RENDCOMB COLLEGE CHRONICLE

Rendcomb College Chronicle

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COLLEGE OFFICERS

Autumn Term, 1962

Senior Prefect—C. C. Richardson.

Prefects and Group Leaders—J. M. Webb, J. R. Marshall,

K. H. Stimson, L. de V. Wragg.

Prefects—T. C. Bass, K. A. Walker, R. A. D. B. Laws.

College Workman—T. G. W. Pettigrew.

†Public Workman—R. S. Lowe.

Senior Music Librarian—D. G. Griffiths.

Choir Librarians—P. P. Mabberley, R. J. Wood.

Q. P. Concerts—R. A. D. B. Laws.

Picture Man—J. R. Marshall.

Lamp Men—C. G. Jefferies, D. Little.

Church Ushers—C. B. Stillwell, M. F. Ashe-Jones.

Church Collections and Deck Chairs—A. J. Cattermole.

Stage Men—D. G. Griffiths, J. Mitchison, S. H. Shelswell, L. A. Webb, J. A. Dow.

Notices Men—K. H. Stimson, A. J. Cattermole.

Librarians—S. Greenlaw, T. C. Bass, C. B. Stillwell, D. Little.

Manual Foremen—K. H. Stimson, R. S. Lowe, J. Mitchison,

S. H. Shellswell.

†Furniture Committee—R. C. Jones, C. C. Richardson. †Meeting appointment.

MEETING OFFICERS

Autumn Term, 1962

Chairman—K. A. Walker.

Secretary—M. A. Gooding.

Games Captain—J. R. Marshall.

Vice Captain—J. M. Webb.

Games Committee—T. G. W. Pettigrew, C. B. Stillwell.

Boys' Banker—M. FI. Ferguson.

Meeting Banker—C. J. Webb.

Senior Shopman—R. A. D. B. Laws.

Shopmen—J. S. Godden, B. F. Pullen.

House Committee Treasurer—L. A. Webb.

Games Committee Treasurer—R. J. Edy.

Record Committee Treasurer—F. Bolton-King.

Finance Committee Treasurer—G. F. Smith.

Financial Advisory Committee—C. B. Stillwell, K. H. Stimson.

Auditors—T. C. Bass, D. J. Tovey, D. A. N. Hogarth.

Entertainments Committee—D. A. N. Hogarth, S. Greenlaw,

S. H. Shellswell, N. C. Creffield, R. W. Hole.

Cycle Committee—R. B. Denny, A. J. Raddon, F. Bolton-King.

Classical Record Committee—M. F. Ashe-Jones, M. H. Ferguson, R. A. D. B. Laws.

Light Record Committee—J. R. Marshall, N. R. Meakin.

Amplifier Technicians—K. A. Walker, C. C. Richardson.

Breakages Man—F. R. Glennie.

Paperman—D. J. Henderson.

Drying Room Committee—C. G. Cattermole, P. A. Trier, J. B. Marks.

Billiards Committee—J. T. Wood, A. D. Heppleston, R. A. Sewell.

Sledge Committee—J. A. Dow, J. V. Hemming, J. F. Harris.

Magazine Committee—M. A. Gooding, R. C. Jones, E. Taylor.

Chairman of Groundstalf—C. B. Stillwell.

Senior Groundstaff—C. J. Webb.

Junior Groundstaff—R. H. Thompson.

Out of Season Cricket Groundsman—R. P. Goodchild.

Out of Season Tennis Groundsman—M. B. Ogilvie.

Rugby Games Wardens—A. E. Pocock, P. L. Hughes.

Cricket Games Warden—R. W. Hole.

Hockey Games Warden—J. A. Dow.

Tennis Games Warden—M. Harrop.

Badminton Games Warden—C. P. Stevens.

Rugby Secretary—R. C. Jones.

Hockey Secretary—R. A. Sewell.

Cricket Secretary—D. Little.

Running Captain—D. A. N. Hogarth.

Film Committee—M. C. Jones, J. T. Wood.

Christmas Party Committee—K. H. Stimson, D. G. Griffiths,

D. J. Thomasson, R. J. Verge, M. E. Stubbs.

The Council—J. M. Webb, M. C. Jones, T. C. Bass, K. A. Walker, C. C. Richardson, J. R. Marshall, D. A. N. Hogarth.

Rule Committee—J. M. Webb, R. J. Hayes, C. G. Jefferies.

Nominations Committee—C. C. Richardson, T. C. Bass, C. B. Stillwell, D. J. Tovey, S. Greenlaw.

MEETING NOTES

Summer Term, 1962

Many of the meetings this term were exceptionally short, but there was some useful discussion.

The lot of the groundsman was greatly eased by Mr. Fry marking out first and second cricket pitches, an assistance which was much appreciated by all concerned.

There was considerable discussion on the subject of the Cycle Committee and its duties. It was decided that in the future it should remain a committee of three members only, and that its duties should extend to keeping the cycle shed clean and free of litter.

The Meeting decided to take the weekly magazine "Understanding Science" offered to them by the College. There was great support for this magazine from all quarters of the school. The magazine itself deals with the several aspects of science and explains in the simplest terms possible. The meeting later decided to buy binders for these magazines and that they should be the "Easy Binders", each holding twenty-four copies. The individual issues combine to make an encyclopaedia.

The Meeting purchased a wreath for Miss Savage's funeral. Her tragic death shocked and grieved everyone who had known her.

Miss Babington was bought a leaving present in the form of a portable transistor radio. This was obtained by the combined resources of the Meeting and the Staff. Miss Babington later wrote and affectionately thanked the meeting.

The Meeting purchased a new marking-out machine to replace the old one. It is of approximately similar design. The Tennis Captain was disappointed over the lack of response which had prevailed after the initial enthusiasm for tennis coaching.

Rendcomb was offered the opportunity of participating in a nationwide schools chess competition organised by the 'Sunday Times'. This was organised on a knock-out basis, and the travelling costs would be divided between the two schools taking part on each occasion. Each team consisted of six players. The Meeting declined this offer.

The Headmaster introduced a new system of furniture repairs by which each Form was responsible for the furniture in its own room. The furniture, if not repairable in the Manual, would be professionally mended and the cost would be divided between the inhabitants of the room. The Headmaster would be the arbitrator in the event of any difficulty.

