

**RENDCOMB COLLEGE  
MAGAZINE**

**Vol. 7 No. 12**

**October, 1943**

# Rendcomb College Magazine

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OCTOBER, 1943.

## SCHOOL NOTES.

Summer Term, 1943.

A Term which witnessed the passing of Canon Sewell cannot be called an uneventful one. Our last number forestalled this issue by including a tribute to his memory and the account of his homecoming to Rendcomb on a quiet, summer afternoon, not very long after our re-assembly. We refer to it here in retrospect because it was an event we shall not forget. Many of us on our way to church —if at no other time—remember him, and the flowers that mark his resting-place are a symbol of our recollection. Doubtless at some future date a permanent memorial will set his name among us in perpetuity.

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Term began on Monday, 3rd May, and the good weather which had favoured us for most of the Easter vacation lasted until we had our potato crop well and truly laid down. The question of rotation of crops has not yet perplexed us unduly, and it is good to know that the yield this year has been satisfactory. Actually it was in excess of expectations, and we were fortunate in escaping blight.

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On Sunday, 16th May, Mr C. A. Joyce, Headmaster of the Cotswold School, preached at School Matins in Rendcomb Church.

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The weather on Saturday, 22nd June, prevented the cricket match with Cirencester Grammar School from being played, but the visiting team were entertained to tea, and ping-pong and music followed.

We are indebted to the promoters of the "Wings for Victory Week," which opened officially on Monday, 24th May, for a news item of considerable interest. They were determined that Rendcomb should not be off the map in this matter, and to their energy and the support of friends in the village (not to mention R. A. F. ), we owe a week that did much to contribute to our social amenities, as well as adding to War Savings. Counting the purchase of savings stamps and the proceeds from various activities, a clear total of £31. 2. 0 was realised.

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As usual we were fortunate in the weather for Commemoration Day, which fell on Friday, 4th June. With war-time limitations this day is increasingly becoming a sort of half-term holiday when those who can, rejoin their parents. Formerly it was dedicated to cross-country expeditions with picnic fires, whereon quantities of sausages were cooked. These are now a thing of the past but the kitchen front still manages to provide packed luncheons of more than liberal amplitude.

\* \* \*

It is perhaps worth recording here that we won the cricket match against North Cerney, played on Saturday, 5th June, for the first time, we believe, for ten years.

\* \* \*

Parents' Day was held on the pattern of similar war-time occasions on Saturday, 12th June. This year the assembly had an added interest from the fact that we were addressed for the first time by the new Chairman of the Governing Body, Lieut.-Colonel J. Godman, whom we had much pleasure in welcoming.

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On Sunday, 13th June, Mr Shepherd, who had been among our guests for Parents' Day, gave a most interesting talk on "Shipbuilding." He is an expert on electric welding and had supervised the building of English ships in the Kaiser shipyards in America. It was interesting to learn that one of the war-time advantages of welding over riveting is that a welded ship when struck by a torpedo "dents" like a tin, whereas riveted plates buckle. He concluded a most fascinating talk by a number of personal reminiscences of Germany before the war. We look forward to hearing him again.

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On Sunday, 4th July, the Rev. Stanley Franklin, of Cirencester, preached at Morning Prayer, and in the evening Miss Virginia Maclean gave a pianoforte recital in the Music Room, of which a notice appears elsewhere.

We acknowledge with thanks a gift of books, a Reamur thermometer, and other useful articles for the laboratory from Mrs Z. Glover in memory of Canon Sewell. Also some very welcome workshop materials and a gift of money for the library from Mr F. T. Humphris.

Dr. and Mrs Arthur Browne have presented to the library 43 bound volumes of Punch (from 1910—1931). We are also indebted to them for the loan of three pictures, worked in wool, which at present have found a home on the first floor landing. They are excellent examples of their craft, and had been shown in the 1851 Exhibition.

Mrs Arthur Browne has sent us a set of Linguaphone records in Spanish and further gifts include a large star chart from Miss Finlayson and plants from Mr Curry. Many thanks.

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At the London School Certificate Examination held in July the following passed: E. J. M. Jefferies, J. M. Faulks, S: H. Groves, M. C. Harries, R. E. Hayward, J. M. Trickett, N. M. Wood, J. E. Carus-Wilson, D. G. Knight, M. R. F. Butlin, and J. W. Sumsion. Of these seven obtained matriculation exemption.

