

REDCOMB COLLEGE  
MAGAZINE

Vol. 6 No. 7.

October, 1938

# *Rendcomb College* *Magazine*

Vol. 6. No. 7.

October, 1938

## SCHOOL NOTES. SUMMER TERM, 1938.

We have been consulting back numbers to see whether there is any traditional manner in which to couch an opening to "School Notes." We have failed to discover any, yet our readers, we feel, expect some sort of preamble. If these notes took the form of a species of "Editorial," possibly our task might be easier. But there is nothing editorial about them, save the anonymity and responsibility of the editorial "we." They are meant to be a statement of, rather than a commentary upon, our activities. In other words, a "News Feature," not a "Leader."

So we had better begin.

\* \* \* \* \*

School re-assembled on Wednesday, 4th May. There had been no catastrophes during the previous Term, and consequently no recoveries to report. We came back as sane in mind and body as we are ever likely to be. There were few changes to record. The major structural alterations in our interior economy had been completed. We had grown quite acclimatised to them. But no Term ever began without certain re-adjustments, and we proceed to set them down.

\* \* \* \* \*

Mr. C. Weatherhead left after being a year with us. He will be remembered for the interest he took in the Hobbies' Room and in instrumental music. We wish him every success in the future.

\* \* \* \* \*

Miss Trubshaw succeeded Miss Stringer as Assistant Matron. We are glad to hear that Miss Stringer has gone to a post at a Preparatory School in Sussex, and wish her every success in her new job.

Miss Trubshaw was with us for one Term only. We trust she enjoyed her stay, and wish her all prosperity in the future.

\* \* \* \* \*

M. H. C. Martin came to look after our French in the unavoidable absence of Mr. Wright during the first fortnight of Term. By doing so he revived many old ties, and made not a few new friends. Now he has gone to a teaching post at Harrison College in Barbados, and carries with him all our wishes for his success.

Another Old Rendcombian came to us this Term. Mr. O. G. Morel has joined the staff as Manual Master. We welcome him, and look forward with pleasure to his stay with us. He was apprenticed to and later worked for Mr. Edward Barnsley, who is the premier English craftsman of our day, and one of the very few who have won a reputation on the Continent.

\* \* \* \* \*

Mr. R. M. Winter has taken over the post of Secretary to the Headmaster. Since Mr. Tucker's departure considerable difficulty has been found in filling this position. Miss Hudson had proved an invaluable temporary secretary, and we were glad to welcome her back, even for a short time.

\* \* \* \* \*

Mr. Winter, in addition to his secretarial duties, will assist with German and Athletics. Both he and Mr. Morel took a course in Physical Training at Loughborough College during the Summer Vacation.

\* \* \* \* \*

B. H. Peacock has won the Coombe Memorial Scholarship at Bristol University. We congratulate him on this and on his distinction in the Higher School Certificate Examination.

\* \* \* \* \*

Old Boys' Day fell on June 4th. We were glad to welcome a very representative attendance. The following were present: J. A. Davis, R. M. Ingleton, F. H. Jones, G. M. Wilson, J. R. Davies, R. C. V. Waters, R. E. Hutton, F. J. Nevel, J. E. Allen, H. E. Miller, J. E. Miller, P. W. Harding, W. Y. Willetts, N. Slade, J. R. Billany, O. G. Morel, J. C. Maslin, P. Field, W. S. Boardman, and D. C. Richardson. The annual Cricket Match took place, the Old Boys' side being composed as follows: J. E. Allen, R. M. Ingleton, G. M. Wilson, D. C. Richardson, J. R. Davies, R. C. V. Waters, P. W. Harding, J. R. Billany, W. S. Boardman, F. H. Jones, and W. Y. Willetts.

\* \* \* \* \*

Founder's Day was celebrated on Saturday, 11th June. A full account will be found elsewhere in this issue. Misfortune seemed to dog our preparations this year; casualties occurred in the cast both of the open-air play and the marionette show necessitating last minute changes. Bad weather stopped the Dress Rehearsal, but the day itself was fine, and the full programme was carried out successfully.

Commemoration Day took place on the 24th June. We are fortunately situated for the enjoyment of such a day of outings. Chedworth calls; Withington invites; Monkham Woods—to go no further afield—offer scope for expeditions. Hikers and cyclists have a wide range of unspoilt country within reach. We availed ourselves of the opportunity, and the call-over at night found us all back safely, sunburnt and sated, and eminently ready for bed.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Science Expedition left according to schedule, but owing to atrocious weather, returned this year a day earlier than usual. It is a pity that the Gower Peninsula is so far away, otherwise we might have a general exodus at this time to the coast.

\* \* \* \* \*

Those interested in swimming had an unexpected pleasure in the visit of Mr. Michael Taylor (perhaps more easily identifiable as Mrs. James' brother). He is the holder of the English record for the back-stroke, and gave us a very enjoyable and informal demonstration of his skill at the Open Air Pool in Cheltenham on Saturday, 18th June. Since then we learn that he has succeeded in winning the English record for free style. May we be permitted to express the wish that at some future time we may welcome him to a swimming pool of our own.

\* \* \* \* \*

Members of Form V. who were in the throes of the School Certificate Examination on the official Commemoration Day, took their holiday on the 29th June.

\* \* \* \* \*

On Tuesday, 5th July, we had an informal visit from Dr. Glover, the Senior Medical Officer from the Board of Education. He very generously came down to Rendcomb to take stock of our general physical fitness. We are indebted to him for his practical interest in our well-being. It is a privilege to receive a visit from one who has so many demands upon his time.

\* \* \* \* \*

Early in July an interesting experiment was carried out. The whole school was submitted to an Intelligence Test. Its results are known only to the experts concerned. It is to be hoped that they have gained much valuable information from our ordeal. It has been suggested that the Staff should undergo a similar inquisition. The results if they were ever published—an unlikely happening—might well give us food for thought.