Miss Babington presented a junior tennis racquet to the meeting, for which she was warmly thanked.

The Light Record Committee bought a "Nat 'Cannonball' Adderly" L. P. and an L. P. of assorted jazz artists called "Jazz of the Twenties".

The Classical Record Committee purchased Nos. 1, 3 and 6 of the Brandenburg Concertos by Bach, played by the Stuttgart Chamber Orchestra conducted by Muchinger, and the Clarinet Quintet in B minor by Brahms, played by the Kell Fine Arts String Quartet. They also bought the Violin Concerto in D, Opus 35, by Tchaikovsky, and played by Milsten, with the Pittsburg Symphony Orchestra conducted by Steinberg.

The Entertainments Committee bought the L. P. "The Good Old Days" with Harry Davidson and his orchestra.

SOME CHANGES

The Headmaster's new house is now finished; he and his family moved in at the beginning of September. It has been built at the top of the village hill between the churchyard and the Cirencester Drive, but not directly in front of the Church. As required of buildings in this district, it has been faced with local stone and its style can best be described as "Safe Cotswold".

The Headmaster's move means that a great deal of space has become available for school use. The Flat now consists almost entirely of classrooms and dormitories except for one bedroom which has been reserved for College Guests, and the kitchen, which has become the dispensary. The old guest room, next to the Headmaster's study, is now the Housekeeper's room; what was Miss Babington's room has been taken over by a member of the teaching staff.

Big School is now the Assembly Hall, and is not used at all for teaching: only for prayers, the General Meeting, and, of course, entertainments. Forms I and II now live in the Music Room, while Form III have moved up into what was Dormitory 3, now Classroom A. The former Prefects' Study is now a dormitory and the Drawing Room, Classroom B. The Tower bedroom has now become a dormitory and the Nursery is Classroom C. The two other bedrooms are dormitories.

On the Top Floor, Mr. Sells has moved from the South West comer of the building into what was Dormitory 10 and new ones have been made out of Mr. Sells's old room, a staff room on the front corridor and the two maids' bedrooms down the passage beyond the Rest Rooms which has, for so many years been forbidden territory to boys.

The Secretary's office has been moved to what was the Small Classroom and the former office is now used by the Upper VIth.

New classrooms and studies are now being built over the kitchen area and we hope to use them at the beginning of the Summer Term, 1963.

There are now 111 boys in the School.

SCHOOL NOTES

We bid farewell to R. P. S. Harrison, who left the College at Christmas, to R. D. Dale, who left at the end of the Easter Term, and to the following who finished their school course at the end of the Summer Term: G. S. Bartlett, K. J. Fowler, H. E. Gough, J. A. T. Goodborn, P. B. Heppleston, J. C. Malpass, R. J. Parnell.

* * *

We acknowledge receipt of 'The Gresham'.

Care of the flower gardens round the College was taken over by a group of boys under the charge of Mr. White. Many hours of work were put in during the term with most satisfactory results.

* * *

A lecture was given on June 8th to the VIth Form by Prof. A. D. C. Peterson, O. B. E., Director of Education for Oxford University.

* *

A VIth Form party visited Stratford-on-Avon on May 15th to see a performance of "Measure for Measure" by William Shakespeare.

On July 2nd a party from the College heard a programme of contemporary music played by the London Symphony Orchestra during the Cheltenham Festival.

* * *

On July 17th a party of twenty-one from the Vth and VIth Forms went to London for the day. Each person was expected to visit two of the following places: Westminster Abbey, Victoria and Albert Museum, the Tate and National Galleries, before meeting at 6:0 p. m. for a river trip.

A Grand Dance was held at the College on July 9th, and we were glad to welcome a number of ladies for the evening.

GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION

Summer, 1962

The following obtained passes in the subjects indicated, at the July, 1962, examination:

O-Level:

- M. F. Ashe-Jones—Latin.
- G. S. Bartlett—Biology.
- M. J. Bartlett—English Literature, History.
- A. J. Cattermole—English Language, English Literature, History, French, Mathematics, Physics, Biology.
- N. C. Creffield—English Language, English Literature, History, Latin, French, Mathematics.
- K. J. Fowler—Biology.
- R. P. Goodchild—English Language, English Literature, History, Latin, French, Mathematics, Physics, Biology.
- M. A. Gooding—Latin.
- D. A. N. Hogarth—English Language.
- C. G. Jefferies—English Language, English Literature, History, French, Mathematics, Physics, Biology.
- R. A. D. B. Laws—Additional Mathematics.
- D. Little—English Language, English Literature, History, Latin, French, Mathematics, Physics, Biology.
- R. S. Lowe—English Language, English Literature, History, Latin, French, Mathematics, Physics, Biology.
- J. C. Malpass—Latin.
- N. R. Meakin—English Literature.
- J. Mitchison—English Language, English Literature, History, French, Mathematics, Physics, Biology.
- M. B. Ogilvie—English Language, English Literature, History, Mathematics, Physics, Biology.
- J. J. Schwarzmantel—English Language, English Literature, History, Latin, French, Mathematics, Physics.
- R. A. Sewell—English Language, English Literature, History, Latin, French, Mathematics, Physics, Biology.
- M. E. Stubbs—English Language, English Literature, History, Latin, French, Mathematics, Physics, Biology.
- E. Taylor—English Language, English Literature, History, French, Mathematics, Physics, Biology.
- D. J. Thomasson—Art.
- T. Tucker—English Language.

A-Level:

- ††T. C. Bass—*English, Use of English, *History, *French, General Paper.
- †G. E. Chapman—Use of English, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, General Paper.
- J. A. T. Goodborn—Mathematics, Physics.
- P. B. Heppleston—Zoology, General Paper.
- †M. C. Jones—*English, Use of English, History, General Paper.
- J. C. Malpass—Economics and Public Affairs.
- †J. R. Marshall—Use of English, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, General Paper.
- R. J. Parnell—Use of English, Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Physics, General Paper.
- †T. G. W. Pettigrew— English, History, French, General Paper.
- C. C. Richardson—Physics.
- †C. B. Stillwell—*English, Use of English, *History, General Paper.
- †K. H. Stimson—Use of English, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, General Paper.
- †K. A. Walker—Use of English, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, General Paper.
- J. M. Webb—Economics and Public Affairs.
- †J. T. Wood—Use of English, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, General Paper.
- L. de V. Wragg—English, Use of English, French, General Paper.

