

**THE HISTORY OF
WILLIAM HULME'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL
MANCHESTER**

1887 - 1980

BY

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Acknowledgements

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Despite the care and vigilance with which Mr. Lloyd Griffiths, Mr. Williams and Mr. Lowe have read the manuscript, errors and omissions there may well be, for which lack of adequate information available is to some extent responsible. The author hopes these shortcomings will be fully reported and carefully recorded, so that if this book is ever revised and reissued they may be duly rectified.

It would perhaps be unduly optimistic to hope that this book will give its readers a tithe of the pleasure to read it gave the author to write it. However, he trusts that as a record of the activities of the School, with which in one way and another he was connected for nearly fifty years, it will not be found altogether inadequate.

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William Hulme's Coat of Arms

Barry of eight, or and azure, on a canton argent, a chaplet gules proper.

Crest: A lion's head coupled gules on a cap of maintenance (gules turned up ermine) upon the helmet of a gentleman.

Motto: "Fide sed cui vide".

The motto, with its wittily rhyming verbs, can be translated "Trust but mind whom", punning on the founder's surname, which like the place of his family's origin, can still be occasionally heard pronounced as 'whom' to-day.

The canton and chaplet in the heraldic coat were an honourable augmentation granted to Sir William de Hulme, of Hulme, Knight, for his services under the Black Prince in France.

The School Prayer

O Lord, the resurrection and the life of them that believe, to be praised, as well as those that live as in those that are departed: we give thee thanks for William Hulme, of whose bounty this school was founded and endowed, for William Roberts, Edward Donner and others our benefactors, past and present, by whose beneficence we are here maintained for the further attaining of Godliness and learning: beseeching thee to grant that we, well using to thy glory these Thy gifts, may rise again to eternal life with those that are departed in the faith of Christ: through Christ our Lord. Amen.

William Hulme's Pedigree

Lawrence, 3rd son of Robert Hulme of Hulme Co. Lancaster near Stockport d. 1423	=	Margaret, dau and heir of William Buldree of Manchester
Geoffrey Hulme of Manchester d. c.1489	=	Cecilie, dau of William Hulton of Farnworth
Ralph Hulme d. c.1522	= (1479)	Elizabeth, dau of Richard Bexwicke of Manchester
Stephen Hulme d. c.1553	= (1524)	Alice, dau and co-heir of Robert Labrey
Robert Hulme d. 1585	= (?)	Anne, dau and co-heir of Robert Holt of Ashworth
Ralph Hulme d. 1623	= (1593)	Thomasin, dau and co-heir of John Marler
William Hulme d. 1637	= (1630)	Christian, dau of Richard Banaster of Oakenbottom
William Hulme d. 1691	= (1653)	Elizabeth, dau of Ralph Robinson of Kersley
Banaster Hulme d. 1673		

Chapter 1

William Hulme

A History of William Hulme's Grammar School must necessarily begin with some account of the life of the person from whom it derives its name and without whose beneficence it would not have come into existence. William Hulme was born in 1631, probably some time in September or October. There is some uncertainty over the actual day, for it was not until the nineteenth century that births and deaths were registered. He was given the same Christian name as his father whose family had had its roots in the Manchester area for many generations. The first reference to his family goes back to the time of Henry II, when the name of John de Hulme is recorded. Men were then generally named after the place from which they came. The word Hulme is of Scandinavian origin and implies a piece of land slightly above the level of wet or marshy ground and is frequently found as a place name in the Manchester area. Early records of the Hulme family are somewhat fragmentary. However, from the reign of Henry V onwards his descent is clearly established by the pedigree printed on page 1. This he supplied to Sir William Dugdale, Norroy King of Arms, when the latter held his visitation of Manchester in 1664. William Hulme traced his family back to Lawrence Hulme, the third son of Robert Hulme, who died in 1423. Lawrence's grandson, the first Ralph in the pedigree, established the Hulme Chapel in the Collegiate Church of Manchester - the Cathedral of to-day. This chapel, in which William Hulme, his wife and only son Banaster were buried, disappeared when rebuilding took place in 1810. Its site is now known as the Jesus Chapel. This first Ralph Hulme was remotely connected, through his brother-in-law Ralph Bexwicke, with Bishop Oldham the founder of Manchester Grammar School.

William Hulme the elder, the father of the founder of Hulme's charity, was the son of the second Ralph in the pedigree. This Ralph married Thomassin, the daughter and heiress of a John Marler; but disputes arose between them and they separated. The Hulme family seems to have been rather given to marrying wealthy heiresses to landed property and then to quarreling over the division of it, when a death occurred in the family. Ralph's wife outlived him and on December 25th, 1627 made her will, just before her death, in which she complained of the unkind treatment she had received from her husband, her elder son and her daughter. She therefore left all the property in her control to her younger son, John. William, however, being the elder son, succeeded to Broadstone Hall, Reddish, where the family had been established since the fourteenth or fifteenth century. As Broadstone Hall was the Hulme family home, it was often referred to as Hulme Hall. It has, in consequence, frequently been confused with other Hulme Halls, especially the one near the banks of the Irwell, which was at one time possessed by another branch of the family. This one seems to have been sold to the Prestwich family and ultimately to have passed into the ownership of the Duke of Bridgewater, the builder of the canal of that name, only for it to be demolished about 1840.

The Hulme Hall in Reddish should not be confused either with the Manchester University Hall of Residence in Rusholme of that name. When the university was established in Oxford Road, a Hall of Residence for Church of England students was opened in Plymouth Grove. This ran into financial difficulties and the help of the Hulme Trust was solicited. In recognition of the assistance received from the Trust, the building in which it was re-established was given the name of Hulme Hall. Broadstone Hall was still in existence as a farm house earlier this century, but it has now been destroyed. Its memory, however, is still kept alive in the street name of Broadstone Hall Road, Reddish.

William Hulme senior married Christian, the daughter of Richard Banaster of Oakenbottom in May, 1630. The following year she gave birth to a son, who received his father's name, and two years later to a daughter, Catherine. The next year she died and her daughter survived her only one year. Her husband, too, was to die in 1637, but four years later, his son being then only six years old. Before he died William Hulme senior made a settlement of Hulme Hall and his lands in Reddish, Denton and Heaton Norris, together with his property in Withy Grove, Fennell Street, Shude Hill and Tuefields in Manchester and in Ashton to his brother John until William, his son and heir, should come of age. We learn from his will that he not only

possessed 'the house called Hulme in Redich, but another at Outwood in Prestwich and a third called Within Greaves (Withy Grove) Hall in Manchester.

William Hulme senior left '20 shillings to' Master Hulton now minister at Ringley and £5 towards the endowment of the Chapel' there. This chapel had been built in 1625 by one Nathan Walworth, a native of Ringley, near Kearsley, who though he had early in life left that neighbourhood and had risen in the world in the service of the Earls of Pembroke, did not forget the needs of his birthplace. The progress of the erection of this chapel is recorded in the lively and amusing correspondence between Nathan Walworth and his friend Peter Seddon who lived at the Manor House in Ringley and kept a watchful eye on the construction of the chapel on Walworth's behalf. The Rev. William Hulton's predecessor at Ringley, The Rev. John Angier, had had to remove to another parish at Denton as the Puritan doctrines he expounded were not acceptable to his bishop. He, however, established a lasting reputation for himself in his new parish.

Because he had been a more dutiful son, than his elder brother, John, our William Hulme's guardian and uncle, had inherited from his mother lands in Ashton-under-Lyne and elsewhere on her death in 1627. As he died in 1657 without issue, this property seems to have descended to his nephew after all.

About our William Hulme little of significance is definitely known, and there is much contradiction and confusion in such accounts as are extant of him. It has been said that he was brought up at Withy Grove Hall, the family's establishment in Manchester. This building, described as at the Upper End of Shudehill was put up for sale in 1763; but only an outbuilding seems to have survived into this century as 'The Rover's Return Inn'. This building was damaged by fire, lost its licence in 1928 and became an antique shop. It was finally demolished in 1957. It is not impossible that this inn inspired the name of the public house, which is the focal point of the long-running television serial 'Coronation Street' a serial with which H. V. Kershaw (O.H.) was for a long time closely concerned both as writer and producer.

It can be reasonably surmised that William Hulme was educated at Manchester Grammar School, as his family was connected with its founder and had taken some part in its management. According to some accounts he later became one of its feoffees. Whether he was in Manchester when it was besieged by the Royalists in 1642 it is impossible to say. He was fortunate to survive the plague that infected the town in the summer months of 1645, resulting in between seven and eight hundred deaths. He contributed half a crown in 1648 towards the pay of the German mercenary Col. John Rosworm who supervised the defence of Manchester from attack by the Royalists. From school William Hulme went to Brasenose College, Oxford, in 1648-9, like others of his family before him. Oxford had been occupied by the Royal Court, the Government and the Royalist Army in the the first phase of the Civil War, but, by the time William Hulme went up to the university, Oxford was in Parliamentary control. Indeed in 1649 Oliver Cromwell was given an honorary degree at Oxford, and a Parliamentary nominee, Dr. Daniel Greenwood, had been installed as Principal of Brasenose College. William Hulme did not stay on at Oxford to take a degree, but proceeded to Gray's Inn, again like others of his family before him. Such a training was not unusual in those days for a young man who intended to take up the responsibilities of a fairly considerable landowner. He was admitted to Gray's Inn in May, 1650, but as the only reference to him in their records refers to his entry, it may be presumed that he was never called to the Bar. There is some suggestion that he was engaged in business and so increased his fairly considerable estate, but there seems to be no definite evidence to this effect. On Tuesday, August 2nd, 1653 he married Elizabeth, daughter of Ralph Robinson of Kearsley, at Prestwich Parish Church. This marriage brought him the estate and mansion - the largest in Kearsley -where he afterwards lived. The house has now gone; but, like his original home, its memory is still preserved in a street name, Kearsley Hall Road. Five years after the marriage a son was born, who was named Banaster, after his paternal grandmother's maiden name. One presumes the parents were proud of the connection with a family of some distinction in Lancashire history. This only son, however, died in 1673 and there was no heir to the estate.

We have an account of Banaster's death in the "Diaries" of Oliver Heywood (1630-1702) the famous Lancashire nonconformist evangelist. Oliver Heywood was the son-in-law of the Rev. John Angier, former minister of the church at Ringley, which we are told William Hulme attended, to whom reference has already been made. This narrative is worth quoting in full:-

"Banister Hulme (son of my old school fellow, Mr. Will Hulme, now justice of the peace) went to school at

Manchester, tabled at my brother Hultons, had been squabbling with a boy at schoole, came home, complained of his head, vomited before he went to bed, grew worse, his parents were sent for. Doctors came, applyed many things to him, he grew frantick, sung much, could not be held in bed scarce by four lusty men, though but a youth of seventeen years of age. Dr. Anderton and Dr. Chadwick almost martyred him with plaisters, leeches, shaving, clisters, etc, yet confessed they understood not his disease. At last he dyed, was buried at Manchester, September 11, the day of that unpareld flood. He was their only child, extraordinary dear, his mother is almost distracted with excessive grief. His father hath been something debauched, tho of late much reformed, yet exceeding devoted to conformity, the first work he did after he was justice of peace was sending good Mr. Wood to Lancaster jayl for preaching - he hath said of my brother Hulton's house wch is his, that he had rather see it afire than have it hold a conventicle, who knows what this dreadful blow may doe upon my old companion."

Banaster Hulme's death may, of course, have been due to injury, but the limited evidence available also suggests to expert medical opinion that it may have been due to disease rather than injury, the sequence of events being much more suggestive of an infective meningitis than of the results of an injury.

The account raises some other points of interest. 'Tabled at my brother Hultons' suggests that Banaster had boarded at Hulton's house. Hulton was Oliver Heywood's brother-in-law and when Oliver Heywood visited Manchester, as he frequently did, he almost invariably stayed at Hulton's, where it seems religious meetings were held. When Non-conformists were prohibited from worshipping in churches, they formed the habit of gathering, more or less clandestinely, at private houses for that purpose. One is glad to find that, though Oliver Heywood and William Hulme apparently belonged to different persuasions in a time of strong sectarian feeling, natural affection and human sympathy triumphed over such divisions in this tragic case. One must not pay too much attention to Heywood's criticism of William Hulme as having been 'something debauched'. He disapproved of his own grandfather's 'shooting at butts on the Sabbath day in the afternoon,' so his standards were probably as exacting as those of most Puritans of his time. It is difficult, too, not to form the conclusion that Oliver Heywood lent a somewhat over-ready ear to the less edifying stories often current in rural communities, particularly when they concerned those whose convictions differed rather markedly from his own. A final note of his on William Hulme describes him as 'my old companion at school, decayed gentleman, had been justice, was brought to Brother Hultons, buried at Manchester Oct 29. 91. Aged 60.'

Before his son's death William Hulme had secured in 1668 from John Starkie Esquire late of Huntroid, Co. Lancaster, 'the lease of a plott of wast ground in Kersley 50 yards in length and 90 yards in breadth' on which he built subsequently a house and outbuildings, paying the rent and profit from the land and building for the use of the minister of Ringley. He similarly acquired eight acres of waste land on Bolton Moor from the lords of the manor for development, so that the income therefrom might be used to augment the salary of a lecturer at Bolton Parish Church.

William Hulme survived his son eighteen years and was interred with him in the Jesus Chapel of the Cathedral on October 29th, 1691, as Oliver Heywood stated. He was followed there by his wife, Elizabeth, nine years later. He left Joshua Dixon, the parson at Ringley, a bequest so that he should preach a sermon at his funeral. The preaching of a sermon at a funeral seems to have then been a customary practice, replacing the Catholic tradition of saying masses for the repose of the souls of the departed.

We learn from Manchester Court Leet Records that on his uncle's death in 1637 William Hulme became heir to his lands in Manchester and had to do 'suit and service' to the Lord of the manor on account of them. He seems to have been fairly frequently in trouble over the paving of his property in Toad Lane and for keeping his dog unmuzzled. However, he was appointed in 1684 one of the officers 'for preventing forestalling regretting and ingressing of the market' and later that year 'Bylawman for Market Street Lane', two years later 'Market Looker for Come Weights and Measures' - whatever that may have involved.

This is about as much as we know of him; but how little it seems to be, considering the eventful times in which he lived. Born in the early years of Charles I, he lived through the period of the Commonwealth and the reigns of Charles II and James II to die in the early years of William and Mary. He is sometimes referred to as Captain Hulme, but in what army is not apparent. It would be interesting to know if he played any

significant part in the great events of those days, but of such matters we have no knowledge beyond the fact that in 1648 he was listed as a 'sequestered delinquent' (i.e. Royalist) and had to pay a fine on his movable goods, though not on his lands, in consequence and that in 1679 he took the Oath of allegiance to Charles II.

His will, witnessed by Thomas Lever, Thomas Sergeant, Thomas Loe and Martin Dawson was dated October 24th, 1691. By it, he left his property at Kearsley and Outwood and that at Whitefield in Pilkington to his cousin William Baguley upon condition that he paid £10 each from the income thereon to his brother Richard Baguley and his uncles Christopher and Alexander Baguley half-yearly. He was also to allow William Hulme's widow, Elizabeth, to live at Kearsley if she decided to do so, provided she paid him £18 annually. The property at Heaton Norris, Denton, Ashton-under-Lyne, Reddish and Harwood he left to his wife for her life-time on condition that she kept the houses and fences in good repair. After her death annual sums of £10 each were to be paid to his above mentioned relatives from the income derived from this property. None of his money apparently went to any of the Hulme family. Of greater interest to us and relevance to this history is the following paragraph:-

'All the rest and residue of my inheritable lands and hereditaments and the reversion of capital messuages &c', after the decease of the wife, 'to James Chetham of Turton Esq, William Hulme of Davyhulme Esq, and William Baguley and their heirs forever to the intent and purpose that the clear annual rents issues and profits thence arising and growing, over and above charges and reprises shall be paid and distributed to and amongst such four of the poor sort of batchellors of arts that have taken such degree in Brasenose College in Oxford, as from time to time shall resolve to continue and reside there by the space of four years after such a degree taken, equally and proportionably, as the same rents, issues and profits shall annually amount unto, and so to continue to such like four poor batchellors successively for ever from time totime being nominated and approved by the Warden of the Collegiate Church of Manchester, the Rectors of the Parish Churches of Prestwich and Bury in the saidCounty of Lancaster, for the time being, and their successors for ever, my mind and will being that noe such batchellors shall continue to have anything of this my exhibition, but only for the space of four years to be accompted from the time of such degree taken.'

It will be noticed that no intention is expressed limiting the benefit of the Trust to persons native of Lancashire. Nor is there anything in the will to support the contention that the Trust was essentially an Ecclesiastic Trust. The Nominators appointed by the will were in Orders, but having regard to the times and by virtue of their respective offices such persons were an obvious choice for the Testator's purpose. There was no requirement that the Bachelors of Arts should be destined to take Orders, though again having regard to the times, it was quite usual for young, and in particular poor scholars, to become preachers in order to make a living.

Only five days elapsed between the dating of the will and William Hulme's burial, so it may well have been somewhat hurriedly put together, which helps to account for the great controversy to which it afterwards gave rise. It would appear that the Nominators of the Exhibitions themselves felt some doubt as to the proper construction of the Will for on the 5th July, 1692 an enquiry was held to ascertain the description of persons whom the Testator primarily had in mind in the foundation of the Trust. The minute Book of the Trust reveals that the following witnesses recorded their impressions of William Hulme's intentions. They read as follows:-

1. 'I, James Grundy of Bolton in the Moors in the County of Lancaster Batchelor of Physick doe hereby certify that being a neighbour and Phisitian unto William Hulme Esq the Testator for many years and often visiting him especially for two or three years before his death. He in discourse with me gave me this following account of his designe. He said that this County especially this part of it where he lived sent more schollars to the University than any other like county or place but that many that sent their sonns were not able to maintain them in the University any longer than to make them Batchelors of Arts and then such young schollars are necessitated to turn Preachers before they were quallified for that work which is the occasion that we are not so well provided with the orthodox and able ministers as the other Counties. Therefore that he designed a considerable part of his estate towards the maintenance of four such Batchelors of Arts

that were Lancashire Schollars especially of this part of the County where he lived and had not wherewith to maintain themselves any longer in the University and I therefore believe that the omission of the word Lancashire in his instructions for the drawing of his Will was casual and involuntary.

2. I Thomas Sergeant of Pilkington in the County of Lancaster Esq. a near neighbour and intimate acquaintance of the Testator in his lifetime and one of the witnesses to his Will do also hereby certify that for several years before his death at severall times when we have been discoursing concerning the disposing of his estate He did declare to me his designe and Intention to settle his land of Inheritance to the like purpose and upon the like Inducements above mentioned by Doctor Grundy and believe that his reale Intention was those who should partake of this his Charity should be natives of Lancashire if any should be found quallified and therefore made choice of the Warden of Manchester and the two rectors of the next parishes to which he lived and their successors to have the Nomination But the Will being writ in much hast and but a few hours before his death from such Instruceons as came from his mouth at that very time where I was present all the while I verily believe had there been more time for consideraceon he would have explained himself more fully.

3. I Joshua Dixon Clerk and curate of Ringley Chappelle in the Parish of Prestwich and County of Lancaster to which place William Hulme Esq late of Kearsley mostly resorted upon Sundays and Holy days for divine service have often heard him in great compassion say that in his time he had known many Schollars in this part of the country to come out of the University too raw by reason of their Parents Inability to continue them any longer there than to be Batchellors of Arts and that therefore he did designe to settle part of his Estate for the further and better educason of such poor Schollars (and as I always understood him) as were sent to the University from these parts of Lancashire. Therefore I doubt not in the least but verily believe that the Will in which he settled his estate to this purpose not being thus expressed in the matter was occasioned by the hast it was made in and the great Indisposition and deafness that he was then under which admitted not of questions for further instructions and to me (besides what I have heard him say) this was an argument that the said Mr Hulme intended for the benefit of his charity for these parts of the county because he constituted the Warden of Manchester, the Rector of Prestwich and Bury for the time being Nominators of the Schollars who must be presumed best known the merits and Necessities of those in their Neighbourhood.

4. I Robert Seddon of Kearsley in the parish of Dean and the County of Lancaster being a near neighbour and intimately acquainted with William Hulme Esq And often visiting each other have severale times heard him discourse (no other person present) about disposing of his Estate And he did declare that no Relason of his should enjoy it but that he having observed that more Schollars were sent usually from these parts to the University than from any other parts of the Kingdom of like extent but that their parents comonly were not able to maintain them there further than to take their Batchlor of Arts degree And therefore were necessitated to leave the University enter into orders and preach for a livelyhood before they were thoroughly quallified for that work so that their want of a full educacon was a detriment to the Church therefore said he often that his Estate should go towards maintaining such Schollars whose parents liveing in these parts were not able to continue them any longer in the University than to take the aforesaid degree And I always understand that the said Mr. Hulme when he said these parts that he intended these parts of Lancashire And do verily believe that the omission of these words in his Will was accidental.

This Robert Seddon was a relative of Peter Seddon, who was so closely involved in the building of Ringley Chapel to which reference has already been made.

When William Hulme's wife died in July, 1700, she, too, was buried in the Hulme Chapel in the Collegiate Church. She is described in her will, which was dated June 19, 1700, as Elizabeth Hulme of Kersley widow. She left bequests to various members of the Baguley family mentioned in her husband's will amongst others; but the money bequeathed to her during her lifetime reverted to the trustees named in her husband's will.

Amongst her legatees was Alexander Baguley about whom Oliver Heywood relates a curious story in his diary for 1679: 'The parsonage of Aughton near Ormskirk falling vacant there was a great contest for it. Mr Hesketh a papist and a profligate gentleman was the patron, but lost the presentation at cards to Mr Ch

Bannister of Bank near kinsman to Mr Hulm of Broadston Mr Bagaly they obtain it of Mr Bannister by a pretty devise to elude the law agt simony by selling a horse giving 100 li for him, the Bishop would not give institution except the right patron presented young Bagaly, upon which Mr H gave Mr Hesketh 20 guiney peeces. So Bagaly injoys it but preacht not, Mr H kept him, hired one Mr Barak to be curate, Capt Hulme manageth all. At last Mr Brownsorts son sues them at the assizes upon Simony, casts Hulm and Bagaly, having full proof the judge curbs those that pleadeth for them. Brownsort hath got possession, but there's no choyce he living as ill as the other. Oh horrible - souls not only bought, sued for, but won and lost at cards. Lord pitty!

Alexander Baguley, who took his B.A. as a student of Brasenose College, Oxford, in 1672 was, as Oliver Heywood records in this rather obscurely worded and punctuated note, instituted as Rector of Aughton in 1674. He was, however, deprived of the living, which reverted to the King. It was then presented to John Brownsword (presumably the above mentioned 'Brownsort'). Alexander Baguley eventually became Rector of Burton with Coates in Sussex in 1692 and of Up Waltham in 1705. It is to be hoped that he became a more conscientious parson than the somewhat unedifying story of his initiation into clerical office would lead us to expect. If clerical appointments were so lightly disposed of, it is little wonder if, in his latter years, William Hulme was seriously disturbed about the suitability of young graduates for the responsible functions they were destined to undertake.

Before relinquishing the subject of William Hulme and his will perhaps it may be advisable to consider what emotions lead him to leave his property in the way he did. His precise intentions were, as has just been said, obscure to his trustees, for his will, it seems, was probably set down in a hurry. It is clear, however, that he had been long revolving in his mind what he should do with his considerable possessions, as men naturally do in their declining years. He evidently frequently discussed the matter with his friends. What had he at the back of his mind? Why did he want to help 'four poor scholars'? Surely the obvious inference is that having lived through the Commonwealth period and having learnt of the chaos into which the affairs of Church and State had fallen he wanted to do what lay within his power to provide an opportunity for a rising generation of spiritual leaders to be better equipped for their task, more worthy of the trust that was placed in them by the people they were destined to guide.

All who pass through William Hulme's Grammar School are, albeit indirectly, the beneficiaries of his will. Surely, having completed their education, they should then regard themselves as also in some measure his trustees and do whatever lies in their power to see that his intentions are not frustrated and that the objectives at which the wisest of those who administered his legacy set their aim are achieved as far as is humanly possible.

As we examine the somewhat chequered history of the Hulme Trust and the at times rather unfortunate wrangling to which its administration gave rise, it is perhaps as well that we should keep our own interpretation of William Hulme's intentions in mind and consider whether his trustees were faithfully carrying out the duties they had undertaken.

Chapter 2

The Hulme Trust

The annual income of William Hulme's estate, which the original trustees, James Cheetham of Turton, William Hulme of Davyhulme and William Baguley had at their disposal in 1693 was £96 and the four original exhibitioners received £10 each per annum. By the turn of the century the income had risen to double the amount and the value of each exhibition to £40, a not inconsiderable sum in those days. Oliver Goldsmith in his "Deserted Village", published in 1770, had described his village parson as "passing rich on forty pounds a year". The latter part of the eighteenth century was the era of the great inventions that revolutionised the cotton industry and so established the prosperity of Manchester. The value of William Hulme's lands consequently steadily increased. By 1770 the annual income of the Trust had again almost doubled and the four exhibitions were now worth £70 each, so the Trustees felt the existing situation could not be allowed to continue. They therefore applied to Parliament in their perplexity for permission to alter arrangements. They were, in consequence, given power to grant building leases of the lands in their trust for terms not exceeding 99 years. Leave to do this, of course, ultimately resulted only in a further augmentation of their revenues. They were also enabled to increase the number of exhibitions to 10 and their value to £80. A second Act was obtained in 1795, which again increased the number of exhibitions, this time to 15 and their value to £110. However, by 1814 the savings and accumulations from the income of the charity amounted to £23,700 and so a third Act was passed. By this act the Trust was incorporated as a self-perpetuating body and its membership increased to twelve. It was given as its common seal William Hulme's coat of arms. It was empowered again to raise the payments to the exhibitioners up to the limit of £220 each. It was also permitted to award these exhibitions to undergraduates in their thirteenth term and empowered to dispense with the residence of exhibitioners in college for certain terms. It was furthermore allowed to pay a Lecturer in Divinity at Brasenose College a yearly salary of not more than £150 and provide a captive audience for him by making it a condition of the acceptance of exhibitions that the recipients attend his lectures. These alterations, however, did not meet with complete approval. They helped the Trustees with the problem of what to do with their surplus funds; but they did little or nothing to help the people of the Manchester area who were paying their rents to them. These were troubled times in Manchester. 1817 was the year of the March of the Blanketeers and 1819 the year of Peterloo. On the 13th of February, 1821, the Trustees obtained an Order of the Court referring to one of the Masters in Chancery, for his report thereon, a revised scheme for the award of the Exhibitions. Preference was to be given to candidates for Exhibitions who were natives of Lancashire; but in the absence of suitable candidates natives of Cheshire would be considered and those again being wanting, natives of other counties would be eligible. The Master, who adjudicated, objected that there was no reason to presume that the Founder intended to prefer natives of Lancashire and he utterly rejected a further proviso that no candidate be nominated unless he signed a certificate of his intention to enter into Holy Orders on the grounds that it was bad policy to restrict the right of an Exhibitioner to change his mind as to his future career.

In the year 1826 there was an accumulated fund of £42,300 and so the following year a fourth Act was obtained. This gave the Trustees discretion to purchase Advowsons to livings in the Church, provided the Fund was not reduced to below £20,000 and the price paid for any one Advowson did not exceed £7,000. They could also expend any surplus income on the building or alteration of parsonage houses and outbuildings, provided not more than £700 was expended on any one Benefice. This permission to purchase Advowsons - that is to say the right to choose and appoint parsons to benefices, where the previous holder of the office had either retired or deceased - was later to give rise to considerable controversy. There was a steadily increasing feeling, in view of the appalling conditions in which many of the inhabitants of Manchester then lived, that the funds of the Trustees might be better employed.

