

RENDCOMB
COLLEGE
CHRONICLE

Vol. 11, No. 10.

December, 1959

Rendcomb College Chronicle

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December 1959

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COLLEGE OFFICERS.

Christmas Term, 1959.

Senior Prefect—P. G. S. Airey.
Prefect—R. F. Stebbing.
Group Leaders and Prefects—R. A. Cockrell, J. B. Gooch,
M. van den Driessche, J. R. Windsor.
College Workman—M. D. Naish.
†Public Workman—J. B. Gooch.
Music Warden—G. Harrison.
Music Librarian—L. de V. Wragg.
Choir Librarians—E. Taylor, S. Greenlaw.
Q. P. Concerts—I. S. C. Airey.
Pictureman—M. C. Jones.
Lamp Men—J. A. T. Goodborn, G. S. Bartlett.
Church Ushers—G. J. Taylor, J. Shaw.
Church Collections and Deck Chairs—P. K. Dale.
†Furniture Committee—R. P. S. Harrison, M. H. Ferguson,
C. C. Richardson.
Stagemen—J. Shaw, F. A. G. Ferguson, P. K. Dale, M. A. Gooding,
D. M. Tucker, J. H. Delefortrie.
Librarians—M. van den Driessche, J. R. Windsor, D. R. Poole,
I. S. C. Airey, P. B. Heppleston.
Manual Foremen—H. E. Gough, J. C. Malpass, N. J. Price, C. C.
Richardson, K. H. Stimson, D. A. N. Hogarth. History Room
Preparation—G. J. Taylor, D. R. Poole, M. D. Naish, S. D. Hicks,
D. A. Hodges.
† General Meeting Elections.

GENERAL MEETING OFFICERS.

Christmas Term, 1959.

Chairman—J. R. Windsor.
Secretary—S. D. Hicks.
Games Captain—P. G. S. Airey.
Field Secretary—M. van den Driessche.
Games Committee—R. F. Stebbing, M. D. Naish.
Boys' Banker—I. S. C. Airey.
Meeting Banker—R. A. Cockrell.
Senior Shopman—M. D. Naish.
Shopmen—P. J. Callaghan, J. Mitchison.
House Committee Treasurer—R. J. Parnell.

Games Committee Treasurer—K. H. Stimson.
 Record Committee Treasurer—M. A. Gooding.
 Finance Advisory Committee—P. G. S. Airey, G. Harrison,
 R. F. Stebbing.
 Finance Committee—D. Little, M. B. Ogilvie.
 Finance Committee Treasurer—C. B. Stillwell.
 Auditors—D. A. Hodges, D. R. Poole.
 Entertainments Committee—S. D. Hicks, P. G. S. Airey, M. J. Bartlett,
 T. C. Bass, F. A. G. Ferguson.
 End of Term Entertainments Committee—G. J. Taylor,
 F. A. G. Ferguson, M. C. Jones, H. E. Gough, J. Shaw.
 Cycle Committee—P. B. Heppleston, R. C. Jones, K. H. Stimson.
 Classical Records Committee—L. de V. Wragg, M. J. N. Bryant,
 P. B. Heppleston.
 Light Records Committee—A. N. Hill, D. R. Poole.
 Amplifier Technicians—J. Shaw, J. B. Gooch.
 Breakages Man—M. E. Morris.
 Paperman—K. A. Walker.
 Drying Room Committee—J. T. Wood, J. H. Delefortrie, K. J. Fowler.
 Billiards Committee—I. S. C. Airey, J. C. Malpass, R. A. Dauncey.
 Sledge Committee—N. R. Meakin, R. A. D. Laws, M. F. Ashe-Jones.
 Magazine Committee—M. van den Driessche, J. B. Gooch,
 D. A. Hodges.
 Chairman of Groundsmen—R. A. Dauncey.
 Senior Groundsmen—A. N. Hill, D. M. Tucker, N. J. Price.
 Junior Groundsmen—M. F. Ashe-Jones, S. H. M. Creffield.
 Tennis Groundsman—K. A. Walker.
 Cricket Groundsman—H. E. Gough.
 Rugby Games Wardens—J. A. T. Goodborn, T. G. W. Pettigrew.
 Tennis Games Warden—T. Tucker.
 Hockey Games Warden—C. J. Webb.
 Cricket Games Warden—D. J. Tovey.
 Rugby Secretary—I. S. C. Airey.
 Hockey Secretary, 1960—N. J. Price.
 Cricket Secretary, 1960—R. P. S. Harrison.
 The Council—J. Shaw, M. D. Naish, G. Harrison, P. G. S. Airey,
 J. R. Windsor, R. F. Stebbing, M. van den Driessche.
 Selection Committee—P. G. S. Airey, J. R. Windsor, G. Harrison,
 M. van den Driessche, S. D. Hicks.
 Rule Committee—T. L. H. Benbow, D. R. Poole, D. A. Hodges.
 Nominations Committee—R. A. Cockrell, S. D. Hicks, D. R. Poole,
 M. D. Naish, D. A. Hodges.

