

THE ELIZABETHAN

WESTMINSTER · IN · HEREFORDSHIRE

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CONTENTS

EDITORIALS - - - - -	295	HOME GUARD - - - - -	306
ELECTION, 1944 - - - - -	296	PHYSICAL TRAINING - - - - -	307
SCHOOL NOTES - - - - -	297	AN OXFORD LETTER - - - - -	307
THE GAMES COMMITTEE - - - - -	297	THE LIBRARY - - - - -	307
VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL - - - - -	297	DRAMATIC PRODUCTION - - - - -	308
THE ENTERTAINMENTS COMMITTEE - - - - -	297	POLITICAL AND LITERARY SOCIETY - - - - -	309
THE CHURCHILL CLUB - - - - -	298	ESSAY SOCIETY - - - - -	310
JAMES GOW - - - - -	299	A VERSION - - - - -	311
THE ETON AND WESTMINSTER RACE IN 1842	301	THE UNDER SCHOOL - - - - -	311
THE WESTMINSTER SCHOOL MISSION - - - - -	302	THE MUSIC - - - - -	312
FOOTBALL - - - - -	303	CONCERTS - - - - -	312
GYM - - - - -	304	CONTEMPORARIES - - - - -	313
ATHLETICS - - - - -	305	CORRESPONDENCE - - - - -	314
SHOOTING - - - - -	305	WESTMINSTER SCHOOL SOCIETY - - - - -	315
FENCING - - - - -	305	WESTMINSTER TEA - - - - -	315
THE SCOUTS - - - - -	305	OLD WESTMINSTERS - - - - -	315
JUNIOR TRAINING CORPS - - - - -	305		

SCHOOL STATIONS

It would seem at first sight that one of the School's activities that has suffered most from the evacuation is games. The football and cricket elevens, with no coaching, very little practice and few opportunities of playing as a team, have had little chance of distinguishing themselves. Cricket has become for most a one-sided game with a net; and Fives, Squash and Boxing have entirely faded out of the picture. It is a far cry indeed from Grove Park, Thames House and Vincent Square.

There is, however, another side to the question. It is an easy thing to take routine matters for granted. Regular, well-organised games have the same disadvantage as all efficiently planned, regular activities; after a short time one begins to take them very much as a matter of course and forgets their real value in providing enjoyable and suitable exercise and developing team spirit. Our life in the cuntry has undoubtedly changed this. There is now no question of routine: if a number of people want to play a game, a game is arranged. For most there is no compulsion, and as a result there is no apathy. This, surely, is a correct state of

affairs. There is no losing sight now of the value and enjoyment obtainable from games; one is led to think about it constantly. There is possibly, however, one result which has arisen from the more spontaneous view of football and athletics that is not so desirable. Games have tended to become associated more with separate Houses than with the School. The fault probably lies largely in the geography of the district; but there has recently been a danger of feeling for one's House predominating over feeling for the School—the two must, to a certain extent, work against each other. Certainly, however, the recent School matches in Worcester and London have not only showed admirable enterprise and initiative, but have also reawakened a lively interest in the School's success at games.

These matches must, indeed, be regarded as a great achievement. The many serious changes in our facilities for team and individual practice had to be successfully overcome; and the extent to which this has been done is remarkable. However, mere will power cannot contrive the impossible; the greatest change, and one, unfortun-

ately, which few of those now here can appreciate, is the entire disappearance of Water, and the reduction of Fencing to little more than a subsidiary recreation.

Water and Fencing were probably the two sports for which Westminster was most famous before the war. Our last season in 1939 testified to this, when we followed up our victory at Marlowe Regatta with the three fine heats at Henley. In the Public Schools Championship, Westminster Fencers distinguished themselves no less. The whole tradition of rowing in England is intimately connected with Westminster: it was we who, a few years after we had started Water early in the last century, created rowing history by introducing the outrigger. Water suffered a temporary *contre-temps* under Rutherford; but

from the beginning of this century to the time of our evacuation it had, in its new home at Putney, gradually been rebuilt into a really first-class organisation. We pray that when the School returns to London, we may not forget the great tradition of Westminster Water and may apply ourselves with redoubled vigour to this, as well as to other sports.

All the same, these changes, great as they have been on every side, have not all by any means been for the worse; Water may have disappeared, and with it the opportunities for playing many other games; but in those sports which are still left to us enthusiasm and enterprise in both School and House would compare very favourably with the spirit of the years before the war.

It is a most regrettable, yet undeniable, fact that the ancient foundation of Westminster, that has witnessed with a casual indifference the development of transport since the fourteenth century, should now be entirely dependent for its very existence on a vehicle produced by the twentieth century. Queen Elizabeth, we feel sure, would turn in her grave if she knew that the forty scholarly scholars she founded are now to be seen rushing downhill, to and from School, on the common, mass-produced machines of Messrs. Raleigh and Hercules.

If indeed it is possible that the spirit of Westminster in exile should be dominated by any object of a purely mechanical nature, we must frankly confess that object the bicycle. Whether in work or play, it is the bicycle that is ruling over our lives: and it is relative to the varying condition of our own machine that our spirits now rise to the heights of self-confidence, now sink to the depths of despondency.

During our stay in the country, I venture to think that the relations between us and our bicycles have in many cases become not a little strained: the smooth, obedient, purring slave does not need more than two month's journeying up and down the lanes of Herefordshire to transform it into a cruel, noisy, heartless tyrant, unaffected by the coaxings of spanner, oil or polish; and firmly determined, obedient to the principle of Le Chatelier, to "adjust itself so as to oppose the constraint."

Bicycling, it is true, has its excitements: The Buckenhill Drive alone contrives to make journeys exciting enough: the unsuspecting sportsman who casts off from the front of the house is suddenly hurled down a steep track, the surface of which would seem to be made of rough-hewn boulders

interspersed with neatly pointed stones: he is only stopped in his mad career by a hole at the bottom that is ready to sink his wheel axle-deep in the mud. The mud and the rain do, in fact, operate with ruthless effect on the gay greens and reds of any new sports model, reducing them all, within the space of a month or two, to a uniform dirty grey.

But, unwilling though we be, we must be thankful for our bicycles: for without them Worcester and Bromyard might just as well be on opposite sides of the Atlantic, and Whitbourne little better than a small island stranded somewhere in the ocean of muddy fields, with nothing but a Church and a Post Office to remind it of the rest of the world.

If nothing else, we can at least say that our cycling experiences down here have turned us into confirmed walkers. Indeed, we fear that the C.T.C. can expect few new members from among the present generation of Westminsterers.

ELECTION, 1944

ELECTED TO CHRIST CHURCH, OXFORD

To SCHOLARSHIPS:

J. D. Priestman (Classics).

R. W. E. Law (Classics).

D. A. Hewitt-Jones (Modern Languages).

To EXHIBITIONS:

C. A. Murray (Mathematics).

J. A. Robinson (Classics).

The Hinchliffe Scholarship was not awarded.

SCHOOL NOTES

We welcome the return of Mr. Monk to the School, after an absence of two years with the British Council in South America.

A performance of "The Tempest," by the Westminster-at-Whitbourne Players, will be given at the Whitbourne Ex-Servicemen's hut on Saturday, April 1st.

The Westminster and Whitbourne Choral and Orchestral Societies are to give a concert on Saturday, March 25th, at the Christopher Whitehead School, in Worcester, in which Mozart's Requiem Mass will be the chief item.

L. G. Hunt has been appointed a School Monitor. The following other appointments have been made :

Captain of Shooting .. W. A. Holmes Walker.

Secretary to the Essay Society .. J. N. Murphy.

Head of Music W. J. Reed.

Head of School Art .. R. M. Bannerman.

(The Editors apologise for the omission of D. A. HEWITT-JONES as Head of Music in last term's issue).

We were sorry to lose Mrs. Pentney from the Bookshop at the end of last term. Mr. Jones has arrived to take her place.

P. E. Lazarus has been awarded an Open Exhibition at Wadham College, Oxford.

E. de T. W. Longford has been awarded a Squire University Scholarship in Theology at Oxford, and a Lancashire County Major Scholarship. The Editors apologise for the inadvertent omission of these awards in the last issue.

A shortened form of the Commemoration Service was held in Whitbourne Church last term, which College and Rigaud's attended.

An inspection of the J.T.C. took place on February 18th, at which Major Smith was the Inspecting Officer.

Criticisms of this and previous numbers of THE ELIZABETHAN will be welcomed by the Editors. Correspondents are reminded that published letters must be short.

THE GAMES COMMITTEE

At a meeting of the Games Committee, held on January 31st, 1944, Games Colours were redistributed with the following maximums for each colour.

	Pinks	Half Pinks	Thirds	Colts
Cricket	11	—	11	11
Football	11	—	11	11
Water	9	9	9	9
Athletics	3	—	9	9
Tennis	3	—	9	6
Fencing	—	4	4	—
Shooting	—	4	4	—
Gym	—	4	4	—

These distributions are subject to the provision that there can be no colours of any sort in any sport except *ex officio* colours unless at least one School match a year is played in that sport.

It was further decided at the same meeting of the Committee :

That Pinks must be regained each year, but that anyone who fails to do so retains his *out of season* privileges, while forfeiting his *in season* privileges.

That, in deference to the exigencies of the moment, scarves and pullovers and sweaters bearing colours may be worn *out of season*, but these articles of clothing only, and no others.

That the Captain of Gym be granted *ex officio* Half Pinks.

VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL

The following have signed their names in the Visitors' Book since last November :

Peter FitzHugh, Ivan Geffen, L. F. C. Warren, J. A. Gilpin, W. E. A. Fowler, M. F. Dowding, G. C. Castellain, E. de T. W. Longford, A. Chisholm, M. C. Bang, H. W. Knowling, M. J. W. Benn, L. Rice-Oxley, I. J. Croft, J. M. Dalton, W. D. Scott, T. J. Lee-Warner, P. C. Carter, H. M. G. Baillie, W. Brian Ruegg, T. J. Brown, E. B. Christie, Walter S. Ellis, Neville D. Sandelson, Pierre Young, John Erde, A. J. D. Winter, G. H. Somper, P. Hampton Smith, H. G. T. Bassett, J. R. H. Witherby, Desmond MacManus, Adrian Adams, E. M. H. Wilkinson, Anthony Hewitt Jones, Anthony S. M. Clark, Dorothy Moore, Desmond Fay, Philip Magnus, P. D. W. Brunt, Roger Lees, A. R. I. Mellor, R. M. O. Havers, C. I. A. Beale, Peter Gaye, S. G. W. Maitland, D. F. Cunliffe, Beran Hollings, Edmund A. E. Horwell, J. A. Everts.

There are many others who have visited the School, but have not left their names in the Visitors' Book.

THE ENTERTAINMENTS COMMITTEE

There will be another gathering of O.W.W. to meet the Head Master and Mrs. Christie, the House Masters and their wives at TEA at the Hyde Park Hotel, on Saturday afternoon, April 29th, at 4 p.m.

Parents of O.W.W. on service will be especially welcome.

THE CHURCHILL CLUB

In the December issue of *THE ELIZABETHAN*, Mr. Russell ends his second admirable article on the history of Ashburnham House with the words: "1943 has brought back to its noble rooms a dignity and magnificence which none of us ever expected to see there. But that is another story."

It is that story which I am going to tell you.

It was quite fortuitous that, in the spring of 1943, the Westminster Fund should have hit upon Ashburnham House, and started within its walls the venture now known as the Churchill Club; but it was a lucky fortune that guided their searching footsteps to Little Dean's Yard, for a more fitting setting for this adventure in international friendship it is impossible to imagine.

The Westminster Fund is a private undertaking, sponsored by a group of individuals, including the Prime Minister, Mr. Brendan Bracken, Lord Portal and Sir Edward Grigg, whose ambition it is to establish in England cultural centres for the benefit of American Forces stationed in this country. The American Red Cross Clubs are doing admirable work in making the Americans feel that they are still at home: the object of the Westminster Fund is to make them realise that they are in England, though to show them the true England—that side of England which is not to be found in the familiar smoke and smell of restaurants and night clubs common to all countries. Its purpose, in fact, is to show them that true hospitality which, owing to war-time conditions, it is so hard to provide in our own homes.