1832 was the year of the Reform Bill. It was also the year of a cholera epidemic in Manchester, the terrible ravages of which were revealed by the Ancoats physician, Dr. Kay - later to become Sir James Kay -

Shuttleworth and a famous educationist. His book "The Moral and Physical Condition of the Working Class employed in the Cotton Manufacture in Manchester" stirred a number of leading Manchester citizens to form a Statistical Society. The object of this organization was to collect facts and figures to support the case for reform of the dreadful state of social and educational affairs in the locality then prevalent. It was among members of bodies such as this, together with influential non-conformists, that the critics and opponents of the policies pursued by the Hulme Trustees were to be found.

Manchester was still expanding and the worth of William Hulme's lands and property steadily increasing. In 1839 a fifth Act was obtained. By this the Trustees were empowered to augment the endowment of any Benefice purchased; to build, rebuild and enlarge churches and provide funds for their repair; to purchase or build parsonage houses. Whether there was any justification for spending the funds of the Trust in this way is questionable. The aim of the Trustees seems to have been to provide suitable positions for the Hulme Exhibitioners on the expiry of their awards and the termination of their University careers.

This Act also directed that all Trustees appointed in future were to be members of the Church of England. This stipulation was particularly unacceptable to non-conformists. Between 1827 and 1882 the Trust expended no less than £41,000 on the purchase of twenty-eight Advowsons, £11,000 on new buildings and repairs, £12,000 on the purchase of land, or for the endowment of Benefices, making with other disbursements a total cash expenditure of £65,000. The spending of these considerable sums for the advantage of the Established Church and its beneficiaries passed relatively unchecked, though these were times of continuous poverty and suffering for the working-classes of Manchester and the surrounding districts, that resulted there and elsewhere, in the Chartist agitation. Strikes of great violence and riots, quelled only by military intervention, characterised the early middle years of the nineteenth century.

Opposition to the Clerical establishment was steadily mounting. In 1848 Mrs Gaskell, the wife of a Unitarian minister at Cross Street Chapel in Manchester, published "Mary Barton". This novel gave wider exposure to the deplorable conditions in which the poor of Manchester were existing. In the same year John Bright, M.P. for Manchester from 1847 to 1857, whose reputation stood high at that time for the part he had played in obtaining the repeal of the Corn Laws in 1844 and in 1846 and in establishing Free Trade, asked awkward questions in the House of Commons concerning the activities of the Trust. As a result the House ordered a return to be made by the Trustees of the names of those holding Exhibitions at the time, of the Lecturer in Divinity and of the Trustees. This order was complied with; but John Bright was not satisfied, so the matter did not stand there. In 1851 he gave notice and moved an address for a return in tabular form to be made showing the several Advowsons and other Ecclesiastical Benefices purchased by the Trust, giving full particulars. The House made an order for such a return; but the Trustees were legally advised that they could not be compelled to make such a return, so none was made. It was clear, however, by now that the use of the Funds of the Trust for the purchase of Advowsons was bitterly resented in some quarters. It was felt that the rents paid to The Hulme Trustees were not being spent for the advantage of the locality, but were being disbursed for purposes in which the citizens of Manchester had no interest. This resentment was particularly keen as efforts to promote elementary education on non-sectarian lines were being frustrated. In the following year Alderman Alexander Kay, a prominent solicitor, Free Trader and Unitarian, who had been Mayor of Manchester from 1843 to 1845, gave evidence before a Select Committee of the House of Commons on "Manchester and Salford Education", attacking the policy of the Trustees. He advocated that their annual accounts should be produced and be open to the inspection of the people of Manchester, and full particulars of the Trust Funds, Estates and investment in Advowsons supplied. He thought that some part of the surplus income should be applied to educational purposes in Manchester. He followed this up by writing an Open Letter to the Mayor of Manchester, Benjamin Norris, which was published by Longmans in 1854. After critically surveying the history and management of the Trust, he complained that William Hulme's bequest was being misused to improve the position of youthful aristocrats rather than for the benefit of the needy scholars William Hulme had in mind. He wanted the surplus money to be used for the establishment and endowment of a University in Manchester, so that young men, too poor to go to Oxford or Cambridge, should not have to go to London to obtain a degree. Though Owens College had been established in 1850 it had not yet acquired University status and the right to confer degrees.

It would seem that such protests as these were not ineffectual, for in 1853 Parliament passed a Charitable Trusts Act, by which the Charity Commission came into being. This was a body set up to advise, control and oversee the operations of any considerable charity that had been established. Between 1853 and 1869, when the Endowed Schools Act was passed, attempts were made to induce the Trustees to take steps to alter again the terms under which the Trust was administered. On January 11th, 1855, Alderman Kay read a paper to the Manchester Statistical Society, in which, after again giving an exhaustive account of the income and resources of the Hulme Trust, he once more bitterly attacked the manner in which these funds were being disbursed. E. Edwards, the first Public Librarian of Manchester, in "Manchester Worthies and Their Foundations", published in the same year, followed a similar line of argument to that Alderman Kay had pursued.

The Trustees did make an attempt to respond to these criticisms; but their overtures did not meet with the approval of the Charity Commissioners. At a further conference between the Trustees and an Assistant Endowed Schools Commissioner, the latter proposed that the great Educational Charities in Manchester, namely the Manchester Grammar School, Chetham's Hospital and the Hulme Trust should be amalgamated. Hardly surprisingly, this proposal was not accepted. However, a suggestion that a new middle class school for boys and girls in Manchester should be provided by the Trust met with a more favourable reception. Of the idea here put forward the Hulme Grammar School, Manchester, was the eventual outcome.

1871 to 1881 were years of bitter controversy in Manchester over the Trust. In April 1871 a Public Meeting was held in the Town Hall to discuss the way in which Hulme's Charity was then being conducted and to suggest to what better ends its large revenues might be used for the benefit of Manchester. The meeting was addressed by Sir Joseph Heron, the Town Clerk. As a result of the discussion which followed, a committee of leading citizens of Manchester was appointed to campaign for the reform of the Trust.

In 1874 Mr. Alfred Hopkinson, afterwards to become Sir Alfred and Professor of Law and Principal of Owens College, wrote three letters to the Editor of the "Examiner and Times", later published under the title of "Hulme's Charity", in which he drew attention once again to the line of argument Alderman Kay and Mr. Edwards had pursued, urging that the surplus funds of the Trust should be employed for the educational advantage of Manchester, in particular the endowment of a University there. Incidentally we may mention that Professor Hopkinson later became a Governor of the school from 1899 to 1913.

In March 1875 the Charity Commission made proposals for a new scheme, based on one previously propounded by the Hulme Trustees. Negotiations continued and on January 31st, 1877, the Charity Commission issued and published a draft scheme. This met with much criticism from all parties and so it was revised in many details. It was then submitted on July 16th, 1879, to the Lords of the Committee of Her Majesty's Privy Council on Education. Many further objections were raised and further amendments made. Those chiefly concerned in the negotiations were the Trustees, the Nominators and Brasenose College on the one hand and the Committee appointed by the Town's meeting on the other. Manchester and Salford Corporations, Owens College, Manchester Grammar School, Manchester High School for Girls and the Manchester School Board were, however, also involved in the discussions.

The "Manchester Guardian" was highly critical even of this amended scheme. It objected to the Governors having to be members of the Church of England and to the fact that the original Trustees, whose policies it challenged, outnumbered those appointed by public bodies. Of more concern to us and of some interest in view of later developments is the following paragraph from its issue of July 22nd, 1879:

"We wish we could speak hopefully of the scheme for the Hulme Boys' School. This school may be a feeder to the Grammar School, or it may be a rival to it. As a feeder it may do for the Grammar School that which would ensure its stability and double its usefulness; as a rival it may easily cripple the older foundation. In the draft scheme the rivalry was manifest; in the amended scheme it is less glaring, but still exists. In the former the subjects to be taught were substantially the same as those now taught at the Grammar School, with the sole exception that Greek and Natural Science were to be charged as extras. The fees proposed are, of course, much lower. In the amended scheme the subjects remain the same as before, and the only change made is the age up to which pupils are allowed to remain in the school. Before the maximum age was fixed at 17. It is now reduced to 16. This is important, but it is not enough. Greek has no proper place in the course

of a school designed as a feeder to the Grammar School, and a connection between the two schools, which would greatly benefit both, should be established by the means of exhibitions. No such intention appears at least on the face of the scheme, and it is a grave omission. Nothing could be more disastrous to the interests of education in Manchester than any sort of rivalry between its two principal schools. The matter is one which appears to deserve, and will no doubt receive, the active attention of the governing body of the Grammar School".

The Governors of the Manchester Grammar School did oppose the founding of the Hulme School, fearing the effect on their foundation of the competition. The site eventually selected was chosen as being far enough away from the Manchester Grammar School as not seriously to compete with it. This fact is of interest in view of the removal of the Manchester Grammar School approximately fifty years later to new buildings in Fallowfield, thus becoming of their own choice, near neighbours of the Hulme Grammar School.

Eventually in 1881 a scheme was agreed upon for the administration of the Trust. Its existing ecclesiastical commitments remained undisturbed, but membership of the Governors was no longer restricted to members of the Church of England. The Hulme Charity Governors remained responsible for the administration of the Charity. It is from them the School receives its grant. The number of Governors of the Charity had now been increased to 18 to include representatives of Brasenose College, Manchester City Council, Salford, Oldham and Bury Councils, Victoria University, Owens College and Manchester Grammar School. Although at that time Owens College, together with colleges in Liverpool and Leeds, was associated with the Victoria University, it was independently administered. It was not till 1904 that it was incorporated in the Victoria University of Manchester. The management of the Hulme Charity's Real Estates was entrusted to seven of its members, who are designated the Estate Managers. The Estate Managers have from time to time made loans to the School on which the School has to pay interest until it has repaid the sums borrowed.

By a revised distribution of the Trust's funds Owens College and Hulme Hall were further endowed. Other institutions which were created or reorganised were Manchester High School for Girls with its dependent schools at Pendleton and Broughton, the Oldham Hulme Grammar School and the Bury Grammar Schools.

However, the most significant feature of this new scheme, so far as this history is concerned, was that the Governors were empowered to establish a school for boys in or near Manchester to be called the Hulme Grammar School. They were allowed to expend a yearly sum of not less than £1,000 nor more than £1,500 for its maintenance. For the proposed new school a suitable site and buildings to accommodate not less than 300 day scholars was to be provided by the Trust. The Headmaster was to receive a fixed yearly stipend of £150 plus a capitation fee of not less than £2 nor more than £4 a year for each boy attending the school. The tuition fees were to be not less than £5 nor more than £10 for any boy. No boy was to be admitted into the school under the age of seven years. No boy was to remain in the school after the age of sixteen years, though he could stay on till the end of the term in which his birthday occurred, if he received special permission to do so from the Governors on the Headmaster's recommendation. Every applicant had to undergo an examination graduated according to his age, "but it shall never for any boy fall below the following standard, that is to say:- Reading. Writing from Dictation. Sums in the first two simple rules of Arithmetic, with the Multiplication Table." Not a very exacting test! Besides Religious Instruction, the following subjects were to be taught: Reading, Writing and Arithmetic; Geography and History; English Grammar, Composition and Literature; Mathematics; Latin; one or more Foreign European Languages; Natural Science; Drawing and Vocal Music. Greek was an optional extra at the rate of not less than £3 a year for each boy. Any boy who used the laboratory or received special instruction in Natural Science was also to be charged not more than £3 a year. Every year the scholars were to be examined by Examiners appointed by the Governors, and paid by them, but otherwise unconnected with the school, who were to report on the proficiency of the scholars and on the condition of the school, as regards instruction and discipline, as shown by the results of the examination. The Headmaster was to make an annual report to the Governors on the general progress of the school, mentioning the names of any boys whom he deemed worthy of reward. The Governors were empowered to award prizes of books or other suitable rewards to any such boys.

The Scheme provided for Scholarships to be granted involving exemption, total or partial, from the

payment of tuition fees. The recipients were to be known as Foundation Scholars. They could be candidates for admission, or boys already attending the school, depending on the reports of the examiners; but they were not to constitute more than 10 per cent of the boys actually attending the school. In addition the Governors were empowered to apply not less than £150 yearly in maintaining 10 other scholarships, each of the value of £15, to be competed for by boys who had been educated for at least three years at any of the Public Elementary Schools in South-East Lancashire. They were also permitted to expend £300 in maintaining Exhibitions of not less than £20 nor more than £40 tenable at any place of higher education approved by them to boys who had been educated at the school for at least three years.

A site for the school was chosen and purchased from Lord Egerton by the Estates Managers. It lay off Alexandra Road between Alexandra Park and Wilbraham Road. Springbridge Road was then but a rough and dirty lane petering out on the school site. A footpath continued from it passing a stile, through fields enclosed by hedges of hawthorne and dogrose to what is now Wilbraham Road. That road was then merely a rutty cart-track from Chorlton to Fallowfield. The only building visible between the school and Chorlton Railway Station was a farm. Fields surrounded the school on all sides, for Princess Road did not then exist. The call of the corncrake was so common in those days that it was regarded as a nuisance. Some of the fields were very rough and do not appear to have been used as pasture, though the one immediately in front of the school bore a crop of wheat from time to time. Somewhere among the fields was a muddy stream with a rough sort of plank bridge. Early pupils used to challenge one another to jump across this stream, one jumping from either side. The real object seems to have been to have an "accidental" collision in mid-air, as a result of which the loser would fall into the mud and water. The stream was presumably fairly shallow so no great harm was done; but parental complaints caused a stop to be put to this practice.

At that time the site selected was outside the city boundary. This position on the fringe of the built-up area set a limit at first on the numbers attending the school. Communications were bad. Though the railway to the Park Station was opened soon after the school started, electric tramways were still to come and their extension past the school was completed only just before the outbreak of World War I. The school building was to be erected on the North West corner of the ground purchased.

A contemporary account describes the projected new school as "designed to accommodate 400 boys with ample space for playgrounds, gymnasium, cricket fields etc. The principal front of the building will face West, and the projecting entrance porch will open into a staircase hall 20ft by 18ft, from which will be a central flight of eight steps ascending to the main or ground floor. Stairs will descend right and left to the large cloakrooms and lavatories in the basement. There will be a central hall on the ground floor 50ft by 25ft, the height of two storeys. It is to be lined with buff bricks above a dado of green glazed bricks, and lighted entirely from the roof. Leading out of the hall are six classrooms, and also the passage to the playground and lavatories. The classrooms will vary in size from 16ft by 18½ft to 28ft by 21ft. They are all to have plastered walls and boarded dados. Facing West, and on the same floor, are rooms for the Head Master and Assistant Masters, each 21ft by 18½ ft with lavatory etc. attached. A room for the sale of books and a waiting room are in close proximity to the staircase. Ascending the principal staircase, which will be lined with buff bricks, banded with red, the first and second floors are reached. From the landing on the first floor a gallery, with ornamental railing, will run along one side and two ends of the central hall. The gallery will lead to six classrooms similar to those on the ground floor. There will also be two rooms for the drawing department, elementary and advanced, and lavatories as below. The second floor, which occupies the front or western block, is entirely devoted to the chemical department, containing laboratory, lecture room, preparation room, balance room etc. On the ground floor at the North-East corner is the tradesman's entrance, with stairs leading to the kitchen etc in the basement. These comprise a large kitchen, with all arrangements for dining at least 80 boys, a scullery, a larder, storeroom etc. Both the kitchen and heating chamber will have large coal cellars, separated by an area from the main building. The dining hall will be 50ft by 20ft and lined with buff bricks and salt-glazed dado, with a flooring of wood bricks laid on concrete. The boys will enter at the opposite end to the kitchen after descending a staircase near the playground entrance. Red Ruabon bricks only are to be employed for the outside facing, except in the top storey, which is laced with bands of dark buff Ruabon bricks. All jambs, mullions etc of doors and windows and the strings and other features are

pecially moulded in terra cotta from Ruabon. The roofs will be covered with green Westminster slates. The rooms, passages etc. are heated by a system of pipes, with arrangements for admitting fresh air and for carrying off the foul air by flues and trunks in the roof spaces. The drainage has been carefully planned on the most approved principles. The contract, which amounts to £7,780 has been let to Messrs. V. Southern and Sons, builders of Salford, and the work is being executed from the designs and under the superintendence of Mr. A.H. Davies-Colley, A.R.I.B.A., of 48 King Street, Manchester." Except for the transfer of the Science Department to the new Science building in 1926 and a recent long-overdue improvement to the shabby back entrance, this building remained substantially unchanged till after the Second World War.

The Governors of Hulme's Charity met on August 5th, 1886, and appointed a School Committee to manage the affairs of the school. The exact composition of the committee has varied from time to time. It consists partly of members of the Hulme Trust and partly of members of local administrative bodies. The School Committee recommends the appointment of the Head Master to the Governors of the Trust and approves his policy. The day to day running of the school is, of course, in the hands of the Head Master. Mr Thomas Ashton, a cotton manufacturer of Hyde, who had been keenly interested in the reform of the Hulme Trust and in the foundation of the School, was appointed Chairman of the Committee, a position he continued to hold till 1894. Other members included Mr. Herbert Philips, representing the Hulme Trust, who acted as Treasurer, Mr. H.J. Roby, who was appointed by Manchester Grammar School, and Mr. S. Dill by Brasenose College. Dr. J.G. Greenwood, the second Principal of Owens College, represented the Victoria University of Manchester. Although Mr. S. Dill was appointed to represent Brasenose College, he was then the High Master of Manchester Grammar School. He later became Sir Samuel. When he retired, he was replaced as a Governor of the school by his successor Dr. J.E. King. Mr. H.J. Roby was not, as might appear, a member of the staff of Manchester Grammar School. He had, however, formerly been a master at Dulwich College and later a Professor of Jurisprudence at University College, London. Secretaryship of various Commissions of Enquiry into Educational matters had given him valuable administrative experience. Marriage to Miss Maltida Ermen, daughter of the senior partner of the Manchester Sewing Cotton manufacturing firm of Ermen and Engels had, however, resulted in his joining that firm in 1875 and eventually replacing Friedrich Engels as its junior partner. The firm was then renamed as Ermen and Roby. Engels, as his 'Condition of the Working Class in England' indicates, had been more interested in Communist propaganda than in the cotton business and had only remained in the firm so that he could provide for Karl Marx and his family. Mr. Roby became M.P. for S.E. Lancashire in 1890. It was claimed, on his death in 1915, that the coming into existence of the Hulme Grammar School was largely due to his initiative and that he had taken an important part in framing the 1881 scheme under which it was established.

The policy the Committee adopted for the running of the school is clearly indicated in an early statement. "The Committee are of the opinion that the instruction in the Hulme Grammar School should be specially adapted to give a practical training for business life in Manchester. This purpose seems to be clearly indicated by the maximum age being not more than sixteen years and the low scale of fees (not less than £5-5s and not more than £10-10s per annum). The main stress of the school should be directed to Mathematics, Physical Sciences and Modern Languages. At the same time due provision must be made for instruction in Latin, especially for those boys who are proceeding to Owens College and to Medical and Law preliminary examinations."

Eight candidates were invited by the School Committee for interview for the Headmastership. Mr. Joseph Hall, M.A., of Coleraine Academy and Scholar of Queen's College, Belfast was chosen. He was then thirty-two years of age and had been for ten years an Assistant Master at Manchester Grammar School. He was a man of exceptional intellectual attainments, whose considerable scholarship in the early stages of the English language was later acknowledged by the award to him of an honorary Doctorate in Literature by Durham University in 1904. His appointment, together with the presence of the High Master on the School Committee, provided a strong link with the Grammar School in the School's initial stages. The Head Master was to receive a salary of £150 per annum, plus a capitation fee of £2 for every boy admitted. This, as it seems now, rather odd system of remuneration appears to have been inspired by the much debated Victorian system of "Payment by Results".

On September 21st, 1886, the Committee met to authorise Advertisements in the local press announcing the opening of the School in the following January. Applications were invited on behalf of boys aged between seven and fourteen and the fees were fixed at £2:15s a term. About ten Foundation Scholarships carrying exemption from fees were offered and it was stated that in April further Scholarships of the value of £15 would be awarded to boys who had been educated for at least three years at some public Elementary School within the Parliamentary Division of South-East Lancashire. The Entrance Examination was to embrace Reading, Writing, Spelling, Arithmetic, Grammar, Composition, Geography, Latin, French, Euclid and Algebra. The curriculum was as previously indicated with Greek offered as an extra at £1 a term. Prospective parents were circularised to this effect and were further informed that the School Year would be divided into three terms beginning about the middle of January, April and September. Each term would continue thirteen working weeks. The holidays would be about six weeks at Midsummer, four at Christmas, two at Easter and one at Whitsuntide. The School Hours would be from 9 to 12 a.m. and from 2 to 4 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and from 9 a.m. to 1 o'clock on Wednesday and Saturday. The playing-field was then described as being of six acres. The importance of the provision of a playing-field within its own grounds to the School at the outset cannot be overstressed. It was a facility other schools in Manchester then lacked and one for which the present generation of Hulmeians should be grateful, as the area has become so completely built up.

The Committee purposed that not more than 200 scholars should be admitted in the first year and that the total number of scholars should not be increased by more than thirty in each succeeding term and that initially only day scholars would be admitted. The yearly sum to be applied to the School out of the income of the Hulme Foundation was to be £1,000 plus an annual provision of £50 for ordinary repairs and improvements. The Committee, as is the way of such bodies, seems to have over-estimated its financial resources and underestimated the expenses it would have to face.

Chapter 3

Dr. J. Hall

One of the first duties of Mr. Hall as Head Master was to engage a staff. His initial appointments were Mr. R. Holmes, B.A., Scholar of St. John's, Cambridge, to teach Mathematics, Mr. A.D. Hall, M.A., formerly Scholar of Balliol College, Oxford, to teach Natural Sciences, Mr. W. A. Badham, B.A., of St. John's, Cambridge for Modern Languages and Mr. E.K. Brice of the Birmingham School of Art to teach Drawing and Writing. None of these gentlemen received an initial salary of more than £200 a year. The Head Master, himself, shared in the teaching of English and Latin. Mr. A.D. Hall, who was no relation of the Head Master, had, however, been a pupil of his at Manchester Grammar School. He later became in succession, Founder and first Principal of Wye Agricultural College, Director of Rothamsted Experimental Station, Chief Scientific Adviser to the Ministry of Agriculture. By the time he retired in 1939 from being Director of the John Innes Horticultural Institute he was Sir Daniel Hall, K.C.B., F.R.S., Mr. Badham had been the previous year one of the first three ever to take a degree in Mediaeval and Modern Languages at Cambridge. It was there that he had learnt to play lacrosse, which he introduced to the School.

The School opened on January 26th, 1887, with sixty-four boys. Bernard Muth claimed to be the first boy to step over the School threshold. No doubt he was proudly wearing his new School cap of dark navy blue with piping of gold spreading like rays of the sun from a central button on top and a metal replica of William Hulme's crest of a lion's head at the front. His loyal devotion to the School is evidenced by the fact that one of the last of his appearances at the School, before he died in 1965 at the age of 88, was when playing alongside his grandson in the School orchestra! On the first day the boys and masters assembled in the drawing-school (the language-laboratory of the 70's). They were assigned to forms: the First Form (Science), the First Form (Latin), the First Form (French) and the Second Form (French). They dispersed to classrooms leading off the balcony of the central hall, as the ground floor rooms were as yet unfurnished and so not ready for occupation.

The syllabus for the first two terms inevitably covered much the same ground for all the first forms. All were, of course, to take Divinity, which included repetition of Scripture and the Collects. French, based on "Macmillan's First Course" would include grammar and translation probably of the "My gardener's aunt has pens, ink and paper" order. Mathematics, for which the boys were redistributed into sets - another term for classes - according to their mathematical ability, included Arithmetic, Hall and Knight's Algebra and Euclid. Under the heading of English came not only Dictation and Composition, but also the Physical and Commercial Geography of Lancashire and the Outlines of the Geography of the British Isles, together with the first pages of York-Powell's "History of England". The books to be read included Lamb's "Tales from Shakespeare", Addison's "Sir Roger de Coverley Essays" and Scott's "Quentin Durward". Drawing meant largely copying models and casts, though it included geometrical drawing. Specific lessons were devoted to handwriting. Only the Latin First Form studied that language, using Abbott's "Via Latina". All forms did some elementary Science. The syllabus for the Science First was naturally more comprehensive, though even so Physics seems to have been restricted to very basic principles and Chemistry to the study of Oxygen, Hydrogen and Water. It did, however, embrace Huxley's Physiography.

Many of the early pupils of the School seem to have come from the fairly considerable foreign colony, mostly of German origin, that had settled in Manchester - in Whalley Range particularly - in the nineteenth century and made such a notable contribution to its commercial and cultural life. Many of these pupils achieved eminence in the professions they adopted and became outstandingly loyal members of the Old Hulmeians Association and generous benefactors of the School.

Only the day before the School opened the Chairman and the Treasurer of the School Committee appointed Mr. Thomas S. Sykes Secretary of the School. His duties were: to receive the fees, draw up an annual balance sheet, see to the maintenance and repair of the School buildings, keep registers, manage the book-room, superintend the work of the servants and do anything else required of him between the hours of

8.30 a.m. and one o'clock, but he was to stay later if the Head Master required him to do so. One imagines that on the first day he very probably did.

By Midsummer, 1887, the numbers at the School had risen to 84, but it was obvious that the School Committee had over-estimated the demand for places. In an endeavour to improve matters Lord Egerton was approached for permission to erect a notice-board advertising the School at the junction of Wilmslow Road and Wilbraham Road. Lord Egerton did not approve. By Christmas numbers had risen to only 118. The following year the question of advertising the School by fixing notice-boards at railway stations was considered. The Head Master reported in December that though he had spent £12 over the distribution of 3,000 circulars advertising the School in Didsbury, Withington and the neighbouring districts, the numbers were but 185, still below expectations.

However, in 1887, Mr. W.E. Urwick, B.A., had been added to the School staff. Before going to Trinity College, Oxford, he had been educated at Uppingham under Thring, one of the most famous of all English schoolmasters. With his coming he infused something of Thring's inspiration into the newly established Hulme, though his stay was but brief. The impressive first number of "The Hulmeian" was edited and largely written by him. After a stay abroad on leaving Hulme, he became a lecturer at Durham University. He then returned to Manchester as Principal at the Teachers Training College, before joining His Majesty's Inspectorate for Secondary Schools. He was author of the memorandum to the Board of Education, which led to the momentous establishment of the Burnham Committee on Salary Scales. When Mr. Urwick retired he was Chief Inspector of Secondary Schools. Even when he had left the School Staff, he continued his connection with the School by acting as an Examiner, by playing for the Staff against the School at cricket and by singing at Old Hulmeians' concerts. He was succeeded immediately at Hulme by his younger brother, Mr. E.J. Urwick, but his stay at the School was even briefer.

Another early appointment of significance, if also of short duration, was that of Mr. H.V. Oldham, B.A., the son of Thomas Oldham, F.R.S., head of the Geological Survey of India. Educated at Rugby and Jesus College, Oxford, he had been private tutor to the Duc d'Orleans before coming to Hulme. Like Mr. Urwick he left Hulme to study abroad, later to return to Manchester as a lecturer in Geography at Owens College. Eventually he settled in Cambridge, where he became University Reader in Geography and eventually the first Professor of that subject there. He was a pioneer in the teaching of his subject on modern lines and he did much to establish its importance in Hulme's curriculum.

The School had not been long open before a Drill Master was appointed. He was Sergeant Mitchell, a veteran of the Crimean War, described as late of the 8th Hussars and the R.M.C. Sandhurst. He retained his position until 1903. Drill in those days took place in the Hall as it continued to do till the Gymnasium was built in 1926.

