

RENDCOMB COLLEGE MAGAZINE

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VOLUME V, NO. 1

NOTE—This composite issue (Nos. I. and II.) covers the period from Lent Term, 1934, to the end of Summer Term, 1935, inclusive. In May, 1936, a further number will be published, comprising Michaelmas Term, 1935, and Lent Term, 1936. Thereafter the Magazine will be published at the end of the fourth week in each Term.

SCHOOL NOTES.

Lent Term, 1934

During the Easter Holidays a water softener was installed at Rendcomb House. Staff and boys using the House will now be able to wash in comfort, and incidentally countless pounds of soap, which were hopefully employed in an effort to obtain a lather, will now be saved

The weather this year was kind to hockey and, in addition to an unusual number of full games, a good deal of informal hockey was played on the asphalt.

One of the most outstanding events of the term was the County Drama Festival. A team of boys from the College successfully negotiated the preliminary round and was placed third by the adjudicators in the County finals, at Gloucester.

We were delighted to welcome Mr. C. F. Cooke once more to Rendcomb. An old friend of the College, he talked to us on the Flemish School of Painting. Other lecturers were Dr. Habberton Lulham and Mr. Walter S. Rowntree.

DEATH OF MRS. BUCKLE.

Lent Term, 1934

Everyone will be sorry to hear of the death of Mrs. Buckle. In early days she was cook at the College, and many will remember her familiar figure taking her dog for a walk. We extend our warm sympathy to Mr. and Miss Buckle.

COUNTY DRAMA FESTIVAL.

As there was no junior section of the County Drama Festival this year, a team was entered in the adult class. At the time of entry it was pointed out by the organisers that no allowance could be made for the fact that the team was composed of boys, and that they would be judged solely on the merits of their production. In the light of this, it is particularly praiseworthy that the team was sent on from the preliminary round in Cirencester to the County finals in Gloucester, where it was placed third by the adjudicators. The play selected was "The Market Money," by Eden Phillpotts.

LECTURES.

Lent Term, 1934

JANUARY, 1934

On Friday, the 23rd, Mr. Walter S. Rowntree discussed the life and appearance of men of the Stone Age. The lecturer indicated the general course of the physiology of modern man and then proceeded to a somewhat more detailed discussion of Pithecanthropus, Homo Heidelbergensis, Eoanthropus, and Homo Neanderthalensis. Details of the discoveries were given, and interest was sustained by numerous slides of reconstructions of these early types.

Neanderthal men became extinct, and new races of men, Homo Sapiens, entered into possession of Europe. This was the Reindeer Age, and with it came a growing improvement in the art of working flint, and a new material, bone, was introduced. Mr. Rowntree described the birth of the fine arts, and showed some good slides of the roof paintings at Altamira, and other palaeolithic mural art.

The lecture concluded with the culmination of palaeolithic life, as shown by its industries and art, and a brief account of the change to Neolithic culture.

On Thursday, 23rd February, 1934, Dr. Habberton Lulham gave us mother sample of his own species of diverting humour, blended with serious nature study. He brought, as usual, a fine collection of slides, some being of outstanding merit.

By a number of sketches and anecdotes at the beginning, he established the rural atmosphere in which he prefers to move. We recall his entertaining parody of the saws of weather prophets. Then followed one of the special studies of the evening, dealing with the otters he has watched and photographed in his own country. This provided first-rate instructional material, full of vivid interest, of course, greatly enhanced by his pictures.

The latter part of the lecture was mainly occupied by a study of the Devon stag hunt. It was a painstaking account packed with information. Here also Dr. Lulham showed his skill at lecturing with lantern slides. Where a complex process was to be described, he mixed description, sketches and photographs so cunningly that he could present a mass of detail and make his point with thoroughness, yet at no time could the interest flag. His treatment was purely objective, and was justified by the way it lead to a close and careful study of the deer and their country. We were interested to find how the contour of the hilly Devon moors conditions the behaviour of the stag and the technique of the hunt.

Once again we own indebtedness to the lecturer for instructing us so thoroughly and so entertainingly.

MR. COOK'S LECTURE.

It is only possible here to deal with a few of the many slides that Mr. Cooke showed us when he gave us his delightful lecture on the Flemish School of painters. He showed us how intensely interested they were in people and things, in landscape, draperies and colour. This richness of colour was made possible by oil painting, the first perfected use of which is attributed to the brothers Hubert and Jan van Eyck.

"The Adoration of the Lamb" (mostly the work of Hubert, probably) in St. Bayon's Church in Ghent, shows, besides much else, a love of the country for its own sake, a delight in green glades and bright flowers, in

blue hills and distant spires. Jan's "Arnolfini and his Wife," repays devoted study. The man and wife have not beautiful faces, but these painters were interested first of all in truth. The detail in the picture is amazing. There is a soft light from a window on the left, lighting up the exquisite lace, the green dress, the purple cloak, the red curtains, the patterned carpet, the brass chandelier, the scarlet slippers, the oranges, the amber necklace, and—marvel of marvels—a mirror on the back wall. The loving workmanship of the reflection, and of the ten scenes from The Passion, surrounding the mirror, is beyond all praise.

Brueghel's pictures were very joyous. We were struck by the vitality and the modernity of his "Village Scene," and his "Winter Landscape." Another lover of the country was Patinir. The public demanded a Biblical subject, but, as we saw in his "Flight into Egypt," it is primarily a landscape that he gives us, with figures in it.

Mr. Cook showed us a number of pictures of the Virgin and Child with a saint, and the donor. One of the most notable of these is by Memlinc. It shows the Virgin in cherry-red drapery on a richly decorated throne with an Oriental carpet at her feet.

Owing to Italian influence, some Flemish painters crowded their pictures with elaborate decoration. Rubens studied in Italy, but he retained his Flemish vigour and originality. In his "Descent from the Cross" we noted the light falling on the central figure, and the drapery, the pathetic droop of the body, and the amazingly graceful lines. It is, indeed, a masterpiece of composition.

ACTING.

Acting during Lent Term, 1934, maintained a fairly high standard, but it was regrettable to notice the absence of that individual enterprise which has been such a prominent feature of previous terms. All the plays performed by boys were produced largely in school, with the exception of the Drama Festival play, and even this, one understands, was originally the result of outside instigation.

There are, of course, several good reasons for this state of affairs. The two lower forms are, perhaps, not yet able to produce plays on their own, though they could very well do so, with the outside help which would be speedily forthcoming on request, and the majority of the three upper forms are either preparing for or recovering from examinations, and have

comparatively little time for out-of-school activities. Nevertheless, it would be very regrettable if the tradition of individual enterprise in acting, of which we have had such splendid examples during the last few years, were to die out.

For the majority of the many Form plays Mr. Fogden was responsible. Forms III. and Va. both produced some Latin scenes. It is difficult to criticise a performance in a language which one does not properly understand, but it is probable that Latin scenes have a greater educational than entertainment value. At any rate, such humour as the audience found in the Form III. Latin play was largely incidental and unintentional, although the Form V. Latin play had an exciting climax.

Form I. produced two well-known Shakespearian scenes, one, from "Julius Caesar," and the other from "King John." They seem to have acquired more self-confidence since last term. They must learn to speak more naturally, but this improvement will doubtless come with time.

Form Vb. also performed a scene from "The Tempest," in which Wright revealed unsuspected comic gifts.

