

RENDCOMB COLLEGE CHRONICLE

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December, 1952

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Rendcomb College Chronicle

Volume X, No. 1.

December, 1952.

SCHOOL NOTES.

Summer Term, 1952.

Term began on Friday the second of May and ended on Friday the twenty-fifth of July.

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Founder's Day was commemorated on Saturday the fifth of July when the Guest of Honour was the Speaker of the House of Commons, The Right Honourable W. S. Morrison, P. C., Q. C., M. P. An account appears on page 6.

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There were several expeditions during the term: to the Bath Assembly, Cheltenham Festival of Contemporary British Music, to a recital by Miss Ruth Draper, at Cheltenham Town Hall, and to *Volpone* and *As You Like It* at Stratford-upon-Avon. Accounts will be found on page 7.

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Commemoration Day was Friday the sixth of June.

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We wish all success to the following boys who left at the end of the Summer Term: P. G. Cockell, P. D. de Iongh, J. W. J. Reed, M. E. Knight, J. D. Painter, M. G. Petter, R. J. van den Driessche, P. M. Gerrard, P. W. Dutton, C. D. Whittle, M. R. Hancock, H. J. G. Hayter,

* * *

We welcome the following boys who entered College at the beginning of Autumn Term, 1952: S. R. Merrett, J. D. R. Paine, R. W. Taylor, T. L. H. Benbow, P. C. R. Burns, R. A. Cockrell, R. A. Dauncey, S. D. Hicks, M. H. Morton, M. D. Naish, D. Poole, R. K. Stebbing, A. D. Thomas and J. R. Windsor.

* * *

The following passed the General Certificate of Education Examination in one or more subjects at Midsummer, 1952:

At Ordinary Level:

P. G. Cockell, R. J. van den Driessche, M. E. Knight, J. B. O'Brien, D. E. Barbour, J. Bolton King, T. Gay, J. M. Rolfe, H. J. Greenhalf, M. R. Hancock, M. V. Harley, J. M. Harrison, H. J. G. Hayter, R. A. Powell, M. D. Richards and A. G. B. Wallace.

At Advanced and Scholarships Levels:

P. G. Cockell†, R. J. van den Driessche, P. W. Dutton, P. M. Gerrard*, R. H. Jones, M. E. Knight†, R. W. Muchamore, J. B. O'Brien, J. D. Painter*, M. D. Rayner†, P. S. Rose, F. S. G. Richards*, K. A. Statham, P. L. Waite†, C. D. Whittle.

* State Scholarship. † County Major Scholarship.

* * *

On the 10th of June the College Choir took part in the Public Schools' Festival Evensong in Gloucester Cathedral; other choirs taking part included Cheltenham College, Dean Close School, Malvern College and King's School, Worcester.

For some years the Royal School of Church Music has been holding these special evensongs in various cathedrals and college chapels throughout the country and this» is the first time we have been able to take part; hitherto the dates have always clashed with our public examinations.

There were more than four hundred singers all told. The *Canticles* were sung to Charles Wood in El?, and there were three anthems : *Come my Way* by W. H. Harris, *If we believe* by Goss, and Byrd's *Sacerdotes domini*.

* * *

Once again there was a Cleaning-Gang to place their services at the disposal of the Headmaster and Miss Babington: and once again the College was glad of the help they were able to give.

HONOURS.

- N. H. Walter—Stapeldon Exhibition in History, Exeter College, Oxford.
J. M. Faulkes—1st Class Mechanical Sciences Tripos, Cambridge; John Bernard Seely Prize in Aeronautics.
J. W. Sumsion—1st Class History Tripos, Part II, Cambridge.
J. H. Shield—Ministry of Agriculture Senior Scholarship.
P. M. Gerrard—State Scholarship in Science.
F. S. G. Richards—State Scholarship in Science.
J. D. Painter—State Scholarship in Arts.
M. E. Knight—Gloucestershire County Major Scholarship.
M. D. Rayner—Hampshire County Major Scholarship.
P. L. Waite—Croydon County Borough Major Scholarship.
P. G. Cockell—London County Council Major Scholarship.

