# CREMENTU

VOL. XXV No. 3

MARCH 1950

ISSUE No. 584

# The Westminster Ball

HELD AT

THE DORCHESTER HOTEL

on

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9th, 1949

in aid of

THE GOLDSMITHS' FUND

As a result of the Ball a cheque for £1,276 was handed to the Head Master by the President of the Elizabethan Club on the day before Play Term ended, thus completing the sum required to make up the second £10,000 promised by the Goldsmiths' Company.

# THE ELIZABETHAN

VOL. XXV. No. 3

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### EDUCATION FOR LIFE

Like that frequently discussed but always welcomed topic of coeducation, democracy is one modern development that is not associated with English public schools. This is so because our schools bear many traces of their formative period in the nineteenth century. Eton and Westminster may have flourished under their great headmasters in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, but that special environment which envelops what we know as the public school was only acquired in the last hundred years. Previously their form had been vague and their numbers few, but in the Victorian period they developed their discipline, and in the process, their characteristic virtues as well.

One feature in particular which lingers on today is the nineteenth-century notion of character. In this neither democracy nor the possible advantages accruing from coeducation had any real place and so we see a monastic discipline during term time, and especially the monitorial system. No doubt between them they inculcated those traits necessary for our grandfathers, when the female sex was at a discount and a man's life had a certain discipline about it. Much has changed since then, and it might well be taking thought for the future if the public school once again set out to give qualities and accomplishments that are more suited to the different environment of this century.

Perhaps the greatest criticism of the monitorial system in Westminster to-day is not that it is inhuman, for this would deny the genuinely liberal tradition that has grown up here in recent years, but that it instructs in the discipline of the decree. At every level in the school, it frequently develops a habitual attitude to persons and prob-

lems quite different from the attitude of mind most of us will need after we have left school. It teaches the art of giving orders and making decisions, when ninety-five per cent of all monitors will probably never be in a similar position again. Not all of us will be Prime Ministers, company directors, or even owners of small grocery shops. majority are destined for a place in life where their rôle is not that of a benevolent dictator. business of arranging matters, managing negotiations, persuading near-equals, and then coming to decisions will be more important than issuing edicts from on high. Yet the monitorial system was fashioned without this in mind; and can it be reasonably denied that experience gained by something resembling a committee meeting is closer to the modern world and better training for it than is an interview between a headmaster and one or two senior boys?

Something valuable may perhaps be learned from the student councils of American schools, where monitors and other officials are elected, normally by all those within three years of leaving school. Perhaps the elective aspect is the least important, but the broader incidence of a sense of responsibility stops the evolution of a powerless and irresponsible middle of the school. The absence of any feeling of responsibility is in school a disciplinary nuisance; after school it becomes a practical difficulty of morale and efficiency in any large organization, and a great social danger. Collective responsibility is a primary virtue at all grades, and should therefore be made as general as possible. In so far as it is largely the outcome of early training and practice, it can and should

be acquired first at school.

### CONCERT

The "St. Matthew Passion," by J. S. Bach, will be performed in part up School at 7.45 p.m. on Friday, March 31st. Applications for tickets, which will be severely limited, should reach the Concert Secretary, 19 Dean's Yard, S.W.1, before March 18th.

### HAMLET

will be performed by the Dramatic Society Friday and Saturday, March 24th and 25th, at 7.45 p.m. Applications for tickets should be addressed to the Captain, 19 Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W.I.

### WESTMINSTER AND SPORT

Of all the contributions of the public school to the national character and life, Englishmen are most proud of their sense of fair play. Without the confidence of the great statesmen in English history in the home and foreign policies of themselves and their colleagues, as being essentially fair and following the rules of the game, the history of our country would have been very different. The reputation on the Continent of the English Constitution and people has, we might assert, been in large measure due to the influence of English sport, and the influence of sport at Westminster, not only on our seven prime ministers and countless other statesmen, but also on the sports and consequently the alumni of other public schools, is worth a careful study.

The earliest records of sport at Westminster admittedly do not give an impression of good, clean, organized games. The 13th-century set of rules for schoolboys' behaviour preserved in the Chapter Library, although it may not refer to Westminster, does mention a specific place assigned to "station," but it also threatens any boy found with dice in his possession with a stroke of the rod for each pip of the dice. Just over five hundred years ago, the Almoner had, according to his accounts, to spend xvj d. on a trap over the Chapter of St. Anne " ad impediendum lusores cum pilis." From this early time onwards until less than a century ago, a characteristic of Westminster sport was a series of brutal fights in the Milling Green. "When I was a boy at Westminster," wrote Bishop Short, "the boys fought one another, they fought the Masters, the Masters fought them, they fought outsiders; in fact, we were ready to fight everybody."

That was last century. But at the same time, when the 23rd Baron de Ros kept fighting-cocks under the floor of his dormitory and Lord William Lennox bored holes in his with a red-hot poker for marbles; when recreations outside the school grounds included watching bear-baiting and hiring guns from "Slender Billy" at his house, Five Chimneys, to shoot the snipe and duck of the marshes of Belgravia; at this very time, Water and Cricket were flourishing at Westminster and, as Lord John Russell wrote in his diary in 1803, "hoop and peashooters are out of fashion and footballs come in."

Cricket, which Dr. Johnson defines as "a sport at wh, the contenders drive a ball with sticks in opposition to one another," had been played regularly in the Tuttle Fields since the early half of the eighteenth century. By the end of the century, we read, Westminsters habitually broke windows on the way to their ground, until one 26



WESTMINSTER BOY IN ROWING DRESS 1827 By permission of Mr. Gilbert Davis and the Arts Council

householder lost his temper and fired a blunderbuss over their heads, and the matter had to be taken to court. A match with Eton, where the game had developed simultaneously, is believed to have been played as early as 1788, long before any other recorded school match. Soon after the turn of the century, while sailing was dying out and rowing fast becoming an established sport with its own annual race with Eton, Dean Vincent marked out the ten acres of Fields against the newly spreading town of Westminster, and an assured place was found for organized football at Westminster. This had previously been played in the North, East and West Cloisters, with the South Cloister gates as goals. It could thus continue to develop into the sport which, rather than those versions played at Winchester, Eton and Harrow, was adopted officially as the Association game.