GENERAL MEETING NOTES.

Summer Term, 1959.

Perhaps this is the last time for some years that the Secretary will be able to complain of an exceptionally small Sixth Form in the Meeting with, perhaps, the consequent lack of important discussions and far-reaching decisions.

The new amplifier proved quite a popular topic for discussion owing to the unsatisfactory reproduction it was giving. After several inspections by the suppliers and a detailed overhaul by the Amplifier Technicians it was concluded that the source of the trouble was to be found in the old motors and that these would have to be renewed if the prescribed standard of the amplifier was to be reached.

Alterations were made concerning the Nominations Committee thereby ensuring that emergency elections could be carried out in as short a time as possible. This Committee was also changed from Minor to Other Office status.

It was decided to replace with a new model the slip-catching machine, made by boys, which has given good service for a number of years. The best model on the market proved to be on lines very similar to those of the old one and it was said that if treated properly the machine should last at least ten years without an overhaul. The purchase was therefore made.

The recommendations of the Classical Records Committee were accepted and records were bought of Corelli's Christmas Concerto, three of Bach's Brandenburg Concertos and some of Mendelssohn's Overtures.

SCHOOL NOTES.

Summer Term, 1959.

We are glad to report that the Headmaster's health is much improved and that he hopes to return to work in September. While he is still under doctor's orders and limited in what he may do, he is very much better and making steady progress towards complete recovery.

* * * * *

Mr. L. W. H. Hull left Rendcomb at the end of the Summer Term to take up an appointment with the Department of Education in the University of Bristol. Mr. Hull came to the College in 1948 and has been in charge of the teaching of mathematics since then. He also took a great interest in the College cricket.

Undoubtedly, however, we shall miss him most for his unflinching good judgment and his kindly consideration of other people's points of view. We recall with gratitude, also, Mrs. Hull's generous assistance on more than one occasion in matters concerning the boys' health.

We hope that all will go well for Mr. and Mrs. Hull in the future.

Mr. A. C. B. Wimbush and Mr. A. J. Wills also left the College in July and we wish them success and happiness in their new work.

We offer our very good wishes to the following boys who left the College in July: R. Bolton-King, R. D. Comley, T. J. Tudge, A. B. Mead.

The Rev. J. H. Hart M. A. (CANTAB.) was inducted into the Living of St. Peter's Church, Rendcomb, on May 13th by the Lord Bishop of Gloucester. We welcome him and hope that his life here will be a happy one.

We returned in May to find Big School resplendent with a new and beautiful floor of narrow boards, secretly nailed, so that there is a perfect surface for dancing and from which nails will not protrude to catch the bases of desks. The work was done by Messrs. R. A. Berkeley and Son, of South Cerney, who also excellently carried out a number of small repairs to the parquet flooring in the halls.

The history of the timber is interesting. In 1939 the Woolworth building in Cricklade Street, Cirencester, was nearing completion and when the "building standstill order" came the firm was allowed to finish the job. Some flooring was left over. It was purchased by Mr. Charles Hayward, who took over from his father the small building business of George Hayward and Son, North Cerney, and he offered the timber to the College. The Governors wisely bought it and it has been stored for nineteen years on the first floor of the Stable Block, between the clock tower and No. 2 Flat. Unfortunately the name of the timber is not known but it is of a beautiful brown colour, hard and of close grain. The wear that it would have to bear in a big store should be sufficient evidence of its lasting qualities.

During a heavy thunderstorm one night in May water, accumulated by a blocked downpipe, seeped into the ceiling

above Dormitory II and wetted the plaster to such an extent that the vibration from a particularly loud thunder-clap dislodged a considerable portion of it. It fell with a crash to the floor and on to two beds whose occupants, fortunately, were unhurt.

* * * * *

The equipping of a new Laboratory Workshop enabled us to add the room originally so used to the Biology Department and work was started during the term on converting it into a Natural History room. Although not complete, enough work had been carried out for the room to be open for inspection on Founder's Day.

* * * * *

Various expeditions were arranged during the term as follows:

On May 14th the Fourth Form and a part of the Fifth Form saw a performance of "The Importance of Being Earnest," by Oscar Wilde, at the Old Vic, Bristol.

Members of the Sixth Form visited the Old Vic, Bristol, on May 24th to see the play, "Cyrano de Bergerac," by Edmond Rostand.

