



THE ELIZABETHAN

WESTMINSTER IN HEREFORDSHIRE

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WESTMINSTER IN HEREFORDSHIRE

As last year, Herefordshire welcomed us back to our home in exile with a clean, white face; a druggel of snow lay over the rich carpet of England; trains ploughed their way down the deep ruts in their metal lanes and deposited us at Knightwick or at Bromyard; and from there the journey had to be completed on foot, breaking the untouched snow that obscured the country lanes. Trains were late, connections missed; one boy took thirty hours coming from Scotland; another walked the ten odd miles from Worcester to arrive at four in the morning; but Westminster returned.

Westminster returned; but normal communication between the three centres, Buckenhill, Whitbourne and Fernie Bank, was impossible; the School was not able to assemble as a whole till nearly a fortnight after the beginning of term. But no time was lost; at the three centres work was started immediately with as normal a time-table as possible, and several senior boys learnt much by teaching Lower School Forms. Grant's were in the worst position; for the first five days of term the Grantites who normally sleep out at Huntlands had to stay at Fernie Bank; the roads in the immediate neighbourhood of Fernie are bad enough normally; covered with frozen snow they were almost impassable for some time after the other of the School's lines of communication became safe again.

Gradually the snow thawed away, was smudged and then erased, like chalk being wiped from a blackboard. But the temperature remained fixed below freezing point, a stern deterrent to most outdoor activities, especially biking; for the first six weeks of term we have enjoyed the luxury of travelling between Buckenhill and Whitbourne in coaches. Skaters, too, have been well pleased; only now, in the seventh week of term is the ice disappearing from the moat at Whitbourne, from the lake at Gaines.

But what has happened, you will ask, since the last ELIZABETHAN went to press? Surely there has been another of these extraordinary changes in the manner of living of Westminster School that have taken place with such deliberate regularity these past two years? For once there has been no such change; we have carried on in our war-time routine in which the many novelties of the past two years are now almost normal habits. What is remarkable is that our

organisation here in the country is far more complex than ever in London. For while valiantly endeavouring to adapt ourselves to rural simplicity, we cling to our metropolitan culture; to attempt to compromise between the two is a tricky business and our time-tables are full and complicated.

The main addition of the country and the war to our time-table is farming and the care of our "estates." Last term we helped local farmers with the end of their corn harvest and with the root crop—the last a cold and messy job, piling swedes and mangel-wurzels, etc. In our own gardens, too, once the crops were out, the work was rather dull, consisting of clearing and forking over; so far this term frost has made gardening impossible. Wood-cutting, though, is a popular station in cold weather and a very necessary one, with shortage of fuel. But the real excitement is the animals; Buckenhill are the most enterprising, their mascot and prize specimen being a goat, carefully tended by a Homeboarder and two Busbyites; their menagerie also includes ducks, hens, geese and pigs. Grant's keep forty-five hens; last term they killed off two fine bacon pigs and are now hard at work fattening up three porkers for the slaughter house. Rigaud's started on pigs last term; incidentally they have made good use of their comparatively small garden and it is a model of careful husbandry. College still refrains from pigs but keeps hens; last term it was discovered that most of the baby ducks bought in the summer had grown into drakes; some of the offenders amply atoned by helping to provide College with a good Play Supper.

Handicrafts flourish in the country; of these the most enterprising is printing. The Whitbourne Press, staffed by King's Scholars and the Buckenhill Press, staffed by Busbyites, are both kept busy with house lists, notepaper headings, concert programmes, etc. The Whitbourne Press has now taken on two wood-block cutters and we await some exciting publication.

Carpentry classes are held at Buckenhill and Whitbourne and three King's Scholars are learning the noble craft of plumbing, under the expert guidance of Mr. Harold Smith, of Worcester; it almost seems as if we are preparing for another evacuation.

The war has given fresh stimulus to model aeroplane construction but seems to have almost killed the name of "Wind Soc.". "Model

Aeroplane Societies" throughout the School attempt ever more ambitious flights and prosper in spite of their new titles; their creations often help, more frequently muddle, the bewildered students of aircraft recognition.

Rigaud's, we hear, have a model electric railway of no mean size, but the really fashionable thing in some circles, especially in Homeboarders, is to build a crystal wireless set, perhaps because it can so easily be concealed?

With ice on the ground outdoor sports are hard to find, and indoor pastimes have to be found by those who have any spare time left from other activities; at Buckenhill one plays ping-pong, in College billiards; this term, however, Buckenhill has been overwhelmed by a mania for darts, much to the disgust of the more sophisticated members of Busby's, Homeboarders and Ashburnham.

These are the occupations which are our response to the more energetic nature of country life; but we carefully preserve our urban culture, so far as we are able. Literary activities of a creative nature are not particularly in evidence; the Grantite, the King's Scholars' Chronicle and the College Street Clarion continue, each in its own peculiar way; the Grantite a termly printed affair, the Clarion a fortnightly duplicated magazine, the Chronicle a single, weekly, typed production; their journalism is still vigorous.

Interest in drama is high. Grant's Literary Society belongs to the British Drama League and reads plays once a fortnight; Ashburnham have successfully introduced play-reading to Homeboarders, a further sign of the excellent relations existing between these Houses, forced by the war to share so many things; Rigaud's also read plays with much interest; College Under Election Literary Society still flourishes, but College Literary Society, which held successful meetings last term, is not meeting this term; the reason for this is that at the end of term some King's Scholars and Rigaudites are producing Shakespeare's "Richard II" in the local village "hut," and rehearsals have been in full swing throughout the term. We hear also that Busby's Under are putting on a short play and Grant's Hall a variety show.

Of all the arts, music receives most attention; at each centre there is a flourishing Gramophone Society, encouraged by appreciative members. That the standard of musical accomplishment remains as high as ever—and Westminster has some reputation in this respect—the concerts

given by the Westminster School and Whitbourne Choral Society and Orchestra show; and besides this, Busby's are giving a concert of part-songs at the end of term, while College Quartet Society still meets every week to revel in English Folk songs or parodies of Handel.

It is unfortunate that painting is so neglected; at Westminster one could hardly fail to visit an art museum; now it seems almost a forgotten interest. But nowadays all our artistic energy—a Public Schoolboy having artistic energy is ridiculous, a terrible paradox, almost a disease—is poured into music or drama. Poets? we like to think we know a few, and certainly we occasionally find a poem with something in it in a House magazine; but painters? we can almost count them on our eyes.

Though our culture may be lop-sided, it survives; even if slightly cramped by war-work and rural occupations, it pushes its way into the time-table and ensures that, if the body is well exercised, so must be the mind and senses. We are still Westminster School, the most liberal of public schools; in all our changes, in all our improvements, in all our deficiencies, we are still members of that ancient and royal foundation; long may we continue to thrive, our prayer ever being *Dat Deus Incrementum*.

WAR WORK AT WESTMINSTER

It was hard to remember that Britain was at war; hard to realise, as one satisfied the eye with the sweeping curves of the Downs, the full implication of that phrase, "England at war"; even in the last days of France it was hard to hold the meaning of the deep rumbling from across the Channel, in the face of the changeless beauty of those hills.

Then we were virtually at peace; now at war. Then we watched others fight; now we, too, help a little the wide-spread effort; we prepare ourselves: and, although it is still hard to think in terms of total warfare and mass murder, impossible to visualise an alien army marching through neat hedges, across English fields, yet every day we help in some way the struggle for victory, and, however small this contribution may be, by our participation become daily a more vital part of a nation, of a group of nations, united to one end—the defeat of Nazi Germany and her two confederates.

First the more obvious ways in which we help: the School members of the Home Guard, the

Junior Training Corps, the Air Training Corps, the Scouts, all are contributing a small part to the war effort. Then there is the help we give to local farmers, the cultivation of our gardens, the rearing of our own poultry and pigs.

During the holidays, many boys undertook work of various forms: several worked in munition factories; several did farming or market-gardening; some of the Home Guards went on training courses; many did A.R.P. work or undertook fire-watching; one helped at an R.A.F. station; there was an Army messenger, a W.V.S. messenger; two Post Office sorters, one of these in a busy Edinburgh branch; a Sunday School teacher; a hotel hall porter; a Red Cross worker; a Waste Paper Salvager; and so on. Even in this way did many Westminster spend their Christmas holidays.

All these are such obvious forms of war work, that we are liable to think them our only contribution; but it is the actual work we do in the form-room that is most important, though it seems to have least immediate usefulness; and here what is important is not so much the actual knowledge we assimilate—much of this is of no practical material value in itself—but the way in which our minds are trained and moulded; well-trained minds are vitally necessary for the success of our arms in the present struggle for survival; after the war brainpower, backed up by knowledge and experience, will be essential for any attempt to solve the immense problems with which the world will be confronted.

ELECTION, 1942

PROVISIONALLY ELECTED TO CHRIST CHURCH, OXFORD.

TO SCHOLARSHIPS:

- R. W. Young (Classics)
- A. R. Bridbury (History)
- J. P. Willsher (Natural Science)
- K. L. Ellis (Hinchliffe Scholarship for History)

TO EXHIBITIONS:

- P. F. Alcock (Classics)
- J. A. Kirbyshire (Modern Languages)
- P. N. Ray (Mathematics)

PROVISIONALLY ELECTED TO TRINITY COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE.

