

*The
Wathonian*



MARCH, 1943.

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School Notes.

The war-time expedient of recording the "march of time" in an annual issue of the *Wathonian* once more brings round the necessity for literary labours. In the nature of things an annual magazine must needs be largely a record of the year. Considerations of paper shortage have thus limited the number of original contributions in the present issue, but we hope that shortly our literary talent may flourish in the ampler space of peace-time publication.

After much deliberation it was found expedient last year to reduce temporarily the number of School Houses from six to five. The principal reasons for this change were to permit of a better representation in House Teams under the existing rules, and to avoid the fielding of skeleton teams. The choice of House for voluntary liquidation fell finally upon Thebes. We hope that when numbers justify it Thebes will once more rise from her past to greater glories. In the meanwhile the quondam Thebans have been divided between the remaining five Houses.

The new experiment of an agricultural camp at Gedney Marsh in Lincolnshire proved both financially and socially successful beyond our hopes; 55 boys and 4 masters went into camp for a fortnight in October. The potatoes they picked, and the beet they pulled would make a monstrous pile. Next Autumn our services are asked for once again and already the list of prospective candidates for agriculture near the Wash exceeds that of 1942.

We were sorry to say goodbye to Miss D. D. Fielding at the end of the Christmas Term; we wish her well in her new post at Warrington Girls' High School. In her place we welcome Miss S. D. Huss and hope she will be happy among us.

School Prefects this year are as follows :

School Prefects—1942-43.

<i>Boys.</i>	<i>Girls.</i>
H. Metcalfe	Freda Nicholson
D. J. Barnes	Doreen Evans
T. Beardsall	Patricia Curran
K. Burton	Joan Gawthorpe

Boys.

B. Elliott
 B. Finean
 P. Goodyear
 E. Higgs
 B. Malyan
 E. Potts
 G. Probert
 A. Stephenson
 C. Turton
 B. Wade
 J. Walker
 R. Wolsey

Girls.

Catherine Larvan
 Kathleen Leather
 Joan Martin
 Margaret Robinson
 Marjorie Rorison
 Sheila Wood
 Edna Rhodes
 Megan Williams

We congratulate the following on being offered County Major Scholarships on the results of the Higher School Certificate Examination :

P. Dale (Aberystwith)
 O. Edgar (Imperial College, London)
 K. Disley (Bedford College).

State Bursaries in Science were offered to :

J. D. Miller O. Edgar
 P. Dale E. H. Kerry

Higher School Certificate results were as follows :

U.VI.L—Barber, L.	U.VI.Sc.—Barber, W.
Thompson, P. F.	Dale, P.
Cox, Annie	Doherty, T.
Disley, Kathleen	Edgar, O.
Hughes, Dorothy	Kerry, E. H.
Moffatt, Joan	Miller, J. D.
Nicholson, Freda	L.VI.Sc.—Evans, E.
Stansfield, Margerie	
Swift, Constance M.	

School Certificates this year numbered 43.

Winners of the Magazine Competition are :

Senior Competition	..	1	M. D. Evans
		2	G. Probert
Junior Competition	..		No award.
First Year Competition			M. Cowley



House Notes.

ATHENS.

<i>House Captains</i>	J. Gawthorpe, E. W. Higgs.
<i>Magazine Committee</i> ..	M. Hatfield, D. J. Barnes.
<i>Games Committee</i> ..	E. W. Higgs. F. Nicholson.
<i>Library</i>	B. Carr, D. J. Barnes.

The sphere in which Athens was most successful during the past year was that of Athletics: in the Sports held in the Summer Term we gained a very good second place, and in those held in the Autumn Term we carried off the Cup.

Athens' low position (5th) in the competition for the Games Cup last Easter was in no small way due to an acute shortage of senior boys eligible to play in House games. However, we fared much better in the summer games, and gained a close second place in the competition.

Our efforts in the Work Cup competition seem to have deteriorated rather than improved throughout last year. We started well in the Christmas Term of 1941 with a good second place, but in the Easter competition we dropped to third place, and by Midsummer our position was as low as fourth. It is hoped that Athenians will make a big effort this year to restore Athens to her former position of first in Work Cup competitions.

Incidentally, it may be of interest to Athenians, past and present, to notice the following facts: Since the beginning of the four House competitions for winter games, summer games, work and sports, Athens has won the winter Games Cup three times, the Work Cup eighteen times, the Sports Cup once, and has never won the summer Games Cup. This last result should be an encouragement to Athenians to give their maximum effort in games this coming summer, and try to remove this blot on our record.

Vegetable gardening, a very important House activity, has progressed reasonably satisfactorily throughout the past year, but more effort is still required to obtain the best output.

Finally, we congratulate O. Edgar and P. Dale on their examination successes, and we wish them, and all Old Athenians now serving in His Majesty's Forces, the best of luck.



CARTHAGE.

<i>House Captains</i> Metcalf, D. Evans.
<i>Magazine Committee</i>	.. Everatt, D. Evans.
<i>Games Committee</i>	.. Stott, M. Robinson.
<i>Library Committee</i>	.. E. Rhodes.

In this review of last year's activities two Sports Days must be mentioned, at both of which Carthage acquitted herself satisfactorily, gaining second place at the September meeting. It is to be hoped that this improvement will continue, and that one place higher will be attained next year.

The results of the inter-House matches during the year have, on the whole, been satisfactory, especially in summer games, when Carthage gained the Games Cup. The juniors this term are to be congratulated upon their very keen performances in hockey, for they have not lost one match. The boys' matches have as yet also been successful. Senior members of the House need to show more enthusiasm both in games and in work on the garden, which will soon be very necessary. However, there is a commendable number of seniors in School teams.

In the Summer Term Carthage almost gained the Work Cup, but last term there were far too many detentions which lowered her chances considerably in spite of the efforts of many who showed keen interest in School Societies by regular attendance.

May we extend our best wishes to those members of Thebes who entered Carthage and have shown their enthusiasm in all activities, and to the Carthaginians who have left the School.



ROME.

<i>House Captains</i>	.. G. Malyan, L.VI.Sc. V. Ibbotson, L.VI.Lit.
<i>Magazine Committee</i>	.. G. Probert, U.VI.Lit. V. Ibbotson, L.VI.Lit.
<i>Games Committee</i>	S. Moffatt, L6 Gen. J. Rothnie, U.VI.Sc.