It was fortunate for Westminster, and it is a tribute to the character of the school, that it did not get caught in the drift of Arnold's reforms and make sport the basis of all school life. Sport has remained an important subsidiary activity, but Westminster's splendid history in that sphere has never turned her head. She plays on, going from strength to strength, but she never forgets

that sport is only one aspect of life.

### THE CHRISTMAS CONCERT

On Tuesday December 13th there took place the School Concert which, being mainly devoted to the music of Christmas, directed our thoughts first on the religious aspects of the feast with works by Bach and Vaughan Williams, and then to the secular aspect with some vigorous old English carols disguised in more or less modern dress. Bach's Cantata "Come Redeemer of our Race" was the first work. Although not in his most inspired vein, it contains, nevertheless, two movements of unusual beauty, the bass recitative "Behold I stand at the door," and the soprano aria "Open wide, my heart." The former brought out the most polished singing of the evening, from Mr. A. P. Graham-Dixon, who is no stranger to these events. How excellent it is also to see that there is again a boy at the school capable of singing a solo part; Maw's voice is not yet settled, but he sang musically and with appreciation of the dramatic quality of the recitative. The chorus, however, seemed to find it difficult to sing with their accustomed verve until the final chorus, which grew to a splendid climax. After this we heard Haydn's "London" symphony, and without hesitation, I say that it was the most polished performance of any symphony given here since School has been reconstructed; the woodwind especially were excellent. The slow movement was not allowed to lose any of its natural lyricism by a strict insistence on rhythm, and the trio in the third movement, which it is so difficult to play steadily, never seemed likely to become hurried. The first part ended with Vaughan Williams' astringently beautiful "Christmas Hymn," in which the chorus gave a more confident and satisfying performance.

After the interval, the freshness of Handel was fully demonstrated by the ballet music "The Gods go a-begging," which has been arranged by Beecham, whose frequent miscalculations were dexterously covered. This was followed by the Prelude to Delius' "Irmelin," which is liable to show up lack of rehearsal terribly. Finally came the Carols, both of which had to be repeated, thus memorably ending a well-planned and well-

executed programme.

### BUSBY'S PLAY

Two plays inside a year is a high standard for a single House to keep up, even though they have a practised "repertory" cast to draw upon. But whatever sacrifices it may have meant in other directions, the performance of Laburnum Grove showed how competent as well as entertaining a production that recognises its own limits can be.

The choice of a House play is obviously dictated by the cast available, and Busby's chose well. The plot was improbable, but not impossible, and provided its own moments of delicious tension and suspense; the dialogue was quick and not infrequently funny, though it demanded a great deal of verbal animation in the first act to keep it alive and stimulate the audience to disregard the two discomforts of watching a play up School, the crick in the neck and the pain in the seat.

The acting was convincing and was assisted by a really first-rate scene and stage management. C. S. Cullimore and J. F. Ormond both drew much applause by their over-acted but most enjoyable parts, and the latter especially was not afraid to use the whole range of his voice. A. M. Howard, in the star part, held the play together in a firm but not too dominating manner, and gave the most mature and controlled performance throughout. The only major criticism was one

that can be levelled against all School casts—a virtuous but quite ruinous ignorance of the way that women behave.

The total result was a very enjoyable performance which succeeded in its hardest task of pleasing both a School audience and a second house of parents and Old Westminsters.

### ELECTION

(subject to confirmation in July)

To scholarships at Christ Church: S. J. Barrett (History); D. R. H. Sawers (History); B. S. Green (Science).

To exhibitions at Trinity: J. F. Britten (Science); T. G. Phemister (Mathematics); H. Ward (Mathematics)

To exhibitions at Christ Church: P. C. Petrei (Classics); J. H. Milner (Science).

Open Awards: J. W. Roxbee Cox, a scholarship in History at University College, Oxford; R. N. Mackay, a scholarship in History at Trinity College, Oxford; D. Secker Walker, an exhibition in Classics at St. John's College, Oxford.

### A WESTMINSTER NOTEBOOK

The Head Master, whose term of office began at the beginning of the year with Mr. Christie's removal to Oxford, will not be able to undertake his full duties at Westminster until next term. Once a week, however, he makes the laborious journey from Cambridge in order to get to know, and to be known by, the school. He already knows which house provides the best lunch, and has acquainted himself with some of our sporting activities. Meanwhile, two temporary masters have joined the staff: Mr. Millard, of Merton College, who is an extension lecturer of the University of London, and Mr. Paterson, a student teacher from Trinity College, Oxford, who has joined the small group of masters at Putney, coaching an eight during the season that provides the vilest possible tideway weather.

The long awaited and much discussed return of the King's Scholars to the building which was bombed in 1941 did not take place at the beginning of this term, as had been expected. As the work on the building could not be quite finished by that time, it was decided that, rather than move in while work was still going on, it would be better to postpone the move until next holidays. The announcement that His Majesty the King is to re-open College on June 6th has done much to console those who had been looking forward to a new home this term. Meanwhile, the King's Scholars and the Under School continue to revile each other on account of the alterations taking place in their present homes on behalf of future

occupants.

Returning to school at the beginning of the term, we were pleased to hear that we had received a Christmas present. It consisted of three cases of sweets from the Student Council of Dallas Cathedral School, Texas. It was intended to symbolise the desire of Dallas students to get to know more about England, by means of correspondence with members of this school. The means they have chosen for getting to know England is flattering to Westminster, and we hope they will not be disappointed. We have not, unfortunately, been able to express our thanks for the present in any similar currency, but a copy of Mr. Carleton's book on Westminster has been sent as the first instalment from our side of what, it is hoped, will be an interesting connection.