- J. A. Kirbyshire (Modern Languages)
- J. M. Erde (Mathematics)
- D. S. Greaves (Modern Languages)

SCHOOL NOTES

J. A. Kirbyshire, K.S., has been elected to a Minor Scholarship at Trinity College, Cambridge, in Modern Languages.

Dr. G. R. Y. Radcliffe, Editor of the Record of Old Westminster, has been appointed a Governor of the School.

By the death of the Duke of Connaught the School has lost one of her greatest visitors. It was the Duke who unveiled the War Memorial up School which was destroyed by fire last year.

Dr. Adam Fox was installed as Canon of Westminster Abbey on January 25th, 1942.

Mr. Snelling has come this term to take the place of Mr. Kendall who is absent through ill-health. P. Lloyd-Jones, O.W., took his place for the first fortnight of term.

The Westminster School and Whitbourne Choral Society and Orchestra are to give a concert in Bromyard Parish Church on March 29th, at which Brahms' "Requiem" will be performed.

Members of College and Rigaud's, under the heading of the "Westminster at Whitbourne Players," are performing "Richard II" in Whitbourne Ex-Servicemens' Hut on March 21st.

Four new School Monitors have been appointed this term. A. R. Bridbury to be Head of Homeboarders, K. L. Ellis to be Head of Rigaud's, F. L. Greenland to be Head of Bushby's, and M. Trebucq to be Head of Ashburnham. C. H. Christie has been appointed Head of School Music.

At a meeting of the Games' Committee D. M. Peattie was appointed Captain of Fencing and A. M. Denny was appointed Captain of Boxing.

We draw our readers' attention to two books recently published by O.W.W.—*Principles of Liberty*, by Captain H. E. Bruges; and *Pillars of the Sky*, written under the pen-name of Hugh Merrick.

A shortened form of Commemoration Service was held in Whitbourne Parish Church on November 17th.

Athletics are being held at the beginning of Election term this year.

WESTMINSTER ; FEBRUARY 1942

For the last month or two we have been free from the coming and going of builders' men and the successive accumulation and dispersal of heaped debris. Both the School and Abbey have now done what had to be done in tackling the results of last year's devastation, and have completed what are technically known as "First Aid Repairs."

On Mr. Simpson's and Mr. Rudwick's houses we have been able to put new roofs which will be more than temporary; and the Class Room block east of Ashburnham, as also the Gymnasium, is protected from the weather by corrugated iron. The walls of School, College Dormitory, and the Busby Library, have been made firm and weather-proof. So if without *ὄβρις* one may wishfully discount the dangers to which we and they are still exposed, one can visualise School with a good hammerbeam roof (free from the shame of tie-rods), oak paneling which in time can blossom with heraldic blazonry, newly carved achievements on the wall behind the dais, and a lighting system worthy of the room. The Busby Library has lost all that it had, but one can at least see this made again into a room of quiet dignity, with panelling and book shelves to clothe its walls, and either a bust or hatchment to associate it with the great man to whom it owed its former glories. And College—well, that calls for hard thinking and courageous decision, and it is none too early for the thinking to be begun. Not even the most sentimentally conservative can honestly have expected that the interior of the Dormitory would continue unchanged throughout the course of the present century: not even the most timid can have been convinced that, when it came, any change at all must necessarily be catabolic.

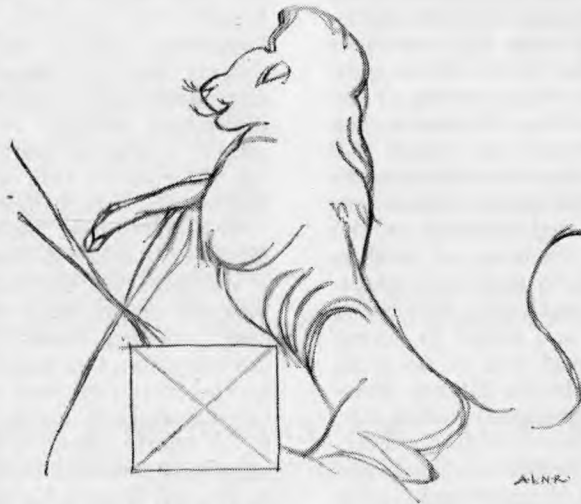
The publication in *The Times* of a brief note about the crayon sketch of a heraldic lion, uncovered by the fall of the plaster covering of an election-room ceiling, brought one or two press photographers nosing around, but as various adverse conditions completely baffled them, a fascimile was made from a tracing, and it is hoped that a reproduction of this will accompany the present article. For the benefit of anyone who missed the previous account, it may be recalled that the chief interest of the discovery lies in the fact that the sketch must have been made while the building was in course of construction, about 212 years ago. It may have been done by Lord Burlington, who—and not Wren, as you thought—designed the Dormitory. (If you did, you were not too far wrong, for Wren did a design for it, rather more

pompously, and Burlington borrowed the general idea).

Anyone who went round No. 17 at Christmas and noted its depressing state of dereliction and accumulated grime, would have been surprised to see how magnificently it responded to a week of intensive cleaning. It is now a most cheerful place and a hive of activity, but you must not be told what is going on there and if you have any ideas on the subject you are asked to forget them; and it isn't the House of Commons, Admiralty, M.O.I., or B.B.C.

The atmosphere of Homeboarders and of the lower part of No. 19, under (anonymous) military occupation, is less inspiring. The first floor of No. 19 has recently been taken, as offices, by a branch of Toc H. You know all about Busby's, which might have been designed for its present (very important and welcome) occupants, just as Rigaud's suits the London City Mission. The L.C.M.'s theme-song, constantly wafted across yard, is not my favourite hymn-tune.

One can never view the ruined houses in the Precincts without an intense realisation of all the



A reproduction of the crayon drawing recently discovered in College.

personal loss and sorrow that these bare and blackened walls represent; nor without vivid remembrance of the early morning on that terrible Sunday, the lengths of hose lying everywhere, the dripping water and the reek of charred wood—and the magnificent people, who had lost everything and yet talked with such cheerful detachment that one might have assumed them to be just kindly neighbours, come round to help someone else who was in trouble.

But, discounting this aspect, one finds now that the historical and architectural losses are very much less (even in the Little Cloister) than they might well have been, and that a rich store of interest has survived.

The Deanery has gone, in a sense, and the Deanery was the Abbot's House, "the only approximately complete medieval house in London." But the Abbot's House comprised the buildings on all four sides of the little yard: College Hall was his dining-room and Jerusalem Chamber his Great Parlour, both still happily undamaged. The other surviving portion of the medieval house was the Long Chamber, the Dean's Study, on the First Floor, above the vaulted passage running from the Cloisters to Dean's Yard, and of this the walls, at least, are left. The charming plastered building at the north-east corner, which combines so delightfully with the stairs leading to Jericho, is intact. The main house, on the south-east, which the Dean occupied, was built and added to during the seventeenth century and was of no great architectural importance. In the kitchen quarters there is a good deal of medieval walling left, and the fire has revealed two exceedingly interesting fourteenth-century windows, which are perhaps the only examples of unrestored Gothic tracery left at Westminster.

Talking of fourteenth-century windows, I ought at this point to assume a white sheet and make the humiliating disclosure that the window in the north gable of School, whose discovery was celebrated in my article of July last, proves to be modern—and if you will think hard you will see (as the Dean did at once) why it could not have been otherwise. It is a very pretty window, all the same.

In Little Cloister, the Organist's House, in the south-west corner, was completely gutted, but the walls stand. The staircase hall is a deep square well of miscellaneous early walling, and the upper part was built by Abbot Litlington at the end of the fourteenth century, the one

golden period when the monastery, having inherited a fortune from Cardinal Langham, formerly Abbot, really had money of its own to spend on building. It shows in old pictures of the Abbey buildings as a tall square tower, and was known as Litlington's Tower. Standing inside and looking up, today one sees it again as a tower; and one can see at various levels a medieval feature which, so far as I know, may be peculiar to Westminster. For Litlington equipped this building with the very last word in (fourteenth-century) lighting devices, consisting of wall-niches for lamps, provided with flues to carry off the fumes and smoke.

Canon Barry's house, on the south side of Little Cloister, has completely gone, only some of the ground floor walls remaining. It was an interesting house, with some good seventeenth-century plaster ceilings, but it was architecturally less important than No. 4 (Dr. Costley-White's old house on the east side) which is fortunately intact, with its fine seventeenth-century staircase, magnificent fireplaces of the same date, and a wealth of panelling and other interesting details. No. 5 next door is also intact; not an interesting house, but attached to the Infirmary's Hall which also survives, with fourteenth-century doorways, windows and roof.

The north-west house (which was Canon Marriott's) suffered badly through the burning of its roof; but the lower parts survive, with a pleasant seventeenth-century balustered staircase, panelled rooms, and fireplaces. In the drawing-room two panels are still decorated with an elaborate stencilled foliage-design in red: it dates from early eighteenth-century times, and is, of course, much less sensational than the surprising sixteenth-century painted decorations in No. 20 Dean's Yard, another house which, with all its interesting medieval features, is still happily undamaged.

The Precentor's House (No. 2), north-east of the Cloister, is a total wreck. It was of little architectural value, and the same may be said of No. 3, on the east side, of which only some of the walls are left. But No. 3 has at least one great distinction, for its front door, opening from the Cloister is the west doorway of the Infirmary Chapel (St. Katherine), and the remains of the Norman arcade, together with windows and other details, are still to be seen in its garden.

