

THE ELIZABETHAN

WESTMINSTER · IN · HEREFORDSHIRE

MARCH, 1943

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COMMEMORATION—(17TH NOVEMBER, 1942)—WHITBOURNE.

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"The Times."

THE FUTURE

To some extent the mood of a small community is always a reflection of that of the larger community to which it belongs. Broad ideas of Liberalism, of Public Spirit, of Culture, filter through the Gothic windows of the Public Schools slowly and gradually from the world outside. In war time the filtering, like every other process, becomes more direct, and the life of the School lies nearer to the life of the whole nation. The country has recently begun to hope; and the School has followed her example. For the first time since the war began our thoughts are turned on the future rather than on the present. The holiday football matches in Vincent Square, the performance of "Hamlet" in College Hall, and the institution by the governors of a Planning Committee are all signs of this new confidence in what is to come.

We were reminded once again by the Commemoration Service last term, impressive and dignified, though shorn of splendour, of the peculiarly rich inheritance which it is our privilege to maintain. The pious devotion of her sons over many years has invested Westminster with a wealth that is not purely sentimental; we ourselves are determined that the future shall be no poorer than the past. We know that there are difficulties ahead. We begin to realise how strong an opposition there will be to the existence of the Public Schools at all, and changes more violent than we expected may become inevitable. But we believe that something of the name, and with the spirit, of Westminster will remain; we are certain that it has as great a chance of doing so as any of its fellows. Its position as a mixed school in the middle of London, its liberal tradition, and the experiences of its evacuation, will all help to ensure this; but its own vigour and health are the best augurs of its survival.

Meanwhile the re-establishment of the School in London will be a joyful, but not an easy undertaking. Apart from the immediate problem of return and architectural reconstruction there will be controversial questions of constitution and finance of obvious complexity. Tradition will fight with Reform, and out of the struggle the future shape of the School will emerge. Clearly it can never be quite as it was before. It is unlikely that any of the returning boys, or very few, will ever have known Westminster in London. The nice distinctions of privilege and position cannot remain unaltered; we doubt whether junior King's Scholars will continue to leave the grave of Samuel Flood Jones, Precentor, in peace. Something will be lost, and much will be gained; those who mourn the past will be forced to embrace the cold comfort of the Inevitable; many will welcome the Inevitable as a thing to be desired; but the fundamentals of Westminster life, the tolerance,

the enterprise, and the sense of the past, will not have changed.

THE LENT TERM

To those of us who clambered over snow with heavy suitcases last year, who shivered with the cold of the year before, who were informed by telegram that the Lancing pipes had burst, this term began with an almost disappointing normality. Under the mild influence of the weather the early primroses have dared to anticipate schedule, and influenza has golden opportunities for self-expression. Instead of cold we have had wet; instead of ice we have had floods. The muddy roads make mudguards absolute necessities, and we find a malignant pleasure in rain on the days when it is not our turn to bicycle. At the time of writing illness is still well under control, and activities remain vigorous. College and Rigaud's are rehearsing for "Henry IV, Part 2" at the end of the term. College societies all continue, except that its Literary Society has been dropped to leave time for rehearsals; with the spring its fancy lightly turns to the recurrent digging of the potato patch. Rigaud's Play Reading Society has been renewed, and meets on Saturday evenings in a crowded Housemaster's study; the Sunday Group has also resumed its meetings, and has a large programme in front of it, ranging from an essay on Symbolism to a discussion on Modern Architecture. Grant's Spotters' Club is having an Aircraft Recognition Bee against the Bringsty Searchlight Battery, and their hens are immodestly laying ten eggs a day; they are finding a lot of work on the estate, including a drainage system on the drive. At Buckenhill Homeboarders' and Ashburnham Under hopes to produce "Ten Minute Alibi" at the end of term, and Busby's Under also means to produce Barrie's "Admirable Crichton." The Buckenhill Literary Society continues to read modern plays every Sunday, and First Aid lectures are being given by Dr. Mullins to about nineteen boys, who hope to take the St. John's Ambulance Badge at the end of term. Seventeen home-produced cockerels were killed for the Play Supper; pigs come and go, but bacon goes on for ever.

By now we accept this way of life too naturally for comment; and soon the circumstances of the School, and the varied rhythm of our life in Herefordshire, will seem too normal and conservative to be described. Meanwhile, if there is one pleasure that evacuation has brought to some of us, it is delight in the revolution of the country year. We write during the warm wet of early February, but by the time that this issue of THE ELIZABETHAN appears, the countryside should be responding to the suggestion of Spring. Even THE ELIZABETHAN, which has never been young, will greet its advent with a glow of senile serenity.

SCHOOL NOTES

Members of the School at Buckenhill gave two performances of "Hamlet" in College Hall, Westminster, at the beginning of the holidays; a cheque for thirty pounds was sent to the Westminster Hospital. Accounts of the holiday football matches played at Vincent Square will be found elsewhere in this issue.

We were very sorry to lose Mr. Monk at the end of last term. He left to take up a post under the British Council. Mr. Brunton has taken his place.

A Commemoration Service was held in Whitbourne Parish Church last term. The Dean of Westminster was present, and admitted three elections of King's Scholars into College. On the evening before a short Pageant of Westminster history was presented by the King's Scholars.

The Westminster School and Whitbourne Choral Society and Orchestra are to give another concert in Worcester on March 20th, at which Dvorak's "Stabat Mater" will be performed.

At a meeting of the Games' Committee, F. A. G. Rider was appointed Captain of Cricket; C. A. Barnes Secretary of Cricket; D. A. Trebucq Secretary of Football; H. C. Gayer Captain of Running; P. H. J. Young Captain of Gym.

D. C. Feasey has been appointed an Editor of THE ELIZABETHAN. C. K. Smith has been appointed Head of Music.

The Governors of the School have set up a Planning Committee to consider such questions as the time and the conditions of the School's return to London, and the size and scope of the School after the war.

Members of College and Riquad's are performing Henry IV, Part 2, in Whitbourne Ex-Service Men's Hut at the end of term. It is hoped to produce the play in College Hall on April 8th at 2 and 6 p.m. Applications for tickets should reach C. K. Smith at Whitbourne Court, Worcester, by Monday, April 5th, at the latest.

All contributions for the July issue of *The Elizabethan* should reach the Editors, at Whitbourne Court, Worcester, not later than June 5th.

ELECTION, 1943

ELECTED TO CHRIST CHURCH, OXFORD

TO SCHOLARSHIPS :

R. S. Faber (Classics)
D. C. Feasey (Classics)
M. G. Scott (Modern Languages)
C. R. D. Walter (Hinchliffe Scholarship for History)

TO EXHIBITIONS :

T. O. Cary (Classics)
A. J. Croft (Natural Science)

ELECTED TO TRINITY COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE

C. H. Christie (Mathematics; also awarded an Open Exhibition)
J. C. Pite (Mathematics; also awarded an Open Exhibition)
D. M. Eady (History)

VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL

The following have signed their names in the Visitors' Book in the Bursary at Westminster since last October :

P. H. Johnston, M. L. Patterson, Lieutenant R.N.V.R., M. J. W. Benn, A. N. W. Benn, R. M. O. Havers, Mid. R.N.V.R., T. J. Lee Warner, Sergeant-Pilot, D. E. Samuel, R. E. Cardew, R. F. Walker, Lieutenant R.N.V.R., Clement C. J. Webb, Blanche Cunliffe, A. C. O. Havers, 2nd Lieutenant R.A.S.C., P. Hampton-Smith, H. G. Allen, W. N. Just, H. Boycott, W. Syngé, M. F. Cunningham, N. D. Sandelson, R. W. P. Hare, Captain, Forster J. Norris, Captain, C. J. Lees-Smith, Captain, W. R. F. Browning, The Rev., J. P. P. Cole, B. D. Naylor, J. P. Johnston, Robert Cullingford, C. R. H. Eggar, Phil. Shearman, J. C. Trebucq, G. B. N. Hartog, John Shearman, C. I. A. Beale, J. A. Holloway, A. G. Winchester, R. M. T. Walker-Brash, E. M. H. Wilkinson, G. E. Johnstone, H. R. Munt, Major, 150 S.N.H. Field Regiment, R.A., C. C. M. Buckmaster, A. G. Abrahams, I. J. Abrahams, J. R. Russ, R. R. Campbell, F. W. E. Fursdon, J. H. Page Wood, H. A. Budgett, H. B. Harvey, Richard I. Borradaile, T. Fane Tierney, Cyril Mayne, Dean of Carlisle, W. H. P. Archer, John M. Terry, Lieutenant, R.A.S.C., G. F. L. Circuit, T. H. G. Tasker, Sub-Lieutenant,

THE ENTERTAINMENTS COMMITTEE

There will be a TEA at the Hyde Park Hotel on Saturday, April 10th, for O.W.W. and ladies to meet the Head Master and Mrs. Christie and the House Masters and their wives.

All O.W.W. and ladies and friends interested in the School can attend.

Details from the Hon. Secretary of the Entertainments Committee, 222, Strand, London, W.C.2.

SCOTT'S NOTEBOOKS

Two M.S. notebooks of great interest, compiled by Dr. Scott, Head Master from 1855 to 1881, have recently come into the possession of the Head Master. The first of these, which is the subject of this article, covers the period 1855-69. "Charles Brodrick Scott, M.A.," the initial entry runs, "fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, admitted Head Master of St. Peter's College, Westminster, by the Sub-Dean, Lord John Thynne (acting for the Dean, Dr. Buckland), on the morning of Thursday, September 27th, 1855, having taken the oath prescribed by the Statutes on the evening preceding."