Since the last magazine we have done well in the two Sports Days, taking into consideration the fact that we had no

brilliant athletes. However, the girls, especially on the last Sports Day, did not carry quite their full share of the burden. Perhaps, with the greater effort of the girls next year, we may hope to carry off the cup.

We have been successful in games this year, at Easter taking first place, and in the summer we came third. However, work has not been up to our usual good standard. In the competition for the Work Cup at Easter we were fourth, in the summer we were sixth, and in the autumn term we were fifth.

In regard to the gardens, the junior boys and girls have been very enthusiastic, the middle not quite so horticulturally-minded and the senior boys insufficiently food conscious. Several girls have brought bulbs for the flower garden, and as a result of their efforts we hope to have a gay show from Spring to Autumn.

An old Roman boy, Eric Hocking, assistant chemist in the Laboratory at Manvers Main, has achieved outstanding success in the Final Grade Examination of the City and Guilds of London Institute in Coke and By-Products Manufacture 1942.

Detentions have been far too numerous this year. May we dispense with these and take as our slogan for 1943 "Much work, more work, most work."

SPARTA.



<i>House Captains</i>	..	J. S. Walker, M. B. Williams.
<i>Games Committee</i>	..	J. S. Walker, M. Wheelhouse.
<i>Magazine Committee</i>	..	F. B. Elliott, M. Richards.
<i>Library</i>	T. B. Wade.

During the Spring Term the task of working the plot "up" to a fertile condition was tackled, with more zest from the juniors than from some of the seniors! Sparta were the first to finish sowing the seeds which later produced a very good harvest.

During the Summer Term we won the Sports Cup for the second time in two years. On the next Sports Day, however, which was held in September, we dropped back again to fourth place. The senior and junior boys reached the finals in the

cricket competitions ; we hope to obtain a position one place higher in 1943 ; and to have more support from the girls' rounders and tennis teams.

In view of the number of times Spartans have figured in the detention lists, during the Christmas Term, we must consider ourselves very lucky in winning the Work Cup for the fifth successive time. Every effort, particularly by the Middle School, must be made to keep it, against an increasing opposition. The senior and junior girls and junior boys are doing very well in the winter games competition ; at the time of writing they have not lost a match. The Senior boys, however, must try to turn up for House matches at the right time, and then to play as a team and not as individuals if they are to atone for the two matches they have lost.

We extend a hearty welcome to the new Spartans, and send our best wishes to those who have left us, and are now serving in the Forces.

TROY.



<i>House Captains</i>	..	M. Rorison, J. B. Finean.
<i>Magazine Committee</i>		M. Rorison, R. T. Beardsall.
<i>Games Committee</i>	..	D. Charlesworth, J. B. Finean.
<i>Library Committee</i>	..	D. Banks, C. W. Turton.

It was wisely remarked several years ago that the Trojans, although often small in numbers, were the keenest and hardest workers in the School, and events this year have done nothing to invalidate this statement. With quite a number of seniors among the 7 Prefects, the House is beginning to make up for the years in which the senior element has been particularly lacking.

Gardening has progressed with much success, and juniors and 5th Form must be congratulated on their steady work at the beginning of the year, many of them working every day. Some 4th Formers, however, seem far too unwilling to work at all, their constant excuse (against which no amount of logic will prevail) being that they gardened yesterday and will garden to-morrow.

This year has in respect of Games, Games Cups and Sports Cups, been an undistinguished one. The senior boys, although with 6 members in the 1st Rugby XV, have turned out a

successful team, and juniors, though small individually, are strong in numbers, and have played strongly and well. Girls' games have fluctuated, and a high spot in their athletic achievements has been the gaining of the Junior School Tennis Championship by Marjorie Sykes.

Finally, although July seems far away, we wish the best of luck to all who succeeded in their examinations, and also hope for the success of those who are trying this year. And to those who failed, and indeed to all, may we extend the old proverb now become almost a Trojan motto: "If at first you don't succeed, try, try again." Best of luck for 1943.

Speech Day, 1942.

Speech Day was held this year on June 25th. At two o'clock the School assembled, and after the entrance of the platform visitors, everyone stood while the National Anthem was sung. The Orchestra opened with a Gavotte from Overture in D minor by Bach, after which the opening remarks were made by the Chairman of the Governors, Mrs. E. Mellor.

The Headmaster's Report followed. He expressed his satisfaction with the progress which the School had made throughout the year, and especially advised parents not to allow pupils to leave School at School Certificate stage.

The presentation of Certificates was preceded by three songs given by the Choir: "Linden Lea," by Vaughan Williams; "Under the Greenwood Tree," by Eric Coates; and "Fairy Queene," by Percy Fletcher. Lady Cartwright then presented the twenty-one Higher School Certificates and seventy-nine School Certificates to the successful candidates.

Other distinctions gained by the School during the past year had been:

State Scholarships: M. Curran, Dexter, D.

County Major Scholarships: M. Curran, M. Bentcliffe, Dexter, D.

Medical Scholarship: Dexter, D.

Miners' Welfare Scholarships: M. Bentcliffe, Sykes, K.

Miners' Welfare Exhibition: Edgar, O.

State Bursarships in Science: Cooper, H., Webster, G. H., Sargeantson, W.

The Address by County Alderman Sir William Cartwright, K.B., Chairman of the West Riding County Council, followed. This address was much enjoyed, and the pupils drew much inspiration from Sir William's account of his own experiences.

A vote of thanks was proposed by H. Hallsworth, Esq., J.P., and was seconded by Mrs. Burtoft.

In conclusion the School Song was sung with the accustomed vigour and our guests departed.

Quality Street.

Miss Deeks' Christmas production, Barrie's "Quality Street," was very much enjoyed by all who saw it, and by the cast among whom were many who had not previously appeared in School plays. Their acting, however, easily maintained the high standard set by previous performances. Indeed, one of the most delightful scenes in the play was that in which Miss Phoebe is teaching her pupils to dance where the dancers were almost all from the second form.

F. Nicholson, as the graceful "Miss Phoebe of the ringlets," and Probert as the "dashing" Valentine Brown, gave a very good performance which showed the manners and ideas of the period. M. Myers played Susan Throssel with intelligence, and the three inquisitive ladies of Quality Street were well taken by B. Hough, B. Sharpe and E. Harrington. H. Stalker as the wilful Arthur, was most amusing, and Barnes and J. Wade made a good presentation of the youthful Ensign Blades and the youthful and "silly" Henrietta. P. Greenwood as a wallflower was suitably mournful. Beardsall as the engaging recruiting-sergeant and M. Richards as Patty, the maid, completed a really good cast.

