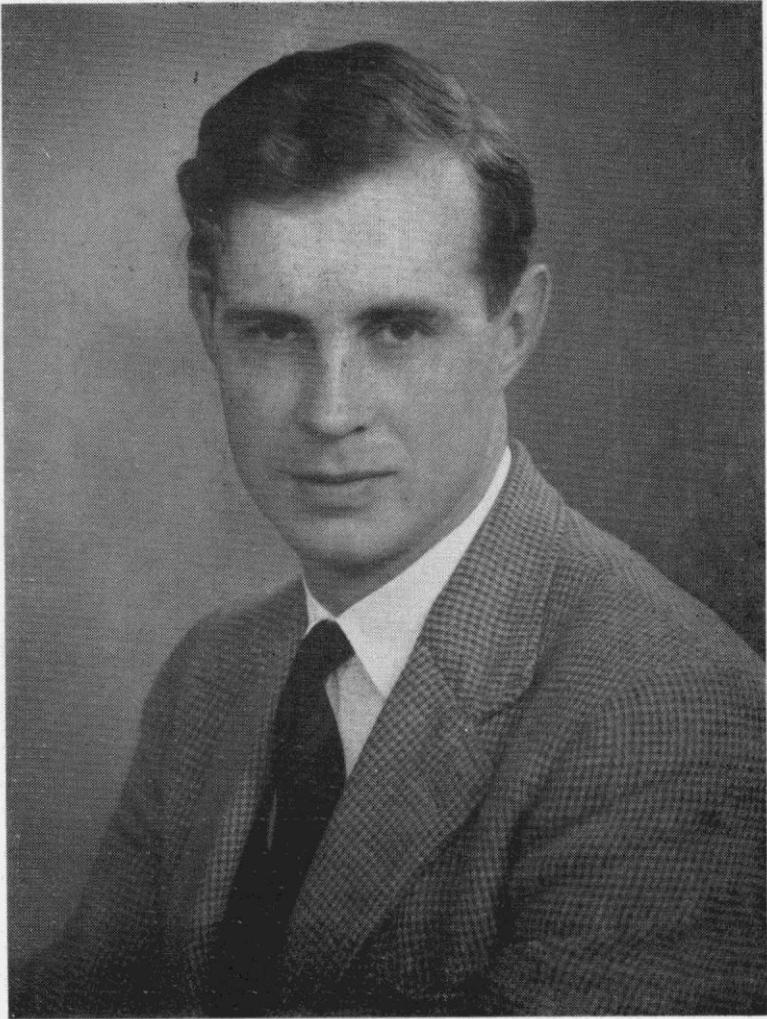


RENDCOMB
COLLEGE
CHRONICLE

Vol. 12, No. 2.

March, 1961



MR. ANTHONY QUICK

Rendcomb College Chronicle

Volume 12, No. 2.

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THE APPOINTMENT OF HEADMASTER.

Mr. Anthony Quick has been appointed Headmaster of Rendcomb College in succession to Mr. D. W. Lee-Browne who died last August.

Mr. Quick is at present a history master at Charterhouse. He is thirty-six years of age and was educated at Shrewsbury School of which he was a scholar, and at Corpus Christi College, Oxford, where he graduated with 2nd Class Honours in Modern History in 1949 and was President of the Boat Club.

During the war he served as a Lieutenant in the R. N. V. R. Since 1949 he has been on the staff at Charterhouse and has recently been in charge of the History Sixth.

Mr. Quick's grandfather was a well-known writer on educational reform, and his father, Canon Oliver Quick, was Regius Professor of Divinity at Oxford. His wife is the daughter of Mr. W. C. Sellar, Housemaster at Charterhouse, and perhaps best known as co-author of "*1066 and All That*"

Mr. and Mrs. Quick have two children. Mr. Quick has associations with the Cotswolds, for he spent part of his early life at Longborough, near Moreton-in-Marsh, his father having retired there.

Mr. Quick will take up his duties in September; in the meantime Mr. J. C. James will continue as Acting Headmaster.

COLLEGE OFFICERS.

Easter Term, 1961.

Senior Prefect—S. D. Hicks.

Group Leaders and Prefects—S. D. Hicks, D. A. Hodges, M. Whittering, J. Shaw.

Prefects—T. L. H. Benbow, G. J. Taylor, I. S. C. Airey.

College Workman—D. M. Tucker.

†Public Workman—M. C. Jones.

Music Warden—P. B. Heppleston.

Music Librarian—D. G. Griffiths.

Choir Librarians—R. J. Edy, D. J. Maberley.