Two French plays were given at the end of term, both being produced by Mr. Hosken. The same criticism may be made of "L'Arriviste," played by Form Vb, as of the Latin scenes: that for a play in a foreign language it was too devoid of action. The language difficulty here, however, was not so pronounced, as a larger section of the audience was able to follow the French and the producer gave a brief resume of the plot of each play before it was performed. It is hardly fair to criticise "L'Arriviste," as, owing to the sudden indisposition of Skelton, the cast was deprived at the last moment of one of its most important members, and Mr. Hosken was compelled to read his part.

"Le Pate et la Torte" was performed by Form Va. This was a model of what a French play should be. The plot was simple and the humour lay largely in the action. The play was very well cast. Coles and G. Wilson were completely at home as the two beggars, as too, was Lowe, in the part of the pastrycook's wife; while to Roberts, as the pastrycook; no higher praise can be given than that his acting was worthy of his make-up, which was an inspiration. The producer is to be heartily congratulated on these two productions.

Perhaps the most outstanding event in the term's acting was the production of the two plays which were given at the Gloucestershire Drama Festival.

It is difficult and perhaps unnecessary to add anything to what has already been said in the local Press of "The Market Money," which was performed by members of Va. and Vb., and produced by Mr. Newport. This play, after having been highly commended when performed at Cirencester, was chosen to be again performed at the final of the Festival in Gloucester, where it received a silver star. Slade, Hanks, and Lowe were all excellent in their respective parts, while Pullin gave an extraordinarily convincing performance in a rather melodramatic role.

"The Heart of a Clown" was performed by members of the staff: Mrs. Browne, Miss McCabe, Mr Hosken and Mr Newport. Mr Newport as Clown, and Mrs. Browne as Columbine, succeeded in imparting an air of reality to an artificial and rather sentimental dialogue, and Mrs. Browne in particular seemed to lend to the production that peculiar combination of lightness and sincerity of make-believe and reality which is essential for the successful performance of a play of this type.

E D.B.

HOCKEY.

Lent Term, 1934

The weather this year, unlike last, was very favourable, and it was possible to make a good start right at the beginning of term. The standard from the first game was high, and it was a pity that two of our matches were cancelled. Our first match, with a team from Dean Close, we lost, 3—1, but not without keeping our opponents well occupied in their own half for much of the time. The backs and goal played a very sound game, covering each other very well indeed. The halves were rather unreliable at times, but played quite well on the whole. They must learn to make openings for their forwards, and to pass accurately. The forwards tended to be our weakness, being "off-side" too frequently, and their shooting and passing was rather erratic. Nevertheless the opponents' backs were kept distinctly busy most of the time.

Group Games. For the first time Hockey Group Games were played, and they were a great success. Not least of their virtues was the fact that they revealed unexpected talent in the middle and lower parts of the School.

The result was a very satisfactory draw and the West are to be complimented on beating the East. The results of the games and the order of playing was:

South 2.	West1.
East 1.	South0.
West 3.	East2.

The juniors showed great promise, and should produce some very good players in the future.

RUNNING.

Lent Term, 1934.

INTER-GROUP RELAY RACE. It has been felt in previous years that the relay of 6 stages of 100 yards might well be improved upon, and this year it was run round the Lodges in six stages, varying in length from 500 yards to half-a-mile. The East won very comfortably in 11 mins. 14secs.; the West were second in 11 mins. 47secs, and the South third in 12mins. 0secs.

The experiment has proved to be a success, and a different arrangement of the stages will probably further improve it.

NORTH CERNEY RACE. The entry for the North Cerney (only three people) was distinctly disappointing. Roberts took the lead at the beginning, and made very good going over the very wet surface, to win in 22mins. 41 secs. Vaughan was second in 25mins. 30secs.

SENIOR LODGES. The entry for the Senior Lodges was more satisfactory than in recent years, chiefly due to the enthusiasm of Vb. The places were:

1. J. Roberts, 13mins. 32secs.
2. W. Y. Willetts, 14mins. 28secs.
3. D. C. Vaughan, 14mins. 59secs.

JUNIOR LODGES. The times for the Junior Lodges were very much better than last year. Selby's time, in particular, being excellent and within 1 sec. of the record. The places were:

1. H. H. Selby, 14mins. 30secs.
2. R. H. Bettison, 14mins. 41 secs.
3. J. H. Gwinnell, 15mins. 1 sec.

The way in which people finished up hard in all the races was very good to watch.

SCHOOL NOTES.

Summer Term, 1934.

The pylon legs of modern science have marched to Rendcomb. For some time the College electric light plant has met inadequately the increasing demands made upon it. With our numbers up to 73, and every nook and cranny of the building in full commission, the burden was deemed to be too heavy for it to support, and after fourteen years of faithful service—during the last four of which it was consistently overworked — it has retired honourably. In the Summer Holiday workmen came with pylons, wires, insulators and transformers, and on Tuesday, 18th September, 1934, quietly, and without ceremony, a switch was pulled over and the College became one of the millions of consumers of electricity supplied by the National Grid system. In passing, it may be of interest to some that the Village Post Office, too, has clasped the benefits of modern science to its ample bosom, and one can now select a bright, new postage stamp by the illumination of a dazzling electric light. Gone forever are the dark winter evening stumbles down the back drive. Lights on the poles carrying the wires along this drive make easy the avoidance of puddles and dripping laurels.

The installation of the mains electricity by no means saw the end of workmen's activities during the holiday. The old harness room in the Stable Building was transformed into an up-to-date laboratory. This will be used chiefly by the Science Section of the VIth Form and as a preparation room for the Science staff. When the necessary transformers arrive, probably at the end of this term, both direct and alternating current will be available at high and low voltages in the old and new laboratories. A boon which, no doubt, our scientists will appreciate to the full.

Events crowded thick and fast in the middle of the Summer Term. The forerunner of these was the Old Boys' Day, on 19th May. This is reported more fully later in this number, and suffice it here to say that we were delighted to welcome as captain of the Old Boys' Cricket XI. A. Smith, home on leave from Africa, which, we understand, is far less dark since the advent of Rendcomb. Then on 31st of May, we assembled on the asphalt and waved "au revoir" and "good hunting" to a cavalcade of two cars and a trailer, laden with the Head-

master, Mrs. Lee-Browne, Mr. Woodroffe, four budding biologists, camping equipment and collecting impedimenta. It was the annual Scientific Expedition starting for the wild Welsh Gower Peninsula, from which it returned weather-beaten and with many carboys filled with strange sea beasts, which later formed the backbone—if such a term may be applied to a collection of invertebrates—of the Biological Section of the Founder's Day Scientific Display. Hardly had we turned from our cheers and "God speeds" than the morrow dawned upon us, and, with it, Commemoration Day. Under the kindly wings of Mr. and Mrs. Fogden, a party of fourteen junior members of the College picnicked at Hillcote. Another party, with Mr. Hosken and Mr. Newport, spent the day walking and picnicking and swimming in Cirencester Baths. The remaining members of the College either went home or joined various small cycling expeditions. Thus fortified, we awaited with comparative equanimity a full inspection by the Board of Education.

