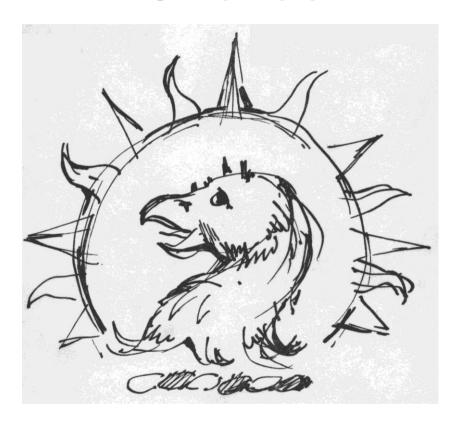
Rendcomb College Chronicle



Vol 13. No. 10. March 1966

Rendcomb College Chronicle

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COLLEGE OFFICERS

Spring Term, 1966

Senior Prefect—S. H. Shellswell.

Prefects and Group Leaders—L. A. Webb, J. A. Dow, R. J. Edy, F. R. Glennie.

Prefects—N. S. Whatmough, F. Bolton King, D. J. Mabberley, J. F. Harris.

College Workman—R. B. N. Bryant

Public Workman—R. B. N. Bryant.

Music Warden—W. T. G. Griffiths.

Choir Librarians—R. Millard, N. R. Moot, K. D. Warren.

Picture Man—F. Bolton King.

Church Ushers—L. A. Webb, R. J. Edy.

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

Manual Foremen—S. H. Shellswell, G. F. Smith, R. J. Wood, A. I. Pain

Stagemen—L. A. Webb, F. Bolton King, J. A. Dow, D. P. Kyle, T. Yuvaboon, G. F. Smith, J. A. Hiscox, D. R. Brown.

Bellringers—F. R. Glennie (Tower Captain), A. A. J. Raddon, R. B. N. Bryant, W. A. Thompson, B. F. Pullen, J. A. Hiscox, N. J. Green, R. J. Wood, A. T. Patrick, A. J. C. Walker, S. J. Brisk, E. W. Yates, S. H. Hook, A. C. Whittles.

GENERAL MEETING OFFICERS

Spring Term, 1966

Chairman—S. H. Shellswell.

Secretary—W. T. G. Griffiths.

Games Ćaptain—L. A. Webb.

Vice-Captain—S. H. Shellswell.

Running Captain—N. S. Whatmough.

Games Committee—F. R. Glennie, M. W. Harrop.

Nominations Committee—R. B. N. Bryant, R. J. Edy,

C. G. Cattermole, S. H. Shellswell, L. A. Webb.

Meeting Banker—D. J. Mabberley.

Shop Banker—H. M. Peterson.

Boys' Banker—R. M. Thompson.

Games Committee Treasurer—P. W. Taylor.

House Committee Treasurer—M. R. Dow.

Entertainments Committee—R. J. Edy, P. N. C. Evans,

N. M. Collins, A. J. C. Walker, N. L. Hillier.

Meeting Advisory Committee—C. G. Cattermole, S. H. Shellswell, N. S. Whatmough.

Council—R. B. N. Bryant, C. G. Cattermole, R. J. Edy,

F. R. Glennie, S. H. Shellswell, L. A. Webb.

N. S. Whatmough

Junior Advocate—J. F. Harris.

Breakages Man—N. Wapshott.

Cricket Secretary—P. N. C. Evans.

Hockey Secretary—M. W. Harrop.

Rugby Secretary—N. J. Green.

Magazine Committee—F. Bolton King, J. F. Harris,

H. M. Peterson.

Senior Shopman—F. Bolton King.

MEETING NOTES

Spring Term, 1966

Meetings have been short and to the point this term, despite a tendency of some members to indulge in poor quality humour and 'woffling.'

A certain amount of new equipment has been bought, including a new second amplifier, many shuttlecocks and hockey balls, a vice for the cycle-shed bench, and some 1,500 printed fixture cards.

Two things caused a lot of needless trouble to organize. One was the arranging of a Grand Dance, for which there was very little response when the Entertainments Committee asked for names of guests; the other the obtaining (or discovering the source!) of some meeting periodicals. The meeting decided to bind regular copies of the *Motor Sport*.

The Records Committee bought no records this term as they felt the termly allowance was better accumulated until the end of the year. However, the Entertainments Committee bought a recording of "Zorba's Dance" and "Finyenka."

SCHOOL NOTES

Late Autumn Term, 1965, and Spring Term, 1966

We bid farewell to J. B. Marks and M. Hitchman and wish them well for the future.

We welcome Miss Warren (now Mrs. Flexen), of Madame Vaccani's School of Dancing, who has been teaching dancing at the College during both terms.

We are glad to welcome Mrs. M. Kenyon who joined us at the end of February as Assistant Secretary.

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

We congratulate the following who were successful in pianoforte examinations held by the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music in December, 1965:

W. T. G. Griffiths—Grade VIII (Final); T. H. Bates— Grade IV (Lower); R. Millard—Grade III (Transitional); N. A. Johnson and K. D. Warren—Grade II (Elementary).

We congratulate C. G. Cattermole on a B. P. University Apprenticeship Award to read Natural Sciences at Cambridge.

Julian Comrie (O. R.) has kindly presented a number of demonstration gyroscopes to the science laboratories.

On February 19th the 1st Hockey XI watched the Oxford v. Cambridge University Hockey match at Hurlingham. The Cambridge team was captained by J. M. Webb.

Members of the VIth Form visited the Bristol Old Vic Theatre on February 22nd to see "The Critic" by Sheridan and "Harlequinade" by Rattigan.

On February 27th a group from the upper school saw the Royal Academy Winter Exhibition of paintings by Pierre Bonnard in London.

A lecture on South Georgia, illustrated by coloured slides, was given on January 22nd by Mr. G. B. Spencely.

On February nth a careers talk was given to Form V by Mr. Dean, the S. W. Regional Advisory Careers representative.

GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION

December, 1965

Passes were obtained at O-level as follows:

F. Bolton King—Mathematics.

R. C. Goodsell—English Literature.

M. P. Grant—Biology.

N. J. Green—Latin.

W. A. Laws—English Language, Latin, French, Mathematics, Biology.

C. P. Stevens—Latin, French.

R. M. Thompson—English Language.

THE BUILDING PROGRAMME

One morning last November the timber contractors arrived. By lunch time the trees to the south of the back drive had been felled including two great beeches. Before the end of term the bulldozer arrived and removed the Jungle; it has been transported to a point to the east of the playing field; it now forms a stretch of as liquid and as succulent mud as any child has ever desired to play in.