A master was also engaged to teach Shorthand, or Phonography as it was then called, thus reinforcing the commercial aspect of the School. He was Mr. Henry Pitman, a younger brother of Sir Isaac Pitman, the inventor of the famous system. He had learned to write Shorthand while a pupil of his elder brother, who was then the local Schoolmaster at Wootton-under-Edge in Gloucestershire. He referred to his experiences in "The Phonetic Journal" of June 23rd, 1888, in these terms. "I have the pleasure of reporting that Phonography has been introduced into another important educational institution in Manchester, the recently erected Hulme Grammar School, near Alexandra Park, one of the largest and best appointed academies in the Country, where I have two classes of intelligent boys, numbering over fifty, who receive two lessons per week. After one month's instruction they are able to write easy sentences in Phonography. The Head Master, Mr. Hall, M.A., is generally present at one of the classes, and two assistant masters attend as students of Phonography." One of these masters proved so apt a pupil that before two years were up he took over the teaching of Shorthand.

We have a fairly complete record of the School and its activities from the earliest years up to 1941 in the little grey-covered booklets, published at first twice yearly, at Christmas and Midsummer, but from 1920 annually only. They give, after some particulars of the School, the names of the Governors and the School Staff, the position of every boy in every major subject, the syllabus covered, and in the summer the list of the prize-winners. Prizes were awarded to the first two boys in every form and the two runners-up were given

certificates. This tradition persisted till World War II, when the absurdity of giving prizes to boys just because they were at the top of the lowest stream became too obvious to ignore. There were special prizes for Mathematics, for which the boys were re-grouped into sets from the beginning of the school.

The booklets for the first six years of the School were bound together in a volume which also included copies of the Entrance Examination Papers and the Programmes for the Athletic Sports, which took place after the Annual Prize-Giving and seem to have generally aroused much greater enthusiasm. The events of the first Athletic Sports comprised of a 600 yards and 300 yards handicap, 100 yards Open and Under 12, 80 yards for the Under 10s, Half Mile, High Jump, Long Jump, Throwing the Cricket Ball and Three Legged Race. Apparently the competitors were distinguished, either in addition to or in the place of numbers, by the varied colours they wore, much in the style of jockeys of today.

From the opening of the School, Cricket, Association Football and Lacrosse had been played with steadily increasing success, under the care of Mr. A.D. Hall and afterwards of Mr. R. Holmes; but both these masters and Mr. Badham, who had introduced lacrosse, soon left the School Staff. The School seems to have early achieved some reputation at football, for on one occasion to make an even game their opponents were composed of five masters, four old boys and two actual members of their school. In the first properly organised season of 1889 Arthur Lowe made the first century in the history of the school cricket in a match against the Deaf and Dumb Schools and was rewarded with a bat which cost thirteen shillings. H.J. Amos, the Vice-Captain, in a match against Norman Road School took nine wickets for one run in the first innings and did the hat-trick in the second. A.G. Baker, the Captain, played for Manchester 1st XI on leaving School, something of a distinction for so young a player. T. Whatmough, an ex-Cheshire County player and Stockport professional, had been appointed coach. One can well imagine the great jubilation there must have been when Whatmough was out first ball when playing for the Masters against the School in July 1891, though the narrator of this event had the charity to admit that the unfortunate professional had been half-stunned by a ball when keeping wicket. It evidently was not his day. To this appointment is due the fact that, right up to the outbreak of World War II, the School groundsman was traditionally referred to as "The Pro", even though, long before then, the holders of that office had never been at any time professional cricketers. Games seem to have been financed, not out of the School revenue, but by subscriptions paid by the boys, supplemented by the proceeds of fund-raising concerts. Early in 1889 a Games Club was formed and a Committee appointed to control its activities. At the outset there seems to have been little enthusiasm for games, which generally took the form of contests between the "Classics" and the "Moderns", or "Patriarchs" - those who had entered the School on the opening day - and "The Rest". The same names recur consistently on the team lists, so do the complaints of the apathy of the rest of the School. Games were not compulsory.

It would seem that in the early days most boys attending the School lived locally, for when the Head Master obtained permission from the School Committee to "open a restaurant" at the School for twenty diners in 1888, the dinners costing not more than a shilling per head, less than that number availed themselves of these facilities and the venture made a loss at first,

The first boy to cycle to school excited the envy of his friends despite the fact that his machine had solid-tired wheels. Evidently his example was soon followed by others for, even though Lord Egerton refused permission for the boys to cycle to school along Wilbraham Road, the Head Master was authorised to have an air passage in the basement under the school building adapted for housing bicycles. This passage, generally referred to as "The Tunnel", was later for many years to double its functions as a rifle range for the Corps.

Most boys, however, necessarily came to school on foot, for there was little public transport in those days. A few, who lived in the Guide Bridge direction, came by train, alighting at the recently opened Alexandra Park Station on the Great Central Line. Their journeys would seem to have been highly eventful and the station-master's existence anything but a sinecure. According to one informant when poker-playing Manchester business men too blatantly discouraged their youthful fellow-travellers' entering their compartment, they retaliated with vociferous games of snap. The warfare continued for a term, but eventually the young Hulmeians broke their elders' spirits and emerged triumphant. 'Civil' warfare then broke out among the victors. Cheeky small boys were laid upon the seats and sat upon, put under the seats and hacked or alternatively hoisted on the rack. The journey concluded with a rugger-scrum charge on the station-master

who punctiliously insisted on seeing the youngsters' season tickets.

At the end of the first complete School year three outside gentlemen were appointed by the Governors to examine the work of the School. They were Mr. Juste of the Colonial Office, Mr. Gee of Owens College and Mr. Morgan of the Birmingham School of Art. In subsequent years the examiners were often former masters of the School. The practice of employing such external examiners seems to have continued for some years till examinations conducted by University Authorities rendered them unnecessary.

In 1891, however, candidates from the School were entered for the first examinations conducted by the Manchester Chamber of Commerce for Junior Students. The older candidates did very well for they secured seven out of the nine Honour Certificates and nineteen Certificates of Proficiency out of the thirty-five awarded. The Head Master, however, in his Speech Day Report commented on the failure of the examiners to "hit the standard, for the papers were such as to give boys of thirteen no chance." By this expression Dr Hall, one imagines, intended to imply that the examiners set an impossibly exacting paper.

In March, 1890, an outbreak of measles occurred at the School involving 22 of the boys and three of the masters, as a result of which the school holidays were extended. Three of the masters, Mr. W.E. Urwick, Mr. R. Holmes and a Mr. C.M. Meade, who had joined the staff the previous year, organised a School party to Port Erin in the Isle of Man, primarily one presumes to complete the recovery of the invalids. Excursions over the cliffs, football and cricket matches on the shore, a paper-chase and boat races were organised; but a few lessons were given daily to ensure that the holiday-makers did not entirely forget the knowledge that had been imparted to them. One is glad to learn these lessons were given free of charge! The arrangements for later expeditions have contained no such penal clause.

This year, with the approval of the Charity Commissioners, the leaving age was raised to 17, so were the fees to £9-9s per annum. Permission for boys to stay on at school after their seventeenth birthday in order to complete their school year seems to have been readily given. The numbers had now gone up to 241, so the School looked in a healthier state numerically at any rate. Its sound condition is reflected in the following extract translated from "*L'Education en Angleterre*", a book written by Max Leclerc, a French educationist, who had come to England in 1890 with a mission to discover what was the secret of English education that enabled the British nation to dominate the world, as it so patently did, in that day. Though he found the English people narrow, ill-informed and philistine, he admitted they had great qualities of physical endurance and immense capacity for undertaking great enterprises. In the course of his investigations he visited a variety of English Schools, Hulme Grammar amongst them. Describing it, he says, "It is a pretty School, quite new, built in a light brick, in the middle of a magnificent field, in a suburb inhabited by middle-class Mancunians. It is a day School for 320 to 360 boys. It has succeeded very well since after three years there are 243 pupils. The Charity Commissioners do not want it to become a school for the aristocracy; but the Head Master wants to raise it to the level of the best Public Schools. The School has an excellent staff, all young and enthusiastic university men. The aim is to give practical preparation for business, but also to prepare for the Universities and the professions." He praises the School for its excellent spirit, of which he had formed a very good impression, and its exercises in the open air, which other schools in the city, lacking a playing-field within their own grounds did not enjoy. The Head Master had told him his chief difficulty was that parents wanted their boys to leave at 14 on the grounds that pupils staying on at School after that age were prejudicing their future careers. Dr Hall was anxious to establish a strong academic and classical tradition, as many grammar schools elsewhere had sunk to the level of mere elementary schools. Monsieur Leclerc, while praising Hulme Grammar School, on the other hand, criticised the bad manners of the pupils of another school in the city of Manchester, which he ascribed to the rough playground games and the fact that two-thirds of the boys lived out of the town and left school as soon as classes for the day were over.

That the School, however, was regarded in some quarters as essentially a training-ground for business employees is revealed by a speech made at the Prize-giving in July, 1890, by the Treasurer of the Governors. We are told "He dwelt upon the value of good spelling to boys intending to enter business. He had recently been enquiring in a large business house as to the direction which a boy's studies should take who was shortly to go into the office. The answer was that he might know history or classics as well as he liked, but the chief thing needed was that he should spell correctly."

The School's emergence from the chrysalis stage is testified by the fact that a School magazine was produced in July 1890, so our records are, from then on, not confined to mere lists of names and we have some indication of the real life of the School, though it must be admitted that some of the early numbers were little more than full accounts of the games played. In an impressive editorial to the first number of "The Hulmeian" the writer draws attention to the fact that some of the first boys to enter the School were "beginning to leave for their working life, carrying School memories with them, and leaving behind them the stamp of their influence. This is the first turning point in the School's history, the beginning of that stream of influence, which the School as long as it exists, will continue to send out into the surrounding world; it is also the foundation of school traditions, for every boy leaves behind him for his successors some contribution to that public spirit which makes the life of the School continuous." The writer goes on to urge the leavers to continue their connection with the School and those that remained to preserve the standards set up by their predecessors. He claimed that the School magazine was not merely a desirable luxury, but had a double purpose to perform, to interest the old in the doings of the new, the new in the doings of the old, to keep within the sphere of its influence all who have at any time been connected with the School.

That this hope that the school leavers would continue their connection with the School was no vague, empty aspiration is evidenced by the fact that after a cricket match between Old boys and the School in June, 1890, a proposal to form an Old Hulmeians Cricket and Football Club was agreed upon. It was put into effect the following October. The Cricket Club, however, did not last very long, as the expense of hiring a ground and making a pitch level enough for cricket proved beyond the resources available at that time. Many of its early members joined the Whalley Range Cricket Club, thus initiating a link between that club and the school that has lasted till this day. The School magazine, however, annually listed outstanding performances by Old Boys in local cricket clubs. It also recorded that C.S. Baker played for Warwickshire in 1905 and succeeding years. In 1907 he made 992 runs for them and topped their batting averages, his highest score being 106. E. Shorrocks, while a master at Taunton School, played for Somerset.

The Football Club, however, was successfully established. A ground near Chorlton-cum-Hardy Railway Station was obtained and a fixture list of friendly matches was arranged. The club colours were a white shirt with a dark blue sash over the left shoulder and a dark blue cap. In 1893 the club was admitted to the Lancashire Amateur League, but after a few seasons it reverted to friendly games. In 1894 a ground was rented on Wilbraham Road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy. The team's early captains included A.R. Lowe, A.G. Baker and H.R. Classen. In 1903 the club rejoined the Lancashire Amateur League, membership of which it retained till 1932. When the School changed over to the Rugby code in that year, the club's recruiting ground came to an end so it was merged with Manchester South-East Football Club. The latter club remained in existence till 1953. It was not till 1895 that the Old Hulmeians Lacrosse Club came into being.

In 1890 a great change came over the School, for only Mr. Brice remained of those masters who had first been appointed to teach at the School. Their places were filled, not by men who regarded a post at Hulme as a "stepping stone to higher things", but by men who devoted their working lives to the service of the School. The first to arrive of these was Mr. J.I. Franklin, a B.A. of London University, who had had some years of experience teaching in private schools before he came to Hulme in January, 1890. He was joined in the September of that year by Mr. E.G.W. Hewlett, M.A., who had been in succession Berkeley Fellow of Owens College, Manchester, and Foundation Scholar in Classics of Trinity College, Cambridge, and by Mr. K.G. Fison, M.A., of the Perse School and Clare College, Cambridge. The following year Mr. J.W. Morley, B.A., of Dulwich College and Pembroke College, Cambridge, and Mr. C.E. Kelsey, M.A., of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, also joined the staff. All these masters spent the whole of their teaching careers at Hulme and had a profound influence on its early progress and fortunes. Mr. Franklin taught mainly English, though in those days that subject embraced History and Geography and the Literature studied was of very limited range. Mr. Kelsey taught Classics, Mr. Morley, Mr. Hewlett and Mr. Fison Modern Languages. The exigencies of the time-table of a then relatively small school frequently required that these masters should teach other subjects than their own specialities. It was said of Mr. Hewlett, in particular, that he could teach any subject and make it appear that it was his own.

Though his stay at the School was relatively short compared to that of the masters mentioned in the last

paragraph, the impact of the Rev. F.E. Brown, M.A., who taught Mathematics at Hulme from 1892 to 1905 was nevertheless considerable. A Scholar of Hertford College, Oxford, he was evidently, like others of his colleagues, an exceptionally gifted teacher and a man who, despite a somewhat austere appearance, inspired deep personal respect, judging by the tributes paid to him by his former pupils. On leaving Hulme, he took up a similar post at King Edward VII School, Sheffield, where he was for a while Second Master, before becoming Headmaster first of Preston Grammar School and then of the Church of England Grammar School, Geelong, Victoria, often described as the "Eton of Australia" and the School of many of Australia's foremost public men. The present Prince of Wales, Prince Charles, was for a time a pupil there, though needless to say that was long after Mr. Brown's days. When he gave up teaching in 1930, Dr. Brown, as he had then become, returned to England. He revisited the School to present the prizes in that year. In his address he recalled that when he first came to the School he was naturally at the bottom of the staff list. What was surprising, however, was that when he left thirteen years later he was still at the foot, convincing evidence of Dr. Hall's ability to retain his staff! Dr. Brown retired to a country living at Preston Bagot in Warwickshire; but had to relinquish it in 1936 owing to ill-health three years before his death. He was succeeded at Hulme by the Rev. J.H. Smith, M.A.

Self-forgetful devotion to the School, like that of the masters just mentioned, was also evinced, but in a sadly different way, by Mr. C.N. Adams, M.A., of Christ's College, Cambridge, who had succeeded Mr. A.D. Hall as Science Master in 1888. He returned to school too soon after a severe cold and died from pneumonia in March 1891, deeply regretted by his many admirers. His widow maintained her interest in the School and later married another master Mr. C.E. Kelsey in July 1895. Mr. Adams was succeeded by the Rev. J.F. Tristram, M.A., B.Sc., of Manchester Grammar School and Merton College, Oxford, whose career at Hulme, like that of the masters mentioned two paragraphs back, also extended till World War I. It was said of Tristram "He was far-seeing and ahead of his time. He actually said (about 1905) 'You must recognize that those so-called Laws of Science are not like the Laws of the Medes and Persians, which in Scripture alter not, they merely serve to explain at the time such facts as we know.'"

In the same month as Mr. Adams died, Mr. W.J. Dorrans was appointed Instructor of Joinery. Woodwork was then an extra and only 26 boys joined the original class. It was taught in a small room half-way down the stairs leading to the original dining-hall. The work done was, it seems, at first, mainly the making of practice joints, though some construction of equipment for the school field, such as a score-board and a scoring-box was to follow. In 1912, soon after the New Hall was built, a new Manual Work classroom was constructed in its basement, where the work done was evidently of a more ambitious character. It should be mentioned in passing that the boys in those days had to supply their own tools.

If at this time there seems to have been little public enthusiasm for purely academic learning, great interest was taken in advancing technical education. A Technical Instruction Act was passed in 1889 enabling County and County Borough Councils to support technical education out of the rates. To enable the School to profit by this, the Head Master, with the Governors' approval, circularised various local authorities inviting them to contribute grants in aid to enable him to appoint an additional Science master at the School, an action which the School's finances would not otherwise permit. Withington was the first authority to respond with an offer of £50 which was later raised to £200. On the strength of this Mr. C.L. Barnes, M.A., of Balliol College, Oxford, was appointed to the staff in January, 1892.

The general inclination of public bodies at that time, however, seems to have been to use their newly acquired powers by providing scholarships to enable promising boys to enter local technical colleges and schools rather than by making much needed grants to schools such as Hulme. In his Speech Day address in July, 1892, Dr. Hall urged the necessity of a good general education as a preparation for special technical instruction. The danger of the moment, he said, was premature specialisation and one-sidedness. The neglect or omission of the literary side in a boy's education was bound to tell in the long run. However, the representative of Manchester Corporation on the School Committee, after distributing the prizes and paying lip-service to Dr. Hall's remarks, revealed the narrow and niggardly attitude of the municipal authorities at that time by saying it would be foolish of them in Manchester to attempt any rivalry in classical literature with the older universities. Their district seemed essentially a scientific or mathematical and mechanical district.

The money which the Technical Instruction Committee of the Corporation had had at its disposal had been distributed in a tentative manner, because they wished to find out where the strength lay and where the weakness was manifest. This year they had spent only half the money they were entitled to call up. They wished to assist the struggling and worthy; not those who did not need it and were corrupted by its reception.

In his Speech Day Report twelve months later Dr. Hall further explained his point of view saying he thought public funds were most usefully employed when brought to bear on the teaching of a subject. Their benefit was then spread over the largest possible number. The influence exerted by the multiplication of scholarships was not entirely good. They stimulated individual ability and brought the industrious to the front, but they tended to import a mercenary spirit and to lower educational motive. They set a false criterion on the merits of a school, and sometimes twisted the lines of teaching into grooves that were educationally wrong. The legitimate business of a school was first and foremost the training of a boy in the use of his faculties, the learning how to acquire knowledge, rather than the actual acquisition, and the part of this training that was based on literature was by far the most important and fruitful for the schoolboy.

Dr. Hall, however, fully appreciated the importance of science, for in his Speech Day address in 1895 he said, referring to Mr. Barnes, "The services of an additional Science and Mathematics master has resulted in so marked an improvement of all our work in these two departments as to cause regret that the example of Withington was not followed by other governing bodies for whose districts the School supplied the advantages of higher education."

In September, 1893, however, "The Manchester Evening Mail" had had this to say, "There can be no doubt there has been wasteful extravagance in connection with the Manchester Corporation, the sums of money which are constantly being thrown away by School Boards is simply appalling. They present their precepts for generally increasing amounts with a smug indifference to the convenience of those who have to meet them, which ought to act as a warning to ratepayers generally. If we mistake not, they voted a large sum of money, not long ago, ostensibly for the promotion of technical education. They apportioned the sum of £500 to £600 to the Withington Local Board for distribution, directing that some £300 of the money be given to the Hulme Grammar School. That money was practically thrown away. The trustees of the Hulme Grammar School receive more money from bequests and endowments than they know what to do with, but the institution stands high in the estimation of some county councillors and in consequence it has £300 thrown at it." One can hardly imagine that the Head Master found this gem of irresponsible and ignorant journalism very acceptable. Its writer was presumably under the fairly widespread delusion, fostered no doubt by the controversy over the Hulme Trust in the previous century, that because the Trust was demonstrably affluent automatically the School was lavishly endowed also, which, as is clearly apparent, was far from the case.

This article in "The Manchester Evening Mail" seems to have had its impact, however, for by 1896 Withington had reduced its grant to £120 and the following year to £80. This course of action was roundly condemned by Professor Wilkins when he presented the Prizes in July of that year - the first time incidentally this function had been performed by anyone other than a member of the School Committee.

As a result of Withington's reducing its grant Mr. Barnes had to leave, much to the School's loss and deep regret. An examination of the accounts of the School up to that time reveals that the income from all sources barely covered expenditure, leaving no margin for building up a fund to finance future development. The income of the Hulme Trustees at that time may have been considerably in excess of its commitments: that of the School certainly was not. One is glad to add that Withington later increased its grant to £150 and that Mr. Barnes' connection with the School was continued in some measure by his appointment for several years as examiner.

From 1891 onwards for some years numbers at the School were fairly consistently around 250. The School was now organised on the following basis. Entrants were divided into Latin and French forms in which they continued for the first three years. Thereafter they were divided into Science, Classics and Modern Language Forms, the Scientists being by far the most numerous and the Modern Linguists second. Only a small number of boys opted for Classics. It is noticeable, too, that relatively few boys stayed on into the fifth forms, which first came into existence in 1893, and that the size of the forms varied considerably.

Problems of finance were not the Head Master's only ones. He felt that the burden of teaching that fell upon him interfered with his general direction and supervision of the School. It seems obvious that the suggestion had been made to him that Greek, which with Spanish was an optional subject, should be dropped from the curriculum. Some parents, apparently even questioned the teaching of French. Dr. Hall's statement to the Governors on the problems of the School in May 1894 seems worth quoting fairly fully for the insight it gives into his vision and how he shaped the future of the School. "I feel convinced that no real relief would come from the abandonment of any subject at present taught in the School and that no subject is taught which is not necessary to the success of the School in such a neighbourhood as that in which it is placed. It is true that the provision for the teaching of Greek adds three hours to my class work. But the abandonment of Greek would mean a loss of fifty boys to the School, for it would turn away a large class of parents who send their boys with no definite idea as to their future, but with the vague intention of allowing them to proceed to a place of higher education if they do well at School. Now just as a substantial increase in the number of boys attending the School would simplify the problem of organisation, so any considerable decrease would greatly complicate it. I therefore deprecate very strongly any narrowing of the curriculum. I would recommend rather that the extra fee for Greek be done away with. The subject might then be taught regularly to a whole form instead of to a selection of the boys as at present.

"The urgent want of the School is an additional master, not merely to take over ten hours of my class work, but also to divide the higher Modern Language work so as to make the teaching of French and German satisfactory. It is impossible in a school of 260 boys limited by a leaving age of seventeen to get large forms at the top with fairly level acquirements. The higher forms on the Modern side have to be taught in divisions and the progress of the best boys is greatly retarded. An extension of the leaving age to eighteen or nineteen would greatly help. It would not only increase the number of boys in the higher Modern forms and send more to places of higher education, but it would beneficially affect the general leaving age of the whole side and the School."

As a result of this, an appeal was made to the Governors of Hulme's Charity to increase their grant. Points the Head Master made are worth quoting. After mentioning that the average salary of the nine whole time assistant masters was only £190 per annum, he went on to say, "There are three courses which naturally suggest themselves - first, economy on the present expenditure; second, an increase of the School fee, with some modification of the scheme to correspond; and third, an increase in the endowment of the School.

"In the first case, no economy on the present expenditure is possible. The incidental expenses are managed with rigid economy. The initial salaries paid at present are small, and the possible increase such that the services of a good master cannot be retained beyond the time when he has gained a fair experience. Now there is nothing so hurtful to the smooth and efficient working of a school as frequent changes of staff, but this with our present income we must submit to. I say this, merely to show that no curtailment of salaries is possible, but rather that more money is wanted for the proper maintenance of the present staff.

"The present fee of nine guineas might be raised to ten guineas for all boys entering the School on and after September next. The advantages gained by this course would in some measure be discounted by a considerable falling off in numbers and it seems an inopportune moment to raise the cost of secondary education when elementary education is being improved, cheapened and brought into direct competition with it. The change would certainly cut off from the advantages of the School a class of boys I should be very sorry to lose, I mean the sons of clerks and employees living in Moss Side and some parts of Chorlton, who even now have to make an effort to send their sons to school."

Dr. Hall then proposed a reduction in the number of scholarships for boys from elementary schools. He said, "The quality of the candidates has only been second rate and the competition has steadily declined. It has no doubt been good for the holders of these scholarships that they have been able to avail themselves of the education offered at this school, but I think we should not continue to pay them for coming. Not one parent in ten needs the money."

He suggested there was another way of meeting the difficulty, namely a direct increase in the endowment. He proposed that the fee chargeable for Greek should be abolished; the subject could then be taught in the ordinary routine and that the leaving age should be raised to eighteen. This latter change would not only

make the School more useful to the district, but would help materially in its internal management by giving him the support and influence of a few older boys.

Though there seem to have been some objections to Dr. Hall's proposals by the University representative on the Committee who disliked the idea of curtailing leaving Exhibitions and of raising the status of the School, the School Committee recommended to the Governors of the Trust that the endowment of the School should be increased.

From the above statement it is apparent that by this time there had been a complete move away from the original concept of the School being a mere training-ground for business, which boys left on their sixteenth birthday at the latest. Dr. Hall had early realised the quality of the best boys the School was receiving and so had engaged masters of considerable intellectual ability to teach them and develop their full potential. It must have been galling for him when promising boys were compelled by the statutes of the School to leave and complete their school education elsewhere, when he felt fully confident that his own staff were quite competent to give them the tuition they needed.

The mental calibre of the best boys is revealed by F.M. Saxelby who gained First Class Honours in B.Sc. Mathematics at Victoria University, Manchester, a University prize of £25 and a sizarship at St. John's College, Cambridge. He was the first Old Hulmeian to graduate. The second was G.P. Varley, who also obtained a First Class Honours degree at Manchester, this time in Chemistry, as a result of which he obtained an honorary fellowship and a research studentship.

The impression one gains from the early numbers of the School magazine and other sources is of a young school abounding in life and vitality. In December, 1891, a "Hulme Grammar School Society" was founded "to improve the general knowledge of its members." It met on Monday afternoons after school in the winter and spring terms. One third of the meetings were devoted to discussions and two-thirds to the reading of essays. It was apparently soon re-named "The Hulme Grammar School Literary Society". It is interesting to notice that at its third meeting S.W. Saxelby, the brother of the F.M. Saxelby just mentioned, read a paper on "Cambridge University", which was followed by one on "Oxford University" by J.R.P. Sclater, who elected in the event to go up to Emmanuel College, Cambridge, there to row in the college boat and eventually to become Secretary and President of the University Union. Others who took part in the "rather lengthy discussion" which followed were S.A. Guest, who later went up to Caius College, Cambridge, and was the first Old Hulmeian to be called to the Bar, and his brother L.H. Guest, who, after qualifying as a doctor at Manchester, eventually became a Member of Parliament and finally Lord Haden-Guest.

One regrets to have to add that by 1898 the Literary Society had ceased to exist, though it was revived in 1904 as "The Union Society", inspired possibly by the election of another Hulmeian E. Macfadyen - later to become an M.P. and Sir Eric - to the Presidency of the Oxford Union in 1902. It was probably spurred on, too, by an article in "The Hulmeian" by a Cambridge Old Hulmeian in which he expressed surprise that there was no debating society in the School. This new society was put in the charge of Mr. F.S. Salisbury, M.A., who had joined the School staff in that year. For some odd reason he was known as "Squib". When he left in 1909, the Society lapsed. It was revived in 1911, but again lapsed in 1914 with the outbreak of war. After teaching abroad for some years Mr. Salisbury returned to England in 1916 and rejoined the School staff. A keen botanist, he contributed two very learned articles to "The Hulmeian" on the seemingly unpromising subject of "Winter Plants and Summer Plants on the School Field". However, he left again in 1917 to go to Berkhamstead School.

Out of a discussion at a Committee meeting of the Literary Society developed the establishment of a School Library in January 1894. It is interesting to notice this seems to have been a spontaneous initiative of the boys themselves and to have been largely run by them as a private society, financed by subscriptions from the members, reinforced by contributions of money or books from the staff. It began with 300 books and 70 members. It was essentially a school club, not an official provision of the School Committee, though it must be admitted it had been originally inspired by a remark in the Head Master's Speech Day report, dwelling on the need for a library, followed up by an Editorial appeal in "The Hulmeian". This library consisted mainly of works of fiction. A start was made in 1911 to remedy the long-felt want of a Reference Library for the use of boys in the Upper Forms. A number of books including the "Encyclopedia Britannica" were placed in Room

10, the Sixth Form Class-room. The initial stock was regularly added to by donations from parents, boys and staff. Sir Edward Donner, who had become a Governor of the School in 1905, generously subscribed £10, the purchasing power of which was then far greater than it is today.