On June 29th there was a performance at Cheltenham College of Puccini's opera "Gianni Schichi," given by the boys of Cheltenham College and the girls of Charlton Park School. Members of Form VII went from Rendcomb to see this.

Forms III to VI inclusive heard a concert given by the Halle Orchestra on July 6th, during the Cheltenham Festival.

* * * * *

The following is the programme of a concert given in Saul's Hall on July 19th:

Minuet from The Linz Symphony (Mozart)	The Orchestra
Prelude and Fugue in D Minor (Bach)	G. Harrison
Flute Sonata in Bb, two movements (Handel)... ..	A. D. Heppleston
Prelude in C Major (Bach)	G. E. Chapman
Violin Sonata in F, two movements (Eccles)	J. Shaw
Pathetic Sonata, slow movement (Beethoven)... ..	L. de V. Wragg
Gavotte from Suite for Violin (Handel)	N. S. Whatmough
"Passing Storm" and "From the Cliffs" (Carrol)... ..	S. Greenlaw
Oboe Concerto, three movements (Corelli)	M. Whittering and C. C. Richardson
Ecoasaise (Schubert)	D. J. Tovey
Sarabande (Bach) and "The Elf" (Schumann).....	J. M. Webb
Minuet from Symphony No. 3 (Schubert)	The Orchestra

GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION, 1959.

“O” Level:

- M. J. N. Bryant—Mathematics, Physics, Biology.
F. A. G. Ferguson—Biology.
H. E. Gough—English Language, English Literature, History,
Latin, French, Mathematics, Physics, Biology.
R. P. S. Harrison—English Language, English Literature, History,
Latin, French, Mathematics, Physics, Biology.
P. B. Heppleston—English Language, English Literature, French,
Mathematics, Physics, Biology.
A. N. Hill—English Language, Biology.
M. C. Jones—English Literature, History.
J. C. Malpass—English Language, History, French, Mathematics,
Physics, Biology.
R. J. Parnell—English Language, French, Mathematics, Physics,
Biology.
N. J. Price—English Language, English Literature, History,
Mathematics.
D. M. Tucker—English Literature, History.
J. M. Webb—History, French, Mathematics, Physics.

“A” Level:

- P. G. S. Airey—Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry.
T. L. H. Benbow—Physics, Chemistry.
R. Bolton King—Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry.
R. A. Cockrell—English, History, French.
R. D. Comley—Mathematics, Physics.
R. A. Dauncey—Physics, Chemistry.
M. van den Driessche—Chemistry, Botany, Zoology (Dist.).
J. B. Gooch—Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry.
G. Harrison—English (Dist.), History, French.
J. R. Windsor—Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry.
G. Harrison was on the reserve list for State Scholarships.

County University Awards were obtained by: R. A. Cockrell, R. D. Comley, R. Bolton King, G. Harrison and J. B. Gooch.

CRICKET REPORT.

Summer Term, 1959.

1st XI and "A" XI. Played 10, won 3, lost 3, drawn 4.

Saturday, May 9th

1st XI v. St. Stephen's C. C. 1st XI. Home. Won by 5 wickets.

St. Stephen's 66 (Stebbing 6 for 20). Rendcomb 67 for 5. Accurate bowling by Stebbing helped to dismiss our visitors cheaply, and Rendcomb, after a good opening partnership between Driessche and Harrison, were guided to victory by a steady innings from Gough, who scored 19 runs.

Saturday, May 16th

1st XI v. Cheltenham Town C. C. 2nd XI. Home. Lost by 9 wickets.

Rendcomb 55 (Comley 29). Cheltenham 58 for 1. Except for a bold and attractive innings by Comley, Rendcomb batted lifelessly. Batsmen found considerable difficulty in playing a slow off-spin bowler. Cheltenham were not bothered by inaccurate bowling from the Rendcomb bowlers and scored the requisite runs without difficulty.

Thursday, May 28th

1st XI v. Dean Close "A" XI. Away. Match drawn. Dean Close 141 for 6 dec. Rendcomb 139 for 7 (Gough 50, Cockrell 37).

Stebbing bowled accurately against forceful batting, but was unlucky not to claim more than three wickets. Gough and Cockrell featured in a high stand of 88, but Rendcomb were unfortunately three runs behind when stumps were drawn, after a very exciting match.

Saturday, May 30th

1st XI v. Sir Thomas Rich's 1st XI. Away. Lost by 4 wickets.

Rendcomb 73 for 8 dec. (Cockrell 24). Sir Thomas Rich's 75 for 6.

