.

FEILING—On January 9th 1953 to Eva Veronika, wife of G. S. A. Feiling, a daughter.

FURSDON—On December 20th 1952 at Bitchet Green, Kent, to Joan, wife of Capt. F. W. E. Fursdon, a son.

GIBBS-SMITH—On December 10th 1952 at Oxford to Nora, wife of the Ven. O. H. Gibbs-Smith, a daughter.

HOWE BROWNE—On December 21st 1952 to Sheila, wife of J. M. Howe Browne, a son.

HUXLEY—On November 24th 1952 to Anne, wife of D. B. Huxley, a daughter.

LYELL—On December 25th 1952 at Fordingbridge to Rosamunde, wife of Malcolm Lyell, a daughter.

MAURICE—On November 20th 1952 to Grizelda, wife of S. G. Maurice, a daughter.

OLIVER-WATTS—On December 26th 1952 at Davyhulme to Beryl, wife of George Oliver-Watts, a son.

PLUMMER—On November 26th 1952 in London to Susan, wife of Ronald Plummer, a daughter.

SEARS—On December 30th 1952 in London to Janet, wife of Dr. H. T. N. Sears, a son.

SELF—On January 12th 1953 at Braintree to Audrey, wife of Anthony Self, a daughter.

SKRENDER—On November 25th 1952 at Ewell to Sheila, wife of Neil Skrender, a daughter.

STEVENS—On December 9th 1952 at Aylesbury to Peggy Wynn, wife of J. F. B. Stevens, a son.

TABOR—On January 10th 1953 to Marjorie, wife of John Tabor, a daughter.

TASKER—On February 23rd 1953 at Swanage to Doreen Ellen, wife of T. H. G. Tasker, a daughter.

MARRIAGES

AKERHIELM : STREETER—On December 12th 1952 in London Edward Akerhielm to Lynette Mary, widow of Major G. L. Streeter, M.C.

CARTON : PORN—On March 26th 1952 at St. Augustine's, High Wycombe, Arthur Carton to Lica, elder daughter of the late Marcel Porn of Little Kingshill, Bucks., and Mme. Hélène Feldman, of Lyon.

DAWSON : BELL—On February 19th 1953 at Glasgow, R. G. Dawson to Mary Leishman, only daughter of the late Mr. W. R. Bell and of Mrs. Bell of Highburgh Road, Glasgow.

GREWCOCK : MARTINEAU—On April 25th 1952 Derek Grewcock to Janne Maud, daughter of Major and Mrs. Hubert Martineau of Holyport, Berkshire.

SLEIGHTHOLM : EVANS—On July 26th 1952 in London, M. T. Sleightholm to Anne Patricia Newton, only daughter of Mr. W. N. Evans of New York, and Mrs. A. A. Evans of Palatine Road, Manchester.

THOMAS : TURBERVILLE SMITH—On November 21st 1952 at Ore, Sussex, P. R. Thomas to Rosemary Blanche Turberville Smith.

WAECHTER : HALL—On December 2nd 1952 at Exeter Cathedral, John Waechter to Carol, second daughter of the Archdeacon of Totnes and Mrs. Hall.

OBITUARY

We record with regret the death of the following Old Westminsters :

PHILIP THEODORE DAVIES, who died in his 67th year, was at the School from 1900 to 1903. He became a solicitor and was in practice in London. He was married and had a son at Westminster.

SIR (GEORGE) WEMYSS GRANT-WILSON was admitted in 1884 and went up with election to Trinity in 1888. While there he was the editor of the *Cambridge Review*. He was called to the bar at the Inner Temple, but never practised. He went into business and became director of various firms, but his great interest was in social and welfare work among boys. He was associated for over 40 years with the Hollington Club in Camberwell, and his work as a prison visitor eventually led to the directorship of the Borstal Association from the time of its inception until he retired in 1935. He received a knighthood in 1920.

SYDNEY GEORGE GULLY was born in 1872 and came to Westminster in 1887. He married in 1895 Caroline, daughter of John Obree.