When a Chess Club, whose activities also included Draughts, came to an end after but a few years' existence in 1894, its funds were handed over to the library. The criticism had been levelled at it that it drew too many boys away from the games outside. We read frequent complaints of lack of interest in games from the Head Master on Speech Days and in comments in "The Hulmeian".

Interest in Lacrosse may have temporarily flagged with the departure of Mr. Badham, who had introduced the game into the School; but it soon revived. In 1894 the School won the North of England School Flags, defeating Liverpool Institute 26-1 in the Final. There was a break in 1895, but in the three years thereafter the School team was invariably victorious in the Final and so won the flags outright. There is a photograph of the victorious team in 1898. The general design of their 'crosses' is in striking contrast with those of the present time. The team mostly wore knickerbockers and long stockings with ordinary boots. Few wore gloves. On their navy blue jerseys was a diagonal gold stripe, which could in those days apparently run either left to right or right to left indifferently. The minority who wore it from the left shoulder were, it would seem, unaware of its heraldic significance and that they were thereby laying themselves open to most contemptuous abuse. Their jerseys also displayed a badge of crossed flags. Some wore school caps, none had regulation 'crosse caps such as were worn for most of this century till replaced by helmets.

Football was played against other schools and clubs. If clubs were the opponents, masters were sometimes included in the team. At first the School played Manchester Grammar School's 2nd. XI; but, when the school leaving age was raised, they were able to face their first team on fairly even terms. Membership of the first team in the winter games was recognized by the award of colours caps of navy blue velvet with small shields of white enamel with the Hulme lion's head in red upon them. Outstandingly proficient lacrosse players received honours caps with the Hulme lion's head embroidered in gold thread at the front and a gold tassel hanging from the top of the cap.

Cricket alone was played in the summer term with general enthusiasm and a fair measure of success. Exceptional performances were rewarded by the presentation of a cricket-ball for a hat-trick, a bat or a pair of pads for an outstanding score. Consistent good play was acknowledged by the bestowal of white caps with the Hulme lion's head embroidered in red at the front. The first XI's cap bore a pale blue piping at the back: the second XI's piping was red. When caps were awarded to the under 14 XI they were also white, but without distinctive piping. If there was any apathy over games at that time it was not shown by the teams.

The Athletic Sports, which took place after the Prize Giving, seem to have aroused greater enthusiasm, though that varied from year to year. It was stimulated no doubt by the prizes given and the gift of a silver Challenge Cup by the Misses Gaskell, the daughters of Mrs. E.C. Gaskell, the famous novelist, in 1891, still the major award in the School's Athletic Sports. It was first awarded in 1892, when it was won by S.W. Saxelby, who won both the high jump and the long jump, the 100 yards and the throwing the cricket ball. Mr. Bryce, the drawing-master, designed the silver and bronze medals for the open events.

The state of the ground in those early days must have left a good deal to be desired. We read from time to time complaints about its unevenness and of the Head Master being given grants towards the expenses of levelling it. One must remember that in those days such work had to be carried out without the aid of such modern facilities as motorised tractors, mechanical extractors and earth removers. We are told, however, that in 1894 the work of relaying the first cricket ground was progressing rapidly. Three new rollers had been used on the field that season. Of these the first was found to be cracked, the second met with a serious accident getting off the lorry, but the third survived the season. It weighed about two tons when filled with water and worked wonders on the ground. It was literally drawn by horse-power, if not by human muscle alone. The editorial of the July, 1896, issue of "The Hulmeian", commenting on the progress achieved, says, "So far about two-fifths of the surface have been improved and the cost has been defrayed by grants by the Governors and by liberal donations from a few friends of the School, but it is evident that a broader measure of support must be secured if the present somewhat slow rate of progress is to be quickened and the work done in reasonable time. An appeal has therefore been issued to parents of present boys and other friends for

assistance in the completion of this work. About £500 will, it is expected, be required to level and relay the rest of the field, and nearly half that amount has already been subscribed". To this fund the Head Master contributed £50.

Though the School did not have its own swimming pool till 1966, from the outset boys were encouraged to learn to swim. Annual Swimming Sports and Life-saving Competitions were held generally at the Leaf Street Baths, near the centre of the City. Swimming Instructors were engaged and special swimming classes for boys from the School were held from 1904 onwards. One of those who learnt to swim in those classes was P. Courtman, who became 200 yards breast-stroke champion of England in 1907, an honour he held again in 1908-9 and 1912-3. He also held the World's record for the stroke for 400 and 500 metres and represented Great Britain at the Olympic Games in 1908 and 1912. He contributed to "Swimming" by Champions of the World published in 1915. His outstandingly successful career as a swimmer came, alas, to an end with his death in action in June 1917. Enthusiasm for competitive swimming in the School was further encouraged by the presentation of a Challenge Cup for that sport by Lady Mather in that year.

That the School was not wholly engrossed in its own activities and indifferent to the welfare of others is shown by "The Hulmeian" of April, 1893, in which appeals are made to the School by the editor and by the Head Master to support the Hulme Lads' Club which had been established in Mulberry Street, Hulme, by Mr. Alexander Devine the year before the School opened, for poor boys living in that neighbourhood. In that issue of the magazine there is a full account of a visit to the Club, giving a comprehensive description of its activities. The first collection amounted only to some £11, but one must bear in mind the size of the School, the value of money then and its own pressing needs. The second collection the following year produced roughly the same amount, but the year after the total would have declined had not the Head Master and Staff generously put their hands in their pockets. The club moved in 1894 from its original quarters and amalgamated with the larger and better equipped Proctor Gymnasium in Silver Street. There the boys did exercises on the horizontal and parallel bars, vaulting-horse, rings and ladders. We are told "Some of the boys are without shoes or stockings for boots are not allowed. They are too poor to buy shoes and their mothers do not approve of their wearing holes in their stockings." Mr. J.W. Morley joined the Committee of the Club in 1894 and undertook responsibility for organising the School collection. Two years later Collecting Cards were issued for the first time, as a result of which the collection almost trebled in amount. When boys left School they generally continued to take an interest in the Club. Prominent among them in the early days of the School was H.S. Wihl, who was active in the Club from 1909 onwards. For many years he was on the Committee, finally becoming its chairman in 1958. Other active supporters included H.E. and M.J. Walker and G.N.E. Gilliat, who acted for many years as its treasurer. However, when the Hulme Lads' Club is mentioned, the first name that comes to mind is inevitably that of Harry Hough, who was an active worker for the Club for over half a century and its Secretary for forty years. The close connection between the Club, the School and the Old Hulmeians would not have persisted without his selfless devotion to the duties he had undertaken.

In 1895 the Old Hulmeians Lacrosse Club came into being. Though Lacrosse was but a minority game at the School till 1932, the Old Boys' Lacrosse Section was successful from the outset. At first it shared a ground with the Football Club. Its colours were the same as those of the School, a happy tradition that still persists. In its first season it was top of the Fourth Division. Two seasons later the first team won all but four of its games in the Third Division and so promotion to the Second Division, where it remained till the turn of the century.

In the following year a School Orchestral Society was formed, but it does not seem to have lasted long. It consisted exclusively of players of stringed instruments, all violins apart from one viola and one 'cello. The School had early acquired an American Organ and concerts had been held to raise funds for the games by both the School and the Old Boys; but these consisted generally of vocal music and solo performances on the piano or the violin. However, one of the boys, C.S. Baker, had a good enough voice to be invited in successive years to sing a leading part in performances of "Elijah" by the Hallé Choir. His brother A.G. Baker seems to have been the mainstay of the orchestra, both while at school and afterwards. Both brothers were, incidentally, outstanding cricketers.

Other activities at the School at that time included a Photographic Club. Meetings were held fortnightly and a darkroom was fitted up in the chemical laboratory. Fixing solution was free to members who paid a sixpence entrance fee and sixpence a term subscription; but they had to pay for their own developer. At its fifth meeting, Mr. Dorrans, the woodwork master, gave a talk on "How to make a hand camera". An exhibition was held which included a demonstration of how to take an indoor photograph with the use of a flashlight, then an innovation. By 1901, however, amateur photography had become more widespread and snapshots could be taken with hand cameras without the necessity of a long exposure. Photography had become so popular that photographers were not allowed inside the ropes at the Athletic Sports except by special permission. The club, however, had only a brief existence, though it was revived in 1917 as an offshoot of the Natural History Society and again in more recent times.

In December 1897 the first dramatic performance at the School took place. An adaptation of F. Anstey's "Vice Versa", it was given during the afternoon. A stage was contrived for the occasion in the School Hall by Mr. Dorrans and his assistants, the School flag forming part of the proscenium decoration. The scenery was designed by Mr. Brice. We are told Mr. Tristram acted as stage manager and we presume he also was producer. The account of the event in the magazine says the performance was arranged at very short notice and therefore only boys were present at it. It seems as if it was a somewhat unsophisticated affair, but at any rate it was a beginning of what has been an outstanding aspect of the School's life. The first performance of a play witnessed by parents and friends as well as the boys was "Fitzmythe of Fitzmythe Hall", given at a School concert in May, 1899.

It is sad to relate that B. Robinson, who is reported as having given an outstanding performance in "Vice Versa" met his death shortly afterwards when climbing the railings that surrounded the School grounds to recover a ball. He impaled himself on a spike and injured himself so severely that he died in consequence. His death was deeply regretted as he was a very prominent and very promising boy. The School was exonerated from blame at the inquest which followed; but the spikes were removed to prevent a recurrence of the accident.

At Speech Day in 1897 the Head Master reviewed the first ten years of the School's life. The numbers, he said, had risen from 64 to upwards of 250, which was nearly the capacity of the buildings. The staff had grown from five to eleven. Sixth Forms were badly needed with a higher leaving age to justify them. It was not, however, till 1909 that Sixth Forms were included in the School lists. Dr. Hall continued to say that a considerable portion of the School field had been made fit, though he wished the field could be made larger, for with the welcome increased interest in games the existing ground was crowded on half-holidays. He was still not wholly satisfied with attendances at games and wished they could be made compulsory, for he fully shared the widespread belief in the value of games in character-building and training in leadership. We learn from "The Hulmeian", however, that more than sixty per cent of the boys in the School played cricket regularly on half-holidays.

We also learn from "The Hulmeian" that in 1898 football shirts were available for all. They were in the style of jester's motley, half of yellow and half of blue. Hitherto they had been worn only by the first team. Two years later blazers were introduced for the first time. They were of dark navy blue and had William Hulme's coat of arms on their pockets. We are told that cricket flannels could be ordered at the office. We may, however, be inclined to smile at the remark made in the School magazine that "Cricket flannels not only improve the look of the field, but also one's personal appearance and skill in the noble game itself." Before many years elapsed it was quite unthinkable for anyone to appear in any other garb than cricket flannels.

The wish that the field could be enlarged was fulfilled earlier than Dr. Hall probably anticipated, for in February, 1899, the School received a legacy from Mr. William Roberts of Whalley Range of £2,000, which Dr. Hall, with commendable vision, persuaded the Governors to employ in enlarging the School field. Mr. Roberts's generosity was prompted by a Mr. Green, a friend of his, all of whose nine sons at one time or another attended the School. The eldest was one of the first boys to enter the School: the youngest left in 1907, twenty years later. Lord Egerton was approached with a view to the purchase of a further portion of his land. He asked £4000 for it. As a result the approval of the Charity Commissioners was sought for the purchase of the additional field out of capital. The Charity Commissioners, however, refused to authorise this

and suggested that the field should be purchased by the Hulme Estates Managers and let to the School at a rent equivalent to 4% of the amount required to cover the purchase money, costs and expenses necessary to adapt the land to the proposed purpose. This new portion of the field was known for some years as "the Roberts piece". In this year the functions of the Charity Commissioners as regarded education were taken over by the Board of Education.

The School Committee recommended to the Governors of the Hulme Trust that the proposal of the Charity Commissioners be adopted and further, having regard to the growing expenses of the School, more particularly in the matter of repairs, the endowment of the School should be increased to £1,500, in addition to the £50 already allowed for repairs, so as to provide rent for the playing-field.

Fortunately the Hulme Trustees did agree to raise their grant in 1902 and the additional four or five acres of ground were purchased; but paying a rent for the ground to the Estate Trustees threatened to be a millstone round the School's neck. The new plot was to the east of the existing ground and extended to the projected continuation of Princess Road, which in those days ended shortly after Claremont Road. As the new field was on a lower level than the old one, plans to level out the whole ground were immediately initiated; but it was many years before the work was finally completed.

That year Lancashire County Council also made a useful grant of £120, which was expended on apparatus for the lecture theatre, laboratories, workshop and drawing-school; but these were only comparatively minor acquisitions. In his Speech Day Report for 1902 the Head Master said the School needed a suitable Assembly Hall, a Swimming Bath and a Gymnasium. Only the first of these objectives was achieved during his tenure of office. At that Prize-giving a special award for History was presented for the first time by Mr. T.H. Davies-Colley, the elder son of the School Committee's first Clerk and at that time Chairman of the Hulme Lads' Club. The Head Master wished that there were many such awards to encourage interest in other subjects lying somewhat outside the ordinary curriculum, such as the study of Early English Literature - a subject in which he had a strong personal interest, though he did not say so - and Modern Literature generally. The School did not then possess a single foundation for the award of prizes; but he felt that the erroneous idea that the School was well off was the cause of this. The hint was evidently taken for a few years later similar prizes were presented by former pupils of the School. Mr. H.H. Vlies presented a prize for Modern Languages, Messrs. C.G. and F. Dehn awards for Classics and History respectively. Despite the lack of an adequate Reference Library to which Dr. Hall also referred, the teaching of Modern Languages was obviously flourishing. The examiner that year commented very favourably on the fact that, dissatisfied with the slow progress made in French and German by the traditional method of translation, the School had adopted the then revolutionary technique of teaching by the direct and exclusive use of the foreign tongue in the lowest forms. The prize-giver that year, underlining the need for improvement in Modern Language teaching in England, pointed out that, though England did twice as much trade with China as her closest competitor, there was at that time only one university in the whole of the United Kingdom where Chinese was studied. Increasing British involvement in China was illustrated by the fact that a steady procession of Old Hulmeians were going out there. L.P. Juppe had been sent out as Manager to S. Moultrie and Co. He was a volunteer in the Canton Expedition of 1900 and was blockaded in Port Arthur by the Japanese, but managed to escape in a coal-truck. Two other Old Hulmeians were resident in Hong Kong, A.R. Lowe and W.C. Barrett. These two Old Boys presented the "China Cup" in 1901, which was awarded to the most successful Under 14 Athlete in the Sports. A.R. Lowe, a Chartered Accountant, built up a very prosperous business of his own in Hong Kong, employing hundreds of clerks. He became a magistrate and a member of the Hong Kong local government, before he died of typhoid in 1924 at the early age of 50.

The following year Lady Donner, the wife of the Vice-Chairman of the Governors, presented a cup for Under 15 competitors in the Sports. It was first won by F.B. Turner, later to become Stipendiary Magistrate of Manchester, who came first in all the six events he could enter: long jump and high jump, cricket and lacrosse ball throwing, hurdle race and one hundred yards race. The hurdle race had been introduced into the programme only the previous year. The hurdles had been made by Mr. Dorrans, the Woodwork master, with the assistance of his class.

As the century was nearing its close, tension in South Africa mounted in severity. It was reflected in

increased enthusiasm for military training in this country. In "The Hulmeian" of December, 1898, Old Hulmeians were urged to join "1" Company of the 2nd Volunteer Battalion of the Manchester Regiment, of which fourteen were already members, some of whom had distinguished themselves as marksmen. The Old Hulmeians who went to the Regiment's Whit-week Camp at Scarborough in the following year shared the same tent and the welcome from the citizens of the town as "England's brave defenders"; but the holiday atmosphere usually associated with the place seems to have been more in evidence than any vigorous military intention. A later camp at Aldershot with its more pronounced military traditions was probably a little more realistic. Two Old Hulmeians are recorded as having seen active service in South Africa. The relief of Mafeking was celebrated at the School by a Saturday morning off and an extra day added to the Whitsun holiday.

A new School flag, presented by Dr. Hall, was hoisted for the first time in 1902 in celebration of the conclusion of peace in South Africa. The flag was based on the coat-of-arms of William Hulme with its alternate bars of yellow and blue. We are told it also included 'the cross of St. George for England' and 'the School Wreath'. The present School flag would seem to be more strictly heraldic.

When the Boer War concluded in June, 1902, military ardour seems to have somewhat declined, though an account in "The Hulmeian" of July, 1906, by an Old Hulmeian describing his first camp states that there were over 30 of his former schoolfellows also present at the Manchester Volunteer Brigade's Camp on Salisbury Plain that year.

With the return of the more relaxed times of peace the Old Hulmeians' Games Club met fairly frequently for concerts. On February 21st, 1903, they held their first formal Dinner. It took place at the Mosley Hotel, Manchester, and was attended by between 70 and 80 Old Boys. Proceedings included a toast to "The Pious Memory of William Hulme", speeches, the singing of songs and the reading of a telegram from Cambridge Hulmeians, then four in number. The following year the Dinner was held at the Midland Hotel, where it took place, more often than not, in succeeding years in times of peace up till 1972.

By this time Queen Victoria had died. The School attended a Memorial Service for her for the Manchester Secondary Endowed Schools held at the Cathedral on February 1st, 1901. The boys were marched down to Alexandra Road and conveyed to the Cathedral by tram. Alexandra Road South had not then been properly made up and had no tram route. Earlier that year the boys had been granted time off to witness the public proclamation of King Edward VII by the Lord Mayor of Manchester. When the Coronation, delayed by the King's illness, actually took place, the School was given a week's holiday. The labourers working on the School field were given the day off, but did not lose their wages in consequence one is glad to learn. The School holiday on Ascension Day also dates from that year.

The turn of the century witnessed another important event so far as the School was concerned. Mr. Sykes, the part-time Secretary, was replaced by Mr. J.A. Barber in 1902 on a full-time basis. That this event was of supreme significance to the School will not be disputed. Mr. Barber's efficiency as Secretary of the School was legendary. If he kept a tight hand on expenditure and questioned any change that would involve the School in any considerable outlay, it was because he knew only too well that the School was never, in the whole time he was in office, in the position to waste its resources in any way. Yet he was anything but a cold and aloof administrative functionary, for he absorbed himself with the utmost ardour in the life of the School. He seemed to know and remember every boy who passed through the School and to be able to recall his name and some personal experience connected with him. Loyalty and devotion to the School were his supreme characteristics. The debt the School, its Old Boys and Lacrosse owe to him will become increasingly apparent, even to those who did not know him personally, as this history progresses. He was already a lacrosse player of some repute when he came to the School. To him, more than anyone else, must go the credit for the pre-eminence in the Lacrosse world the School and the Old Boys so long possessed.

Such close control over finances as Mr. Barber exercised was very necessary, for the year 1902 was certainly one of some anxiety for the School. It was uncertain what the impact of the establishment of Local Education Authorities by the Balfour Act of that year would be. A more immediate problem was how the grant to the School would be affected by the amalgamation of Withington, which had contributed £150 to the School funds, with Manchester. Until Withington was incorporated in Manchester it had been part of the

administrative County of Lancashire and the School had been one of the most successful and efficient in its area. In one year it had taken 26 of its Exhibitions and three of its Scholarships. Upon its coming into the Manchester area the School Committee urged that Manchester should raise its grant to the School to £300. Eventually Manchester did increase its contribution to £250 in 1906, but insisted on being represented on the School Committee.

Actually an enlargement of the School Committee was already under consideration, for some of its meetings had been very thinly attended. As Dr. Hall very tactfully put it in an Open Letter to the School Committee in July, 1904, "I am afraid the interests of the present Board are too wide to permit of their giving much time to the affairs of the School." He suggested the co-option of residents in the localities served by the School rather than the inclusion of representatives of local Boards, whom he not unreasonably suspected would be more interested in their own schools than in Hulme. The Committee urged the Hulme Trustees to accept this proposal that the Committee should include others besides Hulme Trustees. It was not, however, till 1912 that there was any conspicuous change in the composition of the School Committee.

However, when Dr. King retired from the High Mastership of Manchester Grammar School, he was replaced on the Hulme Grammar School's Committee, not by his successor as High Master, but by Sir Edward Donner. Sir Edward was a Shipper and a Banker, who had taken a First in Classics at Oxford, and was a man of wide interests and one with many claims on his time and benevolence. The School nevertheless greatly benefited from his generosity and involvement in its activities in the twenty-two years he served on its Committee.

What immediately provoked Dr. Hall's desire for a change in the management of the School was the impending financial liability for the paving charges levied on the School in consequence of the construction of Princess Road, the cost of levelling the enlarged field and the crippling effect these expenses would have on any future plans for expansion. He felt these burdens could be overcome only by major changes in the School's constitution. The desirability of establishing a pension scheme for the staff was also very pressing. The salaries the teaching staff were paid would seem derisory nowadays. In those days they were a matter of negotiation between the Head Master and the Assistant Master concerned and were not subject to any regular annual increase. Any change had to have the School Committee's approval. To meet all these impending liabilities Dr. Hall suggested that the grant from the Hulme Trustees should be increased, that the annual payment of rent for the School field to the Estate Managers should cease and that the expenses incurred by the making of roads round the field should be met by the Charity.

Though much of the school field had been levelled by this time and a cricket pitch had been satisfactorily prepared, there was still a mound above the general level on the site of the present dining-hall and a corresponding pit diagonally across the field near the Princess Road entrance. The removal of soil from one side of the field to the other was not completed till 1928. It should be noted that none of the work was done by machine as it would be today. The additional land posed several problems, for though it was thought to make the field adequate for the numbers then at school, it left no margin for the expansion in the future that was to be expected in view of the fact that the suburbs were now stretching out and a residential area growing up around the school. It was now necessary, too, to have a whole time groundsman all the year round. A new motor mower was purchased for him to use costing £150: the sale of the old mower it replaced realised only £2.

In January, 1904, a change in the organisation of the School's time-table was put into effect. The number of weekly periods was increased from 27 to 36, but they were reduced in length. The total working time over the week was, however, lengthened by 40 minutes. Morning school was now divided into four periods and ended on Wednesdays and Saturdays at 12.30 p.m. Afternoon school began at 1.55 p.m. and ended at 4.5 p.m. The new arrangement permitted History to be included in the curriculum of every form, but the syllabus appears to have been substantially unchanged. The new shorter periods were referred to as "spasms", often abbreviated to "spas".

When the honorary degree of Doctor of Literature was conferred on Mr. Hall by Durham University on June 21st, 1904, in recognition of his eminent contribution to English scholarship, the School was given a holiday that day in honour of the occasion. When he first appeared wearing his splendid Doctorial robes at

Speech Day the following month, as one can well imagine, it caused quite a sensation. His services to education had been recognized by his appointment by Lancashire County Council to be a member of its Education Committee the previous year. In like manner, the Rev. J.F. Tristram had been appointed Vice-Chairman of the Education Committee of Moss Side and Mr. Hewlett a member of that of Withington.

During the night of Saturday, January 14th, 1905, a fire broke out at the School. The glare was noticed by an Old Boy, Mr. R. Price, from his bedroom in Demesne Road. As the area between this road and the School was not then built up, his view of the School was unimpeded. While he gave the alarm to the fire station, his brother, E.A. Price ran to the School and, forcing his way through a panel of the door, succeeded in extinguishing the flames with water from fire buckets before the firemen arrived on the scene. However £40's worth of damage had been done by that time. This was fortunately covered by the existing insurance; but the Committee was alarmed by the occurrence into almost doubling the insurance cover. Mr. E.A. Price received the thanks of the Committee for his "prompt action which undoubtedly saved the building from extensive damage, if not destruction."

That year the School was given the first of its shields. It was to be awarded to the winner of the Form Football Competition. The donor, Samuel Jones, had been an outstanding member of the victorious First Team of 1898-9. The figure on the shield represents H.S. Needham, a member of the team, who afterwards became a distinguished Police Officer in India. It is sad to add that no such future was the lot of the donor, for he died the following year. A similar award for cricket was made three years later by Mr. W.H. Livesley. A third shield - for competition at the Athletic Sports - was presented in 1908 by Mr. Henry Worrall, a very generous Governor of the School. A further cup for Athletic Sports had been given the previous year by Mr. J. Cardwell, the father of H. and D. Cardwell, both outstanding Old Hulmeians. This cup became the Under 16 award.

Fees for new boys were raised to £3-10s. a term in 1906 but they were now made inclusive of all current school charges, such as Games Fund Subscriptions, rent of locker, use of apparatus in the laboratory and the charge for copies of the magazine. Despite this augmented revenue, the School's financial position was causing increasing anxiety, as expenses were exceeding income by a steadily mounting margin. The question of reducing the school staff was even raised. The School Committee therefore recommended to the Governors of the Hulme Trust that the School should be placed under the Board of Education so as to qualify for a grant from it. They also recommended that the school-leaving age should again be raised. Although the School had been inspected by the Board in November 1906, the School at that time received no Direct Grant from it. In their report the Inspectors criticised the inadequacy of the premises, the fact that Governors' meetings were never held at the school and some Governors never attended, also that there was no salary scale for the staff.

The scheme by which the educational side of the Hulme Trust was administered was amended in 1907, as a result of which change the grant to the School was increased by £400. A further revision in 1909 was eventually agreed upon, whereby, amongst other changes, the school-leaving age was raised to 18 and Greek was incorporated in the curriculum and so was no longer an extra. The top forms were now designated as Sixth Forms and were subdivided into Science, Classical and Modern Languages.

Complex in character and spread out over five years, the negotiations for recognition by the Board were ultimately momentous in consequences. They involved considerable revisions of the scheme under which the School was administered to many of which the Head Master took exception. However, assent was given to the putting in motion of the Head Master's long cherished plan for an adequate Assembly Hall. The Trustees promised financial support for the project.

In 1906 a new society was formed called "The Phoenix Society". It was apparently a literary society for the senior forms designed to supplement the Union Society, which had now restricted its activities to debates. This new organisation appears to have owed much to R.C.F. Dodgson, a nephew of the Rev. C.L. Dodgson, the author of "Alice in Wonderland", better known under his pseudonym of Lewis Carroll. The nephew, like his uncle, was something of a poet. Many of his formal effusions were printed in "The Hulmeian". Some of his informal satirical verses on school personalities, surreptitiously circulated in class, were no doubt appreciated for reasons other than their literary merit. The fire of enthusiasm from which the Phoenix Society

emerged, however, fairly soon burnt out and it was merged with the Union Society as the Literary and Debating Society.

The following year saw a rebirth of enthusiasm in another direction, this time for the drama. Anstey's "Vice Versa", first attempted at the School in 1897, was revived and Labiche and Jolly's "La Grammaire" was also performed in the original French. Two of the leading parts in the latter play were taken by G.F. Simpson and A.L. Powell, both of whom later became masters at the School. Two years later there was another dramatic performance consisting of scenes from Molière's "Le Médecin malgré Lui" and a farce called "The First Day of the Holidays". Much time, effort and money seem to have been expended over these productions. There appears to have been no further such enterprises for several years, which is hardly surprising considering the difficulties which had to be overcome. It was necessary for the stage and all its appurtenances to be completely dismantled, as soon as the performances were over, so that the normal activities of the School could proceed unimpeded. Even when the New Hall was first built the permanent stage was at the outset very limited in extent and resources.

In 1907 the bare walls of the staircase and other parts of the School were, according to the "The Hulmeian", much brightened by the hanging of a series of 55 framed autotypes of famous pictures. A further thirteen pictures were presented by Dr. Hall in 1912. They remained on the walls of the Old Hall till after World War II. One cannot but feel that the editor of the School magazine was being tactful rather than discriminating, for these reproductions could hardly have been described as inspiring.