The players succeeded in conveying the atmosphere of a hundred years ago. Suitable music was supplied by the orchestra.

Gardening Notes.

The cultivation of the School garden has played an important part in House activities this year.

Under the supervision of the Housemasters and Garden Representatives, the boys have grown vegetables quite successfully, in spite of the great attractions of the games field. From the produce two sacks of potatoes were offered at the Harvest Festival, while the remainder were sold to Mr. Gardener for use in the school kitchen.

Though they have helped with the vegetables, the girls have been chiefly concerned with the care of the decorative borders on either side of the central garden path. The Trojan girls were especially keen, and flowers from their very

fine display were used to brighten the hall for morning assembly.

The gardeners regretfully report that the rugby players sometimes trample on the plants in their enthusiastic scrambling after the ball. We beg them to be more careful in future!

Good wishes attend the senior girls who have kindly agreed to cultivate the garden which formerly belonged to Thebes.

Much has been achieved, but there is always work to do; helpers will be welcome.

Harvest Thanksgiving.

For the second year in the history of the School a Harvest Festival was held on October 2nd. Pupils brought a splendid collection of fruit and vegetables, while some of the produce of the School Gardens was also contributed.

A short service was held at School and the School Choir, accompanied by the School Orchestra, led the School in the hymns "Come, ye thankful people, come," and "To Thee, O Lord, our hearts we raise." Then the Choir, alone, sang Beethoven's Creation Hymn. They were congratulated on the latter by Mr. W. P. Turner, of the *South Yorkshire Times*, who, during the service, gave a short address and accepted the gifts which were sent to the Mexboro' Montagu Hospital and Wath Wood Isolation Hospital.

Rugby Notes.

The 1st XV. for the season 1942-43 has been chosen largely from the following:—Finean (captain), Higgs (vice-captain), Scothern, Metcalf, Adams, Ardron, Wilks, Goodyear, Probert, Everatt, Hodgson, Vaughan, Clarke, *Turton*, *Wolsey* and *Gibbs*.

The matches played to date are as follows:—

Sept. 26—v. Morley G.S. Away.

Result: Won, 7 points to 3.

Owing to difficulties in travelling, the match was of only 40 minutes duration. The play was confined mainly to the scrum because of the narrowness of the pitch. The scoring was opened by Scothern with a well-timed drop goal just before half-time. Morley followed up immediately by converting a penalty. There was no further scoring until well in the second half, when a break-through by the scrum resulted in Vaughan scoring an unconverted try.

Oct. 3—v. Thorne G.S. Home.

Result : Won, 42 points to 0.

The whole team showed a marked improvement on the last match. The forwards marked well in the line-outs, and were very quick in the loose. The backs combined smartly and were superior in both attack and defence. Tries were scored by Metcalf (2), Finean (2), Higgs (2), Scothern (2), Adams and Goodyear. Only four of these tries were converted, two by Scothern and two by Finean. The former also obtained a drop-goal.

Oct. 31—v. Old Boys.

Result : Won, 25—0.

The Old Boys fielded a rather weaker team than usual, because of the large number of members who have joined the Forces. The School pack were not too clever in their marking in the line-outs and consequently the Old Boys broke through several times. During the first half Higgs twice broke through to score unconverted tries, while Scothern dropped his customary goal. Just before half-time Wilks brought the score to 15 with a snap try which Scothern converted. After the interval, Finean increased the lead with a try near the posts which Scothern converted comfortably. There was no further scoring until near the end, when Scothern touched down from a loose-scrum near the Old Boys' try line.

Nov 21—v Hemsworth Home

Result : Won, 17—4

The School lost the toss and played downhill for the first half. The conditions were ideal and a very fierce game ensued. Higgs opened the score by bursting through to touch down near the posts. Scothern converted and soon after kicked a fine penalty goal. Hemsworth attacked fiercely and managed to drop a goal, bringing the score for half-time to 8—4. Early in the second half Higgs again went through the Hemsworth defence to score an unconverted try, and Adams promptly followed suit. Soon after, a fine short-passing movement started by Finean resulted in Scothern scoring an unconverted try.

Nov. 28—v. Barnsley. Home.

Result : Drew, 6—6.

The School won the toss and elected to play uphill. Barnsley had the much stronger pack and consequently our backs had little opportunity for movements. Sound tackling by the School backs prevented Barnsley from scoring during

the first-half, while Scothern obtained the only score by kicking a penalty goal. After half-time the Barnsley pack started with a rush and scored two unconverted tries in quick succession. The school attacked fiercely but Barnsley held on to their lead doggedly. It was only two or three minutes from time when Finean made a determined dash through the Barnsley defence to score an unconverted try.

The 2nd XV have played two matches, against Thorne and Hemsworth, which they won by 19 points to 9 and 25 points to nil respectively.

Hockey Notes.

Autumn Term, 1942.

Oct. 3—v. Rotherham. Away. Won, 3—1.

The team played very well and the attacks often had the ball in the opponents' circle, though the shooting was rather erratic and inaccurate. On the whole the backs stayed too far back. H. Tindall played very well.

v. Ecclesfield. Away. Cancelled.

Nov. 7—v. Hadfields. Won, 4—0.

This was a practice match on the School pitch. The School forwards were constantly on the attack and the ball was well distributed. The team played well together.

Nov. 14—v. Old Wathonians. Won 1—0.

There was a lack of team work and the ball was not evenly distributed to either side of the field.

Nov. 21—v. Thorne. Away. Lost, 7—3.

There was a lack of co-operation between the forwards. There was a general tendency to "potter" with the ball instead of acting swiftly. The backs were careless in clearing, while the defence did not mark close enough. The Thorne team showed a brilliant forward line, working in almost perfect order.

Dec. 12—v. Mexborough. Won, 3—1.

The School played very well together and marked well. The forward line co-operated well and often had the ball in the opposing circle.

Second XI.—Rotherham. Away. Won 2—0.

Mexborough. Home. Won 5—0.

Tennis Notes.

School v. Rotherham. Away.

Both 1st and 2nd tennis teams were present at Rotherham, and although everyone played very well, the School was defeated.