Q. P. Concerts—I. S. C. Airey.

Pictureman—M. C. Jones.

Lamp Men—J. A. T. Goodborn, G. S. Bartlett.
Church Ushers—C. C. Richardson, J. R. Marshall.
Church Collections and Deck Chairs—R. A. D. Laws.
Stage Men—D. M. Tucker, J. H. Delefortrie, M. C. Jones, J. A. T. Goodhorn,
J. Mitchison, D. G. Griffiths, S. H. Shellswell.
†Furniture Committee—J. R. Marshall, T. C. Bass, R. J. Hayes.
Librarians—I. S. C. Airey, P. B. Heppleston, T. C. Bass, C. B. Stillwell, S. Greenlaw.
Manual Foremen—J. C. Malpass, N. J. Price, H. E. Gough,
C. C. Richardson, K. H. Stimson, J. A. T. Goodborn,
D. A. N. Hogarth.
† General Meeting Election.

GENERAL MEETING OFFICERS.

Easter Term, 1961.

Chairman—D. A. Hodges.
Games Captain—J. Shaw.
Secretary—J. M. Webb.
Vice-Captain—N. J. Price.
Games Committee—R. P. S. Harrison, H. E. Gough.
Boys' Banker—J. C. Malpass.
Meeting Banker—R. J. Parnell.
Senior Shopman—C. B. Stillwell.
House Committee Treasurer—C. J. Webb.
Record Committee Treasurer—J. Mitchison.
Finance Committee Treasurer—L. A. Webb.
Auditors—M. Whittering, C. C. Richardson, D. A. Hodges.
Entertainments Committee—S. D. Hicks, R. C. Jones, R. S. Lowe,
L. A. Webb, D. Little.
Cycle Committee—K. A. Walker, J. IT. Delefortrie, R. C. Jones.
Shopmen—N. Creffield, R. B. Bryant.
Classical Record Committee—I. S. C. Airey, S. Greenlaw, R. A. D. B. Laws.
Amplifier Technicians—T. L. H. Benbow, L. de V. Wragg.
Financial Advisory Committee—H. E. Gough, G. J. Taylor, J. T. Wood.

Games Committee Treasurer—R. C. Jones.
 Light Record Committee—G. Bartlett, H. E. Gough.
 Hockey Games Wardens—M. A. Gooding, D. J. Thomasson.
 Cricket Games Warden—R. D. Dale.
 Rugby Games Warden—A. A. J. Raddon.
 Tennis Games Warden—D. J. Henderson.
 Badminton Games Warden—D. Little.
 Finance Committee—R. J. Edy, B. Ferguson.
 Drying Room Committee—S. Creffield, F. R. Glennie, P. L. Hughes.
 Hockey Secretary (1961)—J. R. Marshall.
 Rugby Secretary (1961)—T. G. W. Pettigrew.
 Cricket Secretary (1961)—C. B. Stillwell.
 Paperman—P. J. Callaghan.
 Magazine Committee—S. D. Hicks, T. C. Bass, K. A. Walker. Breakages
 Man—R. A. Sewell.
 Council—T. L. H. Benbow, J. Shaw, D. A. Hodges, I. S. C. Airey, M.
 Whittering, H. E. Gough.
 Selection Committee—J. Shaw, S. D. Hicks, D. A. Hodges, G. J. Taylor,
 I. S. C. Airey.
 Rule Committee—G. J. Taylor, C. B. Stillwell, C. C. Richardson.
 Nominations Committee—S. D. Hicks, R. P. S. Harrison, D. A. Hodges,
 H. E. Gough, M. C. Jones.
 Billiards Committee—P. B. Heppleston, J. T. Wood, T. G. W. Pettigrew.
 Sledge Committee—R. P. Goodchild, N. S. Whatmough, R. Verge.
 Chairman of Ground Staff—P. B. Heppleston.
 Senior Ground Staff—J. A. T. Goodborn, K. H. Stimson, D. J. Tovey.
 Junior Ground Staff—E. Taylor, R. A. Sewell.
 Tennis Groundsman—M. F. Ashe-Jones.

GENERAL MEETING NOTES.

Autumn Term, 1960.

Much discussion this term was centred on the fine work of the Rule Committee, who spent much valuable time in revising

the Duty Sheets. The office of Field Secretary was abolished while that of Vice-Captain took its place. The committee also revised the official status of many Meeting offices, one of which, the Selection Committee, was to be absorbed into the Nominations Committee. These re-arrangements would take effect from the Easter Term Elections.