Although the Old Hulmeians Lacrosse Team had earned promotion to the First Division in 1904 - incidentally the year Mr. Barber first joined the team - it was the season of 1906-7 when their pre-World War I supremacy began. Captained by R.S. Oddy, the team also included three of the Buckland brothers G.F., H. and R. They won the North of England Flags and the Iroquois Cup for the first time. Dr. Hall is reported to have paid three times to see that Flags final. He left, to avoid the crowd, when the match seemed lost with the score 4-6 five minutes before the end. However, enticed by a roar of cheering, he returned, but left again with two minutes to go when the score was still 5-6. Another shout, proclaiming the equaliser, drew him back again for extra time, when the younger, fitter Old Boys outplayed their opponents, scoring four more goals to one against. The following month they completed a highly successful season by defeating Surbiton, the winners of the South of England Flags, by 12-0 and so won the Iroquois Cup, awarded yearly to the most successful club in the country. They were defeated, however, by a team from Canada, the original home of the game, later that year. When an England side played Canada in the Olympic Games of 1908, though it was defeated by 10 goals to 14, nine of England's goals were scored by G.F. Buckland. Despite the fact that the Old Hulmeians had held a dinner in the December of 1906 and a Hot-Pot Supper, followed by a Smoking Concert in February, it was felt that the victories achieved merited a further celebration dinner to the team in April at the Midland Hotel and a week after that a Smoking Concert at the Grand Hotel. Very much enjoyed in those times, a Smoking Concert was a very informal type of musical evening, generally for men only, at which the music consisted chiefly of popular songs preferably with a rousing chorus, in which the audience was expected to join. Smoking, a practice in which ladies who had any regard for their social position never indulged in public, in those days, was, however, permitted to men at these functions. The Lacrosse Club's successes and the dinner were repeated in 1908 and - after a year's lapse - again in 1910. Thereafter the dinner became a truly annual event till the outbreak of World War I. In 1912 the dinner took place at School in the recently built New Hall. The Shield was won in 1913. The following year all three major honours: the Shield, the Flags and the Iroquois Cup were achieved. The team that year was then described as the best club side England had ever produced. The North of England team that season included no fewer than six Old Hulmeians: the three Buckland brothers, W.A. Hobbins, H. Shorrocks and F. Jefferis. L.A. Raval, who was at school in those years, recalls how, when the Old Hulmeians played their crucial matches on the Manchester Athletic Club's ground at Fallowfield, the arena would resound to the cries of "Come on Old Boys, Old Boys weigh in", chanted to the tune of the chimes of Hartley College clock.

By 1908 a sufficient number of Old Boys had migrated to the south of England for a London Association of Old Hulmeians to be formed. The Honorary Secretary was H.R. Pearson, who was still attending functions of this society in the 1960's and even later. He was, all his life, a great lacrosse player and still played when

turned 70, although his participation was then limited to goal-keeping. The London Association's activities included, like those of the parent body, Smoking Concerts and Annual Dinners. They continued till the outbreak of World War I. In 1911 the parent Association added a Dance at the School to its programme for the first time. The following year what had been known as the Old Hulmeians Games Club altered its name and widened its scope to include other than playing members. It was known thereafter as the Old Hulmeians Association.

In 1908 Manchester Corporation took over Whalley Range High School, which had been up till then a private school on Withington Road on the site now occupied by St. Margaret's School. The kindergarten department there for boys aged 5 to 8 was then given up, so it was arranged that the boys should be transferred to Hulme Grammar School and that Miss M.E. Smith, who had been responsible for that department at Whalley Range for 14 years should move with them. The Preparatory Department thus established started with a class of 12 boys in Room 7, but soon another room was required to accommodate those attending, as the good work being done soon became generally known. Eventually after the Preparatory Department had been ten years in the main building, "Peveril Mount", a large house at the corner of Wilbraham Road and Alexandra Park Road South, was bought by the Governors to provide for the increasing numbers. Miss Smith presided there for a further ten years before she retired in 1922. Her kindness of manner, progressive methods and devotion to duty had by then firmly established this branch of the School. The fees charged for boys in the Preparatory Department were then fixed at £2-2s a term.

At that time if parents, having moved out of the neighbourhood or for any other reason, wished their boys to stay with friends, or relatives, or masters of the School, the arrangement had to have the School Committee's approval. From time to time boys had stayed at the house of Mr. Kelsey, who had married Mr. C.N. Adams's widow. Mrs. Kelsey took a great interest in the School and played in the Orchestra. In 1908 their house was officially recognized as a school boarding-house.

In December, 1908, it was decided to replace the Drill Sergeant by a Physical Training Instructor. The following month Mr. I. Johnson was appointed in that capacity. Apart from absence on war service from 1914 to 1918, when his place was taken by Mr. A. Tessier of Manchester Y.M.C.A., Mr. Johnson continued to hold that post till after the outbreak of World War II. Until the gymnasium was built in 1932 Physical Exercises had to take place in the Old Hall, except when the weather was kind in summer, when they took place on the field. Despite complete lack of apparatus till then, Mr. Johnson managed to inspire considerable enthusiasm for this aspect of School life among the more athletically inclined; but there were some who managed to dodge the drill period by hiding in the lavatories, or by producing excuse notes written by parents alleging some real or imagined malady, not severe enough to keep the boy away from school, but bad enough to get him excused drill. Mr. Johnson induced the boys to subscribe for boxing-gloves. The unofficial aim of the boxers was not to knock their opponents out of the ring, but against the door of the nearest available class-room. When masters complained that their lessons were unduly interrupted as a result, games of hand-ball were introduced to give a respite from formal exercises. When installed in a well-equipped gymnasium in 1927 Mr. Johnson really came into his own. Boys now changed properly for the gym periods and wore shorts and plimsolls alone. Those who were rash enough to talk during these periods sometimes received unpleasant reminders that gym shoes could be used in other ways than as footwear. A shower, however, could now be enjoyed at the end of the lesson. Mr. Johnson regularly went to the School Camp at Grange every summer from 1930 onwards till he retired and there, besides conducting early morning training runs and physical exercises, he organised mass games which were extremely popular. He was also responsible for swimming instruction, though there was no school swimming-pool in his time. Some of his former pupils will remember being somewhat splashed when Mr Johnson gave 'a little de-mon-stir-ation', as he called it, of how a dive should be executed. Unfortunately, when invited in 1942 to give the whole of his time to Physical Instruction at the School, he felt that having regard to his other commitments, he could not do so and had thus reluctantly to resign. His departure was deeply regretted by both boys and masters, who admired him alike for his kindly character, abundant vitality and cheerful enthusiasm. Although he had by then reached the normal retiring age, he was still a remarkably fit man and could himself perform any of the exercises he instructed his pupils to carry out. He regularly attended refresher courses during the Summer holidays to

keep himself up-to-date and abreast of changing techniques.

In September, 1910, another important and long-lasting appointment was made. Mr. F. Adams, M.A., a Scholar of St. John's College, Cambridge, came to the School in the place of the Second Science master who had left. When Mr. Tristram retired in 1916 to become Vicar of All Souls', Castleton, Mr. Adams succeeded him in charge of the department, a post which he held till he retired in 1950. Thus he had the unique distinction of serving under all of the first four Head Masters of the School. He founded the Scientific Society, the aim of which was to encourage boys to give lectures and pursue their own original research, though some of the lectures were given by the staff or by outside speakers. There were also visits to scientific and industrial installations. Their activities continued till 1919 and the Society was revived again in 1924; but it ceased to meet for lectures in 1932, though visits to works were still carried out. To Mr. Adams's long career at Hulme further references will be made later.

An important change in the School's internal organisation came into effect that same term. Largely to form a more satisfactory basis for School games, the School was divided into four Houses, each named after a prominent Manchester personality. Byrom was named after the poet and pioneer of shorthand, Dalton after the great scientist, Gaskell after Mrs. Gaskell the novelist and Heywood after Oliver Heywood the banker and philanthropist. At first the boys seem to have been assigned to these Houses fairly at random, but with the intention of securing more or less evenly matched strength. Thereafter brothers were normally assigned to the same House and as far as possible boys who lived in the same locality were placed in the same House. Prefects were appointed to assist the two House Masters in the running of their Houses and in the maintenance of school discipline generally. They wore a distinctive cap with the Hulme Lion's Head crest in gold thread at the front and a red piping at the rear.

In 1911 House Cross-Country Runs were started, each House entering a first team and an Under 14 team. At that time, of course, the School stood well in the country. The route followed was roughly from Brantingham Road, Alexandra Road South, over the Station Bridge to Hough End Clough and Mauldeth Road. These were then all country lanes. Something still remains, however, of the small wood at Hough End Clough. The 3½ mile course thereafter went past farm houses and fields to Nell Lane. Thence the runners made their way back to Wilbraham Road, from which access to the School was gained through posts to a little field path. This event continued till the urbanisation of the route and the intensification of traffic on the now made up roads made its further existence impracticable.

All this time the project for the building of an Assembly Hall was being brought forward. The Board of Education, whose approval had to be obtained, at first demurred, suggesting that a Gymnasium, improved Laboratories and Art Room facilities were more immediately desirable. However, they eventually yielded and permitted arrangements for building to proceed. The New Hall was built with walls of red Ruabon brick in the same style as the original structure. The roof was supported by hammer-beam trusses of solid oak, the sides panelled with Austrian Oak to a height of eight feet and the floor made of oak blocks. The corbels on which the roof rested were adorned with the arms of persons or places connected with the Trust. At the platform end were the arms of William Hulme and Brasenose College, followed by those of Oxford University and the Victoria University of Manchester, then by those of Bury and Oldham, Lancashire and Manchester and finally those of Sir Edward Donner, Bart., the Chairman of the Governors when the building was begun. One shield was left blank to accommodate the arms of the hoped for benefactor, who would be responsible for the difference between the funds then available and the total cost of the projected buildings. The grant towards their erection given by the Hulme Trustees, £4,700, only permitted two-thirds of the plans to be put into effect. Until 1926 the southern end of the Hall was sealed off by a temporary wall of very incongruous ordinary brick. The cost of the buildings erected was £5,500. These included a new office for the Secretary, built next to the Head Master's room, a new entrance with a revolving door and a passage from the old building to the New Hall. Beneath the New Hall a new Manual Work Room was constructed. On the left as one entered there were numerous carpenter's benches, where the practical work was carried out; on the right were desks where theoretical instruction could be given. When Manual Work was not on the time-table, these latter could be used as a classroom at a pinch. It was difficult, however, to carry out any effective teaching, when another class was hammering away alongside. Nevertheless there were occasions

when the attempt had to be made.

A Building Fund was launched to meet the gap between the total outlay and the Grant received to which Mr. Henry Worrall subscribed £600 and Sir Edward Donner £100. When one considers the value of money in those days, these were very generous benefactions. Much thought was given to the lighting of the New Hall. Eventually electricity was decided upon, a cable was laid and the original building was also wired for electricity at the same time. The New Hall was eventually opened by Bishop Welldon, the Chairman of the Governors and Dean of Manchester Cathedral, on Thursday May 11th, 1911. It was known unofficially, but not inappropriately, for some time as the Joseph Hall, a light-hearted tribute to the man who had done so much and striven so hard to make it possible. The Architect of the New Hall was Mr. W.C. Hardisty, F.R.I.B.A., and the general contractors who carried out his plans Messrs. C.H. Normanton and Son. At the Opening Ceremony the blank wall at the end of the New Hall was adorned with the Shields presented to the School, the now somewhat time-worn Lacrosse Flags won by the School in 1898, together with new flags to replace them. These last, presented by the Old Hulmeians Association, had been worked by Miss Hall, the Head Master's sister. On them were embroidered the Coats of Arms of the four School houses. They remained the principal trophy for House Lacrosse till 1973, when they were again replaced by new ones, presented this time by the Parents' Association. An alcove in the passage between the Old Hall and the New one was used for many years to house the School Museum.

Though Dr. Hall's major project was now at any rate partially achieved, he was not entirely happy. It seems evident that he considered the changes that would be involved by the School's coming under the Board of Education's control would conflict with the line of policy he had consistently pursued in his direction of the School, one aimed at raising the status of the School and incidentally its leaving age. The points he objected to in the revised scheme were, first, that the tenure of office of the Head Master was made dependent on the goodwill of the School Committee, rather than on that of the Governors of the Hulme Trust; second, that the examination of the School would be conducted by an outside body, instead of examiners appointed by the School Committee. This, he thought, would involve unnecessary expense. One cannot but feel that he resented such a possible intrusion by outsiders as an infringement of the autonomy of the School, rather than feared the findings that people, unacquainted with the workings of the School, might produce. Actually 27 boys from the Sixth Forms of the School were entered for the Northern Universities Joint Board for the first time in 1913. The relatively few candidates, compared with the numbers entered now for the corresponding examination, met with a somewhat markedly varying success. The examiners' detailed reports, often on individual candidates, contrasts somewhat oddly with the necessarily sweeping generalisations of its counterparts today. In some subjects the School was clearly progressive; in others somewhat behind the times. Dr. Hall had hitherto been opposed to examinations of the "local" type, which he felt lent themselves to cramming and advertisement of success, both of which he abhorred. The Board of Education had actually conducted an inspection of the School again in 1911. Though we have no record of its report beyond the outline given in the Head Master's Speech Day address, it was evidently a very favourable one, as Dr. Hall gave the School a half-holiday as a due recognition of the effort made by all concerned.

Another point on which Dr. Hall was unhappy was that in future fifteen per cent of the total annual entry was to consist of boys with Scholarships from Public Elementary Schools instead of ten per cent as hitherto. He wanted all such scholarships to be abolished and their replacement by an increased number of Foundation Scholarships.

The vital point at issue, however, was a religious one. It should be remembered that matters of this kind had played a very serious part in educational controversy the previous century and had underlain the conflict between the Hulme Trustees and those concerned with popular non-denominational education in Manchester. The Board of Education insisted that, to qualify for its grant, the School must make instruction in the doctrines of the Church of England optional and that parents must be circularised to ascertain if they wished their boys to receive such teaching. On this point Dr. Hall, a devout member of the Church of England, took a very firm stand. He felt, and no doubt many members of the Committee did too, that any such change conflicted with the intention of the original trust. Rather than accept making religious instruction in any way optional, even though the question of teaching the catechism or imposing any acutely sectarian

bias to the curriculum did not arise, Dr. Hall threatened to resign. There was much correspondence and to and froing between Manchester and the Board's offices in London on the part of Bishop Welldon, the Chairman of the Governors, and Archdeacon Aspinall, his destined successor as Chairman, in an endeavour to find a workable compromise, but no solution was arrived at. To comply with the requirements of the Board for recognition of the School, the School Committee had now been enlarged to include three representatives of Manchester Corporation, two of Lancashire County Council and one of the Borough of Salford in addition to six members of the Hulme Trust. In order to give the local authority representatives the majority of votes on which the Board was compelled to insist, by a typical English compromise, it was enacted that one of the representatives of the Hulme Trust was always to be one who represented a local authority on that body and thus had a foot in both camps. At a meeting of the School Committee held on April 11th, 1913, a letter from the Board was read out in which the terms of the required circular were stated: "Do you wish () to continue to receive Religious Instruction as hitherto received by him in the School?" Having heard the terms of the letter, the eight members of the Committee present voted on the question whether the Board's conditions for grant should be accepted. Four members voted in favour and one against, three abstained. Dr. Hall was asked whether the Board's letter would remove his objection to the issuing of the circular. He replied that it would not. So Dr. Hall resigned, much against the advice of his friends and the regret of his staff, who admired and respected him. Thus the first battle for the independence of the School was lost.

Dr. Hall was granted a pension of £200 a year for life, the money ironically coming from the grant from the Board to which he was opposed. At a meeting specially convened to appoint his successor, the following resolution was passed: "The Committee of the Hulme Grammar School wish to express their strong sense of the valuable service rendered to the School by Dr. Hall during the 27 years of his Head Mastership. It will always be a pleasure to them to recall his high sense of duty, his power of attracting and retaining a loyal staff of masters, and his unfailing devotion to the interests of the School. They cordially wish him long life and much happiness in the future."

Prize Day on July 31st, 1913, must have been a very moving occasion. Dr. Hall was given a gold watch and chain by Mr. Franklin and C.W. Murphy on behalf of the staff and boys as a token of their esteem and regret at his departure. The list of honours gained by Old Boys that year that he read out was in itself a tribute to his success as a Head Master. In the course of his report he referred to the establishment of the Old Hulmeians Association, which would incorporate the Old Hulmeians Games Club and the London Association of Old Hulmeians. The Association, he said, had now 320 members. He did not mention, however, how much it owed to his inspiration and constant support. He rejoiced to think that he had succeeded in raising the status and importance of the School. It began in 1887 with a leaving age of 16; since 1909 it had been first grade in curriculum and the leaving age 18. He paid a tribute to his staff, of whom Mr. Brice had been with him from the beginning, Mr. Franklin since 1889 and five others for over twenty-two years. Of the boys he said, "I think it can have been to few Head Masters to carry away with them such pleasant recollections of their boys as I shall take with me." He then had the honour of himself giving away the prizes. In his address which followed he proclaimed in very impressive terms the noble ideals of service and devotion to the community by which he thought boys should be motivated. One cannot but feel, as one reads the report of the address, that of those ideals he was himself a worthy exemplar. A great scholar himself, well known on that account throughout the country, he attracted to himself men of learning and culture. His firm, but not unkindly discipline pervaded the School. He was himself a good teacher. Even a future scientist of some distinction among his pupils conceded that he made English Literature interesting. The successes his pupils achieved were the result of his inspiration and encouragement. As one looks through the records of Old Boys who left to go up to the Universities in his time one cannot help noticing the high percentage of them who gained First Class Honours and also the number of those who proceeded to higher degrees, gaining many awards en route. He took a great interest in the sporting activities of the School, believing strongly as he did in the character forming value of games. He gave generously from his own purse to support any cause in which the School was involved.

A bachelor of Irish extraction, Dr. Hall was a devout member of the Church of England. Many of his

colleagues were clergymen and many of his pupils, especially those who proceeded to the older Universities, later entered the Church. Of the latter A. du T. Pownall of Christ's College, Cambridge and H.M.E. Gilliat of Brasenose College, Oxford, were the first to do so. Gilliat, incidentally, was the first Old Hulmeian to play Lacrosse for Oxford against Cambridge.

Dr. Hall seems to have been a somewhat aloof, austere man, who was rarely seen to smile. The boys held him in great awe; his staff, of whom he expected much, in deep respect. He lived by very high standards of self-discipline, for it was said of him that he ate but two meals a day and never went to bed before 2 a.m. After his meagre lunch of a sandwich and a glass of milk, he would repair to the School field and, somewhat incongruously clad in silk hat, frock coat and rubber boots, trundle the several barrow loads of earth he had dug from one part of the field to another to help level it. Although he smoked like a furnace at home, he never smoked at school, nor would he allow his staff to do so. If they wanted to smoke, then they had to walk to Alexandra Park in the dinner hour. He lived in Victoria Park. To get to school by public transport he would have had to take a tram into the city first, then another to Alexandra Park gates, still leaving him with the better part of a mile to walk. Motor-cars had then scarcely come into being and were possessed only by the extremely affluent, so Dr. Hall walked all the way to and from school in all weathers and it seems he was never late.

Administering the affairs of the School and teaching were only part of Dr. Hall's work. On his return home from school to his library, lined with thousands of books, he plunged into the study of Middle English Language and Literature, of which his knowledge was profound. His publications included an edition of Laurence Minot, the medieval poet (1887), "King Horn" (1901), "Selections from Layamon's 'Brut'" (1924), besides contributions to "Englische Studien". Best known of all, perhaps, was his "Selections from Early Middle English" (1920), a work of awe-inspiring erudition, which became a standard text book for University students of English Language. Such was the infectious character of his enthusiasm for the earlier stages of our native tongue that he could inspire some of his pupils to attend voluntary Anglo-Saxon classes on Saturday mornings. One of them, G.F. Simpson, who later became a master at the School, wrote a translation of several hundred lines of the major Anglo-Saxon poem, which was published under the title of "Beowulf and Other Poems". Another pupil of his, E. Classen, M.A., Ph.D., after studying abroad in Germany and Sweden, was a very scholarly lecturer and writer on English Language at Manchester and London Universities.

On his retirement Dr. Hall went to live at Woodstock near Oxford. He occasionally revisited the School to attend special functions before his death in 1927 at the age of 73. The debt the School owes to him can scarcely be overstated. By his wise administration he established the School on a firm foundation. By his courage and determination he secured the raising of the leaving age to 18, thus improving its status from being an undistinguished secondary school to parity with the best schools in the neighbourhood. A great scholar, a great Head Master and a great personality, he set an exacting standard for his successors to live up to.

Chapter 4

The Rev. W. A. Parker Mason

On July 30th, 1913, the Rev. Walter Alexander Parker Mason, M.A., was appointed to succeed Dr. Hall. He had been educated at Dulwich College and at King's College, London. From the latter he had gained the Scholarship with which he entered Trinity College, Oxford. After further post-graduate study in France he took up teaching posts as Assistant Master at various schools including the Merchant Taylors' School, Crosby, and the Perse School, Cambridge. This last school was then under the headship of Dr. W. H. D. Rouse, one of the most renowned of English schoolmasters, known especially for the zeal with which he propagated the teaching of Classics by the Direct Method. While at the Perse School, Mr. Parker Mason had been ordained and had there combined his teaching duties with a curacy at Great St. Mary and St. Michael's Church in Cambridge. He had thus had varied experience when at the age of thirty-nine he entered upon his Head Mastership. He was a bachelor whose mother presided over his household.

That Dr. Hall was a difficult man to follow few acquainted with the facts would dispute. He had retired because he was called upon to pursue a policy which conflicted with his convictions, not because he had reached the extreme age limit, or because he was either physically or mentally exhausted. Far from it, the greatest of his considerable contributions to English linguistic scholarship, his "Selections from Early Middle English" was yet to come. He was, moreover, as his valedictory address emphasised, supported by a staff the majority of whom had served under him for over twenty years. He had followed successfully a clearly-defined line of policy, establishing the School on a firm foundation. He had raised the leaving age of the School and in so doing considerably improved its status and repute. He had commanded the respect and esteem of governors, staff, parents and boy alike. His very success in retaining his staff was almost inevitably bound to create problems for his successor. The majority of his colleagues were now elderly men. It would have been surprising if they had not, at least in some measure, shared the normal human suspicion of change and reluctance to accept it. They would naturally expect their long years of service and experience to be suitably rewarded; but the School was not financially prosperous owing to the modest fees charged, nor was it lavishly endowed, so it could not afford to pay high salaries. If the staff had been evenly balanced with a normal proportion of young masters, reasonably content with a moderate salary while they were gaining experience, to counterweight their more experienced elders, who would naturally expect higher remuneration, the distribution of the available financial resources might have been easier and more satisfying to all. As it was none of the staff was receiving £100 a year more than when appointed, some considerably less than that, even in some cases, as has just been said, after twenty years of service.

Few schoolmasters can ever have been so naïve and misguided as to be led to believe that their profession will be liberally rewarded and most have other motivations than that of acquiring even a moderate competence; but nobody living in the latter part of the twentieth century, with the incessant conflict between wages and the cost of living, could possibly deny that even the most dedicated and idealistic will be liable to become somewhat embittered if grossly underpaid and unsupported by private financial resources. The fees in the main School were raised to £3.15s a term in 1913, but this slender increase did not allow much scope for generosity to the staff.

Thus it can be seen that Mr. Parker Mason, a man embarking on his first headmastership, faced not an easy task, but one that was likely to demand considerable exercise of tact, patience and understanding.

The School was even then expanding rapidly, particularly in the Preparatory Department, now divided into two classes. Miss D. Mitford Smith was appointed to take charge of the second class in 1915. She was generally known as Miss Mitford to distinguish her from her sister Miss M. E. Smith, whom she eventually succeeded as Senior Mistress of the Preparatory Department in 1923. Two classrooms were contrived for them under the far end of the New Hall by the installation of foldable screens of wood, lit by panes of frosted glass. The new rooms were by no means soundproof. Any disturbance in one room could readily be heard in the other, so could any noise on the stage above. To help cope with the growing numbers in the main school

two additional masters were appointed in 1914, one of them being G.F. Simpson, B.A., an Old Boy of the School.

Another important appointment at that time was that of Dr. Coates, C.B., D.L., as School Medical Officer. He first began examining the health of the boys attending the School and the Preparatory Department in April, 1914. Incredible, as it may seem, he did not retire from this post till July, 1953, by which time he had reached the age of 93. The number of men who have continued their working lives, if on a reduced scale, to such an advanced age, must be small indeed. An F.R.C.S., he combined general practice with specialisation. His close association with the Army dated back to the time of the Volunteers and the Boer War. He continued his connection with the forces in the Territorials, as the Volunteers became. In World War 1 he served with the R.A.M.C., finishing with the rank of Colonel and the C.B.E. He was Chairman, too, of the East Lancashire Red Cross Society. In 1930 he received the honour of knighthood. Many hundreds of boys will recall having their organs examined by this dapper little man and not a few have cause to be grateful for the early intimation he gave to their parents that there was some unsuspected physical disability of theirs that required attention. He will be referred to again later in this account.

What was perhaps Mr. Parker Mason's greatest misfortune was that, before he had had twelve months to settle in to his new and exacting post, World War 1 had broken out. Apart from the fact that four Belgian boys, whose country had been over-run by the Germans, were admitted to the School for a short time, the war did not have a very strong immediate and positive effect on the school, but it did have a very important negative one in that it put a stop for the next twelve years to all the plans under consideration for expansion of the School buildings. During the course of the war numbers rose to 460 and two or more classes had to be held in the New Hall, others in the dining hall, the Head Master's room and wherever else was in any way possible. A strong and well established administration can overcome such conditions, but they were severe handicaps to a relative newcomer. It was not till the war was almost over that "Peveril Mount", a large private house at the corner of Alexandra Road South and Wilbraham Road, after long and protracted negotiation and much obstruction, was acquired and adapted for use as a Preparatory School, thereby freeing the two classrooms under the stage for use by the main school. It was opened in September 1918 and had a largely independent existence, though still under the Head Master's ultimate control. It made use of the school gymnasium, when it came into being, and also of the school field for its games and annual sports, which started in 1924, and of the school stage for dramatic performances.

For some reason, of which we have no record, Speech Day did not take place, as usual, in the Summer Term of 1914, but in the Autumn Term. In his address Mr. Parker Mason said that in the course of the year numbers had risen from 267 to 302. He expressed his belief that coming under the Board of Education was to the School's advantage, but it made it all the more necessary for parents to ensure that their boys attended the school regularly. He also referred to changes in the time-table and invited parents to express their opinions on what the school's curriculum should embrace though he made it quite clear that he did not intend that it should include shorthand and typewriting. One cannot feel that, so early in his tenure of office, such an invitation was of doubtful wisdom, for parents are not necessarily the best judges of such matters and vocal parents whose opinions were not acted upon would not be likely to be favourably impressed by the new Head Master. He urged that all boys should involve themselves in games, either actively or passively, out of loyalty to the School. That games should be enjoyable does not appear to have been particularly stressed. The proceedings concluded, in the mood of the time, with the singing of patriotic songs and national anthems and the performance of scenes from historical dramas.

The School had, somewhat ambitiously, performed "The Comedy of Errors" in April 1914 in honour of the 350th Anniversary of Shakespeare's birth, but no further similar activity was attempted till the war was over.