Scott's task, when he entered on his Head Mastership, was not altogether an enviable one. A variety of causes, mainly outside its control, had contributed to the decline of the School during the preceding twenty years, and in 1855 the numbers stood at only 125. School discipline, relaxed under Williamson and Goodenough, had been to some extent restored under Liddell, but much remained to be done. "In November, 1857, cases having occurred of boys having been severely punished with rackets on the hand by VIth Form boys in Mr. Marshall's house, the following order was issued: 'The use of Canes, Rackets or any similar instruments by the VIth Form in punishing junior boys is absolutely forbidden.' Chas. B. Scott." Marshall was House Master of Grant's, but Rigaud's next door presented similar problems to the reformer. "In February, 1858, it was ascertained that several boys in Mr. James' house had been tormented by placing them before the fire until their clothes were hot and then pressing the hot cloth to the skin; this was forbidden for the future." There is a pleasing directness and finality about this entry which is characteristic of much of the note book.

In education, no less than in discipline, reforms were needed. In November, 1855, a meeting of masters was held, at which it was decided to institute a system of trials, or school examinations, to be held at Christmas and Whitsuntide, the marks of which were to be added to the term's totals, and to determine removes in the modern manner.

Two outside examiners were called in, Edward Poste, M.A., fellow of Oriel College, and the Rev. I. Llewelyn Davies, M.G., fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, and in due course they presented their report. It was short and not altogether flattering: "Favourable as regards the VIth and Remove except as regards the Latin, especially Horace Epistles. The composition not satisfactory. Upper Shell very deficient."

It was under Scott that the old oral Challenge gave way to a written examination, and an entry

of February, 1855, records modifications in the practice of "helping," or coaching by senior King's Scholars of candidates for election into College. Previously considerable sums of money had been paid in return for tuition (Scott mentions a figure of £15). It was now laid down that no money should be given, nor anything but a present of books, which should in every case pass through the hands of one of the masters and "should not exceed the sum of about £5 in value." Scott's reasons for abandoning the old oral Challenge are interesting: "I was more and more satisfied every year with the worthlessness of the Challenge as a test for ignorant boys. If both (of two rival candidates) were certain, or almost certain, to make the fatal number of mistakes in a piece it became a mere lottery which should reach this point first; their withdrawal from school work was a serious evil, with no corresponding advantages. Moreover, the waste of my own time, and of the help's time, was a great evil; and the candidates were more and more falling into the hands of two or three helps, who were overworked, while others were idle; and it was difficult to interfere without actually impairing a boy's chance by putting him under an ignorant teacher."

At that date the Minor Candidates, as well as the Major Candidates, took part in the formalities of Election. A memorandum, passed to Scott by his predecessor, set out the details of the ceremony. On Election Sunday the Electors met in the Jerusalem Chamber at 9.45 and went in procession into Abbey. There was a service in Abbey again at 3 p.m., and at 6 p.m. they "dined in Jerusalem Chamber in Robes and adjourned to the Deanery to settle any points for to-morrow." Election Monday: "Electors send to say they are ready at 10. Master meets them at School Door; thence to Museum" (the Busby library) "where candidates are drawn up in order, and present their letters in order. Then to School. Captain makes his oration in Latin; by heart in Williamson's time, but Liddell allowed it to be read." The rest of Monday and Tuesday were spent in examining the candidates, Major and Minor, and at 6 o'clock the company assembled in College Hall for Election Dinner. The Head Master, curiously enough, seems to have been excluded from this festivity, for Scott notes: "Master dines at own house, or with Under Master, at whose house he takes wine, and waits for summons to Epigrams in Hall. After which company retires to Deanery to tea and Master goes home." The Electors themselves might have been glad to retire early, for they met in Jerusalem Chamber next morning to elect the candidates at the uncomfortable hour of eight

o'clock. There was then a further service in Abbey, soon after which the Minor Candidates were admitted by the Dean. The ceremonies ended with "Vales" in School.

In 1866 College Hall was the scene of the first school concert. Scott's description is reminiscent of a more recent occasion recorded on another page of THE ELIZABETHAN: "About 125 tickets were issued, chairs being brought in from the Nave of the Abbey by permission of the Dean. The tables formed a platform at the bottom of the Hall. All went off well. *The Daily News* had a laudatory paragraph." The expenses of the entertainment, including "Flowers for windows—hired—18/-," came to only £2 3s. 6d.

A good many of the entries describe structural alterations and improvements, and although interesting to the student of the history of School buildings have no place in a general article. But those relating to School itself have a topical interest for a generation which must entail a reconstruction on a larger scale than Scott could ever contemplate. The large structural alterations had taken place some forty years before he had become Head Master. "I learnt from the old workmen about the Abbey that the present brick walls of the great schoolroom were built piecemeal from about 1810 to 1815. Cyril Page was entered Lady Day, 1812, and recollects the Autumn holidays being prolonged to eight weeks for the rebuilding in two successive years. The old walls had become unsafe and the windows gave insufficient light. The roof was propped up during the process. From that date until Scott the appearance of the room remained unaltered except for the introduction of the "horseshoes," which replaced the old arrangement of benches. In 1861 "the old door of the Star Chamber was removed from Litlington's Tower in the Cloister passage at the entrance of the new classroom (on the East side of School)—that is, "adds Scott sceptically, "if it be the old door as supposed, but it is of deal." Now that the door has been utterly destroyed we may persuade ourselves with the less difficulty that his doubts were justified. In 1868 the historic "Shell" at the end of School was removed and the Rod Room behind it "which had been fitted up for French in the Summer of 1857," was thrown into the main body of the room. Thus was destroyed a characteristic feature of at least two centuries' antiquity, whose memory is preserved not only at Westminster but in other public schools in the country and in the Dominions. "The masters wrote a letter of thanks to the Dean and Chapter" who had borne the expense of the work.

Scott records an interesting note sent by H. H. Dodgson, who had been at Westminster from 1813 to 1822, and whose eldest brother, Charles Dodgson (who had also been at the School), was

the father of "Lewis Carroll." "Dodgson," wrote Scott, "combats the idea that the tables in Hall were ever ship timbers, from the absence of holes in them, and says the idea of their having come from the vessels of the Armada was unknown in his day. There were, he says, round hollows in the outer benches of School, made by lighting little charcoal fires in the old days when the boys brought in wax tapers for the winter afternoons, when School did not close till 5 p.m. 'A somewhat amusing incident led to the closing of School earlier in the short days. The boys plotted, and one afternoon after dark at a given signal all the tapers at once became extinguished, and there was total darkness and a frightful silence. The first sound that was heard was that of the Master's footsteps as they escaped. This happened when Dr. Smith was Head Master, as I heard that from an uncle who was at the School at that time.' Mr. Dodgson told me this in conversation also, and since that the boys had apprehended some severe punishment, but none followed: School was thenceforth closed when daylight failed."

The romantic will be chagrined at this additional confirmation that the College Hall tables never sailed up the Channel, but the student of Westminster history will willingly surrender a doubtful incident in exchange for the pleasant incident recorded here.

J. D. C.

A LONDON LETTER

One's reflections on the happenings at Westminster in the last few months centre very largely on the School Christmas holidays, and to those of us who have seen little enough of the School's life during the last three years, the interruption to our routine was as welcome as it was bracing. For several days in succession, life revolved itself into a series of enquiries for football substitutes, for referees to referee matches, for men able to lift great weights, and for technicians qualified to do the impossible. But apart from one's personal feeling in the matter, the return of the boys to their own quarters came as a proper reminder to Westminster that the School was still in healthy being, and this reminder was not premature. The School has now been absent for three and a half years that have seemed a great deal longer, and it was the greatest pleasure to observe the very general goodwill evoked by the boys' presence. We know that we can always rely on the Abbey, but without the assistance of our new-found friends in the Precincts—whom the Censor will not allow us to name—the performance of "Hamlet" in College Hall and the series of football matches Up Fields would have been impossible. We hear that College and Rigaud's hope to produce King Henry IV at the end of the present Term. An equally warm welcome awaits them and there will be no lack of ready helpers.

OXFORD LETTER

Sir,

Oxford is just recovering from its invasion exercise, when various O.WW. played their full part in the gallant defence of the city. During the air attack Mr. Ray and Mr. Willsher were hard pressed with their trailer pump, and staggered about under lengths of hose muttering silent curses. Mr. Bridbury, with more than usual energy, was seen running for help, while Mr. Whiskard watched the proceedings with detached interest from the tower of Corpus, until a particularly low-flying bomber threatened to remove the tower and he retreated to lower regions.

Mr. Ellis in his tank with artillery support from Mr. Honour did their best to keep the enemy from the gates, but being more at home on the floor of the Union they were finally overwhelmed. At the Radcliffe Mr. Brown was kept busy with casualties, and thought of calling in the help of Mr. de Mowbray, known to be a hard working medical man.

Mr. Sleightholm is also numbered among the world's workers, and rarely ventures out further than the labs., while Mr. Johnston diverts part of

his time to running a post-war reconstruction society known as Cosmos.