COLLEGE OFFICERS.

- Prefects**—D. C. de Peyer, M. D. Rayner, K. A. Statham.
Workman—D. G. Vaisey.
Pictures—J. K. Comrie.
Music Warden—J. M. Harrison.
Senior Music Librarian: H. J. Greenhalf.
Choir Librarians: R. D. Comley, J. B. Gooch.
Lampmen: T. Gay, J. B. R. Browne.
Deck Chairs and Church Collections: J. Bolton King.
Stagemen: R. M. Sumsion, R. O. G. Hayter, M. D. Richards,
T. Gay, G. H. Richards, P. G. Auden, M. A. B. Forster.
Librarians—R. M. Sumsion, M. V. Harley, R. W. Muchamore,
D. G. Vaisey, R. A. Powell.
Manual Foremen: R. M. Sumsion, T. Gay, R. T. Bird, T. Gough,
D. J. B. Forster.
Henmen—R. A. Powell, D. E. Barbour, W. J. Prime, R. J. Bird,
K. E. Payne, C. H. Thomason, H. A. Gough,
F. H. G. Herbert, M. D. Naish, M. H. Morton,
P. C. R. Burns.
General Meeting Elections:
P. W. Man—M. D. Rayner.
Furniture Committee—R. O. G. Hayter, J. M. Rolfe,
D. J. B. Forster.

MEETING OFFICERS,

Autumn, 1952.

- Chairman**—M. D. Rayner.
Secretary—D. G. Vaisey.
Games Captain—D. C. de Peyer.
Games Committee—K. A. Statham, P. L. Waite.
Field Secretary—J. M. Harrison.
Banker—M. G. Richards.
Senior Shopman—P. B. Marwood.
House Committee Treasurer—R. N. Horne.
Games Committee Treasurer—R. M. Sumsion.
Shopmen—R. O. G. Hayter, H. J. Greenhalf.
Auditors—B. Glastonbury, R. N. Horne.
Finance Committee—R. F. Stimson, G. H. G. Herbert.

Finance Committee Treasurer—D. A. Godfrey.
Breakages Man—G. E. Page.
Entertainments Committee—M. J. Edwards, R. J. Lawson,
M. D. Richards, J. M. Astill, M. A. B. Forster.
Record Committee—P. L. Waite, M. D. Richards, M. J. Edwards,
T. Gay, M. V. Harley.
Record Committee Treasurer—J. K. Comrie.
Cycle Committee—F. S. G. Richards, G. E. Page, R. O. G. Hayter.
Inspectors of Nuisances—M. G. Cooper, R. F. Stimson.
Magazine Committee—R. A. Powell, G. H. Richards, K. E. Payne.
Drying Room Committee—O. S. David, J. K. Walter,
T. D. A. Semple.
Amplifier Technicians—M. J. Edwards, R. W. Muchamore.
Paperman—J. Bolton King.
Cricket Secretary, 1953—B. Glastonbury.
Tennis Grotunidsman—T. D. A. Semple.
Cricket Groundsman—K. E. Payne.
Rugger Groundsmen—G. H. Richards, J. Gough, A. G. B. Wallace.
Tennis Games Warden—R. J. Lawson.
Cricket Games Warden—D. A. Godfrey.
Rugger Games Wardens—T. D. A. Semple, K. E. Payne.
Rule Committee—D. C. de Peyer, K. A. Statham, D. G. Vaisey.
Council—D. C. de Peyer, K. A. Statham, M. D. Rayner,
D. G. Vaisey, R. M. Sumsion, P. B. Marwood,
D. E. Barbour.
Selection Committee—D. C. de Peyer, K. A. Statham,
M. D. Rayner, D. G. Vaisey, R. W. Muchamore.
End of Term Entertainments Committee—K. A. Statham,
D. G. Vaisey, R. M. Sumsion, P. B. Marwood,
A. G. B. Wallace.