Some points in Mr. Parker Mason's first report are of interest. He commented favourably on the pioneer work that was being done in the teaching of geography at the School by the close examination of local conditions. Manual work was to be taught to all junior forms instead of being just as optional extra. The first formers were to do lighter work in the afternoon, such as Nature Study. The last period in the Preparatory Department was to be homework. Morning periods were to be lengthened, finishing at 12.30 to allow boys

to learn Spanish for business purposes. Though he made this concession to commercial interests, he rejected the idea that prolonging their stay at school prejudiced boys' chances in business life. He found boys were leaving too early on that account, not because parents could not afford the fees. Unlike his predecessor he welcomed the presence of Free Placers from Public Elementary Schools and considered they had proved to be among the best elements in the School.

A Scout Troop was formed in March 1914 with Mr. C.H. Owen as Scoutmaster and two senior boys L. Timmis and E.W. Wilde as Assistant Scoutmasters. It had thirty-two members at the outset. Their uniform was dark green shirt, light green neckerchief, navy blue shorts, black stockings with green bands round the turned down tops and the usual khaki wide-brimmed hat. In addition to the normal training of that organisation, in accordance with the mood of the times, they practised shooting at the range which the Old Boys had set up in what was then the school cycle-shed, known as "The Tunnel". Camps were held annually at Bosley, near Congleton, from 1915 onwards till 1919, during the Whitsun holidays. The old manual room was adapted for their use as a clubroom. Some harvest work was undertaken and allotments were cultivated as a contribution to the war effort. When Mr. Owen left the school staff in April 1918, the responsibility for the Troop was taken over for a time by Mr. Pelham Toll; but though the membership then rose from 30 to 69, its success was of limited duration. A patrol of Rover Scouts was formed and a troupe of Pierrots, which included S.J. Forrest, a ventriloquist, brought into being. A short-lived Scout magazine was also published. The Scout camps moved further afield to Southport in the Summer holiday of 1919 and to Beaumaris at Whitsun in 1920. Mr. Toll, however, left the school staff in 1920. E. Wilde, an Old Hulmeian and a former Assistant Scoutmaster, who had returned from war service, then took over the running of the Troop; but he was not a member of the teaching staff. Mr. Dennis, who had by that time become Head Master felt that an organisation, which by its very nature could not be under his direct control and could inevitably compete with the Cadet Corps was not in the best interests of the School and so the Troop was disbanded.

Soon after the war broke out an unofficial Military Training Corps was started. This soon received official blessing and was established as a Cadet Corps under the command of Captain G.F. Simpson supported by Lieutenant J.A. Barber. In addition to regular drill and route marches, rifle practice on the range took place. A challenge cup for shooting was subscribed for and presented to this newly formed unit. The Corps went into camp annually at Alderley Park at Whitsuntide from 1915 onwards till the end of the war. A unit also attended a combined camp at Chatsworth in 1916. Though uniforms were obtained in 1915, it was not till 1917 that it was issued with rifles. The uniform then consisted of the regulation brass-buttoned tunic, breeches and puttees and round peaked cap. A Corps band of bugles and drums came into being in 1916. When Mr. Simpson joined the Army in 1917, Mr Barber, who had been medically rejected, took over the command and was thereupon raised to the rank of Captain. That Mr. Barber was medically rejected will come as a surprise to readers who knew him and regarded him as an outstanding example of physical fitness and endurance. If his rejection was on somewhat mistaken grounds and was the Army's loss, it was in the circumstances immeasurably the School's gain. He remained in charge of the Corps till it was reconstituted as a Junior Training Corps in 1936.

One of the most important war-time activities of the Corps was providing the personnel for the Harvest Camp at Wooller, a remote town in Northcumberland, very near the Scottish border, during the Summer holiday. The weather, during the first camp in 1917, was exceptionally wet, with the result that the main farming activity carried out was clearing the ground of thistles, apparently not a very exciting occupation. Only during the last week or so were the harvesters able to justify their name by gathering in the oats and the barley. That summer holiday, for those who took part in the camp, was certainly a change; but it can hardly have been described as a rest, if that implies idling the day along, for the day began with reveillé at 6 o'clock, breakfast at 6.45 and departure for work by 7.30, some going by bicycle and some by train. The latter group did not get back till 7.30 in the evening. The following year the weather was kinder and living under canvas more enjoyable in consequence.

The activities of the Old Boys as such were necessarily severely curtailed by the outbreak of war. An Old Hulmeians Rifle Club was formed and shooting was practised in the range the Old Boys had fitted up, as previously described, in the cycle-shed. The School was given the use of the range and the rifles. All

competitive games were abandoned just after the Lacrosse section had concluded, as already recorded, its up till then most successful season. The Golf Section, started but the previous year, was suspended. Its sole activity had taken the form of a competition for a Challenge Cup, presented by Mr. A.W. Bradbury, held in both 1913 and 1914 at Chorlton-cum-Hardy Golf Club. A new Cycling and Walking Section, first mooted in 1913, had an even briefer existence, for, unlike the Golf Club, it was not revived when the war was over. The Motor Club, started in 1928, provided an outlet, of a more sophisticated type, perhaps, for those of similar social inclinations.

The year 1916 saw some important changes in the School staff. The Rev. J.H. Smith, who had been Mathematics master since 1905, left to join the Army. His method of keeping his class alert was to throw chalk with astonishing accuracy at the somnolent. He was a very good mathematician, but somewhat lacking in patience with the non-numerate. He was succeeded by the Rev. E.E. Dentith Davies, B.A., M.Sc., B.D., who remained in charge of the Mathematics department till his retirement in 1932. Lady teachers were introduced to augment the staff at this stage in the war. Two ladies had already been involved with the Preparatory classes, but this was the first time lady teachers had been employed in the main school. Few of them stayed long, though it was not till 1923 that the last of them was replaced. The only one to establish herself permanently was Miss M. Caiger, who after the war transferred to the Preparatory Department. Later in 1916 the Rev. J.H. Tristram, nicknamed 'Clumper' or 'Bumper' owing to his uneven gait, who had been in charge of the School Science for 25 years, retired to become Vicar of All Souls', Castleton. He had held the post with great distinction: during his tenure of office 27 boys had taken Honours degrees in Science at Manchester University, 20 in Chemistry, of whom eleven had gained First Class Honours. Mr. F. Adams then took over responsibility for the department.

Mr A.A. Dallman, who was then appointed to help with the Science teaching, founded the School Natural History Society. Its activities consisted of lectures and visits to museums in the winter terms and field excursions into the countryside in the summer months. Perhaps the most popular of its activities was the Christmas *conversazione*, which began with a lecture, continued with a lavish tea and ended with a concert in which masters and boys participated. When he left at Whitsuntide in 1920, tribute was paid to the interest he had aroused in the classroom and the Natural History Society in nature, especially botany and wild life. He, too, was reputed to have thrown chalk and even carrots at the somnolent. If he missed, or the missile ricocheted off the victim and was picked up by another boy, he always insisted that 'the target must return the projectile'. He later became a Leverhulme Scholar and engaged in biological research. The Natural History Society, which was taken over by his successor, Mr. J.W.D. McConnell, M.Sc., lasted till 1926.

Mr. E.K. Brice retired in 1916 owing to ill health. He had been Drawing and Writing Master since the school was opened. He had exhibited regularly at the Manchester Academy and in London in 1893 and had been made an A.R.A. in 1907; but Art in his days, so far as the majority of the School was concerned, meant copying plaster casts, classical vases and cups and other uninspiring and mundane objects. There was no mention of abstract art and no encouragement of any attempt to express an original idea. D. Cardwell, however, recalls bringing to school pet rabbits and guinea pigs, which were used as live models. A somewhat moody, temperamental character, if he found his pupils were using pen nibs or pencils of a type of which he disapproved, he would snatch the offending implements from their owners and hurl them across the room. E.N. Oppenheimer, better known as Eric Newton and Art Critic of the B.B.C. and "The Sunday Times", in an obituary notice he contributed to "The Hulmeian" attributed to "Cocky" Brice the decisive moment in his life. Newton was trying to draw a daffodil somewhat unsuccessfully, when Mr. Brice came up to him and proceeded to draw the convoluted trumpet of the flower with a delicate accuracy that seemed to Newton miraculous. That incident, it would appear, stimulated in him a new awareness of the beauty of shape and form and in a measure determined his future career as Art Critic and broadcaster, which culminated in the Slade Professorship of Art at Oxford University. Thus the love for Art that Mr Brice inspired in that pupil at any rate was later spread to much wider and highly appreciative audiences. Shortly after his retirement Mr. Brice designed the School War Memorial. His place was temporarily filled till the war was over by Mr. M.C. Meere, who had been invalided out of the Army, but nevertheless helped considerably with the running of the Corp.

Mr. A.O. Gatley, M.A., who joined the staff in September also was of very great help to the Corps as its highly efficient quartermaster and recruiting officer. The circumstances of his appointment to the school staff are somewhat bizarre. He had resigned from a post at a school at Harrogate with the intention of joining the forces; but, to his surprise, had been medically rejected. He then applied for a temporary post at Hulme to which he was appointed at a salary of £3 a week. When a permanency was not apparently forthcoming, he sought a higher salary elsewhere. Presented with the danger of losing a member of the staff, when masters were almost unobtainable, the Head Master then offered him another £1 a week and a permanency. Fortunately for the school that offer was accepted; but the school narrowly escaped losing one of the most valuable and devoted members of the staff it has ever had.

The Corps had featured earlier that year, on May 24th, in a display to mark both Empire Day and the Tercentenary of Shakespeare's birth. A service and Shakespeare recital in the Hall was followed by an exhibition of mass drill by middle forms on the field and a march past of cadets and scouts.

Owing to a large intake of new boys, two further Houses were formed. They took part in junior games only at first and were then called 'Alpha' and 'Beta'. That Christmas some of the senior boys worked on the railways during the holidays and again the following year. The money they earned was devoted to the purchase of a bust of Shakespeare which now adorns the Library walls. Other boys worked at the G.P.O. as sorters, for it was now realised that everyone had his part to play in the prosecution of the war. The Head Master had some difficulty in keeping boys at school so great was the demand for labour. During the early part of 1917, 400 lbs of lead, brass and tin foil were collected and sold to munitions manufacturers. The proceeds were given to the Red Cross. Concerts and Fêtes were held to raise funds for the same organisation. The senior boys gave the money awards they received instead of prizes to the War Fund. A War Savings Association was formed in the Spring of that year for the purpose of Savings Certificates valued at 15s 6d, which would mature in 5 years to £1. Allotments were started on an acre of field close to the School, roughly where the Sixth Form Centre now stands. There were 75 allotments, two boys sharing each plot. There was a rule that half the plot was to be devoted to potatoes. The lowest forms had a pair of plots, each with a squad of six boys. Even the Preparatory Department had some patches to cultivate.

In July 1917 Mr. K.G. Fison, another member of Dr. Hall's staff since 1890, who had thus had 27 years service at the School, removed to Malvern for reasons of family health. A forceful, strict personality he taught Spanish as an extra, to those who wished to learn it. His nickname "Fisog" was doubtless an easy corruption of his surname. He had taken particular interest in the junior games and the school swimming and had organised the conveyance of boys from the school to the baths by horse-drawn bus. He was the first to ride a bicycle to the school, his mount being a "penny farthing", so called because of the relative size of the wheels. He was very keen on the "Volunteers" at the time of the South African War and had done much to encourage recruitment for it. His sons K.W.Y. and R.Y. Fison, who were at the School for a time, gained their hockey blues at Cambridge in 1927 and the latter became Captain of England at that game in 1932. Mr Salisbury left the school staff at the same time as Mr. Fison. Amongst those who were appointed to fill their places and help with the School's increasing numbers was Mr A. L. Powell, B.A., an Old Hulmeian, who played an outstanding part in the destiny of the School, the Old Hulmeians Association and the Hulme Lads' Club in the inter-war years.

Though engaged in a conflict vital to its future existence, the nation, to its credit, found time and the necessary resources in finance for widespread advances in education, thanks largely to the fact that the Board of Education was in the charge of an experienced and enlightened educationist, Dr. H.A.L. Fisher. The Board, amongst other progressive measures, undertook to increase their grants to schools to enable advanced courses to be established. Hulme's application for recognition of two courses, one in Science and Mathematics, the other in Modern Languages was accepted, conditionally in both cases on the appointment of an additional master to take part in the teaching of these courses. These conditions were accepted by the Governors; but though the rise in numbers to well over 400 by this time had made the School more prosperous, the financial resources available were still limited. Securing and retaining the services of suitably qualified teachers at the salaries the Governors were in the position to offer, when the war so narrowed the field of possible applicants, was extremely difficult to say the least, in fact almost impossible.

The suspicion felt by H.M. Inspectorate that the conditions the Board had laid down for the increased grant were not being fully observed was one of the causes of the turmoil that beset the school during the latter part of the war and the years immediately following. Nor were the staff happy about the way the additional money available was being allocated. A somewhat derisory War Bonus of £10 per annum was paid to the staff, increased to £20 for senior married men. The salary scales were further revised in 1917 and the termly fee raised to £3-17-6 in consequence; but in only one case did the increase in any master's salary amount to more than £20 per annum. It is hardly likely that the Assistant Staff were unaware of the considerable disparity between the salaries they received and the emoluments that accrued to the Head Master. Above his basic salary, which was quite reasonably larger than any of theirs, he received a capitation allowance of £2 for every boy in the main school and £1 for every boy in the Preparatory Department. This meant his remuneration was three times that of the best paid of his staff. Nobody would consider such a disparity as reasonable.

It should not be assumed, however, that the meagre salaries paid were the only causes of dissatisfaction, for there was evidently also general discontent among the staff with the way in which the Head Master was running the School. A letter was sent to the Governors by Mr. Morley, a member of the staff, on behalf of his colleagues complaining of Mr. Parker Mason's administration. This was read at a Governors' meeting in November, 1917, and a deputation of the staff was received. There were also letters of complaint from a number of parents. The Chairman of the Governors was at that time Bishop Welldon, the Dean of Manchester. He was so referred to because he had been Bishop of Calcutta after being Head Master in succession of Dulwich College and Harrow School.

As a result of this interview the School Committee requested the Bishop to write to the Head Master expounding the situation and warning him that unless he could improve his relationship with the Assistant Masters and the Parents within the next six months he would be expected to resign. In his letter the Bishop referred to the causes of complaint of the staff. They were: his failure to maintain discipline and support the staff, the exaggerated punishments he threatened or inflicted for small offences and his failure to consult the staff over changes in the curriculum and revision of the salary scales.

Mr. Parker Mason, in a somewhat petulant reply, objected to not being told who the dissatisfied parents were and suggested that if they complained that the school had deteriorated they were referring to the presence of Free Placers. He belittled the staff's complaints and ascribed them to misunderstanding of the way in which the Fisher grant was being applied and to the machinations of one or two trouble-makers. The charges of indiscipline and lack of consultation he totally denied.

In a further letter the Head Master referred to the fact that one of the pupils at the School had just been awarded a History Exhibition at Christ's College, Cambridge. He believed it was the first time that a boy had gained such an award direct from the School. He claimed that the Board would not have recognised the School for Advanced Courses had it not been efficiently run. He pointed out, however, the difficulty of maintaining Advanced Courses in war time, because boys tended to leave at 17, particularly as the School had only a Cadet Corps, whereas Schools which had an O.T.C. were able to keep their pupils until they were 19, thus giving them a distinct advantage in the competition for awards. He also referred to the fact that he was receiving more applications than ever for admission to the School, practically all of them from parents who already had boys at the School, or through these parents' recommendations.

It should be noted, in passing, that the winner of the award referred to was John Lord, later to become Senior History Master at the school.

At the end of the Christmas Term, 1917, Mr Owen and another master left. Three new masters and a lady teacher were appointed, only one of whom, Mr. W.H. Thomson, B.A., remained for any considerable length of time. Mr. B. Brockbank, M.A., was appointed the following September. These appointments and the consequent alterations in the time-table did not, however, satisfy His Majesty's Inspectors, three of whom attended a Governors' meeting and afterwards produced a written report of their investigations into the School's administration.

Though at the end of the six months the Governors expressed themselves as still not satisfied, they did not, however, call for Mr. Parker Mason's resignation. In his reply to the letter the Chairman of the

Governors sent him, Mr. Parker Mason blamed the war conditions for the difficulties he and the School were experiencing and complained somewhat peevishly of the lack of support and understanding he was receiving from the Governors. The staff salaries were again raised, but not everyone received an increase and only in one case did that amount to more than £20; in most cases it was not more than £10.

Bishop Welldon, however, was no longer involved in this unhappy controversy. Upon his appointment to the Deanery of Durham he vacated the Chairmanship of the Governors, which he had held since 1909. The onus of dealing with this situation then fell on the Archdeacon of Manchester, Canon Noel Lake Aspinall, who had succeeded him as Chairman. He had been a member of the School Committee also since 1909.

By the end of 1918 World War I was, of course, over. Some 700 Old Boys had served in the forces. The pages of "The Hulmeian" which describe their activities make moving reading. Great suffering and distress were cheerfully endured and great deeds of heroism performed, resulting in the award of 7 D.S.O.'s, 29 M.C.'s, 1 D.S.C., 1 D.C.M., 6 M.M.'s, 1 M.B.E., 3 Italian decorations, 3 Croix de Guerre and 1 Russian decoration. The Russian decoration was awarded by the Czar to C.M. Ford, who later became Captain of a succession of crack Cunard liners and finally Commodore of the Cunard-White Star fleet. An outstanding example of bravery was Colonel G.B.F. Smythe. On leaving school he had gone to Woolwich and so into the Royal Engineers. He had lost an arm in the Battle of the Aisne on October 25th, 1914. However, he went on serving and was awarded the D.S.O. He received a bar to this for bravery at the cost of five further wounds. Later he commanded the 6th King's Own Scottish Borderers. In 1918 he became a Brigade Commander. When he left the army he took up duty as Divisional Commissioner for Munster in the Royal Irish Constabulary, but was murdered on the very day he took up his appointment. Masked men burst into his room and shot him. No fewer than 111 Old Hulmeians made the supreme sacrifice of their lives, in many cases lives of great promise. Percy Dorrington, whose mother gave a Latin prize in memory of him and his only brother Walter, who had been killed in Mesopotamia, had gained a First Class in Classics at Manchester University and a Graduate Scholarship in 1915, only to die in France two years later. He was described as the best Classic the School had yet produced. Mrs. Williamson endowed a Science prize in memory of her son, Ernest, who fell in action in 1916. He had obtained the Manchester B.Sc. (Tech) with First Class Honours in 1913 at the early age of 20 and had gained a Research Fellowship together with his Master's degree the following year. The prizes referred to here, together with one presented by Mr. E. Bazley (O.H.) for Modern Languages, were first awarded in 1919.

The Armistice was signed on November 11th, 1918. The news reached the School soon after 11 a.m. and a Thanksgiving Service was held in the Hall. The School had the rest of the day off and many marched in a column into the City to see the celebrations there. Monday and Friday afternoons and Saturday morning were to be holidays in celebration; but the School, it seems, felt badly done by, as some other Schools were given more holiday. A strike occurred in consequence. Many of the older boys assembled in the lane outside and refused to go in till their leaders had parleyed with the Head Master and Mr. Gatley had used his powers of persuasion. What was the eventual outcome of this disturbance is somewhat obscure, but it was symptomatic of the unrest which pervaded the School at that time.

Protest, however, took a somewhat more light-hearted form, when some members of the Sixth form, disconcerted at having their wearing apparel criticised, arrived for school one afternoon by taxi, all dressed in their Sunday best, their fathers' fanciest waistcoats, coloured socks etc. On this occasion Mr. Parker Mason was wise enough not to comment, nor did he justify his nickname "Wapem", based on his somewhat ominous initials. He was perhaps more generally known as "Shem", again derived from initials, but in this case on those for Head Master. His successor was known for a time as "The New Shem".

Mounting pressure from the staff, supported by their professional association, for an increase in their remuneration, inevitably raised the question of increasing the school fees beyond the £12 limit imposed by the scheme under which the School was administered. Negotiations to that end were very protracted. The Board of Education had to be circumstantially convinced of the necessity for the step, which they would only agree to provided the Local Education Authority concurred. However, some steps were taken to bring the staff salaries into line with those paid by the Lancashire County Council.

At the beginning of April, 1919, the School was inspected, at the Governors' invitation, by the Oxford

and Cambridge Schools Examining Board. Unfortunately at the time of that inspection the School was victim to one of the two severe epidemics of influenza that occurred that school year. The report of the six inspectors was considered by the Governors as on the whole satisfactory. The inspectors apparently supported the Head Master's claim that the School was under-staffed and the buildings, particularly the provision for science, inadequate. Plans for more or less emergency science buildings were mooted and the financial assistance of Manchester Education Committee invited, but with no immediate result. The staff at the time was exceptionally subject to change and very restive on account of the meagre salaries paid. The Head Master complained to the Governors that when one of the staff left the school, because a better financial reward was offered elsewhere, a replacement at the same salary was almost impossible to obtain. However, amongst those whose services the Head Master was able to secure was Mr. W.A. Brierley to teach Art in succession to Mr. Meere. He had served from 1914 to 1919 in the Royal Scots and had been a member of the same Army Concert Party as the famous actor, Sir Cedric Hardwicke. No one who attended the School between the wars will have been unaware of Mr. Brierley's very considerable contribution to the renown the School's dramatic activity achieved during those years.

With the end of the war and the gradual return home of those who had served in the forces and survived unscathed the Old Hulmeians Association was revived. Not surprisingly, like those of an invalid recuperating after a long illness, its first steps were somewhat faltering. At first the football and lacrosse sections, weakened by the loss of many members and the lack of experienced players, met with indifferent success. The Old Boys Golf meeting, however, was again successfully held at Chorlton-cum-Hardy Golf Club and well attended.

When the war came to an end so did many School Cadet Corps. The Hulme unit, however, continued its existence and was the only school unit in Manchester to do so throughout the inter-war years. The location of the Whitsuntide camp was changed in 1919 to Grange-over-Sands where a permanent site was established. The annual camp there became a very successful and highly popular feature of school life. The military aspect of it was never heavily stressed and everything possible was done to make it enjoyable. There are few who participated in these camps who have not their favourite and oft-told stories of incidents that occurred at them. Besides attending the School's own camp, some cadets also took part in a Combined Camp with other school units at Hornsea in July 1919 and again in 1920 and 1921. The Corps dance, another very popular and annual feature was held in December.

In January, 1920, Mr. H.R.W. Anderson, M.A., joined the staff of the School. He had been a Scottish schoolboy international Association footballer and had served in the Highland Light Infantry during the war, being wounded on the Somme in 1916. When many new recruits to the staff found things difficult at the outset, the impact of Mr. Anderson's debut was decisive, dramatic and enduring. A misguided boy started 'trying it on' with the new master. He was tolerated for a brief moment or two by the apparently indifferent newcomer, then quietly summoned to the front of the class with a beckoning finger. Before he knew where he was he was hauled out of the class by the scruff of the neck. The lesson then proceeded as if nothing had happened. One imagines the offender was subsequently made clearly aware of the error he had made. At any rate the mistake was not repeated. Mr Anderson's Scotch accent earned him the nickname of "Jock". He was generally so referred to, but never thus addressed. There are few who came into contact with Mr Anderson who have not their favourite story to tell. It is said that a boy presented by the Head Master - Mr Dennis by that time - with the choice of a beating from him, or being reported to his form master, opted surprisingly for the former with these words, "Will you cane me, Sir? Mr. Anderson is my form master." On another occasion two boys from outside the school stole two bicycles from the cycle-shed while lessons were in progress. Two boys, who witnessed the act, when asked later why they had not raised the alarm, simply explained that Mr. Anderson was teaching them and they were not supposed to look out of the window. Their explanation was accepted without further question.

Shortly after the term began six of His Majesty's Inspectors examined the school. When their visit concluded, they attended a meeting of the Governors and warned them that their report, which would be presented in about two month's time, would be very unsatisfactory. At a special meeting, held after the report was received, the Chairman was requested to invite the Head Master to resign in view of the nature of the

report. After doing everything possible to delay matters and with extreme reluctance, he eventually did so, giving as his justification, with which it is difficult entirely to withhold sympathy, that the salaries paid to the staff were so insufficient that he could not hope to retain an efficient and contented staff and the buildings so inadequate for the vastly increased number of boys attending the School - by that time nearing 600 - and the way the School was developing that it was impossible for him to run the School efficiently under the conditions then prevailing.

At the end of the Summer Term Mr. Dorrans retired after nearly thirty years as instructor in woodwork. He came to the School early in 1891, when manual work was first introduced as an optional subject, taken out of school hours. Since the School had come under the Board of Education woodwork had been taken as part of the regular time-table in the Junior school. The Preparatory Department had also shared in his instruction. His great practical skill and resource had ever been at the service of the School in many ways besides his actual teaching. He laid out the running-track at the sports, supervised the games materials, helped in the staging of plays, in the Corps camps and on the allotments. He had also taken an active part in the work and camps of the Hulme Lads' Club.

He was succeeded in September by Mr. J.W. Bentley, another long-serving and widely useful member of the staff, for besides teaching woodwork he taught music in the junior forms with the help of his clarinet, which was also of service in the school orchestra. Another who joined the staff then was Mr. E.L. Wood, whose previous teaching experience had taken him so far afield as Russia and Mexico. His nickname of "Pinky" derived from the fact that one day Mr. Bentley described red deal timber to his class as pinky wood. Mr. D.M. Williams, M.A., fresh from Oxford and not yet 21, also then began his long and outstandingly distinguished association with the School.

"Alpha" and "Beta" Houses, having now matured to parity with the other Houses were renamed Fraser, after the former Bishop of Manchester, and Whitworth, after the eminent Manchester engineer and benefactor.

Mr Parker Mason's resignation took effect in December 1920. That he had had to face exceptionally adverse conditions is scarcely deniable; but that he was ill-equipped by nature to overcome the difficulties with which he was confronted can also hardly be questioned. One of his staff said of him, "He lacked the ease of manner and warmth of understanding that makes for happy relationships. His self-consciousness resulted in clumsy and difficult confrontations with the staff, with whom he was not popular." Some of the staff it is reported showed their disrespect for him openly to the boys. If this is true, such disloyalty and departure from the traditional code of professional conduct can neither be defended nor excused. Others of his staff and some of his pupils held him in high respect and considered him a most unfortunate and ill-judged man. He spent his declining years as a country parson at Ardleigh in Essex, where he died in 1952.

Whether Mr. Parker Mason was to blame or not and to what extent is a matter of opinion; but what is inescapably evident is that by the time of his departure the discipline of the school had gone to pieces. Boys just did not go to classes if they did not want to, unless the master concerned was one of the stronger personalities, who prevented the school from complete collapse at that time. This process, known as "wagging" a class, was quite common. Small boys were subjected to really unpleasant bullying and fights took place quite openly. Thus the situation that confronted the incoming Head Master was by no means an inviting one, but rather one calling for considerable exercise of tact, enterprise and determination; one requiring experience and understanding of both masters and boys, parents and governors, too.

Whatever the opinions of individuals may be, Time has asserted its healing influence over old wounds and has dulled ancient controversies, so the portrait of Mr. Parker Mason now occupies the place left vacant on the north wall of the New Hall alongside those of the other Head Masters. It was somewhat imaginatively contrived by Mr. J. Chirnside from a photograph printed in "The Hulmeian" when Mr. Parker Mason first took up office; but it has been considered a credible likeness by those who knew him personally. The stern, unsmiling face is that of a man who has undergone much adversity, encountered considerable opposition, fought tenaciously for what he conceived to be right and in that fight suffered the ignominy of defeat. Can we now deny our sympathy to a man who, sorely tried, was perplexed in the extreme?