\* \* \* \* \*

Towards the end of Term it was obvious that many junior members of the School were becoming distinctly air-minded. On Tuesday, 19th July, an air display was given, an account of which will be found elsewhere.

On Tuesday, 26th July, members of the Tetbury Branch of Toc H. visited the College and watched a display of athletics. We are always glad to welcome visitors. As schools go, we are not large in numbers, but we believe we have quite an amount of interest to show our guests, and that most people who come to Rendcomb go away with something to remember.

\* \* \* \* \*

At the School Certificate Examination held at Midsummer the following candidates matriculated: D. F. Gallop, M. H. F. Fischer, E. R. Morris, A. S. C. Smith, D. W. Stone, & J. F. Spencer The following passed the examination: P. Alder, A. E. Godsell, P. R. Highley, E. B. Smith and F. J. Willis.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Higher Certificate results were as follows: E. R. S. Gillham and P. H. Tuft passed the Cambridge Higher Certificate, their main subjects being Botany and Zoology. B. H. Peacock and W. A. Wyon passed the London Examination, taking Physics and Applied and Pure Mathematics as their subjects. B. H. Peacock obtained a distinction in Physics.

\* \* \* \* \*

The following boys left at the end of Term: D. G. Morrison, B. H. Peacock, D. D. Haig M. C. B. Russell, B. M. L. Simon, P. Alder, A. E. Godsell, D. W. Stone, P. R. Highley, J. R. Gurdon and J. E. B. Houston. To them we extend our "valette."

\* \* \* \* \*

We are glad to be able to record that we are growing more adventurous in the matter of holidays. During the Summer Vacation two separate parties of boys visited France.

Mr. Richards, accompanied by Hyett, Ivens, Neads, and Dobbs, took their bicycles across to St. Malo, and set out on a tour through Normandy, visiting Dinan, Mont-St.-Michel, Bayeux Caen, Lisieux, and on to Paris, returning via Rouen and Havre.

Mr. Wilson, with Wyon, Russell and E. B. Smith, did a motoring trip, starting from Dieppe, through Caudebec, Rouen, to the Chateaux country of the Loire, returning to Paris via Orleans and Chartres, and then by Beauvais to the Channel again.

In addition Mr. Neal took Alder, Gallop, A. S. C. Smith and Willis for a camping expedition to the New Forest with Entomology as objective.

Last, but not least, D. G. Morison, E. R. S. Gillham and M. F. Lane set out on a hitch-hiking expedition to Glasgow, their goal being the British Empire Exhibition. They got there—and what is more, safely back again. We hope in our next issue to be able to publish some of our diverse holiday impressions.

### OLD BOYS NOTES.

D. C. Vaughan has obtained a First Class Diploma in Engineering at Loughborough College, being placed second on the list. He has also obtained a Second Class in the Final School of Engineering (External) of London University.

\* \* \* \* \*

A. E. A. Brain has passed the Intermediate Engineering Examination of London University. He has played hockey for Leicestershire on two occasions this year, and regularly for the Loughborough 1st XI

E. D. H. Boulding obtained a Second Class (1st Division) in the Final School of English and Philosophy at Bristol University.

\* \* \* \* \*

J. C. Maslin obtained a First Class in the Final Handicraft Examination of the City and Guilds of London. He has also obtained a First Class in the Intermediate of the Cabinet Making Examination.

\* \* \* \* \*

We have pleasure in recording two marriages:

Dainton—Gurney. —On May 14th, 1938, at Aintree, Liverpool, H. P.

Dainton to Robina Margaret Gurney.

Eyles—Sharley. —On June 6th, 1938, at Cirencester Parish Church, Cyril Eyles to Phyllis Grace Sharley.

\* \* \* \* \*

G. Wintle is working as a pupil on one of Messrs. Smedley's Fruit Farms.

\* \* \* \* \*

In our last number we published an article by H. L. Theobald based on a letter which he had written to the Headmaster. We have been asked to make a correction. "South African Police" should have read "British South Africa Police"—the former Force being confined to the Union of South Africa. At present Theobald is in the Zambezi Valley, from where he has written an, interesting account of encounters with rhino and elephant. He has also sent a copy of his regimental magazine, which has been placed in the Library.

## MEETING OFFICERS.

SUMMER TERM, 1938.

Chairman: B. H. Peacock.

Council: D. G. Morison, E. R. S. Gillham, B. H. Peacock, D. D. Haig,  
M. F. Lane, R. L. Short, W. A. Wyon.

Meeting Selection Committee: D. G. Morison, D. D. Haig,  
E. R. S. Gillham, P. H. Tuft, B. H. Peacock.

House Committee:

Treasurer—M. H. F. Fischer.

Poundman—P. S. Jackson.

Furniture Men—S. A. Trayhurn, P. A. Herring.

Inspector of Nuisances—J. H. Quick.

Games Committee: R. L. Short (captain), D. D. Haig,  
M. F. Lane, W. A. Wyon, D. F. Gallop.

Games' Secretary: D. F. Gallop.

Athletics Committee: D. D. Haig (captain), E. R. S. Gillham,  
R. L. Short.

Senior Shopman: L. H. Hyett.

Banker: F. J. Willis.

Breakages Man: D. W. Stone.

Secretary: A. S. C. Smith.

Rule Committee: D. G. Morison, P. H. Tuft, A. S. C. Smith.

Auditors: E. J. Powell, P. G. Forrest.

Finance Committee: P. G. Forrest, E. J. Powell, G. W. Ivens.

Entertainments' Committee: P. A. Cutts, P. G. Forrest,  
C. J. Clissold, J. R. Luton, D. A. C. Smith.

Cycle Men: L. H. Hyett, J. W. H. Neads, P. A. Herring.

Paperman: J. G. Sterry.

Pauntley Committee: P. D. B. Levett.

Amplifier Committee: F. J. Willis, D. W. Stone, P. Alder, P. A. Cutts,  
R. L. Short.

Magazine Committee: E. R. Morris, D. D. Haig, D. G. Morison.