Mr. Cary finds one outlet for his boundless energy by doing gymnastics in the early hours of the morning, and thus is not very popular with those on his staircase.

Another fresher this term is Mr. Shenton, who joins Mr. Turnbull at Magdalen. The Westminster tradition is well upheld at New College by Lord Monk-Bretton, Mr. MacMahon, and the Hon. A. N. Wedgwood Benn, and also at Oxford are Mr. Leslie and Mr. Cotter, though they are not seen so much as some of the O.WW.

Mr. Hurdis - Jones frequents a peculiar "Bohemia" in Ship Street and is said to be much at home there. Mr. Whitelegge of the Naval Division was much surprised by the sight of a real sailor, Mr. Borrodaile, who spent a few extremely hectic days in Oxford, revisiting old friends. Two other visitors were Mr. Kinchin-Smith and Mr. Wollheim, both of the Guards, and both as pleased to see another O.W. at Oxford as was your

OXFORD CORRESPONDENT.

CAMBRIDGE LETTER

Sir,

Cambridge is surprisingly carefree. In spite of the war and the lack of drink we strive to maintain a high level of futile conversation and, after long training, some fortunate members have reached the stage where their wit has become independent of the introduction of alcohol into the stomach. They are the high priests of the community.

Mr. Adams is still up Trinity, and his fatherly activities noted by the Cambridge Correspondent in the July number of THE ELIZABETHAN still continue. He is assisted by Mr. Lever, who is greatly troubled by the fact that many O.WW. have given up sport and are thus neglecting what he considers to be an essential side of their education. Mr. Lever is one of the few men who work hard and also row hard, and lack of time has forced him to refuse a part in the Mummers' production of "Hay Fever." Mr. Cooper is another enthusiastic sportsman. Soccer players in both Trinity and Corpus Christi are seized when they least expect it and forced to play in some fierce match. Nothing but an engagement impossible to postpone is accepted as an excuse; any suggestion that other occupations are more enjoyable than Soccer is rejected with scorn.

Mr. Woodwark claims to have perfected a

system whereby an essay can be written in ten minutes, and the only portion of the text book used is the index at the back. He further claims that this mysterious system works equally well during the early hours of the morning. Mr. Sandelson is an ardent member of the Union and has recently spoken in a debate against Mr. Harold Nicholson. There is no indication that his self-confidence has been shattered and he continues to expound his political views during meals. Mr. Erde walks about Cambridge in a quiet, dignified manner and occasionally favours other O.WW. with a slight bow. His dignity, however, is nothing compared to that of Mr. McNamara, whose military bearing, besides requiring considerable mental concentration, is such that a short walk must be an exhausting expedition. Mr. Macmillan only leaves his hermit's cave to attend concerts at the Music Club or to play gramophone records with Mr. Eady, who manages to enjoy himself during the lulls in the battle with his landlady.

The virtuosity required of the last paragraph and the lateness of the hour have finally persuaded me that it is a misfortune to be

YOUR CAMBRIDGE CORRESPONDENT.

MUSIC AT WESTMINSTER

There are no records of any teaching of music at the School until comparatively recent times.

At first sight, perhaps, this seems strange, as the Foundress herself took an interest in music, and it was during her reign that the art flourished in England as it had never before and has never since. One must remember, however, that until well into the nineteenth century, music was certainly not considered a gentlemanly profession, though an accomplished man might dabble in it provided he took care not to show any enthusiasm. We are told that Dr. Busby kept an organ in his house in defiance of the Puritans, and that he left Purcell, who was organist of the Abbey from 1678 to 1695, a legacy of £1, so he evidently must have taken some personal interest in music.

The first music master at the School was James Turtle (Abbey organist from 1831 to 1882), who held the post from 1865 to 1871; he was succeeded by Charles Jekyll, who remained until 1876. In 1877 Joseph Ranalow was appointed. He was the father of Sir Frederick Ranalow (O.W.), who became famous for his MacHeath in the 1913 production of "The Beggar's Opera." Ranalow was Director of Music for forty-two years, until 1919. During his time at the School the Glee Society was founded; A. A. Milne mentions the Society in his autobiography, describing Ranalow's valiant efforts to make him sing in tune. The Society was founded in 1884, and had a very varied career until 1916, when it appears to have been re-established on a firmer basis. Ranalow was succeeded by Leslie Heward, who has become well known recently as conductor of the Hallé Orchestra. He was Director of Music only for a year and was followed by Mr. Arnold Goldsborough. In 1924 Dr. Lofthouse was appointed. During his term of office he raised the School Music to a very high standard; it is due to his vigorous enterprise, and to the encouragement that he received from Dr. Costley White, that Westminster has achieved the musical reputation that it still holds. Dr. Lofthouse believed in encouraging the individual performer, and to this end he conceived the idea of holding informal concerts at intervals, to supplement the formal School Concert at the end of the year. The present writer remembers in particular one of these informal concerts, of which it was said in the June, 1939 number of THE ELIZABETHAN "There could hardly have been a more fitting climax to Dr. Lofthouse's Directorship of School Music than the concert held up School on Monday afternoon, March 27th. Assembled on the platform was the School Orchestra . . . which played under the leadership of four members of the School.

This is an accomplishment of which any Musical Director may well be proud. And it must have given Dr. Lofthouse very great satisfaction and pleasure to listen to the orchestra which he had created, conducted by boys whom he had inspired." It is also due to Dr. Lofthouse that the music competitions have become a regular annual feature, conducted with almost as much rivalry as house athletics.

In Election Term, 1939, Dr. Lofthouse was succeeded by Mr. Arnold Foster, who till recently was Director of Music at Morley College. Like everything else music was faced with considerable problems on evacuation, though these were eventually surmounted. The section of the School at Lancing co-operated with their hosts in a performance of Bach's B Minor Mass, while music lessons were separately arranged; at Hurstpierpoint, Mr. Foster started a flourishing orchestra from both schools with the help of local musicians. The period spent at Exeter was a delightful interlude without any musical importance. The vigour of music during our third evacuation was helped by the preparation of a Music School at Whitbourne Court, which was due to the energy and foresight of the Master of the King's Scholars and Mr. Barber. In the Lent Term the Orchestra was started, and music lessons for the different instruments were arranged. But the most fruitful and admirable of Mr. Foster's many efforts for the School music was the resuscitation of "Mad. Soc." as the Westminster School and Whitbourne Choral Society; with the help of sopranos and altos from the country round, this has met regularly every Sunday, and has given an extremely successful series of concerts of works of a very high standard. The work for this term, Dvorak's "Stabat Mater," has not been performed in its entirety for several years.

If there is one criticism to make at the moment, it is that there is not enough interest shown in the activities of the individual musician, either by himself or by other people. If the individual musician is going to take a really effective part in the communal activities he must be encouraged to improve his own technique and general musicianship. There is a good deal of talent in the School, but it needs developing. That is where the informal concerts and recitals in London did an enormous amount of good.

If this talent receives the necessary encouragement there will be no danger of the present flourishing growth dying out, and when the School goes back to London, Music will continue with even more success at Westminster than before.

D. A. H. J.

THE WORCESTER CONCERT

At the Christopher Whitehead School, Sunday, December 6th, 1942.

The residents of the parish of St. John-in-Bedwardine in the County of the City of Worcester were much interested to see groups of musicians making their way toward the Christopher Whitehead School on a Sunday morning early in December.

The citizens, whose ancestors had been proud to welcome Queen Elizabeth, were witnessing the arrival of members of Westminster School Musical Society and their friends who were coming in for a strenuous morning of rehearsal in readiness for the concert which was to be given that afternoon.

Much anxious thought had been given to the planning of this concert, for there were many difficulties in the way—transport, food, local help, professional assistance—all had to be provided for. No easy matter for a director situated out in the country. At half-past two all was ready. Singers were keen (some of the mhad weekly rehearsals in Worcester), and the orchestra, led by Mr. Paul Vogler and augmented for the occasion, was in good form. Members who had been helping in the kitchens now sat trim and tidy on the platform and it seemed that the labour was worth while after all.

A large audience had gathered in the pleasant room. On the programmes, generously provided, it was stated that the concert was being given with the assistance of C.E.M.A., and that the forces under the control of Mr. Arnold Foster included members of the Westminster School and Whitbourne Choral Society and Orchestra with a contingent of Worcester singers and players. They made an imposing array.

The orchestra began with Elgar's brilliant arrangement of an Overture in D Minor, by Handel. There was some point in doing this, for not only was Elgar a citizen of Worcester, but his daughter, Mrs. Elgar Blake, had come over to hand a portrait of her father to the Head Master. She explained that the real donor was Miss Lilian Troyte Griffiths, a sister of "Troyte," one of the figures delineated in the Enigma Variations, and she also gave expression to the great pleasure Worcestershire people feel in having the School in their midst. Rising to thank Mrs. Elgar Blake, Mr. Christie gave some account of the School's Odyssey

and expressed his delight in the gift on behalf of the School and Old Westminsters.

But to return to the programme. Bach's seemingly inexhaustible mine of choral music was drawn upon for the next item. Cantata No. 63, "Christians, Grave ye this glad day," was given with flexibility and confidence in attack that showed to advantage a chorus of real workers welded into a responsive body of singers; the tenors and basses gave us a taste of their quality in a recitative which was sung by all the male voices. The soloist, Miss Kathleen Coxon, must be mentioned for the impression she created and so must two trumpeters, members of the R.A.F., who, when asked to stand, were deservedly and generously applauded.