School v. Ecclesfield. Away. Result : 48—51 Ecclesfield.

The 1st VI. were defeated after a very vigorous game.

School v. Penistone. Home. Result : 50—49 Wath.

The School team, accustomed to their own courts, were able, after a very difficult match, to defeat Penistone.

School v. Thorne. Away. Result : 38—79 Thorne.

Thorne had an excellent First VI. and although the School played well, Thorne won the match.

School v. Ecclesfield. Home. Result : 50—49 Wath.

This match proved to be another hard-won victory for the School.

School v. Old Girls. Home. Result : 20—61 Wath.

This match was an easy victory for the School team.

The team was very much improved this season and each couple co-operated excellently. It is hoped that in spite of losses, the team will continue to do well next season.

Cricket Notes.

1st XI.—The team was chosen from : Higgs, Malyan, Scothern, Dutton, Finean, Scott, Clarke, Bate, Ardron, Fletcher, Wilks and Bradley.

The first match was at Barnsley. Wath batted first, scoring 39 runs (Malyan 13). Barnsley replied with 44 runs (Dutton took 6 wickets for 26 runs).

At Thorne the home team batted first and made 48 runs. Wath was saved from defeat by Ardron and Scott, the two last men, who scored 8 and 13 runs respectively. Wath made 51 runs.

Against Mexborough Youth, at Mexborough, the School was beaten : Mexborough 139 for 5 wickets (Machin 51 runs), Wath 110 runs all out (Dutton 31, Scothern 30, Higgs 12).

Both matches against Mexborough Secondary School were won by Wath. Playing away, Wath scored 74 (Bate 21, Malyan 17); Mexborough replied with 46 (Dutton 8 wickets for 15). Playing at home Wath made 27, then dismissed Mexborough for the small total of 12 runs (Malyan 6 for 6 runs, Dutton 3 for 4 runs).

The match against Hemsworth at Wath was lost by Wath. Wath scored 44 runs (Dutton 25, Scott 10 not out); Hemsworth 49 for 3 wickets.

Of the first six matches played, 3 were won and 3 lost.

2nd XI.—Dale, Cutts, Sokell, Nesbit, Randerson, Barnes, Thomas, Armitage Hughes, Machin, Doherty.

The match against Barnsley was lost, Wath making 30 runs (Wilks 13). Barnsley replied with 40 runs (Dale 4 for 14).

At Mexborough the School were again defeated: Wath 32 runs (Thomas 10), Mexborough 59 runs (Nesbit 3 for 9 runs).

Most of the second team matches were cancelled owing to the difficulty of transport.

Malyan and Dutton received colours this year.

Sports Day—May, 1942.

Owing to the shortage of rubber and the great wear and tear on rubber shoes involved by the cross-country races, it was found necessary to cancel these events for the duration.

The programme for Sports Day was as usual, and as the weather was bright and warm, there was no hitch in the run of events.

The contest was very close, and only very narrow margins of points separated the Houses. The Sports Cup was at first thought to have been won by Athens, but after a check-up on the scoring, it was finally awarded to Sparta, who were found to have the extremely narrow margin of $1\frac{1}{2}$ points over Athens.

Three existing records were broken, and two were equalled. The Group III boys high jump and hurdles records were broken by Malyan of Rome, while Lomax, of Thebes, raised the Group II boys high jump record. The records equalled were the Group I girls high jump by H. Taylor, of Troy, and the Group III girls relay race, by Carthage.

Sports Day—September, 1942.

After careful consideration, it was decided to hold the School Sports Day for the School year 1942-43 in September, instead of the following May. The main reason for this change is that the preparations for sports interfere with School cricket arrangements when held in May, but if they are held in September, they coincide with that period when the ground is too hard for rugby and interferes very little with this game. Consequently the Sports Day was held on Tuesday, the 29th of September. The weather was a little dull but did not interfere with the programme. Owing to the reduction in the number of Houses from six to five, the system of scoring for the relay races had to be revised, but for the other events there was no change.

Athens improved on their near miss at the last competition and carried off the Sports Cup for the first time ; Carthage came a close second.

The only existing record touched was the Group II boys 100 yards record which was equalled by Davies, of Carthage.

J. B. FINEAN.

Senior Literary Society.

During the Easter Term, 1942, there were two meetings in addition to rehearsals for "King Lear," the Easter play. These meetings took place during the dinner hour because of the "black-out" and travelling difficulties.

At the first meeting two papers on Thomas Hardy were given by A. Cox and J. Moffatt of the Upper VI. Literary. The first paper discussed Hardy's idyllic novels while the second dealt with his tragic novels. The Upper Sixth especially appreciated these papers as they were studying Hardy for Higher School Certificate.

A dramatic reading from "Pride and Prejudice" was given at the second meeting by the Sixth General, aided by Barnes of the Lower VI.

At the end of the Spring term came the performance of "King Lear," into which both Miss Deeks and the actors had put a great deal of time and study. In spite of the many drawbacks which such a production encounters in wartime, a very creditable performance was given. Outstanding performers were K. P. Disley as Cordelia, and L. Barber as King Lear. Beardsall, who was to have taken the part of the Fool fell a victim to chicken-pox, but Joan Moffatt, who took his place at very short notice, gave a very intelligent rendering. D. Hughes and M. Rorison as Regan and Goneril, and Probert and Barnes as Edgar and Kent also showed that they had understood the characters.

In the Autumn term meetings did not take place until after Sports Day in late September, after which rehearsals began for Barrie's "Quality Street," which was the Christmas play.

At the first meeting D. Evans and S. Wood of the Upper VI. Literary gave two papers on Scott, dealing with his early poetry and his novels. On this occasion Forms V. were well represented in the audience.

The next meeting attracted a very large audience from all the senior forms. The Upper VI. Literary and the Upper VI. Science each provided six members and exchanged questions which they had prepared beforehand. The winning form was the Upper VI. Science.

After Christmas Form V. will present scenes from "As You Like It."

The Easter Play of 1943 is to be Shaw's "Arms and the Man."

The Junior Literary Society.

The ten meetings which were held during the Easter term were successful and entertaining. They included two first form debates and two open debates, and a Brains Trust Session, which proved interesting and amusing. We have some budding Joads and I have heard that some of the members are growing beards. A discussion on recent films was followed by a reading given by members of IIIa of "The Thread of Scarlet." A most enjoyable and crowded meeting was that at which members of IIa gave songs from "Toad of Toad Hall." Credit and many thanks are due to Miss Knowles for making this musical treat possible.