Drying Room Committee: H. S. Palmer, H. P. Lecky, A. W. Morris.

Games' Wardens: Hockey—P. Alder.

„ „ Football—P. Alder.

„ „ Tennis—R. F. Boyland, S. A. Trayhurn.

„ „ Cricket—E. B. Smith, P. S. Jackson.

Indoor Games' Warden: D. A. C. Smith.

Shopmen: E. B. Smith, J. R. Harmer.

Apprentice Auditor: E. J. Powell.

Senior Shopman for Winter Term, 1938: L. H. Hyett.

Tennis Captain: M. F. Lane.

Football Secretary: P. S. Jackson.

Lecture Committee: P. H. Tuft, M. C. B. Russell, W. A. Wyon,  
J. R. Harmer, E. R. Morris.

Engagements' Man: —C. F. Bailey.

## MEETING OFFICERS.

MICHAELMAS TERM, 1938.

Chairman: J. F. Spencer.

Council: E. R. S. Gillham, P. H. Tuft, W. A. Wyon,  
E. R. Morris, J. F. Spencer, R. L. Short, M. F. Lane.

Meeting Selection Committee: E. R. Morris, E. R. S. Gillham, W. A. Wyon,  
R. L. Short, M. F. Lane.

House Committee:

Treasurer—D. F. Gallop.

Poundman—P. S. Jackson.

Furniture Men—M. A. C. Levett, P. A. Cutts.

Inspector of Nuisances—C. E. H. Tuck.

Games' Committee: E. R. S. Gillham (captain), R. L. Short, W. A. Wyon.

Games' Treasurer: —R. L. Short.

Games' Secretary: P. S. Jackson.

Groundsman: J. W. H. Neads.

Athletics Committee: E. R. S. Gillham (captain), R. L. Short,  
D. F. Gallop.

Senior Shopman: L. H. Hyett.

Banker: E. J. Powell.

Breakages' Man: M. H. F. Fischer.

Secretary: A. S. C. Smith.

Auditors: P. G. Forrest, J. Owen.

Finance Committee: E. J. Powell, P. G. Forrest, J. R. Luton.

Entertainments' Committee: E. R. Morris, P. A. Cutts, C. F. Bailey,  
H. S. Palmer, E. B. Smith.

Cycle Men: P. A. Herring, F. R. Dobbs, C. F. Bailey.

Paperman: D. F. Gallop.

Pauntley Committee: H. S. Palmer.

Amplifier Committee: P. A. Cutts, P. A. Herring, H. W. T. Bates,  
J. R. Luton, J. F. Spencer.

Magazine Committee: P. H. Tuft, E. R. Morris, J. R. Harmer.

Drying Room Committee: R. F. Boyland, J. H. Quick, E. B. Smith

Games Wardens: Hockey—E. J. Powell.

” ” Cricket—P. S. Jackson.

” ” Tennis—R. F. Boyland.

” ” Football—S. A. Trayhurn, J. G. Sterry.

Indoor Games' Wardens: E. J. Clissold, P. B. Lane.

Shopmen: E. R. Morris, M. A. Bullen.

Apprentice Auditor: C. E. H. Tuck.

Senior Shopman for Easter Term, 1939: E. R. Morris.

Lecture Committee: P. H. Tuft, E. R. Morris, W. A. Wyon,  
J. R. Harmer

Engagements' Man: R. F. Boyland.

Record Committee: J. F. Spencer, R. L. Short, H. W. T. Bates,  
F. R. Dobbs, C. F. Bailey.



## FOUNDERS' DAY.

*(With acknowledgement to the Wilts and Gloucestershire Standard)*

Founders' Day was last celebrated on Saturday 11th June. Canon H. Sewell (Chairman of the Governors) presided, and he was supported on the platform by the Head Master, Mrs. Noel Wills, Sir J. Russell Kerr, Mr. F. W. T. James, and members of the College Staff.

There was a large company of visitors, which included Sir Anselm and Lady Guise, Lady Marling, the Bishop of Gloucester (Dr. A. C. Headlam), General Sir Reginald Stephens, and Lord and Lady Dickenson.

The Chairman said that once again the Governors were delighted to meet the visitors on Founder's Day.

"Founder's Day is for Rendcomb a very great day," he pointed out. "It is not a speech day at all. It is the day on which we recognise the very wonderful work which Noel Wills did for the boys of Gloucestershire and for other boys. It is a day for looking into what we have done with the very wonderful gift he has left in the hands of the Governors and the masters and the boys.

"We are particularly glad today to welcome the Dean of Bristol. (Applause). He has had a very wide experience of the world. Everyone knows his name. It is to me a particular pleasure to welcome him here to-day, because he happens to be a member of my old College at Cambridge."

## HEADMASTER'S REPORT.

The Headmaster (Mr. D. W. Lee-Browne) prefaced his report by associating himself with the Chairman's remarks of welcome.

He went on: Considering the fact that we know of four other functions taking place to-day, I think we may congratulate ourselves on the size of our own gathering. The general health of the School has been good throughout the year. We have had no infection, and there have been weeks at a time when the Rest Room was untenanted.

Both Games and Athletics have been at a high level throughout the year. The football season was a good one. and last Term we continued our unbroken record of four years in Hockey, until we met our fate at the hands of a very fine team of Old Boys just at the end of the Term.

I suppose there are no opponents by whom any school would rather be beaten. The Cricket side has started well this Term. You may remember last year that I mentioned that we were sending a small team to the Amateur Athletic Association Championships in London. This team carried itself well and Gillham was successful in obtaining a place in the Steeplechase. Last Term we sent our Athletics Team to Kingswood School. Bath, and were only beaten by 17 points in 93. Kingswood School of nearly 300 subsequently won the Public Schools Championship at the White City.