Unlike the continent, where life is spread out on the pavements, the real life of England goes on behind closed doors. That is why it must seem such an inhospitable country to those who visit it for the first time. Ashburnham House has now thrown open its doors to more than three thousand English-speaking people from overseas who have come in a few short weeks to regard it almost as their home. The untenanted desert of rooms has now taken on a resplendent appearance, conforming to the very best tradition of English country house comfort. Mr. Lionel Levy has lent priceless antique furniture and chandeliers; the late Mr. Holland Martin has lent pictures from his famous collection; while Sir Kenneth Clark (Director of the National Gallery) has advised on the loan of others; the Publishers' Association has given almost three thousand books to form the nucleus of a first-class, up-to-date library covering most subjects, but with special reference to history, biography, literature, political thought, philosophy, architecture and the arts. These books were donated on the understanding that in the event of the dissolution of the Westminster Fund they were to be passed on to Westminster School.

The School has nothing to resent in the use to which Ashburnham House is being put. Rather it

should feel proud, because there is nothing quite like the Churchill Club in existence in the world to-day, where members of the English-speaking Forces of all ranks and both sexes can meet and exchange ideas and form friendships, and feel, in the very heart of Westminster, the pulse of their common heritage.

There is no membership fee, but the members have been carefully chosen, because, owing to lack of accommodation, it has been necessary to limit membership to those who are really appreciative of the Club's amenities—to those, one might almost say, of the student mind. Not that the body has been neglected! There is an extremely gay cocktail bar, and excellent meals, at 2s. 6d. a head, are served in the cafeteria (your Ashburnham Under).

As well as getting to know one another, ample opportunity is provided for members to meet prominent people in all branches of achievement, for not only do interesting guests come and lecture at the Club, but they also often dine informally to meet the members. Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Sundays are the big Club evenings. On Tuesday there is always a lecture, followed by questions; on Wednesday there is a more informal discussion in the Library; Thursdays are the musical evenings; and on Sunday there is a Club debate. Subjects ranging from Modern English Painting to the Punishment of War Criminals have been under discussion, and the following are only a few of the well-known people who have lectured at the Club since its opening in September: Philip Guedalla, Lord Greene (an Old Westminster), Dr. Malcolm Sargent, Rose Macaulay, Sir Norman Birkett, Osbert Lancaster, Stephen Spender, Professor D. W. Brogan, Desmond MacCarthy, Harold Nicolson, Sir William Beveridge, the Earl of Lytton, Julian Huxley, Duff Cooper, Lord Portal, Lord Hailey, Geoffrey Crowther, and many others.

But it is not to these distinguished guests that the success of the Club is beholden; nor is it to the many valuable voluntary helpers, who give so much of their time and energy to the enterprise, nor to the members themselves, though naturally all these groups of people are necessary to its existence. No, I think for the overwhelming success of the Club we must look to Ashburnham House itself. Here in the shelter of the Abbey, in the peace and dignity of a great tradition, in the tranquillity of beautifully proportioned rooms, the pettiness of everyday cares falls away from us like a useless shell, and there emerges the hard kernel of right thinking, of true international sympathy; but, while looking forward to a future of world-wide understanding, we cannot lose sight, while we are within these walls, of the things that are, as Dryden says:

"Hid in the sacred treasure of the past."

MARY SEWELL.

JAMES GOW

It is over forty years ago since Dr. Gow was appointed Head Master of Westminster. The greater part of his Head Mastership lay in what it is now the fashion to call Edwardian days; the last few years were clouded by the War of 1914-18. To some of us it is difficult to realise that not very far from two thousand boys have entered the School since he retired twenty-five years ago. To them he is little more than a name and for them his Head Mastership has passed into the history of the School. When, therefore, the Editor of *THE ELIZABETHAN* asked me to write of him, I consented (though not without hesitation) to do so, partly because I was at Westminster under him and in close touch with the School throughout his Head Mastership, and partly in the hope that others would fill in and amplify the picture while it is still not difficult to get first-hand impressions of his personality and of the work which he did for the School.

* * *

The beginning of a lecture on the weather by the Head Master—"I know just about as much about the weather as a Head Master ought to know" . . . or again a foggy October morning in Abbey and the beginning of a Sermon—"To-day is St. Luke's day. I dunno why" . . . how vividly the characteristic words, with their abrupt intonation, recall the sturdy, thick-set figure, the strong, square face with its reddish moustache, the rather grim expression, the short-sighted eyes which peered at one through the gold-rimmed spectacles, and the rare but attractive smile of the man who held sway over Westminster for eighteen years.

Our fathers had told us of the angularity of Rutherford in his early days, but we, to whom at the end he was an incredibly dignified and impressive figure, scarcely knew what to make of this seemingly rather "rough diamond" who came to us from Nottingham as his successor, and we were slightly shocked, I remember, when he made his first appearance up Fields in a black Norfolk jacket and soft "parson's" hat. But if we did not know what to make of our new Head Master, Dr. Gow knew very well what he meant to make of us. He had accepted the Head Mastership, in his own words, as "a special and unique trust"; he was convinced, as he was fond of telling us, that we "were citizens of no mean city", and he intended that his reign should be one of steady progress in every direction. The good work of his predecessors was to be consolidated, the large body of O.W.W. who had distrusted Rutherford to the end were to be re-assured by finding that no sensational changes were in view, and the School was to go forward with

regained confidence and without the unhappy controversies—as far as he could prevent them—which had tended to mar the work of his immediate predecessor. He had his own clear views on certain points. Rutherford, for instance, had been convinced that the future of Westminster lay as a day school; his successor was no less convinced that however important the day-boy element was, and must be in a London school, the true line of development was and should be based on the historic fact that Westminster was planned and was in essentials a boarding school, and that it would be to the School's advantage to combine and develop the best elements of both systems.

He wanted more boys and more boarders, and as the years went on he successfully raised the numbers to 300, which was the figure that he had always had in mind. From the earliest days he set himself to improve the School buildings. The Science Laboratories were totally inadequately housed at the top of Ashburnham. He had not been a year at the School before he seized a chance of acquiring land in College Street, and the new Science Buildings, together with a Racquet Court, were erected on the site. Improvements—not before they were needed—were made in College and in the Boarding Houses. The staff was increased, the modern side was developed, time-tables were re-arranged, and a School Cadet Corps (later the O.T.C.) was instituted. All these were solid achievements, and though he was greatly helped by his staff, they were mainly due to his own business capacity and to a certain dogged pertinacity which for the most part neither desired nor welcomed help from outside. He liked to keep things in his own strong capable hands. He was not to be hustled by too enthusiastic O.W.W. however distinguished. When he, and he alone, judged the time was ripe he would do what he had in mind and what he thought was for the good of the School. The revival of "Water" is a case in point. He always meant and intended to revive it and he knew that it would be a popular move to do so. On the other hand he knew that his staff were not particularly keen about it; he wanted to do it first of all in a very small way, and only when he judged that the numbers of the School warranted it. The result was that many O.W.W. imagined that he was opposed to the whole idea, and were astonished when they found that the revival had actually taken place.

Parents did not always find him easy. He could be singularly uncompromising. The least emotional of men he did not invite confidences and was apt to cut them short with a brusqueness which alienated many. On the whole he was popular with the boys. They liked his directness—they knew

where they were with him and that they would always get a square deal—his common sense and reasonableness appealed to them, and when he addressed the School he did so with quite admirable brevity and point. To the younger boys he was less awe-inspiring than Rutherford, though in some ways more remote. One has an impression that, though he knew a good deal about them, he saw little of them individually—apart from entertaining boarders at breakfasts—certainly he would never spend an afternoon, as Rutherford was fond of doing, going through a Junior Form boy by boy for a friendly informal ten minutes talk in the Library (“Well, my boy, how are you getting on . . . all well? etc.”). Gow, perhaps, never realised how much a friendly smile might mean to a small boy—or to any boy—and usually would pass by with unseeing eye or with a perfunctory nod.

In the Upper part of the School the boys were more critical. The clever, intelligent boy in the VI or VII, who could hold his own and maintain his point, got on well with him and liked him. Gow would have been the first to appreciate the well-known remark made to Liddell, “Sir, I found it in your Dictionary,” and his response would probably have been a broad smile and “That’s a good ’un. Let’s have a look at what you found.” Those, too, in responsible positions who consulted him on their monitorial duties, etc., always found him helpful and willing to back them and to support them with wise and shrewd counsel. He had the merit of accessibility. Like many extremely busy people he never seemed to be in a hurry. He would stand about in Yard in a “Break” and chat, and those who wanted decisions on this or that matter could always get them—sometimes with a briefness which was as disconcerting as it was final. But there were others at the top of the School, at any rate in my time, who found him very unsympathetic and difficult to get on with and they did not and could not like him. It was not only the “lame ducks” who were briefly dismissed as “fools”. Somewhat insensitive himself, it was incomprehensible to him that any boy, not a fool, could be tongue-tied and paralysed simply through shyness and nerves. He did not understand them and the rebuffs, fancied or real, which they suffered from his rather impatient attitude towards them made it impossible for them in their turn to understand him.

As a teacher he was always stimulating, unexpected and amusing. Others must speak of his work with the VII, but there was a brief period when he created a small Form between the Shell and the VI, which he taught almost entirely him-

self and informally in the Library. He evidently enjoyed doing it and gave of his best. There were afternoons when he would suddenly say “I’ll do a bit now,” and would then go ahead translating line after line never pausing for a word and with a raciness and polish which was a sheer delight. Memory recalls a difficult passage in Horace. We were doing it out of his own edition of the Odes. “Let’s have a look at my note,” says Gow. It was a very long and a very learned note and he read it slowly aloud. At the end he paused, squinted over the top of his glasses (a very characteristic action), grinned, and said with quiet amusement, “Thank you for nothing”.

Up to 1914 Gow’s record at Westminster had been one of steady progress. Then came the War and with it, for the Head Master, the eye trouble which, accelerated by the loss at Jutland of a much-loved son, was to end in total blindness. For a proud, self-reliant man it was the cruellest blow which could have fallen. He met it with a courage and a dignity which were an inspiration to those about him. Never did anyone ever see him other than “cheerful, and helpful, and firm”. Once, and once only, in a rare moment of confidence, did he tell my father something of the misery, despair, and humiliation which he felt and hid so bravely and completely from the outside world. He felt it his duty to remain at the helm, but the directing power was less certain and even then he did not find it easy to share his responsibilities. It was a period of great difficulty for all concerned, and this should be remembered by those who are inclined, perhaps, to criticise those last sad years.

Gow had great qualities, but they may or may not have been the particular qualities required for Westminster at that time. He was not, perhaps, among the greatest Head Masters of his day. His name will be looked for in vain in the pages of the Dictionary of National Biography where the greatest and most-loved of his colleagues at Westminster finds a place. But none the less he stands high on the list of Head Masters of Westminster. His reign was not sensational, but it was one of quiet, solid and sound reconstruction and progress. He fulfilled the promise which he made at his election that he would dedicate himself “wholly and enthusiastically to the service of the School”. He had no desire for higher preferment. Essentially he was humble-minded, and when he was laid to rest in a country churchyard there was cut on his gravestone the simplest inscription which a Head Master of Westminster ever chose for himself: “J. G. Archididascalus” and the date.

WHITBOURNE COURT



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The present house is on or near the site of an ancient palace belonging to the Bishops of Hereford, which suffered siege and was destroyed during the Civil Wars. The house was soon rebuilt, but on a small scale, and has been added to by successive owners. It probably occupies

the site of the gate-house and the drawbridge, but the moat has been filled in on this side. The usual tales are current of a Priest's Hole in the house and the ghost of a headless huntsman on the old drive, but it has not been possible to verify these.