EDGAR HACKFORTH died on December 1st at the age of 74. He was admitted in 1884 and elected head to Trinity in 1888. He was 8th Wrangler in part I of the Mathematical Tripos, and became for a short period a school-

master, first at Bradfield and later at Westminster. In 1902 he went to the Board of Education, and thence to the Brighton Education Committee, of which he became secretary. After the first world war he joined the Ministry of Health, and ultimately became Controller of Health Insurance. He married in 1909 Joyce, youngest daughter of C. E. Clayton, and had three sons, who were also at Westminster.

WILLIAM GRAILY HEWITT was admitted from Wellington College in 1880 and elected to Trinity in 1883. He was called to the bar at Lincoln's Inn and became an equity draftsman and conveyancer. He was first distracted from legal work by his interest in literature, and he wrote two novels, but before long the art of handwriting and illumination withdrew him entirely from the practice of law, and he joined the L.C.C. School of Arts and Crafts in 1902. In particular he drew his inspiration from the Italian Renaissance and the writing of Antonio Sinibaldi, and he rapidly rose to be one of the most eminent calligraphists in the country—in indeed in one branch of his work, namely that of gilt illumination, he is held to have had no rival. He wrote out memorial books for several regiments and public schools. Perhaps the greatest monument to his taste and skill is the set of five service books which he inscribed over a period of thirty years for Portsmouth Cathedral. He married in 1908 Lilian Maude, daughter of Mr. R. D. Peebles of Royston.

MAJOR KENNETH WILLIAM JOHNSON was admitted in 1907. In 1913 he received a commission in Queen Victoria's Rifles, and went out to the western front in 1914. He was invalided home after Messines, but later returned to France and was on the General Staff. He was mentioned in despatches and received the Belgian Croix de Guerre. After the war he became a company director. In 1939 he again joined the forces in the Royal Artillery, but retired for reasons of health in 1941.

SIR EDWARD HOWARD MARSH, K.C.V.O., C.B., C.M.G., who died in London on January 13th at the age of 80, was a well-known Civil Servant who had served as personal secretary to a number of cabinet ministers from Joseph Chamberlain to the present Prime Minister, with whom he had a close association over a considerable length of time. His father was Master of Downing College, and Edward was sent to Westminster at the age of ten. After eight years in the school he went up to Trinity, where he gained firsts in both parts of the classical tripos, and won the Chancellor's medal. His first post as a Civil Servant was in the Colonial Office. In 1907 he accompanied Mr. Churchill on a tour of parts of Africa, and later stayed with him at the Admiralty the Home Office and the Ministry of Munitions. He typified the best in the cultured society of the Edwardian epoch. Himself a translator of Horace, he was a discriminating judge of contemporary poetry. He was something of an art collector and did much to encourage young painters. He was a regular first nighter at the London theatre.

CUTHBERT MAUGHAN was born in 1884 and was admitted to Westminster in 1897. In 1904 he joined *The Times* and became its Shipping and Insurance Correspondent, a post which he held for some forty years. During the 1914-18 war he was for a time in the 1st Battalion the London Regiment, but later went to America for the Ministry of Information to observe and describe the shipbuilding programme. He contributed to the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, to *Brassey's Annual* and to a number of periodicals. He was twice married, to Dorothy, daughter of A. B. G. Welford, M.D., and to Winifred, daughter of J. W. Farmer.

THOMAS HAROLD HARDING-NEWMAN was at Westminster from 1889 to 1894. In the first world war he held a

commission in the Cambridgeshire Regiment and was awarded the Military Cross. He married in 1905 Alice, daughter of Maj.-Gen. G. F. Walker.

HERBERT VALENTINE RAVENSCROFT was born in 1868 and entered the School in 1881. He held a commission in the Manchester Regiment from 1895 to 1904, and was honorary lieutenant-colonel of the Border Regiment in the 1914-18 war. Between 1896 and 1898 he served with the expeditions to Dongola and the Nile, and was twice mentioned in despatches. He married in 1913 Helen, daughter of James McLean of New York.

BERTRAM MITFORD HERON ROGERS, who died at Oxford at the age of 92, was one of a family of four at Westminster in the seventies. They were the sons of James Thorold Rogers, Professor of Political Economy at Oxford. Bertram went up to Exeter College, Oxford, and won his blue for association football. He studied medicine at University College Hospital, and became Consulting Physician to the Bristol Hospital for Children. He was in the R.A.M.C. during the first world war. In 1891 he married Agnes, daughter of the Rev. Carteret Fletcher.