On Wednesday, 6th June, three of His Majesty's Inspectors, including Mr. F. R. G. Duckworth, Chief Inspector for Secondary Schools, arrived and for three days enquired diligently into our ways of life and learning. We gather that they were not altogether ill-pleased with what they saw and heard. And so with the arrival of Earl Jellicoe and Founder's Day, on Saturday, 16th June, of which we print a full report, we reach our climax. Thence, by gentle way of a repetition of "The Rational Princess" for the North Cerney Women's Institute and the village, we reached the grim business level of the School Certificate Examination, on Tuesday, 22nd June. Of the thirteen candidates who sat for the Examination. R. A. T. J. Skelton, T. D. Wright, N. Slade, J. H. A. Muirhead, J. F. Roper, A. W. F. Abbott and N. Dalton passed, and J. H. R. Thornhill matriculated.

Owing to the cutting of laurels and general clearance of undergrowth, the Open Air Theatre a few weeks before Founder's Day presented a very unpromising appearance. Something obviously had to be done about it. So the Headmaster, the whole of the College, the Alvis and trailer, were pressed into service, and in a surprisingly short time transported several tons of good Cotswold stone from the quarry on the Cheltenham road to the stage. Of this material "Striker" Smith built a really beautiful wall across the gap at the back of the stage, left by departed laurels. Then Mrs.

Lee-Browne, with a needle and half-finished costume in one hand, took a pencil in the other and planned some delightful landscape gardening which was executed by the College foreman. The Headmaster, with a handful of boys, again advanced to the attack, and out of two long dead fountains constructed a very convincing medieval garden seat. It required very little imagination to accept the resultant "set," with its wall, flower beds, suggested flower bordered walks, and stone seat, as a palace garden—the required mise-en-scene for "The Rational Princess." And to crown our efforts, the ghosts of the fountains—no doubt gratified by their translation from the stable rubbish heap to more dignified surroundings—kept a benevolent eye on the weather.

Mr. Molineaux, with the real artist's love of a North light, has been responsible for the removal of the Art Room from Big School to the room in Rendcomb House, which was in Mr. Simpson's time, the dining-room. And now the weary wielder of the pencil has the orchard with which to refresh his tired eyes.

During the term the tennis-post sockets on the House courts were firmly embedded in concrete, and both courts surrounded by an efficient boundary of wire netting. This will obviate the preliminary, and strictly temporary, rigging of a net, and subsequent hunt for lost balls—in the past inseparable adjuncts to an afternoon's tennis on these courts.

We heartily congratulate D. C. Vaughan on winning a British Empire Engineering Scholarship to Loughborough College, and wish him every possible good fortune in his training and future career.

We also congratulate J. R. Wheeler and M. H. C. Martin on being awarded Lord Kitchener Memorial Scholarships. In October Wheeler goes into residence at Merton College, Oxford, and Martin to Peterhouse, Cambridge.

J. R. Wheeler (Senior Prefect), D. C. Uzzell, D. C. Vaughan, J. R. V. Davies, G. A. Lowe, H. E. Miller, V. W. Pullin, D. A. J. K. Richards, J. F. Roberts, A. E. Shield, A. D. Thomas, O. G. Morel, and M. C. Richardson, all left the College at the end of the Summer Term, 1934.

FOUNDERS DAY.

We reprint the following account of Founder's Day from the "Wilts and Gloucester Standard":

Admiral of the Fleet Earl Jellicoe, G.C.B., G.C.V.O., was the chief speaker at the Founder's Day celebrations at Rendcomb College last Saturday, his presence probably accounting for the fact that the attendance was larger than usual.

The Rev. Canon H. Sewell, chairman of the Governing Body, presided, other governors present being Mrs. Noel Wills, Lord Dulverton, Sir Russell J. Kerr, Mr. H. W. Household and Mr. F. W. T. James.

The visitors included Lady Jellicoe, Sir Alan Anderson, M. P., the Hon. Claud and Mrs. Biddulph, Sir John Birchall, M P, and Lady Birchall, Mr. T. Hannam Clark, Sir George and Lady Carmichael, Lord Dickinson, Lady Dulverton, Lord and Lady Dunmore, Colonel and Mrs. H. C. Elwes, Mr. Gavin Hamilton, Commander and Mrs. Richardson, Mr. and Mrs. W. St. Clair Baddeley, Mr. C. Tollemache Scott, Colonel and Mrs. Sleeman, and Brig.-General and Mrs. Stockley.

The Headmaster, Mr. D. W. Lee-Browne, in his report, said the health of the College had been good, and there had been no cases of infectious disease during the year. This term they had again broken their record for the smallest number of boys who had required dental treatment. Medical supervision and sound diet both played their part, and Dr. Gladstone and Miss Simmons deserved great praise for the able way in which they continued to carry out their work.

There had been two changes on the staff during the year. Mr. H. U. Molineaux, a distinguished artist and craftsman, took over the drawing last September. At the same time Mr. R. H. Newport came to the College as his Secretary and to help with the acting and physical training. He was the first Old Boy to join the staff. He expressed gratitude to his colleagues for the work they did in school, and for their generosity with their spare time.

The School had been growing, and shows all the signs of continuing to grow. Two additional masters were to be appointed to the staff as from next September, and from that time the School would be re-organised into six forms instead of five. That must be, to some extent, an experimental measure which must justify itself, but he had no doubts at all

about its success. It would have far-reaching results. It would be possible to have an entry of Gloucestershire Foundationers every year, instead of every two years. The grading of both age and ability would be more efficient, more natural, and better fitted for a growing school. All the main subjects would be each in the hands of one master, and there would be more men with whom the boys would come in contact. Lastly, and by no means of least importance, forms will be able to continue to be small.

Referring to the examination results, he said D. C. Vaughan had won a British Empire Engineering Scholarship to Loughborough College, open for competition to candidates from the British Isles and all over the Empire. As a small boy there he lost nearly four terms through illness, hence the achievement was one of which both he and those who have taught him might be justly proud. 1,015 candidates applied for Kitchener Scholarships this year, and only 126 awards were made. Two of those came to Rendcomb, one to Richard Wheeler and one to Michael Martin. The Higher School Certificate results were well up to standard, five boys passing the examination. Of the two boys who failed in the Cambridge examination, one only just failed to pass, and this largely because he was short of time in which to do the work. In December last, 19 candidates entered for the School Certificate Examination: 18 passed and 10 of those matriculated, two with honours. Although he was less and less a believer in examinations, he thought that in schools where they were not treated as a fetish they could be at least some indication that the work of the school was going forward with vitality.

Last week the College received a full inspection by the Board of Education. They were honoured by the presence of the Chief Inspector of Secondary Schools, Mr. F. R. G. Duckworth, evidence of the interest the Board had in the work done. The report was not yet published, but he was sure the Inspectors were interested and impressed with a good deal of what they saw of the place.

The standard of games had been improving steadily throughout the year. Mr. James and Mr. Hosken had rendered valuable help to the boys in that direction, and the new re-organisation of the school would do much to keep the standard at a high level and to avoid the difficulty they had in the past, when in every alternate year the upper half of the school had only contained a small number of older boys.

Acting had continued as a vigorous out-of-school interest, and this year they had the satisfaction of winning an award in open competition. A team of boys was entered in the ordinary adult class of the County Drama Festival. The Rendcomb play was successful in the preliminary round and was sent on to the County final at Gloucester, where the team was placed equal third by the judges. The excellence of the production and the success it attained were largely due to Mr. Newport, and were typical of the fine work he was doing with the acting. Mr. Hosken produced an excellent French play at the end of the Easter term.