From the point of view of Academic work, the year has been a quiet one, with nothing of any great importance to show as far as results are concerned. For the last time we have had a by-year with no official examination interest for the School Certificate. 1939 will see the last of the gaps in the Sixth Form, and thereafter we shall be a complete school with five forms up to School Certificate and three groups in the Sixth Form. The boys who took examinations last year were all successful, and were all boys who were taking the examinations for special reasons. Peter Field, who took his Higher School Certificate in one year, has been awarded a County Art Exhibition, and we have high hopes that he will follow in the footsteps of his distinguished brother from the Art School at Cheltenham, to London, and so to the Royal Academy. The standard of work in the School has shown a steady progress, and more and more boys are recognising the value of working alone and without supervision.

I would like to express my appreciation of the loyalty and keenness of the Staff in all departments of school life. There has been a number of changes in personnel during the year. After seven years of service to the College, Miss Simmons left us at Christmas to get married to Mr. Hosken after his appointment to the headmastership of the School which is run in connection with the Watts Naval Training School at Elmham in Norfolk. Her place as House Warden has been taken by Miss Lister, who was for some time Head of Citizen House at Westonbirt School. Mr. P. K. Wright has come to us from Birkenhead School to take over the Modern Languages. Mr. Weatherhead has been with us for a year in the place of Mr. Hodges, who you may remember was appointed headmaster of the Lucton School, Herefordshire. It is not, I think, without interest that R. Bolton King, formerly Mathematics Master here, has been appointed to the Headmastership of Sandown School in the Isle of Wight. Mr. Tucker, my secretary, left at the end of March to take up an appointment with the Midland Regional Station of the B. B. C. Mr. O. G. Morel has joined the Staff this Term to take over the Workshop from me. For some time it has been impossible for me to give proper attention to it, and the decision of the Governors to provide a whole-time master follows on the belief that this subject is of the greatest importance in any school. Mr. Morel is an Old Boy, the first to come on to the Teaching Staff. He comes from the workshop of that Master of English Furniture, Mr. Edward Barnsley.

Of out of school activities I can only say that they are as vigorous as they ever have been. Perhaps the two most outstanding things are that we have completely rebuilt the Marionette Theatre. I hope you will agree with beneficial results. If any of you are seriously interested Mr. Molyneux, I am sure, would

be willing to show you behind the scenes after the second performance this afternoon. In Mr. Molyneux we are fortunate in having a very fine craftsman. Some of the Marionettes are really beautiful examples of his work. Experience has shown that with the exception of comparatively few boys with great determination and corresponding skill, the more skilled parts of a doll are best made by an expert. The boys seem to do best in the stage work and the manipulation of the dolls rather than by their aerial manufacture—at any rate with the particular type of Marionette which we use. The other point of interest concerns canoes. As you know these are an important part of our spare time, and we have an organisation known as the Rendcomb Gryphons which centres around them. Finding our lake in the park grow smaller as our skill increased, we decided we must go further afield, and so we constructed a trailer in the Workshop. This is a double-decker vehicle, and on Sunday afternoons we may now be seen driving through Cheltenham with five or six canoes up, on our way to the Severn at Tewkesbury. Here the boys have wider opportunities, and as two of the Staff acquired sailing dinghies, as time goes on a number of boys will learn to sail. Incidentally we are at the moment working on a design for a canvas sailing boat made on the same general lines as our canoes.

During the Christmas holidays the Governors arranged for a number of alterations in the main building. As a result we have obtained an extra dormitory and an extra class room, both badly needed; a larger Sixth Form study, a better rest room, and finally one of the small rooms in the stable block has been adapted for a Laboratory Workshop. The new house which was started this time last year has been completed, and Mr. James is installed there.

Confirmation Classes were held last Term, and I would like to express our warm thanks to the Rev. L. G. Allum for his kindness in coming each week from Sheepscombe to take them. While I am on the subject of acknowledgments I would like once again to express our indebtedness to Dr. Gladstone, whose skill as a diagnostician continues to make “prevention rather than cure” our slogan. My debt to Mrs. Wills and the Chairman continues to increase every year. Their interest in the little things as well as in the major issues is a continuous source of inspiration and help to me.

There are a number of Old Boys, the development of whose careers is, I think, proving of interest. J. A. Davis won a History Scholarship from school and took a good History Degree at Cambridge. From there he went into industry, and within a short time became the manager of a small factory. Dissatisfied with this position he worked at both Engineering and Economics in the evenings and during his holidays. The result is that he has recently been appointed to the Technical

Staff of the Home Office as an inspector of Factories. W. S. Boardman took up an Engineering Apprenticeship and was one of about six in the works who took their night classes seriously. He is now a Production Engineer in the Austin Motor Works. A. E. Shield, as you see on your programme, has been awarded a Scholarship to the Engineering Department of Bristol University. This again is a case of a boy taking up an Engineering Apprenticeship and really applying himself to evening work. Shield's firm have given him the last year of his apprenticeship, and have promised him a position at the end of his time. J. E. Allen obtained a post practically as office boy with a firm of Chartered Accountants. He has been with them for some years and has done so well that the firm has presented him with his articles, and he is now working for his examination as a Chartered Accountant. J. E. Miller left School and was accepted without premium in the office of a local firm of Architects. Here he did well and served his time, and subsequently transferred to the architectural staff of the London County Council. He has now been taken on as assistant by a well-known architect in London who is engaged in the erection of important public buildings. R. E. Hutton is doing well in the Air Force, and also M. R. Weaver and E. Webster. Weaver plays football for the Air Force, in spite of the fact that while he was at Rendcomb he twice broke the same leg. D. Terrett has been made financial adviser to certain Dutch interests in England, and travels in great state by air to and from Holland once a week. P. H. Wyon, whose brother is in the School at the moment, is House Surgeon at the Huddersfield Infirmary. N. A. Perkins, who, as some of you may remember, was an open scholar to a University, and a brilliant Mathematician while he was there and a first class degree man, has been appointed to the Administrative Branch of the Civil Service, and is working with the Post Office. C. Hartland passed his A. R. I. B. A. Examination and is in practice as an architect in London. K. J. Morgan has been appointed as a surveyor on the Valuation Department of the Inland Revenue.