Last holidays, Dr. Sanger took a party of eleven members of the school, with a similar party from Lancing, to ski in Switzerland. Westminster won the competition between the two schools, and F. D. Hornsby, who had skied before, won the three event individual handicap competition.

Although ski-ing was the principal object of the visit, the other amusements that the little town of Wengen could offer were not neglected. Teaeating, dancing at the Silberhorn, and the various alternative methods of travelling on and in snow took up most of the spare time in Switzerland, while delicacies such as milk chocolate sweetened the journey back to England, and served to stimulate interest in their visit among the rest of the school. There was one minor accident—a bone cracked in Eker's ankle—and as it occurred on the last day but one, this has been noticed more by the first eight than by the skiers themselves.

Mr. Johnson, the school sergeant, who had to go into hospital early last term for an operation, has not been able to return to the school shop, choosing less exacting employment. His connection with the school, which is of many years' standing, has not, however, been broken, as he has moved no further away than the Abbey, where he is now a verger. It will be interesting to see whether Westminster boys clamouring for the necessities of school life at the beginning of the term, or provincial football fans in the Abbey on big game day, are the more difficult to deal with. Mr. Johnson's place in the school shop has been taken by Mr. Moulding, who has had many years'

service in the Indian police.

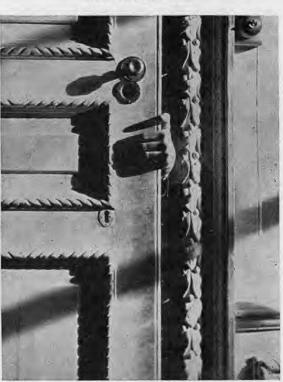
This term a distinctive school dress has at last, after a great deal of discussion, begun to come back. It is still quite a rarity as a boy need not buy it until he has decided to shed his old-style grey suit. It is cut like an ordinary grey suit, has no social significance yet outside the school, and is, in fact, in no way outstanding. It has, however, one great advantage over the grey suits worn during the past few years, in that it is thick and unlikely to betray signs of excessive wear. The harmony of colour between Westminster Grey and grey stone may be seen from the photograph on the opposite page, and suggests the existence of a parallelism between our architecture and our dress, similar to that studied by Mr. Laver. A veneer of unnecessary politeness in our dress would seem as out of place up Wren's or up School to-day, where stone seems to be the ruling element in the creation of atmosphere, as it seemed correct before the war, when School still wore a superficial smoothness over the stone, and when the rest of the school was padded with treacly painted wood. In the new Westminster that is being so laboriously created, we are being forced to appreciate the essentials of material life as much as our predecessors were during the war.





CONTRASTS IN GREY





A STUDY IN CRIME

### POLITICAL AND LITERARY SOCIETY

When the Society is addressed by Labour back-benchers on Socialism it always seems to get exactly the reverse of what it expects; so it had been with Mr. Alfred Edwards three years ago, and so it proved to be when Mr. R. H. S. Crossman gave an interesting, sincere, and intensely personal account of his experiences of the Labour Party last December. His first two comments struck the note of realism that continued through his talk: the Labour Party is essentially a class party, which tolerates the middle or upper classes within it only so far as their abilities make them useful, and it springs from an internal solidarity which does not depend upon the leaders, who are even regarded with constant suspicion. There were three strands in the history of its composition, the Christian, the Marxist, and Fabian-all contradictory, but all achieving a final solidarity by the example of the Trade Unions, which showed that action in strikes must be unanimous. The fundamental difference between Socialists and Conservatives is that the former consider that social inequality must never remain, while the latter maintain that it is essential to any economy.

On February 3rd, Mr. Sean O'Faolain came to talk on "Nationalism—an Irish Viewpoint," and succeeded in stirring many reluctant English minds without once mentioning this country's injustices to his own. He is, he confessed, not necessarily representative of his country—his

latest book on Ireland was howled down by the Irish press—but, then, no Irishman ever is. He did, however, give us a very objective picture of the origins of Irish nationalism in the "mystique" of the Gaelic movement, which in turn derived from the atavisms of former ages that have not yet been extinguished by industrialism. mystique did not, properly speaking, become political nationalism until the Gaelic League of 1882 came under the influence of the Irish Republican Brotherhood. The desire for the old simple ideals and a life independent of the West has caused much confusion inside Ireland, but now the new Republic has a chance to stand on its own and learn the political lessons other countries have had centuries to learn.

Sir Gerald Kelly, P.R.A., took as his subject "The Chantrey Bequest," but after briefly describing the terms of Chantrey's will, which in his opinion made it clear that the works of living artists were to be bought, he dwelt at length on the pictures already bought and the conditions in which they must be chosen. It is impossible for a body of up to seventy men, with as many different opinions, to be unanimous about the best, unless the best is so good that it is beyond question—and that rarely happens. Besides good taste is not a question of cultivation, it is a question of your birthday, and is as liable as women's clothes to changes of fashion.

### MODERN LANGUAGES SOCIETY

At the beginning of the Play term the numbers for the Society increased so much that it was necessary to form a junior society for boys in the Shell and below with Dr. Sanger as President. To start the term's activities, Professor Loiseau of Bordeaux University came to speak to us on "La France Aujourd'hui." He gave us a clear and interesting account of France's condition at the end of the war and how she has managed to overcome many of her problems. Although on the surface the French seem happy, he said that they were anxious for the future. The government does as little as possible. He then told us about the evils of the French educational system which grossly overworks the boys. On October 13th we read Marius, a comedy by Pagnol, set in the dockland of Marseilles. Some of us were able to see the film that was on at the same time. On October 27th, by arrangement with the Institut Français, Mme. Reiner recited several poems by Baudelaire and Verlaine. She spoke beautiful French and her renderings were magnificent. She concluded by reading three scenes from *Polyeucte*. These scenes fully demonstrated the variety of her talents, for they contained a quick dialogue between a man and a woman. We hope to repeat this interesting and novel evening this year. In connection with last year's Goethe festival, Dr. Karl Wollf spoke to us on Goethe and England, telling us of the many contacts he had and his admiration for English literature. It was Shakespeare who inspired many of his works and Marlowe's Faustus moved him to produce his masterpiece. We also attended two Molière plays at the Institut Français and performances of Urfaust and Iphigenie, which were part of the festival. The term ended with a Soirée Française at Mr. Rawes' house, where we had a most enjoyable and successful evening.