I understand that by the time these words appear in print, Abbey services will be taking place in the Choir as usual, and visitors who read

last May the newspaper accounts of how the lantern roof went up in flames, and how the remains of this roof and of the vaulting below crashed down upon the Choir and Crossing, may well be amazed to find no obvious signs of any destruction at all. Actually, almost the only damage in the Choir seems to have been the breaking of a poppy-head and a reading desk at the back of the Deanery pew. The black and white marble paving laid in the Crossing by Dr. Busby, who is buried beneath it, was considerably damaged, but the slabs have been taken up, rearranged, and re-laid so skilfully that the effects are hardly noticeable.

The new roof over the Lantern takes the same (low pyramidal) form as the old; but being all reinforced concrete it just sits on the tower without exerting any thrust and without any need for horizontal beams or a ceiling, to tie it in at the foot of the roof-slopes. At present one looks right up to the apex of the roof: later on, vaulting will be formed below it. But, like Wyatt's plaster vaulting which was destroyed in the fire and like the inner dome at St. Paul's, this vaulting will only serve the cause of visual satisfaction. If this proceeding strikes you as being unworthy of the (brave new) twentieth century, come and look at the roof in its present state and see if you can suggest an alternative solution, which would be structurally honest and at the same time provide a worthy ceiling and canopy to the actual place of the King's Crown-ing.

The Abbey people have done a great work, during recent months, in the way of putting precious things into a place of safety, and the erection of mounds of sandbags over tombs, etc., that cannot be moved, is still in progress.

Henry VII's Chapel has really been stripped. The stalls and their canopies have gone, and the bronze gates, and all the statues from the range of niches which run right round the interior. These statues are about the most important series of medieval sculpture in the country, and as they just stood loosely in the niches, without any attachment to the wall, it is terrifying to think what danger they ran from the blast which destroyed the windows and brought masonry crashing down from the fan-vaulting. But blast apparently "bloweth where it listeth, and thou canst not tell." The bomb that fell on the County Hall terrace broke one (rather well-protected) window in Poets' Corner, and firemen inside the Sweepers' Room opening from the West Cloister were twisted off their feet by the blast of it. It left Henry VII's Chapel untouched, and neither this nor the blast from the "Coeur de Lion" bomb just outside the Chapel took the opportunity to swirl these precious statues from their niches and dash them down upon the fragile crests and canopies of the stalls.

When we think of what we have suffered it is good to remember what we have escaped.

A. L. N. RUSSELL.

QUEEN'S SCHOLARS AND TOWNBOYS

By the Reverend F. M. YGLESIAS (Q.S. 1881-1886)

In a notice of Mr. L. E. Tanner's "Westminster School" over the initials "B.C.B.", which appeared in the *Cambridge Review* a few years ago, I read with amazement and perplexity the following:

"Towards the end of the purely narrative portion are some severe paragraphs about Rutherford whose greatness is only imperfectly appreciated by Mr. Tanner. 'Unfortunately he was to jeopardise his position in 1890 and again in 1893 by a singularly unfortunate proposal to abolish College and distribute the Queen's Scholars among the other houses.' But Mr. Tanner does not realise that the feud between Queen's Scholars and Town Boys was deadly. It amazed a new boy in the Election term of that year, and now seems quite

incredible. The compromise by which non-resident Queen's Scholarships were created and the holders distributed among the houses completely ended this evil."

Was this really the case, and, if so, how had it come about? To those of us who recall the harmonious relations between Q.SS. and T.BB. in the 1880's, the change in so few years to a deadly feud, no less, seems incredible, and hard of explanation: in this I have been able to confirm my own recollection by that of the Captain of my election (with whom to be reassociated here at Cambridge after a break of fifty-five years is a singular happiness): he says that apart from the keen partisanship worked up over the Q.SS. v. T.BB. matches and boat races, he can remember nothing but an amicable and

often intimate association between members of either section, and suggested names of individuals, as I could do also, whose common pursuits, tastes, interests, and hobbies, found congenial companionship outside their own frontiers; and from the complementary angle of a Town Boy up Rigaud's, the Bishop of Grantham (A. A. Markham, my friend then as now) has written to me: "I have no recollection whatsoever of any deplorable feud between Q.SS. and T.BB. from '81 to '88." Cheeky small Town Boys indeed would sometimes jeer at their late house-mates now become juniors, and, in reference to the myth of constant tannings, would pretend to observe how gingerly these would sit themselves down.

Now Mr. Withers emphatically agrees with me that most of those in College in our day had previously been Town Boys, and would carry on into College their acquaintance with those remaining in their former houses, who, on their part would not find the old camaraderie entirely broken off: we no longer took our meals together, and lock-hours isolated us, but up School, up Fields, up Water, in Debating and Glee Societies, walks round bounds or on the Parliament Terrace on Sundays, and in encounters in "Suts" or "Jeaks" we were still often together.

Those on the other hand elected, after 1879, *ab extra* a year younger than those elected from the School, and "who only College knew" were quite in the minority; and while such continued, a minority would soon learn of the wider School horizon from their fellows: it seems significant that the five named (page 65) by L. James, himself elected into College in 1882 *ab extra*, as examples of good influence, were all Town Boys.

I have made out as well as I could from Forshall and the School lists of my period the following table:

Years	1879	1880	1881	1882	1883	1884	1885	1886
Elected								
Q.SS. from								
Town Boys	6	10	9	7	10	5	3	4
<i>Ab extra</i>	3	2	3	2	1	11	3	5

If the change of balance shown in the last three of these years continued, and increased as time went on, so that a great majority of Q.SS. knew nothing of the life of the School outside College, and if the system so worked or was worked that all the brains (as measured by examinations) entering the School were picked for College, and the muscle left to enter the houses, such a schism in the School as "B.C.B."

alleged might conceivably have resulted—I don't know—but anyhow, in our day, no such schism existed. Town Boys like W. L. Benbow, Morison, Hodge, Higgins (Bernard), A. M. T. Jackson, Hewitt, Buttar, Stirling, Tavers or Bompas were the equals (in some cases the superiors) in scholarship of their Q.S. contemporaries, and Pinks were, as I recollect them, pretty evenly distributed.

We had the idea, whether true or false, that the relations between "Tugs" and Oppidans at Eton were definitely less happy than ours between Q.SS. and T.BB., and were wont to account for this by what we considered our better system of electing the Foundationers from the School instead of planting them into it: a system which, so far, the admission of the few *ab extra* had not seriously qualified, nor seemed likely so to do in the future, considering the year's advantage in age possessed by Town Boy Minor Candidates, and their additional chances of admission as *Prælecti* to fill casual vacancies.

Lastly I should like to know how the institution of non-resident Queen's Scholarships tended to, or did, heal the unhappy feud alleged to prevail in 1893; or if a *post hoc* was argued into a *propter hoc*. We were never able, so far as I remember, to find much information in the ELIZABETHANS of that date about this new development, and others besides myself may still feel curious in what way the holders of these were differentiated by status, functions, privileges, and way of life from other Homeboarders or half boarders.

A LONDON LETTER

The Head Master's party for parents in College Hall last January was by no means the first of such functions. Ever since 1937 the Head Master has made a practice of meeting parents at least once a term to tell them what Westminster is doing, how it is doing it, and how they can help it do it. The blitz and the move to Bromyard interrupted the series. Now it has been resumed, and it is a matter for rejoicing that the meetings can continue to be held in their usual setting.

In peace time parents and Old Westminsters on the one side, and boys and masters on the other, have been apt to take for granted the facilities for meeting one another which the School's position affords. Up Fields or down at Putney—or even during "break" in yard—

there are ample opportunities for informal contacts, and there has fortunately never been any need at Westminster for anything in the nature of a "Speech Day," with its atmosphere of laboured affability.

Even to-day the number of Old Westminsters who drop in to have a chat with the Bursar or to look round the School is large, as a glance at the following list shows. Some come to inspect the raid damage or to have a look at No. 17 Deans Yard. Others, who are spending a few days' leave in London look in on the off chance of meeting a friend or of finding out whether any of their contemporaries are also on leave. The Bursar gives them all a genial welcome, and although he is far too busy to act as an information bureau he is sometimes able to put people in touch who would otherwise have missed each other.

I hate to admit it, but there is no doubt that the removal of the railings from Green is an immense improvement. Whereas formerly Deans Yard gave the impression of being mostly road with a patch of something in the middle, it now appears as a wide expanse of grass with a hardly noticeable fringe of road running round it. There is an air of spaciousness about the place which was formerly lacking, and even the water-tanks which the A.F.S. have sunk at the north end do not seriously detract from its cathedral close-like appearance.

What the footballers will say about it is another matter. But football was played in Green before the railings were put up in the early nineteenth century and can doubtless be played there again without railings in the twentieth. A more doubtful question is whether pedestrians will be tempted to take a short cut across Deans Yard. A century and a half ago the practice was common and led to many sharp encounters, for it was a point of honour with the School to intercept offenders and to teach them manners. I have not much doubt that the modern Westminister will be able to defend his inheritance when he gets back to it. And meanwhile it is a strange thought that in a month or two those familiar railings may be hurtling down on to Germany or plunging through the sands of Libya.