*Pass with Distinction.

‡State Scholarship award. †County Major Award.

MUSIC

The Summer Term is not the best time to undertake an ambitious concert because preparation for examinations cuts into the time boys can give to extra rehearsals, and except for our annual visit to Gloucester Cathedral to sing in the Festival Evensong (for which the bulk of the work is done in the previous term anyway), our musical activities are limited. Last year's Founder's Day Concert was unique.

This year we did have a concert in July, but there was a special reason for putting it on. Hugh Gough and Mr. Tooze had concocted a "thing" for jazz *combo* and small symphony orchestra, and as Gough and our expert "bassist" John Goodborn

were both leaving at the end of the term, it was decided to build a programme round "Divertissement Rythmique" which is what the "thing" came to be called. It could be played either then or never, so we went ahead realising fully that there would be woefully inadequate time for rehearsal not only because of examinations but also because most of the orchestra were involved in the Founder's Day play for which, incidentally, Mr. Tooze wrote the music and members of the orchestra played.

In the event, the Divertissement went on with only three full rehearsals. Such was the rush that Mr. Tooze orchestrated it on single sheets of paper which were immediately taken by Gough to copy the parts. At the performance the best bits were those played by the jazz section, Gough (piano), Goodborn and Anthony Hill (drums), but the orchestra did extremely well in view of their difficulties—they were, after all, almost sight-reading something in an idiom completely new to them.

The Public Schools Festival Evensong in Gloucester Cathedral on Thursday June the 14th was one of the best for many years. The music chosen was very singable and the choirs, having taken an early fancy to it, knew their parts well. And, although loud music is not necessarily good music—and often is not—there is no doubt that loud passages played on large organs in large reverberant buildings and with the addition of four hundred voices, can be most impressive, almost spine-tingling. So it was in Gloucester Cathedral where, though the speaking voice can be practically inaudible at twenty-five yards distance from the speaker, yet this echo so annoying to preachers becomes an enhancing halo for music. The Canticles were sung to Noble in B minor and the anthems were "Almighty and Everlasting God," Gibbons; "O Lord the Makyr of al thing," Joubert, and "God Omnipotent" by Charles Wood.

This service was repeated on St. Peter's Day, the patronal Festival, in Rendcomb Church. There was a change: we sang one anthem instead of three.

We hope to have more concerts by visiting artists than we have had in the past. We wanted to take advantage of the 500th Q. P. Concert on July 8th to have the first of a new series of concerts by professional artists. However, those artists we had booked for the 8th asked if they could come on the 1st of July instead, so actually we celebrated the 499th Q. P. Concert.

Those taking part were Mrs. Margot Jeens (cello), Mr. Eric Coleridge (violin) and Mr. John Sanders who brought with him his excellent de Blaeze harpsichord. He played, for his solo, Haydn's Sonata No. 2 in D, and Mr. Coleridge's solo was Bach's Violin

Sonata in A. The programme began with one of Loeillet's "Sonatas a Trois" and ended with Haydn's Trio in E, both for violin, cello and harpsichord.

Arrangements are now in hand for the next of these concerts which we hope will take place early next term. It is planned to include Schubert's "Trout" Quintet in the programme.

THE MOTOR CLUB

The club was founded just over a year ago, more or less by chance. Some keen motor enthusiasts in the school had bought a 1937 Morris 10, with which they terrorised the wild life of a nearby disused airfield. Early last year the activity was given official blessing, "Genevieve" was brought to the College to be housed in the Rectory garage, and a Motor Club formed.

Membership of the club is limited to twelve boys who wish to learn how a car works by stripping down the engine and accessories and reassembling all the parts.

In the club's first meeting, officials were elected and it was decided that before anything of importance was done, the bodywork of the car should be removed to give free access to the chassis and transmission. This was done, and an improvised dashboard erected on which were mounted the starter button and ignition switch.

Owing to a certain amount of apathy and pressure of work among some founder members, these initial operations were not completed until the middle of last term. Meanwhile a fair amount of minor maintenance was carried out on the ignition system, replacing high tension leads, plugs and cleaning the petrol pump. It required outside technical assistance before the engine was persuaded to start.

The beginning of this term saw the admission of several enthusiastic new members from a list of applicants. In the few weeks of this term, the engine has been dismantled and removed in preparation for a decoke and overhaul.

After reassembling, it is planned to rewire the car, excluding lighting circuits, and to have it running again in the not too distant future.

The club have since been presented with a 1939 Morris 8, which is also to be overhauled. Thus after a rather uncertain beginning, future activities are ambitious.

MISS B. J. BABINGTON

Miss Babington retired at the end of the Summer Term. It was with regret that we heard, earlier in the year, of her decision to retire. But it was understandable, if only for health reasons, for she had not been really well for many months. We hoped that rest and having no responsibilities would restore her health and vigour but most unfortunately an operation was necessary within a few weeks of her leaving Rendcomb.

However, she is home again now and the latest news we have is that she is getting on well. So, our wishes for a happy and healthy retirement have special meaning at the present time.

FOUNDER'S DAY, 1962—SATURDAY, JULY 14th

Once again we were glad to greet the College Governors and a large number of parents and friends at the Founder's Day celebrations.

The programme opened as usual in the Gymnasium at 3 p. m., with Colonel John Godman, C. B. E., J. P., the chairman of the governing body, presiding. Colonel Godman, in introducing Mr. A. O. H. Quick, our new Headmaster, told the assembly that College numbers were to be increased to about one hundred and thirty and that a programme of building had been authorised to provide studies and new classrooms.

Mr. Quick then gave his report, a shortened version of which appears below.

Colonel Godman warmly welcomed the guest speaker, Sir Roger Makins, G. C. B., G. C. M. G. Sir Roger gave an amusing address in which he first surveyed in a broad way the modern achievements in the various fields of science, paying particular attention to the realm of physics. In this he demonstrated that an "arts" man—a historian to be precise—is quite able to grasp the principles and some of the details which are necessary in understanding the impact of science on the modern world.

Sir Roger went on to say that the gulf so often said to exist between the "arts" and the "sciences" is not, or at any rate, need not be so great as is commonly supposed. Scientists, he said, are often accused of being too narrow and specialised in outlook, but in fact it is also true that many arts students know far less about science than they should. An important function of education in schools is to overcome this problem.