THE ETON AND WESTMINSTER RACE IN 1842

An Oarsman's Account

The following letter, now in the possession of Mrs. F. C. Goodenough (by whose kind permission it is printed here) was written by Frederick Addington Goodenough, eldest son of the Rev. Edmund Goodenough, Head Master of Westminster, 1809-28. Frederick Goodenough was aged 15 when he wrote this entertaining account of the race against Eton. His father was by this time Dean of Wells, and he himself had been at Westminster three years, one of which had been spent in College. As the letter shows, he was an enthusiastic oarsman, and in 1843 he rowed bow in the race against Eton, and No. 5 in the same race in 1845. He was Captain of the School in 1845-6. He died on his voyage home from Calcutta in 1869.

St. Peter's College,
July 27th, 1842.

My dearest Father,

Which do you think have won the Westminsters or the Etonians which going going gone. The Westminsters my dear Father have beaten the Etonians hollow by 10 boats lengths i.e. a hundred and fifty yards the boats being about 50 feet long each a *glorious* thing for Westminster is it not? The race was from a little this side of Kew to Putney they made one false start and then started again fair we *took the lead* kept it the whole way and finally beat them hollow. I will give a list of the names of the respective crews (*list follows*: the Westminster crew is given as in the Record of O.W.W., except that

J. Y. Seagrave is rowing No. 3 and J. G. Smyth No. 4) the Etonians were much heavier than us and stronger but our superior pulling gained the day. I was in a six oar boat of Roberts¹ and we went along in fine style we saw them come in best being ahead and we cheered them like fun. We all had pink rosettes on our jerseys said named jerseys being white with white trauzers. We in the six beat a Westminster eight all to pot and beat 2 steamers the *Lightning* and *Snowdrop*. Williamson² gave us all great *κῦδος* for not a single fellow was late for Lockers³ or drunk. The boat I pulled in is the best six on the river about here Cousin Robert⁴ came to see us on Saturday and yesterday he came up School and Hall and all about the place. He came on Saturday with his wife Mrs. R. C. Goodenough you I think have never seen her she is a very nice person I think. I am glad that you liked Ross I have from several fellows [*sic*] that it is a beautiful place in every respect. I hope that you will settle at a nice sea place and send for the *Traveller with the Attrells*. Jeremy⁵ is very well he went up in the steamer. You cannot think how hoarse all the fellows are with holloing we gave the racing eight 3 cheers as they came into the yard. Give my love to Mama and the girls and Leonard. Thankyou for the sovereign I do not think any more will necessary [*sic*]. I paid 5s. of the 10s. to Sutcliff. I knew you would wish me to.

Goodbye

I remain

Your affec^{ate} Son
F. A. Goodenough.

¹ Boat builders to the School until 1852.

² Head Master, 1828-46.

³ i.e. Lock-hours.

⁴ Robert William Goodenough, admitted 1821, died 1880.

⁵ Perhaps his younger brother, James Graham Goodenough, who had come to Westminster in the previous year.

THE WESTMINSTER SCHOOL MISSION

A Brief History

On the 22nd October, 1888, the Mission Club opened its doors for the first time, in St. Mary's School, Charing Cross Road. This was the result of a meeting held up School at which it was resolved that the School should undertake some special mission work, and that the assistance of O.W.W. should be invited. The Dean presided and prominent O.W.W. were among the speakers; Archdeacon Farrar described the conditions in parts of London as presenting a more insoluble problem than Central Africa. Consequently a Committee, on which the School, the Masters and O.W.W. were represented in roughly equal numbers, was appointed to carry out the project.

Shortly after opening, the Club had on its rolls 180 boys drawn mainly from Seven Dials, then one of the worst slums in London. Its activities included gym, swimming, running and indoor games, while training in wood and metal work was given and proved most popular.

In 1892 St. Mary's School ceased to be available and rooms were rented in Regency Street. There, for the next five years, the Mission worked with success. Accommodation was poor and there was a long waiting list of would-be members, but the Club activities, in and out of doors, continued unabated. The technical classes, with shorthand now added, continued their popular work, and a musical society was so successful that it was soon able to undertake outside engagements. Towards the end of the century, however, troubles began to arise. The lease of the Club House was about to expire and could not be renewed. Efforts to find a site on which the Mission could erect its own buildings were frustrated by lack of funds.

Finally, in 1900, after it had even been suggested that the Mission should close down, the Committee decided that the Club should be carried on by the Vicar of St. Mary's as a parish activity, while the Committee themselves helped financially. So, in 1901, the parish clergy took over and the Vicar (Mr. Napier) began planning a new building, which was completed after his death, in 1904. Napier Hall, as it was called, housed the Club very comfortably, providing room for gym and drill in the main hall.

Until the Great War the Club flourished, largely due to the enthusiasm of the Clergy. Numbers increased; the activities included cricket, football, boxing, gym and music, while a company of the Church Lads' Brigade, and later of the Cadet Corps, were formed. During the Great War, the Church Lads' Brigade died out, and after the war the parish authorities asked the cadets of the corps to leave. Consequently the company of the Cadet Corps moved to new quarters in Lammas Hall, Battersea, while the Boys' Club itself remained at Napier Hall.

In 1933, owing to considerable development, it was decided that the Committee could take over the control of the Club, employing a superintendent to manage it, while leaving the spiritual work to the Vicar.

Such was the state of affairs until the Battle of Britain. Lammas Hall was hit—not badly—but as both Lammas and Napier Hall were unsuitable for night work under these conditions, a new home had to be found. After several moves the Club was established in its present temporary quarters at the Wyndham-Ashby Hall in Regency Street.

S. P. L. K.

FOOTBALL

The 1st XI was fortunate this year in being able to retain four out of five of last season's forward line, for it is the attack which has been the weak factor in the teams of the last two years. The fifth place, that of inside left, was ably filled by D. Parker, a clever but small and at times hesitant player. H. C. Gayer, at centre forward, brought some sorely needed speed into the attack and gained valuable goals by his many fine solo efforts. C. A. Barnes, although somewhat slow, made an ideal and strikingly effective combination with Parker on the left, while W. W. S. Breem and S. P. L. Kennedy, though not combining so well, were the better players individually.

The defence, although generally sound, had a distressing tendency to collapse under any great strain and were never sure of their tackling and covering. A. N. Hodges, with his size and boundless energy, was an asset to the side, although at times he seemed to be lacking in "football sense." J. C. O. Furber, in spite of his slowness and lack of heading ability, contrived to pull off the most amazing pieces of work, and it is a pity he was not able to do this more frequently. P. S. Wilkinson brought a professional touch to the side with his excellent heading, and he was the most effective of the halves in clearing the ball. D. A. Trebucq, the captain, played at left half, and K. G. Allison and B. C. Alcock as backs kept up a sound standard of play throughout, but were weak in their tackling. W. A. Holmes-Walker, in goal, always looked unsafe and had a tendency to come too far out, but, nevertheless, played extremely well, especially in the School matches.

The holiday matches, played on the Bank of England ground at Roehampton, owe their success to Malcolm Wyatt, for his kindness in lending us the ground; to Messrs. W. E. Gerrish and E. R. B. Graham for their loyal support; and to K. A. H. Hinge for the valuable coaching—indeed the only coaching—which the XI received. The 2nd XI were unfortunate in losing all their matches, and although the standard of play in the team was not good, R. C. Low in goal, G. S. Brenton on the left wing, and P. H. Simmons at right half deserve special mention.

The Colts were not up to standard, losing two out of their three matches, but the School has some promising players in B. Eccles, the captain, G. L. Law and J. W. P. Bradley.

The School was represented by D. A. Trebucq, playing right back, in the South v. North Public Schools match.

The following colours have been awarded up to date:

PINKS: C. A. Barnes, H. C. Gayer, D. Parker.

HALF-PINKS: J. C. O. Furber, P. S. Wilkinson, W. A. Holmes-Walker, K. G. Allison.

THIRDS: B. C. Alcock, G. S. Brenton, P. H. Simmons.

COLTS: B. Eccles, R. C. Low, G. L. Law, J. W. P. Bradley.

Ashburnham and Homeboarders were the winners of Seniors, held at the end of the Play Term.

Rigaud's beat College in the last round of Juniors.

The following accounts of matches have been reproduced by the permission of the *College Street Clarion*.

WESTMINSTER v. LANCING

At Ludlow. Won 2—1

Westminster beat Lancing by two goals to one in an extremely hard and fast game played at Ludlow.

From the start Westminster attacked strongly against a somewhat inexperienced defence, and after twenty minutes were rewarded when Gayer scored off a movement that developed from the right. Only a brilliant move by Newman, the Lancing goalkeeper, prevented another goal a few minutes later. In the second half Lancing pressed much harder, and enabled Hartley to equalise with a first-class shot. Westminster then counter-attacked with a speed that left the Lancing supporters breathless, when a few minutes later Barnes headed in off a centre from Wilkinson on the right.

In the heavy rain which fell during the later stages of the game, Lancing made several dangerous attacks, but these were kept well in check by D. A. Trebucq, at centre half, and A. N. Hodges, as right back, who never gave their opponents a chance to score. The game ended in favour of Westminster who, tiring, were beginning to play a defensive game.

RETURN MATCH

At Worcester. Lost 5—1

In a return match played at Worcester, Lancing avenged their defeat of the week before by beating Westminster by five goals to one. During the first fifteen minutes of the game, play was very even, and Westminster were unlucky in not scoring after two shots by Barnes had rebounded off the cross-bar. Then Lancing pressed harder and enabled Hendry (centre forward) to score off a centre by Mercer.

Just before half-time Mercer scored Lancing's second goal. In the second half Lancing, swinging the ball a good deal, broke through the rather casual Westminster defence and scored two more goals. Gayer, with a fine piece of dribbling, broke through on his own immediately after and scored the School's only goal. In spite of this Westminster failed to rally and just before the end Mercer headed in off a centre from Lengerche, the right inside, to score Lancing's fifth and final goal.

Team.—W. A. Holmes-Walker; A. N. Hodges, B. St. C. Alcock; P. H. Wilkinson, D. A. Trebucq, J. C. O. Furber; W. W. S. Breem, S. P. L. Kennedy, H. C. Gayer, D. Parker, C. A. Barnes.

WESTMINSTER v. O.W.W.**At Roehampton. Lost 6—2**

On Monday, December 22nd, the School played the Old Westminsters and lost after a hard game by six goals to two. The O.W.W., captained by Kenneth Hinge, and playing with only two substitutes, won the toss, and the School kicked off. For the first twenty minutes both teams played hard but without success, until Kennedy scored for the School. It was evident that while the 1st XI were playing well as a team, although at times the defence was very shaky, the more obvious individualism of the O.W.W. was producing better results.

It soon became apparent that Hinge was the spearhead of their attack when, with two quick and neatly placed goals, he put his side in the lead. And although Gayer again scored for Westminster, the loss of Barnes and Parker on the left so weakened the forward line that the School's attack was always weak and hesitant. At half-time the O.W.W. were another goal up, and increased their lead in the second part of the game with some really fast and hard attacks against a defence that was later weakened by the retirement from the game of D. A. Trebucq.

O.W.W.—Pratt; Lever, Hodges; M. Trebucq, Cremer, Corcos; Bradley, Turner-Samuels, Hinge, McNamara, Eichholtz.

Westminster.—Holmes-Walker; Hodges, Law; Furber, Trebucq, Wilkinson; Breem, Kennedy, Gayer, Murphy, Schneiders.

WESTMINSTER v. CHIGWELL**At Roehampton. Lost 5—2**

Westminster lost five to two to Chigwell on Thursday, December 30th. The School attacked strongly at the beginning and the forwards, well backed up by an aggressive half line, quickly achieved results when Gayer scored in the first ten minutes of the game.

Chigwell, playing with ten men, and K. G. Allison, who carried off a difficult situation embarrassingly well, equalised a few minutes later in what was at the time one of their rare assaults on the Westminster goalmouth. The eleven played well in the first half, they tackled harder, their covering was better, and their passing was more accurate than that of their opponents, and these advantages enabled Gayer to score Westminster's second and last goal.

The School, however, was unlucky enough to lose the services of Alcock, left back, who retired from injuries from the game a few minutes before half-time. This setback shook the team's confidence and enabled Chigwell to gain the lead with another goal, a lead that they retained to the end. In the second half the 1st XI totally collapsed, and in spite of Trebucq's efforts to rally the defence, Chigwell scored twice more before the final whistle blew.