OLD BOYS' NOTES.

We understand that R. D. Balter is married and that he is learning the Hotel trade.

* * *

We congratulate I. S. Menzies on passing his 2nd M. B. examination at London University.

* * *

F. H. Jones writes an interesting letter from Malaya where he has charge of a school of 1,100. His wife runs another school close by for R. A. F. children.

* * *

B. J. Lumby is in the Tanganyika Agricultural Service.

* * *

C. C. Richardson is farming in Devonshire.

* * *

R. I. G. Hale is in the Army Education Corps (regular) after being invalided from the Paratroops.

* * *

J. M. Henshaw is at the London School of Economics,

E. D. Boulding is Senior English Master at the High School, Trowbridge, Wilts.

* * *

D. H. Hill was married in Belfast at the end of July. We have no further information, but offer him our congratulations and good wishes.

* * *

I. M. Bryce, after several years farming and two years in the Navy, is now with his father's firm in the retail distributive trade.

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H. C. Nicholson is married and is managing an hotel in North London.

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We learn that R. A. Childers is Chief Engineer *Daily Mail* chain of newspapers. Northern Editions.

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J. H. Shield has been awarded a Ministry of Agriculture Senior Scholarship and is reading Agriculture at Reading University.

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R. Gready is at Seale Hayne Agricultural College, Newton Abbot, Devon.

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The following O.R.'s attended Founder's Day on the fifth of July, 1952:
P. Alder, J. E. Allen, F. J. Batten, R. G. Betterton, G. H. W. Bodman, M. W. Brain, Reg. Brain, Roger Brain,

B. J. Brooks, G. D. Buck, M. A. Bullen, G. J. Constable, J. Eyles, J. G. French, M. A. Gleeson-White, A. E. Godsell, M. C. Harries, L. H. B. Hatherall, P. S. Jackson, E. J. M. Jefferies, D. G. Knight, J. C. Maslin, M. J. Morgan, J. H. Quick, M. C. B. Russell, K. M. Shephard, M. B. Shephard, A. E. Shield, R. L. Short, N. Slade, S. P. Steed.

* * *

The following O. R.'s came to the Old Boys' Cricket Match on 12th July, 1952: H. W. T. Bates, M. C. Thompson, R. F. Butler, J. Owen, P. G. Forrest, J. W. Sumsion, T. Price, P. Jackson, R. Brain, R. Gready, F. T. Luffman, R. W. Smith, J. E. Miller, E. B. Smith, J. H. Shield, F. H. Dutton.

FOUNDER'S DAY, 1952.

We have been teased lately about our references to the weather in this journal, but about such a predominantly out-door occasion as this we feel it incumbent upon us to mention that, once again, the sun shone, yet it was not hot enough to cause grave discomfort in the gymnasium.

Lieut. Colonel John Godman, the Chairman of the Governors, presided, and in his opening address he paid tribute to the late Sir Russell Kerr, who for many years was a member of the governing body. Col. Godman said that Sir Russell had given the best he had to give both to the College and to the county.

In his annual report the Headmaster mentioned two events of great importance since the last Founder's Day—the coming into use of Major David Wills' new playing field and the first full inspection of the College by the Ministry of Education since 1934.

Mr. Lee-Browne said many parents consulted him about their sons' National Service training and he was increasingly being asked whether it was better for a boy to go to a university from school or after completion of his service training. While pointing out that the impact of National Service showed wide variation, the Headmaster said that our experience, in general, was that National Service is not a bad thing, in many ways it could be positively good, and it was far better for boys to do their service immediately on leaving school, for by doing it after their university training it could be regarded as delay in getting on with the job.

The Guest of Honour was the Speaker of the House of Commons, the Right Honourable W. S. Morrison, P. C., Q. C., M. P. Mr. Morrison said that he believed a revival of the "ancient English virtue of courtesy" would solve many of the human problems of today. "The plain, blunt man who always speaks his mind no

doubt confers a benefit on us, but only if he is enlightening and helpful” Mr. Morrison went on to attribute more than half the road accidents of this country to lack of simple courtesy by the man who would not regard the road as the Queen's Highway but looked upon it as his own.

