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REFLECTIONS AND RECONSTRUCTION

ELSEWHERE in this issue will be found several pages devoted to a symposium by various writers on a special and very valuable theme of Westminster—its uniqueness. Self-examination is not a very popular pastime at schools, and is practised in general only by the small group of those responsible for policy, who probably form ideas and conclusions about the function of the school which would be quite incomprehensible to its members. An objective approach to ourselves, however, cannot be out of place at a time when we are preparing for a visit from Their Majesties, who, although they paid their first visit fourteen years ago, will undoubtedly form their strongest impression of what we are like on this occasion.

Perhaps the most obvious difference between Westminster and many other public schools is her situation and her architecture. The latter is, indeed, rather a mixed blessing, for the amount of waste space in and between the various buildings of the school is probably equal to the amount of room that they provide, and it was with some anxiety lest this tradition be continued that we awaited the completion of the new College. Those who had feared a building technically equipped with every necessary device but totally devoid of any character, resembling an institution rather than a home, were agreeably surprised—due, no doubt, in no small measure to the restraining influence of the Master upon architects accustomed to thinking of boarding-houses in terms of dormitories and wash-rooms. Those who had hoped for a luxurious or elegant home-from-home were likewise disappointed—and rightly—but the general impression has been extremely favourable.

The disadvantages of this new building are mostly due to its awkward shape. On the first floor the architects have dealt with this very well: the Library and Election Rooms are well spaced, well-lit, and share with most of the other rooms the advantages in summer of facing east: only the over-long passage suggests the official building, but it is a practical floor that can be made attractive by good furnishing. On the top floor, however, the planning cannot be said to have been so effective.

The emphasis on wash-room space that is almost a keynote of the building led to the concentration of a block of twelve washbasins, four baths, two showers, and six lavatories which stretches half the length of the building. The result of this is to leave no method of getting from one end of the floor to another without going through at least three dormitories and the whole of the wash-rooms area, a situation that might have been avoided by making a by-pass for at least one of the dormitories. Another serious deficiency is the lack of changing-room accommodation, both of cupboards and of actual space. On the other hand, three of the dormitories are extremely pleasant rooms, marred only—and this will be greeted as an example of youthful sacrilege—by the uncouth appearance of the window embrasures, where the walls have been left rugged and unplastered to preserve the names of former Westminsters carved on their surface. From the outside the building has gained immensely from its alteration, and the way in which the cloister arches facing College Garden have been used is most effective.

Now that the first major reconstruction has been completed—and especially after June 6th—we begin to think of the next step in restoring Westminster. The VIIth form library is already in process of being rebuilt, and it is hoped that it will not be long before something is done to the derelict area behind it. The Gym itself can probably claim at the moment the distinction of being the most dilapidated of any public school in the country, and deserves improving and enlarging, if not complete rebuilding. On the remaining space there are many worthy and insistent claims: one that might well be given consideration is that for a proper *salle* for Fencing, the only school sport that has not got permanent room of its own, and is at the present forced to hold its matches in the Art School. If, by the time all this is completed, another venture by humanity into total war has intervened, it might well be possible to re-design the whole of the Grant's and Rigaud's area—but by that time we shall all be very Old Westminsters indeed, and highly critical of any such innovation.

HAMLET AT WESTMINSTER

WHAT, at best, does one hope for from a School performance of *Hamlet*? Audibility, intelligence, good grouping on the stage and teamwork, centred not on a star-actor, but on Shakespeare's play. All this we had. Every word was heard by your critic whether sitting near the front or standing for one scene at the very back. The lines were spoken throughout with thoughtful intelligence: slowly, but without those maddening pauses which often tempt the amateur. Perhaps the pure poetry suffered at times: the "bird of dawning" speech, and Ophelia's death might have been delivered a little more *cantabile*. But producers will never agree how to manage Shakespeare's pure poetry; anyhow, there is not much of it in *Hamlet* and, of the two, intelligence is more important than "poetic feeling." The grouping was excellent: no masking and no turning the back. The cast was helped, on a small and not too easy stage, by delightful sets—all home-made, we understand, even to the tapestry in the throne-room. The play turns on Hamlet inevitably: but your Hamlet can play his part greedily or unselfishly. This was an unselfish Hamlet, not drawing our attention when others were speaking and, above all, keeping still.

These communal virtues all made for an intelligible, well-spoken performance; and there were few moments, in the whole three hours and more, when your critic remembered the hardness of his chair. For this the credit must go to Producer, Scene Painter and Effects men, as well as to the players. There was one feature better here than in a dozen *Hamlets* the writer can remember: the Fight. This Hamlet, we understand, is a notable fencer in real life and the fencing-match was a triumph. That difficult exchange of foils was managed by Hamlet putting his foot firmly on the "doctored" foil and giving Laertes a memorable and piercing look. This, perhaps, was the finest moment of the evening.

The women's parts are traditionally the difficulty in a School-boy play: yet it is just here one ought to be able to recapture the Elizabethan atmosphere, where women's rôles were played by boys. The Player Queen is a tiny part but was perfectly presented. The Queen was hardly regal enough on her throne, but in her scene with

Hamlet (judiciously cut), she gave a convincing performance of a guilty conscience and a feeble petulance of being badgered by this horribly persistent son. It is a scene, surprisingly, well within the compass of Schoolboys. Ophelia was charming: "a mere child," a sexless sprite. Easy to see how Polonius could bully her; less easy to see why Hamlet fell in love with her. But is not that a problem in any case? Right, too, that her flowers in the mad scene should be strictly imaginary.

Among the men, Horatio grew on one: not the simple-minded Staff Major of many performances, but the loyal friend, and the scholar, as indeed he is called. His lines over Hamlet's body, with which the Producer chose to end the play, he delivered most movingly. Claudius, one might say, played his Knave better than he played his King. He was anxious, crafty and intelligent; but he never dominated. As was said of another Claudius, he played the King throughout as if Hamlet was going to play the ace. He was superbly audible, despite a rather jungly make-up. Laertes fought well, but in his emotional moments forced the note. Polonius is always a "fat" part and he gave us plenty of fun, without turning it to farce. The grave-diggers were halved, and wisely cut. But enough comic relief was left to point the contrast with the moving funeral scene which follows. How unsympathetic Shakespeare always is to the clergy!

Hamlet was excellent: word-perfect—no mean achievement in so long a part: knowing what he meant by every sentence and expressing it with variety of tone and economy of gesture. He never ranted, he thought twice as quick as anyone else, and, when not suffering from his obsession, was always courteous, not least to the Players: and how well he could fight! A cool, convincing, lovable Hamlet. He carried his audience with him the whole way. Indeed, your critic, himself at one time a Schoolmaster, admired the way in which this largely parental audience received this blood-thirsty old play, with its gruesome plot and coarse violent language. He recalled a protest he once had about the immorality of a brisk and innocuous thriller, "The Blind Goddess." But this was Shakespeare: and, of course, Shakespeare is different, isn't he?



I did love you once.



A pestilence on him for a rogue.



He poisons him in the garden for his estate.

Photos : L. H. Burd, A.R.P.S.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOL TRADITION

The Editors were wondering if there was such a thing as the public school tradition, and in particular to what degree Westminster shared in it. Being unable to reach a conclusion, they decided to ask four people connected with the school, one master and three boys, to put in writing their views on the subject. Each was asked to consider the question from a particular standpoint, for it was thus thought that the different aspects of the public school might be covered (although in this case the view of the Old Westminster is not represented). We print below what they wrote, with the usual reminder given by an impartial magazine, that it does not necessarily agree with the opinions expressed within its pages.

IT is no doubt an excellent thing that the true Ignoramus, expounding in some one-eyed world of antipathies where the blind man is king, could put down Westminster with her bags and fixture cards as just another brutal sequel to Arnold's Rugby. On such a person the beauty of Vincent Square and the grand associations of Putney would be lost. He would be too busy concocting verses on lawn tennis or oarsmanship, at once too immersed in pity for the poor boys suffering under the compulsory games system and too disturbed by the sight of so many of the unfortunates apparently enjoying themselves.