After tea, which was served in the marquee, and in spite of

some rain, a play was performed on the outdoor stage. This was "The Lark" by Jean Anouilh in a translation by Christopher Fry. A report of the performance will be found following the Headmaster's speech.

HEADMASTER'S SPEECH: FOUNDER'S DAY 1962

This year has been an eventful and most successful year in the history of the school. The outstanding event, of course, has been the opening of the new swimming pool presented to the school by the Dulverton Trust and Major David Wills. Last year when you came there were a few heaps of mud and a large hole. Now it has been transformed into a most inviting swimming pool which has proved a major attraction this term. Nearly half the school has passed the test—five lengths, a breadth under water, and diving—including some who could not swim at all before. I hope one day that every boy in the school will be able to swim and I would like to express the thanks of all of us to the donors of the pool who have brought this new dimension to Rendcomb life.

In examinations, our results have been good. Last year we won on 'A' Level four county scholarships and one state scholarship. Hugh Gough who won the state scholarship went on to win an Open History scholarship at Oxford. The academic record of Rendcomb has been remarkable. In the last ten years eleven open awards have been won at Oxford and Cambridge. If it is remembered that the size of the school has been about 90 this is a notable achievement and surpasses that of many bigger and better known schools.

I do not believe that the College can have had so successful a season in its three principal games for some time. Rugger—this a new game to me—in fact I wonder if it was not thought up by a group determined to make it as different from soccer as possible—you have to shoot over the bar instead of under and you have to pass backwards instead of forwards—but despite the passing rule you still play it forwards rather than backwards. However, there is much to be said for it, as a school game: you get 30 into a pitch instead of 22 and it calls for a much wider variety of talent in the team. The Rugger XV certainly did us proud—they won one game by 63 points to nil; in the seven First XV matches they scored 221 points, nearly twice the previous record—compared with 51 points scored against them.

Hockey too had an excellent season; the highlights were fine victories over Cheltenham 1sts and Marlborough 2nds—the latter is perhaps the more remarkable for they are over 800 in number

and one of the best hockey schools in the country. Our Captain, John Webb, was selected to play for England in the Schoolboys' international matches against Wales and Ireland. This is the first time a Rendcomb player has been chosen to play for England and a tribute to the standard of hockey in the school.

In the Easter term the first cross country race for many years was run. Though the team did not win, David Hogarth ran extremely well and came in first.

The cricketers have so far won all their school matches and given us some very exciting moments into the bargain—in fact they almost seem to have timed their efforts to snatch victory at the best moment. In the lower school great enthusiasm and keenness have been shown which is a good sign for the future. The school owes a great debt to the masters who have spent so much time in giving advice and encouragement—especially Mr. Salter in the Rugger, Mr. Sells in the Hockey, Mr. Knapp in the Cricket, and Mr. Dennis in the Hockey and Cricket.

Public Work, a customary Rendcomb activity undertaken on Tuesday afternoon, was something new to me and perhaps there were some who were disappointed that it was not abolished. But in fact, it seems to me very valuable both to the College and the boy. Indeed for the few schools lucky enough to possess the space and the desire to develop, it has considerable advantages over the normal item in the school curriculum—the C. C. F., much of which bears the hallmark of the year of its creation by Lord Haldane in 1908. P. W. has branched out into various directions recently—the Estate garden is being cleared for conversion into a junior Games Field and a further four horse boxes have been stripped in preparation for a new Chemistry Laboratory: the steps that reach up to the open air theatre have also been made this term.

The gardens round the college have this term, for the first time, been looked after by a group of boys in P. W. under Mr. White's able direction.

I would like now to say a word or two about the future. This school, which has a very high university entry rate is of course very closely concerned with University developments. The increasing difficulty of entry into the University due to the failure to expand the Universities fast enough is giving us increasing anxiety: this has unfortunate results—boys well able to do a University course are turned down and the competitive element in 'A' Level examinations is still further increased. Yet there are very hopeful signs in the University field; a very considerable expansion in University places is now planned and provided the new universities can obtain the money and the staff—and that seems rather a big

'if' at the moment—then our problems in this field should largely be relieved.

In fact the Universities as a whole have tackled the post war problems with considerable success; several major changes have been accomplished—the opening of the universities to people from every type of home and background and the transfer in balance from the classics to the sciences and modern art subjects. Moreover the new universities since the days of Keele have shown a most welcome adventurousness in formulating new courses away from the conventions of Oxford and Cambridge and the 19th century universities; thus in a few years' time the Universities should offer a variety of opportunity and course unequalled in their previous history.

Can the same be said of the schools and particularly of the public schools? I doubt it. Apart from a few schools of which this, of course, is one, founded in the main in the last forty years, there is a marked and depressing uniformity in the curriculum of the public schools. They have not adapted themselves as well as the Universities to modern conditions. They are still to a large extent socially and educationally exclusive; it is for instance, very difficult for a boy who leaves primary school at age 11 to enter them; there has been a considerable switch to newer subjects but it has been a reluctant conversion and it is perhaps symptomatic that in the Common Entrance examination there is a Latin Verse paper but no paper at all on science! In fact, since the war, there has been perhaps more experiment and development in the state schools than the public schools.

It would be a pity if reluctance to face change was to discredit the public schools. The tradition of boarding school education which they have established is a very fine one and much of the criticism directed against them is because they are good.

At Rendcomb we are very fortunately placed in that we are a boarding school but free of the Victorian traditions of the older established schools.

Through the generosity of the Founder and his family and the support and co-operation of the Gloucestershire County Council, we are able to draw as many boys from Primary as from Preparatory schools. We are well equipped scientifically and have an excellent record in the modem 'Arts' subjects like English and History. There is too a free and open atmosphere; owing to the date of our foundation and the ideas of those who started the school, more antiquated parts of the system like fagging have been abandoned. Thus Rendcomb is a school that has adapted itself to modern conditions and at the same time achieved very high standards in games and work.

I think we can look forward to the immediate future with great confidence. The Chairman has told you of our building plans; the new swimming bath, the new classrooms, the new studies together with the space from my flat will constitute a great increase in our facilities—in fact very much the greatest since the foundation of the school.

THE LARK

Jean Anouilh's play "The Lark," translated into English by Christopher Fry, was performed on Founder's Day and although written originally for indoor performance it proved easily adaptable for the outdoor stage.

