

*Rendcomb College
Chronicle*



Vol 13. No. 8.

July 1965

Rendcomb College Chronicle

Volume 13 No. 8

July 1965

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COLLEGE OFFICERS

Summer Term, 1965

Senior Prefect—C. G. Jefferies.

Prefects and Group Leaders—S. H. Shellswell, P. A. Trier,
R. J. Verge, L. A. Webb.

Prefects—A. J. Cattermole, D. Little.

College Workman—R. B. N. Bryant.

Public Workman—J. A. Dow.

Music Warden—W. T. G. Griffiths.

Choir Librarian—M. A. Cox, N. H. Wapshott.

Picture Man—F. Bolton-King.

Church Ushers—R. J. Edy, L. A. Webb.

Librarians—D. Little, R. J. Verge, D. J. Maberley,
W. A. Thompson, N. A. Dakin, R. C. Goodsell,
H. M. Peterson.

Manual Foreman—S. H. Shellswell, G. F. Smith, R. T. Wood
A. J. Pain.

Stagemen—L. A. Webb, J. A. Dow, G. F. Smith, J. A. Hiscox,
D. P. Kyle, F. Bolton-King.

Bellringers—F. R. Glennie, P. W. Hughes, A. A. J. Raddon,
W. A. Thompson, N. J. Green, J. A. Hiscox, B. F. Pullen,

MEETING OFFICERS

Summer Term, 1965

Chairman—C. G. Jefferies.

Secretary—W. A. Thompson.

Cricket Captain—D. Little.

Tennis Captain—F. R. Glennie.

Vice-Captain—S. H. Shellswell.

Games Committee—L. A. Webb, R. J. Edy.

Nominations Committee—D. Little, P. A. Trier, R. J. Verge,
S. H. Shellswell, L. A. Webb.

Meeting Banker—G. C. Cattermole.

Shop Banker—D. J. Mabblerley.

Boys' Banker—A. J. Raddon.

Games Committee Treasurer—W. A. Laws.

House Committee Treasurer—C. P. Stevens

Entertainments Committee—P. W. Hughes, J. F. Harris,
D. P. Kyle, W. R. Simpson, A. J. A. Veasey.

Meeting Advisory Committee—A. J. Cattermole, S. H. Shellswell,
N. S. Whatmough.

Council—D. Little, S. H. Shellswell, P. A. Trier,
N. S. Whatmough, R. B. Bryant, G. C. Cattermole,
R. J. Verge.

Junior Advocate—L. A. Webb.

Breakages Man—G. F. Smith.

Cricket Secretary—R. J. Edy.

Hockey Secretary—M. W. Harrop.

Rugger Secretary—B. F. Pullen.

Magazine Committee—C. G. Jefferies, P. W. Hughes,
F. R. Glennie.

Senior Shopman—M. J. S. Veasey.

GENERAL MEETING NOTES

Summer Term, 1965

Meetings this term were mostly of moderate length, with little business of major importance. The practice of putting up hands to speak continued to work well, with occasional prompting, and the Meetings were noticeably more orderly than of late.

Considerable high feelings were aroused when the College wanted to shorten the list of offices in the magazine, but the Headmaster made it clear that he was determined that it should be shortened, and the Meeting eventually agreed to a shortened list.

Because of the difficulty in collecting duty sheets at the end of term, it was decided that in future, all duty sheets, with the exception of those of the more complicated financial offices, will be kept in a folder in the Library.

Having been subjected for some time to advertising literature, the Meeting bought one copy of the magazine *Sixth Form Opinion* for inspection.

SCHOOL NOTES

Late Spring Term and Summer Term, 1965

The following events of the Spring Term were too late for inclusion in the last number of the *Chronicle*:

On March 22nd Form VI visited the Bristol Hippodrome to see a performance of "Much Ado About Nothing," and on the same day the Headmaster took Form IV to visit the Standard Triumph Company factory in Coventry, and then to see Coventry Cathedral.

A dance was held on March 13th and several ladies were made welcome for the evening.

* * *

We bid farewell to the following boys and wish them well for the future: S. Greenlaw, J. J. Schwarzmantel, R. A. Sewell, M. E. Stubbs.

We welcome D. A. Tyler who joined the College at the beginning of the Summer Term.

We are glad also to welcome Miss I. Lloyd as Matron-Housekeeper. Miss Lloyd was formerly at Monmouth School for ten years, and we hope she will enjoy her work with us.

We acknowledge receipt of *The Gresham* and *The Wycliffe Star*.

* * *

We are most grateful to Professor Gordon Heppleston for a gift of money to the Staff. Some reproductions of old masters are being purchased and these will hang in the Staff Common Room.

* * *

Athletics have been started after a lapse of some years. A part of the Park has been fenced off and a new long jump pit constructed there. A 220-yard track has been marked out in the Estate Garden. Standards have been worked out for different age groups and a chart has been posted to record those who attain these standards.