J. D. C.

The following have visited the School at Westminster during the last six months :

Miss Tice, N. J. P. Brown, M. V. Harrison, M. S. de Mowbray, W. B. Dams, Lady Davidson, W. R. Corbould, T. R. Garnett, I. R. Clout, M. Thoresby,

Lord Greene, Lord Davidson, L. Farnfield, Mrs. Shaw, Major R. C. Orpen, Captain W. H. Ballantyne, J. Wainwright, M. Stuttaford, G. Scarisbrick, Captain G. P. Humble, A. K. Corbould, W. Hawthorne, G. Perkins, J. T. Woodgate, F. Noel-Baker, Major S. W. N. McGregor, J. Levison, P. Labertouche, M. Kinchin-Smith, L. S. Challis, T. J. Lee-Warner, P. W. Waite, N. M. Beyts, B. P. Urquhart, R. K. Archer, J. G. Barrington-Ward, N. D. Samuelson, J. Poyser, Lady Woodwark, J. N. M. Whitehead, R. H. F. Carlyle, D. H. Lines, The Rev. C. Hallett, J. R. Peebles, W. F. Moss, The Ven. E. N. Sharpe, Major H. J. Davis, E. M. H. Wilkinson, S. C. Neat, L. E. Tanner, P. Shearman, A. M. Clarke, E. Lewis, R. N. Brunt, Major C. A. Robertson, E. D. Phillips, R. G. Hicks, H. B. Willett, R. L. Batten, J. A. Holloway, D. S. Greaves, J. O. Wheeler, M. Bennett, R. Lees, R. O. I. Borradaile, D. C. Whimster, H. Williamson, C. D. Brown, L. B. Tansley, P. G. Dannhorn, H. Boggis-Rolfe, J. Circuitt, R. G. Reed, F. G. Ormond, P. D. Leveaux, R. T. Squire, M. C. Petitpierre, Dr. C. T. Lofthouse, N. Hartog, A. L. Dugdale, D. Turner-Samuels, Mrs. Holwill, J. Taylor, R. J. Penney, L. J. Wilmoth, H. D. Berman, Captain J. Kenneth-Thomas, N. A. Hart.

A CAMBRIDGE LETTER

Sir,

I am glad to be able to put on record that whereas last term the Westminster population of this noble seat of learning emitted but a faint glow of light, now that the new contingent are well settled in their respective rooms and lodgings and have joined hands with the old inhabitants, the glow has become a blaze.

Of the older inhabitants but a few remain. Mr. Staynes lends grace and elegance to Great Court, Trinity, while the energetic figure of Mr. Adams is also to be seen hustling across that noble square. Mr. Bayley and Mr. Hogg are rarely seen, but none the less also reside in Trinity. More conspicuous are Mr. R. K. Archer, who is a moving spirit in the Trinity Hall Boat Club, and Mr. Castle-Cleary who, while not of Cambridge, exquisitely adorns the Bartlett School of Architecture.

Of this year's freshmen, Mr. Lever's moustache is now an accomplished fact; so he is free to divide his time between medicine, drama and rowing, for he is both an active member of the Cambridge University Mummers and is in the University trial eights. Sharing rooms with him in Trinity is Mr. D. H. R. Archer who, as he puts it, "by good luck, blood, tears and sweat" has installed himself on the committees of five of the eight societies to which he belongs; he is President of the Magpie and Stump Debating Society, Vice-President of the Undergraduate

Council and expects a chairmanship and another presidency soon. Also at Trinity is that eighth pillar of wisdom Mr. Lovett, who successfully combines chemistry with playing the recorder and singing, but not, mercifully, simultaneously. Mr. Wilson goes from strength to strength in the University fencing team and, like Mr. Lever, frequently coaches other colleges in the gentle art. Mr. Greaves, who has just come up, makes a welcome addition to the Trinity gathering.

To wander further afield, however. Next door, in St. John's, the urbane Mr. Woodwork presides gravely over a collection of bones. Deprived of his football, he instead kicks a pouffe around his room. Further away, at Corpus Christi, Mr. Cooper, when not studying engineering or playing football, paints assiduously and has already held a highly successful exhibition at Heffer's.

At King's Mr. Beale and Mr. Macmillan successfully represent Grant's, but do not appear to venture much into the open. Frequently seen but seldom met are Mr. Dalton and Mr. Nicholson, the one having acquired an Oxford accent, the other an American accent; it is doubtful which is the worse. Mr. Hicks, too, shares with Mr. Hare and Mr. Garner what appears to be an inexhaustible capacity for being on the opposite side of the road.

Such then are some of the more prominent of the Old Westminsters to be seen in and about Cambridge. "Scratch a Russian," they say, "and you'll find a Tartar." May I paraphrase this and say "Open a café door in Cambridge round about 9.30 p.m. and you'll find an Old Westminster." Indeed, Sir, I will go further and say "Enquire at any café in Cambridge and they will know.

YOUR CAMBRIDGE CORRESPONDENT.

The Editors regret that they have received no communication from Oxford.

All contributions for the July number must reach the Editors at Whitbourne Court, Worcester, by June 15th.

CONCERTS

An Orchestral and Choral Concert in Bromyard Parish Church on Sunday, December 7th, 1941.

Normally we associate Christmas time at Westminster with the Play. December, 1940, found the School hardly settled enough to give a performance of any kind, but this year a Christmas concert was given in Bromyard Church, thanks to the usual kindness of the Vicar, who so gladly puts his church at the disposal of the School.

Only Mr. Foster could have been so successful in overcoming the numerous difficulties of organising a concert under present conditions. To mention only a few, the choir and orchestra can only have one rehearsal together, and that an hour or so before the performance; moreover, this year there were far too few tenors and basses to balance the ever-increasing number of women's voices; and the choice of orchestral works was obviously limited, first because the concert was in a church and secondly because the string-writing in so many otherwise suitable works is far beyond the scope of a school orchestra. But in spite of everything this concert reached a very high level and was enjoyed by a full church.

The choir and orchestra began with Bach's Christmas Oratorio (Parts I and II). This is the second of Bach's works the School has performed in the space of a year, and we hope to hear more in future. In this work, and especially in the *fortissimo* passages, the words were mostly inaudible and the mere handful of basses found it difficult to make themselves heard at all: their efforts deserved credit, particularly in the long and exhausting "Gloria." The women sang exceptionally well throughout, and the altos' "Prepare Thyself, Zion" showed taste and feeling. In the "Symphony," which is perhaps the most beautiful of all Bach's orchestral works, a proper contrast was brought out between strings and wood-wind, whose tone was remarkably good. We were lucky enough to have three excellent soloists—Miss Mary Lake, Soprano; Mr. Geoffrey Dams, Tenor; and Mr. George Parker, Bass, who, with the aid of Mr. Michael Mullinar as continuo, gave the finishing touch to the performance.

Next came two unaccompanied carols, Tchaikovsky's "Legend" and "Rocking" (Czech Traditional). In both the ensemble was good and the pitch maintained throughout.

They were unquestionably the most polished items on the programme, and the gradual *diminuendo* on the last verse of "Rocking" was particularly effective.

In the first movement of Haydn's "Surprise" Symphony, which followed, both the faults and excellences of the Orchestra were apparent. Mr. Vogler, who led the Orchestra, put life into the strings but Haydn requires a very high standard of technique to bring out his vivacity to the full. After a heavy start the Orchestra brightened up and the wood-wind again deserve special mention.

There now followed the most difficult work of the concert, Vaughan Williams' "Fantasia on Christmas Carols" which demands humming on the part of the choir as well as singing. The change of notes during the humming passages was often not sufficiently marked, so that at times they tended to sound like a beehive. The basses again appeared rather exhausted, but on the whole the performance was a good one though the audience did not fully comprehend the intricacies of the carol themes which were themselves little known. The programme ended with Holst's arrangement of "Masters in this Hall" which gave the impression of a *Moto Perpetuo* and was not improved by a half-hearted last chord on the part of the Orchestra. It was a pity that a good concert should end so inconclusively.

The performance gave real pleasure because the Choir showed that they had practised extremely hard, and the credit for their excellent singing must go entirely to Mr. Foster who, besides spending long hours in training his very heterogeneous material, on the day itself communicates to the performers an energy which brings them up to a standard which surprises even themselves.

An Orchestral Concert at the Christopher Whitehead School, St. Johns, Worcester.

On November 26th the augmented Westminster School Orchestra gave a concert to the Christopher Whitehead School in Worcester. This is a large elementary school with two departments, one for 400 senior boys and another for 400 senior girls, that is for children from 11 to 14 years of age.

The children had been prepared for the concert by visits from the Music Organiser of the City, who went through the main items of the programme with gramophone records and

piano illustrations. The children were taught to sing the themes and they also prepared two choral items to sing themselves with the orchestra.

There is a strings class in the School, and so a few of the children were able to appreciate the skill of the Westminster Schoolboys in the light of their own experience on violins, but it was probably the first experience that the majority of the children had ever had of seeing a full orchestra, or of hearing a programme of first-rate music interpreted by boys, and in a large number of cases it was probably their first experience of any kind of concert worthy of the name.

The Headmaster of the Christopher Whitehead School, writes: "The writing of the following notes has brought back happy memories of an outstanding event in the musical life of our school.

The announcement that boys from this famous public school were coming to play to us created considerable interest and no doubt some curiosity too, among our children who had been informed of the reason of the school's evacuation to this neighbourhood. Prior to the day of the concert we did not observe among the children any expression of rapture in anticipation of listening to a school orchestra, for their previous experiences of such entertainments were mostly associated with percussion bands of the infants or the enthusiastic but limited musical efforts of the school violin class.