Team.—Holmes-Walker; Hodges, Alcock; Furber, Trebucq, Wilkinson; Breem, Kennedy, Gayer, Parker, Barnes.

WESTMINSTER v. HIGHGATE**At Roehampton. Won 1—0**

On Saturday, 1st January, the School played Highgate at Roehampton. From the first it was obvious that both sides would have to fight hard in order to win. The teams attacked and defended well, but whereas the Westminster team work was good, Highgate possessed the better individual players who, however, were not well supported by the younger members of the team. Doggett, the captain, was outstanding of the Highgate team, although kept well in check by Trebucq, whose position play and tackling was unsurpassed on the field.

After the first twenty minutes of the game Gayer scored the only goal off a pass from the left wing by Parker. Both

sides continued to attack strongly, but neither were very good in front of their opposing goalmouths, consequently many chances of scoring were thrown away. Parker and Barnes made a very good combination on the left wing, ably supported by Trebucq, and it was that side of the field that the majority of the School's attacks developed. Gayer was helped to a great extent by his speed and by the excellent passes which he received from Barnes and Parker, and only the excellent positioning of the Highgate goalkeeper prevented our forwards from scoring more goals. The final score was 1—0 in favour of Westminster.

Team.—Holmes-Walker; Wilkinson, G. Law; Furber, Hodges, Trebucq; Breem, Kennedy, Gayer, Parker, Barnes.

WESTMINSTER v. CHARTERHOUSE**At Roehampton. Lost 4—0**

The winners, a much heavier and faster side, pressed strongly from the start, and after ten minutes play, J. L. Godden, centre forward and captain, scored. Charterhouse continued to have the better of the game but Westminster, of whom Trebucq, Hodges and Holmes-Walker were prominent, prevented a further score before half-time.

The Westminster forwards, in spite of some very fine individual efforts by Gayer, were unable to make much impression against the experienced tackling and covering of Bishop, centre half, and two equally sound backs. In the middle of the second half Charterhouse added a second goal. Spratt, the left wing, heading in a well placed centre from the left.

Westminster tried hard to reduce the lead but in the closing minutes of the game two excellent shots by J. L. Godden put the final result beyond doubt.

Team.—Holmes-Walker; Wilkinson, Allison; Furber, Hodges, Trebucq; Breem, Kennedy, Gayer, Parker, Barnes.

W. W. S. B.

GYM

During the greater part of last term classes were held regularly two or three times a week at Whitbourne and once a week at Buckenhill. Many of those who started gym at the beginning of the year, especially those at Buckenhill, have mastered the elementary exercises and show great signs of promise.

The weather this term has so far prevented us from doing gym to any great extent, but this period of inactivity has been used for resetting the bars at Buckenhill which have recently worked loose. It is also hoped that a horse will soon be made there, which will provide very much more scope for the classes.

In order to give the Buckenhill gymnasts more classes a week, plans are going through for them all to be put in one squad for the P.T. on whole school days, so that gym may be done as a P.T. "activity" for twenty minutes each parade.

Apart from the time during P.T. there will be little opportunity for gym this term, owing to the time being taken up by more important sports. But with about forty gymnasts in the School there is every hope that the standard of gym will be sufficiently high to have an inter-house gym competition in the summer as well as a display.

A. N. H.

ATHLETICS

The athletic season, though it has been brought forward by nearly half a term, has not yet begun. Even so, it is already possible to see within quite fine limits what it will be. The most important event in the near future is a Cross Country Running Match against Felsted, on February 19th. This is the first athletic fixture of any kind with any other school or athletic club since April, 1940. It will be a home match, run over a five-and-a-half mile course in the vicinity of Buckenhill. We hope that this will be a prelude to many similar matches for which in our evacuation we have such ample facilities.

Of the other events little can be said until they have happened. We are trying to extend the programme to, as nearly as we can, its peace-time proportions. This means including again the individual events, which ought to be a welcome change to the team work of the relays.

A lot of good work has been done on the jumping pits at Buckenhill. And, by cementing in the high-jump posts, raising the take-offs of both jumps and enlarging the pits, a couple of rather mediocre jumping pits have been converted into two that no one could complain about.

It is always dangerous to predict the future, but even so, I feel that the programme laid down gives every promise of a lively season.

H. C. G.

SHOOTING

Since shooting was revived last term under J. L. Chandler, we have had two inter-school matches; one against Epsom College, which we lost; the other, against Hurstpierpoint, we won by a small margin.

The main difficulty lay in the matter of practice for the Whitbourne members of the eight. But the Sergeant Major is now able to go over once a week.

Despite this and other inconveniences we are to have four more matches this term. Against King's School, Wimbledon, Felsted, Hurstpierpoint, and Chigwell.

All these matches have of necessity to be postal ones, as we are unable to meet our opponents because of travel problems.

W. A. H. W.

FENCING

This term, with the kind assistance of several O.W.W., the conditions for Fencing have been much improved, although they are not so good as might be desired.

Fencing takes place once a week at the two centres independently, but we used to fence together on Monday evenings at Buckenhill, until the days became too short,

We hope, if all goes well, to be able to send in a team for the Public Schools Fencing Championship, although, unfortunately, none of the fencers have had any previous match experience.

W. A. H. W.

THE SCOUTS

Since the beginning of last term badge work has proceeded on the usual lines: a few interpreter's badges have been gained, and two bridges have been successfully constructed as part of the Pioneer's Badge. This term it is hoped to provide rather more outdoor activities than previously. Golding and Candlin are to be congratulated on gaining their King's Scout badges.

On Sunday, February 6th, six representatives of the Troop attended a Scout Rally in Worcester, in which Lady Baden Powell took the salute from 3,000 Worcestershire Scouts and Guides. The march-past was followed by a service in the Cathedral and a hypothetical tea in the Guildhall. The afternoon, though exceedingly cold for short-sleeved shirts, was greatly enjoyed.

The Field-day last term was successfully damped by the elements, but in spite of the rain fires were lit to cook the lunch: further activities, however, had to be suspended.

The P.E.T.S. have already received elementary teaching in Knotting, Signalling, Ambulance and Map-reading, but the problem of to what extent they should be considered as part of the Troop is a difficult one: at present they rather tend to disrupt the unity of the Troop on the days when they are being taught.

No week-end camps have been planned for this term, but it is intended to continue them during the longer days of next term.

A. T. S. S.

J.T.C.

Last term's activities included a successful examination for Certificate A, Part 2, on December 5th, and the obtaining for us by "Engineer Instr." Aldridge of a derelict car which is still undergoing dissolution and removal prior to its becoming a complete instructional chassis and engine.

The system of training programmes is unaltered this term and our turn for the annual inspection happens to come round early this year. By the time that this account is published, Major W. Smith, M.B.E., Assistant Inspector of Training Corps, will have visited the contingent, on February 18th.

An innovation has come into being which will be of increasing historical interest as years go by and especially after our return to London; the J.T.C. is now wearing in its own right the badge of the Herefordshire Regiment. Many sentimental ties

exist between military units and this will symbolise and perpetuate visibly the link between the School and the County to the hospitality of which it owes so much. The application for this had first to obtain the support of the Hon. Colonels of the Regiment, which was readily given, and was then approved officially by the War Office.

AIR TRAINING CORPS

The enrolling of four recruits this term has had the gratifying result of making the strength of the Flight a record to date.

Instruction by senior cadets is now an important feature in the general scheme of training, and under the vigorous and competent direction of Flight-Sergeant Baron, shows excellent results. Five cadets qualified for the award of the Proficiency Certificate after the written examination in November last—four others failed only in the "Calculations" paper.

The first Advanced Training Examination for Post-proficiency Cadets will be held in February, and several candidates from the Flight are presenting themselves for this.

Supplies of .22 ammunition having arrived, regular shooting practice has been possible on the range at Buckenhill.

Morse practice with Aldis lamps—one kindly lent by Bromyard A.T.C.—has been resumed.

A visit to an R.A.F. Station is planned for a date in March when, as usual, it is hoped that all members of the Flight will gain flying experience.

HOME GUARD

BUCKENHILL DETACHMENT.

Our specialist training last term was put to the test in a large-scale Sector Exercise called "Exercise Lion." No troops were involved, but movements were announced by messages brought into circulation at the appropriate times by the numerous Umpires.

The Buckenhill detachment was called upon to supply Operations Room and Signals Office staffs at the various Headquarters, mainly Company; however, four people went to Sector Headquarters: Lance-Corporal Kennedy, Breem, Eichholz and Edwards, D.

About halfway through we received a visit from the G.O.C. in C. Western Command, who was apparently favourably impressed by our efforts.

Before the exercise three of the operations staff went over to Leominster to give a demonstration to the other Companies.

At the end of last term R. J. M. Baron was promoted to Company Intelligence Sergeant, being the first from Buckenhill to attain that rank.

Early this term we were shown three Army films at the Plaza Cinema, Bromyard. They were

very instructive, and showed, among other things, a novel way of sighting a mortar or E.Y. rifle.

Another proficiency test has been held, and all the people from No. 11a Platoon who entered for it passed, with one failure in Battlecraft.

There is to be, in the near future, another exercise on the lines of "Exercise Lion," only involving platoons however, and designed to test the intercommunication of the smaller units. One shift for the Operations Room is to be supplied by Bromyard, and we are busy training it.

Parades this term are much the same as last; a week-day parade for members taking the Proficiency Test, and Sundays for all. There is, however, one change—a holiday once a month. This does not generally affect us as we only parade two Sundays out of three.

Our role is still about the same; engaged in reconnaissance work. The more active members touring the countryside on bicycles, while the more static of the Bromyard section are conveyed in delivery vans.

W. A. H. W.

WHITBOURNE DETACHMENT.

This term training has been mainly directed towards the examination for the Proficiency Badge, for which we hope to send in several candidates at the end of March. The numbers of the Whitbourne Section have been swelled by five recruits from Rigaud's and one King's Scholar. It is true that at the time of writing they are without belts (and so cannot put on their equipment); without rifles (and so cannot fight and can barely train); without helmets (and so would stand little chance in the day of battle). Nevertheless, we are undauntingly acquiring general knowledge and the ability to read maps; and, like the Three Grey Sisters of Greek Mythology, we pass the Sten or the rifle from hand to hand.

Since our last notes we have had two nocturnal exercises; one in the orchard by a waning moon, the other at full moon and in heavy rain, between Badley Wood and Bringsty. Both provided useful experience, and showed the necessity for frequent practice in night operations, in order to combine speed with effectiveness. On the latter occasion there were two patrols, one of which covered the ground but failed to bring in the required information, the other had time to achieve only half its appointed task. On the former exercise conditions were difficult owing to a crisp frost on the ground, and a silent approach was achieved, but with excessive slowness. Only experience can teach how far sound travels on flat or broken ground, and where it is safe to walk rapidly or necessary to crawl kittenishly. We hope to have more chances of acquiring experience by tactical exercises later on, when Proficiency Badges have been gained.

Our next immediate task is to study the vagaries of our Mark I Sten Carbines, which have been substituted for the Mark II's with which we were getting familiar.

D. C. S.

PHYSICAL TRAINING

School P.T., as well as Football and Athletics, suffered a loss in Mr. Young's departure for the Under School. Six months have passed since we last heard "RRats, RRabbits" and other familiar cries. The sergeant-major took over the task of the School, robbed of many of its instructors and team leaders, into five new squads. Having done this it was decided to split up the squads entirely, thus giving the squad commanders complete control over their squads. The winter terms are not the most suitable in the year for P.T., and many say that the weather was too cold, while others object to it on the grounds that it is too militaristic. In fact, everyone has some complaint, and most a remedy, but few are justified and none practical.

However a far-reaching re-organisation has been approved by the Head Master, and will be put into effect as soon as possible. The new system is the most up-to-date obtainable, and we are hoping to improvise equipment to introduce more variety. The main difficulty in P.T. at present is the lack of showers and proper changing rooms for Whitebourne boys at Buckenhill, coupled with the fact that they also have to bring change in their packs, which encourages them to wear the same shirts.

B. J. N.

ATHLETICS—LATE NEWS

Long Distance Match v. Felsted
Lost 49—31.