With the cinematograph, owing to difficulties of both time and expense, less actual production work had been done than hoped. A standard sized projector was used during the winter, mainly with material supplied by the Empire Marketing Board and the Film Department of the Post Office. The large number of boys who came was ample evidence of the interest aroused.

Music and singing had been quietly developing and he was grateful to Mr. Inge for his continued co-operation in allowing the use of the church organ for teaching purposes.

A considerable number of boys, from Form 1 upwards, had made use of the laboratory under the guidance of Mr. Richards and Mr. Woodroffe. An attempt was being made to create permanent fresh-water and sea-water aquaria. In connection with the latter, a Scientific Expedition was organised early this term to collect material. The camp was established on the South Wales coast beyond Swansea, and the two days were utilised both for the gathering of specimens and for observation of the flora and fauna of the area. The expedition was an unqualified success. The sea-water aquarium would take some time to establish, its adjustment being a very delicate process.

Appreciation was recorded of the admirable work of the Domestic and Outside Staffs, whose loyalty and efficiency were of a high order and, in the case of the Domestic Staff, reflected great credit upon the enthusiasm and kindness of Miss Simmons's leadership.

Improvements had been made to the changing rooms and the drying room, while the whole of the top floor of the house, which consisted largely of dormitories, had been completely re-decorated. It had been decided to go over to the main electrical supply and to discontinue

the manufacture of their own electric light, which would make electricity available for the laboratory and in the flats occupied by married masters. He was grateful to Captain Poore for the many ways in which he made things easy where their work came into contact, and he owed much to Mr. Rawlins for help and advice.

The library was always open for the receipt of books. It was young and, as yet, inadequate for a school where boys had unusual opportunities for reading. There was room for standard works of every description.

Of boys leaving at the end of the term and their plans for the future, R. C. V. Waters was articled to a solicitor in Bristol and, at the same time, was taking classes at Bristol University. A. R. Curtis was at a training college for schoolmasters. C. Sidgwick was spending a year abroad before entering a publishing firm. M. H. C. Martin was spending six months in France before going up to Peterhouse, Cambridge, in October. C. E. Coles and H. C. J. Hanks have entered business firms. D. C. Uzzell was going to Bristol University in October, with a view to becoming a schoolmaster; the College owed much to his enthusiasm for music, and to the fact that he had acted as College organist for the past three years. J. R. Wheeler, after two years as group leader and as senior prefect, was going to Merton College, Oxford, to read English. J. F. Roberts and A. E. Shield stood as sound examples of the kind of boy who left there after doing well in the School Certificate Examination.

With practically no exceptions—even since the crisis—no boy had left Rendcomb, who has asked for help in that direction without a post of some kind having been put in his way. That involved a great deal of work, and was a direction in which parents and friends of the school could be of inestimable help. Rendcomb stood for training boys to take real responsibility and to take the initiative, and to be as free as possible from fear and prejudice. Business firms who had Rendcomb boys came back to them again. Both the boys mentioned as having gone into business firms, filled vacancies that were not advertised. In each case the manager of the firm wrote and asked if he would nominate a boy for the post.

He did not suggest they were necessarily turning out super-men, but a boy who had had the individual attention which he could get there, coupled with the training given by the General Meeting, their economic scheme and

the wide liberty the boys had for the development of themselves, at the age of 25 to 30, would be able without difficulty to take opportunities of responsibility, and benefit both himself and his employer. He had boys of all ages, from 15½ to 18½, to place, and he wished to get into touch with a wider circle of opportunities for them. Friends of the school could lend the most valuable help by giving him personal introductions to directors or managers or sending him details of vacancies which came to their notice. He did not want to get into touch only with "big guns." Small progressive firms of all kinds, and names of professional men who took pupils at moderate fees were all of value. He was absolutely rigid in not putting forward a boy unless he believed him to be suitable for a post. In cases of doubt, he was prepared to take two or three boys for interview, so that the employer might choose for himself.

He concluded with a sincere appreciation of the interest which the Governors took in the School and of their unstinted kindness to him. As to the Chairman, it was difficult adequately to express his feelings. Visits to him were a constant source of enjoyment and inspiration. A good deal of nonsense was talked today about the wisdom of youth. He found that the Chairman was prepared, to a large extent, to leave 1934 to him. His difficulty was in keeping up with the Chairman's plans for 1944 and the implications of them. They would all join him in saying what a great pleasure it is to see Canon Sewell once again at the head of the Governors on Founder's Day.

The honours list, as printed on the programmes, was as follows: D. C. Vaughan—British Empire Scholarship to Loughborough Engineering College. J. R. Wheeler—Lord Kitchener National Memorial Fund Scholarship. M. H. C. Martin—Lord Kitchener National Memorial Fund Scholarship.

Higher School Certificate, 1933—E. D. Boulding, A. R. Curtis, R. C. V. Waters, A. M. M. Wilson, J. R. Wheeler.

Honours School Certificate, 1933, —J. F. Roberts, W. Y. Willetts.

London Matriculation, 1933—A. E. A. Brain, H. E. Miller, D. A. J. K. Richards, A. E. Shield, A. D. Thomas, O. G. Morel, G. M. Wilson, R. M. W. Campbell.

School Certificate, 1933—C. E. Coles, J. R. V. Davies, H. C. J. Hanks, G. A. Lowe, V. W. Pullin, N. Slade, J. H. A. Muirhead, A. W. F. Abbott.

EARL JELlicOE'S ADDRESS.

Earl Jellicoe said he had heard with great interest the report of the Headmaster. Rendcomb College seemed to have established a record in health during the past year. No teeth had been drawn, and if only Osborne College had been like that when it was training cadets he thought it would be in existence now.

Another point of the greatest possible interest was that the College was founded by Mr. Noel Wills, a man of immense generosity, of the keenest insight and possessing a wonderful knowledge of what was required in an educational system. He started that College on its present road to success.

It was also a matter of great interest to see a lot of boys who were specially selected to come there, and who were given an opportunity, not open to all boys of the country, he was sorry to say, of making a real mark for themselves in their future lives.

He was much struck by the interest shown in the future of the boys by obtaining posts for them when they left that College. That was a matter of the utmost possible importance to the boys in their future lives, and he would ask the boys who had that great privilege of studying there to make the most of their opportunity to endeavour to develop character, because that was, after all, the main object of education. A boy carved his own character when he was young, and the character he carved then stuck to him for his life, and it was upon that character that his future depended. It was therefore of the utmost possible importance for a boy to make the most of the opportunities offered to him at that College. They could not all obtain scholarships or be at the head of their forms, but they could all be straight, courageous and honest in their dealings, and play a straightforward game. They could, as the Chairman had said, lead an unselfish life, thinking not only of themselves but of others. They could think of the other people of this country, and think of the people in the Empire, a matter in which he felt the greatest possible interest.

He hoped that all the boys in England, and all the girls in England, would see to it that in their future lives they would do all that was in their power to help their brethren in the distant parts of our Empire. They were all just as British as we were, and most of them, if not all, called this country "home," and looked upon us as their brothers and sisters,

They were absolutely and intensely loyal and, from his experience of the Dominions, loyalty there was more in evidence than it was in this country.