At the Cambridge Higher School Certificate Examination D. A. C. Smith and J. C. Beck obtained certificates in History and English, as did N. C. Stone, who took French as an additional main subject.

M. C. Thompson obtained the certificate in Botany and Zoology.

A. R. Margetts took a supplementary pass in Chemistry and J. L. Russell passed the London 1st M. B. in Zoology, Botany, Chemistry, and Physics.

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A school concert was held in the Music Room on Sunday evening, 18th July. A notice of this appears elsewhere.

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The end of Term was marked by a prefects' party on Monday, 26th, which included a visit to a film in Cirencester.

On Tuesday 27th there was a dance (with a late extension) and Thursday, 29th July, saw us departing for the Summer Holidays. The School bus is a thing of the past now, but by taxis, ordinary buses, bicycles and diverse ways we all managed to get off somehow, nor were people stranded at the railway stations though the Bank Holiday week-end was in the offing.

Mrs Manifold left at the end of Term to take up a post at the Kendrick School, Reading. It seems hard to realise that she had completed three years at Rendcomb. She will be missed. Apart from her academic work, we will remember her as a recorder enthusiast and she contributed much to staff acting. Our best wishes go with her.

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D. R. Page joined the College at the beginning of Term.

\* \* \*

The following boys left at the end of Term, and to them we extend our Valet:—C. E. H. Tuck, A. R. Margetts, J. Owen, M. J. Bedwell, G. H. W. Bodman, J. L. Russell, E. J. M. Jefferies, M. C. Thompson, G. O. Williams, P. A. Dodwell, and  
F. A. Lawrence.

## **THE GENERAL MEETING.**

**Winter Term, 1943.**

**Chairman**—J. C. Beck.

**Council**—W. P. Thomas, N. C. Stone, J. C. Beck, J. M. Murry, F. H. Dutton, D. Montgomery, D. H. Hill.

**Meeting Selection Committee**—W. P. Thomas, D. Montgomery, F. G. Dutton, J. C. Beck, N. C. Stone.

**House Committee**—D. G. Knight, I. S. Menzies, J. R. C. Baillie, C. B. Lane, J. D. Draper, K. E. Banks.

**Games Committee**—D. H. Hill, N. P. Morris, R. Brain

**Groundsman**—R. A. S. Primrose.

**Senior Shopman**—J. J. North.

**Shopmen**—G. S. Davis, N. P. Elson.

**Banker**—M. R. F. Butlin.

**Breakages Man**—M. Butler.

**Secretary**—J. W. Sumsion.

**Auditors**—D. G. Knight, C. M. Carus-Wilson.

**Apprentice Auditors**—E. A. Jones, T. R. Morris.

**Finance Committee**—T. R. Morris, E. A. Jones, P. W. Sumsion.

**Entertainments Committee**—G. S. Davis, J. M. Henshaw, R. I. G. Hale, P. W. Sumsion, J. D. Draper.

**Cycle Men**—J. M. Trickett, R. I. G. Hale, K. E. Banks.

**Meeting Almoner**—R. T. Wood.

**Paperman**—J. M. Trickett.  
**Amplifier Committee**—F. H. Dutton, M. C. Harries, J. E. Carus-Wilson,  
 N. P. Elson, D. M. Grant.  
**Magazine Committee**—W. P. Thomas, D. Montgomery, N. C. Stone.  
**Drying Room Committee**—J. M. Henshaw, R. W. T. Buckingham, E. A.  
 Jones.  
**Record Committee**—W. P. Thomas, J. C. Beck, N. C. Stone, F. H. Dutton,  
 D. H. Hill.  
**End of Term Entertainments Committee**—N. C. Stone, F. H. Dutton, J.  
 M. Murry, N. P. Morris, R. Brain.  
**Salvage Organiser**—R. A. S. Primrose.  
**Salvage Committee**—P. A. T. Griffiths, R. I. G. Hale.  
**Mowing Man**—J. E. Carus-Wilson.  
**Assistant Mowing Man**—N. P. Elson.  
**Public Work Man**—B. W. Plenderleith.  
**Apprentice Banker**—R. M. Lewis.  
**Games Secretaries**—Football, N. P. Morris; Hockey, J. M. Murry.  
**Games Wardens**—Football, B. W. Plenderleith, K. E. Banks.  
 Hockey, C. B. Lane. Cricket, G. H. Bye. Indoor, K. J. Hanney, R. K. G.  
 Bick.  
**Groundsmen**—Cricket, R. Brain; Tennis, N. M. Wood, R. M. Lewis.  
**Price Committee**—D. G. Knight, J. F. Alder.