Another of our problems, Mr. Morrison continued, was that of industrial relations—strikes which dislocated the economic life of the country. In many cases they might be unavoidable he said, but in many other cases they could be avoided by a general practice of courtesy by both the worker and the employer.

Mr. Morrison fulfilled what must be the most exacting of tasks with a perspicacity which underlined the good fortune of the House of Commons in having him as their Speaker.

This year we had tea immediately after the speeches and then followed a Display of Athletics on the back tennis lawn and on the running track in the park. Also, on the front tennis court, there were demonstrations of cricket by both seniors and juniors in Nets specially erected by Mr. James and his helpers, while in the Laboratories there were exhibitions organised by the Physics, Chemistry and Biology departments.

EXPEDITIONS.

Sir John Barbirolli and The Hallé Orchestra.

Cheltenham Festival of Contemporary British Music was less ambitious this year than formerly: there was no opera and fewer other attractions. And, it is sad to record that not always was the hall filled to anything like its capacity, but the organisers deserve praise for refusing to economise on the orchestra: concerts with adequate rehearsal are already too rare. There is no point in offering a new work to the public unless it is more than a fair reproduction of the composer's intentions, and played with *finesse*. Both these requirements the Halle fulfils admirably. This was particularly noticeable in the popular programme, one of the two concerts we attended, which contained such favourites as the fourth *Pomp and Circumstance* March and Percy Grainger's *Shepherd's Hey*—impeccably played. This kind of programme was a departure from previous policy and proved a delightful “refresher” to the concentration required in the other concerts, although as might be expected, it provoked some criticism.

The second concert was of the accepted type—modern music in the first half and a “classic” after the interval. Dvorak's Third Symphony for the second half was a delightful choice, and played with the incandescence this composer demands. The *Scherzo* like most of the others in his symphonies, showed Dvorak's genius for

the light, both in spirit and in texture. We also heard in this programme a *Sinfonia for Strings* by William Wordsworth, a composer who refuses to join forces with the harsh, flamboyant school, and is prepared to write what he has to say in a way we can understand. In the event, this *sinfonia* proved to be pleasant and acceptable without owing more than it must to the Masters. The main work was Constant Lambert's ballet suite *Horoscope*—exciting, orchestrated with great skill, and played with all the virtuosity that the score demands.

Sir Thomas Beecham, Bart., and the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra.

On the twelfth of May a large party from the Fifth and Sixth Forms visited the Bath Assembly to hear a concert of Mozart's music given by the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Sir Thomas Beecham. Everything combined to make this a memorable outing. The weather was perfect, many of us were thrilled by our first glimpse of Bath, and Sir Thomas not only gave us a musical treat of the rarest quality, but favoured us also with that happy blend of epigram, paradox and "wisecrack" which are the ingredients of a Beecham speech. We heard the *Jupiter* Symphony, the Violin Concerto in D and the Overture to *The Magic Flute* as well as some minor, but wholly delightful, German Dances.

The playing, in spite of the oppressively stuffy auditorium, was almost flawless; as immaculate as the white handkerchief which the Maestro handed to David McCallum who played the concerto. Few of us who were privileged to be there will forget this musical experience.

Ruth Draper at Cheltenham Town Hall.

This, it must be admitted, was not a wholly satisfactory introduction to Miss Draper's art for those of us who had not already seen her in a theatre. The Town Hall is excellent for music but speech is almost inaudible except to those in the front rows. Although some passages were not clearly heard we were able to follow without undue strain the gist of each sketch.

