

THE ELIZABETHAN



DAT DEUS INCREMENTUM



WESTMINSTER HOSPITAL (1939)

Architects : Adams, Holden & Pearson. FF.R.I.B.A.

Admiralty—Horse Guards Parade extensions (1906)	Chelsea Bridge (1937)
and "The Citadel," The Mall (1942)	Cumberland Hotel, Marble Arch (1934)
Bank of England rebuilding (1939)	Empire Pool and Sports Arena, Wembley.. .. . (1935)
British Museum—North Wing, Library and	General Post Office (1909)
Parthenon Room (1937)	Government Buildings, Storey's Gate (1917)
Central Criminal Court, Old Bailey (1906)	Hampton Court Bridge (1933)
Charing Cross Hospital (1905)	Wandsworth Bridge (1941)
	WESTMINSTER SCHOOL reconstruction (1950)

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THE ELIZABETHAN

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THE TRIFLER

THE reappearance next term of a Westminster magazine devoted to articles of general and literary interest will be welcomed wholeheartedly by many friends of the School. In recent years the only opportunity for the publication of such articles by Westminsters past and present has been provided by *The Elizabethan*, whose standards are evidently too stringent to encourage literary activity in the School, and by the various House magazines, many of whose articles inevitably discourage some of the more gifted Westminsters from contributing to them. *The Trifler* will be an occasional, appearing we hope about once a year. The first number will include contributions by Lord Davidson, Mr. E. R. B. Graham, Mr. V. M. Barrington-Ward, Mr. Donovan Touche, Mr. Roy Harrod, "Sagittarius," Miss Margaret Kennedy, and members of the School, and will be sent post free to those sending 2s. 6d. to the Editor, c/o Rigaud's House, Little Dean's Yard, S.W.1.

The name, of course, is not original. *The Trifler* first appeared in May, 1788, in rivalry with *The Microcosm*, which Canning and others had just founded at Eton. Hitherto, Westminsters had expressed themselves almost exclusively in verse, and although one of the founders, William Taunton, lived to be a judge of the King's Bench, their prose was not yet as good as their frontispiece

claimed. This represented a pair of scales with Westminster much outweighing Eton, and Canning's sentiments, if not his rhymes, were perhaps justified in his reply :

"What argues this device so rare, ye wits of Eton jealous ?

It proves that we ascend like air and you are heavy fellows."

The Trifler soon had competitors inside Westminster, and was itself constantly suspending publication and reappearing. Southey's magazine, *The Flagellant*, for a subversive article in which he was expelled from Westminster, was founded when an elegy on the death of his sister was refused by *The Trifler*. In 1815 there appeared *The World*, and two years later, when *The Trifler* was being published twice a week, it contained an advertisement : "Those readers of the Anti-Trifler, who may wish to see the joke of 'Bound in calf, etc.' much better related, are referred either to Joe Miller, or the Budget of Wit."

The last revival of *The Trifler* was not many years ago. There should still be a future for the magazine that satisfies a need expressed in its columns over a century before then :

"Dear Sir,

I am dying to see something of my own composition in print. If, therefore, you will insert this, you will eternally oblige,

'LACONICUS.'

SCHOOL PORTRAITS

THE recent redecoration of the library has brought to the notice of the increasingly large number of people using it the existence of several portraits which hang on the walls. Formerly such portraits as there were, were hardly noticed ; the walls and the portraits were both rather brown, so that the pictures seemed to fit in, quietly relieving the monotony of dark shades. Since the walls have been painted these dark canvases and dark gilt frames have stood out, and have become the object of attention.

At about the same time as the library was repainted, portraits appeared all the way up one side of the School, and the lighting, re-arranged so as to draw attention from the post-war roof, incidentally focused most of the light on the pictures. This has not led to the pictures being appreciated individually, but has succeeded in making them noticed, with the result that most members of this unobservant community are conscious of the existence, in bulk, of portraits of men who, on account of the atmosphere of age

and shrouded venerability exuded from their portraits, are usually taken to be former headmasters.

These pictures present a problem. If they are to continue to hang up School and in Ashburnham, they should be cleaned so as to be made more fit to be looked at. Most of us, however much veneration we may have for our past benefactors, have no particular desire to see them any better than we can now. We do, in fact, agree with the President of the Royal Academy, who, in his talk to the Political and Literary Society, remarked on the fact that these portraits were hardly visible, and encouraged his listeners to think it would not be worth making them visible. Nevertheless, if the School really wants to keep them on show, they should be cleaned, so that the only public places that the school, as opposed to the various Houses, has in common should not be made unpleasant by unsuitable and incomprehensible decorations. No doubt cleaning would reveal a pleasantly pure white neck-cloth here and there, but on the whole these pictures when cleaned would have only a negative value; they would not actually spoil the general appearance of the room.

On the whole it would be better to be braver and remove the portraits for good, replacing them by something more in keeping with the buildings in which they now hang. The library, although not housed in a modern building, has a modern atmosphere, and should be decorated with the kind of picture that would be found in other modern buildings. School is hardly typical of any particular period of creative architecture, being the product of an unprecedented situation. Those of us who admire the structure of the roof more than the walls would be glad to see the present portraits replaced by, say, some of the machine-age

productions of M. Fernand Léger, whose work we have recently been able to see, most of us for the first time, at the Tate Gallery.

When a work of art has served its purpose, it should be thrown away or demolished. It is to be hoped that when the reconstruction planners come to consider the future of School, they will decide to replace the present building by something more modern. Obviously the design should take account of its surroundings—in the present Rigaud's we have an example of a house not unpleasant in itself making a row of houses look unpleasant—but the designers should not be frightened to try something basically modern in conception. To make such a commonplace statement as this to-day may seem unnecessary, but the shame with which the post-war generation of Westminsters has been encouraged to regard the new roof of School, and the lack of initiative in the decoration of the new building occupied by Wren's, has revealed the possibility of opposition to any plans for bold reconstruction, an opposition that it seems might descend to imitation of past styles, for fear of incurring criticism by a real product of our own age.