The first indication that this concert was going beyond their anticipation was shown by the number of boys and artists taking part, for the conductor, Mr. Arnold Foster, in order to complete a full orchestra, had secured the services of well-known local musicians, and was thus able to explain to our school the part played by every section in a well-balanced orchestra.

The programme was calculated to delight the children and at the same time was representative of the best musical traditions: the fact that works by Rimsky-Korsakov, Haydn, Quilter, Mozart, Bizet and Holst were included shows its wide range. It was wise to plan two choral features to be sung by our children; it made them feel that they were part of the whole thing, and it was a great experience for them to sing with an orchestra. It is not my purpose to write in detail of the actual performance of the works although this was very fine, but one outstanding feature that will long remain in the

memory of all the audience, scholars, staff and visitors, was the personality and admirable methods of the conductor. He secured the interest of the children from the outset and they followed him attentively. Our teachers agreed that Mr. Foster's methods in getting right down to the children in order to lead them gradually to the proper appreciation of the rich heritage of music were highly skilled. The happy relationships between the conductor, orchestra and audience were well illustrated when he called upon individual members of the orchestra to hold up their instruments and to play a short passage so that the children would be able to recognise the distinguishing feature of each instrument. The applause following each of these solo efforts showed how much it was enjoyed by the audience, and both boys and adults in the orchestra appeared to enjoy the business themselves, and indeed to get some amusement from it.

It was an inspiration to our children to see how seriously these boys of Westminster School take their music, and what a good standard of performance they are able to reach, while the coming together of the two sides of the educational ladder within the common bond of music is a happy augury. Our thanks are due to all concerned in organising such a happy combination of musical and educational entertainment, and to Mr. Christie, the Head Master of Westminster School, for making this possible. We were glad to have him with us and to think that he could see for himself how happy our children were."

(Signed) H. J. KNIGHT,
Headmaster, Christopher Whitehead
Senior Boys School, Worcester.

JUNIOR TRAINING CORPS

WAR CERTIFICATE A. The examination was held at Buckenhill on November 26th, when Captain Ballinger, our liaison officer at the I.T.C., Worcester, brought two other officers and his C.S.M. over to test our candidates. All proved equal to the all-day questioning of the examiners and to the bitter cold. In some cases the standard reached was very high and all deserve praise for the excellent results achieved. A word of congratulation is also due to the drill squad for their good work under trying conditions.

The new regulations for Certificate A came into force this term and it is hoped to have about thirty candidates for Part I in March.

LIAISON. We owe much to Captain Ballinger for all he has done to help us with our training. He has been over himself on several occasions, he has lent us lecturers, instructors and rifles, and he has arranged a demonstration of all platoon weapons. We are most grateful for this help and interest.

We are also grateful to Colonel Newson (O.W.) from the Headquarters of the 1st Armoured Group, Home Counties, for his visit, arranged at very short notice. He gave us some useful information about the work and training of the Royal Armoured Corps and the method of entry. The "Covenanter" which came with him, after demonstrating its capabilities, was thrown open for inspection. There was soon very little tank visible and the sight reminded one of the Pancake Greaze at Westminster! A few boys were lucky enough to get a lift back to Whitbourne.

TRAINING. There are two main changes in the training programme this term. A post-certificate signalling course has been started and an attempt is being made to teach some of the basic principles of training recommended by the War Office for all recruits—tree-cutting, sewing, cookery, etc.

DRESS. At last it seems possible that at not too distant a date the Corps, or at any rate part of it, will be equipped with battle-dress. In anticipation of this change Home Guard members of the Corps now parade in Home Guard uniform.

M. F. Y.

AIR TRAINING CORPS

With last year's experience behind it, with new uniforms and with increased supplies of equipment of all kinds available, the A.T.C. got off to a (metaphorically) flying start this term.

The scheme of two parades a week is being continued. The standard of drill has been raised to a high level by the dual inspiration of Sergeant-Major Stewart and a smart, well cut uniform of Air Force blue.

At the Corps headquarters practice in Morse Code with the new buzzer equipment has proceeded apace, work being continued also in Air Navigation and aircraft recognition. The Corps is indebted to the school laboratories for the use of the epidiascope, by means of which very realistic tests in aircraft recognition can be given.

Appointments to non-commissioned ranks to the extent recognised by the establishment have now been made.

Corporal Wedgwood-Benn has evolved a system of Morse Code instruction classes that promises to give excellent results and it is anticipated that a good proportion of the Corps will be up to the proficiency standard by the end of the term, thus qualifying to take the further examinations in Navigation and Mathematics required for the Proficiency Certificate.

At present the question of affiliation of the Flight to an R.A.F. station is still under consideration, the difficulty being the paucity of stations near us.

It is hoped however that a visit may be arranged in the near future to an R.A.F. station in the vicinity.

R. E. McN.

HOME GUARD

BUCKENHILL SECTION. New enrolments have not, at the moment, made up for those who left at the end of last term, and our official strength is therefore a little lower. For training purposes, however, a dozen boys of 16 years old join the detachment so that on enrolment they will be "trained men" and can take the proficiency test straight away.

Work in connection with the test is at last going strongly in the Company and it is hoped that the first batch from Buckenhill will be through by the time this is in print.

Our normal home parades continue and last term these included a short "night op." This proved most interesting and instructive, being the first experience of night work for most of the party. The inhabitants of the cottages at the top of the Buckenhill drive might well have been excused, in the final stages of the exercise, for thinking that the enemy were on their doorsteps!

There has been one Sunday morning battle this term in which two Westminster patrols were detailed to trail the attackers. Much ground was covered in this operation. The defenders at the blocks had a dull morning.

A further exercise is due shortly when we hope to be part of the attacking force.

M. F. Y.

WHITBOURNE AND FERNIE SECTIONS. During the latter part of last term members of these sections were tested for their proficiency badges. The Battalion Commander came out to Fernie to conduct the examinations, and all eighteen candidates were successful. They had the distinction of being the first in the Battalion to become entitled to the badge.

The School members of the Platoon have been parading regularly with the local members on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings, and in two ways the Platoon Commander has used some of them as instructors for the whole. One way has been the continuance of "unarmed combat" parades when Dickey, Maynard, Power, Longford and Fursdon have been put in charge of the training. The other has been the employment of Maynard, first to give a lecture on enemy troops and weapons to his own platoon, and subsequently to be taken by me to different platoons in the Company and to give the same lecture there, followed by an unarmed combat demonstration with me, as usual, the victim! He had been on a Home Guard course during the holidays in London and it had been arranged (without his knowledge until he got to the room) that his first lecture was heard by the Colonel and the Regular Adjutant of the Battalion; hence the command for him to go on tour!

Unofficially (for he is really C.S.M. of another battalion) the School Sergeant-Major has come up to give proficiency test training to a number of "local" candidates. His visits are greatly valued and the men look forward to his coming again.

A very sincere word of appreciation is due to our Platoon Commander, Lt. J. M. Ballard. He has welcomed us ever since we came under his command as a real part of his platoon and not just as a detachment of outsiders; this attitude of his towards us has made our training as part of the defence of this neighbourhood more realistic and we are glad enough when we are able to contribute directly towards helping in this training.

T. M.-R.

FOOTBALL

Last term's results were not good. The First XI lost all its matches, most of them by rather big scores; but the Second XI won its only match against Bromyard Grammar School; and the Colts drew very creditably with Malvern.

This term has started rather better. An "A" XI from Buckenhill—weather conditions keeping boys from other centres away—defeated the Bromyard A.T.C. The First XI defeated the O.W.W., whose team was made up of two young O.W.W., four old O.W.W. and five present members of the School. This match was played at Brockhampton on a ground very kindly

loaned to the School by Colonel Lutley. It was a pity so many substitutes had to be played, but there were many difficulties in the arranging of the fixture and several O.W.W. who had hoped to play were unable to come at the last moment.

There are two more matches for the First XI: one against the Air Force at Hereford, and one against the Navy at Malvern. The Junior XI, composed of the smaller members of the School, defeated Mr. R. G. H. Lowe's Preparatory School XI near Hereford last term after a good game, and it is hoped to arrange one or two more matches of the same sort.

House matches, both Junior and Senior, are due to start at once. In a "Juniors" competition last term, in which each House played every other House, King's Scholars and a combined Ashburnham and Homeboarders team were undefeated, each beating the other three houses. The final game between the two teams was very close and ended in a draw.

WATER

There can be no Water this term because boats are unobtainable and also because the river is in flood at Worcester until late in the term. It is felt that the short time remaining would be more profitably spent in practising for the Sports.

F. G. O.

FENCING

Station now takes place at Whitbourne as well as at Buckenhill, but this arrangement is not entirely satisfactory as the two sections do not meet.

Last term we lost 44-14 to Cheltenham, fighting foil and épée. A. B. Whitelegge who was captain last term has just left and will be very much missed in the Fencing Club.

D. M. P.

THE SCHOOL MISSION

After further vicissitudes, the remnant of the School Mission Club is now definitely established—we hope for the duration—at what is known colloquially as the "Reimann Shelter Club," but officially as the "Westminster Blue Triangle Club."

The premises, which form the basement of the former Reimann Studio, are in Regency Street and have, appropriately enough for us, their entrance at 18, Rutherford Street. They have

been strengthened in the approved fashion against air raids and form an ideal meeting place under war conditions.

As already explained in the December issue of *THE ELIZABETHAN*, the representatives of the old Napier Hall Club will keep their identity in the combined club by means of their own games' teams, which keep alive the old club spirit and which will enable the Mission's individual activities to be restarted after the war.