## **OLD BOYS' NOTES.**

### **Roll of Honour.**

Pilot Officer John Frederick Spencer, R.A.F. Killed in operations over  
 Germany on the night of March 29th, 1943. At Rendcomb Sept.  
 1933—July 1940.  
 John Robert Gurdon, Sergeant R.A.F.V.R. Missing from air operations in  
 April, now reported buried at Couvron, France. At Rendcomb Sept.  
 1935—July 1938.

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D. Dakin has been promoted to Squadron-Leader in the R.A.F.  
 A. J. Stanley is a Lieutenant in the Royal Artillery.  
 G. B. Stanley is a Captain in the Royal Army Service Corps.

Mr. R. M. Winter who has been at an O. C. T. U. is now a 2nd Lieutenant in the Pioneer Corps.

M. H. Fischer is now in the R. A. C.

Mr. J. B. Fell is now a Squadron-Leader, R. A. F.

J. C. Maslin has been promoted to Sergeant, R. A. F. He is in charge of an important repairs shop.

C. F. Bailey is now a Corporal in the Royal Tank Regiment, abroad.

A. R. Tenty has, for medical reasons, been transferred from the Tank Regiment to the R. A. S. C. He is present a Cadet in training for a commission.

E. D. Boulding has been promoted to Lieutenant in the Royal Artillery.

J. A. Cunnison is now in the R. N. V. R.

A. C. Magor has been promoted to Squadron-Leader in the R. A. F.

Guy Buck, who is abroad on active service, happened to come across the A. A. man who for a good many consecutive years was in charge of the car park at the stable courtyard on Founders' Day.

D. Gallop was listed in the magazine as being in the R. Es. This was an error and should have read R. F. During the summer he took part in the battalion athletic team's sports and won the High Jump at 5ft. 4ins., in a Brigade Meeting. Until recently Gallop was in the same platoon as T. W. Kitchen.

Letters have recently been received from the following Old Rendcombians who are abroad:—N. Dalton, Colin Bailey, B. J. Brooks, R. H. Bettison and M. A. C. Levett. M. C. B. Russell has been promoted to be a Junior Scientific Officer in the T. R. E.

A. G. Wager, of the Royal Signals' Corps, is a prisoner of war in Malaya.

J. R. Wheeler gave a very interesting talk entitled "The Baker's Man" on the Children's Hour programme of the B. B. C. on Wednesday, 9th June, 1943. He has been appointed an Assistant Master at Colchester Grammar School.

E. B. Smith is at present in the U. S. A. on R. A. F. training.

P. G. Forrest has passed Part I of his Engineering Degree at Southampton University College and has been granted a second year of study there.

M. C. Thompson after three months in the Navy has been sent on a course for a commission.

C. E. H. Tuck is attending an Army University Short Course at Exeter.

The following Old Boys visited the College during Term: —

A. S. C. Smith, Peter Binks, H. M. Fischer, P. A. Cutts, P. A. Jackson and P. G. Forrest.

### **PARENTS' DAY—12th June, 1943.**

We believe that we have now evolved the ideal type of wartime gathering for this occasion—a function suitable to everyone except an Editor in search of something novel to report. Even the clerk of the weather seems to be in the conspiracy, blue skies and sunshine becoming part of the accustomed setting. Not that this is such a *sine qua non* since we abandoned the woodland theatre. Still it is pleasant to know that our visitors can wander about the terraces and see our surroundings at their best, and for many of us, the day really begins with the *al fresco* luncheon on the enclosed lawn. Reclining on the slopes we are regaled with provender; the Headmaster gives out his final notices; the mowers cease from mowing, and soon afterwards people begin to emerge in their Sunday bests.

The assembly in Big School was somewhat more formal this year. The new Chairman of the Governing Body, Lieut.-Colonel J. Godman was with us for the first time. He was accompanied by Mrs Huntley Sinclair and Lord Dulverton. Tributes were paid to the great work done for Rendcomb by Canon Sewell, and Lord Dulverton in a graceful speech introduced Colonel Godman who addressed us in words that revealed a charming modesty and made us fully aware of the deep interest with which he assumes his new and onerous position.

Then followed the Headmaster's talk. After a survey of the year's activities he made a strong appeal for a policy of freedom in education, so that progressive schools should be given a charter to continue their valuable experimental work untrammelled by official red-tape.

