

THE ELIZABETHAN



DAT DEUS INCREMENTUM



F111K 'Swing-Wing' long-range tactical strike and reconnaissance aircraft.



Harrier World's first V/STOL combat aircraft; can operate from a 50 ft. farmyard or jungle clearing.



Phantom Supersonic multi-role aircraft. 15 times a record breaker.



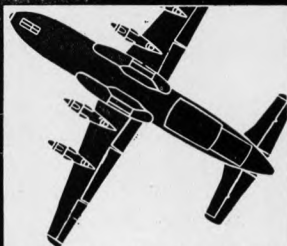
Nimrod World's first land-based turbo-jet submarine hunter-killer and maritime reconnaissance aircraft.



VC10 World-beating British airliner. Now developed as the R.A.F.'s latest strategic transport. Only 16 hours flying time to Singapore.



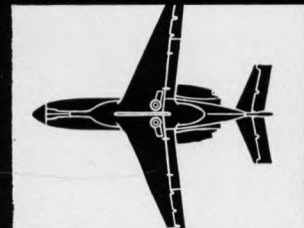
Hercules Versatile tactical transport.



Belfast Strategic freighter. R.A.F.'s biggest-ever aircraft.



SA330 Air-portable tactical support helicopter.



Dominie Fast, twin-jet advanced navigation trainer, already in R.A.F. service.

Have you any plans for the future? Above are some of the R.A.F.'s

The R.A.F. is also seeking a new generation of officers. Not only the pilots and navigators who will fly the new aircraft, but also the *Ground Branch* officers who make flying possible: the engineers, logistics experts, personnel managers, ground defence specialists, air traffic and fighter controllers and many others. They will all have important work to do.

If you are interested, now is the time to do something about it. Ask your Careers Master for some

R.A.F. pamphlets—or get him to arrange for you to meet your R.A.F. Schools Liaison Officer for an informal chat.

Or, if you prefer, write to Group Captain M. A. D'Arcy, R.A.F., Adastral House, (25HD1), London, WC1. Please give your date of birth and say what qualifications you have or are studying for (minimum 5 G.C.E. 'O' levels including English language and mathematics), and whether more interested in a flying or ground branch career.

PLEASE QUOTE *THE ELIZABETHAN* WHEN ANSWERING ADVERTISEMENTS

Make your 'O' or 'A' levels work for you

As a school-leaver, your 'O' or 'A' levels are the first real signs that you are more valuable to yourself than you think. Anyway, *we* think so, and we want to talk to you about your career; about your working for us; and about your getting to the top, using the same qualities that you put into passing those exams.

If you have at least four 'O' level passes, including Maths and English Language (or are expecting to get them), or as many 'A' levels as you like, do write to us now. We will send you full particulars about a worthwhile career with Barclays Bank.

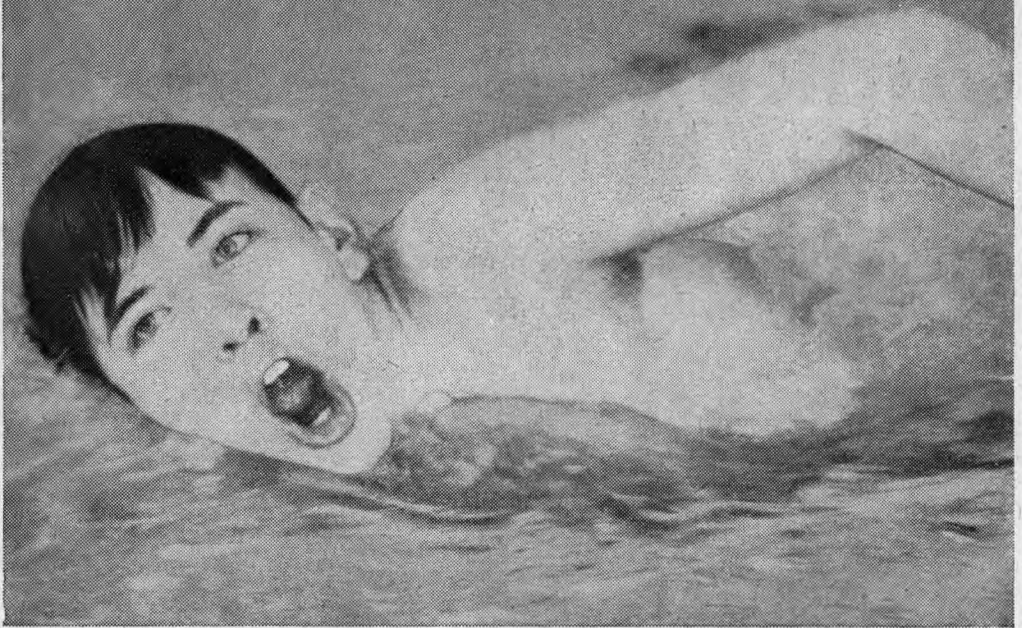


Write to the Local Directors

Barclays Bank

P.O. Box 601, 131 Edgware Road, London, W.2

Lengths ahead!



With Martins Bank, you could be a Manager in your 30s, a man of standing in the community, whose advice is sought on every aspect of business and financial matters. From there on, the highest management positions are wide open if you have the ability and determination to achieve them.

If you have 4 'O' Levels or 2 'A' Levels, find out what a career with Martins Bank could offer you. Write to the District General Manager, Martins Bank Limited, 68 Lombard Street, London E.C.3.

Basic salary scales: 16 years of age with 4 'O' Levels £380 p.a.
18 years of age with 2 'A' Levels £540 p.a.
21 years of age with a Degree £900 p.a.

Staff working in the London area receive an additional allowance of £150 p.a.
Send the coupon now.

To The District General Manager,
Martins Bank Limited, 68 Lombard Street, London E.C.3

Please send me details of careers with Martins Bank

NAME

ADDRESS

**MARTINS
BANK** 
LIMITED

PLEASE QUOTE *THE ELIZABETHAN* WHEN ANSWERING ADVERTISEMENTS

the elizabethan

Vol. XXIX No. 5 December, 1967 Issue No. 665

editor: David Oliver

A WESTMINSTER NOTEBOOK

J. S. EDWARDS, Head of Busby's,
R. L. PANIGUIAN, Head of Grant's.
HON. C. W. BYERS,
J. CRAWSHAW,
J. P. EMERSON,
G. E. EVANS,
J. P. RAWES,
and P. J. RICHARDSON have been appointed
School Monitors.