AN OXFORD LETTER

Sir,

Let me tell you first of all that you acted most unwisely when you asked me to write an Oxford Letter. Oxford at present is undesirable, and so an Oxford Letter to be in tone must be the same.

Oxford is undesirable, I said. It is no longer the dream-world in which you supposedly sit up till the scout comes home discussing transubstantiation or the pancake grease with your old school friends. Now you may sit up all night, but it is in order to discuss air plots or right forms, and if at about three o'clock you hear a loud bump overhead, you may be sure that someone above you is practising anchor drill.

And then, I fear, there is no longer any *esprit d'école*; that has been superseded by *esprit d'escalier*—a necessary fuel measure. So, really, the Oxford Letter has become almost an anomaly.

All the same I suppose that your readers want to hear things about Old Westminster up here, and

I suppose that they want the things to sound funny.

Mr. de Mowbray, of course, is always with us, and co-eternal with him is Mr. Ray. Mr. Ray has a cheery "GoodmornING," which has strong associations with first breakfast words at Fernie. Mr. Croft passes his time with the happy air of one whose days are not numbered; he "Old-Grantises" with Mr. Corcos, who, I believe, is thinking of taking up horse-breeding. Mr. Grummit, of Brasenose, coxes an eight with the same shrill voice which we used to hear at Putney. Mr. Rider affects an imperial sang-froid, which is made more convincing by an Old Westminster at Oxford tie. Mr. Walter plays the piano, and sports his oak.

There may also be up here, I gather, Messrs. Godson, Neel and Barnett, but they must excuse me if I have credited them with wrong addresses. I am sorry. Everything is so disorganised, and no one seems to spread rumours nowadays—or at least, if they do, the rumours never meet the ears of

YOUR OXFORD CORRESPONDENT.

THE LIBRARY

Like many of the School's other activities, the Library has suffered from the evacuation. Some of the more valuable books from the Busby Library are in safe storage, but the Scott Library is not at all so lucky. Many of its books are still in London, and no one has dared to enquire into their condition lately; we can only hope. The rest are in Bromyard. Some of them, in spite of all efforts, have suffered from damp, though most of them are still usable and form, in fact, the present School Library. We have a fair collection of novels, a useful set of reference books, and quite a lot of history; other subjects have rather arbitrary collections devoted to them. This cannot be avoided; we have not space enough to display even all the books available to us, and the cellar under the bookshop has many packing cases and a few shelves filled with books (mostly of little general interest) belonging to the library. If any boy cannot find a book he particularly wants, there is always a chance that it may be there, and it is usually worth while to ask.

Since we moved from 1, High Street, many re-arrangements and alterations have been necessary, and a staff of boys has given very useful service, particularly in correcting the catalogue; the library is now settled as comfortable as may be and we hope that, until the welcome task of packing it up to go back to London has to be faced, there will be no further crises. The equable outflow and scarcely less equable back-flow; the stimulation of an occasional laggard; the selection of a few new books each term; and the monotonous replacement of blotting-paper; these are at the moment all our tasks. We hope that all boys who conven-

iently can will make full use of the Library's facilities; a little enquiry will often show that we can do more than at first seems likely. And though the scene which Crabbe presents resembles our two-room jumble not at all:

Lo! All in silence, all in order stand,
And mighty *folios* first, a lordly band;
The *quartos* their well-ordered ranks maintain,
And light *octavos* fill a spacious plain;
See yonder, rang'd in more frequented rows
A humbler band of *duodecimos*,

While undistinguished trifles swell the scene,
The last new play, and fritter'd magazine—
though we find in this impressive arrangement signs of disuse which we are proud that our own collection does not show, yet elsewhere in the same poem Crabbe expresses well our aim and purpose:

Come, Child of Care! to make thy soul serene
Approach the treasures of this tranquil scene.

Use those treasures with some care; and they will last a good time yet.

A. S.

KING LEAR

A performance at Bromyard by "Westminster-at-Buckenhill," on December 10th:
afterwards performed in College Hall, Westminster.

THE CAST

Lear, King of Britain	L. G. Hunt	Old Man, tenant to Gloucester	J. S. Potter
King of France	W. W. S. Breem	Doctor	H. K. Morris
Duke of Burgundy	J. A. Davidson	Fool	G. R. H. Schneiders
Duke of Cornwall	P. L. Bunting	Oswald, steward to Goneril	D. R. Morris
Duke of Albany	C. A. Barnes	Captain	J. S. Potter
Earl of Kent	M. B. Geidt	Gentleman	J. C. May
Earl of Gloucester	E. P. Skone-James	A Herald	S. J. Steele
Edgar, son to Gloucester	J. S. Petherick	Servant to Cornwall	D. W. W. Edwards
Edmund, bastard son to Gloucester	H. C. Gayer	Goneril	R. M. Bannerman
Curan, a Courtier	S. J. Steele	Regan, Daughter to Lear	B. E. J. Garmeson
Knigh, attached to Lear	F. C. A. Hermann	Cordelia, Daughter to Lear	K. M. Thomson

The success of this production depends largely on the playing of Lear, and an astonishingly good performance, was given by L. G. Hunt—so good that one had to pardon the temerity of the attempts as well as admire the skill of the player. The difficulty of age could not, of course, be altogether overcome, but Hunt managed to bridge a good deal of the gap. His presentation showed fine appreciation and emotional depth. The faults were in comparison trifling. It is at any rate better to lay too much than too little emphasis on every word, but building up to artificial climaxes is a more serious and a more tempting mistake. Shakespeare is a dramatist whose words need the obedience rather than the help of the actor. This performance, however, was one which may well be remembered with pride.

In a school production, even the problem of Lear seems simple in comparison with the playing of Cordelia. It was not, therefore, surprising that K. M. Thomson's Cordelia should have been in some respects a failure. This is, however, a reluctant admission, as, in the writer's opinion, this partial failure was at least quite as creditable to the performer as success in easier roles.

An actor is almost forced by his sex to sacrifice part of the character of Goneril or Regan and take full advantage of their fierce venom and disregard of moral laws. R. M. Bannerman as Goneril and B. E. J. Garmeson as Regan contributed to the development of the drama by their wise handling of these characters and their eager

grasp of the opportunities given them. In this they were well supported by P. L. Bunting's brutal and ferocious Cornwall.

Albany, a somewhat insipid character, was none the less well played by C. A. Barnes. E. P. Skone-James provided a good contrast to Lear by his mild playing of Gloucester, though at times this admirable mildness made him a little inaudible. Edgar is a very difficult character, and I. S. Petherick distinguished himself by his handling of this double role. He was particularly good as Tom O'Bedlam in the storm scene—his most vital contribution to the play.

G. R. H. Schneiders' Fool was a magnificent example of sound appreciation combined with masterly team playing. He managed to suggest the horror lying just below the surface without allowing himself to distort the play by providing more than a tail to Lear or to go outside his proper role of the wise observer of human error.

Another example of fine team playing came from M. B. Geidt, whose honest zest and unhesitating assurance as Kent provided perhaps the most satisfactory performance of all.

Edmund has always seemed to me one of the least interesting of Shakespeare's villains—he is a small person like the other characters with no real evil in him except a blindness to all but his own material interests in their dullest form. Monotony is avoided by grim irony and a certain animal vigour. Perhaps H. C. Gayer was right to

present him as somebody rather apart from the rest of the characters, unperturbed and unaffected except for a certain amused zest by the tragedy going on around him. An interesting and unselfish performance.

Much depends on the adequate presentation of the smaller parts—nor is this an easy task. S. J. Steele did well as the odious Curan, and good support was also given by W. W. S. Breem, well cast as France, by J. A. Davidson as Burgundy, H. K. Morris as the Doctor, D. R. Morris as

Oswald, J. C. May as a Knight, and D. Hare and S. F. Keleman as Servants to Cornwall. Nor must J. S. Potter be forgotten, whose frequent appearance under various well-nigh impenetrable disguises almost made the critic mistrust the programme.

In short, Mr. C. H. Fisher, the producer, and his cast, are to be congratulated for a delightful entertainment and a highly successful ending to a daring venture.

D. B.

THE POLITICAL AND LITERARY SOCIETY

Two of the meetings held in the Play Term were not reported in the last number of *THE ELIZABETHAN*.

SIR ADRIAN BOULT

On Sunday, November 14th, Sir Adrian Boult addressed the Society on Interpretation in Music. He spoke first on the general problems of interpretation, and then answered six or seven questions at length. Music has been described as the art of sound, but there is more to it than that. Just as an Englishman has a desire to go out and kick a ball about or to kill something, so a composer is moved to write something and then he feels better. It is the job of the interpreter to reproduce the funny feeling that led to this. There is a message behind the sound, and the audience must be given a reproduction of what is being played in terms of the whole, for the whole is greater than any of its parts. No one can judge a musical work unless he knows the last bar when he is listening to the first: the inevitable flow of sound from beginning to end must be kept in mind. Arthur Bliss once said that the success of a performance was assured or damned in the half minute preceding the first sound.

The traditional background and the mind of the composer are both of enormous importance and should be considered before we listen to a new work—the value of this is obvious in the case of the Elgar Variations. This must not be taken as a suggestion that there is anything wrong with emotional interest, but intellectual appreciation does heighten the emotional kick.

The interpreter's attitude must be "What can we get out of this?" not "What can we make of this?" There is something new to be found every time we look at the score. Of course the interpreter's licence differs with different composers. Elgar is very straightforward, while Sibelius has little respect for balance. With the classical composers the position is more definite—Beethoven has very few passages that might be altered.

Asked the advantages of knowing a work by heart, Sir Adrian replied that we are inclined to think we know a work before we have really even

begun to know it; it is certainly possible to train our visual memories to a far greater extent than we do. In reply to another question, he said that to come to a rehearsal with a preconceived idea of a work led to too great dissection—this is all right where there is unlimited rehearsal time, but not in this country. The main aim at a rehearsal should be to try to get the whole work in better proportion. Sir Adrian had spoken of the move started before the war to publish facsimiles of original musical scores. He had with him such a copy of Mozart's Jupiter Symphony, which he showed to the Society after the meeting.

LT.-COL. RALPH M. HOWER

On Saturday, December 11th, Lt.-Col. Ralph M. Hower, Professor of Business History at Harvard University, discussed the system and problems of education in America. He first traced the progress of the child of an average American family. At four or five he goes to a nursery school—his real education starts at six at the Junior High School. Three or four years at the High School will bring him to seventeen or eighteen, and he may then pass on to the state university. Nearly every state has its own university; some of these, like Columbia and California, have between eight and ten thousand students. The first years here are spent in gaining the Bachelor's degree which requires only a general education; the Master's or Doctor's degree is taken later. The privately endowed foundations like Harvard, Princeton, and Yale have the same system as the state universities, but the fees are higher and the entrance examination stiffer.

The size of the continent is of vital importance in considering American education—it has led, for instance, to the setting up of government junior colleges which save travelling during the first two years of the university course during which there is little specialization. But the main problem is the race against immigration. The British element in America is small, much smaller than the German, while there are more Italians of the first and second generations in New York than there are in

Naples. In America, out of every thousand, twice as many as in England finish at a university; the immigration problem has made necessary the sacrifice of quality to quantity. Plantation life did not in the long run lead to wealth in the South, so education there is not so well disseminated. The distances above all must be remembered—we are too apt to look on the United States as being made up of New York in the East, Hollywood over in California, with a place called Chicago somewhere in the middle.

In answer to questions Col. Hower said that education is compulsory up to sixteen in America, and that there is an organization set up to see that the standard of state education does not decline—the function of the federal government is however mainly advisory. Specialization can be started to a limited degree at the high school on commercial or college preparatory courses; but real specialization is not possible until the third year at the university, a great weakness as it means that graduation is so late. We must remember that the system is still young—the main problems are only on the way to being solved.