Westminsters may not need such people's pity, much less would they want to disturb them. But it must be repeated that it is an excellent thing that they could arouse these emotions, for if they did not, then neither would Westminster have the public school tradition. And again, if the untrained observer could not detect a superficial similarity between the position of a new Westminster and that of Tom Brown, at the bottom of a rung of ascending powers, then Westminster would lack that same tradition that has brought forth a golden harvest of great men which the "moderns" cannot explain away. Undoubtedly these have many abuses and mistakes in the practice of that tradition, but this is the twentieth century and Westminster is well up with the times.

Other sceptics have long been hammering at their pet myth, the solid "public school type." They have turned their cannons on an image of machine-bred dullness, without imagination, without any broad interests, without the social sparkle of their Continental or American contemporaries. Westminster has got the public school traditions and deserves to be defended with her sister institutions from the bombardments of those who

carp at what they do not understand. Some of the virtues that make up the ideal public school product—the nineteenth century "gentleman," the twentieth century "citizen of the world"—can and must be taught at school. These virtues are discipline, responsibility, leadership, and good manners. But some graces cannot and must not be school-taught, but rather should be self-acquired with the guidance of parents and friends. Surely a master cannot make a boy like good books or painting or knock the shyness out of some dim light of the drawing-room. If a public school man's attitude is criticized, it is not always his school's fault but may well result from his failing to follow his excellent preparation for life by personally acquiring a little general background.

Westminster has got the public school tradition. She extends to all a chance to develop and use their talents of every kind under the orderly guidance of a traditional system. She encourages competition and ambition; she teaches him through the lesson of daily school life that not all are born to lead and that it is not a disgrace to do a subordinate duty well, and that success is not the main end of life. The tradition and lesson is one that the State should teach in its own schools to every future English citizen.

IN ART

It is an oft-repeated tag that the British Lion is sullen towards the Muses, and that until the last century it ill became the true English gentleman to meddle with the arts except as a slightly supercilious collector or connoisseur. His standpoint as an appreciator of arts is a lofty pedestal; he disdained the artists who were, to his mind, rather vulgar, and was equally despised by them. The only intellectual recreation allowed by the strict standards of education was verse-writing, which he indulged in to no small extent. Apart however from poetry and architecture, and, curiously enough, hymn writing, we find that Westminster has produced few eminent artists, and as for the public school tradition, that is dead.

The Westminster poets of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries are too famous for a prolonged and individual analysis. The names of Jonson, Herbert, Dryden, Cowley, Cowper, and Matthew Prior are familiar not only at Westminster, not only in England, but the whole world over. But after the death of Cowper in 1800 and of Charles Wesley in 1788, the Muse seems to smile no more on Westminster, and since then very few poets of distinction have been educated there.

A discussion of the arts at Westminster in the past must not omit to mention the achievements of Sir Christopher Wren and his deputy, Robert Hook. Hook claimed that he invented thirty ways of flying while at school, but afterwards became famous as a scientist and as an architect serving under Wren and using his name in order that Wren might have less work to do.

It is certainly not every school that can claim so distinguished a list in the world of arts. In music and painting, it must be admitted, Westminster has not shone in the past, but that makes it more necessary for Westminsterers of the future to fill the gap. But to-day not only the active side but the appreciative side is gradually becoming less important. The moral is obvious. It is our duty to show that our muse is not yet dead, and that we can, and will, rank high in the world of arts.

But we may now ask how the arts are faring in the school at the moment. The answer is quite encouraging. Mr. Spaul has done much to help the several young artists to develop their gifts; in the musical world we are not backward; in poetry there is usually a high standard in the entries for the Gumbleton English Verse Prize. We have no outstanding figures in any art, but the general standard of appreciation is high, not the appreciation of the old country gentleman, but the more sympathetic and understanding appreciation of the critic.

IN SPORT

The fact that Westminster boys greet any reference to "the Public School tradition in Sport" with collar-fingering evasiveness or cynical remarks about basket-ball does not mean, in itself, that Westminster is divorced from the Public School tradition. The Public School tradition in sport was not built up or maintained by the conscious effort of individuals. Public Schools have not produced teams of boys who were stubborn in adversity, courageous, just and confident, generous victors and graceful losers. The teams have contained both the embarrassed and the cynical bound together by a common keenness to enjoy the sport and win.

The Public School tradition in sport is the outcome of the will to win. Whatever the qualities or ability of the player it is not possible for him to enjoy sport and to be keen to win without achieving, in some measure, the qualities that have gone to make up the Public School tradition. When the opposing side gains an advantage the team with the will to win must either be stubborn in adversity, confident of its own ability and courageous in proving it or else forego the determination to win. When the game or race is over and victory has come through a maximum effort

the winning team cannot but be generous to an opponent who has forced it to give of its best and the losing side, having played its hardest, graceful in acknowledging superior skill. The Public School tradition in sport, then, is the natural outcome of the behaviour of gentlemen contesting with each other and equally determined to win. The outcome is not so natural when the teams are unequally matched and whilst one side is at full stretch, the other is strolling towards an easy victory. It is under these circumstances that unselfishness and tact are essential. Without conscious self-control the generosity of the victor can so easily be patronizing and the grace of the loser bitter.

Westminster sport, in recent years, because of lack of facilities and poverty of selection has rarely been successful. Teams have gone on to the field for match after match to be decisively beaten or to share the honours with an inferior side. There can be no sterner test of the Public School tradition than this. To play the graceful loser after a stubborn contest, privately vowing revenge at the next encounter, is easy but to lose the next encounter and the next, and the next throws a strain on human nature that must break the Public School tradition. It is not only the team that competes with other schools that is involved although it is from the matches that the tradition has sprung. The members of the school become disillusioned and lose all faith in the team whilst the team itself finds that the "we will win this time" attitude—the only attitude that will produce a good game, is jeered at.

This has happened at Westminster and the result has been a complete lack of self-confidence which has meant that crews paddling up to the start and teams taking the field have known that they were going to lose whilst those lacking the skill or inclination to compete themselves have forecast the extent of the defeat, in loud voices. Although the Public School tradition in sport was lost to Westminster for some years it was not irretrievable. As Westminster crews and teams face their races and matches with a determination to win, as is happening again, and the School's supporters encourage this determination, then the Public School tradition will take its place of its own accord in Westminster sport.

IN THE PAST

If the question is Westminster in the public school tradition simply means is Westminster like other public schools, the answer is probably "not quite." It is situated in the heart of a great city, it has day boys as well as boarders, it has not at its doors rolling acres of playing fields which can be readily associated with such contests as the Battle of Waterloo, and it does not have a Speech

Day. On the other hand, it is organized on much the same lines, making allowances for local peculiarities, as any other public school and enjoys that essential independence of outside control. That, however, does not answer the question and inevitably that tiresome but justifiable remark will be heard—"it all depends what you mean by . . ."

It is important not to confuse the public school tradition with a mass of local and peculiar customs which have grown up or been fostered consciously on many of those schools which to the confusion of the foreigner are termed public schools. Most schools of any age have many curious rites, ceremonies and conventions of a purely local, if any, significance which are cherished because they are sacred to the sentimentalists and mildly amusing to the cynic. These are often loosely termed "traditions" or traditional and the uninitiated sometimes mistake for the public school tradition an obscure tangle of medieval or pseudo-medieval customs. Tradition, a much abused word, means something more subtle, less tangible, and infinitely more valuable; it implies something spiritual, a way of life, something independent of the place or the age. Westminster in the centre of London may follow the same tradition as a school in the most remote part of rural England.

How far is it possible to discover and state in

words what the tradition is, remembering that what is most valuable often eludes definition? The true tradition of the public school has been somewhat obscured by our emphasis on the contribution, not always accurately interpreted, of that powerful figure, Dr. Arnold of Rugby. The England of his day required young men of pioneering and empire-building qualities in increasing numbers and more and more schools emerged to train the sons of a prospering middle-class to meet this demand. The emphasis was laid on leadership, but even in a strong tradition leaders cannot be manufactured. At most those with the innate qualities can be given opportunities and conditions to develop their talents. The tradition no doubt served its purpose adequately. In the formative years of the public school, before the great expansion of the nineteenth century, Westminster made a most important contribution and was, indeed, one of the chief forming influences. During the nineteenth century, however, Westminster remained somewhat aloof from the powerful stream of new and popular development. Now when many of the ideals of that period have faded and emphasis is more generally laid on independence of mind, tolerance and a balanced outlook and understanding of the world, Westminster finds herself once again more truly in the public school tradition.