The Mission Committee make their appropriate contribution towards the cost of the combined club, and even on their much reduced income are still able to do so. But the discovery that a good deal of the Napier Hall equipment and practically all the furniture has been lost to us in the hurried evacuation, has presented a new problem, for it is evident that when the Mission begins again to work on its own, it will have to be very largely re-equipped. For this reason, members of the School are being asked to make a small contribution towards a "Re-equipment Fund" to be administered after the war. The money will be invested in National Savings under the Trusteeship of T. M. Murray-Rust, Esq., and the Assistant Honorary Secretary, and will give the School a practical opportunity of relieving the Mission of a major difficulty.

W. R. VAN STRAUBENZEE,
Assistant Hon. Sec.

CONTEMPORARIES

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

Aldenhamian, Alleynian (2), Ardingly Annals, Blundellian, Boys' Magazine (4), Carthusian, Cheltonian (2), Cholmelian, City of London School Magazine, Cliftonian, Crimson Comet (3), Dunelmian, Edinburgh Academy Chronicle, El Nopal (3), Eton College Chronicle (9), Felstedian, Fettesian (2), Glenalmond Chronicle, Gordonstoun Record, Haileyburian (2), Harrovian (9), Lancing College Magazine, Leys Fortnightly (3), Limit, The Log (5), Malvernian, Marlburian, Melburnian, Meteor (3), Mill Hill Magazine, Milton Bulletin, Ousel, Penn Charter Magazine, Radleian, Reptonian, Rossalian, St. Edward's School Chronicle (2), Salopian (3), Uppingham School Magazine, Sedberghian, Sotoniensis (2), Stonyhurst Magazine, Taylorian, Tonbridgian, Trinity University Review (2), Wellingtonian, Wycombe Abbey Gazette, Wykehamist.

Will the Editors of our Contemporaries please note that our address is Whitbourne Court, Worcester.

WESTMINSTER SCHOOL SOCIETY DESIGN

The Society was originally formed in College during the long winter months of 1941, having been partly inspired by a couple of lectures by Mr. Anthony Bertram at Lancing in 1940. Since then it has met regularly, although until recently it has not been possible to have a speaker from outside, once a week in winter months and fortnightly in the summer. With the aid of an epidiascope members have given talks on town-planning, architecture and its history, interior decoration, poster design, printing, dress, and more technical points in building. Plans and posters have been designed, and an Exhibition of "Design in Everyday Things" was held at Whitbourne and Buckenhill in July.

We have been affiliated to the Design and Industries Association, a propaganda body which is at present engaged on a national campaign for fostering interest in design in schools throughout the country, and entries have been submitted for an essay competition on the subject: "The House I would like to live in; its Furniture and Equipment." It is also by the assistance of the D.I.A. that we have arranged for Mr. Gordon Russell to address a meeting at Whitbourne on March 4th. It is hoped that it will be possible to hold meetings at Buckenhill during the summer, and a further exhibition is planned.

CORRESPONDENCE

RUTHERFORD

To the Editor of THE ELIZABETHAN.

Sir,

I have read with very great interest all that has been written in recent numbers of *THE ELIZABETHAN* on the subject of Rutherford, though I am not quite sure whether every number has survived the perils of the sea and reached me; and I should like to add these few words to what has been said by others.

Rutherford was undoubtedly a great man and a great Head Master, but he had been brought up in a wholly different tradition, and could not always understand why people attached so much importance to things which often seemed to him trifling and unimportant. He was a dour Scot and did not brook opposition easily, and I cannot doubt that he was sometimes driven by what probably seemed to him senseless opposition to courses more extreme than he would otherwise have chosen. I was at the School from 1892 to 1897, by which time his earlier and what I might call his more savage manner had entirely disappeared, though he could even then be alarming enough. He no longer threw Liddell and Scott at anyone, and he could see a humorous side to the most deplorable lapses, when he was taking the Seventh; but he never achieved the human touch of John Sargeaunt. When I first went to the School, he had already become the rather gaunt figure depicted in the portrait by which he is best known; but I remember his saying to me once: "When I first came to Westminster I was a fine big man of 14 stone"; and then he added, "I had a very hard time and it has left its mark on me; I found the School nearly bankrupt and it was a long and difficult business to put it on its feet again." As time went on, all his asperities were softened. I recall an incident during my Captain's year, when some clash of personalities had occurred, and I was being, I am afraid, obstinate and not a little foolish, and how patiently and tolerantly Rutherford tried to persuade me to be more reasonable, a thing which I cannot conceive his doing in the earlier years of his Head Mastership.

He was a most inspiring teacher, and those who had the good fortune to be taught Greek by Rutherford took away with them something to treasure throughout their lives. He had a great hatred of anything slipshod, as indeed all great scholars must; and he was always insistent on the duty which lay upon us to maintain the standards of the English language. Purple patches received small mercy at his hands. I can well remember being asked, in the middle of a piece of construing, "Do you wash your face or your countenance when you get up in the morning?" He was a strict disciplinarian, and it was perhaps the reaction from the hours spent under his iron rule that produced the singular scenes which occurred at times under the then Seventh Form Master, that most admirable scholar, F. W. Hall, afterwards Tutor and President of St. John's College, Oxford.

In my time the fine taste and scholarship of Charles Fisher made him a special favourite with Rutherford, and I remember no other boy who achieved anything like the same position with the Head Master. I think that in my own case it was not until I had left Westminster altogether that I ever felt at ease with Rutherford, and I have heard others say the same thing. But I visited him more than once in his Sussex home after his retirement, and his welcome and talk were wholly delightful. He was then working on the textual problems of Elizabethan plays, delighting (as in the case of the Thucydides of his earlier years) in the detection of corrupt passages and in suggested amendations. Professor Spenser Wilkinson, who was, I think, one of his executors, told me after his death that the papers relating to this, his latest branch of study, appeared to have been mislaid and could never be found—to the great loss, as I shall always believe, of English scholarship.

Among the Q.S.S. in my time it was firmly believed that Rutherford detested College and desired to abolish it. Whether this be so or not, I cannot say, and, as a writer says in the July number of *THE ELIZABETHAN*, the really material evidence on that and other subjects can only be found among the arcana of the Governing Body. But I confess that I find it hard to

forgive him the creation of the non-resident Queen's Scholars, which always seemed to me a quite unnecessary encroachment on the tradition and integrity of College. The new scholars could so easily have been called, as they are at Eton, Oppidan or Townboy Scholars and they would then have had an independent status and prestige of their own. But, nevertheless, as I said at the beginning of this letter, Rutherford was a great man and a great Head Master, and it is not for lesser men to criticize him. It was impossible to be in his presence without realizing his greatness. And one was always conscious of the intangible influence, that most mysterious thing, which a great Head Master exercises in a school; I myself am as conscious of it to-day as I was nearly fifty years ago.

I remain, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

MAURICE GWYER.

Chief Justice's Lodgings,
New Delhi,
India.

O.WW. AND THE STAGE

To the Editor of THE ELIZABETHAN.

Dear Sir,

During this Summer the *Daily Telegraph* was printing articles on the various Public Schools and the Stage. I enclose the cutting regarding Old Westminster which was apparently printed owing to my letter to the Editor of this newspaper though I lay no claim to authorship. This list is doubtless far from complete, but I think it would take some beating. During my time at the School besides Jevan Brandon-Thomas, if I remember rightly the sons of Sir John Martin Harvey and Mr. George Robey, were also at the School, and, of course, latterly, Geoffrey Nares, the son of Mr. Owen Nares.

Yours faithfully,

R. F. R. BARROW.

"Westminster now wishes to snatch the theatrical laurels which I recently awarded to Charterhouse. The Old Westminsters connected with the theatre are certainly a formidable team.

They start with John Gielgud, Jack Hulbert and A. A. Milne, an outstanding trio in their respective spheres. Next comes Sir Kenneth Barnes, head of the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art and brother of Irene and Violet Vanbrugh.

Then there is Frederick Rinalow, of "Beggar's Opera" fame, Sydney Blow, who wrote "Lord Richard in the Pantry," the actors Jevan Brandon-Thomas, Glen Byam Shaw and Esmond Knight.

The ballet, too, is represented by Arnold Haskell, whose books please at once the balletomane and the greater public.

If Charterhouse still refuses to yield, Westminster will bring up their greatest figure of all—now on Parnassus. He is Ben Jonson."

The Carlton Club,
London, W.

APPRECIATION

To the Editor of THE ELIZABETHAN.

Dear Sir,

By an interesting coincidence your July number of THE ELIZABETHAN arrived to-day by the same post as the August 2nd number of *Picture Post* in which I have just read Mr. Priestley's article entitled "An ancient school renews itself." I enjoyed reading these two publications side by side and while agreeing with Mr. Priestley's sentiments, would echo his hope that one day Westminster School will return to its ancient foundation, remembering that its exile into the countryside has given its scholars "a firmer grasp on life."

But this letter is really to thank you for remembering to send me THE ELIZABETHAN and to ask you to be so good as to put me down for a copy of the list of Old Westminsters serving with H.M. Forces. I enclose cheque for £5 towards the expenses of THE ELIZABETHAN.

Yours faithfully,

C. TYRWHITT.

General Staff,

H.M. Naval Base,
Singapore, S.S.,
Malaya.

AN O.W. DINNER

To the Editor of THE ELIZABETHAN.