"The Lark" tells the story of Joan of Arc's campaigns in France and Anouilh enhances this well established theme by his original treatment of it. He is very preoccupied with the intellectual and theological aspects of Joan's situation and is consequently apt to lose the attention of his audience by introducing material which is barely dramatic, but judicious cutting by the producer achieved a more balanced view of the comic, dramatic and purely intellectual aspects of the play.

David Griffiths was outstanding as Joan and he took the part with great emotional conviction and spontaneity. He had to raise the pitch of his voice so as to preserve Joan's essential femininity but his vocal range enabled him to make such scenes as the early dialogue between Joan and the Angel particularly effective. His treatment of the final part of the play also deserves mention for he managed to develop the contrast between Joan's early indecision and her new resolution during the last scenes most commendably. His words were always clear and his facial expressions and physical gestures effective.

The part of Beauchamp is an unrewarding one to play; often he assumes the role of a narrator and there is little scope for dramatic expression. However Martin Ashe-Jones captured Anouilh's exaggerated conception of the English nobleman's "gentlemanly poker-face" and horror of "bad form" and although his voice tended to fall into measured cadences his words were clear.

Sebastian Greenlaw played Cauchon with a mature dignity which contrasted well with the vigorous intolerance of the Promoter and the Inquisitor. He retained a commendable balance between Cauchon's desire for orthodoxy and his sympathy for Joan, and succeeded in conveying to the audience the legitimacy of the Church's action. Although the need to convey a spirit of gentle

persuasion necessitated his speaking quietly, Greenlaw's words were never inaudible.

Richard Hayes was angrily intolerant as the Promoter and never made the mistake of losing his words in his angry tirades; his visualisation of the more alluring features of the devil was well spoken. Giles Cattermole did not have a particularly rewarding part as the Inquisitor and by speaking quickly he overcame lines which can easily become tedious; perhaps he could have gained greater effect by being more imposing and sinister. Peter Trier's portrayal of the devout and sympathetic Ladvenu was good although inevitably subordinated to the more dominant Cauchon.

Christopher Webb successfully captured the rustic intolerance of Joan's father while Fraser Glennie conveyed the conflict between maternal sympathy and a prejudiced sense of decency and good order which dominate her mother. Michael McKeown as Joan's brother had a small part but drew a well deserved laugh for his portrayal of the exaggerated childishness of this character.

Guy Bartlett adapted himself well to the mixture of simplicity of character and a flair for lecherous insinuation which is Robert de Beaudricourt. Particularly effective was the way in which he reacted to Joan's flattery, and his facial expressions were most amusing. He has a very relaxed and clear voice and for this reason his words always seemed spontaneous.

David Hogarth as Charles was very much the weak king. His words were a little lacking in expression but his gestures of despair and his slouching insouciance countered this. John Dow as the Queen Mother was dignified and well-spoken but rather inaudible; he was unfortunate in having to contend with the rain. Francis Bolton-King was amusing as the vulgarly seductive and broadly self-confident Agnes and his feline gestures considerably enhanced his performance. David Laws spoke slowly and clearly, always appearing dignified and contemptuous as the Archbishop of Rheims and Richard Denny successfully captured the inflated arrogance of La Trémouille. Peter Hughes took full advantage of the opportunities offered by the part of La Hire, giving a confident and most commendable performance. Richard Verge was a suitably bewildered Boudousse and John Goodborn in flame-red apparel was lugubrious and sinister as the Hangman. David Tovey was a singularly militant soldier, Alec Thompson was cheekily taciturn as the Page, and David Mabberley was docile and inoffensive as the Oueen.

Atmosphere was provided by music specially composed for the occasion by Mr. Tooze for clarinet, bassoon, flute, trumpets and drums and we were most pleasantly transported from Founder's

Day to France. The clothes were colourful and those of the ecclesiastical characters were particularly striking. The Queen and Agnes were dressed most imaginatively and stood out against the sombre green background of the outdoor theatre. Indeed the acting cupboard appeared to have few limitations and our thanks are due to Mrs. James for her management of this side of the production. We are also most grateful to Mr. Callaghan for his generosity in making and presenting the Archbishop's cross. The make-up, by Mr. Salter, Mr. Elliott and John Marshall was good and miraculous transformations of actors' faces gave us Ladvenu, Robert, Agnes, and the Archbishop of Rheims.

This was a polished performance and perhaps its most outstanding feature was the precision and clarity with which the actors spoke. Mr. Sells is to be congratulated on overcoming the acoustical difficulties of outdoor production. In addition the calm appearance of the actors must be stressed for they were unruffled by the rain and not tempted into rushing the performance. We were fortunate in that only one break was caused by rain and the producer's nightmare of a half-finished play was averted.

The Characters, in order of speaking: —

Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick Cauchon, Bishop of Beauvais., Joan Her Father	Martin Ashe-Jones Sebastian Greenlaw David Griffiths Christopher Webb
Her Mother	Fraser Glennie
Her Brother The Promoter	Michael McKeown Richard Hayes
The Inquisitor	Giles Cattermole
Brother Ladvenu	Peter Trier
Robert de Beaudricourt	Guy Bartlett
Boudousse, a guard	Richard Verge Francis Bolton King
Agnes Sorel The Young Queen	David Mabberley
Charles, the Dauphin	David Hogarth
Queen Yolande	John Dow
Archbishop of Rheims	David Laws
M. de La Trémouille Page to the Dauphin	Richard Denny Alec Thompson
Captain La Hire	Peter Hughes
The Hangman	John Goodborn
An English Soldier	David Tovey

Prompter: Richard Verge

MUSICIANS

Bassoon	Colin Richardson
Clarinet	
Trumpets	John Marshall, Martin Jones
Drums	John Wood
Flute	Andrew Heppleston

CRICKET REPORT

THE FIRST ELEVEN

Played: 11. Won: 7. Drawn: 1. Lost: 3.

The team contained seven players from last year, but was nevertheless none too rich in talent. The batting strength was little impaired from last year. On the majority of occasions we were both positive and aggressive; but when confronted with strong bowling sides we proved brittle. We lacked a really solid, reliable batsman.