After many years of very hard wear the Billiards Table baize was renewed. This was a much-needed replacement and it is hoped that the new baize will last for many years.

When the "News Chronicle" ceased publication the Meeting decided to subscribe to the "Daily Mail" instead, and to have the "Guardian" for one term as a trial.

Last term's report on the state of the amplifier was considered. Various alternatives were possible, but the Meeting decided to have the amplifier overhauled during next Summer holidays.

The classical records purchased this term were two long- playing records, viz: Highlights from "The Marriage of Figaro" by Mozart, and a recital by the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra. The light records purchased were: "Sounds of Jazz" by Miles Davies; a record of Dave Brubeck and Calvin Jackson; and two Old-Time Dance records by Harry Davidson.

After some time, the Meeting's financial situation was settled by Mr. James, in collaboration with the Governors. An arrangement was reached by which the Governors would pay £50 for a number of hockey sticks bought a year ago. Additional cricket net materials were to be paid for by the accumulation of the extra allowances which the Governors had given us some time previously. Thus a heavy burden was taken off the shoulders of the Meeting.

MEMORIAL SERVICE.

Mr. D. W. Lee-Browne, 1902-1960.

A Memorial Service to the late Mr. D. W. Lee-Browne, second Headmaster of Rendcomb College, was held in the Parish Church, Rendcomb, on Sunday, October 9th, 1960. It was attended by the Governing Body, the Staff, the Sixth Form, representatives from the other forms, and by many Old Boys and friends.

The Lesson (Wisdom III, vv. 1-9) was read by the Chairman of the Governors, Colonel John Godman, and the Address was given by the Reverend J. P. Hart.

The choral part of the Service was as follows: Hymn, "My God, my Father, make me strong Psalm 121"; Anthem, "Thee, Lord, before the close of day"; Hymn, "Jesus, these eyes have never seen"; Hymn, "Jesus lives! thy terrors now."

The music had been chosen in consultation with the late Mr. Lee-Browne's family and it was fortunate that the Anthem was already in the repertory of the Choir, for it was composed by Balfour Gardiner, who was an old friend of the family.

In addition to members of the College and the village, many other people attended the Service:

Old Rendcombians: A. N. Hill, E. R. Morris, J. G. A. Dainty. P. A. Cutts and his wife, J. Maslin, J. F. Roper, T. W. Rowley, R. Powell, D. Vaisey, C. D. Whittle, D. R. Smith, R. H. Jones, D. Dakin (President, Old Rendcombian Society), C. J. Brisley, R. F. Stebbing, E. D. Boulding, W. N. Durham, J. A. Richards, P. S. Jackson, R. D. Comley, J. W. J. Reed, H. J. Phillips, P. Binks, A. E. Godsell, A. E. A. Brain, H. J. G. Hayter. G. H. G. Herbert, M. Harley, D. Hart, P. C. Burns and his parents, P. G. Auden, E. Webster, L. H. Hyett, T. Gay, H. W. T. Bates, G. H. Bye, H. S. Selby, J. F. Beard, J. D. Sinclair, M. H. Fisher and his wife, T. D. A. Semple.

Parents of Past and Present Boys: Mr. and Mrs. Trier, Mr. and Mrs. Bryant, Mr. and Mrs. Wood, Mr. and Mrs. Griffiths, Mr. and Mrs. Whatmough, Mr. and Mrs. Richardson, Mr. and Mrs. Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Lowe, Mr. and Mrs. Bass, Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Webb, Mr. and Mrs. Price, Mr. and Mrs. Mitchison, Mrs. Hicks, Dr. and Mrs. Parnell, Mr. and Mrs. Ogilvie, Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Webb, Mr. and Mrs. Dale, Mrs. Wragg. Mrs. Hughes, Mr. Henderson, Mrs. Benbow, Mr. and Mrs. Verge, Mr. and Mrs. Marshall, Mr. and Mrs. Walker, Mr. Maberley, Mr. Callaghan, Mr. and Mrs. Fowler, Mr. and Mrs. Cole, Major and Mrs. Ferguson, Mr. and Mrs. Gooding, Mr. and Mrs. Gough, Mr. and Mrs. Goodchild, Mrs. Stillwell.

SCHOOL NOTES.

Autumn Term, 1960.

We welcome Mr. D. Williams who joins the Staff from Gresham's School, to teach History.

♦ * * *

We extend a welcome also to the following boys who joined the College this term: M. J. Dawson, W. T. G. Griffiths, J. A. Hiscox, R. W. Hole, W. A. Laws, P. Little, S. D. Richards,

G. F. Smith, W. A. Thompson, R. D. Dale, B. R. Ferguson, N. C. Creffield.

* * * * *
Congratulations are due to Mr. G. L. Williams on his marriage in January 1961 to Miss Elisabeth Ann Read. Mr. and Mrs. Williams are living at Colesbourne and we wish them every happiness in the future.