The Games Committee has made the following
appointment: M. J. ABRAHAMS, Captain of
Squash.

We welcome back to the School this term
J. T. Christie, Esq. Mr. Christie came to West-
minster as Head Master in 1937, after five years
as Head Master of Repton, and saw the School
through the difficult years of the war period. He
left in 1949, to become Principal of Jesus College,
Oxford, but has returned this term as a member
of the Common Room, to teach Classics and
English. We also welcome two new members of

the staff. Dr. Vidaud has come to us from a re-
search post at Oxford, to teach Physics: Mr.
Woollett has left a position with the Oxford
Department of Education, and has come to teach
History. Mr. Woollett is also active in the Boat
Club. We hope that their stay here will be a
pleasant one.

Spectacular alterations are at present taking
place in Ashburnham House. The Lecture Room
has been completely renovated, and has been
provided with a proper stage, new windows, and
a chandelier. Also, a new storey is being added
to the existing structure, which, when finished,
will boast a new art room, with better facilities
and, above all, a better light. Three new form-
rooms are being added at the same time, while
the present art room is to be converted into two
new form-rooms. It is hoped that this new storey
will be completed by the beginning of the Lent
Term. Meanwhile, work continues to the tune of
whistles, buckets, and cement mixers.

The building mania is not confined to Ashburnham House, however. College, also, has undergone extensive alterations: two of the old dormitories and two of the day-rooms have been converted into a series of single bed-studies. Wren's has taken over 4 Barton Street, and at present has nine boarding members, while Rigaud's have now acquired studies and dormitories on the upper floors of 5 Barton Street. "Now is the winter of our discontent . . ."

For two week-ends towards the end of the Election Term, the Abbey precincts were closed to the public, and the Horse Guards were to be found parading in Little Dean's Yard. They were accompanied by an old Rolls-Royce, an extraordinary number of mobile canteens, and a false bay window stranded in front of Rigaud's. The occasion for such an assemblage of people and equipment was the filming of a scene from "Star", the life of Gertrude Lawrence, for which only Little Dean's Yard, apparently, offered the appropriate surroundings. Unfortunately, the leading lady, Miss Julie Andrews, was not on the set: she was in the United States, where another section of the film was being shot simultaneously. Nevertheless, the occasion was one of great interest; we only hope that the company were not too much disturbed by inquisitive Westminsterers. They, for their part, gave no cause for complaint: after the filming was over, one would never have known that they had been there.

This has been a term of great dramatic activity. Early in November, there was a performance, in the French, of Ionesco's "La Cantatrice Chauve", well produced by Mr. Martin. Furthermore, in addition to the Busby Play, "Chips with Everything", by Arnold Wesker, no less than three other houses—Rigaud's, Liddell's, and Wren's—have performed plays in the Lecture Room during the course of the term, taking advantage of the excellent new stage and lighting installed during the summer.

In the field of music, too, we have seen several new departures. A Poetry and Music Recital, on the theme of "Love", was held on the Thursday before Exeat. Produced by Mr. Field, in conjunction with C. W. Radice, this met with considerable success, and the audience responded well to sudden changes of mood. On November 17th, the whole school attended the service in the Abbey for the Commemoration of Benefactors; the setting of the Te Deum was by Tony Hewitt-Jones, O.W.—a work skilfully written with the acoustics of the Abbey in mind. We now look forward to the Concert, on December 12th, at which the Choral Society will sing the Bach Cantata "Sleepers Wake!", and also to the Carol Service on Friday, December 15th.

We gratefully acknowledge the receipts of our contemporaries.

THE TEMPEST

by G. E. Evans (E. VII)

The actors in "The Tempest" last term encountered greater problems than they face in an ordinary School production. Even those of us who were used to making ourselves heard up School found the acoustics of Ashburnham Garden, where the play was staged, deceptive. In early rehearsals, voices sounded somehow unreal and remote; when one spoke loudly, the high walls and the Fives courts produced a dull echo, and when the voice was soft, the sound wafted into the air without reaching the audience, or it was caught in the angles of the walls. Regular rehearsals brought a familiarity with the peculiarities of the garden's acoustics, and to be heard became less of a vocal strain. But there were other, unpredictable hazards. A gust of wind might blow a speech towards the Houses of Parliament, rather than to the audience; bells from the Abbey might mingle with the flute and guitars in the background; a passing jet might drown words (we were advised to "freeze" if an aircraft came overhead, but it was difficult to do this with confidence).

Courtiers, sleeping on the grass, were susceptible to hay-fever, which threatened the delivery of their lines. The nervous tension normal before going on stage grew more acute as we sat through the afternoons, the rain pouring down, uncertain of the prospects for a performance in the evening. Only one performance was rained off, however, and this was made up on the Sunday night. The weather was more settled in the first week of the holidays, when some of the original cast stayed on to give performances to an eager public. The play was well received, and, on the last two nights, the queue for tickets stretched right across Yard.

Playing Prospero brought its own problems. The decision to have Richard MacKenna and myself alternating in the roles of Prospero and Alonso on each night of the term-time production made the preparations harder, with two parts to learn, amounting to some eight hundred lines, with more rehearsals to attend, and each scene rehearsed twice. This put an extra strain on the rest of the cast, who had also to act with different Mirandas. The alternating called for an exacting co-ordination between Prospero and Alonso and the actors around them, but it had its advantages: in rehearsal, each gained from



Photo: J. C. D. Field, Esq.

watching the other, and in a performance, one could have prompted the other unobserved. In fact, this happened once. I was thankful, on one occasion, to be able to move over to Alonso and ask him to remind me of my next line; "Go to, away!", he said.

Everyone who took part has his own memories and anecdotes. But all would agree that, despite the technical disadvantages of acting in the open air, the overall impact of the production came from its garden setting. In the early scenes, one found oneself fighting against the garden, and it was difficult to act to an audience so horrifyingly visible in the evening sunlight. But as the evening darkened and the lighting came into effect, the atmosphere became more and more compelling. Both actors and audience could feel the increasing stillness, which let the play speak more clearly and assisted our acting in the final scenes of reconciliation and forgiveness. The Garden induced a rare rapport between the actors and the audience.