* * *

A camping group has been established and most of the Third Form have camped out in the Park at weekends.

* * *

Form VI went to Stratford-on-Avon to see a performance of "The Merchant of Venice" on May 11th.

On May 13th a party saw Benjamin Britten's "Let's make an Opera" at St. Paul's College, Cheltenham.

The performance of Shaw's "Saint Joan" at the Bristol Old Vic on May 18th was attended by Form V.

* * *

The following have started bellringing this term and have already made good progress: R. B. N. Bryant, S. J. Brisk, S. H. Hook, A. J. C. Walker, E. W. Yates, A. T. W. Patrick, A. C. Whittles.

* * *

R. A. Sewell, S. Greenlaw and D. Little played for The Gloucestershire Schoolboys Hockey XI at the Taunton Hockey Festival last holidays. The Gloucestershire team won all its matches. R. A. Sewell was also selected to play for the Festival XI.

* * *

Founder's Day this year is celebrated on July 10th and thus falls too late to be reported in this number of the *Chronicle*. Notices will appear in the next issue.

A RECITAL

On Sunday, 14th March, Mr. Jenkin, Mr. Nicolaou and Michael Gillions gave a recital of music for piano, violin and tenor. It was the first of its kind for over a year and the attendance was encouraging.

The programme opened with Handel's Sonata No. III for violin and piano. The first movement was slow and elegant, the second chattering and impetuous, typical of the composer, the third movement was graceful, and the fourth lively and jig-like.

Then Mr. Gillions sang us four seventeenth century songs by Tobias Hume, Robert Jones and Purcell. The songs were short and very beautiful, the emphasis of the poetry being mainly on love, as Mr. Gillions explained.

Mr. Nicolaou, accompanied by Mr. Jenkin followed this with Brahms' Sonata No. 2 in A major. This contrasted well with the songs in being long and complex. However, it was as tender and lyrical as Brahms ever dared to be and the audience appreciated the work very much. It was mature and extended, yet very entertaining.

Mr. Gillions sang us four more songs, these were all popular arrangements by Benjamin Britten: "The Little Plough Boy," "The Sally Gardens," "The Ash Grove" and "Oliver Cromwell."

Familiarity explained the enthusiasm for these. Mr. Gillions executed them with much vigour, the end of the last one coming as quite a surprise!

Mr. Nicolaou concluded the concert with Martinu's polytonal "Intermezzo in Four Movements." This was abstruse and rhythmically catchy. It made an energetic end to the concert.

W. T. G.

CRICKET REPORT, 1965

First Eleven

The summer weather this year was unusually poor and because of this we played the majority of our cricket on slow, green wickets. We were, perhaps, fortunate to lose only two matches to the weather which made itself particularly unpleasant in some of the opening matches.

With only five regular members of last year's XI left, we began the season uncertainly and as the season progressed a

few places in the team were occasionally changing. Because of the small sixth form it was obvious that the team would be young and inexperienced, although many of the younger members matured considerably, and very pleasingly, throughout the summer. The results were never expected to be outstanding, and despite the moderate success the team always played with enthusiasm, making opponents work hard for their successes, and was never beaten easily.

As before, the main weakness in the team was the batting. We lacked consistent and capable middle-order batsmen who were willing to hit the ball hard and at the beginning of the season we were also dogged by poor starts, although both faults were partially remedied, after much experimenting with the order, by the end of the season. In general batsmen were content to stay at the crease—and some failed even in this—and were too unwilling to play attacking shots. In the bowling we started with the problem of finding successors to Heppleston and Tovey to open the attack, but Evans and Hillier quickly settled into the task, and with our two experienced slower bowlers, the attack became quite formidable and successful. The fielding, after hesitancy and untidiness were eliminated, was usually active and dependable except for one or two occasions where our opponents were allowed to benefit from dropped chances.

S. H. Shellswell, the vice-captain, did not have a successful season with the bat except for a fighting innings against Cheltenham College. Defensive by temperament, he was reluctant to use the front foot and must bring far more aggression into his play. As a bowler, he was often dangerous, particularly when bowling medium pace rather than slow, and with more control of length and direction will be a useful stock bowler. In the field he was always safe and active, and while bowling took some remarkable return catches.

R. J. Edy suffered a disappointing opening to the season. As an opening batsman his timing was often at fault, especially on the leg side, but when moved lower in the order he played some valuable innings. He too is defensive by temperament and to utilise fully his sound technique he must cultivate far more aggression and power. His fielding was dependable both near the bat and in the deep.

L. A. Webb, last year's wicket-keeper, relinquished this

position to let M. W. Harrop gain experience. Webb, by contrast to Edy, was often too aggressive and eager to score with disappointing results. His off-side shots are strong but he must develop some defence of his leg stump and more concentrated application to his batting. His deep fielding was excellent.