Afterwards tea was served in the Gym—where the long buffet tables looked inviting—the flowers being, as always, very effectively arranged.

The Puppet Show at the House was greatly appreciated. It consisted of a performance of "Professor Pringle's Treasure," which our guests had not had the opportunity of seeing when it was first produced. It only remains to say that the Junior Players acquitted themselves admirably. The galleon hove to from the Spanish Main and the dastard schemes of Pablo—the half-caste— were frustrated in loyal and hearty manner.

The display in the Art Room reached a high standard of excellence. In particular the puppet exhibits arranged on a centre table gave the uninitiated a chance of viewing at close-hand the intricacies of the craft.

Notwithstanding the scarcity of materials, the Manual Exhibition in Saul's Hall made a very good show, and the Model Aeroplane Club had some very realistic exhibits which attracted much attention.

We know that our visitors greatly appreciate the informality of these gatherings, especially the opportunity of meeting and talking to people at leisure, and when the last guest had departed and the furniture shifters had restored things to normal, we could look back on a day that had fulfilled everything we could have asked.

### **WINGS FOR VICTORY WEEK.**

We apologise to the promoters of this excellent venture if we take the liberty of reporting it by means of a letter which came into our possession in the holidays, purporting to be written by a member of the Junior School—who in the circumstances begs to remain anonymous. A more formal reference will be found under School Notes.

“Rendcomb college”

Sunday 30 June. ”

“Dear Richard,

I am taking the chance of Q. P. wich means “quite period” only it is not so quite in the library to write to tell you about our “Wings for Victry week. ”

It began on Monday or rather they began getting ready for it on Monday because the first thing you had to do was to get your badge because if you hadn't got a badge you couldn't go in. for any of the competitions etc. so boys went round selling badges untill there was none left so I had to do with a paper one still it counted as well as the real thing.

Now I will look up my diary to see what next.

Tues. still selling badges.

wed. This was really in some ways the most exsiting day apart from grubb for there was a A. r. p. dissplay with R. A. F. bommers. First of all we went out onto the back laun where their was a part ropped of so that nobbody wd. get hurt by the bombs etc. and Mr. Richards who had a mikraphone to tell you what was hapening. Well everyone weighted and then 5 Oxfords came over the will- derness but they flew away as if they thought the collage was somewhere else only they came back to drop there bombs only they didn't drop them but Mr. Brown let them of. Then the firefighters crawled to put them out on their belleys which they did. Then

there was a horrible shriek and I saw Sumpson P at a window where he was supposed to be burning to death, well, there was another yell only this time it was Rudey Hale and you would have reeley thought it was his last. Then people began climbing up the outside of the building like cat burrglers and they reskewed Sumpson and Rudey Hale and let them down by roaps, then they brought the duel manuel pump and pumped a hole lot of water only it was into the first floor bathroom so it didn't matter so the college was. saved and everyone went away very pleased.

Thurs. We had a tresure hunt with cues from the stableyard to the willderness and all over the place they made you run to the lake and then to smith's cottidge which seemed unecessary for the tresure was near the villege hut I was hoping to get it only it was a saveings surficate which wouldn't have been much use for I wanted to bye some baltser wood and doap for my own wings for "victry".

Fri. There was a "wist drive" in the villege hut for more prices only the great thing about this was the grubb so it didn't reely matter wether you got a prise or not and I am surprised some boys were not sick in the knight for they ate so much.

P. S. This letter is getting very long so I shall finish it on Monday afternoon as part of my activittys.

Well Saturday was the best day of all because there was a fate on the Back Lawn with all sorts of sideshows like a travelling fair only it was very expansive for I started with one shilling and 6d. and it seemed to dissappear only there was a shilling in some water where you through in pennies and if you managed to cover it you got the shilling so I got six shilling for my luck was in only like a fool I went on untill I lorst everything and was worse of than before.

I say nothing about the aunt salleys only it was Hitler this time and a ring you had to move without wringing the bell which Monty did only someone shook my arm and in any case it was pretty hopeless. The morale is do not take too much money to fates like this unless you are a millionair.

In the evening there was a dance in the Gim and people came from the villege so they had a good time and I must say Miss Hach did us prwd tho we had to give up our buns for tea so that they could go to the dance.