♦ * * * *
We thank Mr. and Mrs. A. O. Cockrell for a most generous gift to the Library.

♦ * * * *
We acknowledge receipt of *The Gresham*, *Frensham Heights* magazine, *The Decanian* and *The Wycliffe Star*.

♦ * * * *
On October 30th twelve members of Form V visited the Wildfowl Trust, Slimbridge, and Form II paid a visit there on December 11th.

Form VI and two members of Form V visited the Memorial Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon, to see a performance of *The Merchant of Venice* on October 31st, and on November 14th Form V saw a performance there of *Twelfth Night*.

A concert given at Gloucester on November 27th by the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra was attended by a large party from the College.

On December 1st members of Forms V and VI attended a piano recital given in Cheltenham by Moseiwitch and on the 8th a group from Forms IV, V and VI heard a guitar recital, also in Cheltenham, given by Julian Bream.

The Duchess of Malfi, by John Webster, was performed at the Memorial Theatre, Stratford, on December 6th and a party from the VIth Form was present.

♦ * * * *
A Grand Dance was held at the College on November 19th and we were glad to welcome a number of ladies for the occasion.

Mr. Stanley Thomas visited the College on November 23rd and gave a fascinating and masterly performance of conjuring.

♦ * * * *
J. M. Webb is to be congratulated on gaining his place, during the Christmas Holidays, in the Gloucestershire Schoolboys' hockey team against the Wiltshire and the Somerset Schoolboys. In these two matches he scored a total of six goals. Later he also played for the West of England Schoolboys against the South.

GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION.

December 1960.

The following obtained passes at Ordinary Level in the subjects indicated:

- G. S. Bartlett—English Language, English Literature.
- M. J. N. Bryant—English Language.
- G. E. Chapman—English Literature.
- R. B. Denny—English Language, English Literature, Biology.
- M. H. Ferguson—English Language, English Literature,
Mathematics.
- R. J. Hayes—English Language, English Literature.

We regret that the following results were omitted from the July 1960 list (see Vol. 12, No. 1, pp. 15-16):

- C. B. Stillwell—Passes at “O” level in English Language, English Literature, History, Latin, French, Mathematics and Biology.
- N. J. Price—Pass at “O*” level in French.

INFORMAL CONCERT

An informal concert was arranged and given by the boys in Saul’s Hall on December 7th. The varied nature of the programme together with some good quality performances made the event an enjoyable one.

Sonata in F minor, Domenico Scarlatti (1685-1757)

Mr. D. G. Williams

Flute Sonata No. III, Handel (1685-1759)	A. Heppleston
Fantasia for Piano No. 4, Mozart (1756-1791)	G. Chapman
Gavotte, Martini (1706-1784)	C. Richardson
Andante (Trumpet Concerto), Haydn (1732-1809)	M. Jones
Allegretto (Sonata No. 9), Beethoven 1770-1827)...	G. Chapman
Variations on a theme from “Sylvana,” Weber (1786-1826)	M. Bryant
Waltzes Op. 39 Nos. 7 and 8, Brahms (1833-1897)	S. Greenlaw
Prelude in G minor, Rachmaninoff (1873-1943)	J. Webb
Accompanists: Mr. D. G. Williams, L. de V. Wragg.	

THE CHRISTMAS PARTY.

December 17th, 1960.

The bias of this year's party was definitely maritime. As we came downstairs traditionally at five o'clock, we became immersed in a Clock Hall rendered submarine by the disposition of an excellent mural depicting sea creatures familiar to all inmates of Rendcomb, and also other replicas of marine life. Continuing into Saul's Hall, we were introduced to our sovereign lady for the evening, an elegant, shimmering mermaid, delicately fashioned in sugar paper and tinfoil. And later, having passed through the jaws of an enormous whale into the dining-room, we were greeted by a great "Union Jack" of crepe paper spread across the ceiling.

This link with the human denizens of the sea was carried further by the members of the Christmas Party Committee, among whom several quite inhuman specimens also appeared. The majority of them however, forming a noble crew and led by chairman Admiral Benbow, fought a successful Christmas Party across the widest reaches of the ground floor. By an odd coincidence, the Admiral ran into opposition from another band of mariners, consisting of several enterprising Sixth-formers equipped with a large "skull-and-crossbones." No serious fighting was reported however.