The Chairman said they were very much obliged to Mr. Lee-Browne for his most interesting report. He could assure them all that Mr. Lee-Browne was extremely human, which was not always common, and he always looked after the interests of the boys. He did not think he could say any more than that.

Canon Sewell added that he did not think the general public realised what an enormous vision Noel Wills had when he started that institution for the benefit of Gloucestershire and other boys. It was the duty of all of them who were responsible for the work—and he would remind them that they were an independent body—to see how that gift was used, and he wanted the boys to give half a thought to the fact that they had in their hands a beautiful instrument. He wondered if they were keeping it bright.

The Dean of Bristol, opening his address, said: Whenever I am asked to speak at gatherings such as this I do not hesitate to talk about one thing which is closer to my heart than anything else, and that is religion. You will get distinguished people talking to you on all the other kinds of subjects. It does seem to me that if one is proud of one's profession—and I am mighty proud of mine—one should not be in the least ashamed of talking to some extent about it, and saying a few things one feels very much about.

There is a verse in one of the Psalms—I know you will feel this is very much like a sermon, but I cannot help it—which runs, “Show thy servants their work, and their children thy glory.” It has always seemed to me to be just about the finest thing that could possibly be said or written.

A few years ago it was my great privilege to take some little part in the Centenary celebrations out in Khartoum of General Gordon's birth. I should like to give you some little description, but I won't, of the very wonderful celebrations which took place in Khartoum. I would, however, just like to mention one thing. When everything had been arranged, and all the different sections of the community had been given their various parts to play, the leading Mohammedan came to the Governor of Khartoum and said, “We cannot understand why you have forgotten us.” The Governor looked at them with amazement, realising they were descendants of people against whom Gordon had fought. He could not understand what they meant, but they said, “We are just as proud of the memory of Gordon as you English people are.” I think it was one of the greatest thrills of my life, seeing the two leading Mohammedans in their robes of state laying their wreaths on the foot of Gordon's statue.

Throughout that grim country, wherever you went, you heard the same thing. You felt Gordon's dominating influence, and whenever you talked to anyone they would say, “We are only trying to do what Gordon started.” I think that is a magnificent instance of the words I quoted. “Show thy servants thy work and their children thy glory.” It was just because he had in his work shown splendid heroism and so much self-sacrifice that his work lives in that country today and will ever live in the hearts of people who are proud of the work he did out there.

I was talking only a few days ago to one who had been out in that great expedition which ended so tragically in the Antarctic for one of the greatest figures in the expedition—Edward Wilson. There you see one whose whole life was centred in one great big thought, and it was because he was so splendid in every scrap of his life that men have lived to see the glory of that life, and have taken heart and courage.

What I mean about all that is this: Those who do these things very often do not see the result. The people who come after do, and it goes on with every generation, because you and I inherit all those good things from other people. Then comes our business in life to see what we can do to see that the generation which comes after shall carry on something in the same way. I have heard a little about this very remarkable School, and you boys cannot fail to feel proud of the whole story of it.

You have inherited a very great tradition, but no School can live on its past history or its past credit more than can any nation or any individual. We inherit something that has been given to us in the past, and then it is our business to take it up, and see that those who come after, in their own turn see the glory and the result of what has been attempted and what has been achieved. Don't you think that there you have got the very essence of what religion really is.

He was certain that many of them had sometimes made religion out to be something which would cause life's difficulties and temptations to disappear. He would like to say quite definitely, so far as his own experience went, that he thought the more one prayed and went to Church, the greater one's temptations were. If we did the job we had got to do with the best of our ability, we could leave the rest. That was the greatest thing, surely, to realise in religion.

Religion does not take away life's difficulties, pointed out the Dean. It is no answer to the perplexing questions; it does not take away the temptations. But it does give men the strength to go out and ride the storm.

I would say to you boys, just carry that thought in your minds. You have inherited a great tradition here. You have got a School which is very remarkable. I have never heard of one quite the same as this. You have had all that given to you. You have done nothing for it. But what the School is going to be in five or six years time entirely depends on the tone which you put into it at the present.

You might not live to see that change. You might hear about it as Old Boys, but if you do your work others will see the glory of it, and it might be just as it was with the great lives we have touched on, the life of our Master, the life of that great hero General Gordon, and that splendid life of Edward Wilson.

Maybe if you and I just stick to the job we have got to do, then somebody in years to come will see the glory of it, and will take courage and try to do their best as well.

The Dean of Bristol was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his address, on the proposition of Sir J. Russell Kerr, seconded by Mr. F. W. T. James.

Before the assembly broke up cheers were given for Mrs. Noel Wills, Canon Sewell, and the Governing Body.

### **“THE ROMANY ROAD.”**

It is not an easy task to select a play that will meet all the necessities required for an open air performance on Founder’s Day. Quite apart from the exigencies of casting, there is the fact that it must be able to be fitted into one hour of an afternoon—every minute of which is carefully scheduled—and it must conform to the conditions of an outdoor stage. There is not time to present a play like “A Midsummer Night’s Dream” or “The Tempest” in its entirety. And excerpts from a Shakespearean play seldom do justice to the whole.

Last year an interesting departure was made in the adoption of a Yeats’ one-act poetic drama, but such works are few and far between, and it must be confessed that the stock pageant pieces specially written for open-air performance leave much to be desired. They are apt to be artificial and unconvincing.

“The, Romany Road,” by Harold Brighouse, has its moments of humour and dramatic contrast. It lends itself to picturesque costume, and so fills that part of the bill, but it suffers from one fatal defect. It lacks a definite conclusion.

The drama itself is little more than the lightest trifling with the theme of a preposterous lover, and of a maiden’s refusal to accept such a wearisome suitor. She seeks an escape by assuming a gipsy’s disguise; goes off, in fact, with a raggie-taggle hero. But we wonder what has become of her, and although the foppish bridegroom is discomfited, the audience are likewise. They naturally wish to know what has happened to the bride. And she fails to return to make this clear.