Well I think that is all now only sometime in the holls we must try that shilling in the water because I think there is something in that after all and it is a thing you could do anywhere without any aparratus. Cheerio, your sincear friend, Jack.

P. S. My birthday is on the 13th July in case you wanted to know.

## MUSIC.

Summer Term, 1943.

On July 4th Miss Virginia McLean gave a pianoforte recital. She is an old friend and her sendees were much in demand during a brief stay. Mrs Lee-Browne's room was frequented by many whom we had previously thought insensitive to the appeal of music. Let it suffice to say that the "Spanish Fire Dance," if it did not scare away evil spirits from the crops, at least lifted cares from brows furrowed by thoughts of impending examinations.

Miss McLean played firstly Bach's Italian Concerto and Mozart's Sonata in G. Her playing, at once deft yet incisive, especially brought out the brilliant contrapuntal passages of the former piece. It would be an impertinence to speak of her rendering of Mozart.

Yet, for all this, we appreciated more the modern works she played. Rachmaninoff's Prelude in G. sharp minor, and Chopin's Preludes and Mazurkas seemed more vivid and romantic; similarly Arthur Bliss' "Mask" assumed new proportions. The recital ended with Debussy's "L'Isle Joyeuse," a work too often neglected contrasting well with the Chopin. It is a descriptive piece, difficult, yet with a lovely melody.

Miss McLean gave us a comprehensive programme and an opportunity to hear an eminent pianist which we get only too seldom. She gave grace and dignity to whatever she touched, and we are indebted to her for a delightful evening.

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On Sunday, 18th July, a School Concert took place in the Music Room. These concerts have now established themselves as a feature of our musical activities. They are really communal events, and there is a very pleasant feeling of team co-operation. Music cannot thrive by star performances alone—it is something we have to make for ourselves, and the contributors to these programmes deserve (as they have won) our whole-hearted appreciation. We do not propose to single out for special commendation this or that particular item. That would be contrary to the whole spirit of these events. Instead it remains to print the programme in its entirety and to thank one and all for a very enjoyable hour of music making.

Form I. Unison song, "Flowers in the Valley," Folk Song.

Form II. Two-part song, "Oh the Summer," Coleridge Taylor.

Forms I and II. Trio, "Lift Thine Eyes," Mendelssohn.

- K. J. Hanney. Piano, "A Tender Flower," Felix Swinstead.  
 T. R. Morris. Piano, "Minuet in F," Mozart.  
 N. M. Wood and Mrs Manifold. Recorder duet, "Simphonie de Mr King."  
 K. J. Hanney and Mrs Manifold. Recorder duet, "Gavotte" (Both these from "Duette englischer Meister").  
 P. W. Sumsion. Piano, "Landler," Schubert.  
 K. E. Banks. Piano, "Minuet," John Ivey.  
 Form III. Two-part song, "Evensong" (Arrangement of the Handel "Largo").  
 R. T. Wood and J. W. Sumsion. Violin and Piano, First Movement of Sonata in D, Schubert.  
 R. I. G. Hale. Piano, "Colonel Bogey" March (arranged by E. Moy).  
 C. M. Carus-Wilson. Piano, "Three Short Waltzes," Schubert.  
 Form III. Two-part Songs, "Fall on Me," Coleridge Taylor. "Five Eyes," Armstrong Gibbs.  
 C. E. H. Tuck. Piano, "Consolation in D flat," Liszt. Larghetto from Piano Concerto, Mozart.  
 Form VI. Songs, "Let us now praise famous men," Vaughan Williams. "Creation's Hymn," Beethoven.  
 Forms I, II, and III. Song, "Glad Hearts Adventuring," Martin Shaw.

### **THE MODEL AEROPLANE CLUB.**

It was in the Summer Term of 1942, that the Rendcomb Model Aeroplane Club met for the first time. Since then it has grown steadily in size and popularity, having been granted the use of the Hobbies Room as a permanent headquarters. The most beneficial results of this acquisition have been a centralisation of activity and the subsequent Exhibition on Parents' Day. This was an impressive feature and called forth many stimulating comments, particularly on the solid and flying models.

Report of the Club's activities spread rapidly, nevertheless it came as somewhat of a surprise to most people when, three weeks after Half-Term, a large camouflaged limousine, complete with Colonel and chauffeur, pulled up on the asphalt.

It appeared that certain of our models would be greatly appreciated in the Misarden Wings for Victory exhibition. We readily consented and a few days later an Army truck duly arrived. The models, carefully wrapped, were stowed inside and three members of the Club asked to accompany them.