In the matter of the portraits, which unlike that of the new School, may be considered a live question for Westminsters of this decade, some action should be taken soon. There would no doubt be a certain amount of controversy about what pictures should be bought, but it is unlikely that it would be any greater than the controversy about the present pictures. If such interest was shown by the School that it would be unfair to buy pictures without its consent, some committee might, if absolutely necessary, be formed to decide what form of decoration should be hung on the walls of the more public buildings of the school.

MINOR SPORTS

UNTIL last century, organized sports did not exist at Public Schools. By that time, there was already at Westminster a firmly established tradition of playing those games where individual skill is considered more important than team spirit. As the whole basis of Westminster life had been moulded by the proximity of the School to the commercial centre of England, liberal ideas prevailed over the new teaching methods. The more individualist sports continued to be encouraged, and their prominence at Westminster is to-day one of the most commendable typical characteristics of the School.

The spirit of Gamesmanship has thus always flourished at Westminster. Marbles, hoops and tops were perhaps its earliest manifestation, and they were joined in the eighteenth century by the shuttlecock, which is believed to have found its birth in old champagne corks—not at Westminster. In the nineteenth century, when seniors in College were always looking for something for the juniors to do, they are even recorded to have chalked out the floor of one of the dormitories as a draughts-board and to have made fags act as draughtsmen, with others on their backs when they became kings.

Westminster Rackets was played for many decades against the wall of College projecting into Yard. The presence of the door into Wren's and the popularity of tennis make it extremely unlikely to be played there again. It was of two kinds, Wooden Rackets and Wire Rackets, which was banned as too dangerous. The irregular paving of Yard made it a difficult game. In the 1760's there appeared Fives and Fencing, which was taught by the Angelo family for over a hundred years. Pole jumping, races round Dean's Yard, and ditch-leaping first in the Tuttle fields and then at Battersea, developed in 1861 into regular annual sports meetings.

Tennis and Fencing are now both Major Sports. The Minor or Half-pink Sports are Athletics, Fives, Gym., Shooting, Boxing. Fighting of various kinds has, of course, always been a favourite Westminster occupation. Edward Bathurst, who was elected to Cambridge in 1666, applied mathematical principles to the Wrestling he had learned at Westminster when he taught it to his pupils at Trinity. Fights in the Milling Green in Cloisters were usually carefully arranged with seconds and completed rules. In Carey's time these fights were encouraged and half-days given for them. The prohibition of games in Cloisters and the acquisition in 1860 of a gymnasium probably did much to civilize sport in

Westminster. In 1903, when the Science Block was built in Great College Street, a Rackets Court was provided at the back, and in 1928 this was converted for Fives, which had previously been played in Yard.

Many other of the more individualist sports have been played by Westminster boys. Hockey and Quoits have been played in Green, and the day may yet come when Golf is instated as an official school sport. But surely, some sports should always be left for the holidays. Those recreations which are sponsored by the School should, for the sake of the School name, be undertaken efficiently and on a reasonably large scale. Athletics these days scarcely fulfils these conditions, and it is not being found easy to find time for every member of the C.C.F. to shoot for the Empire Test. Even the facilities for Boxing are by no means being fully used. We can say of Gym., however, that under Mr. Monk it has been most successful, and the annual Gym. Display in College Garden, while naturally not as polished as a professional performance, has well rewarded his efforts. Gym. is an excellent example of a sport where friendly co-operation counts for more than an impersonal "team spirit," and it is sports like this that best prepare one for the life of to-day.

RE-OPENING OF COLLEGE

HIS MAJESTY THE KING, by graciously consenting to re-open College on June 6th, is continuing a tradition of royal interest in the building which has lasted for over 200 years. The foundation stone of College Dormitory was laid on April 25th, 1722, and both King George I and the Prince of Wales (afterwards George II) sent donations. In 1846, when extensive alterations were made to the building and Burlington's open colonnade and "piazza" were filled in to provide Election Rooms, Queen Victoria contributed towards the cost, and in 1945 the King generously sent a donation to the School War Memorial Fund from which much of the cost of the present restoration has been defrayed.

His Majesty, who will be accompanied by the Queen, will arrive at the Great West Door of the Abbey at 3 p.m. and will be conducted to the Sovereign's Stall in the Choir. A short service

of thanksgiving will follow, and Their Majesties will then leave the Abbey by the Cloisters and, after a pause in Ashburnham House, where a few presentations will be made, will proceed to College Garden for the opening ceremony. They will then be conducted round College and will subsequently return to College Garden, where a Garden Party will be held. They will rejoin their car at the entrance to Little Dean's Yard.

Applications from Old Westminsters to be present on June 6th should be made to the Secretary, Re-opening of College, 17 Dean's Yard, S.W.1, before Monday, April 24th. Not more than two tickets can be sent to any one applicant, and no tickets will be issued before Monday, May 8th.

A WESTMINSTER NOTEBOOK

AT the end of this term Mr. Monk will be leaving Westminster to return to his native New Zealand to take up a position as lecturer in history at a university there. He will be much missed by the many friends he leaves here, and by those he taught especially. There can be few aspects of school life into which he has not entered at one time or another, and those who have come in contact with him have learned much of value from his sympathetic and clear approach to matters. We wish him every good fortune on the other side of the world.