### THE DEBATING SOCIETY

The Debating society is flourishing. Its visit to St. Paul's Girls' School at the end of last term, to discuss the motion "that women have not yet won their emancipation," was one of the most entertaining debates within memory. General attendance has been good, and the standard of speaking remarkably high. Non-members attend meetings a great deal, and are welcome, though many of them are little more than spectators. The

prospect for the future is bright.
Inter-debates are always inte

Inter-debates are always interesting, because they bring the unexpected. Last term's was no exception. The tea (an important item) was very good. The debate itself, though it displayed no rigid application to the subject nominally under discussion, was highly successful in every other way. The St. Paul's speakers entranced us with their unusual jack-in-the-box tactics, jumping up, uttering one or two unimportant comments, and sitting down again. The St. Paul's spectator's fascinated us by some of them sitting in a tribal semi-circle, while others perched precariously on a sacrificial al er—the bookcase in the corner. The St. Paul's president overawed us by combining an iron hand with an india-rubber will. And our

speakers distinguished themselves through one or two first-class speeches (notably P. C. Petrie's closing speech for the proposition) and the absence of any bad ones at all.

The implications of this enjoyable experience were fully exploited in the first debate this term. The motion, "that coeducation is desirable at public schools," was carried by a safe but not On the whole the overwhelming majority. arguments put forward on both sides were encouragingly adult, and belied the contention of R. P. Harben and J. F. Britten, who in two lively speeches insisted on the essential adolescence of adolescents. The Captain of the School gave a reasonable explanation of the appearance in the first place of schools that were not coeducational, and solved the mystery that has grown up around one of the privileges attached to his post. Several of the speakers supported the motion out of a sense of duty towards the girls.

An inter-debate with Queen's College, Harley Street, has been arranged for later this term, and there will also be an inter-debate with the O.WW.

and the Staff.

### THE ESSAY SOCIETY

On December 1st C. C. P. Williams read an essay entitled "The Impressionist Movement." He prefaced his discussion of the movement by saying that, as he had not the special knowledge necessary for a dealing with the Symbolists, he would restrict his treatment to painting and music. He was not so ambitious as to treat these two aspects at once, but produced two essays with a few general remarks connecting the two. He discussed first he Impressionist painters. Having placed the school in its historical setting, he discussed it in greater detail, accepting the definition of Impressionism to be found in the writings of Monet rather than the retrospective definition current at the moment.

According to this strict interpretation of Impressionist dogma there were only three real Impressionists: Monet, Pissarro and Sisley. Thus restricted the essayist was able to concentrate on these three in greater detail. He failed, however, to get away from the introductory atmosphere, away from generalisation into discussion of particular pictures, which is really a necessity in any treatment of painting.

In the second part of the essay he dealt with Impressionist music. Here he did supply more illustration, but it was not detailed enough to be of very much value to the layman. Because of this, he failed to show that the Impressionist composers formed a movement in the same way as the painters did. We left, therefore, with plenty of ideas about Impressionism, but very little real knowledge or insight to back them.

# THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

The Photographic Society has become one of the School's more important leisure activities. We are lucky in having Mr. L. H. Burd, A.R.P.S., as our President. E. S. Chesser is the Secretary, and there are about twenty members. The highlight of last term's activities was an extremely interesting and amusing afternoon spent with Mr. James Jarché, who kindly came and lectured about his work as a Press photographer. During the term a small exhibition was held in the President's form-room, a portfolio was passed around, and members of the committee held some classes for beginners. Recently the darkroom was decorated and is now most adequately equipped.

### FOOTBALL

IST XI v. CHARTERHOUSE (away), lost 1-3.

Towards the end of last term many of the School went down to Charterhouse to watch this match. Within two minutes from the start a shot was punched against the Charterhouse bar by their goalkeeper, and Pitamber, following up hard, scored from close range. Westminster pressed on, but during a Charterhouse attack Sandford let a loose ball slip past him, and the team seemed to lose all fire from then on. Soon afterwards Charterhouse were given a free kick just outside the area, and scored. They were playing much faster football than Westminster, and their insides and wing-halves, despite Smith's and Williams' efforts, controlled the mid-field. Charterhouse was on top throughout the second half, scoring one goal, a lob over Sandford's head. Westminster struggled on, unsuccessfully, until the whistle blew. We were outplayed by a better and faster team, though individuals, notably Pitamber, played well.

Our last 1st XI match last term was against the Corinthian Casuals "A" XI. Our only goal was a penalty, scored by Pitamber in the first five minutes. We played well below our best form, and lost 1—4. On January 28th we played the Metropolitan Police XI again, whom we beat 5—2; on February 4th we met the Lancing Old Boys, and after a very hard game indeed, in which the XI played with determination and purpose, we won 3—1. However, on February 11th we were beaten 2—3 by the Old Aldenhamians in a hard and tough match. Our opponents were more experienced and we did well to keep the score down to 2—3. The half-back line played magnificently, with Lee as a very steady centre-half, always ready for rescue work in an emergency.

### IST XI v. WINCHESTER (home), won 2-0.

Winchester played fast, robust football and worried the Westminster defence for the first few minutes. Kendall was called upon to deflect a hard drive and Lee broke up some fiery rushes with stubborn tackles. The defence, however, soon settled down and began to gain the upper Ten minutes before the interval the Winchester goalkeeper failed to collect a low centre from F. D. Hornsby and Woodward hooked the ball to R. T. Robinson, who scored. Soon after, one of the few skilful movements in a vigorous but unscientific game was capped by a perfect centre from Chapman which Hornsby turned into the net. Apart from a ten-minute spell when Winchester's superior weight and speed seemed to overcome us and three consecutive corners were conceded, the second half was evenly contested and we never seemed likely to lose our lead.