WATER REPORT: 1967



Photo: Burke Fotografic

The 1st VIII in the Lent Term:

Bow: G. A. J. Walker; 2: P. D. P. Angier; 3: S. D. Nevin; 4: A. C. Houston; 5: M. I. Williams; 6: J. P. Hopkin*; 7: C. Seward; Stroke: N. M. R. Walker; Cox: A. C. F. Russell.

Later changed in the Election Term:

3: G. C. Mallett; 5: S. D. Nevin; 7: M. I. Williams; Stroke: W. E. Philips.

After the Senior Trials, the 1st VIII, coached by Mr. Woolley, began training for the "Head of the River" races, the first of which was the "North of England Head" at Chester. Here the senior crews stayed at the Liverpool Victoria Boat Club. Despite the fact that some of the crew were affected by an influenza epidemic, the 1st VIII finished an overall second, and, by beating the Shrewsbury School VIII, won the School Shell Pennant; meanwhile, the 2nd VIII held its position. In the "Schools' Head", efficiently organized as usual, by a team of masters and boys from Westminster, the 1st VIII finished sixth; but all the crews between the third and eighth positions finished within two seconds of one another.

At the end of the term, the eight paced the

Oxford crew who were later to win the University Boat Race. Oxford were coached by Group Captain Edwards, O.W., and D. Topolski was rowing seven, as he had done in the 1963 school 1st VIII, when he was Head of the Water. They believed in very hard, short rows, which Westminster found exhausting. As the lighter crew, however, the School were able to keep ahead on the starts.

After a useful pre-term rowing week-end at Henley, the eight went on to win many heats in the regattas they entered, although, unfortunately, they failed to win any event outright.

In defending their position at the head of the London Schools' Rowing League, the eight won against both Latymer, and Tiffin School. Their

chances, however, were not so high against St. Paul's, who, on paper, certainly appeared the faster crew. Nevertheless, Westminster never allowed them a lead of much over a length; once round the Fulham Bend, moreover, the Westminster crew made a final effort over the last stretch of the course, and it seemed for a time as though they might possibly pull past; as the two eights crossed the line, however, St. Paul's still led by about a quarter of a length, and so won back from us the League Winners Cup.

At Henley Royal Regatta, the school entered a coxless four for the "Visitors' Challenge Cup", and the eight for the "Princess Elizabeth". The crews arrived at Henley on the preceding Saturday, when the four had to row a qualifying race against Pembroke College, Cambridge. Westminster were leading by one and a half lengths, when Pembroke had the misfortune to hit the booms marking the edge of the course, thus allowing us to win easily.

On Wednesday, the four encountered Selwyn College, Cambridge, who won by three lengths in the fastest time of the day. The eight were given a bye until Thursday, when they won easily against King's School, Chester, and so went into the quarter-finals, where they met Kent School, U.S.A., the favourites for the event. Here, the eight did well to lose by only two and a half lengths: their barrier time was a mere three seconds behind the record.

The coxless four, comprising M. I. Williams, A. C. Houston, S. E. Nevin, and J. P. Hopkin, was entered for the National Youth Championships at Hereford at the beginning of the holidays. Radley, the only other crew competing for the representation of Great Britain in the International Youth Championships at Ratzeburg, in Germany, had a comparable regatta experience; it was unfortunate, therefore, that, after the first five hundred yards of the narrow course, with the crews level, the steering gear of the Westminster four should fail to operate properly; as Westminster came perilously close to the shore, one of the blades caught some reeds, and the boat swerved into the bank.

A pressing problem was that of the training programme for senior crews: many members had claimed that it was interfering with their work for University Entrance. A solution was found in the formation of a "Gentlemen's Eight", or 3rd VIII, coached by Mr. H. Ward, O.W., which was a non-weight-training crew composed of ex-senior eight oarsmen. The Senior Trials "B" crew, most of whom were of Colts age, became,

therefore, the official 2nd VIII, and were coached by Mr. D. O. Winterbottom.

The experience of the 3rd VIII well balanced the fitness of the 2nd, for, in the "Schools' Head of the River Race", the 3rd VIII's time was actually one second faster than that of the 2nd, who themselves maintained their position. In the "Tideway Head", however, the 3rd VIII, moving up an impressive 203 places, and overtaking seven boats over the course, officially recorded a time more than a minute faster than that of the 2nd VIII, and less than a minute behind that of the 1st VIII. In fact, according to these times, they were the fastest 3rd VIII on the Tideway. But, unfortunately, at the beginning of the Election Term, with no prospect of being able to compete at regattas, the original 3rd VIII broke up, leaving only a remnant, which was unable to hold its position in the Shell League.

The 2nd VIII, coached by Mr. Winterbottom, and reinforced by three members of the 3rd VIII, went on to compete at regattas on most Saturdays throughout the term. However, as two members of the crew had won their novices the previous year, the eight was forced to enter as a junior status crew. On the whole, this proved to be rather too ambitious for them; but they did manage to hold their position in the Second Shell League, the highest yet attained by a Westminster 2nd VIII, with a win over Owen's School 1st VIII.

The juniors were all too young and inexperienced to have much chance of success in their league races, although Junior Colts "A", coached by Mr. Hepburne-Scott, did hold its place in the top Junior Colts League. But the year was nevertheless a useful training period for them, and, since almost all are still either Colts or Junior Colts, with concentrated coaching through the winter, we can look forward to some well-experienced junior eights in the coming summer.

After its temporary abeyance, the School Regatta was revived during the fortnight after "A-levels", and proved an enjoyable end to the season. The standard of the fours produced under house training was encouragingly high, and there were some well-contested heats; but even the fact that a Wrens/Grants combination defeated the Rigaud's all-pink crew in the Senior Fours did not prevent Rigaud's overwhelming weight of numbers carrying off the Halahan Cup once again on the Finals Day.