F. R. Glennie, batting fourth, was the season's most successful batsman. He hits the ball hard, particularly through the covers but must concentrate on getting his foot nearer to the pitch of the ball to avoid skying his shots. When he has also learnt to play himself in before going for his shots, he will score many more runs and will be the mainstay of the middle-order batting for the next year or two. His fielding in the gully, although subject to occasional lapses, was usually reliable and on occasions startling.

M. W. Harrop was the wicket-keeper this year and progressed admirably in competence and confidence as the season progressed and, with more practice at keeping to slow bowling, will be a formidable opponent behind the stumps. In batting he will have a fine future if he can overcome a reluctance to play off the front foot and with Glennie he should continue to form the basis of the batting strength in the following years.

A. E. Hillier developed throughout the season into a good opening bowler although he must correct the tendency to give up too easily if there is little response from the wicket. His command of length and accuracy were good, and more aggression would improve him still more. Essentially a hitter with the bat, he batted well and later in the season moved up to open the innings where he gave the side a good start. His ground fielding was safe and quick and his throw strong and accurate.

P. Evans opened the bowling with Hillier. He is very young but matured considerably and by the end of term was bowling faster with more accuracy and aggression than at the beginning. He gradually proved himself to be capable of very prolonged spells. He was perhaps the most unfortunate bowler, suffering more from fielding lapses than the others. In batting he must really apply himself conscientiously and in the field, with more alertness, will be very useful. He and Hillier together should prove a sound opening attack next season.

J. J. Fonseca improved his batting throughout the season and eventually took over opening with Hillier. His defensive technique is sound, although he must get his body more behind

the line of the ball. In attack he has a tendency to play across the line of the ball but in general he contributed some useful scores. In the field he was competent.

C. G. Jefferies was our main close fielder. He has quick reactions behind or in front of the bat and produced some spectacular pieces of fielding. As a batsman he has a good swing and played a valuable innings against Avonhurst. He is essentially a hitter and was more successful when swinging the bat than when trying to play strokes.

J. Godden came into the team halfway through the season. He was a useful left-arm bowler for the 2nd XI but his bowling was never required for the 1st XI. With more control of direction, and more rigorous application, in batting too, he could well prove to be a useful all-rounder.

M. T. Hitchman played for the first half of the season but eventually poor fielding cost him his place. His batting is sound of technique and defensive by temperament but produced no results until he was moved to open. Here he succeeded a little better but still failed to make up for his deficiencies in the field.

J. B. Marks played in three matches. He is a strong hitter of the ball with a good eye and strong arm, but he never fully realised his potential mainly through an inability to move his feet to the ball. His fielding proved unreliable and cost him his place.

N. J. Green played for the first two matches. His fielding was exceptionally good and keen, especially near the bat where he often moved dangerously close, but his batting was poor, mainly through lack of experience.

M. Barnes was very unfortunate in being selected for the 1st XI on the two occasions when matches were cancelled. He has the ability to become a fine batsman and his talents were invaluable to the Junior XI's and he consequently played for them rather than the 1st XI.

The captain of cricket, D. Little, approached the task of leading what was expected to be a weak side with enthusiasm and determination and the fact that the season may be reviewed with pleasure indicates the measure of his success. He drew the best out of his team, his tactics were sound and he was particularly successful in nursing his young opening bowlers. He had no luck with the bat but his bowling was once again invaluable as it has been for the past four seasons.

Results:

May 1st.

v. ST. STEPHEN'S C. C. (Home). Lost by 13 runs.

St. Stephen's 46 (Shellswell 6 for 20, Little 3 for 6)

Rendcomb 33.

St. Stephen's began slowly, finding runs difficult to get on the slow outfield. The resistance was broken by Shellswell, with some fine medium pace bowling, aided by Little, and the visitors were dismissed cheaply. Our batting never recovered from a bad start and apart from Glennie no-one seemed capable of scoring.

May 6th.

v. DEAN CLOSE SCHOOL 'A' XI. (Home). Lost by 3 wickets.

Rendcomb 58 (Glennie 21, Hillier 23 n. o.)

Dean Close School 60 for 7 wickets.

Again a disastrous start, two wickets falling for no runs, proved fatal, and it was only some strong hitting by Glennie and Hillier that gave us a moderate total. The bowling, with Hillier in good form, and some excellent fielding restrained Dean Close and in appalling weather, they won with one minute to spare.

May 8th.

v. AVONHURST SCHOOL (Home) Draw.

Rendcomb: 82 (Jefferies 25 n. o., Glennie 28).

Avonhurst: 46 for 7 wickets (Hillier 5 for 12).

We started weakly for the third time, but Glennie held the middle of the innings together with an aggressive innings. Jefferies, in his first game, in place of Green, batted well and he and Fonseca rescued the side with a belligerent last wicket stand of 31. Avonhurst started slowly and never looked for the runs, and despite Little and Hillier, who bowled particularly well for his five wickets, we were unable to penetrate some dour, defensive batting.

May 12th.

v. SIR THOMAS RICH'S SCHOOL, GLOUCESTER. (Home). Lost by 21 runs.