THE UNDER SCHOOL

THE long awaited and much planned move of the Under School from its temporary home in No. 3, Little Dean's Yard to, as so far as is known at the present, its permanent home in No. 19, Dean's Yard, has at last taken place. In its early days with total numbers under twenty, the school had room and to spare; having reached four times that total without any corresponding increase in accommodation, the move to more spacious quarters is very much welcome. There is now a ping-pong room, a room for the chess and draughts enthusiasts and a small room for the library which is used by more than half the school. The Head Master's pre-war dining-room, still a dining-room, now seats all but the bottom form without undue crowding and is also used for Latin Prayers and Assembly. The use of Ashburnham for dining was much appreciated, but others had obvious claims on it and it is a great improvement to be able to dine at home, and indeed, to be more compact in every way. There are, of course, drawbacks. One cannot help looking at walls and ceilings badly in need of redecoration, for which there has been no time yet. No longer do we hear the friendly cries of "Goal" or "How's that?" from our next door neighbours.

The yard at the back of No. 3 is much missed, but when the settling process is over and the best use for the different rooms agreed, it would certainly appear that the advantages will outweigh the disadvantages.

The football XI improved in the Lent Term and the final figures for the season showed 7 wins, 2 draws and 5 losses, with 30 goals scored and 18 conceded. About half the team were obvious choices, but a number of boys gained valuable experience for next year in efforts to fill the remaining places to the best advantage.

N. Anderson, one of the five leavers at Easter, has had an excellent record. With an Under School life of five years and one term, the longest of any boy yet, he was not only School Captain but Captain of both Cricket and Football. He has done much for the school in many different ways and leaves with every good wish for his future at Westminster. The team of monitors was also broken by Prior leaving for Sedbergh. Perrett, the new Captain, and Turner, Captain of Cricket, have stayed on and Houston and G. Martin are the new monitors.

MODERN WESTMINSTER SLANG

"All slang is metaphor, and all metaphor is poetry."

IT is pleasant and perhaps even a little surprising to think that Westminster is full of poetry. But full of poetry she must be if G. K. Chesterton's famous dictum is true; for where can more slang be found than in public schools and at what public school has slang had a firmer hold than at Westminster?

Nearly all of the many books which have been written on Westminster School contain some mention of Westminster slang and in more than one book there is at the back a glossary of "Westminster Terms." It is very noticeable that after several of these terms the word "obsolete" appears in brackets. The fact is that, even more than everything else, slang is subject to the rules of change and decay. Old words and phrases die, new ones are born, and so the process goes on. But, of course, slang has its ups and downs. At times in particular places it dies out completely, but there are so many different kinds of slang that it is well-nigh impossible for it to die-out everywhere. Somewhere the flame will always burn.

It is idle to pretend that Westminster slang is as healthy a creature to-day as he was, say, forty years ago. You have only to look through the glossary at the back of Captain Markham's book *Recollections of a Town Boy at Westminster* (published in 1903) to realize that. Occasionally in that glossary you come across an old friend like "Greaze" or "Station" but for the most part you feel as if you are travelling through the vast unknown. Who of the present generation of Westminsters knows the meaning of "Bever"—actually it is defined as "refreshment between meals." Can the fact that it has died out be an only too sad reflection of the times in which we live? Or who knows that Maundy Money used to be called "Principes," or that the summer holidays were always referred to as "Bartlemytide." And it is not merely a question of quoting terms of Westminster slang that are dead. Words and phrases are at this very moment dying around us. Five years ago the word "Need," meaning to cheat, was in common use. Mention it to-day in a suitable context to a member of the school and he will look at you with blank astonishment and you will feel not a little foolish. And then there is the famous word "Sci." That, too, despite all Mr. Christie's efforts, will soon be committed to the grave. At the moment it has reached the stage where using it makes you feel rather self-conscious. The very ark of the Westminster covenant is also in danger. To speak of being "in Busby's" or

"in Ashburnham" is no longer the hall-mark of the new boy. "Up" is now the exception rather than the rule. When it finally goes—and there would seem to be little chance of saving it—then surely the death-knell of traditional Westminster slang will have sounded.

So much for the dead branches. What of the new shoots? Well, quite frankly, there are not many of these which are healthy. A word or phrase is repeatedly used for a time and then like the spoilt child's toy which has lost its novelty, it is cast aside and promptly forgotten. At the moment the word "Oil" is in the vogue. Everywhere I am told to "Oil Off" (meaning to go away) and everyone accuses me of being "an Oil"—what that means I am not quite sure but I have an unpleasant suspicion that it is not intended to be complimentary. Perhaps it has something to do with the word "Oiler" which according to *The Public School Word Book* was at one period in use at Oxford and Cambridge where it meant a cad—what a delightful Victorian word that is.

In the *Public School Word Book* the word "Shag" is defined as "a blazer or tailless coat." It still means that, but for some years now it has had another more common and more important meaning. It is the most favoured of the many derogatory terms which those who worship at the shrine of Athleticism use towards those whose religion is different from their own. Nowhere is intolerance stronger than in public schools. But let it not be thought that "the shags," as they are called, are defenceless. Oh no, they have their own weapon and a very effective one it is too. It is the one word "Fiend." "Fiend," like "Oil" is a Jack-of-all-trades. You can talk of a "Corps Fiend," a "P.T. Fiend," a "Football Fiend," and so on. In fact, the word "Fiend" can be applied to an enthusiast in any field. A most useful addition to anyone's vocabulary.

At one time, not so long ago, Grant's possessed a language more or less peculiar to itself. Now, however, only one relic of the Grant's Slang Age remains—the word "Guv'ner" which seems to be perpetually on the lips of all good Grantites. But apart from this rather pathetic, but none the less gallant, survivor all is forgotten. The truth, sad as it is, is that Westminster slang is afflicted with a slow-moving but steadily growing disease, and unless there is an immediate and sharp increase in the birth rate of new words that disease is bound to prove fatal. A Westminster without slang in any form may be difficult to imagine, but then it will not have to be imagined for long for soon it will be a reality.

A WESTMINSTER NOTEBOOK

THE School is now enjoying a state of affairs that may best be described as temporary normality. This indeed is no novelty to many of us. It was experienced after the return to Westminster in 1945 and it has appeared at intervals since that time. It is generally felt that here we stay for at least a while. Not even the constant speculation about which house will be where next, or who will be the next housemaster of this or that house, or perhaps even about a suitable name for another house when and if circumstances and the will of the Governors call it into existence, can completely dispel this temporary normality.

But this term in particular most thought and effort has been about the visit of Their Majesties. The elaborate preparations perhaps do not affect the school as a whole as much as they do College, but there has been right through the first half of the term an impression of activity and excitement that the occasion will well reward.

If all the details are settled and if all the experts consulted can resolve the problems, something new will take place at the end of this term. Unlike many a school in the country, Westminster has never had a dance within its buildings, which, considering the location of the school, is most surprising. But plans are now going ahead for a dance in Ashburnham on one of the Saturdays before the end of term. Architectural considerations will unfortunately restrict numbers but is believed by those organizing it that it will, nevertheless, prove a success.

“Netball, otherwise known as Basketball” . . . A notice something on these lines appeared at the end of last term. It heralded the establishment of Basketball as a full-time station. Nobody at first knew much about it, but under the guidance of Mr. Keeley, it seems to be establishing itself as one of Westminster's summer stations. Similarly, swimming can now be done as a station in the summer. Both these sports are energetic and pleasant in themselves, and will take quite a lot of the strain off the harassed facilities of Cricket and Water.

This term seems to be proving itself no exception to the general rule that our various Friday and Monday societies are put into cold storage during the summer term. So far Essay Soc. has ventured a couple of meetings, but the other principal societies are finding the competition of the other summer activities too much.

Along with a general improvement of facilities Fields has got two sight screens, which are already proving of great benefit. Water, unfortunately,

did not get the new eight that had been promised this term but all the crews are still getting full use out of the other boats.

We welcome to the school this term Mr. H. C. Keeley who has taken Mr. Monk's place as master of the History VII. There have been no other changes in personnel, except that the school numbers have again gone up, with a far bigger intake expected in September which will bring the school up to its pre-war strength.