Considering the difficulties that occurred with the casting, the performance can be considered adequate. But we can say no more. It was not as good as we are accustomed to on these occasions. The fault lay not so much with the actors as with the material on which they were required to work.

The cast was as follows: Lord Ranacre, H. S. Palmer; Jaikes, E. B. Smith; Sir Rufus Appleford; D. D. Haig; Jessamine Appleford, C. F. Bailey; Dame Margit, J. W. H. Neads; Audrey, P. S. Jackson; Robin, E. J. Powell; Jericho Borzlam, E. R. Morris; Rhona Borzlam, J. H. Quick; Country Girls, S. J. Curry; P. G. Forrest. A. W. Morris, C. E. H. Tuck and D. G. Taylor.

### **“THE CONFECTIONER OF BAGHDAD.”**

This was a skilful adaptation for the marionette stage of Flecker’s well-known Eastern drama “Hasan.” The decoration and lighting effects were beautiful. The dialogue was well spoken. At times one felt there was too much dialogue and too little action. Puppets are most diverting when they perform astounding feats, aerobatic or otherwise. They can dance and rant and

climb walls more effectively than indulge in poetic rhapsody, even though the theme be love. Speech at all times is only an accessory. There is a definite sort of rhythm required in a puppet play. It may be staccato. It ought to be full of unforeseen surprises.

Our best successes have been achieved with scenarios specially written with these ends in view—rather than in adaptations from plays composed for the ordinary stage. But having said this we have nothing but praise for “The Confectioner of Baghdad.” It was an excellent show. The skill of our manipulators grows apace, and Mr. Molyneaux’s ingenuity in scenic effect becomes more and more wizard-

The cast was as follows: Hasan, Mr. H. U. Molyneaux, (Voice: J. R. Luton); Selim, M. A. Bullen (Voice: F. H. Dutton); Yasmin, M. A. Bullen (Voice: J. M. Murry); Caliph of Bagdad, A. R. Margetts (Voice: D. Montgomery); Jafar, Grand Vizier, and Masrur, Executioner, G. H. W. Bodman; Rafi, P. A. Cutts (Voice: W. A. J. Caverhill).

### **MUSIC MAKING.**

It was a good idea to arrange a concert for the last week of Term. We owe it to Cutts. He was determined to give us a musical evening, and he got others to help him. We heard the result of their collaboration on the evening of Wednesday, 27th July.

No one would claim that it was by any means perfect. That is not the point. It was a good effort, and in many respects a commendable effort. Mr. Shimmin, who played the accompaniments, does not need mention. We know his skill. The other instrumentalists, Mr. Weatherhead on the flute, Mr. Richards on the recorder, and Cutts himself on the violin, were not there to challenge comparison with professional skill. They were there to do their bit, and they did it zestfully.

Musically the vocal items were the best. “The Keeper” was so popular that it had an encore. “The Lincolnshire Poacher” and “Early One Morning” were sung with vigour and delight, and the singers can be considered to have given a good account of themselves.

The programme was well chosen on the whole. But may we suggest that Handel’s “Largo” might be given a rest? We have mentioned the instrumentalists. It remains to record the singers. They were: Trebles, H. S. Palmer, J. Owen. D. H. Hill; Altos, P. S. Jackson, P. A. Cutts; Tenors, Mr. Richards, S. A. Trayhurn, and Bass, B. H. Peacock.

We know that the performers would not wish merely conventional praise. We appreciated thoroughly the whole spirit that informed the evening, and we hope for more such next Term.



### **THE MODEL AEROPLANE DISPLAY.**

As a culminating effort to a Term's model aeroplane building, the denizens of the Hobbies' Room held a display of model aerobatics on the field in front of the College.

The first event was a race from the bend in the drive to the park railings. Only two planes completed the course, the others having flown in the wrong direction. This was followed by an endurance flight, in which one plane reached the river, much to the delight of the spectators. The next event was an exhibition of crazy aerobatics. A plane executed a number of loops in the air, getting nearer the crowd every time. As may be imagined, this caused great amusement.

At this point the Headmaster, against all tradition, offered a low reward to the owner of the first plane to cross the river. Unfortunately the weather broke, a breeze blew up, and although feverish attempts were made to make the crossing, it was not until a few days later that Hill won the coveted prize.

These events, and the display of models under construction, combined to make a fine show, and the organisers are to be congratulated.

### **THE RUSH OF THE REINDEER.**

Far away in the distant North a young reindeer raises his muzzle to the heavens and sniffs, staring at the limitless distance while a man may count a hundred. From that moment he grows restless, and he is hard to harness to the light sled; he is not alone; others do the same.

Then the Lapps talk among themselves, knowing that one day the inevitable will happen. The camp grows more and more restive as the days pass. Then in the Northern twilight the great herd moves, slowly at first, stopping to nibble the rich mosses. Then the herd crowds more closely together, and the slow walk increases to a trot, and from a trot to a gallop, and thence to a breakneck stampede, which eventually ends on the shores of the Arctic Ocean.

The Lapps hastily packed their possessions not already on the sleds, and follow the herd, laboriously dragging the heavy sleds behind them.

On the second day the trail of the herd to the sea becomes narrower, and bloodstains can be discerned upon it; farther away lies a dark motionless object, yet another, and another. The race has become more desperate as the stampede neared the sea. The weaker reindeer have been thrown down by their stronger fellows.

Their hides and bones and sinews have been cut and crushed by a thousand sharp and relentless hooves. The country becomes more barren and less fertile. The trail narrows, and takes the form of one huge arrowhead. The mutilated carcasses are more numerous now. The hoof marks get less and less as the ground gets harder.

When at last the Lapps reach the sea, the herd is standing, once more docile, on the shore, once more ready to be harnessed to the sled.

Once in his life the reindeer must have one long, cool drink of the sharp salt water that lies before him. If he is hindered, he persists. Neither man nor beast may stand in his path of a hundred miles mad stampede.