The Empire, founded by those splendid predecessors of ours, was unquestionably the greatest power for peace there was in the world, and in order that we might preserve that power for peace, we wanted to keep the Empire united and strong. With one-third of the officers and men of the mercantile marine unemployed, it was to him cruel to find anybody travelling or sending goods in a ship not belonging to the British Empire, and he therefore asked them, if they went abroad or to the Dominions, to travel in a British ship, to buy British goods, and to take a great pride in the Empire.

He supposed most boys, by the time they reached the age at which they joined that College, had got some idea of what life they hoped to take up in their future lives. One could not always be as happy in selecting one's future as one would like. He managed to strike the right spot, and when he went into the Navy it was the only thing he had had any ambition for. Like most boys, he supposed, he felt quite certain that he was going to the top of the tree, and he remembered being very much chaffed by his people because, when a naval cadet of 13 in the "Britannia," he wrote in one of his lesson books, "This book belongs to Admiral Sir John Jellicoe." That was real optimism.

There were three professions open to everybody, the Army, Navy and Air Force, and those who entered those professions had the advantage of undergoing a certain amount of discipline, and being taught to take advantage of opportunities. Although those who took part in the late war, above all others, never wanted to see another war, there was still a good deal to be said for the Scouts' motto, "Be prepared." He wondered if the Headmaster was prepared to listen to his request for a big holiday in memory of Founder's Day.

After a pause, he announced: "The answer is in the affirmative."

There was a very large number of Englishmen whose memories were honoured today—soldiers, sailors, inventors, doctors, chemists, professors, leading politicians, and men of industry and commerce—who rose from the bottom. There was then a very fine chance for every boy to make his mark in the world, provided always he was ready to work hard, and whatever he undertook, to do it with all his might.

It was a question of character and hard work and determination to succeed. He hoped most sincerely that many of the boys leaving Rendcomb College in the future would make names for themselves in some direction or other. Certainly they had the chance.

"Make the best of it," he concluded. "Stick to your work; think not only of yourselves, but of others; and I wish you all the very best of good luck in your future lives."

THANKS TO THE SPEAKER.

Lord Dulverton, in proposing a vote of thanks to Earl Jellicoe—not only for his helpful, amusing and vivid speech, but also for having given up that week-end to Rendcomb—said it was of the greatest possible interest to humanity to meet for the first time an individual who had attained conspicuous achievement, a man whose name was a household word, not only throughout this island, but throughout the British Empire. Lord Jellicoe had to some extent, in that part of Gloucestershire, that equation which he believed to be the most valuable in our human intercourse, the personal equation.

At an early age he carved out a career, and set out for himself a particular goal, which he not only reached, but surpassed. It always seemed to him that when the time came—and they all hoped the date was very far away when the historian would have to deal with Lord Jellicoe's services to the country and with his personality—he believed that one of the things that he would say was that by his personal example, the embodiment of himself, he did more to create and maintain one of the proudest distinctions ever given to the British Navy, when it was called "The Silent Service."

The vote of thanks was seconded by Colonel Sir Russell J. Kerr, and carried unanimously, this part of the proceedings concluding with cheers for Earl Jellicoe, Mrs. Wills, and the visitors.

A WOODLAND PLAY.

After the speeches, the visitors were entertained to tea, after which they inspected an exhibition of experiments and other scientific work in the laboratory, pieces of furniture made in the College workshop being also on view.

Later in the woodland theatre, they saw the boys give a performance of "The Rational Princess," by Harold Brighouse, excellent as all Rendcomb College productions are, all the costumes, as usual, being made in the College.

OLD BOYS' NOTES.

R. T. Humpidge, who migrated to the Cotham School Bristol, after two years at Rendcomb, was placed forty-fifth out of 600 candidates in a recent Naval Artificers' Apprentice Examination. Sixty-eight candidates were accepted.

N. A. Perkins obtained a first-class in the Mathematical Schools, Oxford.

OLD BOYS' DAY.

Old Boys' Day, May 19th, 1934, saw a fine representative gathering. The procedure this time was the same as last year: Luncheon, the Annual General Meeting, the cricket match against the College, and supper.

The first and last items need no comment, but the second and third do, especially 'the third. For the cricket match was memorable in that the College captain, evidently deeply impressed by the methods "adopted" by the County skipper, thought fit to emulate the great "BH"—with disastrous consequences. He declared when the College side had made 102 for 8, and it certainly seemed as if this policy would succeed, when the Old Boys had lost several wickets for a score of runs or so. But he hadn't bargained for Mr. "Wally" Ham Harding. Now, Mr. Harding is a cricketer. He is a cricketer, that is to say, who plays cricket. For he went in to bat, and started, much against the rules of the game, to make runs. And he went on making runs. And, finally, you couldn't stop him making runs, and...

Anyhow, stumps were drawn when the Old Boys had scored 111 for 8 wickets, thus defeating the College by 2 wickets. Mr. Harding's contribution was a modest 77 not out.

The Annual General Meeting, which had preceded the cricket match, was short, and unfortunately neither the Chairman nor Secretary were able to be present.

Altogether a splendid and most successful day. It was a pity the whole of us could not be present.

TENNIS, 1934.

We were lucky in having admirable tennis weather almost throughout the term, and the small amount of rain that did come was an only too welcome "grass preserver." For, under the extreme dryness and strenuous play, the turf rapidly withered, making periodical rests necessary.

During the first part of the term the front and back courts only were in use, but to these were later added the well-equipped House courts. These, thanks to the generosity of the Governing Body, are surrounded by the best tennis stop-netting, which, together with the new netting and posts, should make them a fine centre for future tennis activities. At present, however, these courts have a very bad grass surface, and whether or not this is considerably improved by next season depends very largely upon the work of the tennis groundsmen. In this connection it must be said that a great deal is due to Mr. Telling, who, besides taking a personal interest in the courts, has upon a number of occasions, given most useful advice and assistance. And, it is to be hoped that all future tennis groundsmen will make full use of the opportunity afforded by his presence.

There was considerable keenness of play this term, and the presence of quite a useful lot of talent did much to raise the general standard. The courts were always in steady demand. In certain tournaments, however, the "play for score" took complete precedence of the standard of the tennis, and as a result the games degenerated into a "pat-ball" affair.

Generally speaking however, the tournaments were well and fairly contested, and were carried out with considerable enthusiasm all round. Members of the examination form sometimes found difficulty in attending to both responsibilities, but, in spite of delays, all four tournaments were completed in good time. In the Open Singles, Lowe beat Thornhill 6—2, 4—6, 6—4. In the Senior Doubles, Lowe and Muirhead beat Slade and Roberts 2—6, 7—5, 6—2. Field and Kitchen beat Cooper E. R. and Willis in the Junior Doubles by 6—4, 6—2, 6—2. Richardson D. won the Junior Singles, but his task would have been harder but for the absence of Bettison, a strong rival.

O. G. M.

THE RATIONAL PRINCESS.

Cast: King Sebastian, E. D. Boulding. Queen Mildred, V. W. Pullin. The Duchess, G. A. Lowe. Princess Bettina, G. M. Wilson. The Page, A. S. C. Smith. Princess Alladine, A. Wyon. Prince Peplo, J. F. Roberts. Prince Timonel, J. R. Wheeler.