Only Cockrell and Heppleston scored any appreciable runs, and the Rendcomb batting was slow and boring. Even these two batsmen rarely attacked the bowling, and the side was never looking for runs. Sir Thomas Rich's scored their runs at a fast rate, taking one hour as opposed to Rendcomb's two hours.

Saturday, June 20th

1st XI v. Cheltenham College 2nd XI. Home. Match drawn.
Cheltenham College 114 (Cockrell 4 for 23). Rendcomb 101 for
7 (Gough 23).

Rendcomb's fielding was very lax to begin with, enabling Cheltenham to score 85 before losing a wicket; but Cheltenham then collapsed to accurate bowling by the Rendcomb attack, and were soon dismissed. Rendcomb batted slowly and were unable to gain the initiative, although Gough batted soundly for an hour.

Saturday, June 29th

1st XI v. Marling G. S. 1st XI. Home. Match drawn. Marling 122 for 7 dec. Rendcomb 61 for 8.

Rendcomb dropped several catches, and Marling mounted a large score. The Rendcomb batsmen batted feebly against a lively attack, and only Stebbing and Bolton-King, both batting low in the order, offered sensible and intelligent resistance.

Thursday, July 9th

"A" XI v. Dean Close 2nd XI. Away. Lost by 6 wickets.
Rendcomb 129 (Bolton-King 43 not out, Hepplestone 21). Dean Close 130 for 4.

Bolton-King, with excellent support from Hepplestone and tail-enders, batted admirably for Rendcomb. Not knowing how to play a slow left-arm bowler, four Rendcomb batsmen were stumped. Dean Close severely attacked the Rendcomb opening bowlers, and went on to score the runs they needed without difficulty.

Wednesday, July 15th

1st XI v. North Cerney C. C. 1st XI. Home. Won by 6 wickets.
North Cerney 30 (Stebbing 4 for 3). Rendcomb 31 for 4. The pace bowling of Stebbing helped to dismiss our visitors, and after a few early setbacks Rendcomb scored the required runs with several lively strokes.

Saturday, July 18th

1st XI v. Cirencester G. S. 1st XI. Away. Won by 8 wickets.
Cirencester 38 (Hepplestone 4 for 12, Driessche 3 for 7).
Rendcomb 39 for 2.

Excellent fielding, and intelligent bowling by Heppleston and Driessche, helped Rendcomb to dismiss Cirencester quickly. Both Cockrell and Driessche reached double figures, and aided Rendcomb to win easily.

Monday, July 20th

1st XI v. King's School, Gloucester, 1st XI. Home. Match drawn.

Rendcomb 122 for 3 dec. (Gough 53 not out, Comley 22 not out). King's School 88 for 4.

Rendcomb batted very slowly but solidly, Gough scoring his second well-deserved half-century of the season. Comley attacked the bowling vigorously towards the end, but the scoring rate was still low. The visitors faced keen fielding and fairly accurate bowling, and were unable to get the runs before stumps were drawn.

* * * * *

From these results it can be seen that the 1st XI made a marked improvement upon last year's record. The team spirit was high and there was more keenness and interest in the game, especially by boys unlikely to play for the 1st XI. Nets were made compulsory for members of the 1st XI and there were few grumbles. Candidates from Form III had to be considered, owing to the lack of cricketers in the senior school. Fielding improved considerably as the term progressed, but it is still not absolutely satisfactory.

M. van den Driessche and R. P. S. Harrison opened the batting at the beginning of the season. The latter possessed a firm defence, but he tended to be weaker when attacking. Although he began quite well as an opener he had a lean period, during which he was placed lower down the order. He improved his close fielding from match to match, and if he can look for more runs while batting he will be a great asset next season. Driessche opened consistently throughout the season. Controlled cover-drives, intermingled with a determined defence, helped to consolidate his position. Once again, his spin bowling was very difficult to play, and he often deceived several batsmen with the quicker ball. His variety of spin was very characteristic of his bowling.

P. B. Heppleston replaced Harrison as an opener towards the end of the season. His defence was almost impenetrable, but he failed to attack the bowling enough. He proved a good

opener but he must try and develop an attacking drive. His fielding was first-class on some occasions, and towards the end of the season his leg-spin bowling was very useful.

F. E. Gough was the best batsman in the side. Unfortunately he tended to score slowly, but his batting was sound and generally very fruitful. His stroke play is good, and his two half-centuries were invaluable; but he must try and score his runs more quickly. As wicket-keeper, he missed few chances, and the “extras” list was always very small.

R. D. Comley, batting at No. 5, played several attractive innings, and, although his policy failed occasionally, he proved the value of aggression. He must be praised for attacking the bowling mercilessly, and his cover drives were particularly penetrating. His close fielding was once again admirable, and he took several excellent catches. His batting and fielding will be missed next season.