Sir Thomas Rich's: 54 (Little 5 for 8, Shellswell 4 for 2).

Rendcomb: 33 (Little 17).

Our opponents started well, but Little, fighting and turning the ball effectively, removed the early batsmen while Shellswell

tore through the tail end. Our batting, with the exception of Little, never got going against some hostile pace bowling and the innings crumbled feebly.

May 15th:

v. KINGHAM HILL SCHOOL. (Away). Won by 7 wickets. Kingham Hill: 46 (Hillier 5 for 11, Little 5 for 13). Rendcomb: 49 for 3 (Glennie 16 n. o., Harrop 16 n. o.) Usually an 'A' XI fixture, this was a 1st XI one this year. Kingham, put in to bat on the first hard wicket we had met this season were soon in trouble. Hillier, bowling fast and aggressively, and Little, with accurate off spin, tore through the opposition. The early batsmen started uncertainly, but Glennie and Harrop in an aggressive, unbroken stand led us to our first victory of the season.

May 22nd.

v. PRINCE HENRY'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL, EVESHAM. (Home)

Lost by 34 runs.

Prince Henry's Grammar School: 99

Rendcomb: 65 (Hillier 28).

Prince Henry's started badly, losing their early batsmen to Evans and Hillier. Our middle-order batting against steady bowling by Little and appalling fielding then enabled our visitors to record a high total. Our early batting collapsed against some hostile pace bowling, which included a hat trick, but Hillier, in an aggressive mood, including fifteen runs off four balls, and Webb enabled us to reach a moderate total in reply.

June 2nd.

v. KING'S, GLOUCESTER. (Away). Draw.

King's: 85 for 8 wickets declared (Little 2 for 13, Evans

2 for 22).

Rendcomb: 83 for 8 wickets (Hillier 28, Harrop 36 n. o.)

On a hard fast wicket King's started slowly and maintained a slow scoring rate for well over two hours. Little and Evans bowled accurately for long spells and only bad fielding enabled our opponents to amass such a total. Evans suffered badly from the poor fielding and was very unlucky. Hillier, now opening the batting, got us off to a good start and in a good stand with Harrop maintained the demand of a run a minute. Later Harrop assumed complete control of the game and with well-judged

singles we finished only three runs short, with two wickets still standing, in an exciting finish.

June 5th.

v. CHELTENHAM COLLEGE 2nd XI. (Home). Won by 3 wickets.

Cheltenham College: 65 (Shellswell 3 for 7)

Rendcomb: 66 for 7

Cheltenham started well but a series of unfortunate incidents led to a collapse. With the exception of Shellswell the attack looked unimpressive. Fonseca and Hillier in the best opening stand of term gave us a solid foundation for the innings but the middle-order batsmen failed until Edy, aided by Shellswell gave us victory in a slow and tense finish.

June 19th.

v. HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL. (Away). Lost by 3 wickets.

Rendcomb: 94 (Glennie 44, Little 16).

Hereford Cathedral School: 95 for 7 wickets (Evans 4 for 35).

We started slowly against an average attack but Glennie, supported by Little in a quick but large stand put us in a good position. When they were out, however, the batting failed except for an occasional hash of resistance from the tail, although we recorded our largest total of the term. The attack started badly and Little and Shellswell being unable to find length and direction, we were forced to rely on the pace of Hillier and Evans. Evans, bowling unchanged for the whole innings, and with remarkable accuracy and control, was the mainstay of the attack. A good catch by Webb aided his efforts and in an exciting finish Hereford won off the last-but-one ball of the match.

June 26th.

v. MARLING SCHOOL. (Away). Won by 3 wickets.

Marling: 50 (Evans 5 for 22, Little 3 for 1).

Rendcomb: 54 for 7 (Glennie 17).

Marling were put into bat on a lively green wicket and Evans quickly got among the wickets. He bowled fast and aggressively, with response from the wicket, and at 21 for 7 he had Marling in deep trouble. Aggressive batting, slightly relieved Marling's plight but Little, in 9 balls broke the resistance and uprooted the tail. We started slowly and after a sound start Harrop and Glennie, the latter being in an attacking mood, consolidated the position and Webb finished the match with two cracking fours to give us a fine victory.

Owing to bad weather, the following matches were cancelled:

Wednesday, May 26th, v. CIRENCESTER G. S. (Home).

Wednesday, June 23rd, v. CHELTENHAM G. S. (Away).

At the time of going to press the following matches are still to be played:

7th July, 'A' XI v. COKETHORPE (Home)

12th July, v. NORTH CERNEY C. C. (Home)

2nd XI

As with the First Eleven, a small sixth form meant a young and relatively inexperienced team, many of the members being Under 15 Eleven and Under 14 Eleven players. The team again proved useful for "discovering" people and kept potential 1st Eleven members at match level. Although the team lost all three of its fixtures, and a fourth was cancelled, everyone enjoyed his cricket and played with good spirit.