A performance of Harold Brighthouse's play was given by the boys in their open air theatre on Founder's Day, in the presence of Earl Jellicoe and a big assembly of parents and friends of the College. It would be thought

that the choice of plays suitable for presentation in this charming woodland scenery would be extremely limited, and yet year after year a fresh play is found and acted with real skill by the boys. The Founder's Day play is, in fact, a unique thing. It is essentially a Rendcomb product.

One thing stood out as worthy of comment in the performance of "The Rational Princess" — how much better boys act "girls" than girls act "boys." This particular play may have made the problem easier, perhaps. A "rational" Princess would probably be rather a masculine type of young lady in any case. The Queen had to be something of a hard-faced and disappointed parent. (This was an excellent piece of acting, with clear diction and great dignity of movement). The "other" Princess was only a youngest daughter, and evidently a trifle soured by the knowledge, while the remaining female character, an elderly duchess, who was also a teacher, was able to use "her" obvious male voice without any feeling of incongruity.

In some ways the male characters in the play were the more difficult to make convincing, and a special word of commendation is due to King Sebastian, whose Chestertonian deliberation of utterance seemed to fit his part admirably.

The weather made ample amends for its unkindness last year, and the brilliant sunshine enhanced our enjoyment of this excellent little play.

LIBRARY,

We gratefully acknowledge the following gifts to the Library:

From Sir Alan Anderson—£25.

From Mr. H. Lloyd Perkins—Magna Carta, Domesday Book and Beyond, Economic Organisation of England, The King's Council, Tudor Studies, Law of the Constitution, The Growth of British Policy, Henry VIII., Select Charters and other Illustrations, The Expansion of England, England under the Norman Conquest, England under the Normans and Angevins, Economic History of England, Constitutional History of England, England in the Age of Wycliffe, The Growth of the Manor, Federations and Unions in the British Empire, Canon Law in England, Charlemagne, Aristotle's Politics—Jowett, Philosophical Theory of the State, Historical Jurisprudence, Vol. 1, Rousseau's Social Contract (French); Rousseau's Social Contract (English), History of Political Ideas.

From Miss M. D. Awdry—Shakespeare's England.

From Mrs. Wheeler and J. R. Wheeler—Androcles and The Lion, The Devil's Disciple—G. B. Shaw, and The Zoo and Aquarium Book, by G. B. Boulenger.

Anonymous—The Tragedies of Sophocles—Jebb, The Antigone of Sophocles. Macnachten, two copies of Tales of Talbot House—P. B. Clayton.

The following books have also been added to the Library: The Shorter Oxford English Dictionary, Aristocrats of the Air—Capt. C. W. R. Knight, Sherlock Holmes, On the Rocks, A Village Wooing, and Too True to be Good—Shaw.

CRICKET, 1934.

During the season we were favoured by very good weather, only one match and three games being stopped on account of rain. This meant that there was available much time for practice, but unfortunately this was not taken advantage of to its fullest extent.

From the beginning of the term it was obvious that the 1st XI. would be lacking in good bowlers, as only one of the team had bowled before in matches. This weakness was confirmed in our first match against the Old Boys, when 110 runs were scored off the bowling in under an hour. The bowling improved rapidly, and towards the end of the season Roberts, Wright, Davies, Skelton and Brain had developed a fairly good style.

The batting did not come up to expectation, although the team had many good batsmen, very few acquitted themselves well in matches. Muirhead and Richardson D. were good opening batsmen, but both lack scoring strokes. Wright and Willetts had bad luck. They tend to lift the ball when driving. Davies was the best batsman when he was set. Wilson and Roberts hit hard, but the latter was less successful than in preceding years. Skelton, Thornhill and Ingleton batted quite well, but they must find more scoring strokes.

The fielding of the team was probably better than last year, especially in catching, but the ground fielding was not quite so good.

The elder Juniors have among them many potentially good cricketers, especially in batting, where Cooper E., Kitchen and Short stand out as the most successful. Bowlers are rather scarce, but Short should become a good one with much practice and advice. Other prominent bowlers are Selby and Peacock. Kitchen

proved himself to be a very efficient Junior wicket-keeper, and should become a good 1st XI wicket-keeper. The younger Juniors did not contain as many good cricketers as was hoped, but if they practise, they will be able to put forward a very fair team.

We are all deeply grateful for the kind help of Mr. James in coaching at nets, and also for the way in which he looked after the cricket pitch in the dry weather.

The Juniors played four matches, of which they won two and lost two. They succeeded in beating Oakley Hall in two exciting and pleasant games, but Marling Juniors proved to be much too good for them. The Group Games were played quite successfully, the East being the winners once again.

The results were:

South beat the West by 8 wickets.

East beat the South by 10 wickets.

East beat the West by 7 wickets.

A. E. A. B.

THE COLLEGE v. OLD BOYS.

At home, May 19th. Lost by 8 runs. We went in to bat on a wet wicket and scored 103—8. Our bowlers, however, could not keep the Old Boys' rate of scoring down, with the result that they scored 111—7. Batting: Wilson 19 not, Willetts 17.

THE COLLEGE v. MISERDEN C.C. At Miserden, May 21st. Won by 58 runs. We soon dismissed Miserden for 100 runs, leaving us with plenty of time to score the runs. We finished with a total of 158 after Davies 47, and Brain 31, had retired. Bowling: Skelton, 5 for 11.

THE COLLEGE v. SWINDON COLLEGE. At home, May 26th. Won by 56 runs. Swindon were quickly dismissed for 65, one of their men making 44 of the runs. The team batted fairly consistently, compiling a total of 121 for 9.

Batting: Wilson 36, Brain 22, Davies 19, Willetts 17.

Bowling: Roberts, 5 for 7.

THE COLLEGE v. BURFORD G. S. At home, June 2nd. Lost by 53 runs. Burford batted first, and made a total of 105. We were left with plenty of time, but we were dismissed for just over 50 runs.

Batting: Davies 23.

Bowling: Brain 7 for 35.

THE COLLEGE v. SWINDON COLLEGE.

At Swindon, June 23rd. Lost by 50 runs. Swindon batted first, and scored 99 runs. We could not get accustomed to the very fast pitch, with the result that we were dismissed for 49 runs. Batting: Muirhead 14.

THE COLLEGE v. DEAN CLOSE 2nd XI

At home, July 12th. Drawn.

Dean Close batted first and compiled a total of 127. When we batted the pitch was faster because of rain, and we had lost 3 wickets for 4 runs when there was a good recovery by Wright and Brain. The match was later stopped by rain.

Batting: Wright, not, 29, Brain 20.

THE COLLEGE v. MISERDEN C.C. At home, July 21st. Won by 59 runs. Miserden batted first, and were soon dismissed for the meagre total of 36. The bowling was very good in this match. The College then batted, and lost 3 wickets for 4 runs, but Davies, who batted well, gave us the lead, to finish with a total of 95 for 8.

Batting: Davies 30, Skelton 18 not, Thornhill 20, not.

Bowling: Wright 2 for 7, Roberts 3 for 17, Brain 4 for 5.

THE COLLEGE v. NORTH CERNEY "A" XI. At home, July 26th. Lost by 108 runs. As there was no XI. in Rendcomb, the College played an evening match with a team from North Cerney. The team was much too strong for us, and this, in addition to the diffidence of the College batsmen, brought about the worst loss of the season. North Cerney scored 129 for 8, while we made the very small total of 21.