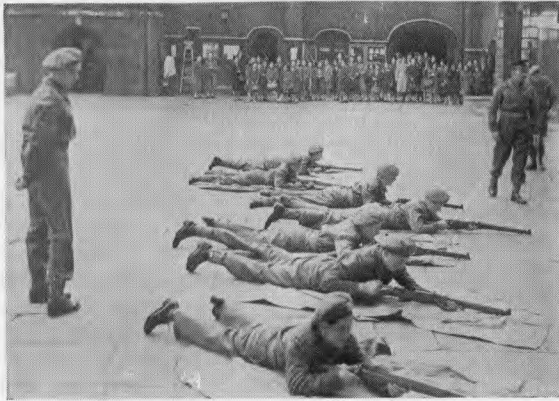
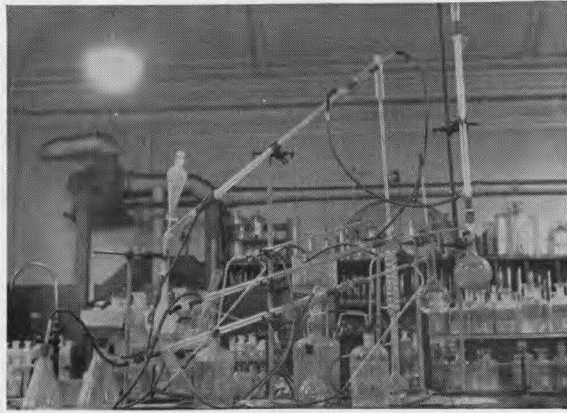
This year for the second time since the war the C.C.F. will be going to camp. This year it will be at Crowborough in Sussex, which should at any rate be different from Pirbright. The Scouts, perennial campers, are going for a longer period to Dartmoor—yes, they know—perhaps in an attempt to complete their survey of the British Isles, for, relying as they do on their own resources, they are not so restricted in the selection of their camping ground as is the C.C.F.

The latter, on the other hand, have boldly decided to indulge in two Field Days and an Inspection Day this term. So greatly have numbers risen lately that a special Recruits Company has had to be formed, instead of the usual half-platoon commanded by the youngest and still-enthusiastic Lance-Sergeant.

A wave of minor improvements has spread through the school to herald the arrival of Their Majesties. Many of the buildings have been given a fresh coat of paint, and though the same could not be done for their inhabitants, an excellent two-day service for pressing and cleaning suits has been arranged. Whether or not because of this unusual treatment the famous Westminster Grey has shown a tendency to go white in its old age.

The interesting report on another page of the reading-matter of the school raises indirectly the old question of whether, in trying to cater for every sort of individual taste and interest, we do not try to do too much at once. In the realm of sport there is much to be said for smaller stations that relieve the pressure on the main ones and do not weaken them, and it may be claimed that the number of societies is not excessive, but there is often a tendency to put too much emphasis on activities such as the producing of plays. Acting, for those who enjoy it, is one of the most absorbing and rewarding of all interests, but it also takes up the most time, and those who are carried by their enthusiasm into wishing to produce a play every term risk losing the enjoyment of many other things they have no time left to do.

THE ATOMIC AGE



VENUS OBSERVING

THE JOLLY SAILORS



Photos : A. J. Levi

WHAT DO WE READ?

YOUR reporter was somewhat dismayed at the thought of trying to discover what sort of books are being read in the school, for not only was the task immense but the solution was bound to be inconclusive. The very fact that the chief method of inquiry had to be gallop-poll with questions that could not, therefore, be too detailed made an accurate result impossible. But the survey as a whole was most interesting and does perhaps throw some light on what the present generation is reading.

Of the 350 boys in the school, about one in every four answered a series of questions, and on these the following conclusions are based. About 65 per cent read some English Literature, excluding magazines, for pleasure out of school hours. Those who did not had for the most part too much school work to do in their spare time to allow for reading. This was especially the case with the Classical and History sides. Others had interests which left no time for reading, and others—only a very few—did not enjoy reading at all. Nearly everyone had read far more before he came to Westminster, but whereas most people had read a good deal during their first two years here, few in their last year had read much that was not connected with school work.

A higher percentage (about 72 per cent) read books in the holidays; and the day-boys particularly appeared to read more than the boarders simply because they could do so at home. Moreover, the day-boys differed in that they had read more since they had been at Westminster: yet, they too, if they read little, blamed it on too much home-work.

In a more detailed inquiry, the question on what type of book people most enjoyed reading revealed the following figures:—

Detective Stories			
(Doyle, Christie, Sayers, etc.)	19	per cent	
True Adventure			
(<i>Kon-Tiki Expedition</i> , <i>Wooden Horse</i> , etc.)	16	„	
Strong Character Novels			
(Hardy, Brontë, etc.)	15	„	
Historical Novels			
(Conan Doyle, Dumas, etc.)	15	„	
Fiction—Adventure			
(Buchan, Wallace, etc.)	12	„	
Quiet Character Novels			
(Austen, Trollope, etc.)	8	„	
Humorous Sketches			
(P. G. Wodehouse, etc.)	2	„	
Ghost Stories	1	„	
Philosophy	1	„	
School Stories	1	„	

Satire	1	per cent
Modern Novels (couldn't classify)	1	„
No preference	7	„

It was interesting that while Sherlock Holmes and Hercule Poirot are still the staple diet of boys of 14 and 15 years, Jane Austen and Hardy seem to be coming more and more popular among the older people. Generally, however, Conan Doyle was the favourite author, then Jane Austen and Dumas; Buchan and P. G. Wodehouse followed and after them Hardy and Dickens. Agatha Christie, Fleming, Forster, Stevenson, Sayers, Trollope, Waugh, Kipling, Yates and Helen Waddell all had a lesser following.

The library register, for what it is worth, confirmed this order of preferences. There was Austen and Doyle on almost every page, and, apart from the Certificate Set Books, novels by Haggard, Buchan and Wells were most frequent. The plays of Gilbert, the poems of T. S. Eliot and novels of Virginia Woolf were also being read. But hardly anyone had taken out books by Scott or Marryat, George Eliot or Meredith, Hugh Walpole or Galsworthy.

Favourite authors led to favourite books and again it is difficult to draw definite conclusions. But the *Kon-Tiki Expedition* (admittedly a new publication and therefore fresh in people's minds) has made a deep impression. Similarly the *Wooden Horse*, *Eastern Approaches*, and Churchill's *War Memoirs* were claimed as exceptionally good. It is impossible to give a complete list but *David Copperfield*, *Oliver Twist*, and *The Tale of Two Cities* all had more than 5 per cent support. *Prester John*, *Rupert of Hentzau* and *Monte Cristo* had 3 per cent each; while *Wuthering Heights*, *The Nine Tailors*, *War and Peace* and *The Wind in the Willows* had 1 per cent. Many others like Cheyney's and Wallace's thrillers had their individual supporters.

On the subject of reading poems and plays for pleasure, few people showed any interest. Of course, House Play-Reading Societies fill part of the gap, but only 43 per cent had ever read plays for pleasure and only 39 per cent read poetry. Shakespeare was loyally held the best dramatist and, indeed, in his sonnets, the most popular poet. His plays were generally the favourites, though perhaps from lack of comparison, or even as a result of the school play last term: for *Hamlet* was easily the favourite play. Many liked Shaw; and Wilde, Priestley and Rattigan were all fairly popular. Christopher Fry and T. S. Eliot had their admirers.

In poetry, apart from the Shakespeare sonnets, a number of people liked browsing in the Oxford

Book of English Verse, but not many had a preference for a particular poet. Milton, Keats and Flecker seemed favourites, and Donne, Macaulay, Housman and Belloc were also enjoyed. But Wordsworth, some of whose poems were appreciated, was generally disliked; there was no mention of Pope or Dryden, little of Shelley or Coleridge and less of Brooke or Bridges.

Finally, your reporter tried to discover how people set about choosing a book to read. 31 per cent went by the author, and read again because they had enjoyed before; 27 per cent read a book because a review or more often a friend had said it was good; 18 per cent opened a book, dabbled in it and then began; 12 per cent aimed at the classics on the grounds that what had survived every generation so far must be good; 6 per cent went entirely by the title; 4 per cent did not know why they read, and 2 per cent deliberately avoided the kind of book they read last time.