In the concert hall a contrast between two successive works is often desirable and effective. It was so on this occasion; Bach was followed by Beethoven, who was represented by the first movement of the Eighth Symphony, and then—by way of change again and a rest for the orchestra—the choir sang motets by Sweelinck, Byrd and Weelkes. The singers were quite equal to the demands of such splendid unaccompanied music and the performance of Sweelinck's "Born To-day" for five voices was particularly happy. A little later in the programme the Christmas atmosphere was carried on by Miss Coxon, who, accompanied by Mr. Michael Mullinar, contributed a group of Christmas songs including Stanford's pathetic setting of "The Monkey's Carol." She added to her reputation again at the end of the concert when she sang the solo part in Peter Warlock's delightful "Balulalow" most charmingly. It will easily be recognised by those who were unable to attend that the programme was both varied and interesting. Besides the music already mentioned it included a set of Russian folk tunes orchestrated with originality and ingenuity by Liadov; which, with the Handel-Beecham suite "The Faithful Shepherd" brings the tale of good things in this Christmas Feast of Music to an end. It was a most enjoyable afternoon; the audience dispersed with murmurs of satisfaction and pleasure at the good work for music being done by Westminster School.

A. T. SHAW.

HAMLET

A Performance at Bromyard by "Westminster-at-Buckenhill" on December 11th and 12th. Afterwards presented in College Hall, Westminster, on December 18th and 19th.

THE CAST

Claudius	P. L. Bunting	A Priest	P. H. Simmons
Hamlet	L. G. Hunt	Marcellus	J. A. Walker
Polonius	M. B. Geidt	Bernardo	D. A. Trebuq
Horatio	C. A. Barnes	Osric	D. R. Morris
Laertes	B. D. Naylor	A Gentleman	E. P. Skone-James
Rosencrantz	W. W. S. Bream	Francisco	E. P. Skone-James
Guildenstern	B. D. Naylor	First Player	P. R. Thomas

Player King	H. K. Morris	Second Gave Digger	H. K. Morris
Player Queen	S. J. Steele	A Sailor	D. A. Trebucq
Lucianus	E. P. Skone-James	Gertrude	C. R. D. Walter
Prologue	S. M. F. Plummer	Ophelia	B. E. J. Garmeson
First Grave Digger	M. B. Geidt	Ghost	H. J. Myhill

Hamlet, the greatest of Shakespeare's plays, is by no means the most perfect. Towards the end of the play its construction loses in coherence, and it may very easily lose in interest, without able and vigorous acting. It is the character of Hamlet, above all, that knits the play together, and for that reason it is clearly of great importance that Hamlet should be well acted. It is a subtle part to act.

The performance of the play by "Westminster-at-Buckenhill" first at Bromyard, and later in College Hall, was very successful. The production by Mr. Fisher was excellent; the enterprising idea of giving two performances at Westminster was particularly happy, and very well worth all the time and trouble that must have been spent on it. The technical devices worked smoothly, there were no gaps, hitches, or awkward promptings. The business side was most efficiently arranged. The audiences were highly appreciative, except possibly on Friday night in College Hall, when the cast was not at entirely at home on its new stage.

The character of the performance was straightforward and competent, which is what a performance should be. Competence sometimes implies lack of feeling, but here that was far from the case. There was sincerity and vigour all through, and to that the play owed its success; it was only on the Friday night in London that the play lost its effectiveness, and did not sustain complete interest throughout the complicated scenes towards the end of the play. The one general criticism that should be made is that the actors did not sufficiently bring out the beauty of their lines; this is far preferable to the other extreme of bombast, but Hamlet contains some of Shakespeare's finest poetry, and perhaps it could have been given more attention.

The performance by L. G. Hunt was admirable, and a definite improvement on his acting of Macbeth. He had,

especially, gained greater control over his movements, over the gestures of his hands, and the carriage of his head. This is largely a matter of practice, and with a little more he should have no difficulty. His interpretation of the part perhaps had too much passion, and not enough austerity and sensibility, but he gave us much of the subtle variety of Hamlet's character, and his performance had the conviction and the constant sense of enthusiasm that are the qualities that finally matter. P. L. Bunting also carried conviction as the King; he put much force and vigour into a part that is difficult to grasp, and that needs vigour to be successful. He and M. B. Geidt, as Polonius, both of them with fine and powerful voices, were rather stiff and clumsy in their movements. Had it not been for this, Geidt's playing of Polonius could not have been much better; he was even more at home as the first Grave Digger, where his voice enjoyed full advantage. C. R. D. Walter played the queen well, and produced a peculiar effect by few, deliberate, movements, which was rather impressive, although there was, perhaps, not enough of the grace and attractiveness which obviously belong to the part. B. E. J. Garmeson made a very fine attempt at Ophelia, a part which calls for the most delicate feminine acting. He achieved real pathos in the scenes after she turns mad, but acted with a little too much precision to be entirely satisfying. C. A. Barnes was restrained and kind and loyal as Horatio; B. D. Naylor as Laertes and Guildenstern moved better than almost any other actor in the cast; H. J. Myhill presented the supernatural with awesome dignity. D. R. M. Morris made an exquisite Osric, P. R. Thomas ranted well as the first player, and E. P. Skone-Jones, in his various appearances, showed ease and promise.

The whole company, before and behind scenes, deserves to be warmly congratulated, and the decision to produce the play at Westminster was a noble one.

WESTMINSTER SCHOOL MISSION

The arrangements with the Shaftesbury Society have been brought to a satisfactory conclusion; the Old Boys' Club is now very comfortably established with considerably more room than before in their Hall at Regency Street, and meets twice a week. The two billiard tables, which disappeared for a time when Napier Hall was abandoned, have now been recovered in a double sense and installed. New indoor games have been provided and the remnant of the Library has been retrieved and supplemented by new books.

R. C. T. James has left the Mission after rendering yeoman service; however R. E. Plummer (Busby's, 1938-41), who has had a very wide experience of

club work with the Oxford and Bermondsey Clubs, has generously stepped into the breach and gives the benefit of his expert supervision. Mr. Jenkins, recently appointed by the Shaftesbury Society to manage their work, is taking a great and very practical interest in the Club.

In short we feel that we are on much firmer ground than at any time during the last three years and can now look forward with some confidence to expansion under the able guidance of Sir Arthur Knapp.

S. P. L. KENNEDY,
School Secretary.

HOME GUARD

BUCKENHILL DETACHMENT. Having at last received our long awaited reinforcements from Bromyard, we have been reorganised into six sections (or three when the Cadets are not on parade) to form the Bromyard Mobile Reserve. There are now fifteen Bromyard men in the platoon and we hope to have some more in the near future.

As most of our training last term was on Battle Drill and its application in the field, we are now spending more of our time practising co-ordination of sections in action. Our training also includes a lot of night-work, bayonet-practice, and shooting in the field with .22 rifles.

For the training parades at Buckenhill, on Fridays, we are split up into two groups. One consisting of those who have taken the Proficiency Test, the other of the non-proficient cadets. As there was another Proficiency Test last term (in which only two men failed) the first group is by far the larger.

Our new toys, the three short-wave wireless sets, have now become a regular feature of all our large scale exercises and were used with a variety of success in night operations last term. Their six operators have mastered their little ways and can make them work under all conditions.

This term the platoon has lost the School Sergeant, who has taken up the post of Battalion Security Officer with the rank of a full Lieutenant. We congratulate him on his promotion and wish him the best of success in his new duties.

Fixtures for this term include an attack on the North Bromyard Company at Upper Sapey on February 14th, and a manning of the Bromyard defences on March 28th.

J. C. P.

FERNIE AND WHITBOURNE DETACHMENT. As last term we have had Battle Drill meted out to us with all the latest modifications, and the Sector Adjutant has asked us to give a demonstration of Squad Battle Drill to various audiences in the sector. Rehearsals have already taken place near Fernie.

The evening midweek parades have been indoors so far, gas lectures have been to forefront, and the magic formula COECDO has been explained.

Various little courses have been arranged in order to toughen us up, and one of these consisted in storming a position at the top of a very steep hill. Unfortunately, on the day when we were to have made use of an assault course leading up to the range, it poured with rain, but there will be time for that later on in the term.

Now that night patrols are no longer carried out, we have at last been issued with greatcoats, but

they are none the less welcome. The Whitbourne Women's Institute has presented us with various knitted comforts for which we are extremely grateful.

In the near future there will be a large scale exercise involving the whole of the company when it is attacked in its defended locality by part of the Bromyard company including the other Westminster at Buckenhill. We can look forward to a strenuous day.

A. H. W.

JUNIOR TRAINING CORPS

TRAINING. A new training programme was necessary this term due to the introduction of Physical Efficiency Standards into the War Certificate A syllabus. Each platoon now has a P.T. period on alternate parades. It has also been possible to make Platoon N.C.O.'s more responsible for the training of their platoons by an increase in the number of instructors' classes.

CERTIFICATE A. Results of the two examinations held in November were most encouraging, all candidates being successful and the majority reaching a high standard of efficiency. A part I examination will be held in March, when the Physical Efficiency Standards already referred to will be included for the first time.