Dear Sir,

As an addition to your records of unusual O.W. doings abroad, I give below an extract from a letter I received recently which, I think, may interest your readers. This letter was from my brother, Lieutenant-Colonel G. G. Feasey (Homeboarders, 1910):

"We had an O.W. dinner in Addis Ababa on the 2nd August. In addition to myself, Lieutenant-Colonel Maxwell (K.S.S. left 1905 or 06), Lieutenant-Colonel Aitken (K.S.S. about 1911), Lieutenant-Colonel Keddie (Rigaud's), 2nd Lieutenant Gawthorne (about 1936), Jack Fisher of Ashburnham was unfortunately called away, and Brigadier C. E. G. Shearman (Grant's) arrived too late for it."

It will be noticed that all houses, other than Busby's, were represented, Busby's not being in existence when most of those present were at School.

Yours faithfully,

A. CLIFFORD FEASEY.

Canada House,

4 and 5, Norfolk Street,
Strand, W.C.2.

ELIZABETHAN CLUB

The Committee would welcome any nominations from members of the Club of any candidates they would like to propose and second for membership of the Committee so that the names can be brought before the Annual General Meeting in June or July next. Such nominations should be sent to the Honorary Secretary, G. E. Tunnicliffe, 15, Arundel Street, London, W.C.2.

where the Public Schools Club have temporarily found a home. Fifty-six Old Westminsters were present, a number slightly larger than at that held a few months previously, not a bad assembly when so many are so variously occupied and so far afield. Colonel Davson, the Chairman of the Entertainments Committee, presided, and it was pleasant to see Dr. Webbe, the President of the Elizabethan Club, Mr. Justice Hallett, the Head Master and so many of the Westminster Masters, and a gathering at which the youngest Old Westminster generation was so well represented.

The dinner was arranged by Mr. E. R. B. Graham, and, having said that, it may be taken for granted that it was as good as ever. Each of the speeches made referred with gratitude to Mr. Graham's untiring efforts, and to the success attending them, and on this occasion he had crowned them by the provision from his own cellar of all that normally goes before, to create an appetite, well knowing that his own efforts had also provided so well the means to satisfy that appetite later. Much gratitude is due to Mr. Graham for the way he organised the dinner and provided against every eventuality in advance.

After the loyal toast, and a short welcoming speech by Colonel Davson, an adjournment was made upstairs, where smoking was allowed, to listen to the Head Master. This hope was not to be fulfilled. Whether it was the last "Ire Licet" at the end of term, or the answers to a surfeit of parents' questions, is unknown, but the Head Master's voice had gone. He had, however, been kind enough to write a speech, and Mr. Carleton delivered it for him. This was no easy task, but was done so well as to qualify for the "Orations" Prize.

The Head Master after referring to the Schoolmasters' old remark, "my rod and my staff comfort me," and saying that in these days, when the boys at school wore shorts most of the time, he was glad for their sake that he seldom

had to use the rod, went on to pay a very handsome tribute to his staff, now reduced by about a dozen. He went on to refer to Old Westminsters as the School's ambassadors to the world at large, and its only real publicity agents, and to say how necessary it was that Old Westminsters should therefore be in touch with the School, and how much he valued expressions of opinion by them.

He added two things: the first that the life of the School in Herefordshire was healthy and happy and of real significance in the history of the School, and the second that the School would return to London immediately the war was over, and that the buildings were sufficiently intact to house, feed and teach 300 boys. He felt that schools in populous towns would have a very important part to play, and that Westminster stood in a most important position.

He stressed that school results, Scholarships, School Certificate and the Challenge were quite up to standard. He welcomed the presence of Mr. Francis Turner, who provided a continued stream of boys for Westminster from his well-known school, and added that Westminster was keeping to old traditions where possible, and that they had had the Commemoration Service in Herefordshire, and had been visited by an Elector, and were generally very flourishing.

He said that the School was making its own proper contribution to the war, and alluded with sorrow and pride to the toll taken by the war, and the Roll of Honour, and wound up with an apt reference to the School Mottoes.

Dr. Webbe thanked the Head Master for coming to the dinner, and for his encouraging and hopeful speech, and referred appreciatively to Mr. Graham's efforts. He ended by saying how glad he was to see so many young Old Westminsters present.

This brought the evening to a close, save for the many informal parties into which the gathering then broke up.

S. H.

OLD WESTMINSTERS

In the New Year's Honours List the following appeared:

- S. L. Holmes—C.M.G.
- E. R. J. Ratcliffe Cousins, C.I.E.—C.S.I.
- F. D. Baber Pasha, O.B.E., M.C.—C.B.E.
- G. C. S. Curtis—O.B.E.
- L. J. D. Wakely—M.B.E.

Captain P. Beeman, R.M., H.M.S. *Calcutta*,

has been awarded the D.S.C. for gallantry in the Battle of Crete.

Other awards include:

Major D. E. M. Fielding, York and Lancaster Regiment—O.B.E.

Captain (Temp. Major) J. G. Fisher, Royal Irish Fusiliers—M.B.E.

Mr. W. R. F. Browning has been ordained to the curacy of Towcester, Northants.

MISSING

Lieutenant-Commander H. W. M. Dulley, Hongkong Naval Reserve Volunteer Force.
 Pilot Officer D. Jacobs, R.A.F.V.R.
 A/Flight-Lieutenant M. H. R. Namias.
 Flying Officer J. Harrop, R.A.F.V.R.
 Sergeant P. I. Leeman.

MISSING, PRESUMED KILLED

Sergeant R. C. Plaistowe, R.A.F.V.R.

WOUNDED

2nd Lieutenant E. T. Argyle, Black Watch.
 2nd Lieutenant R. G. A. Colt-Williams, M.C., R.A.

BIRTHS

BARLEY.—On December 14th, to the wife of Captain J. H. T. Barley, Royal Signals, a son.
 CHERRY.—To the wife of Lieutenant J. C. H. Cherry, R.N.V.R., a daughter.
 GATES.—On December 28th, at Johore, to the wife of R. C. Gates, Malay Civil Service, a daughter.
 GORDON-JACKSON.—On January 22nd at Beckenham, to Patricia, wife of R. S. Gordon-Jackson, a daughter.
 GORMAN.—On November 16th, at Wookey Hole, Somerset, to Patricia, wife of Lieutenant H. F. Gorman, R.A., a daughter.
 HAWORTH-BOOTH.—On February 9th, at Salisbury, to Micky, wife of Wing-Commander R. Haworth-Booth, a son.
 HAYNES.—On January 4th, at Leamington Spa, to Evelyn, wife of Paymaster Lieutenant H. W. L. Haynes, R.N., a daughter.
 HORNSBY.—To the wife of Captain J. M. Hornsby, R.A.S.C., a son.
 JENNENS.—On November 22nd, at Lincoln, to Alison, wife of Captain P. K. Jennens, Royal Signals, a daughter.
 KEYMER.—On January 15th, to Margaret, wife of Lieutenant K. C. Keymer, R.N.V.R., a son.
 PEARSON.—On December 22nd, to Barbara, wife of Major A. H. Pearson, a son.
 PETITPIERRE.—On December 17th, at Ealing, to Gwen, wife of B. E. Petitpierre, a son.
 RAIKES.—On November 2nd, to Audrey, wife of Flight-Lieutenant Victor Raikes, R.A.F.V.R., M.P., a daughter.
 WAKELY.—On January 28th, at Delhi, to the wife of L. J. D. Wakely, I.C.S., a son.

MARRIAGES

BOGGIS-ROLFE—NOBLE.—On December 30th, at Henley-on-Thames, Captain Hume Boggis-Rolfe, Intelligence Corps, elder son of Mr. D. H. Boggis-Rolfe (O.W.), to Anne Dorothea, eldest daughter of Captain and Mrs. E. H. Noble, of Remenham, Berks.
 BOGGON-HARTMANN.—On December 20th, at St. George's, Hanover Square, Pilot Officer Michael Gordon Boggon, R.A.F.V.R., to Yvonne Marion Patricia, elder daughter of Major and Mrs. Raymond Hartmann, of 37, Grosvenor Square, W.1.
 BROADHURST-HIGGINS.—On September 12th, at Bombay, 2nd Lieutenant Michael Broadhurst, Fourth Bombay Grenadiers, to Irene Laura Higgins, daughter of Mrs. R. C. W. Hunter, of New Delhi.

BRYAN-SINCLAIR.—On December 27th, at St. Marylebone, Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Walter Gordon Bryan, M.C., F.R.C.S., R.A.M.C., to Molly Kestell Sinclair, A.T.S., only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Sinclair, of 16, Rydal Road, S.W.16.

DE BUNSEN-COCHRANE.—On November 29th, at Painswick Parish Church, Pilot Officer R. de Bunsen, R.A.F.V.R., to Margaret F. Cochrane.

HAND-GIBB.—On January 9th, at Inverleith Church, Edinburgh, Sub-Lieutenant Kenneth Oliver Hilliary Hand, R.N.V.R., to Alma Fawns, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Gibb, of 3, South Inverleith Avenue, Edinburgh.

HOPKYNs-YATES.—On November 22nd, Surgeon-Lieutenant John Creasey Wykeham Hopkyns, R.N.V.R., only son of Commander J. W. Hopkyns, R.N. (O.W.), to Joan Edith, only daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. Yates, of Great Wigborough.