We had three bowlers from last year's team: C. B. Stillwell, J. C. Malpass and D. J. Tovey. Stillwell, the most experienced, soon lost his form. But the addition of A. D. Heppleston, and later D. Little, to the attack, soon compensated for this; by the end of the season we had four regular bowlers. Although the attack was still not exceptional, it proved adequate, especially in midseason. The fielding, despite two or three liabilities, was keen and competent but our one great lack was a good set of slip-fielders. The team as a whole enjoyed its cricket as much as the results suggest, especially during the mid-season spell of successive victories.

- D. J. Tovey opened both batting and bowling. When he had cured a tendency to 'flash' off the back foot, he developed into our most reliable batsman and featured in many valuable stands. His bowling was at its most hostile in the early part of the season, and despite a decline later in the season, still formed a vital part of our attack. He was our best slip-fielder.
- R. A. Sewell, Tovey's opening partner in the batting, is still a young player with much of his great potential yet to be realized. Even so his forceful play brought him many runs; and when he has developed more strokes on his leg-stump he will get many more. His fielding in the gulley was very sharp, and he was also a reliable fielder in the deep. T. G. W. Pettigrew, vice-captain, batted at number four. An aggressive batsman, especially severe on short bowling, he was most successful when the team was in an attacking position but when we were on the defensive his technique and

temperament failed him. He was a utility fielder, most valuable close to the

- J. R. Marshall batted at number five for most of the season. He scored fewer runs than expected, mainly because of a failure to get his body completely over the ball on the front foot, a defect more noticeable when he faced slow bowling. This fault cured, his hard-hitting should bring him many runs.
- J. M. Webb overcame his technical limitations by use of a good eye and a hard hit. Batting much more sensibly than last year he contributed many valuable scores when they were much needed. A very aggressive hitter, he was particularly strong off the front foot. His fielding in the deep was very useful.
- P. B. Heppleston had another disappointing season. His orthodox style is marred by two serious faults: a tendency to 'spoon' on the leg side, and a complete inability to pick out the bad ball and hit it. Many of the runs that he failed to get with the bat he saved in the field. He is an exceptionally good out-fielder, with a safe pair of hands and an accurate throw.
- J. C. Malpass was our only off-break bowler. He gained a great deal of experience during the season, and by the end of it his flight and direction were much improved. He proved most effective against cautious batting sides, when his long spells of accurate bowling kept them on the defensive. When confronted with aggressive batsmen he usually failed. His fielding was very weak, and his batting power never materialised.
- A. D. Heppleston enjoyed a highly successful first season in the First Eleven; and was our best bowler. His medium-pace bowling, of consistent length, and with slight away-swing earned him thirty-six wickets at a deservedly low cost; and he will be invaluable in the future. His batting, though little used this year, will, with coaching, be a great asset to future first elevens.
- D. J. Thomasson's extremely quick reactions enabled him to take some excellent catches when fielding close to the bat, indeed this was his greatest asset. Yet, if he really applied himself, he could become a useful batsman; at present his technique, apart from faults on the back foot, is sound. It is his temperament which prevents him from getting the scores of which he is capable. His bowling was never used in the First Eleven.
- D. Little gained his place in mid-season, mainly on the strength of his sharp fielding. However, he soon emerged as an economical round-the-wicket seam bowler. On several occasions he proved useful, and with more consistency in length and direction he could prove very valuable. His batting is badly hampered by a crooked backlift.

N. C. Creffield played three matches for the First Eleven, but his bowling proved too erratic to be of any use. C. B. Stillwell, who was the mainstay of the bowling last year, inexplicably lost his form early in the season and had to be dropped.

The Captain of Cricket this year was H. E. Gough, and the team owed much of its success to his able leadership. His task of 'directing the side on the field was not a light one foil he had only two reliable bowlers at his disposal, and there were fielders who were too weak to occupy key positions. The results show how well he overcame these problems but the double burden of leading the team and keeping wicket probably accounted for his poor form with the bat. His wicket-keeping was of a very high standard and in August he played in three matches for the Gloucestershire Schools XI

The future prospects for the 1st XI look very good, as of this year's team at least seven will be available next year.

Our thanks to K. A. Walker, our scorer, for his neatness and efficiency throughout the season.

Leading Batting Averages

	Innings Not out		Runs	Average	
T. G. W. Pettigrew	10	4	153	25.5	
D. J. Tovey	11	1	196	19. 6	
J. M. Webb	9	2	127	18. 1	

Bowling Averages

	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average
A. D. Heppleston.	109.4	34	238	36	6. 6
D. Little	32. 3	10	77	9	8. 6
J. C. Malpass	94	22	296	23	12. 9
D. J. Tovey	136	28	377	23	16. 4

RESULTS

v. Dean Close 'A' XI. Away. Drawn.

Dean Close: 138 for 6 declared. Rendcomb: 78 for 3 (Gough 36).

On a perfect wicket and fast outfield, Dean Close batted solidly, but good fielding kept down the scoring rate. After Rendcomb, in reply, had made 78 in 55 minutes, rain, which had throughout hampered the bowling side, finally curtailed play.

v. St. Stephen's C. C. Home. Won by 3 wickets.

St. Stephen's C. C.: 129 (A. D. Heppleston 6 for 23).

Rendcomb: 132 for 7 (Pettigrew 48, Webb 26).

On a bitterly cold day St. Stephen's scored their runs at a high rate. A feature of the game, for Rendcomb, was the performance of A. D. Heppleston in his first spell of bowling for the 1st XI. A third wicket stand between Gough and Pettigrew and a fourth wicket stand of 54 in 24 minutes between Pettigrew and Webb saw us well on the way to a good win.

v. Cheltenham College 2nd XI. Away. Won by 7 wickets.

Cheltenham College: 84 (Tovey 5 for 38).

Rendcomb 87 for 3 (Pettigrew 43 n. o.)

Tovey at his most hostile, found a good deal of life in the wicket and his fine bowling spell included a hat-trick. Malpass also bowled a long economical spell. Pettigrew again batted very well for a valuable undefeated 43 to steer us to a comfortable victory.

v. Cheltenham Town C. C. 2nd XI. Home. Lost by 22 runs.

Cheltenham Town: 137 for 8 dec. (Malpass 4 for 35).

Rendcomb: 115 (Tovey 32).