POST CERTIFICATE. Signal training continued for junior N.C.O.'s and post-certificate cadets throughout the term. Unfortunately the instructor from Worcester was not always able to attend, but the help given in this direction is much appreciated. At the moment the prospects of the continuation of this assistance are not very bright, chiefly owing to the transport question. In the classification test held at the end of the term two out of the nine candidates were unsuccessful by a very narrow margin while one gained 100 per cent in all parts of the test.

INSPECTION. We are again to receive a visit from the Inspector of Training Corps, Colonel S. J. Worsley, D.S.O., M.C. The date for this is May 11th.

M. F. Y.

SCOUTS

The usual badge programme is being continued this term and several scouts will soon be qualified to take the King's Scout Badge. C. H. Christie and T. O. Cary left at the end of the play term and are greatly missed; the two new Patrol Leaders are A. T. S. Sampson and M. B. Geidt.

Later in the year some Scouts may camp out for a week-end, a practice which was very successful at Westminster.

D. M. P.

A.T.C.

Owing to changes in the School time table the parades had to be altered. Now that the whole School does P.T. the parade on Wednesdays has been cancelled and the drill parade is held on Tuesday morning.

On Tuesday afternoon, which is devoted to lectures, the Flight has been divided into three groups. The top group who are going to take Proficiency Part II have been studying Theory of Flight, Meteorology, the stars and Astro navigation. The second group are due to be taking the Navigation and Calculations paper of Proficiency Part I, having all passed their Morse tests successfully. The third group, which mainly consists of recruits, are given instruction in Aircraft Recognition and Morse.

At the end of last term the Flight paid a visit to an R.A.F. aerodrome near Worcester. Here we were first given some elementary training in Aerial Gunnery and then taken to see some Canadian Air Gunners firing from their four-gun turrets on a range. We had lunch in the Airmens' Mess and in the afternoon we had a lecture on the Wellington.

It is hoped that another visit will be paid to an R.A.F. aerodrome towards the end of this term.
J. R. B. H.

PHYSICAL TRAINING

The demands of the J.T.C. and the A.T.C. authorities have once again brought P.T. into the School programme. The training is run on "purposeful" lines and in addition to the more usual arm, leg, and trunk exercises includes activities such as climbing, medicine ball and horizontal bar exercises, lifting and carrying, running, jumping and balancing, planned to develop endurance, strength, speed and agility.

Classes are divided into age groups and at present the training takes place once a week. As all the work is done out of doors, the success of the scheme is rather dependent on the weather. This has been uncertain but a start has been possible, and the programme should soon be working smoothly.

M. F. Y.

ATHLETICS

As last year the main part of our athletic programme this year will be in the Election term. However, the nine mile cross-country relay and

both open and under 16 long distance races will take place this term.

The under 16 long distance race is a new event, introduced to encourage long distance running in the junior part of the School.

The work on the reconstruction of the jumping pit is now under way. Many improvements are being made, including a cinder track run up for the long jump in place of the uneven grass one that had to be put up with last year.

As yet a suitable running ground has not been found. But there is hope of one before the summer.
H. C. G.

FOOTBALL RESULTS, 1942-3

FIRST ELEVEN

Westminster v. Lancing	Lost	13-0
" v. "S" Coy. I.T.C.		
	Worcester	Lost 6-3
" v. Worcester Rovers	Lost	12-0
" v. O.WW.	Won	2-1
" v. Charterhouse	Lost	7-1
" v. Chigwell	Lost	4-1
" v. Highgate	Drawn	1-1

COLTS

Westminster v. Lancing	Lost	5-1
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WESTMINSTER v. LANCING

At Ludlow, Lost 13-0

Lancing attacked strongly from the start, but our defence played confidently and it was not till nearly fifteen minutes from the start that they scored. The Lancing forwards were very forceful, especially in the centre, and took full advantage of any weakness in the defence. The Lancing centre forward and the two insides were particularly dangerous in front of goal, all of them putting in a lot of good accurate shots. At half-time the score was 5-0 against us.

After half-time our forwards nearly scored on several occasions when Bream got past the Lancing defence. Their defence was not nearly so strong as their forward line but our forwards did not take full advantage of their chances. Until ten minutes before the end the score was 7-0, but our team was beginning to tire. The Lancing forwards, especially in the centre, overcame our defence and before the end scored six more goals.

Team: B. D. Naylor, A. N. Hodges, J. R. B. Hodges, E. de T. W. Longford, G. A. Cannon, D. A. Trebuq, W. W. Bream, S. P. L. Kennedy, C. A. Barnes, B. R. Corcos, D. C. Feasey.

WESTMINSTER v. CHARTERHOUSE**At Vincent Square, Lost 7-1**

This was the first time since 1938 that the two schools had met on the football field and many old familiar faces appeared in Vincent Square. When the game started off Charterhouse's play was very fast, the ball was very soon near our goalmouth, and a good shot was pushed over the crossbar by Naylor. A few minutes later, however, Dalgety scored from the left wing. Soon after this H. C. Gayer broke away and equalised. The Charterhouse forwards then attacked vigorously, and though our defence cleared frequently, they scored again from a scrummage in front of goal, and by half time they had scored again twice.

After half time our defence beat off many Charterhouse attacks, B. D. Naylor making a brilliant save, and both D. A. Trebucq and A. N. Hodges playing very well. Our forwards, W. W. Bream in particular, gave the Charterhouse defence several anxious moments, but they failed to shoot and were unable to make concerted attacks as the opposing forwards did. Charterhouse scored three times in the second half, but towards the end they met with much tougher opposition and our forwards played a very much better game.

Team: B. D. Naylor, A. N. Hodges, J. R. B. Hodges, R. J. Cremer, E. de T. W. Longford, D. A. Trebucq, W. W. Bream, S. P. L. Kennedy, C. A. Barnes, B. R. Corcos, H. C. Gayer.

WESTMINSTER v. HIGHGATE**At Highgate, Drawn 1-1**

Ball control was made very difficult as the ground was frozen hard, nevertheless the team played better during this match than on any previous occasion, even though we were without Longford and Cremer.

Within the first ten minutes both sides had a chance of scoring in a game which started off surprisingly fast. However, Highgate soon scored, mainly due to a muddle in the Westminster defence. Highgate had most of the game in the first half but their forwards lacked the punch to break through and score. Our forwards also were not able to keep the ball long and missed a very easy chance of scoring from a free kick; at half time the score was 1—0 against us.

In the second half we had the slope of the ground with us. Our forwards played much more confidently and our defence was very firm. To begin with most of the play was in mid-field but several times Kennedy and Bream on the right got through the defence and put in some good shots. The Highgate goalkeeper and their captain, Sykes, at right half, played very well, but eventually Bream scored after Barnes also had given their defence some difficulty.

Both sides fought hard for a winning goal, Highgate pressing particularly hard, but neither side scored. Our forwards played a really good game and in defence Trebucq, Furber and Naylor were conspicuous. This match showed with a good ground and plenty of practice, after three years of evacuation, we could still turn out a team capable of competing with other schools.

Team: B. D. Naylor, A. N. Hodges, J. R. B. Hodges, J. C. O. Furber, D. A. Trebucq, J. D. E. Shaw, W. W. Bream, S. P. L. Kennedy, C. A. Barnes, B. R. Corcos, H. C. Gayer.

WESTMINSTER v. O.WW.**At Vincent Square, Won 2-1**

This was the first School match since the war to be played at Vincent Square. It was a very keenly contested game with good football at times, but in general both sides lacked practice.

For the first twenty minutes the O.WW. defence was severely tested, but W. A. Cooper, at centre half, T. G. Hardy, at back, and G. M. Woodwark, in goal, gave our forwards little chance of scoring. Most of the play was in mid-field but the elder Trebucq nearly scored for the O.WW. on several occasions.

A few minutes after half time we scored in a scrummage in front of goal. The O.WW. then pressed hard and Trebucq equalised. The play improved towards the end, both sides trying to get a winning goal, and just before the end Bream scored.

Teams: O.WW., G. M. Woodwark, T. G. Hardy, J. D. Lever, J. C. O. Furber, W. A. Cooper, R. E. Plummer, J. P. Crisp, J. Trebucq, M. Trebucq, L. O'B. Featherstone.

The School: B. D. Naylor, A. N. Hodges, J. R. B. Hodges, P. S. Wilkinson, D. A. Trebucq, D. J. E. Shaw, W. W. Bream, S. P. L. Kennedy, C. A. Barnes, B. R. Corcos, H. C. Gayer.

J. R. B. H.

ESSAY SOCIETY

The Society has continued to meet regularly at Whitbourne once a fortnight during the last two terms, and the following essays have been read:

On November 1st, "Gandhi and India," by D. C. Feasey. The essayist dealt with the plight of the Indian peasantry, the rise of Congress as a representative body in India, and Gandhi's relations with the Congress, his ideals, and his claims upon the masses. Time was unfortunately too short for the reading to be completed, and the expected discussion was prevented.

On November 15th, R. J. Godson read an essay on "Abailard." The essay traced Abailard's career as the founder of scholastic theology combined with rationalism, and dealt fully and clearly with his essays in dialectics, his varied career as a teacher, and his contacts with Heloise; this essay again had to be abbreviated owing to time-shortage. An appeal was afterwards made for shorter essays in the future.