ELDON. (Form IV.)

### A WAYFARER'S NOTES.

It is not distance that counts. It is what you see as you go. The unexpected is not necessarily the far-away. It is often right under one's nose. Odd things that may not happen again; things that you never have seen before; they crop up when least expected.

“What is this life, if full of care,

We have no time to stand and stare” wrote W. H.

Davies. The point is so few of us *do* stand and stare. Like the fat, white lady who walked through the field in gloves, we are content to go about with our eyes half-closed, “missing so much and so much.”

\* \* \* \* \*

Northleach Church is not far away. It is famous for its lovely south porch and its luminous and lofty clerestory. But I shall remember it for an epitaph on one, John Bradstock, who died October 23rd, 1722, aged 19. It runs:

“Here lies a youth that few can find  
The like for goodness left behind;  
No evil customs of the age  
Made him in any vice engage.  
But virtue, innocence, and truth,  
All lived together in the youth,  
Whose well-spent life and honest fame  
Will still bear record of the same.  
His Maker knew what time was good:  
Roses are gathered in the bud.  
Parents, from tears and grief refrain,  
Forbear to sorrow for his gain,  
To you for comfort be it known  
God took no other but his own.”

Surely a charming specimen of eighteenth century elegiac verse. And for all its suave eulogy, for me at least, it evokes a very human personality. I am certain that John Bradstock would be greatly surprised to hear himself described in such a manner. However he may have appeared to his pious chronicler, something tells me that John himself had a sense of humour.

\* \* \* \* \*

Two funny sights, like an Aesop's fable, come to life.

On the bridge at Blois, three of us saw a man go by, riding on a bicycle. That in itself was nothing strange. But he had a bag slung over his back, and in its pouch a fair-sized collie dog was standing, with his forepaws over the man's shoulder, so that the two heads, dog and cyclist, came into view together. And one felt for one puzzling moment that it was the dog who was riding the bicycle.

\* \* \* \* \*

The other was in Pompeii, the evening I arrived there from Naples. I saw a man—a very solemn-looking man—dressed in a funereal black coat, come down the street, carrying a pompous umbrella under one arm, and a large grey gander under the other. I could not help wondering which he had picked up first. He seemed quite oblivious of either. And after my first surprise, it seemed perfectly natural to go about Pompeii carrying geese and umbrellas. Indeed, the umbrella seemed the slightly more absurd, for it was most unlikely to rain for weeks and weeks.

\* \* \* \* \*

A thunderstorm drove me down to shelter in the stuffy saloon of the little steamer that plies between Naples and Capri. If it had been fine I should have missed the following Notice to Passengers. It was printed in Italian, German, English and French. This was the English version:

“It is to be known by every man on board the ship that the signal for:—

1. To leave the ship is one series of six short whistles and one long.
2. “Man into the sea” is a continuous whistle.
3. “Reunion of the crew” is a series of very short whistles.

Everyman, crew or passenger, who sees a man falling into the sea, must cry “Man into the sea, at right or left, ” according with the side of the vessel.

N. B.—It is strictly due to every man on board to advise the Master of every noted principle of fire on board.

\* \* \* \* \*

After that, the sun came out, and I went up on deck to look for that “noted principle of fire,” luckily not on board—Vesuvius.

WAYFARER.

## CRICKET.

We were faced this season with the task of filling the large gaps left by Brain, A.; Wilson, G.; Willetts, and Richardson, and the team on paper did not look impressive. Helped, however, by the excellent coaching of Mr. James, Mr. Neal and Mr. Wright, and rather more keen and intensive, practice than has been seen for some time, the team soon became one of the most formidable we have had in recent years.

The 1st XI. results were more than satisfactory. Of the eight matches played we won 3, lost 3 and drew 2; it is worth pointing out that of the teams we did not beat, only North Cerney were markedly our superiors.

The two A XI. fixtures with North Cerney 2nd XI. were very keenly contested and much enjoyed by both teams. It is a fixture, I think, to be repeated, as it provides a match for several keen cricketers who are not quite up to 1st XI. standards.

It is difficult to comment on individual play, and as cricket must be judged by results, the following accounts will do all that is necessary.

1st XI. v. SWINDON COLLEGE. Home.

Swindon 50. Rendcomb 46.

As usual in the first match, the team was suffering from lack of practice; this was very apparent in the batting, only four people from the two teams reaching double figures. We were not much worse than our opponents, and the result was in the balance until the last ball.

Batting: Short 16, Wyon 11.

Bowling: Short 5—23. Lane 4—16.

1st XI. v. DEAN CLOSE 2nd XI. Away.

Dean Close 84. Rendcomb 119.

Following the example set by the early batsmen, the team took advantage of a slow bowler and a short boundary, and hit freely. The aggressive policy proved very successful.

Batting: Short 34.

Bowling: Lane 5—34. Short 4—28.

1st XI. v. OLD BOYS. Home.

Old Boys 123 for 9. Rendcomb 122 for 7 (declared).

We batted first, and had 90 runs for the loss of only one wicket. A minor collapse followed, however, and in order to provide a finish, we declared. With the Old Boys' total at 40—5 a College win looked imminent, but a late stand by Willetts and Ingleton brought the Old Boys a narrow victory.

Batting: Gallop 49. Short 43.

Bowling: Short 6—30.

1st XI. v. MISERDEN C. C. Away.  
Miserden 49. Rendcomb 66.

The batting of both sides was weak, but, as a result of some good catching and ground fielding, our opponents were dismissed for the surprising low total of 49.

Batting: Gillham 21. Wyon 16.  
Bowling: Short 6—19. Lane 4—29.

1st XI. v. SWINDON COLLEGE. Away.  
Swindon 70. Rendcomb 83 for 9.

The team had some difficulty in getting accustomed to the pitch, as it was very hard and fast compared with our own. After a bad start, however, a fifth wicket stand enabled us to pass our opponents' score.