W. A. Thompson captained the side and his slow bowling was accurate and penetrating; J. Marks, P. Little and J. Godden, when he was not playing for the First Eleven, did the rest of the bowling between them and performed creditably. J. A. Dow kept wicket and provided some lusty hits with the bat while M. Barnes, J. Marks, C. Jefferies, in his one game, and W. Longman had some success with the bat. The remainder of the team all played for the junior XI's.

Results:

May 6th.

v. DEAN CLOSE SCHOOL 3rd XI. (Home.) Lost by 52 runs.

Dean Close: 103 (Marks 3 for 29, Thompson 3 for 18).

Rendcomb: 51.

May 12th.

v. SIR THOMAS RICH'S SCHOOL, GLOUCESTER, 2nd XI (Home).

Lost by 65 runs.

Sir Thomas Rich's: 116 for 7 wickets declared (Marks 3 for 27)

Rendcomb: 51 (Marks 16).

May 22nd.

v. PRINCE HENRY'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL 2nd XI. (Home).

Lost by 7 wickets.

Rendcomb: 56 (Longman 19 n. o.).

Prince Henry's: 60 for 3 wickets (Thompson 2 for 4).

Junior Elevens

With a large middle and junior school, the talent available this year was considerable and many were unfortunate not to gain a place in one of the teams, although the Under 15 Eleven were unlucky in having at least three members playing regularly for the First Eleven. As with the senior teams, the batting, with the exception of one or two individuals, was poor. People seemed unwilling to hit the ball hard and were far too negative in their approach to the task of scoring runs. The bowling, by contrast, was better, and some fine bowling performances were recorded, but there were too many badly directed deliveries, making wicket-keeping a difficult job. The fielding, perhaps because of the consistently slow outfield on Top, was slow but usually reliable.

It was mainly the failure of the batting that was responsible for the moderate results which were a little unexpected.

The Under-15 Eleven

C. P. Stevens captained the side. M. T. Hitchman and M. Barnes opened the batting with considerable success and M. Collins, D. Black and N. Green also contributed a few runs. R. Hole behind the stumps improved as the season progressed. K. A. Belcher was the main bowling strength and did his job commendably and in the field, W. Longman, C. Gray and N. Green were outstanding.

Results:

June 2nd.

v. KING'S, GLOUCESTER U'15 XI. (Home). Draw.

King's: 116 for 7 wickets declared (Belcher 5 for 23).

Rendcomb: 55 for 1 wicket (Barnes 18 n. o., Hitchman 18).

June 5th:

v. CHELTENHAM COLLEGE COLTS. (Home). Draw.

Cheltenham College: 98 (Belcher 5 for 45, Black 2 for 10).

Rendcomb: 83 for 9 wickets (Barnes 21, Hitchman 16).

June 19th:

v. HERFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL COLTS. (Away). Lost by 78 runs.

Hereford Cathedral School: 127 for 9 wickets declared (Belcher 5 for 39).

Rendcomb: 49 (Barnes 25).

The Under-14 Eleven

M. Barnes as captain played some good innings. W. Longman and K. Belcher bowled well and C. Gray was a useful all-rounder. The following also played: D. Black, T. Liddle, M. Treasure, E. Yates, J. Reason, A. Patrick, D. Brown, M. Collins, C. Hunt and M. Rees.

Results:

May 8th.

v. SIR THOMAS RICH'S U'14 XI. (Home). Lost by 6 wickets.

RENDCOMB: 32.

Sir Thomas Rich's: 36 for 4 wickets (Longman 3 for 9).

May 15th.

v. KINGHAM HILL SCHOOL U'14 XI. (Away). Won by 4 wickets.

Kingham Hill: 42 (Longman 6 for 29, Belcher 2 for 7).

Rendcomb: 43 for 6 (Gray 23 n. o.)

June 26th:

v. MARLING JUNIOR COLTS. (Away). Lost by 7 wickets.

Rendcomb: 60 (Gray 15, Rees 20).

Marling: 62 for 3 wickets.

May 26th:

Under 13J XI v. OAKLEY HALL 1st XI. (Home). Draw.

Oakley Hall: 108 (Gray 4 for 22).

Rendcomb: 61 for 4 wickets. (Collins 21, Gray 15).

Junior Game

As with last year there are many talented cricketers among Form I. Their enthusiasm was considerable and they should provide the basis of good teams in the future. Among the new boys K. Warren and R. Law were outstanding and N. Johnson, T. Patrick and J. R. Harris showed obvious ability.

The season would not be complete without our thanks to Mr. Knapp, Mr. Dennis and Mr. Burden for their unflinching attention and interest both on top and in the nets and to Mr. Caves and Mr. Swaine for their assistance with the junior games. Mrs. Sparkes is also to be thanked for her incessant care of our clothing and we are indebted to Mr. Fry for his attentions on Top which is now looking better than for a long while. Finally, our thanks to D. J. Maberley for his neatness and accuracy in the scoring book and also to the others who scored for the 2nd Eleven and Junior Eleven's on occasions.