Full members elected at the end of 1942 are:—

Athens: Broadbent, Machin and Green.

Carthage: M. Dale and Plant.

Sparta: M. Richards, B. Waddington, P. Greenwood, and M. Greenwood.

Troy: H. Taylor, I. Sampson and Weston.

The Romans are conspicuous by their absence, but we hope to see some of them in the coming term.

During the Christmas term the Society has heard accounts from our young farmers of the Harvest Camp in Lincolnshire, and is looking forward to more debates and spelling bees.

M.D.

Fiction Library.

The fiction library has been very well supported, financially speaking, during the three terms ending December, 1942, a total of nearly £10 having been contributed in "Library twopences." With this, some 48 books have been bought, but there is still a vast "ragged regiment" clamouring for replacement when funds permit.

Since September, B. Carr, E. Rhodes, D. Banks, V. Thornton and Wade have dealt with the exchange of books. Joan Hinchcliffe of Va has recently been appointed Librarian.

Pupils who have kindly presented books to the Library this year include J. Abson, Holling and Patrick. If anyone else could follow their example, especially Old Students, or those about to leave, it is a gesture which would be much appreciated. Labels on which to inscribe the names of donors have already hopefully been acquired—and, after all, what better "memorial" could there be?

Orchestra.

At the end of the Easter term the Orchestra provided the music for "King Lear" and they are supplying the incidental music for "Quality Street," this term's play.

New members include Cummins, Hardy, Taylor and the total strength of the Orchestra now consists of Miss Knowles, 'cello; Miss Deeks and M. Hawke, piano; violins: Hill, Jones, Thompson, Cummins, Hardy, Taylor, Lightly and M. Williams.

We feel the loss of Evans, as solo violinist, but with practice and care hope to be up to our usual standard by Speech Day.

Art Club.

In Spring, 1941, the Art Club reached its highest attendance and a reasonable amount of work has been done during the year.

Fewer posters were done for Warship Week than for War Weapons Week, but instead the corridors were decorated with models of ships and planes.

A few members of the School entered a competition to design the house in which they would like to live, and Beardsall (Up.VI.L.) was fortunate in having his work commended.

A favourite with many members of the Art Club seems to be lactoid or bakelite work and brooches, buttons, etc., have been made. Some of the girls are doing basket-work this term.

The collection of door panels is steadily growing, adding colour to the corridors. The latest additions are those of Binns (Physics Lab.), Walker, A.P. (Geog.II.) and Margaret Hatfield (E.I.).

House badges are now being designed and plaques are being made in plaster to be used decoratively in the School.

This term, the number of members has had to be limited, but there is a waiting list from which new members will be selected when vacancies occur.

Science Club Notes.

The procedure of the Club has been greatly altered. It has been decided to split the Club into two sections, namely, pupils up to School Certificate standard and those above that standard.

Only one lecture has been given at the lower standard, this was given by Walker, and was on the subject of soap production. However, it is hoped that during spring term such lectures will alternate with those of either standard during dinner hour on Thursdays.

Lectures already given include a series of biological ones, Heredity, Cell Divisions and Enzymes being the subjects chosen. Two other papers given during this term were both of a chemical nature. These were Photography by Stephenson and Catalysis by Finean.

Air Training Corps.

The School Flight of No. 747 Squadron, Air Training Corps, came into existence in February, 1941.

Since that time the Flight has attended two instructional parades each week, and has paid several visits to R.A.F. Stations.

The first batch of uniforms did not arrive until August, 1941, but since that time every cadet has been issued with a uniform as soon as he qualified for it. The arrival of other equipment was very slow, but the Squadron is now in possession of an airframe and an aero-engine, besides signalling, navigational and aircraft recognition equipment.

In November of 1941, several cadets of the School Flight were presented with the first Certificates of Proficiency to be obtained by the Squadron. At Whitsuntide, the following year, several cadets spent a week under canvas at an R.A.F. Station, and most of them were lucky enough to spend some time in the air.

The School Flight has taken part in one Inter-Flight Sports, which it won easily, and the Flight hand-ball team has, as yet, been unbeaten by teams from the other Flights.

Some of the former cadets of the Flight are now serving with the R.A.F., and to these the Flight extends its best wishes. The Flight also wishes to thank F/Lt. Ritchie, F/O Pratt, F/O Norcombe, Miss Henderson, Miss Knowles, Miss Edge and Mr. Wilkinson for their help in instructional classes.

H. METCALF, Up. VI.Sc.

The Girls' Training Corps.

During May a Company of the Girls' Training Corps was formed consisting of three sections, of which one is composed of pupils at present attending the School. Meetings are held twice weekly and besides being taught drill the cadets receive instruction in Morse, First Aid, Hygiene, Dispatch-carrying, and the Handy-woman's course. There have also been talks on Aircraft recognition.

Addresses have been given by the Headmaster (Mr. Ritchie), Miss Deeks, Mrs. Macashill, Miss Edwards-Rees (County Youth Organiser), Mrs. Broadbent, Nurse Lascelles, Nurse McBride, Lieutenant P. Smith, J. B. Smith, Esq., Mr. Norwood, Junior Commandant M. Harrison, W.R.E.N. P. Officer M. Rees, W.A.A.F. Officer P. Duncan, Mrs. Charlton. All of these were on topics of national and public interest.

The enrolment of many of the cadets has already taken place. N.C.O.s have been appointed, the Section Leader being E. M. Rhodes, and the Assistant Section Leader F. Nicholson. It is hoped that the Company will soon gain its official recognition. Provisional Recognition has already been granted.

A concert was held during the summer when songs, dances and recitations were given by the cadets. A major part of the programme was occupied by a play, "The Poison Party," in which cadets M. Rorison, J. Martin, M. Green, J. Hudson, E. Rhodes and E. Harrington took part. After the concert the parents watched Company drill on the Parade Ground.

A recruiting social will take place in December and it is hoped that new members will join the Corps to take the places of those who have had to leave the Company.