She began with *Opening a Bazaar* in which she plays the part of a dowager lady presiding over a village function, a very different character to the Irish peasant woman she portrayed in her second sketch *In County Kerry—1919*. The first part might have had the sub-title "The Three Ages" since her last character was *A Debutante at a Dance*. Miss Draper managed to include a local allusion in *At an Art Exhibition at Boston* in which she is a middle-aged, and rather inartistic aunt showing nephews and nieces round the gallery: "Come here, dear. Look! Isn't that a wonderful picture of a volcano? Doesn't the whole picture live? Just look

at that fire, wouldn't you just think it was really burning?... What?... 'Sunset in the Cotswolds'? Well!.... Come along dear, let's look over here—we haven't got all afternoon." *An English House Party* showed her taking the parts of the hostess and her female guests in turn, and the pathos she managed to infuse into her story of a Scottish Immigrant being interrogated at Ellis Island was superb.

“As You Like It” at Stratford-on-Avon.

Form IV saw an evening performance of *As You Like It* on Wednesday the 21st of May, 1952.

The play, which begins in Oliver's orchard, was immediately shown to be in winter as all the trees, in a very convincing young orchard, were all in their skelton twigs—a startling contrast to the young green outside the theatre. Oliver, who was dressed surprisingly in Stuart costume, as were the others, made a very good show of bullying Orlando and his faithful servant. Later the wrestling scene was taken very well with quite breath-taking throws before the wicked wrestler, in his brilliant scarlet tunic tightened by great bulging muscles, was thrown—to the delight of Celia, in a lovely grey satin dress, and Rosalind, whose tall build overshadowed the shorter Celia.

The Forest of Arden was obviously in winter with tall, bare saplings, stretching to the roof of the stage. The scenery was made unusual and somewhat unreal by the presence of what looked like tropical cacti on a desert island. The fugitives must have found it very draughty in the hut, which seemed to be a collection of a few sacks thrown over a few hoops. They were tormented by two yelling pages with catapults, who later sang *It was a lover and his lass* in a very unusual way with the jester-fool Touchstone, who was a much older man than one would have expected.

The rustics were very rusticated and comic. Audrey was very skittish and thrilled by having one of the gentry—even a clown—making advances to her. The old shepherd was also exceedingly rustic and wheezy, with every word punctuated by a titter.

The parson, Sir Oliver Martext was very solemn and puritanical, with his black clothes and book; he made a very fine splash into the pond to make a woebegone retreat.

The whole production was very light and humorous, if unusual, and the set, though cold and wintry, seemed to provide a very pleasing background—especially for the song *Blow, blow thou winter wind*, as a black clock will show up gold lettering and pick out the vividness of its colour by its own lack of it.

“Volpone” at Stratford-upon-Avon.

O rare Ben Jonson! Rare indeed at Stratford, but refreshing; for *Volpone* stands surprisingly well on its own merits as a play.

How different was the background from that stark functionalism which last year set off so admirably the pageantry of Shakespeare’s Histories. Now the set and indeed the whole production echoed the air of slightly fantastic extravagance which pervaded the play; now we saw in full operation all those slides and lifts and other gadgets which must be the delight of the Stratford producer.

Mr. Francis Chagrin’s incidental music, in which we took a personal interest, did not support the production as well as we had hoped. Although it occasionally provided an admirable and witty commentary or accompaniment to some detail, it did not show that coherence and immediate relevance which alone could justify it.

The production was colourful, and continuity was well maintained; the acting, too, was of the usual high standard, and that attention given to the most minor parts, which we have come to expect at Stratford, was again in evidence.

Volpone is a part better suited to Sir Ralph Richardson than Macbeth, and he entered into the character with obvious enjoyment. His playing down of Volpone’s more unpleasant characteristics has been criticised, but it helped to maintain a more genuine atmosphere of comedy.

Excellent as Sir Ralph was, however, the show was stolen by Mr. Anthony Quayle as Mosca. Mr. Quayle conceived his character as an oily Puritan, and in this guise set off brilliantly the extravagances of the other characters.

The three legacy hunters were all very well played, although the Corvino of Mr. Lyn Evans did not quite come up to the standard of the other two—perhaps because he did not exaggerate enough.