PERRY-FAHSBENDER.—On November 26th, at Bushridge Church, Godalming, Lieutenant-Colonel W. E. Perry, M.C., to Rita Fahsbender, of Boxted, Colchester.

REED-MACMILLAN.—On December 2nd, Captain Richard Gordon Reed, North Staffs. Regiment, elder son of the late Rev. R. W. Reed (O.W.), to Margaret Stewart, daughter of the late Dr. A. S. MacMillan and Mrs. MacMillan, of Otterbourne Court, Halesowen.

SYKES-LASCELES.—On October 25th, William Joseph Arnold Sykes to Margaret Hember Lascelles.

OBITUARY

It is with regret that we record the death of Major-General Sir Reginald Hoskins, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O. We append a brief account of his eventful military career from the pen of one of his contemporaries. His profession made it impossible for him to take an active interest in the affairs of his School until towards the end of his life, but as soon as he could give the time, both the O.W. Golfing Society and the Entertainments Committee discovered in him a friend who was ready to render practical assistance whenever opportunity occurred. In 1937 he was elected President of The Elizabethan Club, and his clear mind and broad outlook made it a pleasure to serve under him on the General Committee.

Few Old Westminsters in recent times have had such a varied military career as SIR REGINALD HOSKINS, who died on the 7th February, at Ruthin. For, between the ages of 25 and 47, he may be said to have taken part in nine campaigns in six different theatres of war and in three continents.

He was at Westminster (H.BB.) from 1885 to 1889 when to his friends he was known as "Josser." From Westminster he passed to Sandhurst, where he gained his football

colours, and in 1891 was gazetted to the North Staffordshire Regiment.

In 1896 he was attached to the Egyptian Army and took part in the operations which cleared the Dongola province. For the next two years he was engaged in the Nile expeditions which led to the fall of Khartoum and in the subsequent operations in Gedaref. Afterwards he served under Wingate in the dash against the Khalifa which resulted in the defeat and death of that leader at El Debrigat.

In these operations he was four times mentioned in despatches, received the British medal, the Medjidie and the Khedive's medal with so many clasps that the ribbon became almost obscured. On his promotion to Captain in 1900 he received the brevet of majority.

From 1900 to 1902 he was in South Africa where, in addition to service in the field, he was for a time A.D.C. to Sir John Maxwell, Governor of Pretoria.

After this came a tour in Somaliland during the manœuvres against "the Mad Mullah" and was then nominated to the Staff College. He went to Egypt until 1910 when he was promoted substantive Major and returned to the Staff College as G.S.O.2.

Next year he was made brevet Lieut.-Colonel and became Inspector-General of the Kings' African Rifles.

Hoskins went to France in 1914 on the staff of the 8th Division and was later transferred as G.S.O.1 to the 7th Division, which had recently disembarked at Zeebrugge, and with it took part in the battle of Neuve Chapelle.

Later he was given command of the 8th Brigade, 3rd Division, and commanded it during the hard fighting to the east of Ypres in the autumn of 1915.

After a period as B.G.G.S., V Corps, he took command of the 1st East African Division and his services in France came to an end.

He was now a Lieutenant-Colonel and brevet Colonel and, in 1917, was promoted Major-General and appointed to succeed General Smuts in East Africa where he continued the movements in Rufigi and Mahenge until, some months later, he left to command the 3rd (Lahore) Division in Mesopotamia.

This Division was next year transferred to Palestine to take part in the Battle of Samaria and Megiddo. In September it broke the Turkish lines at Sabiye.

When peace was declared Hoskins became Commander of the North Midland Division

(T.A.) and was appointed Colonel of the North Staffordshire Regiment.

On returning to England he was able to renew his intimacy with Westminster and took an interest in all that pertained to the School and his old school fellows. In 1937 he became President of The Elizabethan Club.

Amongst his other activities was the Principalship of the Bonar Law College at Ashridge which he held from 1929 to 1938.

He received the D.S.O. in 1902, was created C.M.G. in 1916 and K.C.B. in 1919. In addition he had the orders of The Nile and St. Anne.

ALFRED ARMITAGE was one of four brothers, sons of W. J. Armitage, of Farnley Hall, Leeds, who were at Westminster in the eighties. He went up to Cambridge in 1885, was ordained in 1891 to a curacy at West Ham, but in 1903 availed himself of the provisions of the Clerical Disabilities Relief Act. He spent the latter years of his life in the west country and was a J.P. for Somerset since 1906. He died at Sherborne at the age of 74.

IAN VAN SOMEREN BIRDWOOD-TAYLOR, who was recently killed in action in Libya, was born in 1920 and admitted to the School in 1933. On the outbreak of war he joined the Westminster Dragoons and at the time of his death was a Lieutenant in the Royal Tank Regiment.

HERBERT EDWARD PRICHARD CROFT, who died in October last at the age of 81, was at Westminster from 1872 to 1875.

WILLIAM ARTHUR CROFTON-ATKINS was probably the oldest living Old Westminster. He was born in 1844 and entered the School in 1857. He proceeded first to Oxford and then to Durham and was ordained in 1872 to a curacy in Bournemouth.

MAYO DRUITT was the seventh son of James Druitt, of Christchurch, Hants, and was at Westminster from 1883 to 1888. He died on November 1st, aged 71.

DAVID GRONOW EUGENE FEVEZ, son of E. L. Fevez (O.W.), was born on January 12th, 1919, and was up Grant's from 1932 to 1936. In July, 1939, he received a commission in the R.A.F. and was in France with the Army Co-operation Squadron during May, 1940. On June 5th he left his base near Rouen for a sortie over the enemy lines and did not return.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL STUART HILL GODFREY was admitted to the School in 1875 and in the following year was elected into College. In 1879 he went to Sandhurst and entered the Indian Army, where he had a varied career of service, and took part in the Waziristan and Mohmand expeditions, receiving the C.I.E. in 1908. He was subsequently transferred to the Indian Political Service. He died in his 81st year.

CHRISTOPHER REGINALD COURTNEY HERBERT, born in 1906, was at Westminster from 1920 to 1923. On leaving school he went into a firm of solicitors in the City, later becoming a partner, but his heart was in flying and a friend writing after his death speaks of the enthusiastic interest he took in it both before the war and when he was called up. He was at first reported missing, but is now known to have been killed in air operations in June of last year.

GEORGE MURRAY HILL was admitted in 1880 and elected into College in the following year. He proceeded to Trinity College, Cambridge, and from 1891 practised as a solicitor in London. On the outbreak of war, in 1914, he helped to organise, and himself served in, the Old Boys Volunteer Training Corps. He was twice married, and had a son at Westminster.

CAPTAIN CLIFFORD STUART HUMPHRIES, who died of wounds in the Middle East, entered Westminster in 1924, and afterwards studied medicine at Trinity College, Cambridge, and St. Thomas' Hospital. He joined the R.A.M.C. and saw service in France, Greece and Crete. He was in his 31st year.

LEWIS HODGENS LLOYD, who died on October 24th, aged 61, was at School from 1892 to 1896. From 1905 to 1921 he was Government Surveyor in North-East and West Africa.

In our last issue we published the announcement of the death of K. E. Newman. Since then news has reached us of the death of both his father and his son. ALBERT AUGUSTUS NEWMAN entered Westminster in 1869. He was a native of Newport, Mon., and subsequently held the office of Town Clerk from 1882 to 1922. He died on January 11th, aged 86. CHARLES EDWARD NEWMAN was up Grant's from 1935 to 1938. He joined the R.A.F., and was posted to the Near East

Command, where after a very short term of service he was reported missing in December.

Another young Old Westminster, contemporary with C. E. Newman, was killed on active service in the Middle East. ROLAND ANTHONY REED, son of the late Rev. R. W. Reed (O.W.), was up Grant's from 1934 to 1938, where his unfailing cheerfulness won him a wide circle of friends.

HENRY JOHN ROBERT SAINT was admitted in September, 1887. He died at Sydney, Australia, in his 70th year.

COURTENAY BOURCHIER VYVYAN was the eldest son of the Rev. V. D. Vyvyan, Bart. He left Westminster in 1876 for Sandhurst. He served in the Zulu War, and in the Boer War was Second in Command at Mafeking. In the last war he was three times mentioned in dispatches and was made C.M.G. He succeeded his father as tenth baronet in 1917. In 1933 he presented to the nation thirty-five acres of cliff land round Treen Castle in Cornwall. He died on November 15th, aged 83.

SIR HERBERT WILLIAM LUSH-WILSON, K.C., who died on November 19th, was born in 1850, the second son of Lord Justice Lush. He came to Westminster in 1864, and thence proceeded to Trinity Hall. He was called to the Bar by the Inner Temple and, like his brother Montague, practised on the Common Law side. On his marriage in 1876 he added to his own the family name of his wife. He took Silk in 1895 and was a County Court Judge from 1901 till his retirement in 1922. He received his Knighthood in the following year.

WILLIAM NORMAN WINCKWORTH was the third of four brothers who were at Westminster. He was admitted in 1884. He earned his international cap for Association Football in 1892 and 1893, but for the next twenty years he was in business in Calcutta. In 1914 he came home to fight in France, and married in 1916. His two sons were at Westminster. He died at his home near Exeter at the age of 71.

MARTIN GODWIN YONGE was the son of Ernest Yonge, who was for many years a music master at Westminster. He entered the School in 1934. He met his death at sea last December, as Sergeant-Observer in the R.A.F. Volunteer Reserve.

FLOREAT