Apart from this disreputable crew, the fancy dresses this year constituted a pleasing array, despite one distasteful essay in topicality. In particular, the introduction by the Christmas Party Committee of masks as obligatory produced some delightful surprises, and further confirmed the value of this customary feature of the evening. The various prizes were justly distributed, and it was interesting to note that three of the winners drew their inspiration from the Himalayas—a Llama and an abominable snowman plus his captor. As usual there were other prizes for the divers competitions, the most interesting of which was the novel limerick competition won by G. E. Chapman.

Two other features must of course be mentioned—the sketches and the food, often regarded as the two highlights of the party. The sketches, this year again devised and produced by Mr. Tooze and Mr. Sells, maintained the excellence of previous occasions. The lack of the customary skits on current college practice was regrettable, but was easily atoned for by the introduction of a brief and novel pantomime. Supper, as always, provided a delicious beginning to the evening's festivities, and, having been eaten, left no room for complaint. Similarly, the

late refreshments went down very well; here however the celebration was marred by the apathetic behaviour of those present, few of whom deigned to join in a well-known sea-shanty struck up by Mr. Sells and a number of pirates and lent respectability by the participation of a masked and unrecognisable Senior Prefect.

Briefly however, it was a successful party, a credit to the tireless labours of the Christmas Party Committee and their extremely numerous co-opted helpers. Most of us climbed into our hammocks (or bunks, depending which the better designates a Rendcomb bed) feeling thoroughly satisfied with the evening's entertainment.

CAROL SERVICE.

December 18th, 1960.

The Service included seven Lessons.

An attempt was made, with considerable success, to produce a happy mixture of familiar and less well-known carols. Most people are so fond of old favourites that carol services are bound to contain many repetitions of items from former years, yet in order to keep the programme alive artistically there must also be change. This was brought about on the present occasion by the insertion of two unusual versions of old favourites: the original form, as used in the sixteenth century, of the Coventry Carol, and a new arrangement by John Tooze of "Away in a Manger," the words of which are based on a hymn by Luther and not, as is commonly supposed, written by Mrs. Alexander.

In no place does the original form of the Coventry Carol make use of more than three parts so that the voices are particularly exposed. The College choir kept their pitch excellently, their diction was good and they sang with a real sense of XVth century style.

Mr. Tooze was most enthusiastic about the way they sang his arrangement of "Away in a Manger"; it was not easy, especially as the second verse, sung unaccompanied, had some modern harmonies which were by no means easy to sing. The last verse was arranged as a two-part canon between trebles and broken voices. Altogether this was a beautiful arrangement well sung. Throughout the carol service it was obvious that the choir knew their parts very thoroughly and that much work and care under the direction of Mr. Tooze had gone into its preparation. The programme was as follows:

Choir and Congregation: "Hark, the Herald Angels sing." Choir:
"Prepare thyself, Zion," "The Garden of Jesus,"
"Whence is that goodly fragrance."
Choir and Congregation: "On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry." Choir:
"Past three o'clock."
Choir and Congregation: "While shepherds watched their flocks by night."
Choir: Cradle Song: "Away in a manger." The Coventry Carol: "Lully,
lulla." The Infant King: "Sing Lullaby."
Choir and Congregation: "O come, all ye faithful."

RUGGER REPORT, 1960.

The season was in no way an outstanding one, except, perhaps, for the exceptionally bad weather experienced in the latter half of the term. One of the features of the side, rarely met at Rendcomb, was that this year we had no notable individualist, success being due to the work of the whole team rather than to the efforts of one or a few players, as has been the case in latter years. There was a great deal of enthusiasm, especially at the beginning of the season. This was fortunate, for the spirit of the team would otherwise have suffered badly when practice games were virtually abandoned after half-term, due to the condition of the pitches.

It is perhaps evidence of the accent on the team as a unit that there were only two changes in the side throughout the season, and one of these because of injury.

J. M. Webb played for the opening match at centre, but his experience and ability in positioning, handling and kicking necessitated a return to his original position of last season, at full back, where he showed a marked improvement in his tackling and, towards the end of the season, in his readiness to fall on the ball at the feet of opposing forwards.

J. Shaw remained on the wing throughout most of the season, and although on occasions his handling was unreliable and his running lacked determination, yet, when he decided to make ground, he used his acceleration and body-swerve to very good advantage, which he ably demonstrated against Kingham Hill, scoring an excellent try.

D. M. Tucker played on the other wing in all but the first match, when due to injury his place was taken by R. C. Jones, who played a commendable game. Tucker is a powerful although not really fast runner, and his hard, determined tackling was extremely useful. It was unfortunate that conditions prevented

better use being made of the wings, since there was considerable potential here.