This was the beginning of the building of the Arts Block though the work of construction has hardly yet succeeded the work of destruction. The back of the Block runs parallel with the Back Drive, the front faces out over the Churn valley. The west wing will be one storey and will contain the new art room; the east wing will also be one storey and contain the new wood workshop and a small metal workshop. The two wings will be connected by a two storey block which will contain the pottery, a modelling room, a room connecting with the workshop for drawing, a music room, a classroom, a VIth Form classroom, society rooms and, in the roof space above, music practice rooms.

The origin of the block lay in the decision to convert the Old Rectory into a Junior House. This meant that a new Art and Pottery room had to be found; the first idea was to construct these two rooms over the Manual. This did not prove easy and it became increasingly clear that, as the school increased to the 140—150 mark, it would be essential to have more classrooms and some music practice rooms in order to release present rooms for bedrooms; the old Manual is also difficult to use for

classrooms now that the size of forms has increased. So it was decided to combine these various needs and build a separate and larger block; its main purpose would be to cater for the Arts, the societies and the hobbies, all of which a boarding school is in a very strong position to foster and encourage.

The first suggestion for an Arts Block was not put forward until the Easter holidays of 1965; the decision to build it was taken at a Governors' meeting in June, 1965 and construction started in the Autumn. The relative speed with which a project of this type can be undertaken at Rendcomb is an enormous asset of the independent system of education over the state system; invariably within the state system several years elapse before all the necessary authorities and ministries have given their assent to the realisation of a project.

Meanwhile, the conversion of the Old Rectory into a Junior House is going ahead. The main purpose of this project is to ensure that a time when the school's numbers are rising we are able to give as great and, I hope, greater care to the eleven and twelve year olds as in the days when the school numbers were about 90; the second purpose is to increase our boarding accommodation. A new wing is being added to the east side of the Old Rectory which will contain quarters for a married Housemaster and new boys' washing accommodation and two new boys' bedrooms. It is planned that the Old Rectory will be ready to open as a Junior House this September.

Two other small projects are also under way. The old wash up—one of the places that I never showed parents—is being transformed into a new Masters' Common Room and an Electronics Room has been constructed in some of the spare space in the Stable Block. We already have a Science workshop which has been a very great asset to many of the Science VIth but its use is limited to them. We hope to use the new room to encourage technical interest and hobbies throughout the school.

HEADMASTER

RENDCOMB SCHOLARSHIP RECORD

This is a table I have taken from *The Times Educational Supplement*. Manchester Grammar School is put in each group to show what position it would occupy if due allowance is made for the size of its sixth form. Rendcomb does not appear in

the original table as its method of compilation (a minimum of 4 awards in a year) effectively excludes the small school. I have inserted Rendcomb in the same way as Manchester Grammar School was put in on the original table.

The average number in the Sixth Form at Rendcomb from 1960-61 to 1964-65 (excluding 1962-63) was 30.5. In these four years Rendcomb won 6 awards to Oxford and Cambridge, giving an annual average of 1. 5. This brings Rendcomb's place high among schools with the best academic record in the country; it is, of course, true that with very small numbers, statistics are even more misleading than usual and that these years include one outstanding year for Rendcomb (1964-65) when three awards were won. Even so, Rendcomb's position in this table highlights the school's remarkable record in the academic field; it shows that a small school can compete and compete very successfully with the country's largest and best known schools.

HEADMASTER

Annual average number of Awards at Oxford and Cambridge, 1960-61 to 1964-5 (excluding 1962-63) with Manchester. Grammar School and Rendcomb inserted as explained above.

| Group 1 (550+) Average VIth Form six Manchester G. S Rendcomb Group 3 (450—499) Average VIth Form six Manchester G. S | 34. 0 27. 1 ze: 471 | Group 5 (350—399) Average VIth Form size: 376 Manchester G. S |
|--|----------------------------------|--|
| Dulwich Rendcomb Marlborough Eton | 23. 2 16. 5 | Group 6 (300—399) Average VIth Form size: 322 Winchester |
| Group 4 (400—499) Average VIth Form six Manchester G. S Rendcomb Rugby | ze: 418 | Rendcomb 15. 85 King's Canterbury 15. 25 Latymer Upper 13-75 Bristol G. S. 13. 5 Bradford G. S. 12. 75 |

| Harrow 9. 5 | U. C. S. Hampstead |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Charterhouse 8. o | Bedford 5. 7 |
| High Wycombe R. G. S. 7. 75 | Whitgift |
| Sherborne 6. 25 | St. Dunstan's, Catford 5. |
| Wellington 6. o | Solihull |
| 9 | Radley |
| Group 7 (250—299) | Leeds G. S |
| Average VIth Form size: 270 | Blundells 3. 7 |
| Manchester G. S 16. 75 | Bedford Modern Rossall 3. |
| Christ's Hospital 15. 5 | |
| City of London 14. 25 | Epsom College Watford G. S |
| K. Edward, Birm'ham 14. 25 | St. Edwards |
| Rendcomb13. 3 | Cheltenham College 2. |
| K. E. VII, Sheffield 12. 5 | George V., |
| K. C. S., Wimbledon 11. 0 | Southport |
| Downside 8. 75 | Westcliff H. S |
| Ampleforth | Beckenham and |
| Haberdashers' Aske's 8. 25 | Penge G. S |
| Westminster 7. 75 | Wm. Hulme, |
| Merchant Taylors' 7. 25 | Manchester |
| Tonbridge 7. 0 | Maidstone G. S |
| Uppingham 6.75 | Taunton, S'ton |
| Uppingham 6. 75 | Group 9 (150—199) |
| Shrewsbury 6. 75 Malvern 6. 5 | Average VIth Form size: |
| D . 1 | 9 |
| Brentwood 5. 75 | Manchester G. S 10. |
| Tiffin 5. o | Nottingham H. S 10 |
| Harrow County 5. o | Rendcomb |
| Haileybury & I. S. C. 4. 75 | St. Albans 7. |
| Hampton G. S 2. 75 | Wolverhampton G. S. |
| Group 8 (200—249) | Magd. Coll. S., Oxford |
| Average VIth Form size: 222 | Newcastle R. G. S. |
| Manchester G. S 13.75 | Portsmouth G. S |
| Highgate n. o | Bradfield 5. |
| Rendcomb 10. 9 | Berkhamsted |
| _ | Sevenoaks 5. |
| Birkenhead | Sedbergh 5. |
| Lancing 7. 25 | Plymouth College |
| Liverpool Inst. H. S. 7. o | Chatham House G. S. |
| Chislehurst and | Lancaster R. G. S |
| Sidcup G. S 7. o | Lancaster N. G. 5 |
| Wyggeston G. S 6. 75 | |
| Bryanston 6. 25 | |