The impression given as a whole was that few people read, and very few read the classics. It

was something that everyone read a little connected with his hobby or interests; but while the younger people did not care for the classics, the older who might now appreciate them did not get time. The school buildings were not entirely to blame: over-crowding in Grant's and Busby's was compensated for by their reading rooms and Ashburnham Library, and College has no longer any excuse. But there is something about Westminster that does not induce reading. So many people seem to take part in so many activities: the oarsman is also in Deb. Soc. and Dram. Soc.; the cricketer is in Essay Soc. and Orchestra; and if they have to catch up on school work, too, there simply is no time for reading for pleasure. However, this is not so true in the lower half of the school and in both halves the individual is often to blame. For the person who really enjoys reading makes time for it; and there are in the library, as a contrast to the number who just dabble in the *Picture Post* and flip through *What's On*, some who read for the sake of reading.

REVIEW

ASKING THEM QUESTIONS

(Third Series.) Edited by RONALD SELBY WRIGHT.
Geoffrey Cumberlege, 7s. 6d.

THIS is a thoroughly successful book. Its object is to suggest answers to those questions that act as stumbling-blocks to young people who want to be good Christians. The editor, himself a mine of quotations, has gathered together twenty-nine short, clear and most helpful articles by twenty-eight eminent writers on some of the most vital questions of theology. The Archbishop of Canterbury provides three illuminating pages on why he believes in God and three more on why he believes in the Church; the Headmaster of Harrow a masterly though rather baffling summary of the orthodox theory of good and evil; Monsignor Ronald Knox a piercing analysis of a similar question. But the Westminster reader will be most interested in the six pages contributed by Mr. J. T. Christie.

Mr. Christie is assigned the question "How can we be the men God wants us to be?", and those who remember his sermons in Abbey, while they will easily recognize the character of his answer, will find it as startlingly penetrating as anything in this volume. The ordinary, decent-living Christian, like all the great non-Christian ethical

teachers, is shown to be really a prig in his moral ideas, and Mr. Christie, like the true family man that he is, stresses that the only way to attain real goodness of character is to be a full child of God. In these days of Freudian psychology it might be added that the ideal approximates more to the father-daughter than to the father-son relationship.

The consistency of doctrine throughout this book is remarkable. An essentially Christian body of belief is shown to exist, differing fundamentally from every other philosophy and faith. But in achieving this unity the editor has sacrificed an opportunity to show the real divergence of intelligent opinion on the fundamental issues raised in this book. The impression it gives is not that the questions are easy to answer, but rather that they are so difficult that there is only one possible answer to each—the answer that is given. If those who are helped by this book are later disillusioned on this point, the shock may well cost them their whole faith. If they are never disillusioned, the object of this book will have been achieved by shielding an essential part of the truth from the public. It would be wiser and more honest to introduce boys and girls to a fair cross-section of contemporary thought on these vital philosophic issues.

THE ST. MATTHEW PASSION

THE School may be proud to have taken a worthy part on the celebration of the bicentenary of the death of J. S. Bach by the performance of parts of the St. Matthew Passion on March 31st. It was, indeed, a fitting work to choose since it was written when Bach was a master, directing the music, at the Thomasschule in Leipzig and was given its first performance at the Church of St. Thomas by the boys of the school, who provided the music for the Leipzig churches.

For those who know and love this work the evening was a moving experience and it will surely be most memorable to those (including the performers) who were meeting it for the first time.

It must always be most difficult with music of this kind to decide what to sing and what to leave out, and one cannot omit anything from the St. Matthew Passion without some regret. However, this performance kept the sequence of the story, building up the tension to the terrifying yells of the mob for Barabbas and the dramatic rending of the veil of the temple, and then the lovely final chords.

The curtains and the proscenium (with the lights in the roof shaded from the audience) gave a very pleasing setting to the performance, but whether this aesthetic advantage was off-set by the reduction in resonance is a matter for consideration. It is probable that it accounted for the fact that now and then the orchestra seemed rather too strong for the singers. However, their playing, if at times a little too exuberant, was extremely pleasing; the attention of both choir and orchestra to the conductor, which is seldom a marked feature of amateur playing, contributed to the unanimity of the performance, which was further enhanced by the beautiful playing of the continuo.

The soloists necessarily take up a considerable part of the time in their rôles of narrator and characters in the story, but lovely as was their singing, one could not help but wishing that more could have been heard of the choir. They sang with such real feeling and sailed with apparent ease through difficult music—a testimony to the hard work they had done in rehearsals. There was a freshness about their attack which was most satisfying. One did miss though the sinister majesty of Bach's original opening, but the reasons for leaving this movement out were obvious. The Choral Prelude "Dearest Jesus we are here," beautifully played, set an atmosphere of fitting solemnity, though it lacked the tragic quality of the overture.

THE DEBATING SOCIETY

A VARIETY of causes made the Old Westminster's debate at the end of last term, which had promised to be such a success, one of the least fortunate meetings of the Debating Society. Apart from the two principal speakers, only one Old Westminster appeared, and the disappearance of half the society before the end to hear the St. Matthew Passion in the Abbey did not help matters. Most of the speeches from the floor were well below our usual standard. And yet the general atmosphere was both intimate and lively, and there were not many who did not enjoy their evening.

The motion was "that Communist Russia is a constant threat to Western civilization," and O. Kerensky (O.W.), who proposed it, remarked that he had for long tried to get a similar motion debated by the Oxford Union. It was Soviet-Kremlinism that we had to deal with, and even a Communist might be liquidated in a Europe that had been overrun by Stalin. A mass of very relevant and authoritative quotations strengthened Mr. Kerensky's case, and rounded off a vehement yet always reasonable speech.

The opposer was W. H. Allchin (O.W.), and his argument was supported by quotations not from Stalin and Marx but from Nicholas Berdyaeff and Reinhold Niebuhr. We were using the land behind the Iron Curtain as a dumping ground for our guilty consciences, instead of taking the responsibility for the original sin of the world upon our own shoulders. There was, indeed, an international problem, but we could not solve it without the creative self-confidence that only a recognition of the threat from within could bring. Our civilization was sickly and corrupt.

During the evening no other speaker approached the intellectual level and fervent eloquence of the first two. S. J. Barrett thought that guilty consciences would lead to indecision rather than self-confidence, and D. J. Candlin (O.W.) protested against his view. The Secretary was an optimist, and R. P. Harben was an eloquent pessimist. But we had to wait until the closing speeches for the fire that the occasion really deserved. The motion was carried but not decisively.

This was Mr. Monk's last debate as President. The spoken tributes at the end, and the presentation of a gift of recognition from the society that evening, could not adequately express the gratitude of those who know anything of his service to the society since the war. His guidance could not have been more helpful or less obtrusive.

THE WATER

THE Tideway Head of the River Race, rowed this year on the afternoon of the day of the Boat Race, sees the culmination of the winter's training in preparation for the summer racing season. It is the coach's job during the black winter months to experiment with the material at hand and, by means of long hard outings, both to toughen his crew and get its members used to one another. The four and a half mile course rowed on April 1st is a suitable finish to this long slow work.

This year the weather on the Saturday was typical of that which had endured throughout the winter. The sky was cloudy, with a S.S.W. wind blowing. The First VIII, without the two Pinks who had not rowed that term through illness, put their boat on the water at Putney soon after the flood tide had turned. There was plenty of time to paddle up to their position, just past Kew Railway Bridge. An outing of five miles against the tide immediately before a race may seem dangerous ; but it does succeed, when taken very

easily, in both loosening the crew and in eliminating the nervous expectancy of the last hour.

At a few minutes to five, with the water quite smooth, the starter, still faced with another 170 crews, sent off No. 43. The VIII went off well, soon catching the crew ahead of them. Once through Barnes Bridge they made good use of the following wind blowing down Corney Reach to overhaul Chelsea Polytechnic. However, when Harrod's was reached the wind was directly ahead. Having rowed three miles the crew, which has always found difficulty with a head wind because of their weak finishes, was unable to deal with it effectively. In spite of this Westminster finished 39—in 20 min. 14 secs., continuing the steady improvement of the last few years. The satisfactory performance of the VIII over the first part of the course, due largely to a good beginning taken together, had shown what advances could be made by four successive outings before a race on good water.