PROFESSOR A. J. TOYNBEE

A thick London fog prevented many from being present at a meeting held on Sunday, January 16th, at 19, Dean's Yard. Professor Arnold Toynbee discussed what he said might be called "The Shape of Things to Come." During the past decades a great change has been taking place in the world on the political and economic scales. Just as 400 years ago the city states of Flanders and Lombardy had their power snatched from them by the nation states, so now the nation states of 40 millions have to give way to powers three and four times their size. Considering the position from the geographical standpoint we see the new powers surrounding the old in the centre. The great powers of one chapter of history tend to become the battlefields in the following chapter. The same processes can be traced in the Greco-Roman world as in the West.

New powers grow up on the edges either by colonization as in the case of America, or by conversion as with Russia. It is interesting to note the ease of the expansion of these two countries to what are now their industrial hearts—a movement taking place at a time when the smallest gains in Flanders and Lombardy were being bitterly contested. The states at the centre forfeit their power: weariness and a sense of being weighed down by the past press on them. Great adaptability is needed: tradition will shake itself slowly. The number of emigrants from Europe in the last century shows how the pressure lessens nearer the edges; but the centre has an advantage in that its spirit is hard to transplant, although its material techniques may be easily transported.

Because the changes of 1500 did not lead to world peace we must not despair in our own time. The world in 60 B.C., within a generation of the peace of Augustus, might have despaired of anything but wars. Up till a short time ago the pax Romana was the only pattern of peace known to the world—we have tried co-operation, the League of Nations method. The Roman Empire failed because the pax was established too late—co-operation is unprecedented, so it is difficult for us to attempt to judge our hopes by analogy. The part to be played by the small nations—and these include Great Britain and France—is vital. We have the cultural ideals and political experience so vital to the new powers. To fulfil our true mission we must attempt by co-operation to avoid the chief shock and devastation.

During March the Society is to be visited by Dr. E. M. W. Tillyard and Mr. Arnold Haskell, and it is hoped that a third meeting will be arranged for the term. Reports of these meetings will appear in the next number of THE ELIZABETHAN.

K. G. A.

ESSAY SOCIETY

Two essays were read last term which have not yet been reported.

November 21st.—J. N. Murphy read an essay on George Meredith. Limited numbers of his novels were discussed to illustrate his powers of expression of ideas and emotion. Also his attitude towards poetry in setting forward his philosophy. A statement that he wrote real poetry was defended by quotation, and finally his character and the chief factors in his genius summarised.

December 5th.—A. N. Hodges read an essay on Conflicts in Temperaments. A shorter essay than usual which went clearly and not too deeply into the problems of different reactions to be expected from various temperaments. The "immediate" and the "deliberate" were well differentiated and some rather personal examples of both were given, which procured a heated discussion even until after the society had formally disbanded.

At the beginning of this term K. G. Allison resigned the post of secretary and J. N. Murphy was elected in his place. Only one essay has been read this term: it is hoped that there will be at least three more.

January 30th.—R. A. Denniston read an essay on English Dramatists of the Silver Age. First the essayist dealt with Jones and Robertson, and then for the remainder of the essay confined himself exclusively to Pinero and Galsworthy, Shaw and Barry, dividing them into these two pairs, the first of which he defined as preachers and the second as

humorists. He claimed for Barry the title of the greatest, as he had written plays which would last longer than Shaw's, however brilliant their wit, because he is emotionally transcendent while Shaw is almost devoid of emotion. A vigorous and well-written essay which deserved to have been followed by a longer discussion than it was.

J. N. M.

A VERSION

Old London's time-encrusted walls
Are but the work of human hands :
What man has builded for us falls
What God has breathed into us stands.

What though the splendour of the past
Is shattered into dust ? We raise
A monument that shall outlast
Even the Abbey's span of days.

On troubled homes we set our feet
And raise proud heads, that all may see
Immortal in each little street
The soul in its integrity.

A. A. MILNE (O.W.).

(Printed in THE ELIZABETHAN, December, 1940).

IDEM LATINE :

Rugosa Romae moenia jam situ
Mortalium olim condiderunt manus :
Di quicquid inspirant manebit ;
Labe ruunt hominum labores.

Quid si prioris gloria saeculi
Confracta sordet ? Quod Capitolio
Superstes exstabit, futuros
Erigimus monumentum in annos.

In strage fortes stare Penatium,
Rectis superbi (vultibus, integram)
Praestamus ex ipsa Subura
Nos animam indomitamque leto.

X.

THE UNDER SCHOOL

There are not many changes to report this term, except that half an hour each week is now being given to learning boxing under C. S. M. Martin or Sergeant Phillips of the Army Physical Training Staff, while half an hour three afternoons a week is given to P.T. On Wednesday afternoons we still play football up Fields, if weather and the state of the ground permit. If they do not, games of four or five a side up School provide exercise and some amusement.

With our increased numbers (we are twenty-

seven this term), we could have eleven a side, but the great difference in size between the biggest and the smallest rather spoils the game and usually it seems better to have fewer a side and teams more level in size. There is some hope that a game between the Under School and some of the younger members of the Upper School who live in or near London can be arranged at the beginning of the holidays.

It looks as if it will be difficult to play cricket up Fields next term, as such part of the ground as is not needed for the balloon, for the static water tank, for the shelter trenches, for vegetable growing, etc., etc., is so rough that even if one could get matting for a pitch, fielding would be unpleasantly dangerous. With Mr. Young, however, to organise sports with his usual efficiency, with rounders and perhaps some game that Mr. Earp will devise, and a net if we can manage to find one and a pitch for it, we shall probably spend our Wednesday afternoons fairly happily. It is fortunate that Elson is available to bowl and coach at a net if we do have one.

Before long we shall be able in all probability to offer to teach carpentry. Wilby, a member of Johnson's outdoor staff before the war, is available and he is fitting up part of the VIth Form room (some O.W.W. may consider this almost sacrilege) for that purpose. Before long, too, I hope we shall be teaching drawing in School, just as we do music already. Speaking of which, I must not forget to offer the Under School's congratulations and best wishes to Miss Addie on her marriage to Captain Cardwell, R.E., which took place at the end of December.

Lastly comes the good news that Mr. M. F. Young, though not entirely restored to health, is well enough to take on his work in School, and out of School to supervise games, physical training and boxing. His absence last term was a great loss and his return has been a very great boon. Mrs. Young's help, too, in many directions is invaluable and I am glad to have this opportunity of paying tribute to her for all she does. Mr. Earp, as all who know him would expect, remains the same good-tempered, cheerful and patient colleague without whom my task would be much more difficult.

A. T. WILLETT,

Under Master.

Contributions for the July number of *The Elizabethan* should reach the Editors at Whitbourne Court, Worcester, not later than June 8th.

THE MUSIC

There seems to have been a general spread of Music through the School during the last few terms, and no longer does the major part of the School Orchestra consist of King's Scholars, as it has done for some time past. Although, as Sir Henry Hadow says, "Music goes with brains," the last Music Competition showed us that the Town Boy Houses were coming into the field again.

At the concert in Worcester, on the 25th of March, we are giving a performance of Mozart's Requiem, together with the Prometheus Overture and the Unfinished Symphony. During orchestra rehearsals, besides these three works, we play—or attempt to play—the Hary Janos Intermezzo, by Kodaly, which adds greatly to the amusement, since there seem to be numerous ideas as to the interpretation of the piece.

The Whitbourne and Bromyard Choral Societies

meet as usual on Sundays and Tuesdays respectively. The Bromyard meeting is still somewhat small, and suffers from a shortage of tenors and an overflow of basses.

The Whitbourne Gramophone Society still meets on Friday evenings. The original Grant's Gramophone Society has been continued at Buckenhill and flourishes as never before, with a large number of records. Records are now exchanged between the two societies.

There have already been two events of interest this term. First, a concert given by the Worcester-shire String Players in Worcester, conducted by Mr. Foster, with Mr. Burd as soloist in Holst's Fugal Concerto. Second, a social arranged by Mrs. Tylor in the Friends' Hall, Worcester. An excellent tea was followed by various competitions, including a musical "quiz," arranged by Mr. Foster.

W. J. R.

THE WORCESTER CONCERT

Given by Westminster School and Whitbourne Choral and Orchestral Societies on Saturday, December 4th, at the Christopher Whitehead School.

Programme-building is an art in itself. It takes a musician of scrupulous judgment to know how to choose works and in what order to place them if the most effective results are to be achieved, both from the audience's and the performers' points of view. Such details as content, style, length and key have to be carefully considered before the right balance, contrast and timing can be obtained. Many choral and orchestral school concerts suffer from the defect of being a mosaic of bits and pieces: part-

songs, a short cantata or two from the choir, several fragments or extracts for the orchestra, interspersed with a number of solos. All these pitfalls were avoided at the concert on December 4th, 1943, at the Christopher Whitehead School; and, for this, full credit must be given to Mr. Arnold Foster. The programme was, in fact, a model of what such concerts should be and deserves to be reproduced here in full.

- | | | |
|--|---------|----------------------------|
| 1. Toccata in F .. .. . | .. .. . | <i>Bach-Esser</i> |
| 2. Cantata No. 65 "The Sages of Sheba" .. .. . | .. .. . | <i>Bach</i> |
| 3. Symphony in C (Salomon No. 1) .. .. . | .. .. . | <i>Haydn</i> |
| 4. Carols—(a) Yorkshire Wassail Song .. .. . | .. .. . | arr. <i>Arnold Foster</i> |
| (b) Lullay, my Liking .. .. . | .. .. . | <i>Holst</i> |
| (c) A Merry Christmas .. .. . | .. .. . | arr. <i>Arthur Warrell</i> |
| 5. Overture on Russian Themes, Op. 28 .. .. . | .. .. . | <i>Rimsky-Korsakov</i> |
| 6. Sixth Chandos Anthem—"O Praise the Lord with one Consent" .. .. . | .. .. . | <i>Handel</i> |

As on previous occasions, the School combined with the Whitbourne Choral Society and Orchestra and with the Worcester Singers and Players; and the orchestra was supplemented by a few professionals, including two or three members of the R.A.F., who had hitch-hiked from Gloucester that morning. The solo parts in the Cantata and Anthem were taken by Eveline Stevenson and Alfred Brook; and Arnold Foster conducted.

Despite the threat of influenza, the choir mustered a hundred singers and the orchestra was at

full strength. The choir's careful phrasing and clear diction deserve special praise; and the orchestra gave a performance of the Haydn Symphony, which brought out all its zest and cheerfulness.

This particular type of combined concert performance has been brought about by war-time conditions; and CEMA is pleased that it has been able to help by providing a certain amount of professional "stiffening". There is no doubt that this happy compromise between the School and

some of the local music societies is beginning to play an increasingly important part in the musical life of Worcester and the surrounding countryside. When the School eventually returns to Westminster, it will be able to do so with the knowledge that it has left behind it a fine record of musical collaboration and achievement.

E. W. WHITE.

THE BROMYARD CONCERT

On the last Sunday of term, December 12th, the Westminster School and Whitbourne Choir and Orchestra gave, in Bromyard Church, a performance of Christmas music—in part a repetition of the concert previously given in Worcester. It will, therefore, have received a more adequate notice than the present one can be, but the conditions which govern these performances in Bromyard are so different and so difficult that the same standard of criticism is inapplicable. The choir is smaller, the orchestra has had even less opportunity of rehearsal, and the problems of time and space might well daunt a less resourceful and enthusiastic conductor than Mr. Arnold Foster.

The programme was composed of four short works interspersed with Christmas hymns and carols, beginning with four numbers from Bach's "Sages of Sheba." The opening chorus demands a kind of impetuous zest, for the sages of Bach's mind were neither sedate nor uncertain. The leads require force and precision, and the "line" is not easy to keep steady. The choir had scarcely got into its stride, but the two chorales which followed were excellent, particularly the piano tone which was full and delicate. The Tenor Aria "Saviour, take me for Thine own," was sung by the whole choir, with some inevitable thickening of effect.

We should have welcomed more than the first movement of the Haydn Symphony in C, for orchestral music sounds particularly well in the Church, where the ample space allows the individual instruments to be heard distinctly and secures a good balance of ensemble.

In the Bach "Sleepers Wake" it was unfortunate that the horns, which play so important a part, "came over queer," and something equally violent affected the double basses. Yet, after a bad start, the spirit of the work asserted itself, and no mere accident can destroy the moving beauty of this magnificent chorale.