During the Play Term, the coxless four entered the "Fours' Head of the River Race", coming 4th in their division, and an overall 5th out of 115 crews. The coxed four came 4th in the

schools division, and 59th overall. In the long-distance sculling races, the scullers all did well; A. C. Houston won the Restricted class at Weybridge; at Marlowe, M. I. Williams won the Schools' Shell, and J. M. Kinross the Schools' Restricted, classes.

During the last few months, we have acquired a new boat for the 1st VIII, named "Queen Bess", and also a clinker eight, a coxed four, and five

sculling boats, which, it is hoped, will encourage boys to come and row, and so swell the ranks of the Boat Club.

The senior watermen already have some notable successes behind them; a new "Gentlemen's Eight", coached by Mr. Woollett, who has recently joined us, promises as well as last year's; and with the juniors still training hard, we can look forward to a worthwhile season in 1968.

WESTMINSTER SPORT

CRICKET

Despite the outwardly depressing fact that they won only one match, the 1st XI were on the whole better than their record might suggest. After a poor start, when a wet May and lack of match practice combined with some strong opposition early on to make the team unsure of its own ability, the cricket of the whole side improved as the season continued. There were fine displays against the Butterflies, the Old Westminsters, the M.C.C., and Ardingly, and it was a pity that the summer should end with a heavy defeat by Charterhouse. Eight individual half-centuries, as against two the previous year, show where the strength of the team lay: F. D. Smith, A. Van der Weyer, C. L. Pike (the captain), Ravenscroft, Lascelles, and Nops, all made runs at some stage. The bowling, despite good individual performances from Curtis, Lascelles, and Mortimore, was, on the whole, not sufficiently penetrative, and only three sides were bowled out during the course of the season. Again, despite the good example of Pike, the fielding was not of a consistently high standard, although the one victory, over the Old Westminsters, was largely due to agile fielding. In fact, by far the most heartening feature of such an apparently unsuccessful season was the steady improvement and growing cohesion of the team from match to match.

The prospects for 1968, however, look better, with some good players—Barley, Matcham, Surridge, and Miéville, in particular—coming up from the Colts, who were undefeated this season.

It can only be hoped that their appetite for success will be appeased at a higher level next summer.

TENNIS

The 1967 tennis season was one of mixed success. Although all but two of the matches during the term were lost, the team nevertheless succeeded in reaching the semi-finals of the Youll Cup for the third year in succession. The loss of Stanbrook and Bulmer-Thomas, and of the participation of Perry, left the team weakened, but the potential of Grossman, P. Gillan, and Brisby, the new members, should nevertheless have produced a match-winning team. However, the steady play of J. C. N. Corbin, the captain, was not enough to compensate for the erratic form of D. Gillan, and of Perry, when he played, with the result that only two matches were won, against the House of Commons and against Mill Hill, although those against Emmanuel and Lancing were lost by a small margin only. The team during the term was as follows:—

1st pair: J. C. N. Corbin, D. P. Gillan.

2nd pair: J. J. Earle, P. T. C. Grossman.

3rd pair: P. A. Gillan, S. J. M. Brisby.

In the Youll Cup, with Perry playing, we had good wins over St. Paul's and Lancing, but unfortunately lost to Magdalen College School when the 1st pair showed some highly erratic form. The team was:—

1st pair: D. P. Gillan, N. M. Perry.

2nd pair: J. C. N. Corbin, J. J. Earle.

Reserve: P. T. C. Grossman.

TASK FORCE

THE ORGANIZATION

by Anthony D. Steen, O.W.

Although Task Force was launched in 1964, there are still many people who do not know exactly what it is. It would be difficult to dismiss it as just another voluntary youth organization, simply because it has no members, badges, or subscriptions, few committees, and little tape of any colour!

Task Force is, in fact, a company limited by guarantee, with exclusively charitable objects. Its seven directors represent the three leading political parties, and they keep an eye on finance. The Rt. Hon. Selwyn Lloyd chairs an advisory council of over 50 people, who meet once a year, and help when asked. The whole working of the scheme is left entirely in the hands of the young themselves, who are responsible for its day-to-day running.

When Task Force started three years ago, it had two centres. One was above a launderette, and the other above a coffee bar. The centres were staffed by local young people, who were to run a service for the borough's statutory and voluntary welfare organizations. This service was to be geared to providing immediate help for any person in need, whether they were lonely, elderly, or handicapped. At the same time, the young staff were to stage a massive campaign to attract volunteers; they were to visit schools, youth clubs, colleges, and hostels, in order to recruit.

Within six months, some 2,000 young people had offered their help. Most of them wanted to pay regular visits to some lonely person; more often than not, a friendship resulted, the old person looking upon her new visitors as though they were long lost grandchildren. Other volunteers, who did not have the time for a regular commitment, would do occasional work. All volunteers frequently found themselves doing a variety of jobs, among them, reading letters

aloud, window cleaning, doing electrical repairs, shopping, cooking a meal, hairdressing, decorating a room, or even emptying chamber pots.

Task Force has rapidly expanded since its early days: from a budget of £3,000 a year in 1964, to £75,000 in 1967; from a few full-time staff, to over 50 now; from a couple of hundred volunteers, to over 11,000 volunteers each month. Centres now exist in Hertfordshire and Derbyshire, and a new one is likely to be set up in Barnet during the next few months. The objects of the organization have fired the imagination of young people throughout the country; it has, at the same time, provided real help for those whose needs cannot be met by the established welfare services.

It is perhaps surprising that not every London borough has a Task Force centre; some boroughs have given the most extraordinary reasons in explaining why they do not need a centre. Others seem to view offers of help from young people as a criticism of their own efforts.

One thing Task Force has shown is that young people, if given an opportunity, will respond to a challenge. Today, over 160 schools, and nearly 100 assorted youth clubs, have groups of volunteers within them. There are also a large number of young people, aged between 18 and 25, including nurses, actors, secretaries, bus conductors, shop assistants, students, vets, and Lloyds underwriters, who help each week.

Task Force's strength lies in the fact that it is a scheme for young people, thought up by the young, and put into practice by them. A number of areas have inter-schools committees, where the views of volunteers are exchanged, and where projects are planned. It is hoped that the success of Task Force will cause other areas of England to follow its lead.