The Corps has the backing of the Youth Council which has appointed an Administrative Committee of which Miss Deeks is the Chairman. We have five officers: Miss M. Steer (Commandant); Miss Wilkie (Deputy Commandant); Miss Gibbs (Adjutant); Miss M. D. Steer (Quarter-Master) and Miss Rudolf. We owe our thanks also to Miss Swift, Miss Gilmour, Miss Barlow, Miss Parkin, Miss Fielding and Mr. Lodge for taking classes, and to Miss Edge who was our Commandant for some time.

The Company numbers sixty but we hope to increase the membership.

Scout Notes.

Despite wartime difficulties the annual camp was successfully held in the Lake District. Two cricket matches arranged with a troop camping nearby resulted in one match being won by our troop and the other was won by the other troop. During the camp assistance was given to the local farmer. The "Initiation Ceremony" promised to be the "best ever," but a torrential downpour thoroughly soaked both the "initiated" and the onlookers. Hughes, as "High Priest" at the "Initiation Ceremony" and at the nightly "sing-songs" ably used his histrionic abilities and succeeded in livening up the proceedings generally.

Since the commencement of the autumn term the troop gained second place in a scoutcraft competition at High Melton, for which troops from the district entered.

Members of the troop who attended the Agricultural Camp in Lincolnshire held during October performed valuable work, both in the kitchen and in the fields.

Meetings are held during the dinner-hour every Friday, and the attendance is high. Lack of time unfortunately is a handicap both in badge-work and other scouting activities.

All members of the troop are grateful to Mr. Wilkinson for his work and organisation on behalf of the troop. K.B.

Guide Notes.

The arrangement of the two Companies had to be altered owing to the change in dinner arrangements. The Companies have now settled down and the First Company finds that they have room for new recruits.

The First Company has held one competition in aid of the Baden-Powell Memorial Fund and the Second Company has held several. £2 5s. was raised last term and we hope to raise more this term. The Guides have sold 2,000 seals in aid of the Tuberculosis Relief Fund.

The First Company has held a series of tests on second class work with varying success. They have also held their first Patrol Leaders' Training at Miss Swift's home (Nov. 21). This was a success and was thoroughly enjoyed by those Leaders and Seconds who attended.

Warships Week.

Warships Week was held in Wath during the week March 7—14 of this year.

£90,000 was raised in this period to buy the Minesweeper "Olive." Of this sum £3,584 was realised by the School. This was considerably more than was originally hoped for, the first target being £2,000.

Lieutenant G. Deal (then Sub-Lieutenant) an officer of the "Olive," was a guest in Wath for the week. He visited School twice and gave an interesting account of life aboard a minesweeper. Lieutenant Deal also told of his birthplace, South Africa, and gave some pictures.

Woollen comforts were sent by the Guides to men of the "Olive," and the Old Girls sent "Penguins" to the crew.

Sonnet to the New Year.

No village bells ring out their solemn chime
 To welcome thee : no dance or song
 Mingle in the quiet air the whole night long
 To hasten on the lagging steps of Time.
 Yet in each heart shall hope and faith remain,
 And 'midst the noise of battle and of strife,
 And in the hurried toil of daily life,
 Each hopeful mind glad welcome will retain.
 Then hail, New Year ! O hasten joy and peace.
 'Neath ev'ry roof may blessings soon increase.
 In the wintry light of this all-welcomed dawn
 New hopes arise and greater faith is born
 That when all thoughts of hate shall cease
 Then thou wilt peace and love release.

M. D. EVANS, Upper VI.Lit.

Sonnet to the New Year.

From grieved and shattered homes from shore to shore,
 From hearts oppressed with sorrow and with pain,
 The anguished cry increases evermore—
 Shall goodwill ever rule the world again ?
 Such piteous woe pervades this weary earth,
 A sphere of wearied souls and spirits dim
 Where infants damnéd are from hour of birth—
 Can this dark Chaos be the work of Him ?

But lo ! a joyous call rings through the land,
 As if, from some serene Almighty wand
 New chance shines forth at last, by His command.
 The echoing bells peal out a song of cheer,
 To guide all spirits weak, to banish fear,
 And welcome in, with hope, the glad New Year.

G. PROBERT, Upper VI.Lit.

First Year Competition.

MY FAVOURITE UNCLE.

My favourite uncle is no relation to me, I have never seen him, and don't know where he lives. He is the editor of the "Sunshine Corner" in a Sunday newspaper. One of the reasons I like him is because he arranges competitions every week and I try to do the most neat and correct answer so that I may win a half-crown or a two-shilling piece. About five or six weeks ago there was a competition to see which person could make up a story which contradicted itself every few sentences, and as I am a most impossible essay writer I was lucky and received, a week later, a letter with a postal order for half-a-crown, which I found very useful for buying Christmas presents.

MARGARET COWLEY (Carthage) I.

"Light" Opera.

The entrancing music of the Prelude to Wagner's opera "Lohengrin" is certainly not intended to provide mirth. Nevertheless, it indirectly produced merriment when we heard it broadcast the other evening. My father indulging in reminiscences, recalled the following incident which occurred at a performance of the same opera in Dublin.

One of the chief difficulties in producing opera is the number and variety of props required. The company producing the opera in Dublin could not by any stretch of imagination be called prosperous ; they had consequently to make use of various improvisations.

In the first act the swan on which the Holy Grail descends from heaven should glide gently into the wings while the tenor sings "Farewell, oh swan !" On this occasion the swan remained static to the obvious annoyance of the singer. Despite the scene-shifter's efforts the swan refused to budge. The tenor, a hot-headed Irishman, having prolonged the notes

until his breath was done and his temper frayed, forcibly ejected the bird by kicking it into the wings. The audience, being Irish, were quite equal to enjoying this anti-climax, and settled down to the remainder of the opera as if nothing unusual had happened.

P. CURRAN, U.VI.Lit.

Nightfall.

I see the glorious sun sink in the west
 In radiance serene, while all the world,
 Its labour o'er, is gently lulled to rest,
 And darkening banners of the night unfurled ;
 The lowering clouds speed swiftly o'er the sky
 As if some phantom shepherd drove them on
 In haste beneath the clear unwavering eye
 Of some all-powerful and safe-guiding One.
 A cooling zephyr fans the sultry air
 And murmurs through the leaves. The light of day
 Merged in the beams of Lady Moon so fair,
 Valleys and hills are bathed in silver grey,
 Now nature rests beneath the veil of sleep
 And careful watch o'er all the angels keep.

MARJORIE E. RORISON, Up.VI.Lit.

Austwick.