The other major work was Handel's Sixth Chandos Anthem, which went very well. The great opening theme of St. Anne seemed to give the choir confidence, and they sang with vigour and enjoyment.

The two carols were admirably sung. "A Merry Christmas," based on a traditional West Country song, made us all feel very jolly and hearty and

rustic, and, if the anxious mind turned instinctively to a brisk calculation of the number of "points" necessary for a "figgy pudding," we were left with the conviction that Christmas *would* be merry.

"Lullay my Liking" is in a different category. It is inspired by the spiritual simplicity of the mediaeval carol, the essence of which is reflected in Holst's delicate setting. Both in this carol and in the solo in the Chandos Anthem, "God's tender Mercy knows no bounds," the singing of S. E. Smith was beautiful in tone, quality and feeling. We understand that he is a new comer to the School, and shall, therefore, hope to hear him in the future. He will certainly enjoy the musical side of his education at Westminster.

The tone of the choir was, on the whole, remarkably good. The sopranos were less overpowered by the orchestra than last time, but, whether owing to seating arrangements or to the thinning of their ranks by influenza, little could be heard of the altos. The tenors and basses were richer in quality than in previous performances. The basses, in some mysterious way, have acquired a maturity of tone greater than their advancing years would seem to warrant. Above all, the diction has greatly improved; the secret of "getting away with the consonants" has evidently been learnt, to the great benefit of the tone and to the pleasure in listening.

Orchestra and choir are fortunate in having the expert help of Mr. Vogler, and warm thanks are due to D. A. Hewitt-Jones, who not only took the place of Mr. Mullinar in the Continuo, but whose admirable playing of the Bach A Minor Fugue on the organ brought the service to a fitting close.

Performances of this kind must inevitably suffer from imperfections and accidents. But we beg Mr. Arnold Foster and those associated with him, to believe that they do give immense pleasure to those who listen, as we are sure they do to the performers. They afford an opportunity, now sadly rare, to hear fine music musically interpreted. Compared with that such blemishes as may be inevitable are relatively unimportant. We earnestly hope that, as long as Westminster remains in Herefordshire, we may look forward to the enjoyment of the music which they so generously bring to us.

L. C. KEMPSON.

CONTEMPORARIES

The Royal College Magazine, The Tunbridgian, St. Edward's School Chronicle, The Dunelmian, The Carthusian, The Taylorian, The Rossalian, El Nopal, The Lancing College Magazine, The Leys Fortnightly, The Wykhamist, The Marlburian, The Sedberghian, The Ousel, The Edinburgh Academy Chronicle, The Sotoniensis, The Wellingtonian, The Reptonian, The Cholmetian, The City of London School Chronicle, The Aldenhamian, The Glenalmond Chronicle, The Eton College Chronicle, The Log, The Bradfield College Chronicle, The Penn Charter Magazine.

CORRESPONDENCE

ASHBURNHAM HOUSE

To the Editor of THE ELIZABETHAN.

Sir,

No one would dispute the obvious fact that the Elizabethan House was reconstructed and decorated to an Inigo Jones design. Both Philip Webb and Roger Pratt were disciples of his School. The latter was knighted by Charles II for his work in rebuilding in London after the Great Fire, and he is now known to have reconstructed Coleshill. There is a body of evidence strongly against the possibility of Jones himself being the architect of Ashburnham, and between the date of his ceasing work (circa 1650) and the Restoration no such work would have been taken in hand. There seems to be little doubt that nothing was done before William transferred his lease (1662) to his brother John in 1667, and it was John Ashburnham who put the reconstruction and decoration in hand.

Yours faithfully,

F. J. VARLEY.

64, Banbury Road,
Oxford.

WESTMINSTER AND ENGLISH LETTERS

To the Editor of THE ELIZABETHAN.

Sir,

You will forgive me for seeking anonymity, but if a further postscript to Mr. James' article may be allowed, I should like to add a fourth name to the list of "Westminsters of the last half-century doing important work" in the theological field. Prophecy is dangerous, but no less an authority than the late Bishop Frere described Dom Gregory Dix, O.S.B. (K.S. 1915-20) as being in the very front rank of liturgical and patristic scholars. His work on Hippolytus and his brilliant 800-page essay on "The Shape of the Liturgy" seem likely to have a considerable influence in this sphere, particularly within the Church of England.

I wonder, too, whether T. B. Strong, better known as a former Dean of Christ Church and Bishop of Oxford, should not be included in your list.

Another Westminster name that comes to my mind, at least in connection with men of letters, is that of Seymour Lucas, R.A., whose illustrations of G. K. Chesterton's "Father Brown" provided the first (perhaps the sole) visual representation or "portrait" of that "almost historical" figure.

Yours faithfully,

COMMON INFORMER.

A. C. FELLOWS

To the Editor of THE ELIZABETHAN.

Dear Sir,

There is a slight mistake in the obituary notice of A. C. Fellows, on page 293 of the last number of THE ELIZABETHAN. The Rev. B. F. James was Housemaster of Rigaud's, not of Grant's. I was up Rigaud's in 1878-9, after which I was Q.S. till 1883.

I am, Yours truly,

A. G. L. ROGERS.

Mount Skippet,
Ramsden, Oxford.

"SHALL" and "WILL"

To the Editor of THE ELIZABETHAN.

Sir,

Having read in the leading article in your December number, "We are wondering how much we will revert to what we were in former days, and how much we will bring back with us from the country." I trust you will have decided before Westminster returns home to revert to the English distinction between "shall" and "will" and to leave behind the Scottish use of "will" for "shall."

Not many months ago there was a leading article in *The Times* lamenting that there were so few champions to defend the use of "shall" in the first person of the future tense. I fear that distinguished O.W., the Editor of *The Times*, must have groaned "Et tu, Brute," when he read your article and learnt that THE ELIZABETHAN, which he once edited, has joined the ranks of the renegades!

Yours faithfully,

F. G. TURNER.

Tormore School,
The Vine,
Basingstoke.

UNIVERSITY LETTERS

To the Editor of THE ELIZABETHAN.

Sir,

In your December issue you stated that, for the purposes of that issue at least, the Oxford Letter would have to be abandoned. This is an omission which will, I hope, be rectified; for the University Letter, being a means of maintaining several connections, should, I think, be one of the last items of THE ELIZABETHAN to be omitted, particularly in war-time.

Yours faithfully,

M. D. LONGFORD.

THE WESTMINSTER SCHOOL SOCIETY

Chairman of Council—The Rt. Hon. Lord Greene, Master of the Rolls.

Hon. Treasurer—R. P. Wilkinson, Vice-Chairman of the London Stock Exchange.

Hon. Secretary—Captain A. C. Grover, Goldstream Guards (absent on War Service).

Assistant Secretary—Miss P. Francis.

In December the Society received a most welcome present of £200 from the father of an O.W. This sum had been left to us by Will, but the donor decided to make the Society a present of the £200 in his lifetime. Such a generous gift is doubly welcome, for itself and even more for its evidence of appreciation that his son had gained something from Westminster life and teaching.

Some months ago, an O.W. who had not seen the School for some years, walked into the Bursary and wrote a cheque for £15 for the Reconstruction Fund of the Society. The other day I had a letter from him enclosing a further cheque for £10 for the Society. He told me that when he returned to West Africa he had had two pleasant surprises: he had met playing Bridge an O.W. with whom he had been at School and he had found that in his absence he had been promoted. He sent the £10 as a sort of thank offering.

Owing to the absence of the Hon. Secretary and the fact that the Assistant Secretary had other work to do, and even now is busy with School work, while I, too, have been away for four years from London and am kept fairly busy now with the

Under School, the Society had not been able for the last four years, nor is it able now, to circularise all those who have left during these last four years. It would be a great help and great encouragement to the School, not less than to the Society, if those who see this notice would join the Society and send a donation or subscriptions. Boys who have not left for five years can join the Society as Junior Associate Members for 5s. a year.

A. T. WILLETT,
(Acting Hon. Secretary).

THE WESTMINSTER TEA

The Westminster Tea, held at the Hyde Park Hotel, on January 13th, was attended by some eighty Old Westminsters, together with their parents and friends. Lord Davidson and Dr. C. C. J. Webb were there to represent the Governing Body, and among others present were Mr. Justice Hallett, Sir Adrian Boulton, and Sir Douglas Jardine.

The Head Master in his speech recalled the events of the last three months at Westminster and Bromyard, and drew attention to the successful presentation of King Lear in College Hall at the end of the Play Term, and to the enterprise of the Captain and Secretary of football in organising a series of holiday matches at Roehampton. He also referred to the School's post-war plans for returning to Westminster at the earliest possible moment. In conclusion he thanked Mr. E. R. B. Graham for providing yet another occasion for Old Westminsters to meet each other—the ninth in his series of war-time functions.

J. D. C.

OLD WESTMINSTERS

The names of the following Old Westminsters were published in the New Year Honours List:

Major General C. M. Page, R.A.M.C.—C.B.
R. C. S. Stanley—C.M.G.
Colonel R. H. Phillimore, R.E.—C.I.E.
Brigadier J. M. Kirkman, R.A.—C.B.E.
E. B. H. Baker, I.C.S.—O.B.E.
Lieut.-Colonel O. H. C. Balfour, K.R.R.C.—O.B.E.
Wing Commander R. D. Barlas, R.A.F.V.R.—O.B.E.
Wing Commander A. C. Kermode, R.A.F.V.R.—O.B.E.
Rev. R. J. E. Dix, C.F.—M.B.E.
Flight Lieutenant R. A. Frost, R.A.F.V.R.—M.B.E.
Flying Officer H. L. Pewtress, R.A.F.V.R.—A.F.C.

The undermentioned Old Westminsters have been honoured for services in the Middle East:

Lieutenant-Colonel A. G. H. Brousson, R.E.—O.B.E.
Major C. F. Byers, R.A.—O.B.E.
Lieutenant-Colonel R. J. V. Pulvertaft, R.A.M.C.—O.B.E.
Lieutenant-Colonel A. J. Ropes, R.A.—O.B.E.
Major J. B. Latey—M.B.E.

In the fight with the *Scharnhorst* Commander K. M. Symonds was engineer officer of H.M.S. *Norfolk*, and, when the cruiser was hit by two 11in. shells, took a prominent part in maintaining the ship as a fighting unit.

G. A. MacGregor obtained First Class Honours at London in the examination for M.B. and B.Sc. He was awarded the London University Gold Medal.

The Rev. J. G. Tiarks has been appointed Vicar and Provost of Bradford Cathedral.

The Very Rev. W. C. Mayne, Dean of Carlisle, has been appointed examining chaplain to the Bishop of Carlisle.

Captain H. B. Ball, who was a prisoner of war in Italian hands, is reported to have reached Switzerland.

ROLL OF HONOUR

KILLED IN ACTION

Squadron-Leader H. M. Young, D.F.C., R.A.F.V.R.

Lieutenant G. P. L. Pardoe, R.N.V.R.

MISSING, PRESUMED KILLED

T/Surgeon Lieutenant A. D. Bone, D.S.C., R.N.V.R.

WOUNDED

Major T. E. Rhys-Roberts, Middlesex Regiment.

BIRTHS

BALLANTYNE.—On November 10th, 1943, at Leeds, to Cicely Joan, wife of T. H. N. Ballantyne, a daughter.

BAUGHAN.—On February 8th, 1944, at Highgate, to Jacqueline, wife of Christopher Baughan, a son.

BENSON.—On February 8th, 1944, to Jean, wife of Flight-Lieutenant J. G. Benson, D.F.C., R.A.F.V.R., a son.

EDMONDS.—On December 8th, 1943, to Gillian, wife of D. K. Edmonds, a son.

FREEMAN.—On December 9th, 1943, at Woking, to Nancy, wife of D. F. A. R. Freeman, a son.

GREEN.—On November 2nd, 1943, at Minchinhampton, to Peggie, wife of Wing-Commander G. E. P. Green, D.F.C., a daughter.

HARVEY.—On November 29th, 1943, at Norwich, to Daphne, wife of Group Captain G. D. Harvey, C.B.E., D.F.C., a daughter.