Photo: R. J. B. Parkes

INSIDE THE SCHOOL

by R. W. R. de T. Mount (Ma VII)

Task Force in Westminster School has set itself two aims. The first is to try to persuade as many boys as possible to pay regular visits to an old age pensioner, and the second is to carry out, during the term, a number of projects in conjunction with the other schools belonging to the Westminster area of Task Force, namely, Sarah Siddons School; Queen's College, Harley St.; Westminster City School; and Francis Holland School.

Persuading boys to visit old people is the main problem confronting the Task Force representative in each house, and a yearly lecture to the sixth forms and below has been found to be the most effective recruiting method. During the year following such a lecture, replacement visitors for pensioners whose original visitors either leave school, or leave Task Force, can usually be found without much difficulty by the house representative in question.

Very few boys give up visiting their old man, or lady, once they have visited them more than three or four times; the boys who do give up are those who perhaps visit their old person once or twice, and feel that, as they live in a fairly pleasant council flat, and go regularly to a social club,

they do not really need visiting. Yet the mere fact that a flat is pleasant does not lessen old people's loneliness; and even if they do visit a social club once a week, they still have six days left to themselves. Radio, television, and books, often help a great deal, but human contact is also vital.

The joint projects carried out by the Westminster Task Force in conjunction with the other schools are various. Over certain week-ends, flats are decorated, and coach trips into the country for the old people are arranged. Generally, three week-ends each term are spent decorating: the old people who want rooms painted or wall-papered contact Task Force, and, usually, four or five rooms are completed each week-end this is done.

The coach trips are intended primarily for those who are wheel-chair cases, or who rarely leave London, or even their flats. Welfare buses, designed to carry wheel-chairs, are lent by the Westminster City Council, and such trips, to various places of interest, usually give great pleasure.

Every year, moreover, there is a Christmas party for all the old people, held at one of the schools in the Westminster group, and, next

term, it is hoped to hold an extra one just before the dress rehearsal of the annual production of Gilbert and Sullivan at Westminster, to which they can afterwards go.

For the future, of course, one hopes for a

general increase in the number of volunteers within the school, and for further joint projects; yet, even as the situation stands now, Task Force at Westminster has come a long way since it began in 1964.



Photo: R. J. B. Parkes

A PERSONAL VIEW

Mrs. Pennie, we were told, had Parkinson's disease, and was very entertaining—"I found her stories fascinating," ran the report we were given when we decided to join Task Force. We had no real idea of the responsibilities we were about to assume; fired by the persuasive enthusiasm of Anthony Steen, we had joined literally on the spur of the moment.

Rather apprehensively, we knocked on the door of Mrs. Pennie's three-roomed flat; I remember that we were surprised to find her installed in a new, comfortable flat: the extreme poverty we had somewhat naïvely anticipated was, on the surface, non-existent. This first meeting of ours was rather formal—as she told us later, if she had not liked us, she would have had no more to do with us.

She is plump, cheerful, and the proud grandmother of six; she has an only son, Peter, of whose praises we have never heard the end, and she is an extremely religious woman; her open-

ing remark to us was: "John, Andrew, and David; all Saints' names. How nice!" With the average Westminster's attitude to religion, we tried to conceal our inward groans. But, in fact, we have found Mrs. Pennie to be by no means averse to discussing religion, politics, and sex, with only a moderate bias; she is not utterly deaf to the modern way of life.

We are now very fond of her; we have known her for two years, seen her regularly during the term, written to her in the holidays, and visited her in hospital; we have also met her son, who was very grateful to us for going to see her, since he lives in Wales, and only sees her at Christmas. She has a small circle of friends, and belongs to two clubs, but her pleasure at our arrival is so evident that we are clearly a welcome and accepted part of her life.

Thus, we are faced with a difficult problem: we are all of us on the point of leaving Westminster, and only one of us lives in London; we

have told Mrs. Pennie that we shall keep in touch, and have arranged for two younger boys to take over, subject to her approval, for she was not at all sure she wanted replacements. Of course, we hope that she will soon be able to communicate with them as easily as she has done with us; but, provided they continue to see her, it will be only four years before they will need to find substitutes for themselves, and she will probably be even less willing to part with them than she was with us; moreover, by then she will be about seventy-six. Is it fair to expect her to continue to change her companions, and to transfer her affections, in a regular cycle of four years or less?

We have a complex relationship with Mrs. Pennie, and our friendship will not be able to stop abruptly; yet we cannot prevent ourselves from relinquishing the greater part of our responsibility towards her, a course that we find no more pleasant than she. Task Force is an admirable and worthwhile organization, but the full extent of the difficulties, responsibilities, and emotional stresses, should be thoroughly appreciated before it is joined.

D. E. Scrase (*Cl. VII*)

The postcard showed the basilica floodlit at night. "Dear Lil," I wrote, "I'm having a wonderful time here. The size of this church is quite amazing. I have lighted a prayer candle here for you. I hope you will be feeling better when I get back. Jon." And her health had improved enormously when I next saw her. Again and again, she thanked me for the postcard and the candle.

Lil is Irish, and vaguely Catholic. Despite her various illnesses, accentuated by old age, and loneliness, she is usually ready to laugh, sitting on the edge of the bed. Sometimes, however, she lies there, miserably, surrounded by a barrage of pills and patent medicines.

Mark and I visit her for about one hour every Thursday, to do what we can for her. We get her large-print books from the library, and sometimes get her cigarettes, or her lunchtime Guinness. She tells us again about her youth as a water diviner, about her husband's death, or about her married children, scattered from California to Muswell Hill. We also do odd jobs about the flat, from washing up, to laying linoleum. I think she is always pleased to see us; for our part, we are certainly glad of the opportunity to visit her.

J. P. Paterson (*Cl. VII*)

MUSIC AT WESTMINSTER

by C. W. Radice (*H. Rem.*)

The attendance register of the Choral Society reveals an alarming decline in numbers. At present, there are thirty members, of whom not more than twenty-five appear at any one practice; yet, two years ago, for the B minor Mass, there were well over fifty, and, five years ago, more than a hundred, attendants. The Abbey Choir, also, far from being the specialized choir that was intended when it was cut down some time ago, has difficulty in retaining its twenty or so members. Moreover, it is not merely a question of numbers; in both Westminster choirs, each section is held together by one or two reasonable singers, often masters, and it becomes all too obvious when they are absent.