| Emanuel Trinity S. Croydon | 4. 25 4. 0 | Group 10 (100—149) Average VIth Form size: 125 |
|---|---|---|
| Reading | 4. 0 3. 75 3. 75 3. 5 3. 5 | Manchester G. S. 7. 75 Rendcomb 6. 15 Perse 5. 0 Eltham College 4. 75 |
| Kingswood Monkton Combe City of Norwich St. Peter's, York | 3. 5 3. 25 3. 25 3. 25 | The Leys 4. 75 Chigwell 4. 25 Ratcliffe College 4. 0 Guildford G. S. 3. 75 Edinburgh Academy 3. 5 |
| Hymer's Coll., Hull King's, Worcester Leeds Modern Merchant Taylor's, | 3. 0 3. 0 3. 0 | Cambridgeshire H. S. 3. 0 Loughborough G. S. 3. 0 Cardiff H. S |
| Crosby | 3. 0 3. 0 3. 0 | Gresham's 2. 75 Monmouth 2. 25 Cranleigh 2. 25 City of Leicester 2. 25 |
| Colchester R. G. S Warwick St. Mary's, Crosby Fettes | 2. 75 2. 75 2. 75 2. 75 2. 75 | Taunton 2. 25 Ardingly 2. 25 Cheadle Hulme 2. 25 Leighton Park 2. 25 |
| K. Edward VI, Stourbridge Trinity C., Glenalmond 2 Enfield G. S | 2. 5 2. 5 | Stationers College 2. 25 Norwich 2. 0 Arnold H. S. 1. 5 Methodist Coll., Belfast 1. 25 |
| Q. E. G. S., Blackburn Huddersfield New Coll St. Lawrence C., Ramsgate Dean Close | 2. 5 . 2. 25 2. 25 1. 75 | Exeter 1. 0 Group 11 (50—99) Average VIth Form size: 92 |
| Brighton, Hove and Sussex G. S | 1. 75 1. 75 1. 5 1. 25 | Manchester G. S |
| | | |

SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

Summer Term, 1965

The first meeting of the Society this term was held to elect a new set of officers. S. H. Shellswell was elected as Chairman and Outings Secretary, C. G. Cattermole and N. S. Whatmough being elected as Film Secretary and General Secretary respectively.

Members of the Society went to Gloucester where they visited the British Nylon Spinners factory. This was of great interest, as both the actual production of the fibre and the subsequent testing of its physical and chemical properties were seen.

Four films, on loan from the Petroleum Films Bureau, were seen by Society members and also by many non-members who were interested. The most interesting of these films was "The Race for Space" which was an account of rocketry and space exploration from the beginning of the century.

Autumn Term, 1965

Three film-shows were seen by Society members this term. These covered such varied topics as distillation of oil, forming of metals, detergents, radioactivity, chromatography, silicones, polyurethanes, and the history of the helicopter. As in the previous term, many non-members watched these films, the last in particular being appreciated by the junior forms.

Spring Term, 1966

So far this term two film-shows have been seen. The first consisted of two films; one explaining the principles of polymer chemistry, dealing in particular with polyolefines, and the other being a general survey of the ways in which diseases are transmitted.

The second show consisted of a film describing the basic properties of water, this being mainly of interest to the junior forms who saw it, and two films demonstrating the principles of small-scale chemistry preparation.

The Society wishes to express its thanks to Dr. Robbins of British Nylon Spinners, for arranging the visit.

N. S. W.

MOTOR CLUB REPORT, 1965-1966

After last year's resurgence of interest in the club, this year has seen a much increased level of activity in all spheres. The club headquarters have been moved to the garage on the north side of the House vard, and this, if less spacious than our previous home, is certainly better suited to our needs, and has a very useful workshop area at the rear. One member has brought back a pre-war Austin 7 coupe, which has been extensively reconditioned and has, since completion, appeared regularly on the Cheltenham Drive "on test." The drive was also the scene of the first accident on the club's records: the engine from the Morris 8E had been installed in the stripped Morris 10 chassis, and this also was on test when a front wheel locked, bringing the car into contact with the bridge, and the driver with the fence. It is reported that the bridge and the driver were comparatively undamaged. The authorities responded by taking a leaf out of Mr. Fraser's book, but the limit imposed was even lower—15 m. p. h.!

External affairs have also shown some improvement and visits to the Morgan and Rover works were made in the Autumn and Spring Terms. Of these the first visit provided a number of contrasts, for whereas the 'factory' was little more than a series of large sheds, with hardly any machinery except hand tools, the quality and workmanship prevalent were very impressive, and how these hand-built, coach-worked cars can be marketed at prices competitive with comparable mass-produced ones remains a mystery. The second visit, to Rover's at Solihull, was of rather more general interest, for this modern factory was fairly typical of the higher quality British car industry. Although an assembly line was used, much of the detail and finishing work was done by hand, and with the rigorous checking procedure on each car, and the comparatively slow pace off the 'line,' it was easy to see the origin of Rover's excellent reputation. In addition to these visits, four films were seen during the Winter Terms, and these, being open to everybody, attracted a large and enthusiastic audience.

While much has been achieved this year towards consolidating the Club as part of Rendcomb life, more remains to be done,

and more funds, more and better cars, and more space are all required for successful expansion. Even so, the enthusiasm and competence of the younger members assures your correspondent that when, after three years in charge of the Club, he leaves at the end of next term, the future of the Club will be in good hands.

C. G. C.

"THE LADY'S NOT FOR BURNING"

On the 2nd, 3rd and 4th of December, 1965, a very successful production of "The Lady's Not For Burning," the comedy by Christopher Fry, was performed in the Assembly Hall.