On November 29th, D. A. Hewitt Jones read an essay on "Purcell," illustrated on one gramophone record and the piano. He dealt comprehensively with Purcell's short life, and gave an all too brief account of his musical style, succeeding the Elizabethan School and influencing in turn the music of Bach and Handel. The meeting broke up in confusion as the Society's Purcell repertoire was displayed on the piano, horn and trumpet.

For the Lent term, on January the 17th, P. H. J. Young read an essay on "Ants." This essay, though admittedly lacking in literary finish, gave a most lucid and interesting account of the stages of civilisation amongst ant-species, described the morphological varieties of ant and the formation of the nest, and concluded rather abruptly after a discussion of the community-instinct in the ant-hill. Questions were confined to points of a technical nature.

On January 31st, the Society was subjected to some withering paragraphs by J. A. Robinson on "Sir Max Beerbohm," consisting of some able criticism of Sir Max Beerbohm's great talents as a writer and cartoonist, and liberally illustrated with extracts from his drawings and essays. Perhaps, in the words of the President, it was more an "essay by Sir Max Beerbohm on J. A. Robinson," but it was sufficiently well written to give an adequate, not to say clear, appreciation of both personalities.

DESIGN SOCIETY

The Society continues to plan its town regularly once a week, and is now considering interior decoration and the equipment of the modern house; it is hoped that an exhibition will be held at the end of the term of this work and other photographs and material on design, collected by the Society. On February 4th D. C. Feasey showed some slides of an exhibition by the Design and Industries Association, entitled "Design round the Clock" to an audience from College and Rigaud's.

The Editors would be very grateful for any unwanted copies of THE ELIZABETHAN of between January, 1930, and December, 1939, which might otherwise be sacrificed for salvage.

POEM

Where a waving line of corn seems, to shimmer in
the breeze,
And far off beyond the twilight there's a rustle in
the trees,
And calm across the water comes the smell of
sleeping flowers,
Drooping down their wrinkled heads, and forming
little bowers
For the glistening drops of dew slowly settling
with the night;
Where the startled bands of ducks swiftly take the
air in fright,
There I live and I breathe and I laze the long
days by;
Lying down on grassy banks and wandering 'long
the dusty tracks,
Watching cherries redden slowly and the green
dragon fly,
Which flits above the stagnant marsh, and settles
greenly on the backs
Of the long, dry, rushes, blinking slyly at the sheen
On the pond—I thought I caught a glimpse of
something strange and new.
A horse was passing by, and his legs were long and
lean,
His hair was long and shaggy, and his coat was
touched with dew.
He was tired, but still happy, and his eyes were
glowing warm;
He had risen with the dawn, and ceased working
with the night,
And now he came back slowly to his stall within
the farm,
And looking down he loved, and to me that love
was light.

J. N. M.

CORRESPONDENCE

LISTS OF SERVING O.W.W.

To the Editors of THE ELIZABETHAN.

Sir,

I do not seem to have made myself clear. At the risk of becoming tedious I would ask your leave to do so.

The suggestion I made was that one or other of the two lists should continue to be published, but not both. In these days of paper shortage it seems ridiculous that two lists should be published, when one would be perfectly adequate. Of the two Mr. Graham's list seems the most suitable because of its avowedly transient nature. Dr. Radcliffe's list, because of its permanent value as a record, is less suitable for periodic publication.

Dr. Radcliffe assures us that there are reciprocal arrangements existing between himself and the Enter-

tainments Committee; but is it not a fact that the Entertainments Committee were not informed of the publication of the latest official list until too late to prevent their list being published at much the same time?

My object in raising this question has been to draw attention to what seems to be a ridiculous situation and I am indeed sorry if deeper issues have been disturbed. It should surely not be impossible to bring about more effective co-operation and prevent the present redundancies.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

R. G. WHISKARD.

Home Forces.

OBITUARY NOTICES

To the Editor of THE ELIZABETHAN.

Dear Sir,

On the general question raised by Mr. Graham's letter I cannot but think that the author of your Obituary Notices was right in giving what space he could spare to a personal tribute from a friend to a young airman who had sacrificed a life of great distinction and still greater promise, rather than the details, which have already been recorded once in THE ELIZABETHAN, of the athletic prowess at school of two Victorian O.W.W. Nor is there any need to suggest that notes from friends should be invited. Your columns show ample evidence that they are always welcome, and often published, and it is a little hard on your contributor that he should be thus blamed for not asking for them, and criticised for publishing one.

But I can at any rate clear him of any fault in the matter of the two errors which Mr. Graham thinks he has discovered in the Notices for 1942. As to the first, the omission of Cecil Kent, the blame, if blame there is, is purely mine, for your contributor relies upon my list of deaths, and does not undertake to duplicate the work on which it rests. The facts in this case were that *The Times* of April 17th, 1942, had a notice of the death of a Major Cecil Kent, but it contained no particulars of age, parentage, or career, and not even an address for a letter to the executor. As the O.W. of that name ended the last war as a Lieutenant-Commander, R.N., and not a Major, I decided, rightly or wrongly, that the identification was unsafe, and held my hand, hoping that an O.W. who could confirm it would probably send you a line calling attention to the omission before the next number of THE ELIZABETHAN went to press. As to the second alleged error it is not your contributor, but Mr. Graham, who is at fault. It was not F. C. Ryde, but his brother, who left his residue to the School.

Yours faithfully,

G. R. Y. RADCLIFFE.

Glebe House,
Knebworth,
Herts.

HOLIDAY MATCHES

To the Editor of THE ELIZABETHAN.

Dear Sir,

The return of Westminster football to Vincent Square and other London grounds has been the subject of much favourable comment amongst those interested in the games of the School.

The Charterhouse match—a gallant adventure in view of our limited facilities for practice—brought back memories of happier days in the sports columns of the daily Press, and was rewarded by a full report in the *Times*.

The signatories of this letter would like to pay tribute to all those at Westminster who conceived and organised Westminster holiday football in London, and to express the hope that this link will be maintained until the day of the great return.

W. E. GERRISH,

Hon. Sec., Elizabethan Club Games Committee.

T. G. HARDY,

Hon. Sec., Old Westminster Football Club.

FIVES AT WESTMINSTER

To the Editors of THE ELIZABETHAN.

Sir,

I should like to suggest through your columns that at least one of the four Eton Fives courts at Westminster be kept in playing order, so that Old Westminsters—or present-day members of the School for that matter—might have the opportunity for an occasional game when in London.

Of course the greater part of the School to-day will have had no opportunity since the exodus from Lancing of playing Fives, so there is little point in suggesting any sort of unofficial Old Westminsters' match; but it has struck me that several of the present masters might perhaps be glad of a game during the Easter holidays, if an Old Westminster team could be raised to oppose them.

If any Old Westminsters resident in or near London feel that something might be made of this proposal (assuming that the courts can be made playable), they can get in touch with me at the address below.

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

M. W. O'BRIEN, F/O., R.A.F.

c/o Westminster Bank,

Tothill Street,

Westminster, S.W.1.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

To the Editor of THE ELIZABETHAN.

Sir,

I ask no forgiveness for writing a letter on the question, now grown almost time-honoured, of the Public Schools, for I feel no penitence.

You have lately published two articles on this question, the latter of which seemed to me to justify the past, when the future is the problem demanding attention. The Public Schools have always been as they are now able to justify their existence, without prolix argument. But this nation, in war fighting for the right to live in peace, in peace strives after the ideal of democracy. It is not enough that we prove the state to be more efficiently organised as it is; that the dustman will not be nearly such a good dustman once he has learned to seek knowledge for its own sake. In a democracy the system which gives most to the largest number of individuals must prevail. A true system of national and universal education must prevail. This will mean that Public Schools will cease to exist in any recognisable form. It will mean that the standard of education of the fortunate few will be lowered. But then, democracy is bitter for the few. Let us be thankful that in England it is usual for a system to be introduced in practice first, and then in theory.

Yours, etc.,

J. A. ROBINSON.

Whitbourne Court,

Worcester.

THE ENTERTAINMENTS COMMITTEE

THE WESTMINSTER TEA

Once more it falls to my lot to chronicle the success of yet another Party organised by Mr. E. R. B. Graham and the Entertainments Committee. On this occasion, encouraged by the attendance of young Old Westminsters and by ladies at a previous gathering, it was decided to foregather for tea on a Saturday afternoon before the School Term called the Headmaster and others away from London. Some 170 Old Westminsters and their friends assembled on the 9th January at the Hyde Park Hotel, and the gathering included, in addition to the Head Master and Mrs. Christie and some of the Masters and their wives, Dr. Webb, the President of the Elizabethan Club, Colonel Davson, the Chairman of the Entertainments Committee, Sir Hugh Hallett, Canon Don and Canon Adam Fox, and the Archdeacons of London and Westminster, all of whom everyone was delighted to see, though regret was universally expressed at the fact that the Dean of Westminster and his wife could not be present.

After tea the Head Master addressed us all, and began, after greeting us, as he said—not for the first time, by hoping that we all wished to see him and that we were not tired of hearing him. Needless to say, he can rest assured that no Old Westminster is ever tired of hearing about the School. He continued by alluding to the fact that the way that Old Westminsters and others spoke of the School was of inestimable value to the School. He said that he had little new to tell, and that this presented a difficulty, as when he wanted to read the same book again with a form at School, he kicked those who had already done it into the form above, but he could not do that with his then audience, so he asked for his hearers' indulgence.