122

The Orchestra register is slightly more encouraging; membership has fluctuated over the years; at the moment there are forty-five members, above average. But there are rarely more than thirty at any one practice, while nearly a hundred boys learn orchestral instruments.

These figures, then, show a falling interest in corporate music-making at Westminster. There are never more than a few really talented musicians in a school at any one time; School Music should provide an opportunity for people with a minimum of musical sense to take part in musical performance. At Westminster, to an increasing extent, the making of music is becoming confined to a minority.

Why this should be is a question that is not quite as baffling as is often supposed. The first, and clearest, reason is the much greater pressure of work; this time-honoured excuse for not attending a choir practice must more and more often be accepted as valid. Ten years ago, the whole school would go to the Robert Mayer Concerts on Saturday mornings; now, not even the lower forms go. Choral Society used to take place during school on Wednesdays; this is no longer possible. Music has been forced to become an exclusively extra-curricula activity at a time when free time is more and more required for work.

Yet one only has to look into Yard on a summer afternoon, to realize that Westminsterers still have time to play with. Academic work alone is not a sufficient explanation for the decreasing attendances. A physical factor involved is that, with earlier maturity, the boy treble has become a comparative rarity at Westminster. There are other reasons, however, reflective of the age in which we live.

With the ready availability of recordings and of broadcasts on the wireless, the urge to make one's own music is lessening. Until comparatively recently, the only means to the enjoyment of music was often to perform it oneself. The thought of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert singing duets together may seem quaint to us; but some kind of musical accomplishment was far more desirable then than it is today. Nowadays, we are witnessing the decline of amateur music in the home, and increasing professionalism in musical performance; for the vast majority, music has become merely something to listen to.

This is as evident at Westminster as any-

where else. Indeed, Westminsterers have more contact with professional music than boys at most other schools. Deterred, perhaps, by the high standards set by the gramophone and the London concert halls, they are more reluctant to make the attempt themselves; it is easier, and possibly more pleasurable, to walk over the river to the Festival Hall. Related to this attitude is the Westminster's "sophisticated" taste. Some of the music that is suited to school choirs may be out of fashion; yet one cannot hope to emulate the L.S.O. Chorus. Westminsterers find it easy to criticize the music that the Choirs sing; but they are vague in suggesting an alternative. Similarly, simple music arranged for school orchestras may disgust the Covent Garden devotee, but is it really worth struggling through great orchestral works, only to be padded out with professionals when it comes to the Concert? The School Orchestra may play trivial music, but at least it is the genuine school orchestra; it should be taken for what it is worth, and enjoyed.

Despite the difficulties these attitudes impose, and the general lack of interest within the school, remarkable things have been done. One recalls the B minor Mass, the St. Nicholas Cantata, the recent Poetry and Music recital, and fine performances by individuals. Large scale Choral works, however, are no longer possible with the present resources; pleas have been made before; but the problem has taken on the aspect of a vicious circle: in both Choirs, minute attendance makes rehearsals less enjoyable, and so numbers decline still further. Worthwhile things are still being done; but it is a pity that music at Westminster is fast becoming the prerogative of a talented few.

THE ELIZABETHAN CLUB

MEMBERSHIP

The following have been elected members of the Club:

- W 1962-67 BADGETT, WILLIAM JOHN LYTH
Beaufort House, Ham, Surrey.
- B 1962-67 BARLAS, GAVIN JAMES
Frog's Hole, Goudhurst, Kent.
- W 1963-67 BEYTS, TIMOTHY CHARLES
20 St. Stephen's Avenue, W.13.
- R 1964-66 BORTHEN, JUST CHRISTOPHER WEST-COTT
6 Evelyn House, Hornton Street, W.8.
- W 1966-67 BUNKER, JOHN PHILIP
Stanford University School of Medicine,
Medical Center, 300 Pasteur Drive,
Palo Alto, California 94304.
- R 1963-67 CARSWELL, ALEXANDER STEWART MALCOLM
67 Woodham Way, Woking, Surrey.
- L 1962-67 CLARKE, ROGER NOEL
5 Eldon Court, St. Anne's-on-Sea,
Lancashire.
- L 1962-67 CLIFFORD, WILLIAM ROBERT HENRY
7 Lake Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.
- A 1963-67 COOK, JEREMY LAURENCE CURNOCK
17 Bramham Gardens, London, S.W.5.
- L 1962-67 CORBIN, JOHN CHARLES NEAL
Little Acres, Davenham Avenue,
Northwood, Middx.
- G 1963-67 COUSENS, ALAN STEPHEN
7 Rutland Gate, S.W.7.
- B 1963-67 DAWSON, ROBERT FRANKLIN
77 Pine Walk, Carshalton, Surrey.
- R 1962-67 EAST, JOHN RICHARD ALAN
14 St. Stephen's Close, Avenue Road,
N.W.8.
- W 1961-67 FIRTH, DONALD
Heatherdene, 38 Bolters Lane, Ban-
stead, Surrey.
- B 1962-67 GILLAN, DAVID PATRICK
3 Church Hill, Wimbledon, S.W.19.
- G 1963-67 GRIFFITH, OLIVER WILLIAM
Ridgeway, Dormansland, Nr. Lingfield,
Surrey.
- G 1962-67 HASLAM, ROGER JOHN
Minden Cottage, Fir's Walk, Tewin
Wood, Herts.
- A 1963-67 KINMONTH, RALPH JOHN
70 Ladbroke Road, W.11.
- L 1962-67 LLOYD, ALASTAIR MURRAY
4 Priory Road, Felixstowe, Suffolk.
- R 1963-67 PHILLIPS, WILLIAM EDWARD LLOYD
Holly Lodge, St. Margarets-at-Cliffe,
Kent.
- W 1962-67 PICKARD, GILES JONATHAN
1 Carlisle Mansions, Carlisle Place,
S.W.1.
- A 1963-67 PICKERING, DONALD RICHARD
31 Argyll Road, W.8.
- L 1962-67 PIKE, CHARLES LANDER
11B The Precincts, Canterbury, Kent.