Chapter 5

Mr. Trevor Dennis

The new Head Master, who took up office in January, 1921, was Mr. Trevor Dennis, M.A. He had been educated at the Merchant Taylors' School, London, and Clare College, Cambridge from which he had graduated in Mathematics and Engineering. After gaining some practical experience of engineering in Egypt and being elected an A.M.I.C.E., he had decided to turn to teaching. A brief stay at Rossall School preceded seven years spent as an assistant master at Sherborne School. He then became Head Master of Lady Manners School, Bakewell. The close contact he gained with staff and boys while in charge of a comparatively small boarding school must have been invaluable to him. At Bakewell he had an opportunity to introduce and develop on a relatively small scale many of the aspects of school life he was later to elaborate at Hulme. His career at Bakewell had obviously been highly successful for the numbers there had vastly increased and the school so revitalised that the Governors of that school were reluctant to lose him, but they accepted that he was capable of undertaking greater responsibilities. He came to Hulme emboldened and sustained by the confidence that a successful career at Bakewell had given him. By this time he had written two school mathematical text-books, one of which - his "Arithmetic" - was in use at Hulme throughout his career there. Another factor in his favour was that he was an accomplished all round athlete. He had represented his school in cricket, rugby football, swimming and fives; his college in cricket, football, hockey and athletics. He was a good actor, had a good singing voice, was keenly interested in music and could play both the flute and the trombone. He was an expert in wood-carving. In fact he was an exceptionally versatile man.

He had the advantage, which his predecessor did not enjoy, of inheriting a staff with a reasonable balance of experienced men and youthful and energetic younger ones. Nor was it a staff reluctant to accept change. Though the school was overcrowded and the buildings inadequate, with the impact of the war diminishing, the obstacles to development were also disappearing. He was paid a definite salary, not one fluctuating in accordance with the numbers attending the school. With the establishment in 1920 of the Burnham Committee and the adoption of the national scale of salaries it recommended, the vexed question of remuneration that had so bedevilled the previous Head Master's career was substantially settled for his tenure of office. Fees inevitably had to be increased in consequence. The Board of Education, after prolonged negotiations, eventually agreed to their being raised in 1921 to £6 a term for the main school and £7 a term for the Preparatory Department. Two years later they were again raised to £8 a term for both. Manchester Education Committee, who had withheld their grant owing to the unsatisfactory report they had previously received, now increased it to £800. One of the criticisms made in that report was that boys left the school too early and so there were too few boys for successful advanced work. By 1920 the number of boys in the sixth form had declined to twelve in all. Immediate steps to remedy this were taken by the introduction of an agreement which parents were obliged to sign, undertaking to keep their boys at school till they were sixteen years of age. The effect of overcrowding was diminished by reducing the practice of setting for mathematics to a minimum. 'Setting', or re-arranging boys into different classes according to their mathematical ability, meant that all boys in the same year had to take mathematics at the same time and occupy normal classrooms, not laboratories etc, thus creating problems of space. Organisation was further simplified by not replacing the Spanish master. As Mr. Dennis dryly remarked in his first report, though a case could be made out for the teaching of Spanish in Manchester, men with a competent knowledge of Spanish who were also competent school masters were not to be found. It was his belief that half the boys who chose to take Spanish did it for no better reason than that it was not necessary to work so hard for a Spaniard as for one of the regular masters.

That Mr. Dennis intended to give the school discipline a much needed tightening up was evidenced by the fact that he early had the school rules codified and displayed on the school notice board. The stock punishment for offenders in detention became to write out the school rules. Not satisfied with this, Mr. Dennis read out the school rules at morning prayers early in the school year, so that no boy could offer the

excuse that he was unaware of the rules he was accused of breaking. It was made clear, too, that rules were not only to be known, they were to be obeyed.

One of these rules emphasised the need for the greatest caution in riding a bicycle in the fast moving traffic of Alexandra Road South. Mr Dennis was so apprehensive of this danger that he personally timed the traffic on that road with his stop-watch and sent detailed reports of his observations to the local press. Accidents were thus fortunately few, but they were nevertheless not unknown.

Soon after the war was over the Old Hulmeians Association raised a fund for the commemoration of those Old Boys who had died in the war. A Memorial Tablet, designed by Mr. E.K. Brice, a former Art Master, was erected in the School and unveiled on June 13th, 1921, by the Lord Mayor of Manchester, Alderman W. Kay, in the presence of Dr. Hall, the first Head Master, for whom it must have been a very moving occasion. The ceremony concluded with the school filing past the Memorial Tablet and the playing by the recently formed school orchestra of the "Funeral March" from Beethoven's Third Symphony.

The major part of the fund was devoted to the purchase of a plot of ground on Kingsbrook Road, fairly near the school. Whalley Range Cricket and Lawn Tennis Club, many of whose members were Old Hulmeians, was also seeking a permanent home at that time and so a joint purchase was made. Much of the credit for this felicitous arrangement was due to H.R. Classen, one of the first boys to enter the school, a staunch member of the Old Hulmeians Association and an outstanding cricketer. The Classen Gateway, erected in 1951 at the entrance to these playing grounds, is evidence of the high esteem in which he was held alike by members of the cricket club and the Old Hulmeians, for whom he had done so much. Perhaps, in a way, it was also an expression and embodiment of the sympathy felt with him and Mrs. Classen in the loss of their dearly loved only son, Geoffrey, also an Old Hulmeian and a very devoted one, in 1929, at the early age of 23, when in his final year at Pembroke College, Oxford. It was also an acknowledgment of the kindness and solicitude the parents had shown to his friends. It was agreed that the Old Boys were to have use of the ground and the club house during the winter months. Thus, at last, the Old Boys had the advantage of a permanent level ground of their own, instead of having to hire from a local farmer a not always satisfactory field on a year to year basis. The ground was formally opened on November 10th 1923, by Councillor J.H. Birley, a Governor of the school. A separate War Education Fund was raised to provide for the payment of the school fees of the children of Old Boys who had fallen.

Before the School's new buildings could be embarked upon a fund had to be provided to meet the cost of paving Princess Road to the east of the school ground. This was obtained by a loan from the Hulme Estate Trustees, who volunteered to lend the money needed at 3½% but the Board of Education insisted that 6% be paid.

The School orchestra, which had given its first performance at the dedication of the War Memorial in 1921, again played on Speech Day. It had provided the accompaniment to the hymn at morning prayers since before Whitsuntide that year. It consisted mostly of violins, though they were violoncellos played by Mr. Hewlett and Mr. Williams. Mr. Dennis played the flute, Mr. Bentley the clarinet. Mrs. Dennis also played the violin and Mrs. Bentley the viola. The conductor was then Mr. Kelsey. Rehearsals took place with a view to the performance of concerts the following winter.

These concerts, devoted in turn to the music of Mozart, Handel and Schubert, both instrumental and vocal, formed part of the series of "Entertainments" that took place on Tuesdays after afternoon school. These events were a notable feature of the School's life during Mr. Dennis's tenure of office. In the first season short or shortened plays by Stanley Houghton, W. W. Jacobs, Lord Dunsany and G.B. Shaw were also performed. Lectures were given by the staff and an Old Boy. On one occasion "The Hulmerists", clad in jackets of blue and trousers of yellow, the School colours, gave a performance of Old English folk songs. Collections were taken and tickets issued for these entertainments to defray the costs, so they were made self-supporting. Mr. Brierley's brilliant and colourful posters did much to publicise these events.

Notable additions to the school staff in 1921 were Mr. L.H. Perraton, M.A., to teach Modern Languages, and Mr. C. James, B.A., to teach English. Mr. Perraton amongst other activities took charge of the Library for several years. General interest in reading at that time is indicated by the establishment of form libraries that year in the lower forms as the result of Mr. James's initiative. Up till then practically the only library in

existence in the lower part of the school had been that established by Mr. W.H. Thomson, which consisted mainly of lighter literature of a generally historical character. Mr. James also took over responsibility for the running of House games and organising the School Athletic Sports. He helped, too, with the running of the Corps, in which he took a commission. On Mr. Franklin's retirement three years later he became Head of the English department. Mr. James wrote the School song, first sung in 1927, the words of which are as follows:-

Reft of his son and his line stayed for ever,
Generous in sorrow our founder then proved;
Freely his all he entrusted that never
Men should be held from the learning they loved.
Small though the seed God hath granted increasing;
Manifold now are the heirs to his name.
See down the ages the line never ceasing,
Firm in affection upholding his fame.
Sing we in chorus in praise of our founder,
In pious remembrance we honour his name;
Proudly unfurl and on high raise his banner,
Shout to the world that our trust is in Hulme,

Hulme! Hulme!

Shout that our trust is in Hulme.

Ours be to follow his noble ambition,
Hand to the future unspotted our shield.
Single of purpose to keep Hulme's tradition,
"Trust, but beware, to nought evil we yield."
When down life's pathway Time's shadow comes stealing,
And youth's early glamour before it departs,
Burn still within us, old memories kindling,
The fire of Hulmes' faith, now aglow in our hearts.
Sing we in chorus in praise of our founder,
In pious remembrance we honour his name;
Proudly unfurl and on high raise his banner,
Shout to the world that our trust is in Hulme,

Hulme! Hulme!

Shout that our trust is in Hulme.

The tune, which was composed by Clive Carey, a musician of some eminence and a close friend of Mr. Dennis from his college days, did not meet with universal acceptance, neither did the words of the song itself; so, soon after Mr. Dennis retired from the Head Mastership, the School song ceased to be sung. There were some, however, who regretted that fact, despite the discordant note with which the tune concluded.

The entertainments of the season 1921-22 showed steady progress. Evening concerts were held in December and the following April. Future developments were foreshadowed by the production of scenes from "The Magic Flute" and Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night" and "Henry V". Hangings were bought to obviate the use of scenery and the establishment of a wardrobe of theatrical costumes was begun. Mr. Brierley's professional expertise was invaluable in the staging of these plays and in the making up of the performers.

In January, 1922, Mr. J.W. Brown, B.A., was appointed to teach Latin. Greek had then disappeared from the curriculum and was not restored to it till a year or two before World War II. At the same time Mr. H. Cardwell, M.A., LL.B., was invited to join the School Committee. He was the first of many Old Hulmeians who have given unstintingly of their time and their money in the service of the school in this way. He was appointed honorary treasurer of the school and served in that capacity till 1951. Another Old Boy, L.H.

Oldfield, showed his abiding interest in the school by founding a prize for English.

Appointments to the School Staff in the September of that year included those of Mr. E.W. Burn, M.A., and Mr. A.H. Ginever, M.A.. If Mr. Burn's stay was relatively short - he left the staff in 1931 - in comparison with Mr Ginever's, it was by no means colourless. Mr. Burn was a very inspiring teacher of mathematics and a ready helper at the Corps Camps. He enlivened Common Room and Classroom alike with his gentle humour and genial personality. Even his accident proneness caused his colleagues much amusement, provided they were not the victims of his ill-starred activities. Mr. Ginever, who had been educated abroad, was a most effective teacher of modern Languages. His violin, too, was a great asset to the school orchestra.

Perhaps the feature of 1922-23 season of entertainment that is most vividly remembered by those attending the School in those years was the performance of Drinkwater's "Abraham Lincoln". Scenes 1 and 2 were performed by the boys one week and scenes 3 to 6 by the staff the following week. It was unfortunate that uttering the line "The officers' horses are also their own" fell to one of the cast whose aspirates were notoriously unreliable. The chief musical and orchestral event of the season, however was the performance of Purcell's "Dido and Aeneas", when the part of Aeneas was performed by H.O. Ferry Charles, who was afterwards to obtain renown with such nationally known compositions as "There'll always be an England", "Silver Wings in the Moonlight" and "We'll meet again". The final activity was a Sacred Concert, which was to become a regular institution at the end of the Lent Term. After Mr. Kelsey retired, Mr. Dennis conducted the orchestra himself till 1934, when he passed on the responsibility for music to Mr. Williams. Besides solo instrumental and orchestral items, the programmes included the singing of Bach cantatas - some of them very difficult and seldom performed at the time - by large choirs, which everyone was encouraged to join. Mr Dennis believed that music should be for the whole School, not just for a few specialists. If the standard of performance was not always high, that mattered less to him than the fact that participation had been experienced by a large number. This was characteristic of the line of policy he pursued. The scope of the School's activities may have seemed in some respects limited at that time; but a vast number of those attending School were involved in these activities to their permanent advantage.

In 1923 Dr. Haden Guest became the first old Hulmeian to enter Parliament. He had been a Labour member of the London County Council and a close associate of H.G. Wells in the Fabian Society. He represented North Southwark from 1923 to 1927 as a member of the Labour Party. E. Macfadyen also became a member of Parliament the following year, but as a Liberal member for Devizes. At the General Election, however, the year after, Macfadyen was defeated; but Haden Guest retained his seat and was appointed Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Health. After further service in the Commons as member for North Islington from 1937 to 1949, he later became a Life Peer. In 1924 he distributed the prizes on Speech Day, being the first Old Hulmeian to receive that honour. Two years previously that function had been carried out by Dr. William Temple, then the Bishop of Manchester, a former distinguished Head Master himself, who later became Archbishop of Canterbury. The address on that occasion made a lasting impression on the minds of his audience.

It will surprise most readers to learn that it was not till 1923 that the telephone was installed at the school and then only one instrument at first. About the same time a wireless club was started, which fostered the construction of home-made receiving-sets. It did not last long, however, as when such apparatus was cheaply mass-produced, this activity presumably lost its appeal. Soon after the war was over a cycling club was formed and runs organised into the country at half-terms and in the holidays; but that, too, did not last long. However, as boys came to school progressively from further afield, cycling to school became increasingly the practice and a cycle shed had to be constructed, as "The Tunnel" had become inadequate to accommodate the number of machines brought to school daily. The expanding catchment of the School also meant that more boys had to have their mid-day meal away from home. Sandwich meals and snacks at local cafés were resorted to; but Mr. Dennis by careful reorganisation and firm measures soon put an end to these practices.

Similar firmness was also shown with regard to dress at games. In the winter if a boy wanted to play in organised games he had to change. In summer he must wear white flannels, though that rule had to be relaxed in the war years owing to the restrictions imposed on the purchase of clothes and so grey flannels were then permitted.

As has already been stated, Mr. Dennis was a good all-round athlete; but it was at cricket that he really excelled. He himself took charge of the coaching of the first team and he had soon raised their standard to such a degree that the School had to go further afield to find worthy opponents. Countless stories could be told of his fanatical enthusiasm for the game. On one occasion it is said he doubted the accuracy of the measurements of the pitch on which his team was invited to play, so he measured it with a tape measure he had brought for that purpose. When the return match was due the visiting team came with a balance in which to weigh the ball. He did not, however, often lose such encounters. When he umpired the first team matches, he kept a notebook in his pocket in which he recorded marks for keenness in fielding. The player who received most marks by the end of the season was rewarded with a cricket bat, presented during his lifetime by H.R. Classen, a prominent Old Hulmeian and Whalley Range cricketer.

The highlight of the season in these Inter-War years from 1922 onwards was the match on the County Ground at Old Trafford against Manchester, a team composed of county professionals and leading amateurs. The School, of course, was almost invariably beaten, but never disgraced. Playing on the County Ground and against such famous cricketers as Harry Makepeace, Geoff Pullar and Jack Bond was regarded by many who took part in these matches as the supreme experience of their School career.

Until the levelling of the School ground was completed in 1928, Mr Dennis used to devote the half-holidays during the Autumn and Spring Terms to digging soil from the mound on the Springbridge Road side of the field and carting it to the pit on the diagonally opposite corner on Princess Road. Unlike Dr Hall, Mr Dennis did not perform these labours in a frock coat and top hat, but in garments more appropriate to such pursuits. He was helped by Mr. McConnell and "volunteers" from the two houses not involved in games that afternoon. When the levelling of the ground was completed, Mr Dennis regularly refereed two House Games every half-holiday. Football to him was a game to be played not watched. The guileless youth, who when questioned as to how he intended to spend the following Saturday afternoon incautiously admitted he was going to watch Manchester City, received a freezing glare and was made to realise he was committing a sin that would not readily be forgotten or forgiven. In the Spring Term Mr. Dennis refereed two House Lacrosse games every half-holiday also. He did not approve of School tennis, as it would to his mind have interfered with his beloved cricket, although he and his wife had in their early days regularly competed in lawn tennis tournaments in the seaside towns. One of the early changes he made was to transfer the Athletic Sports to the Spring Term. Although he himself had competed in such events at Cambridge, he did not encourage systematic training for them. He thought competitors ought to be able to take such events in their stride. One is inclined to suspect that he would have regarded such events as an undue interference with cricket had they occurred in the Summer Term.

He was keenly interested in the Corps. When the school unit went to their camp at Grange-over-Sands at Whitsun, he invariably stayed in the town and paid frequent visits to the camp. The Corps band, which replaced the conventional bugle and drum affair, was also due to his initiative. It led the march to Cartmel Priory on Whit Sunday and to the Parish Church at Grange the Sunday after. On one occasion, we are told, the big drummer was so enthusiastic that he lost his grip on his drumstick, which sailed in the air over the roadside hedge and landed in a field, where the cows, congregated to discover what was disturbing their Sabbath calm, were extremely reluctant to release the cause of their discomfort. According to another informant, on that or a similar occasion, the big drummer in an excess of zeal burst the parchment skin of his instrument much to the amusement of the onlookers, but much to the annoyance of Major Barber. The highlights of the camp were the Inspection by a visiting officer on the intervening Thursday, when a good report was invariably well earned, and Windermere Day, the day after. Then the whole Corps marched the eight miles to the Lake before enjoying a steamer trip down its length. After that the cadets were dismissed to enjoy themselves as they pleased till it was time for the return journey. The day was rounded off with a huge and much enjoyed meat and potato pie supper provided by Mrs. Barber, who always presided over the cooking at these camps with the same competence and distinction that characterised all her husband's activities. The quality of the diet was quite a feature of these camps and when on one occasion the N.C.O. on duty, - later, after a distinguished career at Cambridge, to become a leading Civil Servant - instead of the usual grace slipped up to say "For what we are about to receive may the Lord have mercy upon us", all

present fully appreciated that it was just an accidental slip of the tongue, such as we are all guilty of from time to time, and not an intentional reflection on the quality of the meal about to be consumed. These Whitsun camps were held annually till the first year of World War II. In 1931 the somewhat pacifist government of the day withdrew the grant from the Corps, as a result of which it was no longer entitled to the free loan of camp equipment. The camp, however, took place as usual and the other activities of the Corps remained substantially unaffected. A poem by J.C.P. Besford the Olympic swimmer, referred to later in this narrative, contributed to "The Hulmeian" in 1928, shortly after he left school entitled "Soliloquy of an Old Cadet" captures the atmosphere of the Grange-over-Sands Camps so effectively that it is worth reprinting.

Camp!
White tents in a line,
The bay below, with sombre shine,
Sleeps 'neath a sultry sun.
A wreath of smoke from the cookhouse
Eddies and lingers unspun
On the still air.
A clear clatter of plates and mugs
Comes from the big marquee,
Where was wasps and bugs
Hum round a jumpot.
Some sheep,
Asleep,
Lie under shady trees
Where the rock outcrops from the turf.
Now and again a breeze
Rustles through the tree tops
And dies.

Tramp!
The noise of feet,
Keeping time to a single beat
Comes from a field away.
A sharp command of "Parade, left wheel!"
Shatters the peace of the day
With its crisp tone;
They march up the meadows between,
And through the open gate;
A brassy sheen
Comes from their buttons
"Parade!
Parade!
Halt, into line, left turn!"
"Parade, dismiss!"
These memories
Surge through his mind and burn;
He brushes them away
And sighs.

At the end of the Summer term in 1923 the Corps joined a party organised by the Essex Territorial Association for a week's tour of the battlefields of France. Similar tours took place in the following years till the outbreak of World War II, though sometimes the battlefields of Belgium were visited instead. In 1923 the

Corps establishment was increased from one to two companies. Captain Barber was promoted to Major, Lieutenants Anderson and Gatley became Captains. Mr Gatley confined his activities to acting as Quartermaster in Camp and as Recruiting Officer.

In 1924 the School's first major dramatic production for many years took place. It took the form of a performance on four evenings of Gilbert and Sullivan's "H.M.S. Pinafore". It was produced by Mr. Brierley, who himself played a leading part, as did Mr. Williams, Mr. Davies and Mr. Powell. Mr. Dennis directed the music. As the existing stage was only about fifteen feet by twelve and but two feet high, a new one had to be constructed. This was done by Mr. Bentley and a gang of boys during the half holidays of the Winter terms. A solid ship with bridge, cannons and rigging was constructed for the production. A fair profit was made, which was devoted to the purchase of instruments for the orchestra and a new drop curtain for the stage.

In July, 1924, Mr Hewlett retired after 34 years' service at the school. Although he had studied Classics at the Universities of Manchester and Cambridge, he taught chiefly modern Languages and Geography. He had acquired his intimate knowledge of French and German principally in holidays spent abroad. His enthusiasm for languages resulted in his introducing into the school the then new direct method of imparting the language by the exclusive use of the tongue being taught. His teaching of Geography was equally progressive, for his method was to explain why things happen as they do in the universe, to encourage boys to examine the characteristics of their own environment rather than to enforce the memorising of arid place names and facts. It was said of him, however, that he could teach any subject and make it interesting. From December, 1891 to July, 1924, he edited every number of "The Hulmeian". Until the orchestra was formed, in which his instrument was the 'cello, he played the harmonium to accompany the hymns at morning prayers. He acted as Honorary Secretary and Treasurer of the Old Hulmeians War Education Committee from its inception. Somewhat mischievously nicknamed "Piggy" he had mannerisms which invited imitation, but they did not diminish the esteem - often increased in retrospect - in which he was held and which his erudition and amiable character alike inspired. That admiration is testified by the fact that when one of his former pupils founded prizes for Geography, he preferred that they should be known by Mr. Hewlett's name rather than the donor's own.

He was replaced as Geography Master by Mr. E.O. Robinson, M.A., who took an active part in the running of games and the athletic sports till he was appointed to a senior post elsewhere in 1932. He also appeared on the School stage and sang in the choir. Another appointment that September was that of Mr. F.S. Harris, M.A., to teach Chemistry, a post he retained till he joined the army in World War II. He was an officer in the Corps throughout that period and was also prominent in the running of games, the first XV in particular. He returned briefly after the war was over, but soon left to take up another post.

At the end of Autumn Term, 1924, another of the leading figures in the early days of the school was to make his departure, Mr. J.I. Franklin, who overlapped Mr. Hewlett by just one year, had taught English subjects, which then included History. His nickname, "Jiffy", derived from his initials, not from any habit of procrastination or tolerance of such habits in others. It is said that, however plausible their excuses, he greeted late-comers with the remark, "Excuse or no excuse, if it had been a distribution of half-crowns, you would have been here in time." Another nickname applied to him "The Duke" probably derived from his somewhat austere manner and aristocratic bearing. He had taken a very active part in the management of the school games, having been secretary for both football and cricket, as well as of the Games Club Committee. He took over the running of lacrosse, when Mr. Badham left, until succeeded by Mr. Barber. He took a great interest in the Old Hulmeians Association and regularly supported its activities. He was for some years Secretary of the Old Hulmeians Golf Club and on several occasions took part in its functions even after he retired to live at Hoylake. It is interesting to note that on his retirement he was presented by the School with a two valve listening-in set and two sets of headphones, such equipment being then necessary if one were to listen to wireless programmes. He died in 1947. He was succeeded as English Master by Mr. Eric Partridge, M.A., B. Litt., who remained but a brief while before taking up lectureships at Manchester and London Universities and eventually becoming an acknowledged authority on English language, particularly its slang and other less reputable aspects.

The major dramatic production that year was W.W. Jacobs' "Beauty and the Barge". The play has not

much plot or serious dramatic interest and thus depends for its effect wholly on the acting. Thanks to the experience the cast had gained in the Tuesday afternoon plays, this was apparently of a high standard. The practicable barge used in the course of the play was then an ambitious undertaking for a school stage and the forerunner of many such adventurous scenic effects in future productions.

At Easter in 1925 Mr. Powell took the first of his School parties to Paris. Though such undertakings later became commonplace, at that time it was quite an innovation and the School party was followed along the Boulevards by staring crowds and photographers and received by hotel proprietors and their staffs with utmost respect and cordiality. The party was, however, a little surprised when the very friendly concierge of the hotel at Autheuil, where they stayed, on hearing where the boys came from, exclaimed with a beaming smile, "Ah! Manchester. How you say - ze pees-pot of ze British Empire" and so to learn that the unflattering, if undeserved, reputation of their city's weather had preceded them. The Paris trip became a regular institution and continued, interrupted only by World War II, till 1976 when the cost became prohibitive.

At the end of that School year the School said goodbye to yet another of its long serving masters, Mr. Kelsey, who had spent 34 years on the staff. While from time to time he had taught other subjects, his work in later years had been confined to Classics and History. His teaching was marked by an orderliness and painstaking care that could not but have a lasting effect on the boys in his charge. Though he taught Classics by the modern direct method, his instruction in History it seems, was somewhat unduly influenced by his Classical upbringing. It is claimed that he considered everything worth noting happened before 1485 A.D. and events after that date were unworthy of attention. His interest in local History led him to write a "History of Cheshire", a companion volume to the "History of Lancashire" by Mr. Hewlett. For something like 25 years Mr. Kelsey acted as Honorary Secretary of Cricket and Football, which he himself had played enthusiastically. He also acted as Librarian and Conductor of the School orchestra, of which his wife was also a member. She was prone to interrupt his wielding of the baton, not always with the happiest results.

He was succeeded as Senior History Master by John Lord, M.A., an Old Hulmeian and one of his former pupils, who had gained a First Class in History at Cambridge and had won public awards while at school and when at University. On leaving Cambridge he had taken up a post at Liverpool Collegiate School and had written books on modern industrial history. While at Hulme as a master he published a series of history textbooks for schools, which were used for many years. He was a very capable and effective teacher and did much to bring the teaching of the subject at the school up to date, by giving the history syllabus a relevance to contemporary conditions it had not hitherto possessed. His departure to become the first Headmaster of Audenshaw Grammar School in 1932 was much regretted as was his lamentably early death but a few years after. He sent his three sons to the school, where, though in different ways, they had distinguished careers like their father before them.

In December, 1925, the last survivor of the "Old Brigade", those who had served so long with Dr. Hall, Mr. J.W. Morley retired, perhaps the most colourful and most loved of them all. He was the last of those men, who, though their education at the University was cast in the somewhat rigid classical or mathematical mould prevalent in their time, yet had sufficient resource and elasticity of mind to be able to adapt themselves to teaching with competence a wide variety of subjects. These masters did not seek renown, but they achieved something of greater worth, an abiding place in the affection and esteem of the boys they taught. Mr. Morley had been educated at Dulwich College, when Bishop Welldon, who was later to become Chairman of the Governors at Hulme, was Headmaster there. After coming down from Pembroke College, Cambridge, Mr. Morley spent two or three years on the Continent teaching at Bex in Switzerland and Neuenheim College, Heidelberg and thus acquiring a practical command of French and German before he joined the Hulme staff. He was an enthusiastic teacher and so he readily adopted the "Direct Method", the recently initiated technique of teaching by conducting conversations in the language being taught, rather than relying on the established method of instilling mechanically memorised grammar and requiring lifeless translation of passages that had negligible relevance to contemporary conditions. Ever anxious to keep up to date, he even attended a course on Phonetics - then a new subject of study - but three years before his retirement. He was a keen playgoer in the days when Miss Horniman's Gaiety Theatre was in its prime and

was treasurer of the Playgoers' Club, which had been formed among its patrons. He was also a keen amateur actor and was a member for several years of the "Unnamed Society", then at the height of its renown. He directed and took part in many school productions. When the school began its association with the Hulme Lads' Club in 1893, Mr. Morley joined the Committee of the Club and was its Chairman for 25 years, from 1901 till his retirement from the school. He took charge of the annual collection in the school, which rose from £11 at the outset to over £250 in his last year.