At Misarden all arrangements for the display were left to them and they received full co-operation from the authorities. Every hospitality was extended to them, the officers' mess at the Pioneer Corps Headquarters being placed at their disposal, and from all reports it seems that a most enjoyable time was spent.

This is perhaps their most memorable achievement to date, but as there seems to be little chance of interest among members waning we may hope to find even this eclipsed in the near future.

### **SOME IMPRESSIONS OF CANADA.**

(The following are some extracts from an article received recently from R. C. V. Waters, R. A. F. )

I have just returned from a stay of several months in Eastern Canada. I was sent overseas under the Empire Air Training Scheme. I must confess that when I first learnt that I was to be shipped off to Canada I was not over-enthusiastic at the prospect. I suppose I was suffering from the Englishman's quite unjustified insular complacency.

Now that I have been to Canada and returned I cannot commend the experience too highly.

Out of many impressions I must limit myself to a few of the most vivid.

I shall never forget that bright sun-filled afternoon of late Summer when I stood by the Rainbow Bridge that links Niagara, Ontario, with Niagara City, New York State, and saw for the first time the spectacle of the Horse-shoe Falls. At one moment a river half a mile in width flows placidly on its way; the next it pours its spate of water unchecked over a sheer rock-face, one hundred and fifty feet in height. The base of the falls is a seething, whirling mass of angry foam. Over everything hangs a vast cloud of spray rising hundreds of feet into the air. On the day I was there the sunshine, caught in the vapour suspended in the atmosphere, formed innumerable small but perfect rainbows. The incessant roar of the falls drowned all other sounds...

A fruit-growing region known locally as "The Garden of Ontario," runs along the southern shore of the lake of the same name. Its existence came as a complete surprise to me when on a certain Sunday afternoon I was taken for a drive through it. We started off from the city of Hamilton, heading in an easterly direction along the "Queen Elizabeth Highway," a superb arterial road linking Toronto with Buffalo City.

A few miles out we turned off on to an older less frequented route called "The King's Highway." The high-speed traffic kept to the more modern road, leaving ours pleasantly uncrowded. To my amazement on each side of the road and stretching as far as the eye could see, were peach trees and grape vines. I was astonished to learn that peaches and grapes grew here in profusion without artificial aid. I had somehow imagined the Canadian climate to be severely rigorous, but now I know better. The Canadian summer is as warm as the winter is cold.

Of the winter I find it hard to write. Snow there was and snow in plenty for months on end, but it was exactly the same kind of snow that we get in England. (I think I must have expected some quite extraordinary and unusual phenomenon.) The cold, however, was all that I had imagined and more! I still remember with a mental shiver those February mornings when the thermometer registered 40 degrees of frost. We had to go a distance of about one hundred yards in the open to get to our mess. Woe-betide you if you were foolish enough to risk the journey without wearing a "Yukon" cap (i. e. a cap fitted with adjustable flaps to cover the ears). It invariably meant frost-bitten ears and having once experienced frost-bite I had no wish to repeat the experiment.

Such discomforts, however, were fully offset by certain mornings of incomparable beauty when the sun rose in a cloudless sky with the temperature anything from 40 to 50 below zero. Then such was the effect of sparkle and freshness one seemed to be gazing upon a newly created world.

My first railroad journey in Canada was of some thirty-six hours duration, during which time I travelled 1,100 miles. In England we consider a journey from London to Edinburgh as no mean achievement. This first journey of mine was just under three times the distance.

In England it is exceptional to travel for more than half an hour without passing through some kind of town. In Canada I sat gazing out of the observation car window for hours on end without seeing anything but hill-slopes covered with pine trees. Occasionally there would be a glimpse of a sheet of water with maybe a lonely farmhouse built upon its edge.

The trains themselves were different. The engines were enormous affairs complete with bell, siren, searchlight and cowcatcher. I would wake up in the night listening to the siren wailing mournfully. That doleful sound brought home to me the vastness of the country which I was traversing.

The coaches were all steel in construction and built on spacious lines. The car that in daytime served as an ordinary lounge was converted at night into an extremely comfortable sleeper by some apparently magical manipulation of curtains and sliding seats.

The train attendants wore scrupulously white surgical jackets and I might add that they were highly efficient.

The stations had no raised platforms. To alight from the train meant a descent of three or four feet on to the level of the track. This could be a tricky business when weighed down by a couple of man-sized kitbags.