The part of Sir Politick Would-be, so easily made boring, was infused with an endearing humanity. Mr. Michael Hordern succeeded in arousing our sympathy for the unfortunate knight against the too effeminate and affected Peregrine of Mr. Aubrey Woods.

Notable performances of smaller parts were given by Messrs. Edward Atienza, Michael Hayes and Laurence Harvey as Volpone’s three entertainers—characters very difficult to stage successfully—and by our own “Willie” Thomas as the first Avocatore. Mr. James Wellman as the Notario, a “walking-on” part, provided some nice touches in the court scene.

The only performances which called for much criticism were those of the two women. Miss Rosalind Atkinson was suffering a hangover from "Henry IV". She invested the part of Lady Politick with a calculated vulgarity that seemed out of place. Lady Pol., one feels, should be looked for not so much at the Boar's Head in Eastcheap as at one of Miss Ruth Draper's English house parties. Miss Siobhan McKenna's Celia was not nearly virginal enough to make her protests convincing.

These faults did not detract greatly from our enjoyment, however; the presentation of the play was very good, and it would be ungrateful to exaggerate the small blemishes in an excellent evening's entertainment.

J. D. P.

CONCERT IN RENDCOMB CHURCH.

On Friday, July 27th, in the evening, a recital of Music for String Orchestra was given in St. Peter's Church, Rendcomb, in aid of the Organ Fund.

This was a most enjoyable occasion, the orchestra and organ blended well in the church, though occasional intimations of mortality from the organ reminded us why the concert was being held.

The two main items in a well-varied programme were the *Concerto Grosso in D Minor* by Vivaldi, and a *Concertino in F Minor* by Pergolesi. Mr. Tooze, who conducted, secured excellent performances of these two works, and he ensured also that the College choir did full justice to Brahms' *We love the place* and to Purcell's splendid anthem *Rejoice in the Lord Always*.

The organ, on this special occasion, was played by Mr. Jared Armstrong, who also conducted some of the other items and whose all-round musicianship was further revealed to those who, a year before, had heard him conduct the choir of Exeter College, Oxford.

Miss Keil's incisive leadership greatly strengthened Mr. Tooze's musical resources, and a most satisfactory audience thoroughly enjoyed the musical fruits of a happy and we hope profitable inspiration. §

Mr. Tooze is greatly to be congratulated on a venture that was possible only on account of his hard work and inexhaustible patience over the organisation. Is it too much to hope that he may one day be persuaded to produce another?

§ Over £30 was paid into the Organ Fund. —Ed.

CRICKET, 1952.

This was the first full season to be played on the new games field and contrary to general expectation the square played remarkably well, though the ball was at times inclined to keep low.

The batting of the first eleven was reasonably strong and, except in the first match, was, in general, adapted to the occasion. A number of capable batsmen proved their worth. J. W. J. Reed again opened the innings and was generally responsible for the decisive start made by our batting. His policy of attack paid, even when he himself lost his wicket early, but he was perhaps a shade too ready to use the unorthodox stroke. P. L. Waite developed into a polished and attractive batsman who with more experience and self-confidence may become really good. D. C. de Peyer had an unlucky season—he has some beautiful attacking strokes but his defence is too vulnerable. K. A. Statham when set was the most correct batsman in the side; he did, however, often take rather long to settle down; his placing of the ball when set was of a high order. K. E. Payne, who in the latter part of the season was promoted to open the innings, is very promising; his style is correct though not as yet very fluent and he showed coolness and resolution in facing bowlers a good deal older than himself. Perhaps the most improved batsman in the side was D. G. Vaisey; in attack and defence he should prove most useful in future: his wicket-keeping has improved vastly too, but still needs more aggression. D. A. Godfrey, another new-comer to the eleven, proved most useful. He has promise as a batsman and is never afraid to hit the ball; but he must try not to hit across the line of flight. J. M. Harrison would be a most useful bat if only he could correct certain fundamental mistakes; P. D. de Iongh was a versatile and correct batsman showing powers of offence or defence as the situation required. J. D. Painter, P. M. Gerrard and R. A. Powell all played reasonably well on occasions.