- W 1963-67 PLANER, VICTOR GEOFFREY
36 Fife Road, East Sheen, London,
S.W.14.
- R 1962-67 PRATLEY, DAVID ILLINGWORTH
Lyth Cottage, 119 Vivian Avenue,
Wembley, Middx.
- G 1963-67 RAVENSCROFT, DAVID GEORGE JULIAN
12 Hamilton Terrace, St. John's Wood,
N.W.8.
- G 1966-67 ROSTOW, CHARLES NICHOLAS
c/o State Department, Washington.
- R 1963-67 SCOTT, JEREMY WILLIAM LEMES-SURIER
18 Somers Crescent, W.2.
- W 1963-67 SCOTT, PHILIP WARDLAW
15 Warren Avenue, Richmond, Surrey.
- A 1963-67 SHARMAN, MARK PHILIP
10 Erskine Hill, Hampstead Garden
Suburb, N.W.11.
- L 1963-67 SHARP, ROBIN FARQUHARSON
Flat 3, 4 The Park, Highgate, N.6.
- A 1962-67 SHILLINGFORD, MICHAEL JOHN
6 Hurlingham Court, Ranelagh Gardens,
S.W.6.
- G 1963-67 WILLIAMS, PAUL BENEDICT PUXON
9 Hitchin Road, Stevenage, Herts.

DEATHS

- BLUNDELL—On June 19th, 1967, Sir Robert Henderson Blundell (H.B. 1915-19), aged 66.
- HALLETT—On September 8th, 1967, the Hon. Sir Hugh Imbert Periam Hallett (Ash and R. (K.S. Non-resident) 1897-1905) aged 80.
- HARDING—On August 2nd, 1967, Aubrey Milward Harding (Ash and R. 1903-08) aged 78.
- McKENNA—On September 26th, 1967, Stephen McKenna (R. (K.S. Non-resident) 1900-06) aged 79.
- NICHOLS—On September 27th, 1967, Wallace Bertram Nichols (G. 1902-06) aged 79.
- O'SULLIVAN—On June 26th, 1967, Major-General Curtis Dion O'Sullivan (H.B. 1908-12) aged 72.
- STEVENS—On July 18th, 1967, Alfred Leslie Wetton Stevens, M.I.C.E. (G. 1910-14) aged 71.
- WEIL—On August 1st, 1967, Harold Theodore Weil (Ash 1915-18) aged 65.

Sir Robert Blundell was a son of Robert Blundell of Horley, Surrey. On leaving Westminster he went to Trinity College, Cambridge, and was called to the Bar by the Inner Temple in 1924. He was appointed Recorder of Colchester in 1947, and in 1949 became a Metropolitan Magistrate in 1949 sitting at Thames and afterwards at Bow Street. In 1960 he was appointed Chief Metropolitan

Magistrate. He was a man of many friends and a Busby Trustee. By his Will he left £1,000 for the benefit of Westminster scholars at Trinity.

Sir Hugh Hallett, M.C., was the eldest son of Forbes Hallett, Barrister-at-law, and the elder of the two Westminster brothers. He was elected to Ch.Ch. Oxford in 1905, and was President of the Union in 1908. He was called to the Bar at the Inner Temple in 1911, and served with distinction in the 1914-18 War. He took silk in 1936 and had a large commercial and general practice. In 1939 he was appointed a Judge of the Queen's Bench Division. He retired in 1957. He was a Busby Trustee.

Stephen McKenna was a son of Leopold McKenna and a nephew of Reginald McKenna, a former Chancellor of the Exchequer. He was elected to Ch.Ch. Oxford in 1906, and for a short time was an Assistant Master at the School. In 1912 he published his first novel, *The Reluctant Lover*, which had considerable success. It was followed in 1917 by *Sonia* which established his reputation as a novelist. He wrote numerous other novels and an autobiography, *Whilst I Remember* (1921).

Wallace Bertram Nichols was a son of Harry B. Nichols C.E. of Streatham. He became a poet and an author, publishing two collections of his poems of which the best known was *The Saga of Judas*. He also wrote several novels.

Major-General Curtis Dion O'Sullivan left Westminster for California University. He had a very distinguished career in the U.S. Army, being Commanding General of the 49th Division, and Adjutant General of California 1946-51. He died in California. Three of his sons were at the School.

MARRIAGES

BLAND : CHAPMAN—On July 1st, 1967 Edmund Bland (W. 1951-56) to Sandra Jean, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Russell Chapman.

SILVER WEDDING

PEEBLES : ANDERSON—On September 19th, 1942, James Ross Peebles (Assistant Master 1931-56) now Head Master of Hereford Cathedral School, to Betty Anna Anderson.

OLD WESTMINSTERS

Sir John Winnifrith, K.C.B. (K.S. 1921-26) Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, who is retiring at the end of the year, has been appointed Director General of the National Trust.

The following were noted in the Birthday Honours:

- C.B.E. Mr. G. M. Abrahams (H.B. 1930-35) Chairman of Aquascutum for services to export.
Mr. P. F. C. Lawton (G. 1926-29) Director of Commercial & Sales Dept., British European Airways.
- O.B.E. Lt.-Col. I. N. Momtchiloff (B. 1944-48), R.A., T.A. (retd.).
- M.B.E. Major J. D. G. Walker-Brash (Ash. 1933-37).

Mr. L. E. Tanner, C.V.O. (G. 1900-09) has had conferred upon him the Honorary Degree of D.Litt. by the University of Southampton.

The following Old Westminsters are Masters of their City Companies for the ensuing year:

Sir Stephen Holmes, K.C.M.G. (K.S. 1909-13) (Leathersellers).

The Earl of Gainsborough (B. 1937-8) (Gardeners').

Mr. G. L. Y. Radcliffe, M.B.E. (G. 1931-37) (Upper Bailiff, Weavers Company).

Mr. R. C. S. Walters (Ash. 1904-07), senior partner for 36 years of Messrs. Herbert Lapworth Partners, Consulting Civil Engineers, has retired, but has consented to remain a consultant for another five years.

The Revd. F. R. M. Wardel (R. 1949-53) has been appointed to the Strathalbyn Joint Charge, South Australia, which comprises Presbyterian and Congregational Churches.