J. R. Marshall made a considerable success of his move from prop-forward to inside centre. For the first match he played through necessity at full back where he was rather hampered by lack of experience, but, on switching to the centre, despite a slightly excessive tendency to cut in, he showed good attacking sense which he combined with a sound defence.

N. J. Price, an incisive runner, played at outside centre for all but the last match. He was always seeking for the inside opening, and when he found it he looked dangerous, but all too often it was not there and the movement died with him. D. A. Hodges took over the position for the final match, putting up a very creditable performance. His play improved greatly during the term and his courageous falling against Cheltenham College was a lesson to the whole side.

The half backs, H. E. Gough and T. G. W. Pettigrew, remained unchanged throughout. Gough took quickly to his move from scrum to stand-off half, from where he led and coached the backs well. Having cured a tendency to kick excessively he thereafter always tried where possible to play open rugby, his one attempt at a drop goal being successful.

T. G. W. Pettigrew, at scrum half, always gave a good service which continued to improve as the season progressed. He played well, even under the most trying conditions, and what he lacked in size and weight he made up with drive and determination.

M. Whittering added weight and solidity to a pack rather younger and lighter than last season's. His experience as a prop-forward was a considerable asset; he always ran hard with the ball, and by the end of the season was beginning to overcome his tendency to be caught in possession. R. A. D. B. Laws on the tight-head side, was a tireless and enthusiastic worker, and both he and Whittering bound well with J. T. Wood to form a firm front row. Wood hooked consistently well, frequently winning the strike against the head. He played fast and energetically in the loose, as well as covering his end of the line out.

S. D. Hicks, moving into the 2nd row from the backs was one of the fastest in the pack. He was always up with the loose ball, and was of great assistance, whenever the pack started to flag. Unfortunately he never took full advantage of his superior height in the line out.

I. S. C. Airey led the pack and captained the side. The balancing of the scrum did not allow him to play in his position of last year, wing-forward, and he never felt so happy in his

new position, in the second row. As the most experienced forward in the side, his thoughtful, forceful, mobile handling- game was an example to all. Always well up in the loose and in the van of attack, he led his pack from where it should be led, in front. At the beginning of the season, Airey's captaincy was administratively weak off the field and often lacked conviction on the field. He was inclined to be philosophical when things were wrong instead of hurrying to right them. As the season went on, he became aware of these faults and by the end of it, had gone a very long way towards eliminating them.

G. S. Bartlett, covered well at lock forward, undoubtedly hitting his peak form in the latter part of the season, when he always seemed to be in the required position.

G. J. Taylor changed early in the season from open to blind-side wing-forward, where he spoiled well round the scrum in addition to some notable fast deep defensive covering. Whenever in possession, he made good use of his experience as a three- quarter. C. B. Stillwell, playing on the open side, rapidly gained 1st XV experience and having learnt to avoid obstruction, effectively harassed the opposing stand-off and centres.

The play of the pack as a whole improved considerably as the season progressed, this being effected by a great deal of hard practice. Regular circuit training was available for the second year running, and a system of regular Monday afternoon practices was introduced. The weather refused to favour there., but nevertheless the fact that they could take place very close to the College, on the grass below the church, proved a valuable asset.

In the first match of the season, against Dean Close, the forwards never really settled down, or started to work as a unit, until the latter part of the second half. Dean Close scored first, with a try, but then Rendcomb regained the lead with a goal from J. M. Webb, having been shocked into action by the Dean Close score. However, a try by Dean Close removed our lead and, it appeared, our morale. Our opponents scored twice more in the second half from some good tactical kicking, with which our defence could not deal. The ball became very greasy, the handling as a result poor, and Rendcomb never looked really dangerous although it must be said that we certainly missed some chances.

With Marlborough, however, the situation changed. The forwards pitched in from the start, and a quick heel under the Marlborough posts gave H. E. Gough an easy drop-goal, and Rendcomb an early lead. Marlborough equalised, and then went

ahead, with a try and a penalty goal, but a good long drop goal by J. M. Webb gave us a draw, which was a fair result from a game in which the forwards had to do most of the work.

In the third match, against Kingham Hill, Rendcomb again took the lead with an early goal. Kingham soon reduced this with a penalty goal, but a further try and a goal in the first half gave Rendcomb a substantial lead which we retained throughout the second half. There was no further score, due to the determination of our opponents to close the game up.