He then spoke of his gratitude to Mr. Graham for his power of organising these functions at apparently any time of the day, and the way he imposed his own spirit of efficiency, enthusiasm and camaraderie into everyone. He was grateful to Mr. Graham for this, and to Colonel Davson and the Entertainment Committee. These parties, he said, appeared to be getting earlier and earlier, and he anticipated the climax being a Victory Breakfast. No doubt the speeches would be soberer, like a School Treat. No doubt, realising that he had an Archdeacon on either side of him, the pièce de Resistance would be the Vicar's speech.

He referred with appreciation to the admirable circulars got out by Mr. Graham for the Entertainments Committee, and to the fact that he obviously read his copy of *THE ELIZABETHAN*, and he hoped that all Old Westminsters would do so too, and thus read how the School fared. He thought that they would now find fewer sonnets there, but more descriptions of the School's activities and welfare. Among the activities he chronicled the gardening records, particularly the production of 4,000 spring onions, moving one boy to write an essay on "tears, idle tears, I know not what they mean." He referred also to the recent dramatic

productions, and to the fact that they were the spontaneous results of the boys' own unaided activities. In fact, so much so, that on putting his nose inside a door where rehearsals were going on, he was greeted with "Farewell, thou rash intruding fool," and thereafter he intruded no more.

The Head Master then paused for a moment to think of those Old Westminsters, who were Prisoners of War, and to wish them a speedy return; to congratulate Woodwork on his D.S.C.; and to refer to Petley, and his D.F.C., well-disguised by uniform and his moustache. He mentioned that distinguished Old Westminster, Mr. Waterson, now returning to South Africa to take up office in the Ministry there, and sent the good wishes of Westminster to him. He referred, too, to the young Old Westminsters of 1937-1938 now on service overseas, and to his pleasure at seeing so many young Old Westminsters, whom he had known at School, that afternoon.

Then, turning to the present and the future, he referred to the difficulties of transport and recruitment, and quoted the Indian proverb, "when fate throws a knife at you, you can catch it by the blade or by the handle." He said that they had always done their best to catch it by the handle. He referred to recent successes at Christ Church, and their musical concerts, and to the possibility of their "going on the air," to the A.T.C. under Mr. Rudwick, who had brought the youngest attendants ever at a Westminster gathering, to the good results in certificate "A," and to the holiday matches played, which he hoped were the first of many.

As regards the future, he spoke of the Planning Committee of the Governing Body, which had met to consider the question of the return to London; he pointed out, however, that the present tenants would have to be given time to find other accommodation first.

He again invited Old Westminsters to visit the School, and referred to the value of all Old Westminsters as an advertisement to the School, and concluded with renewed thanks to Mr. Graham, which were echoed by all there.

S. H.

LIFE SUBSCRIBERS TO THE ELIZABETHAN

If anyone has any additions or corrections to make in the following list of life subscribers to *THE ELIZABETHAN* who are not members of the Elizabethan Club, will they please inform Dr. Burch, at The Old Tannery, Bromyard.

P. T. B. Beale	P. G. Waterfield
Dr. H. Costley White	O. J. R. Howarth
W. N. Just	E. A. Meyer
A. H. L. Miller	F. B. Ranalow
F. G. Worlock	

CONTEMPORARIES

The Editors of *THE ELIZABETHAN* acknowledge the receipt of the following contemporaries and apologise for any inadvertent omission.

Aldenhamian, Bradford College Chronicle, Carthusian, City of London Magazine, Crimson Comet (2), Edinburgh Academy Chronicle, El Nopal (2), Eton College Chronicle (2), Glenalmond Chronicle, Lancing College Magazine, Leys Fortnightly, Marlburian, Meteor, Milton Bulletin, Ousel, Penn Charter Magazine, Reptonian, St. Edward School Chronicle, Sedburghian, Soteniensis, Taylorian, Tonbridgian, Trinity University Review Wellingtonian, Wykehamist.

OLD WESTMINSTERS

Mr. S. F. Waterson has resigned his appointment as High Commissioner in England for the Union of South Africa, and has accepted the post of Minister of Commerce in the South African Government.

The Rev. Cyril Mayne has been appointed to the Deanery of Carlisle.

Commander M. Richmond, D.S.O., O.B.E., R.N., has been awarded the Soviet decoration of the Red Banner for services on convoys to Russia, and is promoted to Captain in the New Year Lists.

In the New Year's Honours we had pleasure in observing the following names :

Mr. G. H. Hodgson	Knighthood
Mr. E. S. Wood	C.B.
Group Captain G. D. Harvey, D.F.C., R.A.F.	C.B.E.
Wing Commander H. R. A. Edwards, R.A.F.	A.F.C.
Squadron-Leader R. R. Goodbody, R.A.F.	O.B.E.
Sub. - Lieutenant R. G. Woodwark, R.N.V.R.	D.S.O.

Lieutenant C. A. P. Hackforth, R.A.S.C., has been awarded the D.S.O. for gallant and distinguished services in the Middle East.

Wing Commander Max Aitken, D.S.O., D.F.C., was among the first recipients of the new Air Efficiency Award.

Flight Lieutenant D. Petley, R.A.F.V.R., 35th Squadron (now a prisoner of war), has been awarded the D.F.C.

Sergeant A. Walters, R.A.F.V.R., 207th Squadron, has been awarded the D.F.M.

Surgeon-Lieutenant A. D. Bone, R.N.V.R., *H.M.S. Jackal*, has been awarded the D.S.C. for services in the Mediterranean.

Mr. L. R. Barnett Smith is taking up an appointment as an Assistant Comptroller of Customs in Sierra Leone.

Mr. W. F. Fox has resigned the post of Secretary to the Charity Commissioners.

Mr. Aubrey Herbert is acting as broadcasting adviser on the staff of Admiral Sir Geoffrey Layton, C.-in-C., Ceylon.

Mr. F. L. Simpson, with other members of the British Embassy, returned from Tokyo in October. He is now at the Foreign Office.

We apologise for the omission in our last issue of the award of the D.F.C. to Flight Lieutenant J. G. Benson, R.A.F.V.R.

BIRTHS

BARLAS.—On December 6th, to Ann, wife of Squadron-Leader R. D. Barlas, R.A.F.V.R., a son.

COLLON.—On December 11th, in Brussels, to Petronella, wife of Alexander Collon, a son.

DEVEREUX.—On October 21st, at Orcheston, to Jeanne, wife of Lieutenant-Colonel A. C. E. Devereux, R.A., a son.

ENGLEHEART.—On December 13th, at Lifton Park, Devonshire, to Daphne, wife of J. R. C. Engleheart, a daughter.

EVANS.—On December 23rd, at Bourne End, to Diana, wife of Dr. Courtenay Evans, M.D., a son.

HEATON.—On October 24th, at Hanger Hill, to Cecily, wife of R. N. Heaton, a son.

HOLLAND.—On January 23rd, at Bromley, Kent, to Elsie Mildred, wife of D. A. Holland, a son.

HOME.—On October 19th, to Evelyn, wife of Leading Seaman P. J. D. Home, a son.

HOPKYNs.—On November 30th, at Colchester, to Joan, wife of Surgeon-Lieutenant J. C. W. Hopkyns, R.N.V.R., a son.

HUNT.—On October 14th, at Harpenden, to Eileen, wife of Major A. G. Hunt, R.A., a son.

JOHNSON.—On January 3rd, at Woking, to Evelyn, wife of Group Captain D. H. Johnson, R.A.F.V.R., a daughter.

JOUBERT.—On October 27th, at Oxford, to Diana, wife of Leo Joubert, a daughter.

MACE.—On January 24th, at Newton Ferrers, South Devon, to Edith, wife of Flight-Lieutenant D. F. Mace, R.A.F.V.R., a son.

MCGREGOR-GREER.—To the wife of Major S. McGregor-Greer, a son.

O'BRIEN.—On October 28th, to Sybil, wife of J. R. O'Brien, a daughter.

PALMER.—On July 7th, at Lusaka, North Rhodesia, to Marjorie, wife of Captain H. S. Palmer, a daughter.

RANDOLPH.—On November 26th, at Harrow Weald, to Betty, wife of Flight-Lieutenant R. S. Randolph, R.A.F.V.R., a son.

SCORER.—On October 15th, at Thaxted, to Nataschka, wife of Pilot Officer P. G. Scorer, a son.

SMITH.—On November 10th, to Judy, wife of Rodney Smith, M.S., F.R.C.S., a son.

STORRS.—On November 7th, at Abingdon, to Millicent, wife of Robert Storrs, of Eastbourne College, a daughter.

TYRRELL.—On September 23rd, to Beryl, wife of Dr. T. M. Tyrrell, F.R.C.S., a son.

WOOLLEY.—On December 14th, at Harrogate, to Jane, wife of Squadron-Leader J. P. M. Woolley, a son.

MARRIAGES

GIBBS-SMITH-BRASHIER.—On December 18th, at St. John's Wood Chapel, Michael Harvard Gibbs-Smith to Cherry Margaret, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Percy H. Brashier.

HADDEN-MILMAN.—On August 7th, at Asuncion, Paraguay, Alan Edward Robert Hadden to Renée Frances, only daughter of Mr. C. R. Dickinson, of Buenos Aires, and the late Mrs. Dickinson.

HART-ROSEWELL.—On October 30th, in London, Louis Albert Hart to Theresa E. Rosewell.