R. Bolton-King played a valuable part in the team’s success. Although he batted low in the order, his stroke play often showed up the earlier batsmen. His foot was generally well out to the ball, and his capabilities as a run-scorer were shown in the “A” XI match. His throwing and fielding were generally very reliable.

R. F. Stebbing opened the bowling. He was capable of swinging the ball considerably, out-swingers being his speciality. When he struck his length he was very dangerous indeed, and his consistency was displayed at Dean Close. Once again he swung the bat at the ball while at the crease, and is an extremely useful tail-end batsman.

G. J. Taylor was really an all-rounder. Although he batted at No.9 he had several useful innings, one in particular against Cheltenham College. He attacked and defended equally well, using his feet very advantageously. His spin bowling was not quite consistent enough to be used regularly, but he can certainly turn the ball considerably. He had also developed into a good slip fielder by the end of the season.

J. Shaw had a very lean batting season. His front foot did not advance to meet the ball, thereby preventing a good stroke. Towards the end he made great efforts to correct this fault, and he looked a much better batsman. This improvement suggests a brighter season next year. His cover fielding was immaculate, and he saved many runs in this position.

The last place was shared by three boys.

N. J. Price did not fulfil expectations as a fast bowler. His accuracy was very doubtful, and his pace was not to be feared. Although he lost his place he persevered, and towards the end of the season he nearly regained it. His fielding has improved considerably, and he should try and improve his batting as well as his bowling.

P. J. Callaghan's place in the 1st XI was perhaps premature. His slow left-arm bowling will be very useful in future seasons, but it was not quite 1st XI standard this year. He was rather slow in the field but his batting was promising, and if he can only conquer his tendency to lift his head and attack before his eye is in he will be very useful.

T. G. W. Pettigrew replaced Callaghan. His batting was sound and stylish. He hit the ball hard, and many useful contributions were made by him. His defence was solid and he should be a fine batsman in a few years time. His agility and keenness in the field should also be highly commended.

The side was very competently captained by R. A. Cockrell throughout the season. In the absence of anyone to open the bowling with R. F. Stebbing he took on this role himself and, although erratic at times, he made a success of it. His batting was very steady and often the mainstay of the side. For a batsman whose *forte* is defence he set an excellent example in keeping the scoring rate up. The general improvement of the side throughout the season, and in particular the fielding, pays tribute to his leadership and keenness.

Second XI

A word should be said about the absence of Second XI fixtures this season. It was felt that as the senior school was so small we would be unable to produce a 2nd XI as well as a 1st XI. This would undoubtedly have been the case, although several members of First Game would have benefited by a match. J. B. Gooch, P. G. S. Airey, R. A. Dauncey and M. Whittering all showed keenness and some ability and would have been in a 2nd XI.

Junior Cricket.

Saturday, May 30th

Under 15 XI v. Sir Thomas Rich's Junior Colts. Away. Won by 7 wickets.

Sir Thomas Rich's 56 (Tovey 7 for 13). Rendcomb 57 for 3 (Pettigrew 21 not out).

Saturday, June 20th

Under 15 XI v. Cheltenham College Junior Colts. XL Home.
Lost by 3 wickets.

Rendcomb 68 (J. Webb 16). Cheltenham College 69 for 7 (Tovey 3 for 29).

Saturday, June 27th

Under 15 XI v. Marling School Colts XL Home. Lost by 72 runs.

Marling 103 (Tovey 4 for 21). Rendcomb 31 (Price 12).

Saturday, July 18th

Under 15 XI v. Cirencester Grammar School Under 15 XI.
Away. Lost by 69 runs.

Cirencester 123 for 4 dec. (Price 3 for 37). Rendcomb 54 (J. Webb 20, Tovey 16).

Unfortunately the junior team did not live up to expectation, although a resounding victory in their first match seemed to promise a good season. Perhaps they did not face stiff enough opposition in games on Top, which might have affected match standards. Nevertheless they have improved considerably since last season's dismal record, and several boys showed their capabilities in all the matches.

G. S. Bartlett captained the side for the first three matches. He also opened the batting. His batting style is neat but he failed to produce many runs. As captain he controlled and arranged the side well, although his tactics were at fault on some occasions.

N. J. Price captained the side in the last match. His bowling improved the side's attack and his fielding set a good example to the rest of the team.