Set in the medieval Cotswold town of "Cool Clary" the play portrays the dilemma presented to some prominent citizens of the town, at the simultaneous arrival at the Mayor's house of Thomas Mendip, a discharged soldier, weary of life, who wishes to be hanged, and Jennet Jourdemayne, the beautiful sophisticated daughter of an alchemist. Jennet is running from the superstitious populace, who believe her to be a witch. The mayor's household is already disorganized by the presence of Alizon Eliot, a convent girl, betrothed to Humphrey Devize, the mayor's nephew. However, Nicholas, his superficially lecherous brother, further complicates matters by rivalling his brother for Alizon's affections.

These minor troubles fade into comparative insignificance as the problem of the appropriate justice to be administered to Jennet and Thomas is debated by Tappercoom, the Justice and Hebble Tyson, the mayor. They decide to follow the easiest alternative presented to them and trap Jennet into an apparent confession of 'witch craft, ' while absolving themselves of all responsibility for Thomas, who cannot prove himself guilty of the murders he claims to have committed, by ordering him from the town.

Alizon finally elopes with Richard, the mayor's hitherto subservient clerk; Thomas falls reluctantly in love with Jennet; Skipps, the local 'rag-and-bone' man, whom Thomas claims to have killed, returns, drunk, from the grave, and Tappercoom restores comparative serenity to the household by allowing Thomas and Jennet to escape together.

Thomas Mendip expresses the existentialist theme of the play and this difficult role was fully exploited by the

exuberant personality of Bill Griffiths. For almost the whole duration of the play he managed to keep alive the voluble argumentative Thomas, and if he appeared at times rather melodramatic this was certainly in character.

Jennet provides the perfect complementary contrast to Thomas, with her quiet melancholy, yet eager desire for life. This part was sensitively acted by Martin Dow. Though very young for such a taxing part, he seemed to solicit the audience's sympathy for the desperate situation in which Jennet is found.

Henry Peterson did full justice to the snivelling, ingratiating and corrupt characterisation of Hebble Tyson. His portrayal of the doddering, but harmless official, apparently as common in medieval times as nowadays, was very convincing.

It is Tappercoom who finally sees what is to be done with the two criminals. The booming, jovial and essentially sensible personality of the justice was aptly presented by Edy if rather overdone at times.

The two brothers Devize, Nicholas and Humphrey, were first shown to be entirely opposite in nature; Nicholas lecherous and Humphrey very proper. In fact however, Nicholas proved to be just talk, and Humphrey is the one who offers to save Jennet from the stake if she becomes his mistress. Francis Bolton King, as Nicholas, gave a consistent performance, which was very good in parts. Nick Dakin was as effective a quarrelsome brother as any we have ever seen.

Michael Grant made the most of one of the weakest characters in the play, the rather stereotyped mother figure of Margaret Devize. He used comic actions and words to full effect, yet still managed to present an image which must have appeared intimidating to some members of the audience, let alone Margaret's two sons. This image, however, was sometimes slightly spoilt by his speaking too fast.

Fraser Glennie seemed rather overpowering as Skipps, the resurrected 'rag-and-bone' man. His exaggerated actions only suggested, and did not convincingly portray the drunkard but perhaps this only made the acting more effective.

John Dow was the essence of senility as the chaplain, who was obviously aware of the true facts, but finds himself unable to express himself to others.

The part of Richard was competently acted by Michael Dawson. The scene in which Richard and Alizon express their love for each other, however, certainly lacked conviction.

Peter Little as Alizon was also competent as the immature, convent girl who lacks self-confidence, and appeared effectively 'lost' when finding herself suddenly plunged into the tumult of the situation in Tyson's household.

The stagemen under Mr. Salter did an excellent job in providing a set which gave just the right atmosphere for the play. This atmosphere was further heightened by the 'period music, ' arranged and conducted by Mr. Jenkin, and played by an orchestra of wind and strings. Thanks are also due to Mr. Salter and Mrs. James for the make-up and costumes which, as always, were of the highest standard. Mrs. James had the skilled help of Mrs. Sparkes, who herself created Jennet's striking costumes.

Finally, the generally good enunciation and acting must have, at least to some extent, rewarded Mr. Sells, for the great deal of time he spent in encouraging this, and he must be congratulated on what we are sure the audience must agree was a very impressive production.

J. J. F. & J. V. H.

Characters in order of their appearance

| Richard, an orphaned clerk | MICHAEL DAWSON |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Thomas Mendip, a discharged soldier | BILL GRIFFITHS |
| Alizon Eliot | PETER LITTLE |
| Nicholas Devize | Francis Bolton King |
| Margaret Devize, his mother | MICHAEL GRANT |
| Humphrey Devize, his brother | Nicholas Dakin |
| Hebble Tyson, the Mayor | HENRY PETERSON |
| Jennet Jourdemayne | Martin Dow |
| The Chaplain | |
| Edward Tappercoom, a Justice | Robert Edy |
| Matthew Skipps | Fraser Glennie |
| Prompter NICH | OLAS WAPSHOTT |

THE CAROL SERVICE

On Sunday, December 12th, the Choral Society, conducted by Mr. Jenkin and accompanied on the piano by Mrs. Foster gave a carol service in the church. This consisted of nine lessons and carols, the carols being a selection from Benjamin Britten's exciting "Ceremony of Carols," added to which were traditional

carols, and the chorus, "And the Glory of the Lord," from Handel's "Messiah."

The "Ceremony of Carols" was an arrangement for mixed choir, and the choral society had worked hard at the chosen ones right through the term. "Wolcum Yole" was a jubilant opening to the carols, with a brilliant arpeggio accompaniment on the piano. "This little babe" was martial and faintly Moorish, with dashing vocal parts and a percussive, strumming accompaniment. "As dew in Aprille" was again sparkling but brief; "There is no rose" sombre and wispy. "Deo Gracias" was superbly rhythmic and jazzy, a fine conclusion, typical of Britten.

Mr. Jenkin accompanied "And the glory" on the organ. This was successful and well appreciated. The congregation participated in singing "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing" "While Shepherds watched" and "O Come, all ye faithful."

With nearly sixty boys singing in the Choral Society, seating presented something of a problem, though in the event all the singers were seated in the choir with only a minimum of discomfort.

CHRISTMAS PARTY December 13th, 1965

Owing to the end of term clear-up, this year's party had to be considerably shorter than usual and it was decided to cut out all dancing. This undoubtedly meant that the junior school enjoyed themselves far more as it eliminated the boredom often felt by juniors at times during the evening.