REGINALD BASSET JOYCE SCOTT, who died at the age of 69, was the son of Dr. E. J. L. Scott, Keeper of MSS at the British Museum. He was in the school from 1897 to 1901.

FOOTBALL

The results of matches played to date is as follows :—

| | Played | Won | Lost | Drawn | For | Goals Against |
|--------|--------|-----|------|-------|-----|---------------|
| 1st XI | 20 | 10 | 6 | 4 | 66 | 48 |
| "A" XI | 14 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 35 | 28 |

The Club was defeated in the 1st Round of the A.F.A. Senior Cup by Hale End Athletic by 3-0.

The Club was defeated in the 1st Round of the Arthur Dunn Cup by the Old Malvernians by 2 goals to 1.

The Annual Supper was held on 28th February, 39 members and their guests attending.

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday 31st March, 1953 and not as shown on the fixture card.

SQUASH RACQUETS

The O.W.W. have now concluded their 1952/53 Season for Squash Racquets. Of the fixture list of 15 matches, 7 have been won, and 8 lost.

A team was entered for the Londonderry Cup and defeated by four matches to one by the Old Radleians.

As the Hon. Secretary finds he has now reached an age when the playing of Squash Racquets becomes impossible, it is with regret he has to resign his office. So far no volunteer has come forward to take over this duty, therefore until the vacancy can be filled it is probable that the Old Westminsters Squash Racquets Club will go into a state of suspended animation.

Should an Old Westminster feel able to volunteer for this office would he please contact the retiring Hon. Sec., P. A. Jessel Esq., 7, Nepean Street, S.W.15, who will be pleased to hand over all the relevant records and information.

CRICKET CLUB

A dinner to commemorate the 125th Anniversary of the establishment of an Old Westminsters' Cricket Club will be held on Tuesday, May 5th, 1953, at the Dorchester Hotel. All communications should be addressed to : The Hon. Secretaries, Dinner Committee, Rooms 21/22, 222, Strand, W.C.2.

SHOOTING

An annual fixture with the School is being started on May 30th this year with a match at Bisley. Any O.W. who would be interested in this should write to : N. W. McCaw Esq., c/o North London Rifle Club, Bisley, Surrey.

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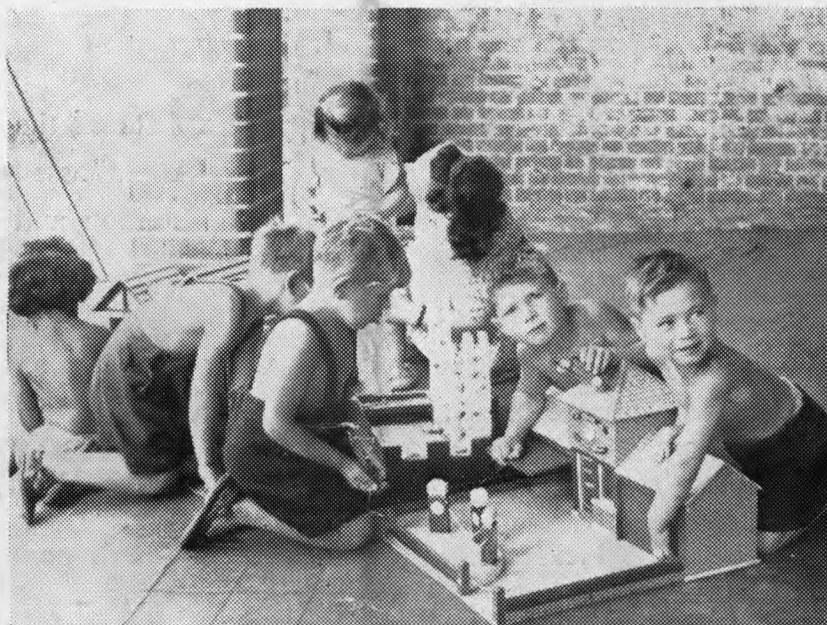
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