KING.—On January 31st, 1944, at Blandford, to Kathleen, wife of R. M. King, a daughter.

KLEEMAN.—On December 9th, 1943, in London, to Hella, wife of D. Kleeman, a son.

LINDSAY.—On January 31st, 1944, at Simla, to Josepha, wife of Captain H. J. M. Lindsay, Burma Rifles, a son.

PHILBY.—On November 7th, 1943, in London, to Aileen, wife of H. A. R. Philby, a son.

MAGUIRE.—On December 15th, 1943, at Sheen, to Nancy, wife of Paymaster Lieutenant G. P. Maguire, R.N.V.R., a daughter.

WYKEHAM-MARTIN.—On November 7th, 1943, in London, to Barbara, wife of Captain C. P. Wykeham-Martin, R.E., a daughter.

YOUNG.—On November 18th, 1943, at Whitney, to Elisabeth, wife of G. P. Young, a son.

MARRIAGES

BINNEY-GILLESPIE.—On November 20th, 1943, at Achimota, Gold Coast, A. L. Binney to Heather, younger daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Gillespie, of Aberford.

MERCER-RANDOLPH.—On February 14th, 1943, at Miami Beach, Florida, S. D. Mercer to Agnes Mason, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Randolph.

PEACOCK-BLAKE.—On December 14th, 1943, at Wimbledon, Major J. R. Peacock, F.R.C.S., R.A.M.C., to Olive Joan, daughter of the late Sir Arthur Blake, K.B.E., and the late Lady Blake, of West Leake Manor, Notts.

TWEDDLE-WARD.—On October 23rd, 1943, at Cheam, A. R. S. Tweddle to Pamela Charlotte, only child of Mr. and Mrs. B. W. K. Ward, of Edgbaston.

WHITE-MARTIN.—On February 3rd, 1944, at Birkenhead, Lieutenant-Commander W. Hansford White, R.N.V.R., to Louise Catherine, widow of L. W. Martin, of Neston, Cheshire.

OBITUARY

H. WARINGTON SMYTH

We have received from Col. A. L. Longhurst the following account:

Herbert Warington Smyth was born in 1867, the son of Sir Warington Smyth (O.W.) and the elder brother of Major General Sir Nevill Smyth, V.C., whose death was recorded in *THE ELIZABETHAN* in December, 1941.

Smyth came to Westminster in 1880 and went, from Grants, to Trinity in 1885. There he became Captain of Third Trinity, no small achievement in those days of no "Water" at Westminster. While at Cambridge or soon afterwards he joined the R.N.V.R. as an A.B. and was thus one of the earliest members of that branch of the Service. In 1891 he went to Siam, where he served as Director-General of Mines and received the Order of the White Elephant. He was back in England in 1898 as Secretary to the Siamese Legation. After being called to the Bar he went, after the Boer War, to the Transvaal where he became Secretary for Mines and a member of the Legislative and Executive Councils of the Transvaal Government. In 1910 he became Secretary for Mines and Industries to the Government of South Africa, and in that capacity represented South Africa at the International Labour Conferences at Washington in 1919 and at Geneva in 1923. He was made a C.M.G. in 1919 and retired in 1927.

During the last war Smyth had done great service as an officer of the R.N.V.R. on the South African coast, and he was mentioned in despatches for his work. He retired from the Service as a

Lieutenant-Commander, but rejoined as a Lieutenant in the present war at the age of 72.

Smyth was an enthusiastic yachtsman and his book *Mast and Sail in Europe and Asia* is a classic. His life abroad was full of adventure, which he describes in two books: *Sea Wake and Jungle Trail and Chase and Chance in Indo China*. He illustrated his books himself.

He married in 1900 Amabel, third daughter of the late Sir Henry Sutton, a former Judge of the King's Bench Division, and they had three sons and a daughter.

Such was his life in briefest outline: but no man was less truly revealed by such a record than was Smyth, for it was not so much what he *did* that counted as what his influence meant to others; his quiet, spiritual influence from his school days till his death. He was a most lovable man: one felt shame that he should know anything but the best of one. It is said that he wanted to be a Naval Chaplain: that would have been an ideal calling for him, for the sea was his great love and the combination of the lighthearted with the serious, which was characteristic of him from his school days onward, would have been invaluable in such a career. In Pretoria he founded a Club for the training of boys, primarily as Naval Cadets. In 1938 the writer was present at a meeting of this Club. It opened with a prayer written years before by Smyth, framed and kept for this purpose. Smyth was then, and doubtless still is, known as their "Skipper."

But it was not only the sea which inspired Smyth. All natural phenomena: clouds, storms, wind, mountains, crags, landscapes, stars, were always a delight and wonder to him. At Christmas, 1940 and 1941, he had poems in *The Times*: that of 1940 *The Morning Watch* was reproduced in THE ELIZABETHAN. Both confirm this phase of his nature and the intense faith that was in him. It was natural that his favourite hymn should have been Cowper's great poem *God moves in a mysterious way*.

C. W. GRANT-WILSON

We have received the following account:

Many O.W.W. will have seen with very real regret the death of Charles Westbrooke Grant-Wilson, which took place at Sidmouth on November 1st.

He was a son of the late George Grant-Wilson, of Streatham, and was admitted to the School in 1883. He was a Cricket Pink in 1887, and left at the end of Election Term in that year in order to become a medical student at St. Thomas's Hospital. He qualified in 1895 and settled in practice at Sidmouth, where, for many years, he was held in affectionate esteem by a very large number of patients. In 1898 he married Lillian Frances, only

daughter of the Rev. Albert Jenkin, of Harbridge, Hants.

Although of late years Westminster had seen him but little, there was a time when Grant-Wilson was among the best known of O.W.W. He was a founder of the O.W.W. Cricket Club, a past master of the O.W.W. Lodge, and his genial kindly presence was always welcome at all O.W.W. gatherings. The most hospitable of men, he delighted in entertaining his friends on his visits to London, and many Westminsters of all generations will mourn the loss of a loyal and staunch supporter of the School.

ROBERT ARMITAGE, who died at his home, Farnley Hall, Leeds, on February 10th, in his 78th year, was admitted in 1880, and went up to Trinity College, Cambridge, in 1883, from where he was called to the Bar at the Inner Temple. He had wide business interests in the West Riding, becoming Chairman of Brown Bayleys Steel Works. He was Lord Mayor of Leeds in 1904; in 1906 he won Central Leeds from the Conservative Candidate, and retained his seat as Liberal M.P. till 1922. He married in 1891 Caroline Katherine, daughter of D. H. Ryder, by whom he had seven children; secondly, in 1936, Mary Dorothea, widow of the Rev. E. B. Russell.

CLAUDE LINDSAY CLIFFORD AVELING was admitted in 1883 and elected into College in the following year. He proceeded with an exhibition to Christ Church, and in 1894 became Assistant to the Director of the Royal College of Music. In 1913 he became Registrar of the College, a post which he held for twenty-two years. He was author of a number of songs and translated the libretti of several operas, both light and serious, and students' gatherings were often memorable for the wit and humour of the topical skits which came from his pen. He married in 1903 Marguerite May Theodora, daughter of Revd. W. H. Robins, D.D., vicar of Gillingham. At his death he was 76 years of age.

ALEXANDER DRUMMOND BONE was born in 1914 and was at Westminster from 1928 to 1933, when he left to become a medical student. As Surgeon-Lieutenant he was in H.M.S. *Lively*, protecting a convoy in the Mediterranean, when after one of her torpedoes had struck the Italian battleship *Littorio*, she herself was sunk. He received the D.S.C. for bravery in this action. He lost his life in the sinking of H.M.S. *Dulverton*.

FREDERIC GARNET CLARKE followed his brother to Westminster in 1875. He lived the greater part of his life in Valparaiso, where he was engaged in the nitrate industry. He died on December 27th in Derby. He was twice married.

EDGAR GEORGE CLEMENT DANIEL, who died on November 8th, at the age of 74, was a medical practitioner in Epsom, as his father and maternal grandfather had been before him. He came to

the School in 1884 and went up to Emmanuel College, Cambridge. He subsequently trained at St. Thomas' Hospital and took his M.R.C.S. and L.R.C.P. in 1895. He married Mary, daughter of George Zair, of Solihull, who survives him.

WILLIAM MASSINGBERD MIDDLETON JACKSON, who was at Westminster from 1878 to 1879, was also a member of the medical profession. He studied at Detroit, Edinburgh and St. Thomas'. During the last war he held a commission in the R.A.M.C. and held posts in the department of hygiene in the Northern and in the Southern Command. He was also honorary surgeon to Queen Victoria's Hospital, Las Palmas. He married in 1911 Clare Beatrice, daughter of Thomas Colls, of Burnt Green. He was in his 79th year.

HENRY FRANK NESBITT was born in 1865, and was at Westminster from 1878 to 1880. He proceeded to Clare College, Cambridge, and took Holy Orders in 1892. He was Vicar successively of Buckfastleigh, Winkleigh, and St. Paul's, Exeter, which he resigned in 1934. He married Josephine, daughter of A. J. Pound, of Wroxhall.

GEORGE PATRICK LEFROY PARDOE. We have received the following obituary: Sub-Lieutenant (A.) G. P. L. Pardoe, R.N.V.R., who lost his life in a flying accident on active service on January 29th, 1944, entered Westminster in 1930, leaving in 1934. He then spent three years at the College of Aeronautical Engineering, Chelsea and Brooklands, obtaining the College's First Class Diploma, and becoming Associate Fellow of the Royal Aeronautical Society. After filling positions on the technical staff of Vickers (Aviation)

Ltd., and Follando Aircraft Co., he joined the Fleet Air Arm in 1941, receiving his commission in the following year. He saw service with Fighter Command in this country and later with the Fleet Air Arm at Salerno.

Yet another member of the medical profession was GEORGE SYDNEY WELHAM, who died last Christmas Eve at the age of 64. He entered the School in 1892 and left in 1896 to study medicine at Charing Cross Hospital. He became M.R.C.S. in 1903 and practised in London. In 1924 he married Edith Mary, daughter of Frank Besley, of Barnstaple.

ROGER ESCOMBE WILLCOCKS was born in 1885 and was at Westminster from 1899 to 1902. He was called to the Bar at the Middle Temple and served on the Western Circuit. He subsequently became professional clerk in the Ministry of Labour.

HENRY MELVIN YOUNG was born in 1915 and admitted from Vient School, U.S.A., in 1932. He was placed in the Sixth and quickly made his mark by his personality and his ability, both at work and on the water. He gained his Pinks and went up to Trinity College, Oxford, where he distinguished himself as an oar and won the silver challenge sculls in 1937. On the outbreak of war he joined the Air Force, was promoted Squadron Leader and awarded the D.F.C. (as recorded in a recent issue of THE ELIZABETHAN). In 1942 he married Priscilla Rawson, of Kent, Conn. He was reported missing after the attack on the Ruhr Dams in May of last year, and is now known to have lost his life.

THE ELIZABETHAN

REVENUE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1943

INCOME				EXPENDITURE										
		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.						
To School Subscriptions	60	13	6	By Printing	..	..	..	..	141	14	3
„ Elizabethan Club	100	0	0	„ Postage	..	..	..	..	17	16	3
„ Dividends on Loan	10	10	0	„ Editor's Expenses, etc.	..	..	..	..	10	1	5
„ Sundry Subscriptions	9	14	7	„ Editor's Salaries	..	..	..	..	6	0	0
							„ Balance	..	..	..	..	5	6	2
				£180	18	1						£180	18	1

BALANCE SHEET, DECEMBER 31st, 1943

LIABILITIES				ASSETS										
		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.						
To Reserve Fund	240	7	3	By Investment 3½% Conversion Loan at cost	..	..	240	7	3			
„ War Damage Repayment	48	0	0	„ Investment 3% Defence Bonds	..	..	48	0	0			
					288	7	3	„ Bank Balance in Hand, 31/12/43	..	..	59	19	0	
„ Revenue Account:														
Balance, 1/1/43	54	12	10									
Profit for the year	5	6	2									
					59	19	0							
					£348	6	3					£348	6	3

Audited and found correct,
14th February, 1944.

J. C. HOWE.