In accordance with tradition, the school descended the main stairs at 5:30, this year to be confronted by an enormous guillotine with spatterings of C. P. C. -type blood around it. The theme was immediately apparent and inspection of the flats erected in Clock Hall portraying the Paris mob and various other aspects of revolutionary life. Cleverly combined with these were a few anachronistic references including "Dave's Lodge" and other more nationally known institutions such as "007" and "U. N. C. L. E." Great credit must be given to the C. P. C. for their humour and originality portrayed on these flats—the result of much hard work.

The C. P. C. arrived just before six o'clock dragging a tumbrel containing their chairman.

He was guillotined but fortunately the cardboard blade did not prove as strong as his neck and so we went happily into supper. The dining hall looked magnificent. The volunteers with their streamers had transformed the room and Miss Lloyd and her helpers had done a grand job with the tables. As usual the food did great credit to the kitchens—our thanks to Miss Longland and Miss Austin.

After the meal, time was spent in competitions. Although these were very varied, virtually all required some specialised knowledge and therefore did not produce so much entertainment for the juniors. Nevertheless they kept a number of people amused for a long time.

The sketches this year started at eight o'clock and although short they were varied and thoroughly entertaining. It was a pity that production was jerky but we attribute this to Glasgow University who had claimed the head stageman for an interview.

The highlight for most people seems to have been the appearance of a prefect dressed in little more than a towel in an admirable performance of B. K.'s Baby. Once again Mrs. James, Mr. Sells and Mr. Salter had put a lot of time and ingenuity into these sketches—a lot of the applause, one feels, belonged to them.

It was unfortunate that the earlier meal was followed so soon by more food as justice was scarcely done to the magnificent spread of refreshments which awaited us after the sketches. The kitchen staff had certainly excelled themselves with this buffet.

Finally, our stomachs full and spirits high, we assembled at 9-40 for the prize-giving. The fancy dress of the evening had been varied and on the whole fairly original and colourful but there could be no real dispute over the winners—Savery's Dalek was outstanding and evidence of a lot of work, while C. Mabberley as Queen Elizabeth, T. Patrick as "A Bug in a Rug" (1st junior) and J. Tyler's "Old Woman" were worthy prize winners. Warren and Isaac were winners of the classes for colour and originality respectively.

So we came to Auld Lang Syne and the inevitable clear-up. The party was undoubtedly a success and our thanks must be

extended to all who helped prepare the building for the party, and to those who cleared up afterwards, all responsible for the preparation of the food and its presentation, those who prepared and acted in the sketches, and above all to Fonseca, Hemming, Laws, Sage and Wood—the C. P. C. —and their chairman, Richard Bryant.

R. J. E. & F. R. G.

THE LITERARY SOCIETY Easter Term, 1965

The Society held three meetings during the course of this term. At the first one, held on February 10th, the Society read "Rhinoceros" by Ionesco, the *avant-garde* French playwright. This was perhaps treated a little too frivolously, the sympathetic nature of Ionesco's treatment of the plot being rather neglected. On March 3rd "The Respectful Prostitute" by Sartre was read, members coping very well with the American drawl. Truth and falsity are shown as being dangerously connected, and the tense and sensitive dialogue which Sartre uses accurately spotlights this.

Original Compositions evening was on March 24th, and there was a great diversity in style and subject matter. P. W. Hughes began with a light-hearted attack on Greece and the ancient Greek games while J. A. Dow had written a poem about a sudden cave-in in the depths of a coal mine. L. A. Webb competently wrote about the gradual extinction of the red squirrel, biological and Latin names playing a major part in his piece. S. Greenlaw followed this with a poem about the Deep South, the tediousness of life there being expressed in the metre.

A brisk poem by P. A. Trier about an English driver in Paris quickened the tempo somewhat, and S. H. Shellswell, who had been elected the new secretary upon Greenlaw's retirement, wrote about the fantasies of a man who was being hanged. The last two contributions were both poems, M. E. Stubbs writing about a man alone with his thoughts walking through the streets just before daybreak, and R. J. Verge presenting an unusual treatment of the Denial of St. Peter.

Summer Term, 1965

On May 19th, the Society read "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof" by Tennessee Williams. The similarity of this to "A Street Car

named Desire" by the same author, which the Society had read in the preceding winter term, was strongly noticed, both plays outwardly having a leisurely pace which conceals the undercurrent of emotional conflict. The days of the French Revolution were relived on June 9th when the Society read "Poor Bitos" by Anouilh. The central character, Bitos, relies on the authority that his position holds in everyday life, but in private this is easily shaken.

The evening of July 7th was devoted to original compositions. L. A. Webb started with a serious poem about a skiing accident—serious that is until the last two lines, and F. Bolton King had written an amusing short story based on the subject of reincarnation. S. H. Shellswell compared the life of a member of a "pop" group to that of a boy in the audience watching, P. A. Trier following this by reading an extract from a book by Charlotte Bingham. J. A. Dow presented a piece of science-fiction, something not heard in recent years, while F. R. Glennie's contribution dealt with the current sport of cricket. P. W. Hughes expressed his regret at not having been made a prefect by reading a speech from "Hamlet," and R. J. Edy gave a moving description of the almost simultaneous death of an old man and his wife. R. J. Verge concluded the evening with a short story, faintly satirical, on the subject of trends.

Winter Term, 1965

The Society met four times this term, an extra meeting being included to listen to a tape recording. History was once again relived when on October 14th the Society read "Mother Courage and her Children," by Brecht, a play centred upon the Thirty Years war. Although Mother Courage is resigned to losing her children to the war, it is not without pangs of regret when the time comes. Three weeks later on November 3rd, "Becket" by Anouilh was read, a play which presents more personal views of Becket and his King than Eliot's "Murder in the Cathedral," which had been done as a school play a few years ago. On November 17th the Society listened to a tape recording of "The Infernal Machine" by Jean Cocteau. Excellently done, with great use being made of sound effects, the play was enjoyed by all.

For the last meeting of term all members who attended (two were unavoidably detained) produced original contributions.

F. Bolton King produced a doggerel bewailing the end of yet another school play, and S. H. Shellswell pointed out the difficulties that were encountered in entering for University.

W. T. G. Griffiths' poem in blank verse presented the true facts about working, or the inability to work, in a study bedroom, and this was followed by a science-fiction story, based on computers, by J. V. Hemming. L. A. Webb poked fun at the prefects in two poems, and R. J. Edy poked fun at the establishment, Rendcomb, in a short story. N. A. Dakin brought sanity back to the Society with an excellent description of an old room and the recollections of a boy. J. A. Dow's poem was in the modern protest style, and dealt with the commercialisation of Christmas. H. M. Peterson ended the compositions with an amusing short story centred upon the Meeting.