CRICKET

THE 1st XI's opening match with the staff was disappointing though it produced a fine finish in which the staff beat the school in the last over. The staff declared at 152 for 8 (F. R. Rawes 39). R. L. Lowcock and Covill took early wickets and only D. G. Higgins and K. J. M. Kemp made many runs for the school who were all out for 86.

The match with the Eton Ramblers was played up Fields on May 20th. After being put in to bat on a well-soaked wicket the first few batsmen were unable to force the pace. A. P. M. Woodward and R. K. Pitamber had a bright partnership, each scoring 19, before they were both out at about 50. It looked as if C. C. P. Williams and D. G. Higgins were set for a big stand when Higgins was brilliantly run out from cover. From then on Williams dominated the play and had scored 66* when the innings was closed at 144 for 5.

It was a spinners' wicket and Kemp's absence was not felt as much as it would have been on a hard one. Higgins and S. L. C. Tester opened our bowling very steadily and this spell virtually killed the chance of their making the runs. With wickets falling steadily to the opening bowlers, and later to Williams and J. H. Kendall, it looked at one point as if it might be possible to force a win. A. J. S. Cassavetti scored 37 including a six on to

the pavilion roof before being caught in front of the sight screen, off William's bowling, trying to repeat the shot. J. A. S. Russell's 27* enabled the Eton Ramblers to draw the match, the final score being 109 for 8.

The 2nd XI has beaten Rochester Row by 25 runs and lost to Mercers by 23 runs. The Colts lost to Highgate by 64 runs. The Under 15 XI beat Forest by 66 runs but lost by 5 wickets to Mercers, and the Under 14 XI beat the Under School by 7 wickets.

ATHLETICS

THE Long Distance Races and the Bringsty Relay were run at the end of the Lent Term. The winner of the Senior Long Distance Race was F. D. Hornsby of Grant's in 19 min. 36 secs. The Junior was won by C. R. Hayes of Grant's with a time of 18 min. 16 secs. The Bringsty Relay was won by Grant's with a total time of 29 min. 27 secs., which lowered the record by 17 seconds.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS' CHAMPIONSHIP

THE 1950 Public Schools Fencing Championships were fought at St. Paul's School in the middle of April. The Graham-Bartlett cup was won, for the second year in succession, by St. Paul's with 28 points; Westminster came second with 16.

St. Paul's are able to produce a number of specialists in one or two weapons whereas Westminster's policy has been directed towards making a few boys tolerably good at all three weapons. The former method is effective in a prolonged contest such as the Championships, for it is only by exceptional skill and stamina that a fencer, fighting all three weapons, can defeat the specialist.

In a normal inter-school match a fencer does not expect to have more than nine fights in an afternoon. Compare this with the Public Schools Championships—by the end of the three days some of our fencers had fought eighty fights. To be effective a fencer requires more mental concentration over the relatively short period in which a fight lasts than in almost any other sport. The slightest lapse in this concentration at any period of the three days will put him out of the competition.

In the Senior Foil, P. C. Petrie reached the final pool of six, whilst most of the other Westminster entrants were knocked out in the third round. After the completion of the final pool it was found that Gentili of St. Paul's and Petrie both had 4 wins and 1 defeat. In the ensuing barrage Petrie won 4—3 and so retained the Senior Foil Cup which he had won in 1949.

In the Junior Foil, J. L. Lee and M. J. Green

both reached the final. Lee, who came second, has shown himself to be a steady and competent fighter. Green came fifth, largely as a result of his aggressive attack; with greater accuracy he will make a good fencer.

In the Epee the School showed a high standard. Unfortunately, Petrie and E. A. Bower were knocked out in the quarter-finals, but Lee, T. G. Phemister, N. Lawson and M. Miller got into the semi-finals. Of these only Miller got through to the final pool, and he did extremely well to come third.

In the Sabre, A. Plummer, Bower and Lawson fought well but did not get beyond the third pool. Lee was knocked out in the quarter-finals, and Miller in the semi-finals. In the final pool Petrie and three others tied for first place. Thus, there was a barrage and in this Petrie and two others again tied for first place, Courtenay-Thompson of Cheltenham coming fourth. Another barrage ensued and Rosenburg of St. Paul's came third. The last fight, for first place, was between Smith of Pangbourne and Petrie. At one stage Smith was leading 3—0, but Petrie managed to turn the scales to win by 4—3.

At the end of his second season as Captain of Fencing it is well to recognize the debt that Westminster fencing owes to Petrie. He and the late Philip Webb may be rated as the two best fencers that the School has had for many years. His departure at the end of this term will be a great loss; in spite of this the Championships have shown that the prospects for Westminster fencing are bright.

FIVES

THE Fives team finished their season with matches against the Old Etonians, the Old Carthusians, and Aldenham School. The Aldenham team came with a frightening reputation but appeared to find our courts hard to play on, and although their second pair beat Cumming and Kendall 3—0, Robinson and Williams, our first pair, played well to beat the Aldenham first pair 3—1. The match now depended on the third pair, Kay-Mouat and Lowe, who finally brought victory to the school by two matches to one. The Colts were less successful and lost 0—3. In the Old Etonians match we lost to two good pairs by two matches to one, and the Old Carthusians in a one pair match beat Robinson and Williams by three games to two. It was an encouraging end to the season, and these were three good matches, stubbornly contested by both sides.

SHOOTING

THE school entered two VIII's for the Country Life Competition. The First VIII came 23rd, improving last year's position by 23 places, and the Second VIII came 87th, with a score of 635. The First VIII's scores for group, rapid and snap were:—

J. W. B. Coates	83
P. C. Petrie	72
P. Makower	79
T. P. Owen	80
S. P. O. Jassinger	77
J. F. G. Pigott	75
R. D. E. Pope	82
E. D. Ruppel	72

Landscape Total : 167

Total Score : 787

GOLF

THE school beat the O.W.W. by $6\frac{1}{2}$ — $5\frac{1}{2}$ on Monday, May 1st, in a most enjoyable match held at Royal Mid-Surrey. The School's victory was creditable as C. J. H. Davies, one of its best golfers, was unable to play. As many of the team are leaving at the end of this term it is hoped that some more golfers will come forward to play in the autumn.

The results were :—

MORNING			
R. K. Pitamber (3)		A. C. Grover (2)	
and	$\frac{1}{2}$ v.	and	$\frac{1}{2}$
R. T. Robinson (7)		H. W. E. Lindo (8)	
T. J. Davies (12)		F. N. Hornsby (13)	
and (4/3)	1 v.	and	0
A. C. Hornsby (12)		L. R. Walton (7)	
F. D. Hornsby (12)		J. M. Hornsby (10)	
and (6/4)	1 v.	and	0
S. L. Henry (18)		J. W. Jacomb-Hood (12)	
G. N. P. Lee (18)	0 v.	R. S. Barnes (18)	
		and (4/2)	1
		D. B. I. Hallett (18)	
	—		—
	$2\frac{1}{2}$		$1\frac{1}{2}$
	—		—
AFTERNOON			
R. K. Pitamber	0 v.	A. C. Grover (5/4)	1
R. T. Robinson (2/1)	1 v.	L. R. Walton	0
T. J. Davies	0 v.	H. W. E. Lindo	
		(1 hole)	1
A. C. Hornsby (7/5)	1 v.	J. M. Hornsby	0
A. C. Hornsby	$\frac{1}{2}$ v.	J. W. Jacomb-Hood	$\frac{1}{2}$
F. D. Hornsby (4/3)	1 v.	F. N. Hornsby	0
S. L. Henry	$\frac{1}{2}$ v.	R. S. Barnes	$\frac{1}{2}$
G. N. P. Lee	0 v.	D. B. I. Hallett	
		(1 hole)	1
	—		—
	4		4
	—		—
Total	$6\frac{1}{2}$	Total	$5\frac{1}{2}$
	—		—

TENNIS

TWO matches have been played so far this term on the new courts up Fields. The first, on Saturday, May 13th, was lost against the O.W.W. by two matches to seven. The third pair had not settled down together, and the other pairs tended to let up at the wrong moment and thus give away important matches. Westminster won the other, on Saturday, May 20th, against Queenswood Girls' School by nine matches to love. Each pair was playing well up to form and hitting hard, but really the games were very much more even than the score suggests. The team for these matches was : G. R. Smith, P. Makower ; A. J. Levi, N. B. R. Peroni ; J. Kay-Mouat, B. R. Green.