Perhaps the main event of this term has been the 'flu epidemic. While the actual epidemic was mild enough, the incidence was at times astonishingly high. As usual, it proceeded by Houses, and all School activities were hit in one way or another, but with the Windmill Theatre we can proudly boast that "we never closed." In our darkest days, senior boys were pressed into service as teachers without pay, thus justifying the early nineteenth century monitorial system whereby the older boys straightaway retaught to the younger ones what they had been taught. Yet the epidemic has partially shattered one of Westminster's most cherished illusions. We have long thought that a City school is less prone to ravaging epidemics than is a school removed from the seething multitudes. Whether this is because London air immunizes us to all normal germs or whether it is because day-boys who are sick prefer to remain at home on the slightest provocation is certainly debatable. Perhaps some medical expert would enlighten a puzzled but grateful school.

Hamlet, which will have been performed when this issue of *The Elizabethan* appears, has taken up a considerable amount of energy this term. Apparently the actors have been better disciplined because they are not so much in evidence as they might be if they tried. In the March issue, we published a photograph entitled "Hamlet Tapestry." What everyone at School knew, but what apparently the majority of Old Westminsters do not know, is that it was painted by Mr. Spaul for the set.

The C.C.F. had this term both a Certificate "A" examination and a Field Day. The former went quite successfully, with a number of cadets gaining distinction and only a few failures. On the Field Day the contingent divided: "A" Company manhandled the Royal Artillery at Woolwich, one half of "B" Company attacked the other in Richmond Park, while the Signal

Platoon, only recently formed, listened to music on radio sets and laid lines between the opposing forces. This was perhaps the first public appearance of the Army Section in their new shoulder flashes, a picture of which is opposite.

When during his recent visit to England, the French President came to the Abbey to lay a wreath on the grave of the Unknown Warrior, a select few from the School watched the ceremony. It is rumoured that a modern linguist among them assisted the Chapter with their French.

A most generous offer was made to Westminster this term by Milton Academy of Milton, Massachusetts. Reviving a pre-war custom, they invited us to select one senior boy to go there for their summer term from the beginning of April till the beginning of June. R. C. Haven was chosen to go to enjoy their hospitality.

During recent years Little Dean's Yard has slowly become a miniature international settlement. Its persons are not displaced; on the contrary they are employed as the domestic staff of the School. Several nationalities may be counted. Mr. Carleton possesses an Italian maid who proceeds on the assumption that everyone is clever enough to speak fluent Italian. She operates a regular exchange system of kitchen ware and table service with Mr. Young's recently married Italian couple. In Grant's there has been a cycle of Swedish maids, whose illuminating religious practices in December once caused a certain amount of consternation. College Hall, so it is reported, can boast of two Poles, who, having found out that there is no atomic bomb factory hidden beneath the Abbey, indulge in occasional knife-throwing pastimes. It is perhaps a pity that the School does not teach the languages these people represent.

A widespread horticultural revival has taken place at School under Mr. Fisher's supervision. Ashburnham garden has been partially dug up and remade. In flower pots and on roof-tops the revival is under way. It is a happy thought that Westminster, being in a city that specializes in little plots of floral beauty, is becoming properly flower-conscious. In Spring and in Summer, they add much to the charm of the Abbey precincts.

We are happy to be able to report that after much queer buzzing and discussion the acoustic problem in College seems to be going to be solved satisfactorily, so that everything will be ready for the King's visit.



THE BUGLER



FIRST VIII TRAINING



NOW THAT SPRING IS HERE



MINOR SPORT

Photos : A. J. Levi

THE DEBATING SOCIETY

IT is very seldom that a debate is really successful. Reading reports of the meetings of the other societies, and attending meetings of our own, one is struck by the little continuity of thought necessary to make a debate enjoyable. Our last three debates at Westminster have not been exceptional in their tendency for the connection between speeches to be confined to the refutation of minor points and the repetition, in different language, of only the more elementary part of the important argument. They have, however, shown the importance of an early speech that outlines the more obvious arguments in a compelling language which can be adopted throughout the debate. Only when this happens can much corporate logical progress be made.

The motion on Monday, February 20th, was "that this House hopes the Conservatives win the General Election." It was proposed by D. S. Walker with a brilliant survey of the Conservative programme, and the speakers from the floor, though few of them were very experienced debaters, were consequently never lost for material. One does not, of course, expect any profound philosophical truth to emerge from an election debate, and the result of 16—16, with the President abstaining, was as fair as could be engineered.

The Staff Debate of Friday, March 3rd, was

on the motion "that discipline is over-rated at public schools." The President proposed, and he and his opponent Mr. Stancliffe, agreed with one another so readily that the real points of difference between them emerged into near-daylight, and there was a certain amount of constructive reasoning from later speakers. Both seconders had had experience of "freedom schools," and the debate was thus kept anchored to earth like a drifting barrage balloon. Self-discipline was, of course, favoured by everyone, but this concept fitted most cogently into Mr. Monk's quite moving justification of his own teaching technique, designed for a swiftly changing world where conventions were increasingly questioned. The motion was carried 19—11.

The debate with Queen's College on Monday, March 13th, was rather less successful. S. J. Barrett, who proposed the motion that "human liberty has increased, is increasing, and ought to be diminished," somewhat lacked in his opening speech that succinct phrasing and appropriate choice of example that would have carried his whole audience with him. In spite of a lively speech by his seconder, Miss Dicks, we had to wait until his closing speech before the effective slogans appeared that changed the basis of the debate and won it by 19 votes to 17.

POLITICAL AND LITERARY SOCIETY

THE title of Lord David Cecil's talk, "Some Thoughts on Poetry," was misleading by its vagueness, for it was concerned with the simple question of what is Poetry, and whether there are such things as poetical and non-poetical subjects.

Is poetry to be defined as verse, or as the emotion that causes verse? Is it the form that determines it, or the feeling, as Matthew Arnold asserted when he described Pope and Dryden as masters not of poetry but of prose? Lord David found this distinction too dangerous, and fell back on the definition of poetry as something written in verse form. The difference between prose and poetry is analogous to that between speaking and singing.