S. H. S.

HOCKEY REPORT, 1966

With seven regular members remaining from last year's first eleven, the season promised to be successful. However most of these players were defenders and it became evident as the term progressed that our main problem was to score goals.

The forward line is still not settled; several combinations having been tried with varying degrees of success.

First game as a whole has been young, several of these younger members have played in the eleven; and it is to the credit of such a young team that they have recorded two wins and two losses, one of the latter being a creditable performance against a far more mature side.

Although the weather has been more favourable than usual this term the length of the grass on all pitches prevented any practice. Rain prevented the playing of our matches with Cheltenham College and Marlborough.

First Eleven matches

Saturday, January 29th: v. DEAN CLOSE 'A' XI. (Away). Lost 0-3.

They were a well drilled and faster side than we and dominated the play in the first half and we were fortunate to be no more than one goal down at half time. Our forwards received very few passes from the defence and, on the occasions they did, they lacked the thrust and speed to mount an effective attack; many opportunities were squandered in the circle due to muddling.

In the second half the defence improved considerably but conceded a further two goals. Barnes in goal for his first time in the first XI played extremely coolly and prevented several more goals being scored against us.

Wednesday, February 9th.

v. Bristol University 2nd XI. (Home). Lost 1-5.

We started this match with a considerably altered forward line, Shellswell moving from left back to inside right, Fonseca to inside left and Webb to the left wing with Smith on the right. Longman, new to the side, took Shellswell's position at left back.

Rendcomb were soon ahead with an easy goal in the first five minutes, and our forwards looked far more mobile and menacing than in the previous match. However a few chances were squandered by muddling in the circle and at half time the score was 1-0 to Rendcomb.

In the second half Bristol began to set a faster pace and it was not long before they scored an equaliser. Their increased speed produced errors in our defence which they quickly seized and had scored a further four goals by the end of the match.

Saturday, February 12th.

v. King Édward's, Bath, 1st XI. (Home) Won 2-1.

This fixture was played at home due to the King Edward's pitches being waterlogged. The slippery pitch and apparent apathy of the whole team, with the exception of Barnes, did little to enhance the victory.

Hillier scored shortly after the start, but after a scrappy first half the score remained 1-0. King Edward's attacked with more determination in the second half and soon scored the second goal. Rendcomb gradually recovered control of the game and Hillier ensured victory with a well taken goal shortly before the final whistle.

Saturday, February 19th.

v. Kings' College School, Wimbledon. (Away). Won 2-1.

This fixture was arranged to fit in with a 1st XI visit to the University match. In spite of an early start and a long coach

journey the trip was enjoyed by all, some good hockey being played as well as watched.

On a slippery pitch Rendcomb dominated the first half, the ball rarely coming near our circle. However, muddling over corners and indecisiveness in the K. C. S. circle prevented any goals being scored.

In the second half, although the half backs remained steady, the full backs became unsure of themselves and could not clear the ball effectively. After several close shots K. C. S. eventually scored. Rendcomb suddenly realised that the best method of defence was attack and, after a melee in the K. C. S. circle, Bryant scored with a hard shot. Webb scored soon afterwards and a third goal was imminent when the final whistle blew.

March 3rd:

v. Bristol Grammar School. (Home). Won 3—o.

The forward line was slightly changed, Shellswell returning to full back and Edy entering the side at inside right.

Although two goals were scored within the first twenty minutes by Hillier, the forwards still did not show sufficient drive, following up being particularly bad. We scored once more shortly after the start of the second half, however the remainder of the game took much the same pattern of the first half with no more goals being scored.

March 5th:

v. Lydney Grammar School. (Home). Drawn 1—1.

With yet another altered forward line, Gray at centre forward, Hillier inside right and Simpson left wing, and Fonseca replacing Gray at right half, it looked in the first ten minutes as though the forwards were at last combining effectively, however this initiative was soon lost; as a result of this, and with the defence looking shaky, it was Lydney who scored first. We soon equalised but no further goals seemed forthcoming and the match ended in a draw.

The First Eleven:

M. R. BARNES. With no previous first game experience he has developed into a very plucky and reliable goalkeeper. If he can

learn to clear always with a kick to touch and not straight at the attackers (which makes him very susceptible to a follow up) he will be very hard to beat. His cool play when under pressure prevented many goals against us and he will be of great value next year.

- B. F. PULLEN. The experience which he gained last year has proved a great asset and this year at right back he combined very commendably with both Longman and Shellswell as partners, adding much to the stability of the defence. He must take care when clearing to hit the ball squarely as, when hurried he has a tendency to "top."
- S. H. SHELLSWELL. Was vice-captain this season. Although he started the season in the familiar role of full back, his versatility is such that he was put at inside right to strengthen the forward line. However he has now resumed his position of left back, his stopping and hitting have always been sound and form the backbone of the defence.
- W. LONGMAN. He played at left back in three matches. He very quickly became adapted to his position, being ably supported by Pullen. His positioning and hitting were good. He needs to overcome his hesitancy in tackling and cover more quickly. This first eleven experience should stand him in very good stead next season.
- C.J. GRAY. He has played at right half throughout the season, his play steadily improving, his clearing being a very strong point. If he can remember always to pass to someone as well as clearing and overcome his hesitancy in covering he will be a sound member of next year's team.
- F. R. GLENNIE. As last season he played at centre half. Our most outstanding player, his positioning and anticipation effectively hampered opposing centre forwards. His passing to the forwards was intelligent but was often wasted due to the slowness of the forwards. He will undoubtedly be a very valuable member of next year's team.
- M. W. HARROP. He played at left half. After a mediocre first match he has become a very reliable member of the defence. Although not extremely fast, his tactical positioning and intelligent passing more than made up for this. He combines well with his inside forward and with Glennie, which should be most useful next year.