R. C. V. W.

### **CRICKET REPORT.**

The school year of 1942-43 has been one of the most successful in the history of Rendcomb games. During the football, hockey and cricket seasons only two matches were lost. On the whole the weather has been favourable and more games were played than for the last two or three years.

Throughout the cricket season there has been vigour and keenness and the cricket was of a high standard. This was not only true of the Seniors—the Juniors were often to be seen batting and bowling energetically in the nets. We are grateful to the Captain, the Games Committee and the members of the First XI, who in their spare time helped to coach our younger cricketers. We must also thank Mr James and Mr Neal for their help in umpiring games and in coaching—and Bill Smith for keeping the cricket field in such good order.

The First XI played seven matches, losing only one. It is a pleasure to report that we beat North Cerney for the first time in Rendcomb cricket history—perhaps they are as pleased over this as we are. It is difficult to mention any individual players as everyone contributed to our victories. Beck and Montgomery usually gave the team a good start; they both have some fine innings to their credit and Beck should be congratulated on his splendid running between the wickets. Curry, at first wicket, came late into the team, but in the few matches in which he played he proved to be a skilful and stylish batsman. For the rest, Smith, Hill and Plenderleith could be relied upon for the hard hitting and quick scoring.

Owen bore the brunt of the bowling, often being unchanged throughout matches. Few runs were scored off him and many

wickets fell to his medium fast leg-breaks. Montgomery, Margetts, Plenderleith, and Smith shared the rest of the bowling, taking roughly an equal number of wickets.

The fielding was definitely of a high standard. Not once did we meet opponents who could gather and return the ball with such speed and accuracy. Margetts and Plenderleith deserve special praise for their reliable catching and safe ground fielding.

Smith proved himself a most excellent captain. Not only did he show considerable knowledge and skill in handling his team on the field, but his care for the game in the school generally was of a high order. In future years the school cricket will owe a good deal to the many hours of patient work he put in with the Juniors—and those who helped him in the work deserve to share in this acknowledgment.

### **FIRST XI RESULTS.**

**Saturday, May 15th.** —1st XI v Dean Close 2nd XI.

Rendcomb, 67. Dean Close, 54.

Owen 4 for 15; Montgomery 2 for 2.

**Saturday, May 29th.** —1st XI v North Cerney.

Rendcomb, 33. North Cerney, 104.

Owen 4 for 48; Montgomery 4 for 32.

**Saturday, June 5th.** —1st XI v North Cerney.

Rendcomb, 106. North Cerney, 82.

Owen 5 for 29; Smith 2 for 14. Smith 36; Beck 20.

**Sunday, June 26th.** —1st XI v R. A. F. XI.

Rendcomb, 32. R. A. F. XI, 26.

Smith 3 for 5; Montgomery 3 for 4; Owen 3 for 11.

**Saturday, July 3rd.** —1st XI v Dean Close 2nd XI.

Rendcomb, 124. Dean Close, 49.

Owen 3 for 17; Smith 2 for 3. Margetts 28, Plenderleith 21.

**Sunday, July 25th.** —1st XI v R. A. F. XI.

Rendcomb 85 for 4 declared. R. A. F. XI, 49.

Curry 32 not out; Montgomery 35 not out, Owen 4 for 19;  
Montgomery 3 for 4.

**Monday, July 26th. —1st XI v Cirencester Grammar School.**  
Rendcomb, 151. Cirencester Grammar School, 28.  
Beck 39, Montgomery 24. Owen 8 for 7.

**A XI.**

**Saturday, June 19th. —A XI v Cotswold School.**  
Rendcomb, 75 for 9 declared. Cotswold School 75.  
Hale 3 for 14, Murry 3 for 20, Plenderleith 3 for 21.  
Plenderleith 32 not out.

**Saturday, July 17th. —A XI v Cotswold School.**  
Rendcomb, 61. Cotswold School 20.  
Grant 5 for 15, Plenderleith 2 for 3.

**JUNIOR XI.**

**Saturday, July 17th. —Junior XI v Cirencester G. S. Junior XI.**  
Rendcomb, 12. Cirencester Grammar School, 151.  
Jones 6 for 51.

**Saturday, July 24th. —Junior XI v Cirencester G. S. Junior XI.**  
Rendcomb, 20. Cirencester Grammar School, 49.  
Williams 5 for 15, Menzies 3 for 15.