TENNIS REPORT

A great deal of tennis has been played this term and the general standard of play has been raised accordingly. Much of the credit for this must go to this year's captain of tennis, F. R. Glennie for his enthusiasm and energy.

The First VI has not yet won a match but it has lost on each occasion by only a narrow margin mainly due to a lack of aggression at the critical stages of the matches. Only one member of the team is leaving and the prospects for next year look bright.

The team was:

1st Pair: F. R. Glennie and S. H. Shellswell, (won 9 events out of 12).

2nd Pair R. J. Edy and J. Fonseca (won 5 events out of 12).

3rd Pair D. Little and M. T. Hitchman or L. A. Webb (won 2 events out of 12).

The four matches played so far this term:

May 18th: CHELTENHAM COLLEGE 1st VI, Away, Lost 5-4.

June 10th: DEAN CLOSE 2nd VI, Home, Lost 5-4.

June 12th: MARLING SCHOOL 1st VI, Away, Lost 5-4.

June 16th: WYCLIFFE COLLEGE 2nd VI, Away, Abandoned.

July 4th: GLOUCESTERSHIRE POLICE FORCE VI, Home, Lost 5-4.

RUNNING REPORT

The second running match of the Autumn term was held after the Autumn issue of the *Chronicle* was printed.

The full Senior team was not available for this match, as there was a rugger match on the same afternoon. In fact, only a team of six members ran, three of these normally being juniors. Because of this, Dean Close suggested that their reserve should run for Rendcomb, and this was done, the Dean Close reserve being the first man home! N. S. Whatmough was in second place, but Rendcomb were still beaten by 20 points.

Other positions were: M. B. Ogilvie and G. C. Cattermole equal 11th; J. J. Fonseca 13th; P. R. Milam 14th; D. I. Burman 15th.

The Junior team again came very near to winning their match, but could not quite make it, despite some very good running by K. Jordan and D. Brown, which resulted in Jordan setting a new junior course record.

Final positions were: K. Jordan 1st, D. Brown 4th; J. Hiscox 8th; N. Brown, D. Simmons and D. Black equal 9th, J. Reason and P. Taylor equal 13th.

The only match of the Spring Term was a “quadrangular” match against Sir Thomas Rich’s ‘A’ and ‘B’ teams and Avonhurst.

This was an easy win for Sir Thomas Rich’s ‘A’ team, but Rendcomb were not last for once, and our final position was third. This was in fact quite a good effort, as the team was not very fit, D. Little, in particular, was just recovering from a broken leg and we were running against teams who train and compete regularly. S. H. Shellswell especially put up a good effort.

Final positions: N. S. Whatmough 4th, S. H. Shellswell 12th, L. A. Webb 17th, M. B. Ogilvie 19th, J. B. Marks 24th, F. Bolton-King 26th, P. R. Milam 30th, D. Little 31st.

The Juniors were competing only against Avonhurst, but they were well beaten. The absence of K. Jordan, who had left, was noticeable, but D. Brown once again put up a very good performance, though this cannot be said for all members of the team. The junior course record was again broken, the first three finishers being inside the old record.

Final positions: D. Brown 3rd, N. Brown 9th, E. W. Yates 11th, S. H. Hook 12th, J. C. L. Reason 13th, D. F. R. Black 14th, D. J. Simmons 15th, J. A. Hiscox 16th.

Greenmeadows Race

There was a general lack of interest in this race, this year, and very few people entered. The conditions were rather wet, and the times were slow, mainly due to the lack of competition.

The senior race was won by J. J. Fonseca, and the junior race was won by E. W. Yates.

Road-Relay Race

Because of the general apathy towards the Greenmeadows race, it was decided to organise a Road-relay race, on an inter-Group basis. It was stressed that this was not for “runners” only and there was a considerable entry from all forms. The circuit started on the asphalt, went up the back drive, down past the church and along to the laboratories, and then returned to the asphalt via the drive (distance about one third of a mile).

Three races were held; one for Senior 'A' teams, one for Senior 'B' teams, and one for Junior teams.

The Senior 'A' race was won by North, mainly due to most of the team being experienced runners. The surprise of the race was the team from South who finished a very good second, showing that it was not necessary to have a team of natural runners in order to do well in this race.

The East team which was one of the favourites was just pushed into third place by South, despite a scorching last lap by Trier.

In the race for "B" teams, North won against their only opponents, East.

The Junior race saw a victory for West, whose team was very consistent, M. A. Cox putting up a good time. North were second, and South third, East not entering a team.