The most interesting part of Lord David's talk was his critical analysis of the proper subject-matter of poetry. Subjects are suitable to verse which require emphasis or excitement—but not necessarily emotion, as the Elizabethan lyrics show. Detail or prosaic fact can be introduced, provided that incongruity is intentional and

effective, and not ridiculous, as in much of Wordsworth.

Modern poetry is narrow, because modern life is prosaic: there have been countless verses written about wine, but few about cocktails. The predominant note is self-consciousness, and an impulse to laugh apologetically about ourselves, and poetry cannot flourish in this atmosphere.

Two points stood out in this talk: the personal charm and sincerity of the speaker, and the directness and incisiveness with which he answered a barrage of questions afterwards, and the lesson in critical method was invaluable.

This term, in company with many other societies in the School, we are to suffer a great loss in the departure of Mr. W. F. Monk, Chairman of the Society for eight years. His easy and tactful handling of meetings may have concealed how difficult a task he often had, but in this, as in all things, he has unsparingly given both time and trouble, and we are sincerely grateful.

THE MODERN LANGUAGES SOCIETY

THE programme that the Committee of the Society drew up at the beginning of the term has been somewhat interfered with by school illnesses, but we have read a French and a German play and seen a French one. On February 6th we read *Tovaritch*, Deval's very entertaining comedy. Unfortunately the reading was too fast to be good. On February 18th members of the Society attended a performance of *Le Barbier de Séville*, given by the Cercle Dramatique Français, but those who had seen the play at the Institut Français last year realized that much of Beaumarchais's sparkling humour was lost by the weakness of the production.

In connection with the State Visit of the French President and Mme. Auriol, Mr. Rawes and several members of the Society attended the reception given by the Franco-British Society at Burlington House. We heard the speeches of welcome made in French by the Earl of Bessborough and Sir Gerald Kelly and M. Auriol's reply. This was an excellent opportunity to see both the President and the exhibitions of French landscape paintings. On February 27th we read *Sturm im Wasserglas*, a gay German comedy by Frank, although several members were unable to be present.

THE ESSAY SOCIETY

ON February 17th J. F. Britten read an essay on "The Adolescent at School." He gave a brief outline of a boy's development between the ages of twelve and seventeen, and then discussed in greater detail the various types of eighteen-year-old boy and in particular the "problem" child. This preliminary outline, while providing interesting information, did not make the discussion of the public school system that followed it in any way out of the ordinary. In fact, the second part of the essay, where he applied the information given in the first, was rather disappointing, so that at the end he appeared to have done no more than give the public school system a pat on the back which it did not really deserve.

On March 20th, G. Barton read an essay on "Language and Thought." He first described the evolution of language from instinctive thinking in present or past conceptions, which is the stage most animals are at to-day, through a stage where thinking in words exists alongside of thinking in conceptions, and where language collects a large number of grammatical forms, to the stage where most modern languages are, which is pure thinking in words, or word-thinking. There should, he said, be a third stage, idea-thinking again, but an idea-thinking different from that of animals, because at this stage the thinker has had his brain trained by word-thinking. Words should be

subordinated to thought and not thought to words, as is on the whole the case to-day, so that the prejudice and intolerance resulting from thinking in words instead of ideas can be broken down. Barton's essay was well-planned and argued, although not, for all that, convincing as a whole.

THE JUNIOR DEBATING SOCIETY

THE SOCIETY has been unlucky to lose its Secretary and founder, G. Barton. His place has been taken by G. Wordsworth. The Society has met four times so far this term and debated four very different topics, Home Rule, Wednesday afternoon Culture, *The Elizabethan*, and Day-boys at Westminster. The most interesting of these was the debate on *The Elizabethan* which, through kind permission of Mr. and Mrs. Wilson, was held in their dining-room up Grants on a Saturday evening. This, incidentally, was a revival of the very entertaining pre-war custom, when the Society used to meet at its members' homes. Perhaps in the future the Society will be able to enjoy more of these informal Saturday evenings.

FOOTBALL

1ST XI v. ETON (away), WON 6—0.

THE team started by playing good football but lacked thrust or speed. They were just hard enough to control the game, and the only goal in the first half came from a long, low shot by C. C. P. Williams that passed close inside the left post. At half-time Mr. Lowcock spoke to the team, so that the second half started off at top speed and with much harder tackling. The Eton defence, though vigorous, was not up to the Westminster approach work, and Chapman scored our second goal with a last-minute shot. Pitamber was the next to score, and Chapman made the fourth goal by heading in a good centre from F. D. Hornsby. After a short period of exhibition our last two goals were scored by Pitamber just before the final whistle.

On February 10th the 1st XI met Westminster Hospital up Fields. The absence of Pitamber and Chapman, who were ill, was keenly felt and the depleted team drew 2—2 in a vigorous but unscientific game.

The past season with three victories and one draw out of our six school matches is one on which we may well reflect with some satisfaction. After a disappointing start, when we lost to club sides by the odd goal, only because the necessary fighting spirit was still lacking, we developed, as if by New Year's resolution, into a fairly formidable team in which technical skill became tempered with a strong desire to win. This season's team achieved to a much greater degree than any since the war the essential qualities of a winning side. We have seen an excellent team spirit, inspired by Pitamber's first-class captaining; an enthusiasm in training to achieve fitness and skill; and a determination to fight each second of every game.

During the season Pinks were awarded to P. S. Houston, A. P. M. Woodward and P. Makower.

The Colts ended their season rather disappointingly with defeats by Westminster City School (0—4), a much bigger and heavier side against which they never ceased trying and playing sound football, and Eton. In the latter game a three-goal deficit, after playing a first half against the wind and slope, was not unexpected, and for the first twenty minutes after play was resumed the ball scarcely left the Eton penalty area, but the goal which might have led to others and changed the game never came, partly because of hesitant shooting and partly because of a very stubborn defence; and a sudden breakaway on

the Eton right wing brought them a fourth goal before the end.