- G. F. SMITH. He has played on the right wing in two first eleven matches. He is swift and has a hard centre, at times he anticipates passes well, but he is inclined to lie a little far back with the result that he has allowed too many passes to go into touch.
- R. B. N. BRYANT. He played on the right wing against Dean Close and K. C. S. Wimbledon. Instead of centering hard he was inclined to use a push shot which was easily stopped by the opposing defence.
- J. J. FONSECA. Was unfortunate in not gaining a position at half back as in practice games he has always played best there. He has played in both inside forward positions; his covering in defence is good and he distributed the ball intelligently to the forwards, but is not always up when needed in attack. In common with all the forwards he is slow to react and lacks a powerful shot at goal.
- A. E. HILLIER. He played at centre forward throughout the season. There is no doubt that he has ability, but on many occasions he lost the initiative by keeping the ball and dribbling. He must learn the value of quick short passes amongst the inside forwards and the futility of trying to push the ball through an opponent. His shot when in the circle was the hardest of the insides but was often very slow and he occasionally carelessly did sticks.
- L. A. Webb. A conscientious and hard-working captain, he nevertheless failed appreciably to develop his own game this year. He has skill with his stick but is too often slow to react to the situation of the moment. Like the other forwards, he has lacked finishing power. Nevertheless, his unflagging energy and enthusiasm have been a notable asset to the side.
- R. J. EDY. Played in one 1st XI match, versus Bristol Grammar School, his consistent play both in first game and the second eleven led to his selection. However in this one match he failed to show the speed and thrust necessary for an inside forward and was subsequently dropped.
- W. R. SIMPSON. Played on the left wing in the match against Lydney Grammar School, his speed and enthusiasm more than compensated for his lack of experience and resulted in a number of good centres. If he can learn to anticipate passes better he will be of value next year.

The Second Eleven:

As in previous years this team contained many young and enthusiastic players who combined well as a team in practice games to give good opposition for the first eleven. They have been unfortunate in having three of their fixtures so far cancelled due to weather.

Throughout the season Edy captained the side with enthusiasm and ability, setting a very diligent example. Cattermole generally played industrially and effectively at centre half and among the forwards, Little, Simpson and Hunt show much promise for the future.

January 29th:

v. MARLING 1st XI. (Home). Won 3—1.

The goals were scored by Hunt (1) and Edy (2). Rendcomb always looked the better side and with their quicker passing made the best of the rather sticky conditions.

March 5 th:

v. LYDNEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL 2nd XI. (Home). Won 3—2.

In the first half Rendcomb played strongly, the right wing working particularly well and Hunt scored three good goals. However in the second half the play became rather scrappy, the defence notably becoming slower and hence Lydney scored two goals before the finish.

March oth:

v. KING'S SCHOOL, GLOUCESTER 1ST XI. (Home). Lost o—4.

The whole game was rather scrappy, the forwards squandered what good centres they had due to their slowness and the defence with the exception of Kyle never looked at all settled. King's scored two goals in each half.

The Third Eleven:

A fixture was arranged v. King's School, Gloucester 2nd XI. The team consisted largely of seniors not in the first team game.

The team's one match was enjoyed by all, but due to failing to combine, the score was o—3 at half time. In the second half better combination and harder hitting brought their results in a goal by Harris. However King's scored again shortly before the end leaving the final score 1—4.

Under-15 XI:

Two matches, against Marlborough and Monkton Coombe, were cancelled. The game against King Edwards, Bath resulted in a win by 2—0; the result of the Bristol Grammar School game, against a team who were below their usual strength, was a win by 10 goals to nil.

The Junior Game:

Under the enthusiastic coaching of Mr. White many new boys have quickly become accustomed to the game and several promising players have emerged; especially J. Gray, Mace and Tyler.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE RUGGER REPORT

The following matches occurred too late for inclusion in the last number

1st XV

November 24th.

v. King's School, Gloucester 1st XV. Lost 0-3.

Although the pack obtained a lot of the ball from the loose and set pieces the three quarter line persisted in running across the field with the ball, which only moved play from one side of the field to the other. Tackling was good, and our opponents were never allowed to feed the ball to their wings. However, the wing forwards had not cured themselves of the habit of getting offside at a set scrum, and it was from one of these penalties immediately after half time that King's kicked a penalty goal.

Team: A. Hillier, L. Smith, Fonseca, Marks, G. Smith, Shellswell, Raddon, J. Dow, Kyle, Glennie, Webb, Dakin, Hiscox, Hole, Pullen.

December 8th:

v. Hereford Cathedral 2nd XV. Cancelled (pitch flooded at Hereford)

December nth:

v. Avonhurst 1st XV. Lost 3-14.

We started disastrously, letting Avonhurst get two quick tries before we adjusted ourselves to the pace of the game.

In attack our three quarter line was continuously harassed by very quick wing forwards, and in defence our centres both tackled the opposite inside centre, leaving Avonhurst with a one man overlap. In the second half the defence improved, and aided by a strong wind we kept play in our opponents "25," although we were unable to score. Simpson followed up a high Garry Owen penalty kick to score in the corner at the end of the first half.

Team: A. Hillier, L. Smith, Fonseca, Marks, Simpson, Shellswell, Raddon, J. Dow, Kyle, Glennie, Webb, Dakin, Hiscox, Hole. Pullen.

Under 16 XV

December 1st:

v. Bloxham Under 16 XV. Lost 3-14.

The team played well against a better drilled side, but the covering around the back of the scrum was bad, the wing forwards letting the Bloxham scrum half and wing forwards do as they wished. Two tries came from the inability to stop the blind break. Our score late in the first half came from an orthodox three-quarter movement, Black touching down in the corner after a good run.

Team: A. Hillier, P. Evans, Black, Fonseca, Simpson, Harrop, C. Gray, C. Mabberley, Kyle, A. Veasey, Hitchman, Hole, Pullen (capt.), Hiscox, Curtis.

Under 15 XV:

December nth:

v. AVONHURST Under 15 XV. Won 6-o.

Both sides played open rugby, but lazy passes and bad catching frequently spoilt promising three quarter movements. The pack worked together a lot more than in previous matches and gave the backs good service. Our score came from a try in each half.

RUNNING REPORT

Autumn Term, 1965

The only running match held this term was against Sir Thomas Rich's School, on their course. The result was disappointing, to say the least, as Rendcomb were beaten by both of their opponent's teams.

Sir Thomas Rich's "B" team were within our capabilities as evidenced by the last match against them when we beat them by 30 points and with the right attitude and more hard work in training we could have beaten them again.

There is little excuse for those members of the team who omitted to take studded shoes with them, having been warned of the nature of the course. They were at a considerable disadvantage on the muddy uphill and downhill sections which comprise most of this course and the surprising performances of Hillier and Fonseca are due, at least in part, to this omission.