Imagine a tiny village nestling among the trees with the Pennines as a background. The cattle are grazing in the fields, the mountain streams gurgling over the boulders and everywhere an air of peaceful serenity—this is Austwick.

Austwick is in N.W. Yorkshire, in the heart of the Pennines.

The two chief mountains have very queer names, which are Norber and Moughton. Norber is the taller of the two and, climbing to the top on a clear day one can see the sea which is twenty-five miles away. On Norber there are some very rare rocks which are not found anywhere nearer than Scotland.

Some of the houses are old and white-washed. Roses, jasmine and other pretty climbers grow up their sides and make them look homely. The wild flowers are very beautiful and some really rare ones have been found.

The air is very invigorating and one can walk for miles without feeling at all tired.

Altogether the country is so beautiful that one hates to leave Austwick and come home to the dirty coal-mining villages of Yorkshire.

PAT KILNER, IIa.

Old Students' Notes.

OLD WATHONIANS COMFORTS FUND.

Our activities have not been as numerous this term, yet, we have continued to make a further £11, bringing our total so far to £33 approximately.

Whist Drives have been held by Miss Deeks and Dorothy Green, and Tennis Matches were again held on the School courts on Saturday afternoons—when the weather permitted! An additional Whist Drive was also held in the School Library after the Easter hockey and Rugby matches, and was well attended by both Old Boys and Girls.

A much appreciated donation of £3 3s. od. has been given to us by the Old Boys' Rugby Association, and an equally valuable one of £1 2s. by the School Scouts. Many thanks once again.

All assistance, no matter how small, is always welcome, and we should like to see an even greater number of Old Girls interesting themselves in this effort. If at any time Old Girls find themselves unable to attend Whist Drives, etc., it would always be appreciated if they would send us their subscriptions.

Parcels, supplied by Messrs. Thos. Cook and Son, Ltd., have been sent to the following Old Wathonians now overseas; Lt. J. Bottomley; 2nd-Lieut. C. J. Curran (India); A.C.2 W. J. Clive (M.E.F.); Surgeon-Lieut. M. Hatton (R.N.V.R.); Q.M.S. W. Maddison (Ceylon); Sub Lieut. P. Ellison (R.N.V.R.); C.Q.M.S. R. P. Taylor (Ceylon); Captain C. K. Phillips (India); L.A.C. Cooke (S. Rhodesia); L Cpl. D. Higgins (M.E.F.); L Sgt. T. L. Lloyd (M.E.F.); Sgltmn J. W. Jennings (M.E.F.); L.A.C. L. Dyson (S. Africa); L.A.C. G. K. Hardwick (S. Africa); L.A.C. A. Rance (M.E.F.); L.A.C. R. D. Ridyard; 2nd-Lieut. L. Hudson; R. Law.

While an additional 60 Penguins or similar publications have been sent to the Old Boys in the Home Forces.

We are very pleased to have acknowledgment from Albert Potts, a Prisoner of War in Germany, of the cigarettes we sent him ten months ago through Lady Aberdare's Association. We have not yet heard from the other two recipients.

Hilda Redgate has held a Whist Drive for the Comforts Fund during the Christmas vacation, and we should be glad if other Old Girls would give their aid. Miss Deeks thanks the Old Girls who could not attend her Whist Drives but who sent us subscriptions. She would also be very glad to receive addresses up to date. H. REDGATE, *Hon. Treasurer.*

Marriages.

Theresa Redgate (W.G.S.) to Sub Lieut. R. Smith.
 Hilda Taylor (W.G.S.) to L/Cpl. W. Webster (W.G.S.).
 Margaret Oades (W.G.S.) to Sergt. Fishwick.
 Beryl Blackshaw (W.G.S.) to C. H. Atkin.
 Kathleen Buckley (W.G.S.) to J. Lightley (W.G.S.).
 P. J. Stella Bennett (W.G.S.) to H. W. Stott (W.G.S.).
 Stella Heeley to Sgt. H. Lloyd (W.G.S.).
 Doris Hanson (W.G.S.) to A. Haigh (W.G.S.).
 May Mann (W.G.S.) to D. W. Blackborough.
 Rose Brown to R. Higgs (W.G.S.).
 Adrienne Kilroy to Lieut. G. Peace (W.G.S.).
 Jessie Kenning (W.G.S.) to J. R. Davison.
 Sheila Taylor (W.G.S.) to 2nd Lieut. E. Fitch (W.G.S.).
 Lucy Senior (W.G.S.) to D. G. M. Rankin.
 Margaret Baxter (W.G.S.) to C. Pearson.
 M. R. Roberts to W. Stables (W.G.S.).
 Ethel Rawson (W.G.S.) to G. Stacey.
 Enid Bell to D. Ingham (W.G.S.).
 Marion Dyson (W.G.S.) to W. Shepherd.

Births.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Coultard, a son.
 Mr. and Mrs. J. Morton (Mary Cameron), a son.
 Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Thompson (Nancy M. Midwood), a son.
 Sgt. and Mrs. J. Smith (C. Clark), a daughter.
 Sgt. and Mrs. R. Martin (J. Harrison), a daughter.
 Mr. and Mrs. Williams (Marion Burrows), a daughter.
 Mr. and Mrs. K. Reader, a son.
 Lieut. and Mrs. G. Wainwright (C. S. Andrews), a daughter
 Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Beard (Lila Branham), a daughter.
 Mr. and Mrs. Hammond (Marion Heely), a son.
 Corpl. and Mrs. Pugh (Marian Hames), a daughter.
 Mr. and Mrs. Smith (L. Holyoake), a son.
 Dr. and Mrs. J. Lawson (Muriel Rowley), a son.

Hockey Notes (Old Girls).

This season has not been very enterprising, and not from want of fixtures. It has been increasingly difficult to maintain a full team—of only 11 players!—and often matches have had to be cancelled on this account. Should there be any Old Girls who would like to play hockey, would they please get in touch with Renee Chandler (secretary), 11, Hooper Street, West Melton, as we are anxious to keep a team together if possible.

At the beginning of the season we played against the School XI and lost 1—nil. The second match was against Wickersley, and again we lost, 2—1; after a very promising first half. Our only victory so far has been over Hadfields, whom we beat 5—nil. A further three matches have had to be cancelled.

Obviously our history is not glorious, but the stalwart few intend to struggle on. Perhaps the war has something to do with our lack of players—we hope so, and so console ourselves that when it is over we shall have an A.I. team.