The final match, with Cheltenham College, was played under the worst conditions of all, the mud becoming ankle-deep and virtually slowing the game to walking pace. Rendcomb's first score came from a try from a forward movement, touched down by G. J. Taylor, and converted by J. M. Webb. Both sides made a considerable effort to keep play open, Rendcomb usually managing to make more ground on these occasions. This, together with some successful tactical kicking by Gough which Cheltenham could not equal, gave us some advantage. The second half was without score until practically the end when a try from H. E. Gough concluded the match and virtually the season also.

Results:

Saturday, October 22nd v. Dean Close 2nd XV, away.

Lost, 5pts. to 14pts.

Saturday, October 29th v. Marlborough College 3rd XV. away. Drawn,
6pts. all.

Saturday, November 12th v. Kingham Hill, home.

Won, 13pts. to 3pts.

Saturday, December 3rd v. Cheltenham College 3rd XV. away. Won, 8pts.
to nil.

SECOND FIFTEEN

The 2nd XV failed to win either of its two matches, although it was not defeated heavily on either occasion. It was deprived of its other fixture, when Marlborough College cancelled the match with their 4th XV. Our 2nd XV was a rather young side, the scrum tending to lack weight and strength, and the handling of the backs being never really sound. This was a pity, as there were some good runners among the threequarters, but their ability to give and receive passes unfortunately did not generally come up to the standard of their running.

R. P. S. Harrison captained the side from the second row.

He was unlucky not to find a place in the 1st XV, for his tactical knowledge, and experience from last year, stood him in good stead. He was often one of the first on the loose ball, but had no really firm idea what to do with it; that however, will come with greater experience. He was well supported by C. C. Richardson, the pack-leader, playing at prop-forward. T. L. H. Benbow kicked well, but lacked the enthusiasm and spirit which earned him a 1st XV place last season. R. S. Lowe took the lock-forward position, making an excellent forward, but he has still to learn the technique of deep defensive covering. K. A. Walker, a reliable wing-forward, was also unlucky not to join the 1st XV.

Outside the scrum, T. Tucker and P. B. Heppleston combined well as halves and although Heppleston is not a strong runner, he has a safe kick. The threequarter positions were rather fluid. On the wing, R. J. Parnell was unfortunate to have a try against Dean Close 3rd XV disallowed, and R. C. Jones always ran strongly, and tackled hard. D. A. Hodges occupied the inside centre position, outside centre being taken first by D. J. Tovey and then M. F. Ashe-Jones, Tovey having replaced Ashe-Jones at full-back, due to his superior kicking ability, although his tackling was not always so reliable. Others who played in the side were J. A. T. Goodborn, P. J. Callaghan, T. C. Bass, J. Mitchison and M. C. Jones.

Results:

Saturday, October 22nd v. Dean Close 3rd XV, away.

Lost, 3pts. to 9pts.

Saturday, November 12th v. Kingham Hill 2nd XV, home.

Lost, 3pts. to 6pts.

Rendcomb “ Matched ” XV v. Cheltenham College Under 14 XV.

As a team formed to match an unknown quantity, and playing together for the first time, there was, as might be expected, a lack of cohesion and thrust about their play. Although there was much admirable and spirited individual work it was wasted by loose and often belated team play.

It does say much for them, however, that in a team which contained players completely lacking in match experience and fresh out of Third Game, that they should have contained the experienced and well drilled Cheltenham side, and played an attacking game right to the end, as well as they did.

J. Mitchison and N. R. Meakin, at scrum half and fly half respectively, did good work although Meakin must learn to part

with the ball more often and more quickly. It would be difficult to select any outstanding player in the threequarters, for all ran hard and straight, but with little imagination.

It was in the pack that the lack of cohesion and purposeful work was really felt. However, R. S. Lowe (capt.), R. A. Sewell and M. J. Bartlett all showed imaginative and forceful play and led the way in the slight improvement which took place during the game.

Mention must also be made of D. Little, who played well at full back.

If a lesson is to be learnt from this game it is that the future Rendcomb teams must take pains to be fully practised in the basic skills and ideas of rugger before their match, rather than pick them up during the match.

Result:

Saturday, December 3rd v. Cheltenham College Under 14 XV. Lost, nil to 14pts.

OLD BOYS' NOTES.

We are glad to hear that I. A. N. Campbell (Merton) played in the Oxford Seniors Rugby trial in October.

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R. F. Stebbing is working as a laboratory technician at a branch of Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd., in London. His present work is concerned with research on gibberellic acid.

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Christopher Beeby visited the College during the term. He graduated in New Zealand and is now reading Law at the London School of Economics.