Our bowling was a trifle disappointing, lacking as it so often did the primary virtue of length. Rendcomb bowlers are too casual about this matter, and there is too little real effort to practice the art of bowling to a length in nets. Length indeed is the bedrock of school bowling, de Iongh was our most effective bowler; he was at times really fast, though trouble with his run-up often led to reduced speed. He will be very hard to replace. Harrison often promised well but in fact will never be effective against good players until he learns to keep the ball up to the batsman. Waite was a far better bowler than his figures suggest; his leg-break was for short spells, too good for most batsmen we faced, yet his medium-fast bowling was more successful. Of the others, Godfrey bowled well on occasion, and de Peyer's off-breaks gave some variety to a moderate attack.

The fielding was in the main reliable; rather too many catches went down in the slips, but in spite of this there was more positively good fielding in this position than for some years. Once again our thanks are due to Mr. James, Mr. Austin, Mr. Hull and Mr. Haywood, who gave long periods to umpiring, or coaching or both.

Statham proved a successful captain; on the field he was generally sound and handled the team well: his bowling was well managed except perhaps in the match with Sir Thomas Rich's School. Off the field his organisation was more casual than has been general in recent years, though it must be confessed that there was no serious result of this.

A word of regret must be added that Martin Knight who has for long scored so faithfully for the 1st eleven, has left us.

There was much promising cricket in the Junior School. Elevens were formed from various age-groups and most of them acquitted themselves well. The Junior Eleven as such, frequently found its players on loan to senior teams, but except in one instance, this did not seriously cramp its style.

Of the batsmen, K. E. Payne, H. A. Gough, J. R. Ellis and J. A. Richards, made the greatest improvement, while P. Mew made an excellent start and opened the innings with determination. The bowling lacked steadiness and penetration, though on only one occasion was it actually trounced. J. M. Astill's off-breaks ensnared the batsmen on occasion and Ellis provided what little steadiness there was. R. C. Pilkington was the most promising, however, except for a tendency to bowl short after the first few overs. The fielding was keen and something more than competent, and H. A. Gough made real progress as a wicket-keeper, thanks to many valuable hints from Mr. Haywood.

Astill was a competent captain and had the satisfaction of making a century against Cirencester Grammar School.

1st ELEVEN MATCHES.

May 15. —v. Dean Close "A" XI. Lost by 7 wickets.

This match was played after only one and a quarter hours cricket, for the season began with constant rain; the team was completely out of touch and most of the batting was very timid.

Rendcomb 68 (Reed 22). Dean Close "A" XI, 111 for 8 wkts.

May 17. —v. Cheltenham College 2nd XI. Won by 55 runs.

Once again the batting began disastrously and 5 wickets were down for 35 runs, but Godfrey and Statham took the score to 75 before Statham was stumped. The tail wagged furiously and carried the score to 122, Powell and Gerrard adding 22 for the last wicket.

The Cheltenham batsmen were helpless against de Iongh's pace, though he was not bowling at his best and their innings closed at 67.

Rendcomb 122 (Statham 40, Godfrey 21).

Cheltenham College 2nd XI. 67 (de Iongh 9 for 20).

May 24. —v. Burford Grammar School. Match drawn.

Burford 93—8. Rendcomb 38—3.

This was a disappointing match from all angles. Our opponents made runs slowly; the bowling and fielding were poor and without a hope of scoring the runs required to win, our batsmen naturally played defensively.

June 18. —v. North Cerney. Won by 34 runs.

Turning to village cricket, our batsmen went whole-heartedly for the runs, 125 being scored in 66 minutes. Seven of the team bowled and all took at least one wicket, while no one took more than two.

Rendcomb 125—8 (Statham 47 not out, Reed 34).

North Cerney 91.

June 25. —v. Cirencester Grammar School. Won by 6 runs.