D. J. Tovey was outstanding as an opening bowler. He swung the ball with great accuracy, and this earned him a place in the "A" XI. His batting was also quite effective. J. M. Webb kept wicket for the team and proved very valuable. His cavalier hitting, while at the wicket, was also very commendable. Due to an error concerning the age limit J. R. Marshall only played in the last match. He has an aggressive spirit and would have been very beneficial to the side. His bowling also, with more practice, should be dangerous next season. R. C. Jones showed considerable promise as a slow left-arm bowler. His accuracy is still rather weak, but this will improve, and he will

be an asset to any side in future years. A. Mead was a promising left-handed batsman, and his stroke-play was very attractive. J. C. Malpass, A. D. Heppleston, D. J. Thomasson and C. B. Stillwell, although not outstanding in batting, showed good capabilities in the field. Three newcomers to the College were promising. R. A. Sewell and S. H. M. Creffield played for the Under 15 XI, and S. H. Shellswell was unfortunate not to gain a place.

Although this season was not very successful as far as matches were concerned, there were several promising performances. Everyone seemed keen, and the cricket was definitely an improvement on past years.

FOUNDER'S DAY.

Saturday, July 11th, 1959.

This was an unusual Founder's Day in that neither Mrs. Sinclair nor the Headmaster was present. Mrs. Sinclair was in Canada and had been unable to return in time. The Headmaster was recovering from his serious illness and had been unable to take his usual active part in College life since January. His place was taken by Mr. James, the acting Headmaster, who, after the opening remarks of the Chairman, Lt. Col. Godman, delivered his report.

Mr. James remarked on the difficulty of the situation of "divided rule." He thanked the staff and prefects for their invaluable assistance and Miss Savage for her work in the coordination of authority. He announced several staff changes, particularly lamenting Mr. Hull's leaving to take a post at Bristol University. He recalled that Mr. Hull and his fine judgment had been greatly respected and he emphasised that Mr. and Mrs. Hull's departure would be keenly regretted by all. General school affairs were running fairly satisfactorily and some minor faults could be attributed to the temporary diminution of the Sixth Form.

The guest speaker was The Right Honourable Lord Radcliffe. After explaining that the cause of the late start to the proceedings was a car accident on his way to Rendcomb, he said that he was setting out to describe the nature and form of education. Although, of course, education continued throughout life, it was primarily a process applied to a person at school. The period of life spent at school was set aside for this purpose

and it was then that the character was formed and developed. He pointed out our debt to previous Englishmen in that this education is available to everyone in this country.

The first purpose of education was, he said, the fitting of the individual for society. It taught him the habits, customs and history of his country and allowed him to partake of, and to participate in, the civilisation which surrounds him and to become a member of the society which bred him. The country, he said, had been formed and shaped by those who had gone before; education produced an individual who was able to carry on this work. History taught a love and understanding of our ancestors, with whom (and here he quoted Burke) we were in a sort of partnership. The English tradition made it worthwhile to learn to love our country.

Lord Radcliffe said that education, by bringing a person into contact with the collective experience of the world, enlarged a man's personality; it produced a passion for knowledge and an ability to express oneself clearly. He went on at some length to describe the decline of the English language from Elizabethan times to the present day, comparing passages from Shakespeare, other Elizabethan writers, and the Authorised Version with the contemporary profusion of cliché and over-violent expression. If the Western world was to maintain its threatened freedom we must be able to express our thoughts. It was essential that we should be able to express assent and dissent in graduated terms and belief without implying an unthinking acceptance of dogma. Further, education, by giving a familiarity with great expressions of values, produced what he called a "moral taste" and a perception of the value of belief and ideas.

Proposing a vote of thanks, Major Birchall praised the skill of the speaker and described his speech as an "idyll on education" containing some of the ideals which had been so hopefully pursued in the 1920's.

After tea, taken in the marquee, the choir gave two performances of music in the church and several displays were on view for our visitors.

Saul's Hall contained a rich variety of work from the Art Room and the Workshop, while in Clock Hall there was a selection of books written by Old Rendcombians and members of staff. A list of these publications is given below.

The Laboratories provided a considerable variety of exhibits and a brief description of this is also appended.

A list of books written by Old Boys and members of Staff and displayed on Founder's Day, 1959:

Turgot and the Ancient Regime in France, by D. Dakin, M. A., PH. D. Methuen, 1939. D. Dakin was at the College from 1920 to 1927.

British and American Philhellenes, by D. Dakin, M. A., PH. D. Athens, 1955.

British Intelligence of Events in Greece, 1824-27. A documentary collection by D. Dakin, M. A., PH. D. Athens, 1959.

The Holstein Papers, by N. Rich, M. A., and M. H. Fisher, M. A. Cambridge University Press, 1957. M. H. Fisher was at the College from 1936 to 1940.

Chinese Art, Vols. I and II, by W. Y. Willetts, M. A. Pelican, 1958.