A cold north wind made conditions for bowlers and fielders very trying. Nevertheless the bowlers plugged away and had it not been for an eighth wicket stand of 39 Rendcomb might have kept the opponents' score within reasonable limits. Apart from a bright opening stand of 44 from Tovey and Sewell, and a solid knock from P. B. Heppleston, the batting collapsed against the accurate bowling of the opponents, and the last wicket fell in the last over of the day.

v. Cirencester Grammar School. Home. Won by 5 wickets.

Cirencester G. S.: 67 (A. D. Heppleston 3 for 15, Malpass 4 for 5).

Rendcomb 68 for 5 (Pettigrew 34 n. o.).

On a tricky wicket Cirencester were soon in trouble against the accurate bowling of Heppleston who conceded only 15 runs in his eleven overs. Malpass, bowling intelligently, helped to bowl out the tailend. Another useful innings by Pettigrew enabled Rendcomb, after initial difficulties, to pass the Cirencester score in 50 minutes.

v. North Cerney C. C. Home. Won by 8 wickets.

North Cerney: 20 (Tovey 5 for 11, A. D. Heppleston 5 for 7).

Rendcomb: 22 for 2.

Tovey and Heppleston exploited the pitch well, and helped by surprisingly good fielding, quickly dismissed North Cerney. Despite the loss of Tovey to the first ball of the innings, Rendcomb passed the opposing total with little difficulty.

v. Prince Henry's G. S., Evesham. Away. Won by 6 wickets.

Prince Henry's G. S. 115 (Malpass 5 for 43, Little 3 for 29).

Rendcomb: 116 for 4 (Tovey 43, Sewell 41).

The hard fast wicket proved unexpectedly helpful to the slow bowlers, the ball rising and turning at peculiar angles. Malpass profited from this, and in a long accurate spell gained five well- deserved wickets. Little, in his first spell for the 1st XI, also bowled very well. Keen fielding helped both bowlers. Even so, the total of 115 looked formidable enough on the tricky wicket, but an aggressive opening stand of 83 by Tovey and Sewell considerably diminished the task and we won comfortably.

v. Sir Thomas Rich's School, Gloucester. Home. Won by 2 wickets.

Sir Thomas Rich's: 98 (Heppleston 3 for 27, Malpass 5 for 50).

Rendcomb: 99 for 8 wickets (Tovey 44 n. o.).

After a brisk opening stand of 32 the Gloucester side lost wickets regularly to unexceptional bowling; a last wicket stand of 20 in five minutes brought their total to 98. A combination of good bowling and silly batting nearly lost us the match, but a sensible innings from Tovey, who batted through the innings, enabled Rendcomb to gain a close two-wicket victory.

v. Marling School, Stroud. Away. Won by 4 wickets.

Marling: 102 (Tovey 4 for 34, Malpass 3 for 26).

Rendcomb: 104 for 6 (Webb 49 n. o., Sewell 27).

Tovey, regaining some of his earlier form, bowled very well in his opening spell, to gain two early wickets. Malpass and Little also bowled well, and after initial resistance the last six Marling wickets fell for 23 runs. Our batting again collapsed. A good innings from Sewell helped the score to 51 for 6, at which stage the game appeared lost. However, a partnership between Webb and Little scored the 53 runs required to win in just under twenty minutes and so saved the match. Webb, in his best and most aggressive innings of the season, scored 49 n. o. in 32 minutes.

v. Old Rendcombians. Home. Lost by 4 wickets.

Rendcomb: 68 (P. Waite 7 for 29).

Old Rendcombians: 69 for 6 (Heppleston 5 for 26, Ellis 33).

Batting first for the first time this season, Rendcomb collapsed against some fine bowling by Waite, who exploited the pitch to his best advantage. Our tail-end batsmen contributed more runs than our first six. Unfortunately the bawling also failed and only Heppleston showed signs of his true form. Ellis, with a hard-hitting 33, steered the Old Rendcombians to victory.

v. Cheltenham Grammar School. Home. Lost by 69 runs.

Cheltenham Grammar School: 132 for 9 dec. (Heppleston 6 for 42).

Rendcomb: 63.

Against the very strong Cheltenham side our opening bowlers produced their best form, and at one stage the Grammar School had lost 6 wickets for 34 runs. However, at this stage, a hard hitting stand lifted them out of trouble enabling them to declare at 132 for 9. The Cheltenham bowlers proved too effective for Rendcomb batting, and after another good stand between Tovey and Sewell the batting crumpled, the last eight wickets produced only 21 runs.

The 'A' XI

Although only one 'A' XI match was won, it must be emphasised that we were less concerned with the results of the matches than with the form of the players. We used the matches to give younger players experience, and to allow first eleven players to show their form. As such they were a valuable aid to team selection.

Results

v. St. Stephens C. C. ' A ' XI. Away. Won by 6 wickets.

St. Stephens: 116 (Heppleston 3 for 13, Creffield 3 for 28, Tovey 3 for 13).

Rendcomb: 117 for 4 (Tovey 82).

v. Dean Close 2nd XI. Home. Lost by 6 wickets.

Rendcomb: 90 (Webb 29).

Dean Close: 91 for 4 (Heppleston 3 for 21).

v. Kingham Hill. Home. Lost by 23 runs.

Kingham Hill: 86 (Tovey 6 for 36, Stilwell 3 for 21). Rendcomb: 63 (Marshall 34).

The Second XI

The Second XI enjoyed little success this year, losing three of their four matches, and drawing the other. The reason for this was not hard to find. A Second XI is composed of two elements: the senior who is not of 1st XI standard, and the middle school player who is a probable future 1st XI candidate. This year the latter element was very weak and the team suffered.

The batting talent was very low. C. J. Webb contributed some useful scores, and was the side's best batsman; but he gave away many runs in the field. S. H. Shellswell occasionally batted well, but needs more experience and a more aggressive spirit. G. S. Bartlett contributed several lusty blows. These three scored well over half of the total runs scored by the side. R. S. Lowe, the only other player of promise, scored few, but still has time to develop. Players like J. T. Wood, C. C. Richardson, D. J. Thomasson and N. C. Creffield, two of whom played for the 1st XI, failed in the Second XI.

The bowling was a little better, T. C. Bass, although very erratic, proved useful and during the season, captured ten wickets for his team. N. C. Creffield and S. H. Shellswell both bowled well, and C. B. Stillwell, though sadly off form, proved economical.