HOT AFTERNOON IN THE CITY

Hot blistered feet in heavy black shoes
Thunder past on the gritty pavement
Flushed faces betray overdressed bodies
Clammy and sweating.
The whole world moves too fast, deafeningly fast
Screaming motor horns drown shouting children
Clutching sloppy melting ice-creams.
The sickly smell of stale coffee oozes from cafe doors
And mingles with the fumes and steaming tar.
All at once the street pulsates with a pneumatic drill—
Grubby, patient negroes in dusty overalls are at work.
Uncomfortable bowler-hatted pin-striped gents holding
Futile umbrellas hurry past to take an early hissing train.
The sun, a sickly, sizzling orb frowns down over all
With never a blissful cloud to shade the aching world.

W. T. G. G.

THE FALL

Jonas Roberts looked up at the steps. There were sixteen; sixteen short paces to death. On either side of him stood two sentries, rigidly at attention, muskets at the slant. Behind his back his wrists were beginning to throb painfully under the binding of the cord.

It had been forty-eight hours ago that the soldiers had come to warn him against crossing the river. Last night he was caught on the opposite bank, trying to cross the barbed wire. He hadn't bothered to explain that his twelve-year-old son needed medicine; medicine that was now out of reach. The soldiers expected no mercy, and gave none. His trial was short, the judgement inevitable. Now he was again on the river, going to his death.

The lieutenant gave a command; he was prodded forward, forced to climb. The boards creaked as the three men ascended towards the masked figure waiting at the top. Now he was on the platform over the river, glistening far below. The rope was placed over his head, adjusted until the knot was under his ear. The hangman withdrew, walked away from the trapdoor, towards the lever. Up the river two swans were swimming towards him side by side, their feathers ruffled by the wind which had turned cold. Jonas shivered, and glanced at the sky.

"Ready?"

Jonas nodded. His heart was beating loudly, his brain was guessing at the outcome of ceremony. Behind Jonas the hangman suddenly pulled the lever. With a slight creak from well-oiled hinges Jonas fell. Swiftly.

There was a sudden jerk at his head, but, incredibly, he was free, still falling. With a loud splash he went under, going deep.

"I must get away."

He feebly clawed at the rope, now choking him slowly. He pushed himself upwards, towards air and life. As he surfaced two bullets splashed water in front of him.

"Must dive again, get out of range."

This time the current helped him. Swimming below the surface he made twenty yards before coming up for air. The bullets missed once more; with luck he would be round the bend before surfacing again. In front of him one of the swans lay limp in the water, a red stain over its white feathers. He dived, swimming more strongly now, out of range and sight.

He pulled himself ashore around the corner. Taking deep breaths he began to walk. A long time later he came to his own front gate. He supposed his instinct had guided him, through the grey mists of exhaustion he remembered little. With faltering stride and sharp breath he opened the gate and walked up the path. The door in front of him opened. His

wife appeared, drying her hands on her apron. He came towards her, his hands reaching out; now only one pace to go.

There was a sickening crack, a loud explosion in his ears, everything vanished.

Below the bridge the body of Jonas Roberts swung in the cool evening breeze. Above the lieutenant nodded at the hangman, the two soldiers relaxed. Up the river two swans were swimming side by side.

S. H. S.

CENA ROMANORUM

Prandium, the midday meal, was in progress. Above the hubbub of the slaves' voices on the lower table, Cassius Albus, a magister of the academy lay on his couch gazing out on to the forum. He hated having meals in the arena, it was draughty, but until the new mosaic floor was laid in the dining hall it was the only place available. The work looked like being held up as well. The craftsmen had run out of mosaic tiles.

Three iuvenes entered, late for their meal. They stopped short of the high table and saluted the Dominus respectfully. They had been practising their running and javelin throwing under the supervision of Brutus Onus, the zestful magister of gymnastics, and had not had time to change into their tunics.

Slaves came and removed the food from the first course, and then reappeared with steaming bowls. The pupils rejoiced, it was a mixture of bread and dried grapes, of which they were fond.

There was a clattering in the forum, Parvus Olivus, the young son of the Dominus was driving his chariot outside. The company watched him guide it skilfully around the corner, and then continued with their meal.

A slave slipped and dropped a pile of pewter platters on the floor. The Dominus sentenced him forthwith to an extra seven days of punishment. The slave left, a broken man, to inscribe the number of platters broken on the great tablets.

The rest of the meal passed in peace; the pupils chattered of affairs of their own and made respectful conversation to the magisters. At a given signal the whole company rose for the Dominus to give his blessing on the meal.

“Benedicto Benedicatur.”

The company gave the response, and then it was time for Cassius Albus to retire with his colleagues Brutus Onus and Pater Vendit to the Conclave Communis.

H. M. P.

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER TO THE “GAUNTLET”

JUNE, 1973

Recently, going through records in the New British Museum, of late Twentieth Century Life, I came across a reference to a day that was feared and almost caused the extinction of *Homo sapiens* — Saturation Day. At first, I believed I had stumbled across the original unexpurgated form of the sixth day of the week, but on further exposition, I found this to be incorrect. Permission has been obtained to follow this up and readers will be kept fully informed of later developments.

PROFESSOR STUBBLE

Extract in August edition of the “Gauntlet.”