Batting: Lane 29. Wyon 10.  
Bowling: Short 5—29, Lane 4—18.

1st XI. v. DEAN CLOSE 2nd XI Home.  
Dean Close 89. Rendcomb 66 for 6.

The scores do not really indicate the play, as half of our opponents' score was made by one man. When an interesting finish was in sight the match had to be abandoned as a draw through lack of time.

Batting: Short 13. Gallop 12. Godsell 14.  
Bowling: Short 6—37. Morris 2—3.

1st XI. v. BURFORD G. S. Home.

Burford 37 for 9. Rendcomb 136 for 7 (declared).

This was our most successful match, as all but one, of the batsmen who were out reached double figures. A very heavy deluge between the innings made the pitch almost waterlogged, but we accustomed ourselves to the conditions much better than our opponents, who offered little resistance to our bowlers. We were unfortunate to be deprived of victory by lack of time.

Batting: Gillham 44. Short 21.  
Bowling: Short 5—8, Lane 4—2.

1st XI. v. NORTH CERNEY. Home.  
North Cerney 135 for 5. Rendcomb 50.

Once again we were outclassed by our neighbours. We batted first, and our wickets fell monotonously, only one person reaching double figures, and North Cerney passed our score for the loss of only one wicket. A weakened attack stuck gamely to their task, but received little encouragement.

Batting: Short 19.  
Bowling: Godsell 3—14.

A very pleasing feature of the season was the success of the Juniors. Of the five matches played four were won by Rendcomb teams.

UNDER 15 XI. v. DEAN CLOSE COLTS. Home.  
Rendcomb 61. Dean Close 76 for 6 (declared).  
Serry 14, Tenty 19.

UNDER 15 XI. v. DEAN CLOSE COLTS. Away.  
Dean Close 114. Rendcomb 120.  
Jackson 28, Palmer 39, Trayhurn 17.

JUNIOR XL v. KINGHAM HILL. Away.  
Kingham Hill 91. Rendcomb 108 for 5.  
Palmer 6—44.  
Curry 28, Palmer 29, Trayhurn 30.

JUNIOR XI. v. OAKLEY HALL. Away.  
Oakley Hall 60. Rendcomb 126 for 3.  
Palmer 7—32.  
Serry 41, Trayhurn 42.

JUNIOR XL v. KINGHAM HILL. Home.  
Kingham Hill—38. Rendcomb 57.  
Trayhurn 8—13.

### **TENNIS REPORT.** SUMMER TERM, 1938.

Favoured with a spell of fine weather during the early part of the Term, Tennis attained a good standard. However, the scarcity of rain throughout the Term had an adverse effect on the courts. The front court, in particular, became very badly worn at each end, and lately the standard of Tennis suffered. Much keen play was witnessed in the tournaments, for which there was what must have been a record entry. All four finals were closely contested. In the Open Singles, A. E. Godsell defeated W. A. Wyon, after a three-set struggle, by 4—6, 8—6, 6—4. Wyon was the steadier of the two in the first set, but he tired quicker than Godsell, and the latter's retrieving powers carried him to a well-deserved victory in the third set.

In the Senior Doubles, W. A. Wyon and J. R. Harmer beat F. J. Willis and P. A. Herring by 6—4, 6—4.

The Junior Singles was won by P. S. Jackson, who beat S. A. Trayhurn.

The Junior Doubles were won by S. A. Trayhurn and A. R. Margetts, who beat I. Owen and D. Montgomery by 6—8, 11—9, 6-3.

No matches were played with Wycliffe College this year, but instead a match was arranged with the Staff. The play was very even, and the result was a fair indication of the relative merits of the two teams.

In the only Singles Match Lane beat Mr. Neal 1—6, 6—3, 8—6, 6—3.

Wyon and Godsell, the leading Doubles pair, won both their matches, beating Mr. Gross and Mr. Morel 3—6, 6—2, 8—6, and Mr. Richards and Mr. Wright 6—4, 6—3. Gallop and Willis, the other pair, played quite well individually, but lacked combination. They were beaten by Mr. Gross and Mr. Morel 6—2, 6—4, and by Mr. Richards and Mr. Wright 6—4, 8—6. This match proved a most enjoyable fixture, and it is hoped that it may become a regular engagement in future years.

### ATHLETICS.

The only Athletics match of the Term took place on Thursday, June 2nd, against Bloxham School at Bloxham. Once again we suffered defeat, but by a considerably smaller margin than at Kingswood. This time we lost by 44 points to 52.

The meeting opened with the Javelin. Owing to a rather high wind, this event was won at a comparatively small distance, Gillham being first with a throw of about 125ft. In the 100 yards Morison and Peacock were beaten into third and fourth place, after leading for about the first 30 yards. In the Weight, Morison and Gillham took first and second place.

In the Mile, Gillham seemed to be hampered by a heavy cold, and he and Lane had to be content with third and fourth places. The event was won in 4 mins. 52 secs. In the High Jump we took second and third places, Gallop clearing 5ft. lin. and Short 5ft.

In the 440 yards Peacock ran a very good race for second place, and was only just beaten. Haig was fourth. This event was won in 57.4 secs.

In the Long Jump, Gillham had very hard luck. In being placed second, he was only half an inch behind the winner. Short was fourth with 18ft. 3ins.

In the Discus, as in the Weight, Morison and Gillham took first and second place. In the 4 x 220 yards Relay we were beaten by about 20 yards, our team being: Morison, Short, Haig, Peacock. For the majority of the team it was the first time that they had run over a cinder track, and most of them found it rather hard.

Once again it was on the Running events that we were beaten, in the three Throwing events we obtained 23 out of a possible 24 points, which was definitely good, but in the Running events we scored only 11 points out of a possible 29, which was not so good.

If only there could be as much enthusiasm over the Running events as there is in the Field, particularly the Throwing events, so that the Running events could improve as much as the Field events have done, Rendcomb could have an Athletics team that could hold its own against almost any school.

D. D. H.