REA-SHEPLEY.—On October 30th, James Russell Rea to Isobel Shepley.

SPILLER-PERCY.—On November 21st, at St. Bartholomew-the-Great, Smithfield, Reginald Harvey Spiller to Margaret, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. B. Percy, of Stevenage.

BEEMAN-JONES.—On January 7th, at Aberystwyth, Captain Philip Beeman to Maida, only daughter of Canon and Mrs. D. J. Jones, The Vicarage, Llanbadarn-Fawt.

ROLL OF HONOUR

KILLED IN ACTION

G. E. Baker-Cresswell, Major, R.E.
 J. C. H. Cherry, Lieutenant, R.N.V.R.
 D. C. Evans, Pilot Officer.
 A. R. Laurie, Temporary Lieutenant, R.N.V.R.
 P. E. McI. Mellor, Captain, A.A.C.
 P. D. H. Pierson, R.H.A.
 R. Sprague, D.F.C., Wing Commander, R.A.F.
 H. J. P. Tyson.
 P. W. Young, Lieutenant, Middlesex Regiment.

MISSING

J. B. Aris, Flight Officer.

PRISONERS OF WAR

W. H. Allchin, 2nd Lieutenant, Reconnaissance Corps.
 A. C. Baines, 2nd Lieutenant, R.A.C.

WOUNDED

J. A. G. Corrie, Captain, Seaforth Highlanders.

OBITUARY

We regret to announce the deaths of the following Old Westminsters :

Temporary Major GILFRID EDWARD BAKER CRESSWELL, who was killed in action in the Middle East last October at the age of 28, was up Rigaud's from 1927 to 1931. He joined the Royal Engineers on leaving school, and later took a degree at Trinity College, Cambridge. In 1938 he married Sylvia, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Charrington, of Hertford. He received his Captaincy in August, 1942.

Major (Temporary Lieutenant-Colonel) EDMUND GRAM BUCKLEY was born in 1901, and came to Westminster in 1915, where he was up Grant's. After passing through Sandhurst he received a commission in the Rifle Brigade. In 1923 he was seconded to the Iraq Levies and was mentioned in despatches for service there. He was made M.B.E. in 1933, and reached his majority in 1938. His mother was a Miss Castle, two of whose brothers were also at Westminster. He died at Oxford on January 21st. He married Elizabeth Bailey and they had two children.

JOHN CONRAD HAZLEHURST CHERRY entered the School in 1927. He became Head of Water and Head of Home-boards, and left with a Heath Harrison Exhibition to Brasenose. At Oxford he rowed twice in the Boat Race, and was President of the O.U.B.C. He was also in the Leander crew at the Olympic Games in Berlin. On the outbreak of war he entered the R.N.V.R. and was promoted Lieutenant in November, 1940. He married the sister of R. G. Rowe, who was also a member of the Oxford Eight, and who subsequently came as a master to Westminster. He was 28 years of age.

DAVID CHRISTOPHER EVANS was born in 1922 and was at Westminster (up Grant's) from 1935 to 1940. In June

of last year, as Pilot-Officer, he was reported missing, and is now known to have been killed in action.

HARRY JAMES GULLY, who died on January 22nd at the age of 71, entered Westminster in 1885, and became a Queen's Scholar in the following year. He joined the Institute of Chartered Accountants, and was appointed a Fellow in 1910.

Canon CYRIL HALLETT, whose father and grandfather were also at Westminster, was admitted in 1874. From school he proceeded to Oriel College, Oxford, and Cuddesdon, and was ordained in 1887. He became vicar of St. Barnabas, Oxford, and was in succession Archdeacon of Rovuma and of Zanzibar. He served as a chaplain with the East African Forces during the last war. In 1931 he returned to England as Warden of the House of Mercy, at Highgate, a post which he held for nine years. He was 78.

CHARLES ARCHIBALD HOLLAND was at Westminster from 1897 to 1902. After taking his degree at Oxford he taught in various preparatory schools until he took Holy Orders in 1913. Since 1930 he was vicar of Newtown, Hants. He died after an operation in his sixtieth year.

Temporary Lieutenant (A) ANTHONY ROGER LAURIE was reported missing presumed killed when *H.M.S. Avenger* was sunk during the landing of the expeditionary force in North Africa. He was born in 1918, and was at the School from 1932 to 1934, after which he went to Wye Agricultural College. On the outbreak of war he joined the R.A.F., but soon transferred to the Fleet Air Arm. He received the posthumous award of the D.S.C. "for great courage, skill and determination in air combat with the enemy while escorting a convoy bound for Russia."

PHILIP EVERT McILVAINE MELLOR was the youngest of three brothers at Westminster, and was admitted in 1917. In 1921 he went up to St. John's College, Cambridge, where he played football against Oxford in 1925, and was subsequently in business in the Sudan. In 1940 he received a commission in the Leicesters, and became attached to the 1st Parachute Battalion. He was awarded the M.C., and had attained his captaincy. His death in action occurred in North Africa last February.

WILLIAM ROBERT MOON was born in 1868, and entered the School in 1883. Like his brother after him he had a distinguished athletic career, and found his way straight into both school elevens. He was subsequently for three seasons an international footballer, and played cricket for Middlesex in 1891. He married Dagmar, eldest daughter of Major Ardwick Burgess, of Hendon. By profession he was a solicitor and practised in London.

ARTHUR RICHARD PAIN was admitted in 1894. He became a solicitor, and for many years practised at Marlborough, but latterly was in business in London. In 1914 he joined the Somerset Light Infantry, and served with his regiment in Gallipoli. As a result of his experiences he returned broken in health, but carried on with his work and played a prominent part in the local affairs of Frimley, where he lived till his death in his 63rd year. In 1927 his son followed him to Westminster.

PETER DOUGLAS HUMPHREY PIERSON died as the result of tuberculosis contracted in a German prison camp. Before the war he was in the H.A.C., and after Dunkirk transferred to the R.H.A. He went to Egypt, and thence was sent with the British force that went to Greece. He was taken prisoner in April, 1941. He entered Westminster in 1933, and was 23 at the time of his death.

RICHARD ALFONSO SPRAGUE followed his brother to Westminster in 1922. On leaving he went to the R.A.F. College at Cranwell. He was commissioned in 1928, rose to be Wing Commander, and was awarded the D.F.C. He met his death in November as the result of air operations in the Middle East.

A special sorrow attaches to the death in action of HAMPSON JOHN PHILIP TYSON. His grandfather, whose death is also reported in this issue, outlived him by less than a week; his father was killed in the last war. He was born in 1916, and came to the School in 1929.

FRANK URCH was Captain of the School in 1891, probably the first Town Boy to hold the position. He had a distinguished career in classics at Oxford, and was ordained in 1897. He held various curacies in England and South Africa, and later was for many years chaplain and assistant master at St. Ronan's Preparatory School. Since 1934 he was rector of Hedgerley, Bucks. He was in his 70th year.

FRANCIS ERNEST WILLIAMS, who died at Uckfield, on January 6th, at the age of 79, was at Westminster from 1877 to 1880.

JOHN EWART BARNES WIMBUSH, Chairman of a firm of Motor Manufacturers, died on October 30th at the age of 75. He was admitted to Westminster in 1881 and left in 1884.

PATRIC PEREGRINE WILKIE YOUNG was at the School from 1927 to 1931, and went up to Trinity College, Cambridge. He was a skilful fencer with foil, épée and sabre, and became first secretary of the Old Westminsters Fencing Club and of the Graham-Bartlett Cup Committee. He obtained a commission in the Middlesex Regiment, and is reported to have died of wounds in the Middle East in December. He was 29.

JOSEPH TYSON, who died on Christmas Day, at the age of 92, had, when he retired in 1929, spent over forty years in the service of the School. Coming in the eighties of the last century, first as part-time secretary and part-time master, he was before long appointed bursar, while he still had a certain amount of teaching. This gradually grew less and less to his undoubted relief. For he never learnt the art of managing boys, being too kind-hearted to punish severely, and too shy to make friends easily. But as bursar he was in his rightful position. He was devoted to the School and its interests, and, as is so essential in a man who has to some extent the spending of other people's money, he would fight hard against expenditure. He was an extraordinarily hard worker, and thought nothing of arriving at the Bursary at 9.30 in the morning, and staying till 8 in the evening; and certainly in his later years a half-day off now and then was all he would take by way of holiday. He never had an assistant, a telephone or a typewriter, though many of his correspondents must have ruefully wished that he had; for his handwriting sometimes baffled even himself.

Many stories—some true, some, no doubt, apocryphal—are told of him: how in his later years two governors, both distinguished men and nearly as old as he, would come to the Bursary to discuss the finances of the School, and would find that their part was that of the Victorian child—to be seen but not heard. Or again, that one year when the Westminster City Council exhorted all pedestrians to keep to the left, Tyson was coming back from his daily visit to the bank, along the railings by St. Margaret's, when he met a man who refused to walk to the left just as firmly as Tyson refused to walk to the right: how the man took out a book, and Tyson a paper: and how after ten minutes had thus passed, Tyson knocked the man's hat off, and when he stooped to pick it up, triumphantly walked past on his left.

All those who knew Tyson as a colleague at Westminster, and all Old Westminsters who came in after life to know him, will mourn his death. He was a faithful friend, kindly and considerate, upright and devoted to duty, loving the School and all connected with it.

FLOREAT