The Under 15 team, meeting a heavier side from Westminster City School, played constructive football. As a result of careful marking the score at half-time was one all; but thereafter, against a strong wind, superior weight told, and we lost 9—1. Throughout the season Crook and D. M. Owen have played very well and promisingly as forwards. Townend, Jones, Lennard, and at half-back, Jackson, have most of the qualities except size, while in defence B. P. Griffiths in goal and Lorimer-Thomas at back are outstanding.

The Under 14 XI had a very successful season and showed a marked improvement in skill and co-ordination, the measure of which was our increased margin of victory (10—0) over the Choir School. By the end of the season the team was playing well together, although one or two faults were still apparent, notably an inclination to let the other side take the initiative. This team should do well next year.

This winter everyone who was not playing in the club games was enlisted in an Inter-House league, whose battles were fought out with great determination in the mud up Fields. The unfortunate differences in the size of the boys playing, and the fact that any House able to field a team was doing well, meant that weight tended to settle the issue. Though the standard of football was not high, the matches were much enjoyed. Grant's, with many people from whom to choose a team, remained undefeated throughout the season and finished with 35 points, 12 ahead of Wren's and Ashburnham.

SHOOTING

On Tuesday, February 28th, the VIII went down to Guildford to shoot against Winchester and Guildford Grammar School. After an excellent contest the final scores were: Winchester 642, Westminster 588, Guildford 544. It is hoped that this fixture will become a permanent one, so enjoyable did Guildford make it for the two self-invited visiting teams. Two other matches were shot this term, one a postal match against Oundle, in which the team scored 637. The other was the Country Life Competition, for which we entered two eights, the scores of which have not yet been announced.

THE WATER

FOR all except "A" crew, Water this term was all leading up to the Schools' Head of the River Race, which was rowed in the afternoon of Saturday, March 18th. Out of a total of 36 crews that raced, six were from Westminster. Illness had caused constant changing during all the previous month and any proper coming on was made very difficult, but Westminster still managed to put six boats afloat the day of the race.

To the total of tideway and non-tidal schools we had last year was added Oundle this term, who joined Bryanston, Winchester and Shrewsbury, who all have to travel long distances to come to Putney to give the day the pleasure of their presence. Unfortunately, tideway conditions were not equal to our intentions and were far from benign. With the memory of disastrous water a few years before still fresh in their minds, the organizers shifted the course from the familiar turbulence of the St. Paul's boathouse to the Westminster boathouse distance, to the calmer stretch from a pub above Barnes down to the St. Paul's boathouse. Even so, the heavy Winchester crew, who were underboated in the *Defiance*, sank, but managed to empty their boat ashore in time to race.

The turning went well, although a tug bearing

down on the clinker division caused marshals and crews alike some anxious moments as the boat paddled and drifted down to where Mr. Brown of St. Paul's started them. Westminster "A" went off well from the start, but over the second half of the course St. Paul's, the eventual winners in 7.51, began to draw away. "B" got into a three-cornered fight, for at the same time as they were catching up Bryanston "B," they were being chased hard by St. Paul's "B." In the clinker division our crews did not do so well, for it was here that illness had troubled us most. The final results were that "A" came 4th = in 7.58, "B" 16th in 8.22, and among the clinkers "C" was 12th = in 8.57, "D" 15th in 9.11, "F" 16th in 9.16, and "E" 17th in 9.23. In the best boat division only nine seconds separated the first eight crews.

After the racing and when rain began to fall, most of the crews and visitors assembled in our boathouse, where tea was provided while Mr. Fisher announced the results and presented the cups to the winners. Throughout the day, despite adverse conditions, the organization had gone smoothly and well, and the crews that left our boathouse at the end were tired and satisfied.

FENCING

THERE were few First Team matches this term, since, out of ten arranged, four were cancelled by our opponents. On February 18th we lost an away match with Oxford University Assassins by one fight, the score being 13—14. After some changes, the team which was sent to Oxford has been retained for all our matches this term. P. C. Petrie fights in all three weapons, T. G. Phemister in Foil and Epée, A. Plummer in Foil, M. Miller in Epée and Sabre, and J. L. Lee in Sabre.

On February 23rd, in a salle at the top of seemingly innumerable stairs, we fenced with Merchant Taylors' School and won 23—4. On the following Saturday we fought the most interesting match of the term with the Lansdowne Club; we lost 7—19, but the fighting was rather more even than the final result and provided invaluable experience. The match with Eton was also enjoyable; we started with a big led of 8—1 in the Foil, but dropped back to 4—4 in the Epée

and just won the Sabre 5—4. Winchester we also beat 16—9.

The Second Team has also had a successful term, beating Charterhouse 17—7, but losing to Whitgift. The Colts team beat Eton and Merchant Taylors. In both these teams good results have been achieved in Foil, which is an encouraging sign for the future.

Of the various school competitions and championships which have been so far held, the House Foil Cup was won by College, who also won the Epée and are at present leading in the Seniors Cup. The Junior Guinea Pools were won by A. G. S. Mackeown of Busby's. With only one match before the end of the season, our training is now concentrated on the Public Schools Championships on April 12th, 13th and 14th.

The Captain of Fencing was selected by the A.F.A. to represent Great Britain in an international Foil Championship for fencers under twenty-one, which took place in Nice on March 31st.

FIVES

SO far this term we have played three school matches and one club match. The school fixtures have all been away on strange courts, which played no small part on the rather disappointing but not entirely unexpected results. Against Cranleigh we lost by 12 games to 2, and on the following day the team, further depleted by influenza, lost to a hard-hitting Highgate side 12—0. Their courts were sensibly narrower than ours, with the result that we felt rather cramped. At Harrow the score was the same as at Highgate, but the actual games scores were much better. Against the O.W.W., our only club fixture to date, our first pair could not play because of football Seniors, but we managed to win fairly comfortably by 9 games to 5.