The 2nd XI has improved considerably in the last half of the season, although out of four matches played one was lost and three were drawn. Against the Old Cholmelians on December 3rd, we played a new team, including six Colts. The combination failed to get together and we were beaten by a heavier and stronger side. On January 28th, again playing several Colts, we drew 4-4 against a much-depleted O.WW. team, which included two masters and five present Westminsters. Peroni played well at centreforward and scored all our four goals. February 4th we drew 2-2 against Lancing Old Boys in an enjoyable match. We started badly but settled down in the second half and played hard. Against the Old Aldenhamians on February 11th we drew 1-1; our opponents were faster than us and never let us settle down.

The Colts XI has only played one match so far this term. This was against Brentwood School, where the heavy going on a muddy ground was increased by a rainstorm that blew in our faces for most of the first half. Under such a handicap it is not surprising that we were three goals down at half-time, though our occasional attacks suggested an all-round superiority under even conditions. Expectations were fulfilled when we scored five goals during the second half, being quicker on the ball than our opponents and more direct in method. The whole side played vigorously, with Morley-Jacob steady in his new position of centre-half, Carmichael very reliable at back, and the forward line combining well under difficult conditions.

The Under 15 XI lost last term to Forest 0—3, and to Alleyns, through lack of weight and thrust in the forward line, and slowness and inaccuracy in passing by the defence. The team showed their first really good form in the return match this term against Mercers, an exciting and much more even struggle. Good first time shooting by Crook, who was much more confident, and better team work resulted in a win (2—1).

With the promotion of the Under 14 Club's best players to the Under 15 Club the standard of play this term has not been as high as last's. They rejoin us, however, for matches, and we have so far secured an overwhelming victory over the Choir School, in which the left-wing pair, Gray and Blume, played a prominent part, and fought two keen but unsuccessful engagements with the Under 15 Club.

### FENCING

TRAINING for the two First Team matches at I the end of last term was made almost impossible by various scholarship exams, but both provided keenly fought bouts. The first, an Epée match with the Grosvenor Fencing Club, was won 8-7, the issue remaining uncertain up to the last hit of the match. The other, a three-weapon match with St. Paul's School, was lost 11-15our first defeat in two years at the hands of another school. In this the Foil and Epée were lost 3-6 and 3-5 respectively, B. S. Green being the only person to perform even creditably, and the Sabre only won 5-4.

The Second Team also had two matches: against Eastbourne, drawn 9—9, in Foil and Sabre; and against Haileybury and I.S.C. in Foil only, which was won 16-o. They are gaining experience and confidence that will prove invaluable to them when they achieve First Team status. Juniors were held in December and resulted in a win by one point for Busby's over College, Ashburnham and Grant's sharing third place. The winner of the Junior Foil Championship for 1949-50 was J. L. Lee, K.S.

We began the present term greatly weakened by the loss of Green, who is going to spend six months perfecting his education and his fencing in Paris before going up to Oxford. His post of Secretary of Fencing was taken over by T. G. Phemister. In our first match without him, against the London Fencing Club, we paid fitting tribute to his loss by losing the Foil 1-8, but revived sufficiently to win the Epée 6-3, only losing the Sabre 3—6 and the match by 10—17. The Second Team drew against Rugby, winning the Foil 7-2 and losing in Sabre by the same margin.

### THE WATER

On the last station day of last term our six eights attempted a practice Schools' Head of the River Race over a course from Harrod's to the Boathouse. Final details were worked out hurriedly, but in the race all went well. Mr. Hamerton started the crews from the launch, Mr. Fisher took times on the banks, and Mr. Carleton prevented any collisions from occurring on the course. The crews started in the reverse order, that is with "F" crew first. "F" went off hard and immediately increased their lead over "E." "A" crew, the last to leave the start, had no one pressing behind them, and only when they realized halfway through that "B" crew were still ahead, did they begin to catch up. The lastminute's rowing saw three or four crews racing almost level, but the final order of times was "A, "B," "C," "D," "F," and "E." Though performances were naturally not yet of a high standard, the racing as such was most enjoyable.

So far this term the Boat Club has had more than the fair and usual number of illnesses and ailments. Three Pinks are at the moment hors de combat, and likely to remain so for a while. This probably weakens "A" crew somewhat, and certainly does not tend to stabilize the other eights —but practice goes on all the same. The Schools' Head of the River Race will be on March 18th, the Head of the River Race on April 1st, and we will welcome at the Boathouse as many O.WW. and parents who are able to come down to Putney on either of these days.

### COMING EVENTS

- March 4th. Fencing: 1st Team v. Lansdowne F.C.
  - 6th. State Opening of Parliament. 7th. Fencing: 1st Team v. Harrow. 9th. C.C.F. Cert. "A."

  - 10th. Political and Literary Society: Lord David Cecil.
  - 11th. Fencing: 1st Team v. Eton (Away).
  - 13th. Debating Society: Debate with Queen's College.
    C.C.F. Field Day.
    Schools' Head of the River Race.
  - 16th.
  - 18th.
    - Fencing: 2nd Team v. Whitgift (Away).
  - 22nd. Hamlet—7.45 p.m. 24th. School Confirmation by Bishop of
    - Grantham. Hamlet-7.45 p.m.
  - 25th. Hamlet—7.45 p.m. 27th. Debating Society: Old Westminster
  - debate. 31st.
- School Concert—7.45 p.m. Boat Race: Head of the River Race. April Ist.
  - 4th. Term ends.

### MINOR SPORTS

SHOOTING

Last term the VIII went down to Lancing to shoot for the Waller Cup, which we lost by three points in a very exciting match. This term we have a triangular, shoulder to shoulder match with Winchester and Guildford on February 28th. The main shoot of the year is also held this term, the Country Life Competition, for which we are entering two teams.