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The following Old Boys, in addition to those who attended the Memorial Service to Mr. Lee-Browne (q. v.), visited the College during the term or the Christmas holidays: G. Harrison, C. Beeby, M. Morton, D. Poole.

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The London dinner of the Old Rendcombian Society was held on Saturday, October 15th, at the Bedford Comer Hotel, when about 35 members and lady guests assembled at 6:45 p. m. During the course of the proceedings the Chairman of the Society, D. Dakin, made a short speech in which he expressed the feelings

of all present when he asked the company to stand in silence for a few moments in remembrance of the late Headmaster and his work for the school. Mr. and Mrs. J. C. James travelled from Rendcomb for the dinner and during the evening Mr. James gave a brief account of recent events at the College and expressed his firm faith in its future.

The following were present: F. J. Batten, M. J. Bedwell, J. Brisley, G. H. Bye and Mrs. Bye, Miss M. A. Carnell, D. Dakin and Mrs. Dakin, J. Gough, B. Harris and Mrs. L. Harris, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. James, R. H. Jones, A. C. Magor, J. Maslin and Mrs. Maslin, E. J. Miller and Mrs. Miller, J. B. O'Brien, C. H. C. Osborne and Mrs. Osborne, J. D. Painter and Mrs. Painter, F. C. Raggatt and Mrs. Raggatt, N. Slade, C. G. V. Taylor, D. C. Terrett and Mrs. Terrett, D. C. Vaughan and Mrs. Vaughan, Mrs. J. Waterson, J. R. Wheeler, R. T. Wood.

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The Gloucester dinner of the Old Rendcombian Society took place at the Wellington Hotel, Gloucester, on November 19th. 1960. The Annual General Meeting was held after dinner and the proceedings included a short address by Mr. J. C. James, Acting Headmaster, in which he reviewed recent events at the College. Those present were: J. F. Alder, A. E. A. Brain, C. J. Brisley (chairman), R. F. Butler and Mrs. Butler, W. N. Durham, J. Eyles, A. E. Godsell and Mrs. Godsell, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. James, A. C. Magor, K. J. Morgan and Mrs. Morgan, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. C. Osborne, N. A. Perkins, R. M. Sumsion, W. F. Smallwood and Mrs. Smallwood, D. C. Terrett and Mrs. Terrett, A. E. H. Tullett and Mrs. Tullett.

NATURAL HISTORY NOTES.

March 1961.

Weather Notes:

September was wetter and less sunny than could have been wished, but this was as nothing to the deluge that descended upon us intermittently throughout October and November. Rainfall records for the past hundred years or more were broken in many parts of Britain. November, although excessively wet, was perhaps a little less unpleasant than the preceding month and provided a few sunny days and some sharp night frosts, especially on the 6th and 7th and about the 20th of the month. December was more normal and brought a mixture of weather, including fog, frost, rain and a tendency to snow although there was no appreciable snowfall.

Miscellaneous Notes, September 1st to December 31st, 1960.

A Hobby flew rapidly southwards over the College on September 18th, rather a late date for this migratory falcon. Siskins were first seen during the autumn on October 2nd and irregularly since, twenty being noted on the 21st and seven on the 28th of the month. A Redpoll was observed for a short time near the College on October 23rd.

The mild, wet autumn has resulted in many late records of migrant birds in various parts of Britain. Swallows were seen frequently in this district to the end of October and two House Martins were flitting round the laboratory block on November 5th and one on the 18th.

There was an especially heavy crop of berries and berrylike fruits during the autumn as a result, no doubt, of the very sunny summer of 1959, in which considerable food reserves were laid up by plants. Particularly big crops were to be seen on hawthorns, yews and hollies, and apple trees have rarely borne so richly; the very large one in the Mill House garden collapsed under the excessive load, its roots being pulled right out of the sodden October ground.

About twenty fructifications of the curious Earth-star fungus, *Geaster triplex*, were found in Conigre Wood in mid-October, but the autumn was not particularly notable for its fungi in spite of the mild wet conditions.

Clearing and thinning operations in Conigre Wood continued throughout the period of this report. Many of the large trees as well as numerous smaller ones have been felled and the ground cleared of undergrowth. The most important change in ecological factors will undoubtedly prove to be the great increase in light intensity beneath the remaining trees and extensive changes in the composition and density of the field and shrub layers may be expected to take place during the next few years.

Some large trees have also been removed from the Slippery Path Wood and similar results are likely to follow further clearance in this wood also.

C. M. Swaine, B. Sc.

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Reset in Century 12 point. Standard margins.