Research has brought to light weird hieroglyphics of a strange nature, on blue coloured tin indicating the whereabouts of an unidentified A38 and M4, apparently connected with Saturation Day. Archaeological proceedings have been organised, using the finest and most delicate equipment, including electric toothbrushes. These have uncovered unusual metallic hulks with the ancient glass covering holes in these hulks. Most of these hulks have human bones in varying altitudes of rest, indicating a possible mass burial. The coffins are systematically placed four abreast, two in each line facing in one direction, while the next two face the opposite way. These continue unbroken, across the whole countryside, even venturing under The Great Cities. A further possible theory is that man wished to emulate the long extinct lemmings.

Extract from September “Gauntlet.”

The theoretical work has not advanced but a vast network of expensive foundations has been found beneath the coffins, with Twentieth Century style arches at intervals. The larger almost Glass-less coffins have traces of a rare gas, identified as carbon-monoxide, recorded in medical journals as a common form of poisoning. Traces of what has been analysed as pulped wood have been found bearing inscriptions such as “Marples must go” or “Go home Frazer” which were most feared evil spirits of that time.

Extract from December “Gauntlet.”

The coffins under the foundations of the Great Cities were mainly empty, laid to rest with steel posts driven into the ground beside them containing cupronickel images of the long since deposed monarchs, mainly Elizabeth II, believed to be Eleventh, with extinct vegetable life of the Twentieth Century on the reverse. Apart from large storehouses of coffins, no further evidence has been gleaned, and Saturation Day must be placed in the annals of time as one of the Hundred and Seventy-Four Wonders of the Ancient World.

M. J. D.

- I. Heavily I tread down the street of many eyes,
Through the alleyways of many ears.
Before the dawn my many thoughts
Are heard above the first songs of birds and the
Rustling of leaves
Which are of no importance.
Dancing among the leaves
With the memory of Truth
Which is not truth but
What is known to posterity.
- Black shoes no more on black tarmac
I recollect that I have been walking
For a long time
For a very long time
For now the sky is grey
Which is an eternity after blackness white punctuated
Seen not above but below
Winking
The road. . . . not the depth of the universe.
- No
Now I am no longer imprisoned
Now I can see beside me in the grey dawn
Not streets. Not alleyways
No eyes. No ears.
Now thoughts are subordinate to the
Twitterings of birds and the
Whispering of leaves
Which are very important.
Now I can look upward not down
For the glittering white spots
(But alas they are gone.)
- Yet I had rather be drowned in steel cold
Dawnlight than in steel cold eyes and ears;
I had rather there were no birdsongs and no trees
Shedding dancing leaves, even though they are very important,
Than that I should hear the rustlings
Only of steel leaves, and the songs of electrical birds,
Which possess the minds of Truth.

II. I must go home.
It is not good for me to go walking
So early in the morning
To disturb my sleep and thought.
As the seasons pass
I begin to wonder why I did not see before
The light which shines above me
All the days of my life.
Grey sky to yellow grass.
The rain must be very good
For it lives three minutes and fifty-five seconds
Without the least change.

Shoot now, for I know that it will
Come in the end.
The good pilot always leads his ship
Safe into port.
I must
Die now, while I know that I still
Love other men.
But perhaps that is why it is not time.
We must not have the least imperfection.

I must
Go home now.
It is not good for me to go walking
So early in the morning
To the detriment of my work.

III. Heavily I tread down the street of many eyes
Through the alleyways of many ears.
In the daylight my many thoughts
Are seen above the flying birds and the
Windblown leaves
Which are of no importance.
I am not allowed to understand
Anything of Truth
Which is not truth but
What I know to be true.

M. E. S.

OLD BOYS' NOTES

We record with regret the death of H. G. T. Price (1922-28) on March 25th this year, and offer our deep sympathy to his widow.

* * *

We offer our congratulations to John Webb on his election as hockey captain of Cambridge University.

* * *

We gather indirectly that Michael Russell (1933-38) is married and has a son, Morris, born on January 1st this year. He has wisely entered the young man for Rendcomb.

* * *

Michael Petter, whose engagement we noted in the last issue of the magazine, was married to Miss Eve Leakey at Cambridge in May.

* * *

We congratulate Peter de Iongh on his engagement to Mejjaffrouw Wiersinga of Hilversum, Holland.

* * *

We congratulate Martin Richards on the birth of his second son, Andrew.

* * *

John Gooding is now doing research on Russian history at St. Antony's College, Oxford; his year in Moscow has already borne fruit for he has just published a most interesting and penetrating travel book on Russia entitled "The Catkin and the Icicle." It is published by Constable—ask for it at your library.

* * *

Martin Butlin, who is still assistant keeper at the Tate Gallery, says he now has a life's work in hand—a complete William Blake catalogue. He still hopes, however, to continue his work on Turner.

* * *

Please remember that I am always glad to have your news for this section of the magazine.

J. C. JAMES