A.E.A.B.

SCHOOL NOTES.

Michaelmas Term, 1934. Quite a number of changes have to be chronicled this term. Mr. Fogden left at the end of the Summer Term to take up the position of Headmaster of The Nelson School, Wigton, Cumberland. He will be greatly missed, and we wish him every success and happiness in the new and responsible post to which he has gone.

Three newcomers have joined the staff: Mr. R. N. D. Wilson, M A, from the London Day Training College, and University School,

Hampstead, Mr. K. A. C. Gross, M. A., from Rossall School, and Mr. J. B. Fell, B. A., who comes to us from Emmanuel College, Cambridge. Mr. Wilson will be responsible for English throughout the School, Mr. Gross for Classics, and Mr. Fell for Physics. We bid them welcome, and trust their stay with us will be both profitable and pleasant.

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Mr. H. W. Hosken succeeds Mr. Fogden as resident master at Rendcomb House.

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We also welcome Mr. Wolfram Lange, who comes to us as athletic coach. This term has seen a new departure in the way of field athletics. For some time past the Headmaster had been contemplating changes. Mr. Lange is an old pupil of Herr Kurt Hahn, and brings both experience and a fine physique to his task. The time-table has been altered so as to provide for athletics during the period 12:5—12:50. We have the unique distinction of being the only school in England which puts field athletics in the time table, on the same level with daily work.

The change was heralded by strange eruptions breaking out on the lawns and in the park immediately beyond. Gangs of boys set to work with picks and shovels preparing the ground. Jumping pits were constructed, and pits for javelin, weight and discus. The new missiles were soon to be seen hurtling through the air, sped on their way by boys who assumed attitudes that would have delighted a Grecian sculptor. It is an experiment that undoubtedly has come to stay, and the introduction of a system of measuring heights and lengths means that a careful record can be kept of both individual and group performances.

Another innovation has been the introduction of "Public Works," or "digging" as it is colloquially termed.

The levelling, preliminary to the construction of two new tennis courts in the paddock at the House, is the end to which our activities at the moment are directed. It is only one of many that could be suggested, but the principle established by this term's precedent is one that will certainly be carried on.

Beginning with this term, a brief Wednesday night meeting in Church will be held. In school-life, as in everyday life, one gets all too little opportunity for quiet. It is hoped that this occasion of gathering together quite simply,

of thinking about things that we do not find much time to think about in the ordinary course, may be useful and helpful. The Headmaster, who has outlined the forms upon which a gathering like this can be conducted, is ready to receive any suggestions that might make the purpose he has in view more effective. The following boys entered the School at the beginning of Michaelmas Term, 1934:

R. F. Boyland, M. A. Bullen, E. J. Clissold, P. A. Cutts, R. J. Eley, L. H. Hyett, G. W. Ivens, P. S. Jackson, J. R. Luton, J. W. H. Neads, H. S. Palmer, E. J. Powell, A. R. Tenty, R. G. Tyldesley, J. Gardner and M. Gleeson-White.

LECTURES.

Michaelmas Term, 1934.
The English Classical Players paid their third visit to Rendcomb on the 25th October, 1934, when they presented "The Merchant of Venice"

It is no easy business this, of taking Shakespeare on tour, with a limited cast, and with such properties only as can be stowed away in the back of a fairly large car. To say that they triumphed over such difficulties would be to give but a scant idea of their achievement. One has seen Shakespearean productions backed up with the full resources of a West End theatre that fell far short of the standard these players attained.

They played before an effective setting of dark velvet curtains. The colour scheme of their costumes was rich and full of contrast. And out of a background of excellent team work emerged several highly distinguished individual performances.

Mr. Ray's *Shylock* must be given pride of place. It was a sensitive and deeply moving interpretation of the part, an object lesson in the double arts of acting and make-up. Miss Duan's *Portia*, Miss Maidlow's *Jessica*, were admirable studies, and equally charming was Miss McInnes playing as *Nerissa*. Mr. Varten's clowning as *Lancelot Gobbo* struck the right note of hobble-de-hoy whimsicality. If one or two of the male parts lacked in distinction, it was only by comparison with the general high level of the cast.

To one who believes that in any Shakespearean play the verse-speaking is half the battle, this production was especially gratifying. "The Merchant of Venice" is a poetic fantasy, with an undertone of music running through its texture. These players gave us both poetry and music.

One likes to think of them as one does of Priestley's "Good Companions," taking the boards in a spirit of fellowship that makes light of the difficulties of their arduous craft. We wish them "good luck," and assure them of the warmest welcome when they come our way again.

MR. WILLIAMSON'S TALK ON DENTAL HYGIENE.

Mr. Williamson gave a very interesting talk on Dental Hygiene on Tuesday, November 8th. With the aid of blackboard and chalk, he commenced by explaining the shape and nature of a tooth. It is wedge-shaped, having a core of fleshy pulp surrounded by dentine, with a coat of hard enamel. It is divided from the jawbone by a membrane, and two sets of cross-running fibres ensure its firmness within the jaw-socket. The back teeth are placed in such a way that those on the top jaw fit alternately with those on the bottom. As these teeth are used for masticating, they have several ridges and grooves between which the food is ground and these run in such a way that the teeth can be moved backwards and forwards on each other, but not from side to side. The front teeth are designed for cutting, so their bases consist of single sharp edges. Mr. Williamson then went on to show the structure of the jaw, which works on a hinge system controlled by various muscles on the side of the face.

Next he explained the right method of cleaning the teeth. The most effective way of doing this is by eating food; that is to say that teeth are self-cleaning. The brushing of teeth by tooth-brush does little more than keep the front teeth white. The teeth should always be brushed by vertical strokes from the gums towards the points, otherwise the gums will become lacerated, and pyorrhoea may eventually result.

Food particles often become lodged in the teeth, and unless dislodged by the regular rinsing of the mouth in the correct way, may corrode the enamel and allow germs (of which there are a great number in the mouth) to enter the dentine. All teeth should be examined every three or four months, so that an affected tooth can be stopped before it is too late. Soon acid, given off by the germs, enters the pulp, making it swell. This causes toothache, and the tooth must be extracted.

Mr. Williamson concluded by saying that he hoped to tell us more about teeth later, as in

this one talk he had only been able to give us a very brief outline.

We are most grateful for a valuable lecture.

On Thursday, 15th November, 1934, Mr. W. I. Croome, of Bagendon, gave an exceedingly interesting lecture on "Some hill-towns of Italy." Mr. Croome is one of those travellers who see things from a picturesque angle, and who possess camera sense. His slides were remarkably good; his historical background always interesting, and his aesthetic judgment sound and convincing. Starting from Siena, he took us round those romantic towns that have made the hilltops of Tuscany and Umbria so memorable. Perhaps the most striking thing about his lecture was the sense of antiquity, of an almost startling strangeness, both in shape and in situation, that these high perched cities possess. Built as fortresses, they have kept that character throughout the ages, and remain singularly aloof from the bustle and change of modern days.

On Thursday, 6th December, Mr. Hamilton Fyfe, whom the Headmaster introduced as having been the "Times" correspondent in Russia for many years, and a very distinguished journalist, lectured to the School on Russia.