Despite a certain lack of skill and good fortune, the Second XI enjoyed its game. It was also of great help to the First XI in both practice games and nets, and for this we are grateful.

T. C. Bass, the captain of the side, performed his task efficiently.

Results

v Dean Close 3rd XI. Home, Drawn.

Dean Close: 111 for 8 declared (Creffield 3 for 15). Rendcomb: 90 for 6 (Webb C. 26).

v. Cheltenham College 3rd XI. Home. Lost by 125 runs. Cheltenham

College: 168 (Bass 7 for 57).

Rendcomb: 43.

v. Prince Henry's G. S., Evesham, 2nd XI. Away. Lost by 8 wkts.

Rendcomb: 53.

Prince Henry's G. S.: 55 for 2.

v. Cheltenham G. S. 2nd XI: Home. Lost by 74 runs.

Cheltenham G. S.: 116 (Shellswell 7 for 31).

Rendcomb: 42.

The following played for the Second Eleven: T. C. Bass,

C. B. Stillwell, C. J. Webb, S. H. Shellswell, D. J. Thomasson,

D. Little, N. C. Creffield, R. J. Parnell, C. G. Jefferies, G. S. Bartlett,

J. Mitchison, M. A. Gooding, J. T. Wood, C. C. Richardson.

JUNIOR CRICKET

Under 15 XI

v. Cheltenham College Junior Colts. Lost by 112 runs.

Cheltenham: 172 for 5 dec.

Rendcomb: 60.

Against indifferent bowling and fielding, Cheltenham quickly built up a formidable total. Our own batsmen were at a loss against the fast pace of the opening attack. When this changed to slow spin, their relief was shown by tossing all caution aside with a consequent rapid fall of the middle order batsmen, who could have taken plenty of runs. Creffield played a captain's innings of 22 and took four wickets.

v. Kingham Hill. Lost by 59 runs.

Kingham: 107 for 7 dec.

Rendcomb: 48.

Put in to bat, Kingham were soon in trouble with 4 wickets down for 2 runs. A spirited innings of 68 not out by their captain, who was missed when he had scored only a few, wrenched the initiative from the home team completely. Our batsmen, against mediocre bowling, failed to punish the loose ball, and the score mounted slowly to 32 for 3. The middle and lower order batsmen again threw away their wickets either with rash strokes at the wrong ball,

or ill-judged running between wickets. Glennie was the only batsman to attain double figures.

UNDER 16 XI

v. Sir Thomas Rich's School Colts. Lost by 57 runs.

Sir Thomas Rich's: 109.

Rendcomb: 52.

Batting first, the visitors put on 48 for the first wicket and were later 90 for 3. Shellswell claimed the first five batsmen, finishing with 7 for 25. That seven of the home side failed to score tells its own story.

v. Marling School Colts. Won by 2 wickets.

Marling: 71.

Rendcomb: 72 for 8.

Creffield and Shellswell bowled unchanged in this game, finishing with 4 for 39 and 5 for 31 respectively. The latter is beginning to appreciate that slow spin bowling can take wickets if, and only if, it is on a length. In reply, our opening batsmen put on 22 for the first wicket, Glennie playing a sound and forceful innings for 25. As in previous matches, a feast of runs was there for any batsman who could time the ball down the leg side.

* * * *

Finally, we should like to thank Mr. Knapp and Mr. Dennis who spent so much time umpiring and coaching, and Mr. Quick and Mr. Swaine who umpired Second Games. Also our thanks to Mr. Fry, the groundsman, who prepared wickets of surprising quality, from first and second squares.

TENNIS REPORT

In spite of the difficulty of arranging tennis matches so that they should not coincide with cricket fixtures, we were fortunate in having two matches this year. The first was against Dean Close 2nd VI, who succeeded in showing us what we lacked in skill and technique. Though the defeat was narrow, this was due only to a fine partnership between J. M. Webb and H. E. Gough. For this match, D. J. Tovey partnered M. C. Jones as P. B. Heppleston was sitting an examination.

Result—Lost 5-4.

The second match was against Marling School, Stroud, played on their hard courts. The different style used on a hard court came as a surprise to some of us, though we became used to it towards the end of the match. Three sets were played by each string instead of the usual nine, as heavy rain had fallen previously and again appeared imminent. The team was re-arranged for this match into a far more satisfactory combination.

Result: Won 6-3.

Team v. Dean Close 2nd VI: C. C. Richardson, R. C. Jones, 1st string; J. M. Webb, H. E. Gough, 2nd string; D. J. Tovey, M. C. Jones, 3rd string.

Team v. Marling School, 1st VI: J. M. Webb, H. E. Gough, 1st string; M. C. Jones, R. C. Jones, 2nd string; C. C. Richardson, P. B. Heppleston, 3rd string.

OLD BOYS' NOTES

It has for some time been felt that the collection and publishing of Old Boys' news could be improved. Mr. J. Tooze will attempt to bring about this improvement. Will Old Rendcombians please send him news of themselves and of other O. R.'s whom they may have met?

During the Summer Term we had a surprise visit from David Barke and Michael Lancashire, neither of whom has been back since he left. Barke is apprenticed to The Steel Company of Wales and Lancashire is working in the Architect's Department at Oxford. Simon Hicks came to see us from Cambridge, where he is at Trinity Hall and has enjoyed his first year at the University.

Mark Whittering is at Southampton University reading law. He called on his way to see David Poole who is working on forestry in the Forest of Dean. At the end of his University term Whittering took on a forestry job working with Poole: later they came over together.

We were glad to see Keith Statham (our congratulations on the birth of his second son) who came with Bob Jones and Christopher Brisley to see the Headmaster on O. R. business.

Peter Dale looked in to see how we were getting on, as did David Griffiths a recent graduate of Trinity College, Dublin (so is Ronnie Pilkington).

Jonathan Shaw has gained a place at one of the Colleges of London University. He came to see us on his way from the North down to Devon. Another welcome visitor was Peter Hayes, on leave from Nyasaland where he is working with his father on Pest Control.

We congratulate Roger Alder and Martin Rayner on becoming D. Phil. and Phil. D. respectively. We hear that David Brown, John Ellis and Bryan Glastonbury were able to take degrees away with them when they came down from Oxford in June. We have also heard that John Ellis, Bryan Glastonbury and Michael Richards were all married during the summer.

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