**FIVES** 

This term we look forward to several fixtures. with both schools and clubs; most of them are at the end of the term when the football season has ended and Fives begins in earnest. At the end of last term the senior team beat the Old Carthusians (5—4), the Old Aldenhamians (3—0), and the O.WW. (9—1). The first pair, R. T. Robinson and C. C. P. Williams, with the practise they will get, are hoping to enter the Public Schools Fives Competition in April. Cumming and Kendall, the second pair, though sometimes unsteady, contrive to win difficult matches. Lowe and Kay-Mouat, who make up the third pair, are fast improving and should do well in the coming matches. The Colts have had one fixture so far this term against the City of London School, whom they beat 4—1. Altogether, a good standard of Fives in the School has led to success in matches, and our teams ought to keep up their good record.

GYM

Under the new system the Gym Competitions were held last term. The Senior Competition was won by D. F. H. Sandford (71%), the Junior by I. L. Hunt with 70%, and Rigaud's won the Gym Cup from Grant's by two points.

### UNDER THE SCHOOL

I is some time since any Under School notes appeared and cricket has long been forgotten. After a weak start to the season results improved, and in four of the eight matches played victories were recorded. The Fathers again raised an XI and the School did well on this occasion to force a draw. Anderson proved an efficient captain, while Perrett and Turner had the best figures for bowling and batting.

A number of senior boys left in July, all but one going to Westminster. Anderson stayed on as Captain both of the School and of Football, and total numbers kept up to just under eighty. Prior, Perrett, and Turner are the new monitors.

Play term football results were a little disappointing with only three wins and two draws out of nine matches. The forwards did not improve as was hoped, and the defence was always stronger than the attack. In a new fixture with Carn Brea, who had an unbeaten team, the Under School did well to lose only 1-3.

It was a great disappointment that the move to No. 19 had to be postponed. The monitors had put in some excellent preparatory work both at the end of term and during the holidays. had to be reversed and the present temporary arrangements mean that the Under School now has accommodations of some sort in no fewer than five different buildings.

Old Boys' news shows five university awards this year, Barrett, Green and Mackay all gaining scholarships and Ward and Britten exhibitions.

Congratulations! Barrett is Captain of the School, Clipson Head of Wren's, Chapman and Houston in the Football XI, Green, until he left at Christmas, in the fencing team. Cumming is Captain of Fives, and Coates Captain of Shooting. Barrett and Eker were in the Henley VIII last summer, and Chapman and Clipson in the Tennis VI. Seventeen of the Wesminster forms contain Under School representatives. Eight of them succeeded in heading last term's lists. There are just under sixty Old Boys at Westminster at present.

### CONTEMPORARIES

We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following and apologise for any omissions:—
Alleynian, Ardingly Annals, Arrow, Blundellian, Bradfield College Chronicle, Bryanston Saga, Carthusian, City of London School Magazine, Cholmelian, Crimson Comet, Deerfield Scroll, Delphian, Dunelmian, Durban High School Magazine, Edinburgh Academy Chronicle, El Nopal, Eton College Chronicle, Folio, Felstedian, Fettesian, Fish and Pumpkin, Gordonstoun Record, Gower, Haileyburian and I.S.C. Chronicle, Hall Magazine, Hurst-Johnian, Impala, Johnian, King's College School Magazine, Kingstonian, Lancing College Magazine, Leys Fortnightly, Magus, Marlburian, Melburnian, Meteor, Milton Bulletin, Rossallian, Rotonian, Royal College School Magazine, Salopian, Sedberghian, Shirburnian, Sotoniensis, Tabor Log, Taylorian, Uppingham School Magazine, Wellingtonian, Wish Stream, Wykehamist. Comet, Deerfield Scroll, Delphian, Dunelmian, Durban

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### GIFTS AND LEGACIES

would be welcomed.

Further information will gladly be sent on application to the General Secretary, F. J. POTTER, A.C.A. Cheques, etc. (crossed) payable to "Dr. Barnardo's Homes," should be sent to 137 Barnardo House, Stepney Causeway, London, E.1

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### OLD WESTMINSTERS

In the New Year's Honours List, Mr. Philip Hendy, Director of the National Gallery, received a knighthood; Mr. S. L. Holmes, Second Secretary of the Board of Trade, was made K.C.M.G.; and Mr. A. J. D. Winnifrith, Under Secretary of the Treasury, received a C.B.

Lord Greene has been elected a trustee of the British

Museum.

Sir Adrian Boult has accepted the chief conductorship of the London Philharmonic Orchestra, after being chief conductor of the B.B.C. Symphony Orchestra for twenty years.
Sir Max Page has been appointed the Hunterian

Orator of the Royal College of Surgeons for 1951. Mr. E. A. Bramall, M.P., and Mr. R. D. Barlas,

O.B.E., have been called to the bar.

The Times Architectural Correspondent in his review of the designs for the Festival of Britain, gave special praise to two small pavilions by Mr. H. T. Cadbury-Brown.

Flight-Lieut. M. E. Fearnley, R.A.F., a medical officer, has been awarded the D.S.C. for great courage when he was flown to H.M.S. Amethyst in the Yangtse

under heavy fire.

Mr. Peter Brook was the producer of the first performance at Covent Garden of the new opera "The Olympians," composed by Arthur Bliss and written by J. B. Priestley.

The Minister of Civil Aviation has approved the appointment of Mr. Peter Masefield as chief executive

of British European Airways.

Mr. W. J. A. Sykes has been appointed assistant electrical engineer to the Southern Region of British Railways.

The Rt. Revd. Fabian Jackson has resigned the

bishopric of Trinidad on medical advice.

### BIRTHS

BELSON—On December 30th 1949 at Godalming to Sheila, wife of Major P. C. E. Belson, R.A., a daughter.