Mr. J. K. Ledlie (G. 1955-60) has been successful in the Method II competition for the Administrative Class of the Civil Service.

Mr. N. M. Horsfall (Q.S. 1959-64) of Peterhouse, Cambridge, was awarded the Chancellor's Medal for Classical Learning.

SHROVE TUESDAY DINNER

The annual dinner for O.W.W. solicitors and articled clerks will be held on Shrove Tuesday, 27th February, 1968, at Church House Restaurant. Particulars of the dinner will be sent to O.W.W. who have attended recent dinners. Any other O.W. solicitor or articled clerk who would like to attend is asked to inform Mr. E. C. Robbins, Broadcasting House, Portland Place, London, W.1.

OLD WESTMINSTERS' CRICKET CLUB:

SUMMER 1967

The early part of the season was somewhat marred by rain. The Cricket Week, however, produced some excellent cricket, and the O.W.W. distinguished themselves by two very good wins on the Saturdays, against Lancing Rovers, and the Free Foresters. In a return match at Lancing, the O.W.W. won again, and they finished the season with a win against Beckenham.

Results:

- vs. Harefield: O.W.W.: 77, Harefield: 79-5. Lost by 5 wks.
vs. Wimbledon: 203-4, dec., O.W.W.: 193. Lost by 10 runs.
vs. Datlands Park: 192, O.W.W.: 128-8. Drawn.
vs. School: O.W.W.: 203-4, dec., School: 203-8. Lost by 4 wks.
vs. Ruins: O.W.W.: 222-6, dec., Ruins: 223-8. Lost by 2 wks.
vs. Incogniti: 202, O.W.W.: 81. Lost by 121.
vs. Lancing Rovers: 196-8, dec., O.W.W.: 197-6. Won by 4 wks.
vs. Stock Exchange: 205-5, dec., O.W.W.: 196-6. Drawn.
vs. Eton Ramblers: 184, O.W.W.: 170. Lost by 14 runs.
vs. Dragonflies: O.W.W.: 120, Dragonflies: 121-8. Lost by 2 wks.

vs. Old Citizens: 203-8, dec., O.WW.: 205-4. Won by 6 wkts.
vs. Free Foresters: O.WW.: 171, Free Foresters: 163. Won by 8 runs.
vs. Lancing Rovers: 138. O.WW. 141-5. Won by 5 wkts.

GAMES COMMITTEE

The Annual General Meeting of the Football Club will be held at the school at 6.30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 9th, 1968, by kind permission of the Head Master.

D. A. ROY, *Hon. Secretary*,
49 Pebworth Road,
Harrow, Middx.

OLD WESTMINSTERS' FOOTBALL CLUB

This year the Football Club has made a very good start to the season, as is shown by the following First XI results:

O.WW. F.C. vs. Middlesex Hospital: Won, 8-0.
O.WW. F.C. vs. Old Brentwoods: Drew, 1-1.
O.WW. F.C. vs. Pembroke College, Cambridge: Won, 4-0.

O.WW. F.C. vs. New College, Oxford: Drew, 0-0.
Further dates of interest:

December 23rd, 1967: O.WW. F.C. vs. Old Wellingtonians, at Vincent Square. (Arthur Dunn Cup: 1st round.)

March 2nd, 1968: Football Club Supper; tickets from the Hon. Secretary for Football.

AGENDA

1. Chairman.
2. Minutes.
3. Matters arising.
4. Hon. Secretary's Report for the season 1965-66.
5. Annual Accounts.
6. Election of Officers for the season 1967-68. (The retiring Committee will make a proposal for this item, but any member wishing to propose a candidate for office should send the name, together with the names of the proposer and seconder to the Hon. Secretary not later than three days before the Meeting.)
7. Honorariums.
8. Any other business.

MESSENT OF BECKENHAM LTD.

Tailors and Outfitters

SUITS TAILORED TO MEASURE IN OUR OWN WORKSHOPS
ALL HAND TAILORED WORK

Also a fine selection of ready made suits and coats by
"Aquascutum of London"

Patterns available upon request

8 THE BROADWAY . CROYDON ROAD . BECKENHAM . KENT

Tel: BEC 1842

CHOOSING A **CAREER?** **THINK OF BANKING!**

In District Bank we set you on the road to a promising career – a career that puts you in the centre of the business life of your community.

We are looking for young men who hold or expect to obtain a good G.C.E., preferably including English and mathematics. Those who join us from the sixth form, with suitable "A" level passes, receive special recognition by way of higher commencing salaries. Older applicants, up to age 25, should have business experience or qualifications such as a University Degree.

We run a comprehensive training scheme for all our new entrants. You will be able to attend special courses on practical banking at our Staff Training Centres. If you come straight from school, you will be granted daytime study leave to prepare for the examinations of the Institute of Bankers.

District Bank Club provides a wide range of activities for our staff—football, golf, photography, dramatics and a host of others. There are special benefits, such as help in buying a house and a good pension on retirement.

Prospects are good—Branch Managers' salaries range from over £2,000 to around £5,000 and there are opportunities for advancement to the higher administrative positions with much greater rewards.

Your Careers Master can tell you more about District Bank—or you can write to the Staff Manager, District Bank Limited, London City Office, 75 Cornhill, London E.C.3.



DISTRICT BANK
LIMITED

PLEASE QUOTE *THE ELIZABETHAN* WHEN ANSWERING ADVERTISEMENTS

Enjoy the good things of life at the FAMOUS

CAVENDISH HOTEL

EASTBOURNE



Beautifully sited on the Grand Parade, right on the seafront.
Superb service. Sheltered sun verandah. Cocktail and lounge bars.
Banqueting rooms. Topline band for Dinner Dances every Saturday.
Open all the year round. A.A., R.A.C. and R.S.A.C. approved.

THE Hotel for those who desire the best in modern living.

RING EASTBOURNE 27401

Manager: E. B. Johnson, F.H.C.I.

Grams: Cavendish, Eastbourne

A MEMBER OF THE DE VERE GROUP

PLEASE QUOTE *THE ELIZABETHAN* WHEN ANSWERING ADVERTISEMENTS