W. Y. Willetts was at the College from 1929 to 1937.

Teaching of History, by J. C. James, M. A., and C. P. Hill, M. A., published for The Incorporated Association of Assistant Masters; Cambridge University Press, 1950. Mr. James is still on the Staff at Rendcomb.

The Badger, by Ernest Neal, M. SC. Collins, 1948. Mr. Neal was Biology Master at the College from 1935 to 1945.

Exploring Nature with a Camera, by Ernest Neal, M. SC. Paul Elck, 1946.

Woodland Ecology, by Ernest Neal, M. SC. Heinemann, 1953.

The National and Tate Galleries, by R. N. D. Wilson, M. A. Nelson. Mr. Wilson was on the Staff of the College from 1934 to 1944, teaching English.

Equinox, by R. N. D. Wilson, M. A. Nelson, 1957.

Music and Physical Education, by R. M. Thackray, M. A., A. R. C. M. G. Bell and Son, 1958. Mr. Thackray was on the Staff of the College, teaching Latin, from 1945 to 1950.

The History and Philosophy of Science, by L. W. H. Hull, M. A. Longmans Green and Co., 1959. Mr. Hull has been on the Staff of the College, teaching Mathematics, from 1948 until the end of the present term. Summer 1959.

The Laboratory Exhibitions, Founder's Day, 1959:

The Physics Laboratory exhibition provided an opportunity for displaying some of the facilities provided by the Industrial Fund grant and pieces of apparatus made in our new laboratory workshop.

Among the more striking exhibits in the new dark laboratory were an experimental electrostatic machine, a simple high dispersion spectroscope, demonstrations of the discharge of electricity in gases at low pressures and an improved type of ripple tank for studying wave phenomena. Another item which attracted much attention was a display of radioactive phenomena including some home-made nuclear radiation counters and a simple cloud chamber.

In the chemistry laboratory we showed two groups of experimental demonstrations. The first group was concerned with the chemistry of coal tar and some of its derivatives, and included a model gas works and the preparation and use of a number of dyes. The second group was devoted to aluminium and showed anodising and dyeing of the metal and cold pressure welding.

The main theme of the biology display was animal colouration, but the classification of plants and animals was also well illustrated and there was in addition a series of exhibits devoted to processes and types of plant nutrition.

The chief kinds of animal colouration were represented by nearly thirty exhibits in the General Laboratory, the emphasis being on the biological functions of colour, pattern and form. These included a variety of insects displayed on natural backgrounds, a Nightjar among dead sticks and leaves, a Lapwing's nest on rough ground, the ability of Toads to change skin-colour, and various instances of animals resembling specific natural objects.

Two exhibits illustrated the remarkable effects of Natural Selection. These were of dark and light-coloured Peppered Moths, and of the effects of Song Thrush predation on snails.

Probably the most strikingly unusual exhibits were four drawers of mounted insects, two of which displayed mimicry in the British Fauna, and two the astonishing case of the beautiful African butterfly, *Papilio dardanus*, which has produced such an extraordinary array of mimetic forms. Thanks are due to the Authorities of the University Museum, Oxford, for lending these four cases, two of which are world famous in zoological circles.

OLD BOYS' NOTES.

The following Old Boys visited the College during the Summer Term, in addition to those who came on Founder's Day:

R. H. Newport, H. A. Gough, A. Harrison, J. Gough, J. Baillie, M. A. C. Levett, A. R. Tenty, H. Bassett, J. Beard, G. H. Richards.

On Saturday, August 22nd, at St. Peter's Church, Rendcomb, Helen James, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. James, was married to Julian Comrie, son of the late Dr. L. J. Comrie, F. R. S., and Mrs. Atkinson.

Martin Richards was best man and the bridesmaids included the daughters of the Headmaster, Mr. Fell and Mr. James. Mr. Tooze played the organ and two Prefects, R. Comley and R. Bolton-King, joined G. H. Richards, J. Kitto, M. G. Richards (O. R's) and the Headmaster as bellringers, so that the function had a distinctly College atmosphere. Incidentally it is interesting to reflect that the bridegroom is the first Old Rendcombian to be married in Rendcomb Church.

We wish Mr. and Mrs. Julian Comrie every happiness in the future.

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We congratulate:

F. S. G. Richards on gaining Honours in Part Three of the Mathematics Tripos, Cambridge;

A. Harrison on obtaining First Class in English and Philosophy at Bristol University, and on being awarded a State Studentship tenable at Magdalen College, Oxford;

M. D. Rayner on being awarded a Research Studentship at Magdalene College, Cambridge;

M. G. Petter on passing the Civil Service examination. He is joining the Ministry of Supply.

NATURAL HISTORY SUPPLEMENT.