Again we started badly, and again were saved by the later batsmen, de Iongh bowled well and took the most wickets for us in what became a most exciting win.

Rendcomb 99 (Godfrey 17, Harrison J. 16, de Iongh 16).

Cirencester 93 (de Iongh 7—20).

June 28. —v. Burford Grammar School. Home. Won by 8 wickets.

This game was a walk-over, de Iongh once again bowled well and was largely instrumental in causing the collapse of the opposition.

After passing the Burford total by a wide margin, Reed and Statham retired to let the later batsmen have some practice, but the game unfortunately degenerated into a farce.

July 9. —v. Sir Thomas Rich's "A" XI. Match drawn.

Although our batting was not good, runs came through rather slowly. Overestimating the ability of our bowlers, we declared too late.

Rendcomb 128—9 (Reed 34, Statham 34).

Sir Thomas Rich's 61—9 (de Iongh 3—4, Godfrey 2—4,
Harrison 2—14).

July 12. —O.R.'s XI. Won by 8 wickets.

Again the O.R.'s XI was very weak and for many of them it was obviously the first game they had played since they left. The one bright spot in their innings was Painter's batting at No. 11, where he showed the most unpatriotic disrespect for our bowlers. Waite, however, had previously performed the hat-trick. The O.R.'s bowling was much better than usual yet our batsmen, especially Vaisey, played well and easily passed their total.

Old Rendcombians XI (de Iongh 4—12, Harrison J. 2—9, Waite 3—11) 59.

Rendcomb 91—5 (Vaisey 35, Statham 27).

July 19. —v. Lydney Grammar School. Won by 1 wicket.

This match proved a fitted end to a good season. Waite, bowling at medium pace, took the bowling honours with 5—28. A race against the clock brought a most exciting finish but our victory was undoubtedly due to the hitting of de Iongh, ably backed by Godfrey and Painter. The winning run was scored off a hit which went to hand, but was dropped, giving us victory with two minutes to spare.

Lydney 96 (Waite 5—28).

Rendcomb 97—9 (Waite 28, de Iongh 19, de Peyer 13).

“A” and 2nd XI MATCHES.

June 7. —Rendcomb “A” XI v. Dean Close 2nd XI. Won by 62 runs.

Rendcomb 183 for 7 (de Iongh 62, Reed 55).

Dean Close 118 (de Iongh 4 for 19).

June 21. —Rendcomb “A” XI v. Kingham Hill 1st XI. Won by 30 runs.

Harrison J. 34 not out. Harrison J. 4 for 30.

JUNIOR XI MATCHES.

May 25. —Rendcomb “Under 14” XI v. Burford Grammar School “Under 14”. Won by 7 runs.

Rendcomb 50. Burford 43 (Pilkington 7 for 24).

May 31. —Rendcomb Junior XI v. Cheltenham College Junior Colts XI Lost by 7 wickets.

Rendcomb 101 for 3 declared. (Payne 34 not out),
Cheltenham 103 for 3.

- June 7. —Rendcomb Junior XI v. Kingham Hill Junior XI
Lost by 24 runs.
Rendcomb 36. Kingham Hill 60.
- June 14. —Rendcomb “Under 13” XI v. Ullenwood Manor.
Lost by 9 wickets.
Rendcomb 27. Ullenwood Manor 68 for 2.
- June 21. —Rendcomb “Under 14” XI v. Kingham Hill “Under 14” XI
Won by 53 runs.
Rendcomb 96 (Gough H. 32).
Kingham Hill 43 (Pilkington 5 for 15).
- June 25. —Rendcomb “Under 15” XI v. Cirencester Grammar School
Colts. Won by 97 runs.
Rendcomb 173 for 3 dec. (Astill 103 not out, Mew 42).
Cirencester 76 (Ellis 4 for 23).
- July 19. —Rendcomb “Under 15” XI v. Lydney Grammar School
“Under 15” XI Lost by 119 runs.
Rendcomb 19.
Lydney 138 (Astill 4 for 39).