BIRCH—On January 20th 1950 in London, to Margaret, wife of G. S. M. Birch, a son.

BRYDON—On September 19th 1949 at Blackheath, to José, wife of W. W. H. Brydon, a son.

chisholm—On October 4th 1949 to Josephine, wife of A. H. T. Chisholm, C.B.E., a son. EDMONDS-On December 6th 1949 at Bromley, Kent,

to Gillian, wife of Derek Edmonds, a daughter. HARLEY—On December 20th 1949 at Nottingham, to

Judith, wife of Douglas Harley, a daughter. HUXLEY-On December 19th 1949 at Cambridge, to

Richenda, wife of Andrew Huxley, a son.

KINCHIN-SMITH—On January 24th 1950 at Bromley, Kent, to Rachel, wife of Michael Kinchin-Smith,

PAGAN—On November 21st 1949 at Ditchingham, Norfolk, to Annette, wife of Henry Pagan, a daughter. PLOWMAN-On December 10th 1949 at Leatherhead, to Elsie Frances, wife of John Plowman, a son.

PUXON-On December 23rd 1949 to Margaret, wife of

F. E. M. Puxon, a son.

RICHMOND-WATSON—On October 18th 1949 in London, to Jean, wife of R. N. Richmond-Watson, a daughter. SANGUINETTI—On December 23rd 1949 at Hemel Hempstead, to Patricia, wife of J. A. Sanguinetti, a son.

skrender—On January 13th 1950 at Kingston, to Sheila, wife of Neil Skrender, a daughter.

TAYLOR-On December 23rd 1949 at Greenford, to Joan, wife of A. F. Taylor, a son.

TITCOMB—On October 30th 1949 in Vermont, U.S.A., to Joannah, wife of A. A. Titcomb, a son.

WAINWRIGHT-On November 19th 1949 at Weybridge, to Betty, wife of J. A. W. Wainwright, a son.
YOUATT—On December 9th 1949 at Flore, to Katharine,

wife of David Youatt, a son.

### MARRIAGES

DICKEY: COLLER-On December 22nd 1949 at Wimbledon, D. O'R. Dickey to Mary, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Coller of Wimbledon.

ENGLEHEART: FOSTER-On January 4th 1950 J. R. C. Engleheart to Priscilla, daughter of Mr. and Mrs.

Noel Foster.

GIMSON: PITT-LEWIS—On December 31st 1949 at St. Peter's, Bayswater, P. M. Gimson to Ann Edith, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Pitt-Lewis (O.W.).

HAMPTON-SMITH: FODEN-At St. Mary's Church, Bromley, Kent, D. C. Hampton-Smith to Vivienne

HOWELL: LUARD-On November 10th 1949 at St. Peter's, Vere Street, P. P. Howell to Bridget Mary Radclyffe, daughter of Mr. G. D. Luard of Cattistock, Dorset, and the late Mrs. Luard.

TASKER: MCCGWIRE-On October 8th 1949 at Kingston, Dorset, J. M. Tasker to Juliet, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. MccGwire of Hayes, Swanage.

### **OBITUARY**

HUGH MORRANT BAKER, whose death at the age of 72, occurred on January 11th, was admitted in 1891 and left in 1895. He became a solicitor, but ceased to practise many years ago. He served in France with the R.G.A. during the first World War and was wounded at Ypres in 1917.

JOSEPH HENRY CUMING entered the School in 1883 and became a Queen's Scholar in the following year. From Oxford he was appointed to the Indian Civil Service and served in the N.W. Provinces and Oudh. In 1904 he became District and Sessional Judge in the United Provinces. He married in 1907 Cephise Marie, daughter of James Maxwell of Etah, United Provinces.

ERNEST GILMOUR HARVEY was born in 1877 and followed his brother to Westminster in 1889. He was admitted a solicitor and practised in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, where his father had practised before him, and where he died on December 2nd last year. In 1904 he married Ella Violet, eldest daughter of Judge David Fenwick Steavenson.

JOHN HENRY LAWRENCE, who died suddenly on November 14th at the age of 62, was at Westminster from 1901 to 1905. In the first World War he served in the London Regiment, and later held a commission in the A.S.C. He was twice mentioned in despatches and was awarded the O.B.E. He married Violet, daughter of Charles Marcus of Hampstead.

WILLIAM LANCELOT NICHOLAS, who died on January 15th at the age of 82, was at Westminster from 1881 to 1883. Since 1899 he was a member of the London Stock Exchange. He was twice married.

EDWARD FRANCIS PECK was the last survivor of four brothers who were at the School in the 'seventies and 'eighties. He was himself the third son of his father, J. K. Peck of Lincoln's Inn. He was born in 1867 and admitted to Westminster in 1878. Three years later he went into College and left in 1884. He became a solicitor. He married in 1909 the daughter of James Armstrong of Sutherland Avenue. Paddington.

solicitor. He married in 1909 the daughter of James Armstrong of Sutherland Avenue, Paddington.

A slightly older contemporary of Peck was WILLIAM FITZGERALD GAMBIER SANDWITH, who was also one of four Westminster brothers. He was a Queen's Scholar from 1876 to 1880 and went up to Christ Church, Oxford, where he gained his blue for Association football. Ordained in 1884, he was curate first at St. Margaret's, Westminster, and then at Enville. In 1888 he was made vicar of Holkham, and from 1900 to 1907 he was at St. Barnabas, Kennington. In 1907 he was appointed Rector of St. Bartholomew-the-Great, a post which he held until his retirement in 1929. He was married to Helena, daughter of M. P. Currie of Bayswater. He died at Littlestone on November 25th, aged 88.

### THE WESTMINSTER BALL

The Westminster Ball was held at the Dorchester on December 9th 1949, when 737 Old Westminsters and their guests were present. The Mayor of the City of Westminster and Mrs. J. Allen Mulholland, the Headmaster and Mrs. Christie, The Prime Warden of the Goldsmiths' Company and Mrs. Donovan la Touche were the guests of the evening. The Dean of Westminster and Mrs. Alan C. Don were prevented from coming and the President of the Ball, Lt.-Col. H. M. Davson, and the Honourable Mrs. Davson, had unfortunately to sail for British Guiana on the very day of the Ball.