CORRESPONDENCE

SIRS,
May I, through the hospitality of your columns, tell those who subscribed so generously to my "leaving present" how I have spent some part of the money that remained over after I had been presented with the *New Oxford English Dictionary*. I have bought for myself a set of the *Dictionary of National Biography*, a work which I have long coveted, and have never had the courage or the cash to buy. In our Long Vacation I shall prove for myself the truth of what I have often heard, that in the original edition of this "National Valhalla" (up to 1900), there are more Old Westminsters recorded than those who were educated at any other single Public School.

With true and lasting gratitude to my benefactors,

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

J. T. CHRISTIE.

Jesus College, Oxford, May 17th

SIRS,
May I congratulate *The Elizabethan* on its last leading article? The question of the school portraits is one on which many Westminsters have, and should have, definite feelings. The pictures visible—or half-visible—round the school at the present are only in a few isolated cases conspicuous for any artistic merit, and they occupy wall-space that might well be better used. The purchase of suitable modern works would not be a poor investment for an establishment where the aesthetic taste, or lack of aesthetic taste, of the next generation is being in large measure determined.

It is true, of course, that there is a kind of sombre majesty in the impersonal masks that smile or frown down at us through the grime of ages, and that an impression of an institution with long and immovable traditions is thereby conveyed. But how much more appropriate it would be to have just a few good portraits of men intimately connected with the school's history, and so to represent the Westminster tradition for what it is—the product of lively and individual minds.

Yours, etc.,

"DISGUSTED."

CONTEMPORARIES

We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following and apologize for any omissions :—

Alleynian, Arrow, Bradfield College Chronicle, Bryanston Saga, Boys Magazine, City of London, Christ College Register, City of London School Magazine, Grimson Comet, Deerfield Scroll, El Nopal, English Public Schools Association Journal, Eton College Chronicle, Felstedian, Fettesian, Fish and Pumpkin, Glensalmond Chronicle, Latymerian, Marlburian, Mill Hill Magazine, Panorama, Saint Edward's School Chronicle, Shirburnian, Sotoniensis, Stonyhurst Magazine, Tabor Log.



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OLD WESTMINSTERS

Lord Greene has resigned the office of Lord of Appeal in Ordinary owing to ill-health.

Mr. C. M. Dahn is among the recent appointments as Assistant Judge Advocates General.

Mr. J. S. E. Duke and Mr. P. M. Sprott have passed the Final Examination of the Law Society.

Mr. F. W. D. Deakin has been appointed the first Warden of St. Anthony's College at Oxford.

Professor D. S. Robertson is receiving the honorary degree of LL.D. at Glasgow University.

Sir Maurice Gwyer has resigned from the Vice-Chancellorship of Delhi University after twelve years. During his term of office the University has been completely rehabilitated and an extensive building programme is well under way.

Mr. E. F. R. Whitehead has been elected to a Holker Senior Exhibition at Gray's Inn.

Major-General J. M. Kirkman, Chief of Staff, Far East Land Forces, has been appointed Chief of the Intelligence Division, Control Commission for Germany.

Mr. Frank Byers has been elected Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Liberal Party.

The Right Reverend F. M. E. Jackson has been appointed Rector of Batcombe with Upton Noble, Somerset.

Mr. R. N. R. Blaker has been elected president of the Kent County Cricket Club.

Portraits recently acquired by the National Portrait Gallery include van Mireveldt's portrait of Dudley Carleton, and one of Matthew Prior attributed to Jonathan Richardson.

Mr. R. F. H. A. Duncan has been called to the bar at Lincoln's Inn.

Colonel A. B. Johnson, J.P., has been appointed Honorary Colonel of the 4th Battalion, The Border Regiment.

The Reverend Michael V. Harrison, late of St. Mary's Church, Woodstock, Cape Town, has been appointed Rector of St. John's Church, Clanwilliam, Cape Province.

BIRTHS

BOGGIS-ROLFE—On April 5th 1950 at Bury St. Edmunds, to Verena, wife of Paul Boggis-Rolfe, a son.

BURY—On April 29th 1950 in London, to Anne, wife of J. B. Bury, a son.

CLOUT—On May 1st 1950 in Shanghai, to Freda, wife of C. H. Clout, a daughter.

CROOK—On May 8th at Calcutta, to Joan, wife of T. R. Crook, a daughter.

DUVAL—On April 26th 1950 in London, to Joan, wife of the Reverend P. E. Duval, a daughter.

HACKFORTH—On April 7th 1950 at Runcorn, to Edith, wife of R. E. Hackforth, a son.

HAVERS—On April 30th 1950 at Kingston, to Barbara, wife of Antony Havers, a son.

KEMP KING—On April 19th 1950 in London, to Stella, wife of P. R. Kemp King, a son.

LEES-SMITH—On May 5th 1950 at Whittington, to Elizabeth, wife of Patrick Lees-Smith, a son.

MORTIMORE—On April 12th 1950, to Katharine, wife of R. A. Mortimore, a son.

PATTERSON—On May 1st 1950 at Birmingham, to Ila, wife of M. L. Patterson, a daughter.

PATISSON—On April 9th 1950, to Alison, wife of A. T. Patisson, a son and a daughter.

PHILLIPS—On March 23rd 1950 in London, to Deryn, wife of Dr. E. H. D. Phillips, a daughter.

RENDLE—On March 9th 1950 at Reading, to Angela, wife of E. J. Rendle, a son.

REYNOLDS—On March 28th 1950 at Ugley, to Joan, wife of Dr. S. R. Reynolds, a daughter.

SPILLER—On April 3rd 1950 at Limpsfield, to Margaret, wife of R. H. Spiller, twin sons.

STEPHENSON—On April 22nd 1950 in London, to Moira, wife of A. F. Stephenson, a son.

TABOR—On April 16th 1950 at Braintree, to Marjorie, wife of John Tabor, a son.

WINCKWORTH—On March 14th 1950 at King William's Town, to Frances, wife of S. D. Winckworth, a son.

MARRIAGES

ALMOND : PRIOR—On April 12th 1950 at Bridstow, B. G. Almond to Anne Delicia, only child of the late Mr. C. E. Prior and Mrs. Prior of Ross-on-Wye.

BARKER : STILLING—On April 29th 1950 in Westminster Abbey, C. A. H. Barker to Pamela Joan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. G. G. Stilling of Bromley, Kent.

FURSDON : WORSSAM—On March 25th 1950 at Seal Chart, Capt. F. W. E. Fursdon, R.E., younger son of the late Mr. G. E. S. Fursdon (O.W.), to Joan Rosemary, younger daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Worssam of Bircher Green, nr. Sevenoaks.

HARVEY : CURTOPASSI—On April 25th 1950 in Rome, J. W. Harvey to Elena, daughter of the late Marchese Giovanni Curtopassi and the Marchesa Maria Curtopassi of Rome.

LAZARUS : ATWELL—On April 26th 1950 at the Liberal Jewish Synagogue in London, P. E. Lazarus to Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Atwell of 86, Northgate, N.W.8.

MARKS : JAMES—On April 29th 1950 at Cranleigh, J. D. J. Marks to Susan, only daughter of Mrs. C. A. James of Meonstoke, Hants, and of Mr. H. P. James of Nassau.

OATES : DEVERILL—On April 4th 1950 at the King's Chapel of the Savoy, W. G. R. Oates to Mary Josephine Deverill.

WILLIAMSON : PAYNE—On April 29th 1950 at Holy Trinity, Roehampton, P. B. Williamson, only son of Mr. P. Williamson (O.W.), and Mrs. Williamson to Diana, third daughter of Vice-Admiral C. R. Payne, C.B.E., and Mrs. Payne of Roehampton, S.W.15.

OBITUARY

GEOFFREY FAWSETT MARTIN, who died on March 20th at the age of 73, was admitted to the School as a Queen's Scholar in 1890. He married in 1905 Helen, daughter of Mr. J. F. Haworth of Hale.

ARTHUR LOUIS VANNECK was born in 1900 and was at Westminster from 1913 to the summer of 1918 when he joined the R.A.F. as an Air-Mechanic. He afterwards became an engineer and was on the staff of the General Electric Company. He was mainly engaged on telephones and went out to Australia to install automatic exchanges there. He returned to Coventry in 1930, but during the last war he was in London, and was quite recently put in charge of the Company's telephone works. He married Nancy Helen, daughter of Mr. W. Ross-Reynolds of Hobart.