Throughout this term illness has played havoc with the pairs. The first pair, R. T. Robinson and C. C. P. Williams, have remained fairly stable, except against Highgate, when Williams was ill. Cumming was fit only in time for the Harrow match, and Kendall, therefore, had to play with a variety of partners. Kay-Mouat, T. P. Owen, and Peroni have formed between them a fluctuating third pair. In all the School matches a Colts pair has accompanied us, consisting of Renshaw and A. C. Hornsby or Norrington. Such changes have necessarily been detrimental to that teamwork so essential in Fives, but with the experience gained this season, reasonable results can be expected from our younger players next year.

ATHLETICS

AS Vincent Square is now being returned, the Sports and Inter-House Relays have been postponed until next term. For the present, Fields is only in use for a limited number of high and long jumpers, and the remainder go by bus to Wimbledon, where running games and races are organized by Mr. Brock. Owing to the present situation, the annual long-distance match with Felsted has been discontinued, but the long-distance races along the towpath at Putney and the Bringsty relay at Wimbledon have been run as usual. There was a large entry for the junior race, which augurs well for the future.

As long as we have no fixtures, Athletics can never hope to regain any of its former status; and since athletes number over a hundred, it would be a pity not to provide for them.

BOXING

IN addition to the annual Quadrangular match, a fixture against Mercers was arranged this year, and the House competition postponed until the end of term. While attendances at practices have not been large, several new boys have appeared, who with practice should become very capable boxers. In the match against Mercers we met a team as inexperienced as ourselves, but they lacked the necessary determination. D. A. Williams, S. J. H. Gray, Roberts, Hunt, C. R. Hayes, and Cuzner, all won their fights, while Saward was a gallant loser. Westminster won by six fights to two.

The Quadrangular this year was held at Berkhamsted. Because of influenza, half the team, including the captain, were absent. The Westminster team was Townend, Saward, Hunt, C. R. Hayes and Cuzner. Saward boxed skilfully to win his first fight. Both Hayes and Hunt were unlucky to meet the eventual winners of their weights, but both fought with commendable courage and only narrowly missed victory. Cuzner won his first fight easily. In the final, Saward, though again fighting bravely, was defeated. However, Cuzner just managed to beat his opponent after a close struggle. Felsted won the competition and Westminster came fourth. The Quadrangular was the usual story of our boxers being beaten by experienced and well-coached opponents.

CHAIRS UP SCHOOL

The following chairs destroyed as the result of enemy action have now been replaced up School:—

E. B. H. Baker 1918, H. H. Brewer 1875, C. C. M. Buckmaster 1937, E. C. K. Clarke 1901, H. M. Davson 1885, F. S. Fleuret 1899, J. C. Friedberger 1913, L. R. Holme 1886, A. B. Horne 1876, W. E. Horne 1869, B. Stuart Horner 1903, J. T. James 1926, J. W. G. Jeffuck 1876, J. M. Kirkman 1912, A. F. H. Lindner 1907, A. C. E. Long 1932, A. L. Longhurst 1885, F. W. Longhurst 1888, D. R. Mullis 1935, R. W. Munro 1878, G. M. S. Oldham 1898, M. H. M. T. Pigott 1880, J. R. A. Stickland 1934, G. T. Swan 1916, L. Tudsbury 1910, R. P. Wilkinson 1897, R. H. Vellacott Wood 1930.

The following have also been added:—

J. A. Davidson 1942, T. E. V. Pearce 1947, G. R. H. Schneiders 1940.

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GIFTS AND LEGACIES

in support of this Welfare Work which is not State-Aided would be welcomed.

The General Secretary, Mr. F. J. Potter, A.C.A., will be pleased to send further particulars on request to 137 Barnardo House, Stepney Causeway, London, E.1. Cheques, etc., should be crossed | & Co. | and addressed "Dr. Barnardo's Homes."

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THE GREAZE

SHROVE TUESDAY this year fell on February 21st, and it was quite a big crowd of parents that assembled up School before 11 a.m. The competitors had come out of School earlier and had spent the usual amount of time preparing their dress for the ceremony. There was the normal assortment of sweaters and shorts, with the sprinkling of American clothes that seems almost to have become part of the tradition associated with the ceremony. The School were packed behind a double row of chairs at the far end of School and there was almost a subsidiary greaze there to have the best view. The B.B.C., too, were there in force, and it was rumoured that part of the game was a commentary in Spanish. Then, when all was ready, into this disorder came the dignified procession of the Dean, Mr. Carleton, and the Chef. As the competitors lined up beneath the bar the chef took aim, and sent his pancake soaring high and true over the exact centre of the bar. He almost threw too hard, for the pancake nearly fell into the lap of the Secretary of the Boat Club. But the Greazers caught at the pancake while it was still in the air and straightaway hit the concrete floor hard, where they sprawled and struggled for several minutes. When the whistle was blown, C. S. Cullimore came forward with what easily was the biggest piece, and the guinea went to him. Then, reverting to the popular—if not the official—tradition, the Dean begged a Late Play, which Mr. Carleton granted. The procession then filed out, and as the parents and the School made their way out there was a general impression that this had been one of the best of the post-war greazes.

We add here a list of winners of the Greaze.

Any additions or corrections will be gratefully received by the Hon. Secretary, Westminster School War Memorial, 17 Dean's Yard, S.W.1.