Mr. A. B. Horne, that generous benefactor, brought a very large party, as did Lord Davidson, Lord Rea, the President of the Elizabethan Club, and other prominent Old Westminsters. It was pleasant to see so many of the Masters from the School and a far larger number of young Old Westminsters attended than last year.

Thanks to many donations, including one particularly large one, the President of the Elizabethan Club was able to give the Head Master a cheque for £1,276, thus completing the £10,000 Goldsmiths' Fund.

Music, as last year, was provided by Mr. Sydney Lipton and his Band, and an innovation was the School Song, set to music in waltz time, by Mr. A. M. Spurgin, which was played before supper. To those at Westminster before the School song came into existence, this did not come quite naturally, but when it was played again later in the evening it seemed as if we had been dancing to its strains all our life, and no doubt this will become a regular feature of the programme.

Every arrangement was perfect, as one would expect where the Honorary Secretaries were Mr. E. R. B. Graham and Mr. A. C. Grover, and one can only tender to them our gratitude for the successful result.

# THE ELIZABETHAN CLUB GAMES COMMITTEE

### FOOTBALL

During the holidays the Club was assisted by a number of boys, and it is hoped that they will join the Club when they leave, as a large increase in playing strength is urgently needed. The results of matches played to date are as follows:—

						Goals	
	1	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Agnst.
ist XI		18	3	2	13	24	56
" A " XI		6	0	1	5	II	36

### SQUASH

This season nine matches have been played, two being won, one drawn, and six lost. There are seven matches still to be played. A side was entered for the Londonderry Cup and was defeated in the first round by K.C.S., Wimbledon. Playing membership has increased considerably, but any others who are interested should get in touch with P. A. Jessel, 7, Nepean Street, Roehampton, S.W.15.

### FENCING.

The activities of the Fencing Section have once again been suspended as there are not enough members to make its continuance worth while. Its position will be reviewed at the end of each school year, and a notice put in *The Elizabethan* in the summer. In any case, an O.WW. team will be raised against the school each year.

### **FIVES**

The Club has nearly completed its first season since the war. Since September the Club has been using the school courts every Wednesday and has never had less than four players. In the last issue of The Elizabethan it was stated that matches would be arranged if playing strength was sufficient. Although the numbers are not nearly enough, seven games have been arranged, two of which have been played and lost, though not badly. The Club has also entered two pairs for the Kinnaird Cup, which is being played between February and April. If there are any O.WW. who played before the war, or who were at the school during the war years and were unable to play, who would like to play again or give the game a trial, they should write to W. J. Gerrish, Woodlands Hill, Woodlands Road, Surbiton, Surrey, who will send full particulars.

### CORRESPONDENCE

S IRS,
I feel that I ought to comment on your November Editorial, though I speak on my own behalf, and not necessarily as representing the views of the Committee of The School Mission, and to try and set out why a scheme has been put forward for re-starting the School Mission in Peckham.

The advantages of Napier Hall were manifest. It was close to the School, but the quarters available were scanty. As a result, few boys from the School ever went there regularly. In addition, the Committee always felt that the Boys' Club was there on sufferance. No tenancy agreement was possible, and the conflicting interests of Parish Hall and Mission Club were always obtruding.

Nevertheless, the Committee did their best after the war to start in Westminster, as was well known to some of the boys at the time. But Westminster is heavily clubbed, as regards boys, and it became only too obvious that there was no room for a new club and that no existing club was ready to welcome any worth-while intervention from the School Mission.

As a result, expert opinion was taken, and the three London were explored, viz., Fulham, Battersea and Wandsworth, and Peckham. No suitable building was available in either Fulham or Battersea and Wandsworth. In Peckham freehold buildings existed, used as the Cheltenham School Mission before the war, and providing much better accommodation than at Napier Hall. Cheltenham had given these up and were willing to sell at a reduced price. The opportunity seemed to be too good to be missed. A meeting was held at the School in July last, and some of the boys at least were in favour of the idea. It is not even yet certain that the scheme can go forward. It depends on a grant from the Ministry of Education. As regards running expenses, assistance will be received, we are assured, from local authorities.

It might be thought from the Editorial that the only provision in the past of funds for maintenance came from the School. This, of course, is totally erroneous. Old Westminsters subscribed very liberally and, I am confident, will do so again, and thanks to the generosity of the Dean and Chapter, the Mission used to receive one offertory from the Abbey of substantial proportions every year. It will be seen, therefore, that provision for the maintenance of the Club at Peckham is not out of the question, and that the sources from which it derives are well worthy of the link between the Club and the School, for I anticipate that no one will deny the right of Westminster Abbey or of Old Westminsters to consider themselves linked indissolubly with the

School.

It is not yet certain that the necessary grants will be forthcoming to make the present scheme possible. If it is, I do not think that distance need prevent at least as close a union between the boys at present at the School and the Club as existed in the years before the last war, and I feel sure that Old Westminsters will still give at least the same support, both financial and practical, as in the past.

If the grant is forthcoming and the scheme can go forward, I am confident that the result will be worthy

of Westminster. Floreat.

Yours, etc.,

STUART HORNER.

May I use your columns to do what previously I could have done by word of mouth, namely, to thank those members of the School, past and present, who were kind enough to send us Christmas cards? I could not acknowledge them all, but I was delighted to have good wishes from so many quarters. Also, may I thank those boys who sent a joint post-card of greetings from Switzerland, where, I understand they had a glorious holiday?

Yours faithfully,

J. T. CHRISTIE.

Jesus College, Oxford, Jan. 25th.

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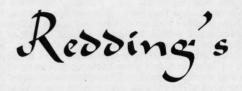
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