HARTLEY WITHERS will be remembered in the financial world as the author of *The Meaning of Money*, a book

which marked an epoch in the study of financial organization. Not only had he the literary skill to reduce to readable form what might have been thought unpromising material, but his unrivalled knowledge and wide research enabled him to analyse the trends of finance and to trace their causes and connexions to an extent not previously realized or even attempted. He was born in 1867, and entered College in 1881 and was Captain of the School in 1885. It is perhaps surprising that a man of his penetrating intellect and financial interests should have followed up a first-class in Classical Moderations with a third in "Greats." After a short time as a master at Clifton he went on the Stock Exchange, and later became City Editor of *The Times* and of the *Morning Post*. He was also for five years Editor of *The Economist*. He married in 1896 Letitia Tennent, widow of Henry Harrison and mother of one of his contemporaries in College.

THE ELIZABETHAN CLUB

THE GAMES COMMITTEE

CRICKET

THE first match at Oatlands Park on Sunday, May 7th, was played in weather more suited to football. The O.W.W. were all out for 138, Oatlands Park scoring 139 for 6.

The "Fortnight" will take place at Vincent Square in August, and the season's fixtures are:—

Sun., June 4th	Northwood C.C.	Northwood
Sun., June 11th	Henley C.C.	Henley
Sun., June 25th	St. George's Hospital	Wimbledon
Sun., July 2nd	Esher C.C.	Esher
Sat., July 15th	1st and 2nd XI's Westminster School	Vincent Square
Sun., July 23rd	Wimbledon	Wimbledon
Sat., Aug. 5th	Lancing Rovers	Vincent Square
Mon., Aug. 7th	Old Cholmeleians	Vincent Square
Tues., Aug. 8th	Eton Ramblers	Vincent Square
Wed., Aug. 9th	Adastrians C.C.	Vincent Square
Thur., Aug. 10th	Dragon Flies	Vincent Square
Fri., Aug. 11th	Refreshers C.C.	Vincent Square
Sun., Sept. 17th	Beckenham Wizards	Beckenham

GOLF

The Society entered a team for the Halford-Hewitt Cup Competition at Royal Cinque Ports G.C., Deal, and Royal St. George's G.C., Sandwich, and, after defeating Old Berkhamstedians G.S. 3—2 in the first round and Old Haileyburians G.S. 3—2 in the second, were defeated by Old Marlburians G.S. 5—0.

The following represented the Society:—

Dr. W. Gardiner-Hill, G. P. Pakenham-Walsh, J. A. T. Barley, A. C. Grover, E. D. Strain, I. Petherick, C. Powers, M. de J. Cresswick, Lt.-Col. E. C. B. Shannon, J. H. Page-Wood.

On 2nd May, 1950, the School beat the Society by 6½ matches to 5½ in a match by Singles-Foursomes, under Handicap at Royal Mid-Surrey G.C.

The Society's Spring Meeting was held at Walton Heath G.C. on Saturday, 13th May, 1950, when the results were:—

SILVER BIRCH SCRATCH CHALLENGE TROPHY :
A. C. Grover, 80.

GRAHAM CHALLENGE CUP :

H. C. E. Johnson, 85—13=72 nett.

CIRCUIT MEMORIAL CHALLENGE SALVER :

R. R. Davies, 92—17=75 nett.

BARNES FOURSOMES CHALLENGE GOBLET

(STABLEFORD BOGEY) :

J. A. Cook (12) and P. A. Murray-Hill (12) 34 points.

FOOTBALL

The 1950-51 season will open with a six-week programme of coaching and training on August 22nd. The first practice game will be held on September 23rd. Full details of the arrangements will be sent to members of the Club. All O.W.W. who are interested are invited to get in touch with the Hon. Secretary, W. W. S. BREEM, at 6, Palace Mansions, Palace Road, Kingston-on-Thames.

SQUASH

The results for the Season were:—

Played 16—Won 5—Lost 9—Drawn 2.

This includes the first round match in the Londonderry Cup, in which King's School, Wimbledon, defeated us 5-0.

A full fixture list for next Season is being prepared.

LAWN TENNIS

The match against the School was played on May 13th and resulted in a win for the O.W.W.

The following morning the D'Abernon Cup match was played at Hurlingham Club. The Old Carthusians won easily.

The Secretary (D. R. MULLIS, 59, Braxted Park, S.W.16), would be glad to receive names of those prepared to play in matches.

COMING EVENTS

June 9th-12th	Exeat.
June 13th	1st XI v. Metropolitan Police (Home).
June 14th	Music Competitions; First VIII v. Latymer Upper.
June 17th	1st XI v. Charterhouse (Away); Tennis v. P.S.O.B. L.T.A.
June 20th	1st XI v. Lancing (Away); Tennis v. Salesian College (Home).
June 22nd	C.C.F. Inspection.
June 24th	Marlow Regatta; Tennis v. Aldenham (Away).
June 26th	Higher Certificate begins.
July 1st	1st XI v. Butterflies (Home).
July 4th	1st XI v. Lords and Commons (Home).
July 5th-8th	Henley Royal Regatta.
July 8th	1st XI v. Wimbledon (Home); Fencing: 2nd Team v. Pongbourne (Home).
July 11th	Tennis v. Mill Hill (Home).
July 13th	Field Day; School Certificate.
July 15th	1st XI v. O.W.W. (Home); Tennis v. Stowe (Away); Fencing: 2nd Team v. Dulwich (Home).
July 17th-29th	School Regatta.
July 22nd	School Dance.
July 28th	Concert.
July 31st	Inter-School Regatta.
August 1st	Term ends; C.C.F. Camp begins.

TSATTSARKAR ZUMUNTA

Ba za ka yi sata ba
 Ya Ubangiji, ka yi mana jinkai, ka nufi zukatammu da kiyaye dokan nan.
 Ba za ka yi shaidar zur bisa makusancinka ba
 Ya Ubangiji, ka yi mana jinkai, ka nufi zukatammu da kiyaye dokan nan.
 Ba za ka yi kyashin gidan makusancinka ba, ba za ka yi kyashin matar makusancinka ba, ko bawansa, ko baiwa tasa, ko sansa, ko jakinsa, ko ko wane abin da ke na makusancinka.
 Ya Ubangiji ka yi mana jinkai, ka ru-buta wadannan dokokinka duka a cikin zukatammu, muna rokonka.

Sa'un nan sa a yi daya daga cikin Addu'ain nan biyu domin Sarki Priest yana tsaye hamar da, yana cewa

Mu yi addu'a

Wannan

Ya Allah Mai iko duka, mulkinka madawwami ne, ikonka kuma mara iyaka ne, ka yi wa dukan Ekklisiya jinkai, ka mallaki zuciyar bawanka zaɓaɓɓe George Sarkimmu, mahukuncimmu kuma, domin ya fi bidar girmanka

Ko wannan

Ya Allah Mai iko duka, madawwami, maganarka mai tsarki ta sanasse mu, zukan sarakuna suna cikin hukuncinka da mulkinka, ka kan nufe su, ka kan juya su kuma yadda ka ga ya fi kyau ga hikimarka ta uluhiya Muna ro-

Representation of Page from newly Revised Prayer Book in Hausa language (Northern Nigeria).

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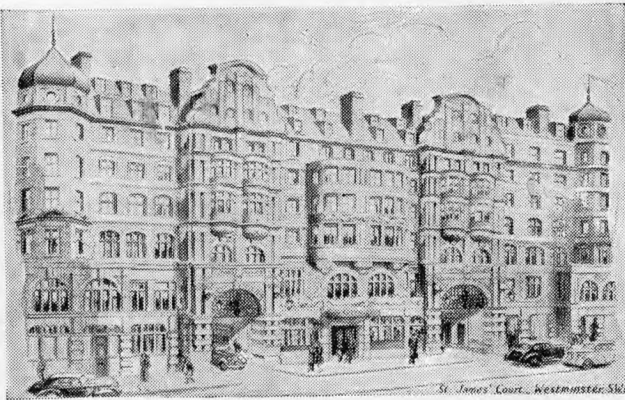
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