Date	Winner	Date	Winner
1872	Vidal, R. W. S.	1914	Bennett, A. M.
1873-8	No decision.	1915	Ker, T. M.
1879	Campbell, C.	1916	
1880	Scoones, O.	1917	Potter, S. M.
1881-2	No decision.	1918	Gompertz, G. H.
1883	Scoones, O.	1919	Noonan, W. S.
1884	{ Long, D. S.	1920	Pennington, J. P.
	{ Waterfield, A. S.	1921	Pickering, J. B.
	{ Man, E.	1922	Milde, R. O. S.
1885	{ Smith, G.	1923	Whitlamsmith,
			L. H.
1886	Willett, A. T.		Ensor, H. P.
1887	Willett, B. H.		(Second Greaze)
1888	{ Blaker, H. R.	1924	Hoare, J. M. H.
	{ Armitage, P.	1925	Barker, L. E.
1889	" Three Fellows."	1926	Macdonald,
1890	Blaker, H. R.		D. M. T.
1891	Fevez, L. A. M.	1927	Cook, J. A.
1892	Kirkpatrick, H. J.	1928	Barker, D. E.
1893	Underwood, E.	1929	Argyle, J. D.
1894	Haweis, H.	1930	Ivanovic, I. S.
1895	Symonds, J. W. G.	1931	Arnold, R. J. S. M.
1896	Redman, H. E.	1932	Eaton, L. C.
1897	Willett, B. H.	1933	Eggar, C. R. H.
1898	Jolly, D.	1934	Forbes, P. F. L.
1899	Ashley, F. N.	1935	Seal, E. F.
1900	Page, C. M.	1936	Worthington, A. L.
1901	Graham, E. R. B.	1937	Jawdat, N. A.
1902	Logan, Hugh	1938	Worthington, L. V.
1903	Worlock, F. G.	1939	Borradaille, R. O. I.
1904	Saunders, H. F.	1940	{ No Greaze.
1905	{ Hardy, W. H. C.		{ to
1906	{ Adrian, E. D.	1945	{ Webb, P.
1907	{ Tomlinson, F.R.J.	1946	{ Smith, G. R.
1908	{ Brown, G. L.	1947	{ Potter, J. J.
1909	{ Fursden, G. E. S.	1948	{ Palmer, N. H.
1910	{ Ealand, V. F.	1949	{ Cullimore, C. S.
1911		1950	
1912			
1913			

OLD WESTMINSTERS

At the General Election the following stood for Parliament :—

Conservative :

- M. V. Argyle (Derbyshire, Belper).
- *L. R. Carr (Mitcham).
- *R. D. Gilbey (Greenwich).
- *†Hon. O. Lyttelton (Hants., Aldershot).
- *†H. V. Raikes (Liverpool, Garston).
- Lt.-Col. T. E. R. Rhys-Roberts (Glam., Pontypridd)
- *G. P. Stevens (Portsmouth, Langstone).

Labour :

- †E. A. Bramall (Bexley).
- *†J. H. Freeman (Watford).
- I. Geffen (Yorks., Thirsk and Malton).

- †F. E. Noel-Baker (Brentford).
- F. R. Rea (Hove).
- N. D. Sandelson (Kent, Ashford).
- †T. C. Skeffington-Lodge (Beds., Bedford).

Liberal :

- †F. Byers (North Dorset).
- J. R. Colclough (Hove).
- A. Herbert (Newcastle-on-Tyne, North).
- A. C. Johnson (Wilts., Salisbury).
- W. T. R. Rawson (South Dorset).

* Denotes elected.

† Denotes a Member of last Parliament.

Sir Reginald Taaffe Sharpe, K.C., has been appointed a Deputy Chairman of the Court of Quarter Sessions in West Sussex.

Professo E. D. Adrian is to receive an honorary D.C.L. at the installation of the Master of Trinity as Chancellor of Durham University.

Mr. S. L. H. Clarke was awarded his half-blue at Cambridge for Fencing.

BIRTHS

- ABRAHAMS—On February 2nd 1950 in London, to Jill, wife of I. J. Abrahams, a son.
 BEYTS—On February 18th 1950 at Calcutta, to Judith, wife of N. M. Beyts, a son.
 COOPER—On February 4th 1950 at Billingham-on-Tees, to Angela, wife of K. H. L. Cooper, a daughter.
 DUNCAN—On February 21st 1950 to Peggy, wife of S. Duncan, a daughter.
 ELLISON—On February 3rd 1950 at Portsmouth, to Jane, wife of the Rev. G. A. Ellison, a daughter.
 FOWLER—On February 4th 1950 to Jocelyn, wife of W. E. A. Fowler, a son.
 HALAHAN—On February 8th 1950 at Sheffield, to Doreen, wife of G. E. D. Halahan, a daughter.
 HEATON—On February 5th 1950 in London, to Cecily, wife of R. N. Heaton, a daughter.
 NOTCUTT—On February 1st 1950 at Harrow, to Kathleen, wife of E. V. Notcutt, a son.
 RICHMOND-WATSON—On February 4th 1950 at Holmbury St. Mary, to Gladys, wife of Euan Richmond-Watson, a daughter.
 SCOTT—On February 12th 1950 in London, to Anne, wife of Gerald Scott, a son.
 SMITH—On February 5th 1950 in London, to Judy, wife of E. R. Smith, F.R.C.S., a daughter.
 WOODWARK—On February 19th 1950 in London, to Elizabeth, wife of Richard Woodwark, a son.

OBITUARY

WILLIAM FRANCIS FOX, who died on February 16th aged 72, entered Westminster in 1890 and later went up to Christ Church with an exhibition. He took a First Class in Jurisprudence and became Vinerian Law Scholar in 1901 and Eldon Law Scholar in 1904. He was called to the bar at Lincoln's Inn, but most of his work was done in the office of the Charity Commissioners. In the First World War he held a commission in the Royal Garrison Artillery, and was mentioned in despatches. In 1921 he became an Assistant Charity Commissioner. He married first Rhoda, sister of G. H. Guillum Scott (O.W.), and in 1928 Edyth Matilda, daughter of T. E. Fuller of Westgate. He was awarded the O.B.E. in 1947.