No revolution in history, he said, had ever changed the character of a people: the most it had ever done was somewhat to alter their environment, and the Russian Revolution was no exception. And any comparison that was made must not be made with other nations of Europe, but with the old Tsarist Russia. The mass of the nation was Asiatic rather than European, and Mr. Fyfe gave descriptions of the country people encamped outside the railway station for days, and of the interior of a peasant's house. Asiatic, too, was the lack of individualism, the willingness to be herded, with which they had received the revolution, which was for them only a passing from one form of autocracy to another.

The revolution itself had been engineered mostly by city people, not by the mass of the nation, but then they always had been led from the centre. The agricultural organisation had been the Government's chief task, and there were State farms, collective farms, and Kullak peasant farms, in which ownership was either by the State or by several villages together, or smaller units; in no case was private ownership allowed. Apropos of the first, Mr. Fyfe remarked that it is at least conceivable that the feeling of Russian inefficiency roused in an Englishman by such things as

the seas of mud he had seen round a research laboratory, may perhaps be overdone; it may be possible to be efficient without being spick-and-span.

The system of education in the cities was dove-tailed into the factory work, which was the normal occupation of the citizen; while finishing his school work, the boy learned also about the machines he would have to tend, and foreign observers to whom Mr. Fyfe had talked, said that they would in time make very competent mechanics, though at the moment there was, inevitably, a large amount of breakage. The machinery was extremely up-to-date, and gradually the workers would acquire that machine sense which, in other nations, had grown up through several generations.

Although at the beginning of the revolution a system of complete Communism was introduced, it was found that it did not work, largely because it removed the chief normal motive for industrious labour, the expectation of profit, and this had since been modified to a State control of wealth, which admitted of private trading under restrictions. One result of this control, coupled with the absence of luxuries in Russia, was that the young Russians regarded the desire to go on acquiring money as merely mad.

Much care is taken over the mental and cultural development of young people, and there are large and well-organised Parks of Culture, containing museums, and so on. In one of these, Mr. Fyfe said that, on asking to see the Director, he was shown into the presence of a young lady who held that post, apparently with complete competence; and he described how, on a trip up the Volga, he had met a waitress on the boat who was working her way from a far-away country home with a similar ambition. Everywhere the young were on the move, mentally and sometimes literally, and there was a widespread enthusiasm among them for the Soviet system.

In regard to the persecution of the Russian Church, the character of that institution before the revolution, and the corruption and general unworthiness of many of its members, must be taken into account in judging the effect of its virtual abolition in modern Russia. By allying itself with the power and wealth of the Tsarist Government, the Church had won participation in its overthrow.

The moving spirit of modern Russia was the enthusiasm of the young for the present system, and their outlook was one of Hope.

After the lecture Mr. Fyfe answered many questions that were raised.

ACTING.

Two plays were produced this term. Bernard Shaw's "Showing-up of Blanco Posnet," and "The Dumb Wife of Cheapside," by Ashley Dukes, which was given as the Christmas entertainment.

Mr. Shaw describes his play as a "Sermon in crude melodrama." It was crude enough, and one was at times puzzled to know what the sermon was about. In his final outburst of eloquence, Blanco has much to say about good and evil, or rather about their supersession. "No more paths. No more broad and narrow. No more good and bad," he declares effusively, "but, by Jiminy, there's a rotten game and there's a great game." One wonders how much ethic gains by being translated into such cowboy jargon.

Willetts gave a very spirited performance in the title role. Boulding made a highly sententious Elder Daniels; Wilson, G., as the questionable lady, Slade as the rough and ready Sheriff, and Skelton as the blunt Strapper Kent, all gave good renderings of their parts.

"The Dumb Wife of Cheapside" proved an excellent choice for the Christmas entertainment. Its theme is as old as woman. Alderman Groat has married a charming young wife, who has but one disability—she is dumb. By the machinations of Master Sunder (a surgeon), and Master Ounce (an apothecary), she is given the power of speech. Her tongue once loosed, she becomes a shrew, and her husband, who had hitherto lived in peace, would fain have her dumbness back.

T. D. Wright was excellent as the unhappy husband. Graeme Wilson (the dumb wife), looked beautiful, and spoke like a vixen when the faculty was given her. Harris, who played Master Sunder, will be remembered for his powerful voice. The dresses were very beautiful, and the production struck the right note between farce and gravity.

FOOTBALL.

The results were definitely disappointing, only one match being won, a 2nd XI. match against Cheltenham Central School.

The 1st XI. started well, although they were beaten 6—2 by Swindon College, away. Wright rapidly became very useful in goal, but the backs were weak throughout. Brain R. started well, but did not improve greatly. Bettison played hard during the whole season, but his kicking, excellent at first, was not so good later. To strengthen the defence Brain A. was brought from inside left to left half, and with Muirhead (right half) and Wilson M. M. (centre half), formed the only strong line in the team. Muirhead was particularly effective in defence, and Brain put in many good shots from the edge of the penalty area. The forwards were weak and lacked combination. Willetts was very good with the ball, but played inconsistently; his skill in shooting was variable also. The inside forwards, Cooper E. (left) and Selby (right) were weak on their own, and did not combine with Willetts. Skelton at outside right played a consistent game, and centred well, but he and Selby need more drive. Abbott (outside left) improved all round latterly.

The 1st XI. lost every match save one, against Hanley Castle, away, which was drawn 1—1. This was the best game of the season, both goals being scored in the last few minutes.

The 2nd XI. lost 1—3 against Cheltenham Grammar School Juniors, away, but drew 2—2 at home. None of the team was outstanding save, perhaps, Wilson A., although almost all played hard. Wilson G. played excellently throughout the term, and if he learns to pass sooner, will develop into a good, constructive centre half.

The Juniors (under 144) were, in comparison with the 1st and 2nd XI's at any rate, very strong indeed. Some of those eligible were usually playing in one of the other teams. Against Marling School Juniors, away, they did very well to lose 4—6, as their opponents' score had, up till then, reached double figures in every match. In this match Selby played excellently, two of our goals being due almost entirely to him. At home we lost 5—0

The Juniors (under 14) were very weak indeed, and lost 13—0 to Farmor's School, Fairford.

After the last match a game was arranged between the Staff and the Boys, which the Boys won 3—1. The match was very enjoyable, and it is hoped that it may become a permanent fixture.

COLLEGE v. OLD BOYS.

Played on Saturday, Sept. 29th, 1934.

Although played in a continual downpour, this match proved a most enjoyable encounter. The Old Boys were far heavier than their opponents, and indeed, composed probably one of the best teams which the Old Boys have yet raised against the College XI.

The College team played with plenty of dash and courage, but their forward line stood little chance against the Old Boys' defence. The Old Boys' forwards were much heavier than the College defence, but none the less, the College played with zest and pluck, and were better than the score suggests.

Score: Old Boys 10. College 1.

Old Boys' Team: Smallwood; Allen, Field; Uzzell, Eyles C., Waters R; Miller J, Harding, Wager, Wells E., Eyles J.

GROUP GAMES.

The Group Games were won by the East, but it is doubtful if it has deserved them. Against the South they only scored a single, very lucky, and rather doubtful goal, and against the West the conditions were definitely in their favour. The first half of the West and South match was very exciting, and the halftime score was 2—1 in favour of the West. In the second half, however, the West were the dominating side.

East 1, South 0. East 4, West 2.

West 7, South 1.