Victoria Falls.

Our visit to the Falls really began about 5.30 in the morning, half an hour before we were due to steam into the paltry deserted "Halt" that takes the name of this great spectacle. For I had been advised to keep an eye cast in the direction of our destination for the half hour preceding our arrival. Sure enough, as we rounded the sweeping curve of a low hill there was the great column of spray ahead of us, looking as it had been predicted to me, like clouds of smoke rising from a spreading forest fire. Lazily they drifted upwards until at a height of several hundred feet they darkened and were wafted away on the morning breeze. "The smoke that thunders," as the natives still call the falls is no misnomer.

After our arrival, which was celebrated immediately with a cold bath and a royal breakfast, we set out from the hotel to explore, to see and hear all. As we stepped out of the Front Porch of the Hotel we were confronted with a really beautiful view. The Hotel is situated high up on ground that rises steeply from the extremity of the first gorge below the Falls. It is over this gorge that the bridge has been built so that we were able to see down the length of this tremendous canyon crowned with the spidery structure of the bridge.

Very soon too we began to feel the spray which was hanging like a mist above us. Then as the sound reached its peak, we saw a glimpse of white through a break in the trees. As we made for the gap the Devil's Cataract surged before us in all its glory. The splendour of the view took precedence over the roar of the waters as we watched the tranquil waters of the Zambezi being hurled over rocks and churned through gulleys until it became a mass of creamy tormented foam hurtling over the brink and falling over three hundred feet into the intervening abyss. As each individual drop sped downwards it seemed to dismember itself and assume the form of a comet shedding a tail of white luminosity in its wake. As it struck the pent-up waters in the depth of the canyon, the spray was hurled forward, only to meet, as we observed from other views, the bare rocky face of the opposing wall. From there it would try to form up in rivulets and minor falls to run into the gorge once more, but the upward currents of air released from the water swept it all up and up till it was hanging in clouds six or seven hundred feet above us. Beauty was added to this awe-inspiring scene by the colour and the abundance of the verdure, a feature which raises the Victoria Falls so far above the level of the other great Waterfalls of the world.

We took the path on our right and moved along into the Rain Forest where we gazed for the first time upon plants which one would associate rather with the Congo than with the drought of Rhodesia. Of course the explanation of the dense undergrowth, the ferns, the creepers and the tall evergreens lay in the mists which continually shrouded them. For this forest extended for a distance of a mile along the edge of the canyon into which the Falls fell. At frequent intervals small paths opened up on our left which led to the rocky edge of the abyss and commanded excellent views of the Falls as they roared out of the placid Zambezi and down the rock face opposite to us. Here too is a singular feature of the Victoria Falls. Nature might have designed them to give the observer the best possible view. The majority of other falls can only be seen from below, here the mile-long race of water can be admired from a mile-long grandstand directly facing it. The fact that one becomes literally soaked to the skin by a combination of everlasting spray and perspiration induced by a temperature of about a hundred degrees in the shade deprives it of nothing of its fascination. Every view had something fresh to offer. The Rainbow Falls, true to name, proffered a scene of dazzling beauty, for although every view of any of

the Falls reflected a Rainbow, none but this one could produce three concentric arcs which far outdid anything that technicolor could do. The Main Falls, rent by rocks and projections on the brink into a series of vertical cascades looked startlingly like three hundred and fifty feet columns rising from the depths of the gulf below to support the face of the mighty cliff.

The following morning we set out early in the direction of the Bridge, approaching it this time along the edge of the first of the zig-zag gorges of the river below the Falls. From many spots along the path it was possible, by hanging on to a tree, to look out beyond the lip and obtain magnificent views along the gorge. The camera completely fails to respond to these views; it can only show to the full the thrashing white foam of the river below while it can only hint at the stark barrenness of the sheer rocky walls and the colour of the verdure that crowns them. We crossed the Bridge, into the territory of Northern Rhodesia and approached the Eastern side of the Falls. It is from this position that one would observe most clearly the difference between the spectacle to be seen in April and that to be seen in August or September. In the former month, nothing would be seen but mist, in the latter a clear view along the face of the Falls would be obtainable but less water is flowing. Since we struck approximately a mean between the two perhaps half a mile of the canyon was clearly visible; the remainder was enveloped in mysterious haze or entirely invisible. This vicinity too is subject to an unceasing shower of spray, so that the luxurious vegetation provided everywhere a frame for the scene beyond. I think that from this vantage point, and from others at intervals down the steps into the depths of the Eastern Cataract, we were witnesses to the nearest approach to complete beauty of landscape, although more majestic sights were to be seen in the afternoon. We retraced our steps a short way and descended by a rocky path into that equatorial jungle known as the Palm Grove. Ducking beneath the dripping branches and the wiry creepers one emerges on to the rocks at the level of the river. And here is the Boiling Pot, where the pent-up waters of the mile-wide river rush viciously through the narrow gorge that is their only outlet and strike once more on the unrelenting rock of an opposing wall. The water recoils to either side, drifts round in two semi-circles and rejoins the main current in a series of eddies and whirlpools, until it eventually finds its exit into the first of the zig-zag gorges of the Zambezi. Here the single span bridge stretches almost above us; from here the length of the gorge extends before the watcher; and on

the right a glimpse of the Main Falls can be obtained between the rocky walls that guard the water's exit.

Our chief desire after lunch was to see the Falls from the Falls; to cross to an island on the very lip and obtain our close-up views. So we took the canoe to Cataract Island and noted with interest how the natives steered well up-stream and then allowed the current to drift them into a shady little creek on the "rear" of the island. Having been informed to "Shout when we come back" our only connection with the mainland departed and we commenced our circular tour. I noticed that everything we saw from here was robbed of the glamour which it had previously attained when clothed in green. We saw Devil's Cataract from a bare rock which overhung it at the point where it approached more to a rapid than a fall, where the waters revealed themselves as stark and merciless, where the roar of the waters actually made it impossible to hold a conversation. We saw from the other extremity of the island the Main Falls toppling vertically downward, piling water on water till it seemed that it must come to an end, but yet it continued. We sat on a shaded rock and watched it, mutely, almost petrified, until, almost overwhelmed, we called for the canoe and returned to a cold drink, dinner and the train to Bulawayo.

REX BARNES, R.A.F.
(From S. Africa).