BATTISCOMBE GEORGE GUNN, Professor of Egyptology in the University of Oxford, was at Westminster for a year from 1897 to 1898, and then went to Bedales. He started in a business career, but soon abandoned it to pursue literary studies and in particular the Egyptian language. He was for three years secretary to Sir Arthur Pinero and for a short time sub-editor of the Continental *Daily Mail*. He first went to Egypt with Sir Flinders Petrie in 1913 and from then he devoted himself to the language and archaeology of that country. He served under both Leonard Woolley and Cecil Firth in their Egyptian excavations, and in 1928 became

Keeper of the Cairo Museum, and three years later Curator of the Egyptian Section of the Philadelphia Museum, from which position he was soon to be brought back to fill the Chair of Egyptology at Oxford. His most important publication was *Studies in Egyptian Syntax*, which marked a great advance in our knowledge of Egyptian and kindred languages.

ERNEST SCOTT was admitted in 1906 and became a non-resident scholar. From Trinity College, Cambridge, he entered the Army at the beginning of the First World War and became an instructor in the School of Signalling. After the war he was ordained, and held curacies at Luton and Leighton Buzzard. In 1932 he became vicar of Flamstead, and was subsequently appointed to the Church of the Holy Saviour at Hitchen.

Many Westminsters of the older generation will have read with regret of the deaths of two who were once Masters at the School. WILHELM NATHANAEL JUST first came as a classical Master in 1892 and remained on the staff for eleven years. He subsequently taught on more than one occasion for short periods, the last and longest being from 1918 to 1921.

Somewhat younger than Just was SAMUEL HULME DAY, who immediately succeeded him as a classical Master and took the Remove. Day was a Cambridge Blue at cricket and was for over twenty years a member of the Kent XI. At association football he played in three international games in 1906. His ten years as Games Master at Westminster culminated in a spectacular victory over Charterhouse in 1913, when under the captaincy of G. B. F. Rudd the School beat their opponents by 62 runs, after being 139 behind on the first innings. On leaving Westminster, Day became Headmaster of Heatherdown School at Ascot.

THE ELIZABETHAN CLUB

PRESENTATION TO MR. J. T. CHRISTIE.

The General Committee of the Club have decided to present Mr. Christie with his portrait. The cost will be borne by Club funds. In addition, all members are invited to contribute to a personal present to the late Head Master. Cheques should be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, 17 Dean's Yard, S.W.1, and the envelope marked "Christie Presentation Fund."

THE GAMES COMMITTEE

FOOTBALL

The results of matches played to date are :—

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Goals	
					For	Agnst.
1st XI	.. 19	3	2	14	25	63
"A" XI	.. 7	0	2	5	14	39

FIVES

The Club has played two further matches, both being lost, though the standard of play is improving. It is felt that members will benefit by playing in more matches against experienced players.

In addition to the Club matches, two pairs entered for the Kinnaird Cup. C. M. O'Brien and R. Plummer lost their match after a very hard struggle, the final score being 3—2, and W. J. Gerrish and F. B. Hooper lost 3—0. It is hoped that next year the club will be able to enter more than two pairs.

SQUASH

Since the last report five matches have been played, two being won, two lost, and one drawn. Two more matches remain to be played this season.

OXFORD DINNER.

A dinner for Old Westminsterers at Oxford, with Mr. J. T. Christie as guest of honour, was held in the Old Lecture Room, at Christ Church on Wednesday, March 8th, at 7.45 p.m. Forty-three Old Westminsterers, representing almost every living generation, assembled for sherry at 7.15 p.m., and many more had written to express regret that they were unable to attend. The

House maintained its high reputation for cooking and service so that the quality of the dinner contributed to the success of the evening.

After proposing the Toast of the King, Mr. D. C. Feasey, who as the senior undergraduate Old Westminster at the House, was in the Chair, had great pleasure in proposing that of our guest. He apologized on behalf of the organizers to any Old Westminster at Oxford who had not been invited; an effort had been made to contact everyone, but this was a formidable administrative task and there had probably been some regrettable omissions. The dinner had a dual purpose—it was the first formal gathering of Old Westminsterers at Oxford since before the war, and an opportunity to welcome Mr. Christie back to Oxford.

Owing to a flaw in the organization, our guest had not been warned that a speech would be expected of him, but this did not prevent him from making a graceful and witty reply. After thanking Messrs. D. C. Feasey, O. Kerensky and J. R. Wall, who had been responsible for arranging the dinner, he recalled his various experiences at the School and described his feelings on returning to Oxford with that mixture of seriousness and wit of which he is a master.

After the toast of *Floreat* had been drunk, we adjourned for coffee to the Senior Common Room, which had been kindly booked for us by Mr. R. F. Harrod. The gathering did not disperse until after 10 p.m., and everyone seemed to have had an enjoyable evening. Its success is crowned by the fact that it is expected that a small profit will have been made, which will be donated to a School fund.

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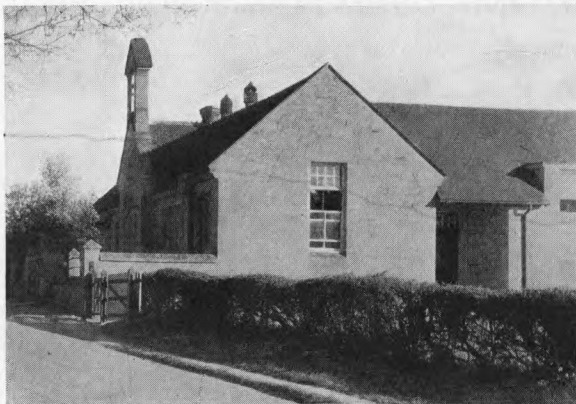
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