Webb, Shellswell and Whatmough were consistent and, as usual, the best of the Rendcomb team, but they still lack the basic speed and agility necessary.

Laws and Smith ran quite well, but are obviously capable of considerable improvement and the same could be said of Little, who appeared rather out of his depth.

It is perhaps worth mentioning in passing, that the individual winner of this race broke the course record.

Result:

Sir Thomas Rich's "A"—24 points.

Sit Thomas Rich's "B"—79 points

Rendcomb—87 points

Team, (position in brackets):

Whatmough (5th), Shellswell (11th), Webb (14th), Laws (17th), Smith G. (18th), Fonseca (22nd), Hillier (23rd), Little (24th).

N.S.W.

BELLRINGING REPORT

After a period of inactivity, bellringing was restarted at Rendcomb in 1962, under the supervision of Mr. White, D. A. N. Hogarth being Tower Captain. Now as the result of many hours of patient instructing by Miss M. Bliss, Rendcomb can boast a sizeable band of competent Bellringers and several novices who are learning quickly how to handle a bell. At the moment we can ring nothing more complicated than a plain course of Bob Doubles, with which we brighten Sunday mornings. However, recently we have found means to further our knowledge.

As a result of an invitation, a small party of us went to a Ringing Meeting at Cirencester Parish Church, which has the oldest ring of twelve bells in the world. There we found that our methods of ringing were not quite so different from those

of the outside world as we imagined, and we were pleased to be told that we would be welcome to ring before Evensong on Sunday evenings. This involved missing tea; however, a small group attended at Cirencester on one occasion and agreed that it was well worth the inconvenience. The College has kindly consented to pay the cost of transport on such occasions and it is hoped that we will be able to take regular advantage of the opportunity to improve our capabilities.

F. R. G.

A PROTEST POEM CONCERNING THE COMMERCIALISATION OF CHRISTMAS

Big Cadillac, Big City, Big man Argon, Krypton, Xenon, Neon lights.

Sick by the prospect of aluminium

Stainless steel, vast areas of glass

Enclosing and enclosed by reindeer

Santa Clauses in thigh high skirts,

Scintillating, fascinating, a mockery

Of St. Nicholas. Cotton wool snow

Covered in the footprints of hypocrisy.

Trees made of neon lights, stars made of glass

Silver paper, plastic partridge in vita-foam pear tree.

Happy Christmas a dull discord.

Free gifts for only \$300.

Buy your wife a... Buy for your husband.

Buy, buy, free, free, buy. Always that thought.

Diamond tiaras, glittering at every corner.

Tinsel, Whisky,

Phony preachers, genuine imitation religion.

Buy your crucifix here.

What is Christmas?

What indeed?

Says consumer "Waal I dunno, plastic star I s'pose."

Says local vicar, "Buy your crucifix here."

Says politician, "Love your neighbour, but not others."

"Don't hurt anybody, more troops to Indonesia."

"Crush Rhodesia."

Happy Christmas, Hallelujah

Two thirds o' this earth's hungry.

Love your neighbour.

Footprints of Hypocrisy.

Happy Christmas to the lot of you.

I shall have my own Christmas.

I. A. D.

"ASTRAL DELIRIUM"

The elderly member of the Galactic Council finished his speech. He took up the ornate connecting tool and, with a great deal of pride, soldered, in gold, the final connection on the electrical circuit before him.

The billions of people watching him on their tele-view receivers knew that this simple act was the last stage in the joining of all the computers scattered around the planets in the galaxy. This created one vast computer complex, designed to solve the few problems which remained in their new Utopian lives.

A testing question had been programmed, one which no computer had yet been able to answer. The councillor fed this question into the machine's metal mouth:

"Is there a god?"

The seconds passed slowly as those watching waited, tense and expectant, for the answer to be given. At last the computer clattered, and out fell a neatly typewritten card:

"Now there is "

J. V. H.

THE ROOM OF YESTERDAY

It was Christmas Eve, one of those days when icy blasts blow and the sun tries to shine through winter mists. By now it was afternoon, and Nicholas was bored. Throughout the house came the smell of baking, and in the soft-lighted living room father was listening to the carols from Cambridge. There was absolutely nothing to do.

Nicholas was wandering aimlessly through the house, upstairs and downstairs, from room to room, and finding nothing to arrest his attention, he at last went to his usual retreat, his grandmother's old room. There the curtains were closed, but the sun penetrated all the same, filling the room with mellow shadow.

Here were the mouldering remains of a past age: furniture, pictures, photographs—all a passport to a far off world of dreams and make believe. Reaching among the dark depths of the old bureau, Nicholas took out the faded albums.

Bombay, 1870, a world of exotic sunsets, potted palms and colonialism; of tropical suits, lascars, the Army and the Empire and, far away, the rocky passes of the North West Frontier.

There were musty, age-worn photographs of fantastic temples and fragrant gardens, brown with time; the family groups, all forgotten, silent, unseen, collecting the dust of time, leaving their legacy in ivory inlay and long-necked vases.

Great War Egypt, long-stacked troop ships riding in Suez lanes, camels, putees, and the great endless desert—Nicholas' mind soared. Far above the dusty crags of the 'Frontier' he roamed, and he was a second Lawrence.

Then a small handbell was rung and it was tea time. Slowly Nicholas put away the old albums, and slouched downstairs. Then it was that the faint flame of a new thought struck him, "What has dull today to show?"

N. A. D.

OLD BOYS' NOTES

I have been asked to bring the following notice to the attention of all Old Boys.

Founder's Day will be on July 2nd; the Guest Speaker will be Sir John Maud. It is no longer possible for the College office to circularise all Old Boys. If therefore, any Old Boy would like a ticket for Founder's Day would he please write to the Secretary, Rendcomb College, by Wednesday, June 22nd.

D. G. Vaisey who is still in the Department of Western Manuscripts at the Bodleian Library, Oxford, was married on August 7th last year to Maureen Anne Mansell.

Ian Campbell was married on February 24th to Pamela Harley. He is now in hospital administration which he greatly enjoys. Two days after his marriage he sailed to take up a hospital post in New Zealand. It will be remembered that his father was High Commissioner in London for New Zealand.

On December 17th a daughter was born to Lesley, wife of Hywel Richards.

To all of these we offer our congratulations.

We also offer congratulations to J. M. Webb who captained Cambridge in the University hockey match at Hurlingham.

J. C. J.

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