December 1959.

Miscellaneous Notes, May 1st to August 31st, 1959.

Bird's-nest Orchids (*Neottia nidus-avis*) were found in profusion beneath a huge beech tree in the lower end of Conigre Wood in mid-May and the Yellow Bird's-nest (*Monotropa hypopithys*) which, in spite of its English name, bears no relation to *Neottia*, flowered freely beside the Cirencester Drive towards the end of term. These plants are both saprophytes, devoid of chlorophyll and deriving nourishment from leaf-mould.

Two or three plants of the Thorn-apple (*Datura stramonium*)

were again found in a field near the Cirencester Drive Lodge where the species appeared in great quantity in 1953. Thorn-apple, a member of the Nightshade family (*Solanaceae*), is a very poisonous plant for it contains the narcotic alkaloid known as stramonium, allied to atropine and hyoscyamine.

This summer has been one of the driest and sunniest for many years. Drought conditions were threatening before the end of the Summer Term and were somewhat serious by late August. Much of the vegetation of the district was then beginning to look parched. Even in the woods the lack of water was having a noticeable effect, for large patches of Dog's Mercury (*Mercurialis perennis*) were wilted and the shoots lying flat.

Invertebrate Animals:

The beech trees of the district suffered a severe attack this spring by the Beech Leaf Miner (*Orchestes fagi*). This tiny beetle hibernates in the soil and emerges in spring to lay eggs on the young beech leaves. The larvae tunnel between the leaf surfaces, eating out the green tissue. The result of a heavy infestation, as seen this year, is that bright brown patches are formed on the leaves in such numbers that by early June whole trees, or even whole woods, look scorched and rusty from a distance.

Large and Small White butterflies have been very plentiful this summer and although the spring caterpillars were heavily parasitised there were sufficient healthy ones to provide a conspicuous second brood late in the term. Three species of hawk-moth were seen or captured during the Summer Term. A Lime Hawk was found in June and also a pupa of the same species; a Privet Hawk was discovered in a washroom in the College in early July, and the first Humming-bird Hawk was reported on July 17th.

The Bulin snail (*Ena montana*) was found in Cliffole Wood on June 7th. This is mainly a central European species, found in Britain rather sparingly on the chalk and limestone of the south and west and especially associated with old beech woods.

Amphibia:

Great Crested Newts (*Triturus cristatus*) were again found in the old reservoir in the Aycote valley and some were kept in the College aquaria. Form II provided us with two enormous Common Toads (*Bufo bufo*) found off the Cirencester Drive in July and we were fortunate also in having a Natterjack (*B. calamita*) from the Lancashire coast for most of the term.

Interesting observations were made on the feeding habits of these toads.

Mammals:

On June 3rd a female Badger was found unconscious on the College playing fields. It showed no apparent injury but died soon after being brought to the laboratory. On the following day two Hedgerows were found dead in the same place. There can be little doubt that these unfortunate fatalities were due to the use of earthworms dipped in strychnine for the purpose of destroying Moles, the latter naturally being unwelcome on the College cricket pitches! Both Badger and Hedgehog feed to a considerable extent on earthworms.

Birds:

The felling of the big trees in the Wilderness destroyed the rookery there and most of the birds have evidently moved across the valley to the strip of trees which extends from the top of Conigre Wood towards Greenmeadow. There was no increase this year in the number of Rooks' nests near the Rendcomb 'bus stop.

A Hoopoe spent a good deal of time in the garden of Perrott's Brook House from May 19th to the 22nd. Recent years have produced an increasing number of records of this species on the Cotswolds. A bird which, on the other hand, has decreased is the Nightjar and we had no recent reports from the neighbourhood of Rendcomb until this summer when, on May 28th, a female was found dead on the main road at Northmoor. It had apparently been killed by a passing car. Many members of the College were able to admire the beautifully- patterned plumage and to note the extraordinary size of the mouth with its bordering bristles, the tiny feet and the long tail and wings.

Snails form an important part of the diet of the Song Thrush which extracts the animal after shattering the shell on an "anvil," usually a stone. This year's dry summer reduced drastically the numbers of available earthworms, etc., and snails were therefore taken by Song Thrushes in far greater numbers than usual. "Anvils" were to be seen everywhere. The common Brown-lipped and White-lipped Snails (*Cepaea memoralis* and *C. hortensis*) were the species most involved, but in woodlands the Copse Snail (*Arianta arbustorum*) was killed in quantity. The much larger Garden Snail (*Helix aspersa*) was eaten in some numbers and even the giant Roman Snail (*H. pomatia*) was not immune from attack!

C. M. Swaine, B. Sc.