"Peter" Morley was a man about whom stories are inevitably told. His nickname was bestowed on him one Tuesday afternoon in October, 1898, when his German lesson to the Modern Third followed a period when Dr. Hall had been dilating to that form on the shortcomings of St Peter. The boys, happening to incur Mr. Morley's displeasure and he in turn theirs, decided to christen him thus. When he reprimanded an errant pupil, he would use some such phrase as "quelque peu cochon" and then, rolling the phrase round his tongue, repeat it with obvious relish and finally break into a broad smile that softened the impact of the rebuke. His florid countenance, bow tie and fancy waistcoat covering his portly figure combined to give him a faintly Bohemian appearance, which was probably partly responsible for his widely-spread, but ill-founded reputation as an imbibor. Once a year on his birthday one of his senior class delivered a congratulatory oration on the occasion to him in French and then presented him with a bottle of beer with a blue ribbon tied round its neck. The blue ribbon was doubtless prompted by Mr. Morley's strongly held Conservative political opinions, which were much at variance with the Liberal views then locally prevalent. After his address the speaker then removed the mortar board, tipped at its usual provocative angle, from Mr. Morley's head and took a collection in it from the class. Mr. Morley then made a felicitous reply. That same evening an old tramp always called at Mr. Morley's house to collect the money: Mr. Morley drank the beer. The story is told, too, that when Mr. Morley was teaching the Sixth Form in a class-room overlooking Springbridge Road and a pretty nursemaid was passing by with her pram, Mr. Morley's attention was adroitly drawn to the fact. He would then adjust his tie, straighten his waistcoat, smile and courteously raise his mortar board in salute to the young lady. Then the lesson would proceed with the customary decorum. His oddities did but increase his popularity. The first of the staff to fly to London from the old aerodrome site off Princess Road, he was seen off on that occasion by a considerable number of boys, who had turned out to wish him "bon voyage". When late in life he married, he invited the whole of the Classical Sixth to his wedding ceremony and to the superb breakfast that followed. His affability, unfailing courtesy and sense of justice made him deservedly popular with his colleagues and with all Hulmeians.

Mr. Morley's place on the Modern Language staff was taken by Mr. O.A. Rayfield, M.A. There can have been few masters who in a relatively brief stay of six years have made so great an impact. Diminutive in stature, he could - and did - pass as a schoolboy in a borrowed cap, when entering sports grounds where an entrance fee was payable. Once when he was going home at half-term carrying an obviously new suit-case, which he admitted had been a twenty-first birthday present, Mr. Powell caustically remarked to him, "So you're twenty one, are you? One would never have thought it." He had been a member of the Marlowe Society at Cambridge and so was an experienced actor. In his first term at Hulme he took the leading part of the inflexible employer, Anthony, in a performance of Galsworthy's "Strife", Mr. Dennis playing the part of his antagonist, the strike leader, Roberts. It was a felicitously apposite choice of play, for the General Strike of 1926 took place but a month or two after the performance. It was memorable also for the impressive backcloth designed by Mr. Brierley and the superbly realistic crowd scene. It was the first of many productions in which Mr. Rayfield took a major part. The same term he produced Stanley Houghton's "The Younger Generation" for the newly formed Old Hulmeians Musical and Dramatic Society. Until the outbreak of World War II brought its activities to a widely lamented permanent close, this lively organisation presented many interesting and worth-while plays, such as, amongst many others, Galsworthy's "Loyalties" and "Silver Box", Barrie's "Dear Brutus" and "Mary Rose", Bridie's "Tobias and the Angel" and "The Black Eye", Flecker's "Don Juan", Kapek's "R.U.R." and "Adam the Creator", Gheon's "The Marvellous History of St Bernard", Rice's "See Naples and Die" and "Judgement Day", the literary and dramatic value of which show that the taste and experience gained at school had borne ample fruit. The plays were performed at various public halls in South Manchester and eventually at the Lesser Free Trade Hall in the City. The connection

with the school was preserved by the fact that most of the earlier productions were directed by members of the staff, particularly Mr. Powell and Mr. Brierly. Besides providing a musical background when required at these performances and particularly in the pantomime "Aladdin", conducted by Mr. D.M. Williams, the orchestra, possessing greater maturity and expertise than in their schooldays, gave an annual concert, in which the choir also participated. These concerts were memorable alike for their quality and content. Dances, Social evenings and Sunday rambles in the country formed much enjoyed adjuncts to its activities.

Mr. Rayfield not only played a leading part in many of the above mentioned plays he was also of invaluable service to the Old Boys and the school as a musician, for he was an exceptionally accomplished pianist and also played the viola. He took two School parties on walking tours in Germany, in 1929 to the Black Forest and in 1931 to the Mosel and the Rhine. On both occasions he was accompanied by the present writer, Mr. K.P. Thompson, B.A., who joined the staff at the same time as Mr. Rayfield. The parties stayed the nights at Youth Hostels, then but newly instituted and so, at times, anything but luxurious. However the insight gained into Germany and its institutions at that time made a lasting impression on the minds of all those who participated in these trips. Few who went on the Black Forest trip will forget the long extra day and night spent on the journey home when Mr. Rayfield discovered that the return ticket for the journey through France was missing and the only train that would catch the night boat departed while the matter was being discussed with the railway authorities. Perhaps the highlight of the Mosel trip was the hair-raising coach ride to Burg Eltz, followed by the lovely walk through the silver birch woods and the visit to the enchanting castle in their midst. Others would urge the claims of the night spent in the partially restored ruins of a castle overlooking the Rhine and the twilight international al fresco concert there, accompanied on his lute by the oddly clad warden, which recreated in the imagination of the participants the sing-songs that must have taken place there in medieval days.

One of the consequences of the General Strike of 1926 was that the Corps Camp at Whitsun had to be postponed. The Government in its alarm called in all the Corps' rifles, though none of them could be of any use as lethal weapons. Happily, when the strike was over, the rifles were returned in time to be used at the postponed camp in August.

In the Spring Term of 1926 the school was again visited by the Board of Education inspectorate; but their verdict this time was very different from what it had been on the previous occasion. They found much to praise, little to criticise except the inadequacy of the premises. Plans for the remedy of this defect were already under consideration and they were carried into effect the following year. The new Science block, erected to the east of the existing building, comprised two advanced laboratories, two elementary laboratories and two lecture rooms for chemistry and physics. There was also a common room for the Science Staff, as well as the necessary preparation and store rooms together with a dark room for optics and photography on the ground floor. On the floor above there were two classrooms for general use. These were furnished with collapsible folding desks and movable chairs, which suited boys of all ages. It was some time, however, before their use was extended throughout the school and the combined desks and seats, that had been in use ever since the school was opened, finally discarded. The existing laboratories in the old building were now freed for use as classrooms. The two on the top floor were henceforth reserved for the teaching of Geography. A much needed gymnasium was built and equipped to the North of the new science block. It was provided with adequate changing rooms and shower baths, so boys were now expected not merely to discard their jackets and footwear for gym, but to undress completely and wear shorts alone. The truncated new Hall was also at last completed in the same brick as the original building. The austerity of the times hardly permitted the lavish expenditure building the new science block in the same style would have entailed. The extension of the New Hall permitted the enlargement of the stage and the Manual Room, the erection of two changing rooms and the rebuilding of the two classrooms below the stage in a more solid and so more soundproof manner.

The new buildings, which had cost £22,000 were formally opened on November 15th by Lord Derby, who created consternation when he said that he was not going to ask for the usual extra day's holiday, only to be greeted with resounding cheers, when, after a moment's pause, he added he was going to ask for two days. The new buildings, amongst many other advantages, now permitted the division of the two years of the

Sixth Forms, so that they could be taught separately. The organisation of the school had become much simplified by this time. The top form of the Preparatory Department became the Lower First and was Mr. Williams's especial charge. It provided a useful nucleus of boys, familiar with the School and its ways, who could help newcomers to find their feet, when the general influx of new boys took place in September. The three first forms each had their due share of boys who had gained free places, of boys from the Preparatory Department and of other entrants. At the end of the first year, after pursuing the same curriculum and taking a common examination they were re-grouped according to their inclination and ability into the A forms, which took Latin and Science with a general intention of a professional career, the B forms, who took German as well as French with a view to entering the business world, and the C forms whose future was less rigidly defined. These forms generally remained unchanged till they took the School Certificate in the fifth forms where they were in the charge of Mr. Powell (5A), Mr. Gatley (5B) and Mr. Anderson (5C). Upon these three masters much of the stability of the School rested. Before he could go into the Sixth Form a boy had to pass in sufficient specific subjects in the School Certificate to qualify for matriculation. Those who failed to do so had either to leave, or stay down in the fifths for another year. The Upper Science Sixth was in the charge of Mr. Adams, the Lower Science Sixth in that of the Headmaster. On the Arts side Mr. Anderson was responsible for the Upper forms both Classical and Modern and Mr. D.M. Parren, M.A., who succeeded Mr. James on the English staff in 1928 for the Lower form. The form masters of the fifth and sixth forms remained unchanged till after the outbreak of World War II, ensuring an equilibrium, which allowed less permanent members of the staff the opportunity to adjust themselves to the spirit of the school.

The twenties, though an era of ever-increasing industrial and economic depression for the nation was a period of steady development and progress for the School, all the better, perhaps, for being unspectacular in some respects. The school numbers remained fairly consistently about the 500 mark, but the Sixth Form, after the decline in the War Years, steadily increased from 12 in 1920 to 52 in 1930. The number of Higher School Certificates gained showed a marked increase from 6 in 1920 to 15 in 1925 and 22 in 1930. The majority of Sixth Form leavers went on to Manchester University, some to graduate with distinction. Just one or two went to Oxford or Cambridge until the end of the decade, when the numbers going up to the older Universities showed a marked increase. The first to gain one of 200 State Scholarships made available to the whole country from 1920 onwards was D.L. Griffiths, who, after a highly successful and distinguished medical career, became Chairman of the School's Governing Body.

The enlarged stage and greatly improved equipment facilitated the production of steadily more ambitious theatrical undertakings. From 1925 onwards till the outbreak of World War II plays were performed at the end of the Christmas Term and again just before Lent. Particularly memorable, in addition to Galsworthy's "Strife", previously mentioned, and Shakespeare's "Julius Caesar" were Drinkwater's "Oliver Cromwell", Priestley's "Laburnum Grove", Sherriff's "Journey's End" and Shaw's "St Joan", for such plays were rarely then attempted by schools. Memorable, too, for their elaborate presentation were "Ambrose Applejohn's Adventure", "Treasure Island" and Milne's "Make Believe" and "Toad of Toad Hall". One of the most ambitious of these productions was Mozart's "Magic Flute", in which R. Mark, later Sir Robert and Chief Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police took the part of Pamina, Mr. Parren of Tamino, G.A. Clare Sarastro, Mr. Williams Papageno, Mr. Powell Monostatos, A. White Queen of the Night, D.N. Buttrey Papagena. Limited the success of the production from a musical point of view may have been, but indisputably it made a very lasting impression on performers and audience alike. The school was fortunate in having on the staff as producers in these inter-war years A.L. Powell, W.A. Brierley, O.A. Rayfield, D.M. Parren and Mr. Dennis himself, all highly competent actors and experienced in stage craft, yet so diverse were their interests in the theatre that the plays they presented embraced a very wide range of the drama. It cannot be claimed that these productions were all uniformly artistically successful, but they had an enduring impact on both players and spectators and were well worth the effort involved. Some would suggest that the necessary rehearsals encroached unduly on the performers' time for study, especially if they happened to live at some distance from the school. It was Mr. Dennis's theory, however, that if something new and ambitious was being undertaken an intelligent boy could be relied upon to overcome all obstacles and adapt himself to the novel enterprise however difficult and unfamiliar it might be. There may well be a measure of truth in that

dictum; but it sometimes involved putting those concerned under considerable strain.

The One Act plays performed on Tuesdays became more and more an established feature of the School life. Every form with a lively core of acting enthusiasts and a willing form master was anxious to participate in the annual series. Particularly popular with the audiences were those plays performed by the Preparatory Department and by Lower I, who, guided by Mr Williams, by their corporate efforts furnished their own scripts. Original plays were also written by individual boys, including amongst others L.O. Mosley, later to obtain considerable renown as a journalist and prolific author of biographies and war-books, and James Mark, who afterwards distinguished himself as a Scholar at Cambridge and as a Senior Civil Servant. The proceeds of the entertainments provided the funds for the purchase of instruments for the Corps Band, which from 1927 onwards for many years furnished the accompaniment for the hymn at morning prayers on Fridays, the day of the normal weekly parade. The Band also performed on Corps Inspection Day, at Camp and at other functions.

In April, 1930, the school had a fortunate escape. A fire broke out during the night in the Elementary Chemistry Laboratory, the cause of which was never discovered. Luckily the doors and windows were closed, so the fire did not spread and what might have proved a disaster averted; but over £300's worth of damage was done.

At the end of the decade the School was faced with a formidable threat to its finances. Manchester Corporation announced its intention to drive a new road along the south side of the School field, thereby making the School liable to a considerable paving charge and also rendering impossible the desired extension of the school field. Although the levelling of the existing field had been completed by 1928, thanks to the labour and enthusiasm of the Headmaster, Mr. McConnell and senior boys, the ground available for the number of boys involved in games each half-holiday was still quite inadequate. Games were not compulsory, but it was expected that every fit boy would turn up for them every Wednesday and Saturday afternoon. One of the reasons why the school adopted Rugby Football in 1931 was that it enabled 30 boys to participate in games in the same area as 22 boys playing Association Football would have occupied. Even so, there was still considerable congestion. However, Lord Egerton was approached and terms were eventually agreed upon for the school to purchase some 4 or 5 acres of land adjoining the existing field. This further territory, which had been used for allotments ever since World War I, was levelled and prepared for use by 1935. About this time much useful work was done during the dinner hour and the mid-morning break by junior forms who weeded selected areas of the field.

Though he was familiar with both codes of football and a skilful player at each, Rugby undoubtedly had Mr Dennis's preference. When the game was introduced at Hulme, he was very anxious that the rules of the game should be clearly understood and strictly observed. Modifications to the rule about tackling he had suggested to the Rugby Union authorities had been accepted and adopted to the game's great advantage.

The change over to the Rugby code was greeted with general enthusiasm. A new type of shirt was adopted. School teams wore jerseys with horizontal stripes of alternate gold and blue conforming in style with the bars on William Hulme's shield. The new goal posts, which had to be erected, were also striped in gold and blue. House jerseys, too, were introduced at this time; but each was of one colour only. The Byrom shirt was red, Dalton dark blue, Fraser lilac, Gaskell light blue, Heywood gold, Whitworth green. Thus, on a half-holiday the school field presented a very colourful scene, such as would have delighted Dr. Hall, who was forever harping on the poor attendance at games and who, like Mr. Dennis, had done so much to secure the ground for the School and make it something of which the School could be proud. He might well have described it as "a fair field full of folk". Previously all players had worn the School colours except when providing the opposition, when white shirts had been worn. One of the advantages of the new arrangement was that each boy now needed only one shirt for the winter games, which he would wear on every occasion. As anyone who has any knowledge of the game will agree, it is even more essential in the Rugby code for the side to which the player belongs to be readily identifiable. Soon after the new House jerseys came into use, House colours were awarded to consistent and meritorious players. Each House devised and manufactured its own peculiar and exclusive emblem, which was generally derived from some outstanding feature of the House shield.

In 1930 the pattern of the School cap was changed. There is some suggestion that the old cap was not sufficiently distinctive and as a result boys from the School were being accused by outsiders of misdemeanours for which they were not actually responsible. The new cap had a somewhat larger peak and covered the head a little more adequately. It was of a royal blue rather than the original navy and had the Hulme lion embroidered on it in red at the front. A blazer for general school wear was introduced at the same time of the same colour and with the Hulme lion again in red on the breast pocket. Cap and blazer, the wearing of which was then compulsory, have remained unchanged in pattern since then. Those who were awarded their colours for proficiency in games had the privilege of wearing a special blazer still of blue but with narrow gold vertical stripes. A hatband for straw hats popularly known as boaters, was also introduced at the same time. This was again of royal blue with the red Hulme lion at the front. Before long, however, the wearing of these somewhat unpractical hats went generally out of fashion. One informant recalls having his blown off in Piccadilly, the first time he wore it and chasing it between the trams down Market Street to the derisive jeers of the passers-by.

The enlarged School field increased the scope for lacrosse, which though it had been in the past a minority game played by a relatively small number, mostly small boys encouraged by Mr Gatley's keenness and interest, was yet taken up with considerable ardour and success by boys at the top end of the School. It was a somewhat rare occurrence for a Hulme team to be defeated by another school. Even when opposed by the junior teams of adult clubs, the School team emerged victorious in the competition for the Junior Challenge Shield in 1924 and again in 1925, being the first team to do so in successive seasons. When the School team was taken to Cambridge by Mr. Barber in 1930 to provide practice opposition for the University team in preparation for the Varsity match, it won the game by 7 goals to 4. It was in the early thirties that the School lacrosse attained its highest peak in the inter-war years. The School team reached the final of the Junior Challenge Shield competition every year from 1932 to 1935, emerging victorious on the first three of these occasions. Perhaps its most triumphant season was 1933-4, when after vanquishing all its usual opponents by very large margins, it defeated a full Cambridge University side by 14 goals to 10. The superb school team of these years owed much of its success to the skill and combination of R.H. Pear and the twins C.T. and J.R. Howard, whose mutual understanding, the result of many years' practice together, was dazzling to behold.

It was in the early thirties, too, that the Old Hulmeians lacrosse teams achieved their greatest triumphs in the inter-war years. Champions of the North of England from 1930 to 1933, in 1932 the first team, under the captaincy of J.P.V. Woollam, won all possible honours and the A and C teams headed their respective divisions. Much of the success of the School and the Old Hulmeians in lacrosse during these years was due to the untiring energy and enthusiasm of J.A. Barber, who though he retired from the Old Boys' First Team in 1925 after playing for them for 23 years, still continued to turn out for other teams and the School for many years thereafter. J.P.V. Woollam, who had led the first team to victory in the Championship in 1927-8 and had won his Olympic colours with the British team in Amsterdam, long continued to give support and encouragement to other teams after he had retired from the first team.

The Old Hulmeians Golf Club held its annual meeting on Ascension Day in these inter-war years. Added interest to these occasions was given by the presentation of a Challenge Cup for the best gross score by H.H. Vlies in 1925 and of another cup for the best card returned by a player with a handicap of over twelve by W.F. Merchant, also an Old Hulmeian, in 1929. Both of these gentlemen had sons at the school, who distinguished themselves in games like their fathers before them. Incidentally one may mention that the winner of the Bradbury Cup in 1924 and the following year was Mr. Dennis the Head Master.

The Association of Old Hulmeians in London was revived in 1931 and continued to meet until the outbreak of World War II interrupted its activities. These included an Annual Dinner usually held at the end of October in order to coincide with the School's Autumn half-term holiday. Many of the staff made the journey to London to be present then, as did representative members of the parent Association in Manchester. Other activities included the occasional hot-pot supper and lacrosse and cricket matches. Its secretary in these years was T.L. Brown.

Lacrosse was played by all at School in the Spring term from 1930 onwards, Rugby being restricted to

the Christmas term as a House game and ultimately for School teams also. Confining each game to one term concentrated the training and made team co-ordination and mutual understanding of players more effective while the season lasted, but it presented problems over the arrangement of fixtures and players tended to get out of touch with their game in the prolonged off season. The denomination of the School teams also changed. With Association three senior School teams had been run with an Under 14 X1 as a nursery team. With Rugby, at first, only two senior teams were run and the age limit of the junior team was raised a year to Under 15.

The new field permitted the erection of a permanent pavilion in 1930. This was provided by the generosity of an Old Hulmeian, Mr. Walter Thorpe, whose firm had constructed the new buildings in 1927. The pavilion was sited in the middle of the boundary between the original field and the newly acquired ground.

The purchase of the new ground removed the territorial threat to the school, but in the early thirties the school was faced with other problems again menacing its finances. Manchester Grammar School decided to move out from the centre of the city to Rusholme, thus competing for pupils in an area from which many Hulmeians came. This challenge was to some extent off-set by the fact that in 1932 Mr Dennis was invited to attend the Headmasters' Conference, thus giving Hulme the status of a Public School, and parity in that respect with the Grammar School. The Manchester Education Committee, however, also established Grammar Schools in Chorlton and Burnage, where lower fees were charged than those of Hulme. Manchester had not yet recovered from the economic depression of the twenties, so though the academic standards of Hulme were steadily improving, the numbers in the Sixth Forms increasing and with that the numbers going up to Oxford and Cambridge either by Open Scholarships or other awards, many parents were compelled by the financial stringency of the times to remove their sons earlier than they wished. Consequently overall numbers tended to drop and when members of the staff left they were not always replaced and their work was undertaken by the existing staff.

In an endeavour to improve the School music and singing at Morning Prayers Mr Dennis had a new School Hymn Book compiled and arranged for it to be printed by the Oxford University Press. It was largely, but not exclusively, composed of hymns from "Songs of Praise" and "The Oxford Book of Carols". Due attention was paid to the literary merits and spiritual force of the hymns chosen. Unlike the school hymn book previously utilised, the new book, which came into use in 1931, also contained the music. The new book was initially greeted with great enthusiasm but later when the novelty waned, or perhaps when the hymn was particularly difficult, the volume and quality of the singing occasionally declined. When this occurred, Mr. Dennis would interrupt the hymn, protest that he could see but one boy with his mouth open and he was yawning. Then derisively describing his congregation as wet cod fish, he would bully and cajole the boys into more enthusiastic efforts. Although much thought had gone into the compilation of this new hymn book, it embraced hymns of somewhat varying quality as regards both their music and their content. Few, however, will recall singing "Here in the Country's heart" in the appropriate atmosphere of the Grange Camp and remain totally unmoved by the recollection. Supplemented by additional hymns the School Hymn Book was reprinted in 1951. Of recent years, however, its use has been discontinued.

One of the early occasions when it was used was on October 26th, 1931, when the school attended a service at Manchester Cathedral held to commemorate the tercentenary of William Hulme's birth. The address was given by Dr. William Temple, who had been Bishop of Manchester a few years previously, but was then Archbishop of York and later to become Archbishop of Canterbury.

In July, 1932, Mr. Davies retired after 16 years as senior mathematics master at the school. His red hair and bushy uneven eyebrows and florid face, together with his short, but rotund figure and uneven nautical gait made him conspicuous wherever he went. A sound teacher, he maintained a firm, but kindly discipline. The outsize cane he took into his class with him was used on the blackboard to command attention rather than on his pupils, hence the nickname sometimes bestowed on him "Rip-Rap". The exercises he set were not infrequently based on the commercial activities of the Isle of Man whence he came and of which he had many stories to tell, when his attention was skilfully deflected in that direction by some of his more guileful pupils. Apart from teaching, his chief activities at the School had been connected with its entertainments. He had

taken general charge of the stage lighting, had produced and acted in many form plays, some of his own writing. At the conclusion of one of these, he stood mid-stage, warring with all till the final moment, when he plunged his wooden sword into his ample breast and collapsed in a mountainous heap, shouting the title of the play "Victory or Valhalla". He frequently lectured to the School on a variety of subjects and also to outside bodies on his own hobby, Geology. He also sang in the School choir. He was responsible with Mr. Adams for the School expedition to Southport in 1927 to see the eclipse of the sun. In his later years at Hulme he had filled the office of Senior Master. He died in 1939.

Mr Lord left the staff the same term as Mr. Davies; but in his case it was to take the appointment as first Headmaster of Audenshaw Grammar School. He was succeeded as Senior History Master by Mr. C. Morley, M.A., another scholar of distinction, whose teaching bore abundant fruit during his long tenure of that office at the school, which closed only with his retirement in 1963. A keen and accomplished all round cricketer, he was of inestimable value to the School in that sport, throughout his stay at Hulme. He was also, as will later appear, of great service to the School in other sports and a variety of School activities.

Another master who joined the School staff in September, 1932, was Mr. W.Ll. Lloyd, M.A., who assisted Mr. Gatley in the teaching of Geography. As a rugby player his services were of great value in the coaching of the Under 15 team and also with the Old Boys, as when he arrived the School was new to the game. His stay, however, was comparatively short, for he left the school in 1938 to take up a University post. He eventually became Chief Inspector of Education in Wales. An even briefer stay, but nevertheless a very useful one, as far as the School's Rugby was concerned, was that of Mr. H.B. Toft, B.Sc., first as a student-teacher, then as a master. He later captained the English rugby team for some years. Mr. J.C. Blakey, M.A., who joined the Mathematics staff the same term as Mr. Toft was appointed, was also an experienced rugby player, whose services to the School game and to the Old Boy's Rugby club were of great value during the five years he remained at Hulme.

On Christmas Day, 1932, the kindly, lovable Mr. Brockbank's struggle with persistent ill-health ended with his death at the early age of 49. A keen sportsman in his early years, his highly unorthodox high-tossed spin bowling had on occasion played havoc with the School batting in the annual staff match. His persistent championing of the underdog was one of the many endearing aspects of his character. He was succeeded on the Chemistry staff by Mr. H. Lowther, B.Sc., an Old Hulmeian, who had been a distinguished all round athlete at school. While at Manchester University, besides playing cricket and lacrosse for the University, he had established a reputation for himself as a half-miler. He ran in that event for the British Universities team, which visited Germany in 1930. An article he wrote for "The Hulmeian" describing his experiences and stressing the value of that tour in promoting the cause of peace reads sadly ironically in the light of future events. Mr. Lowther eventually succeeded Mr. Brockbank as Form Master of 4C and as such he shared the latter's sympathy with less academic of his pupils. The annual perversions of Shakespeare he produced for the Tuesday afternoon entertainments did much to add to the performers' interest in school life and to the audience's enjoyment, even if they did not meet with the unqualified approval of the English staff. He helped with the running of the School sports and games, particularly lacrosse, when such assistance was of especial value owing to the difficulties caused by the war. He was most useful, too, with the Harvest Camps. Shortly after the war was over 'Monty' Lowther, whose wit and enthusiasm were much appreciated by all with whom he came into contact, to the general regret left the School staff to go to Manchester Grammar School. From there he eventually went on account of his wife's health, to schools in the Isle of Man, where he wrote three school text-books on Chemistry. He, however, died there himself in 1970 at the early age of 60.

Another Old Hulmeian to achieve distinction in the world of sport about that time was J.C.P. Besford, who became backstroke champion of England in 1927, while still at school. After leaving he repeated the achievement six times between 1927 and 1936. When he won the European 100 metres title in 1934 in Magdeburg he received a magnificent bronze eagle mounted on a marble plinth from Adolph Hitler himself. This hundredweight trophy he was able, only with great difficulty, to get into the railway carriage. It was used for many years as a hat stand in the winner's dental practice in Brighton. Besford also took part in the Olympic Games in Amsterdam in 1928 and in Berlin in 1936, having missed the 1932 games because of his dentistry finals. He also participated in the backstroke races in the first Empire Games in 1932 in Canada and

the second Games at Wembley four years later. He took a keen interest in the School's swimming and gave exhibitions of the American Crawl, then a new stroke, at the School Swimming Sports. His poem on the Grange Camps "Soliloquy of an Old Cadet", has been reprinted earlier in this volume. After serving in the R.N.V.R. in World War II he eventually settled in Tokyo, where at the moment of writing he still practises. He has been awarded the O.B.E. for his services to the British Community there.

The School suffered a great blow in June 1934, when Archdeacon Aspinall died. He had been one of the Governors of the school since 1910 and their Chairman since 1919. For twenty years he had been Rector of St. Edmund's, Whalley Range, just a few hundred yards from the School. Even when he accepted another living at St. George's, Hulme, and became a member of the Cathedral staff, he continued to reside in Whalley Range. Thus he was no remote stranger scarcely recognized when paying an infrequent, brief, formal call on the school, but a familiar friend, whose florid face and substantial figure were always welcome in his regular visits to School functions and entertainments. His memory is fittingly preserved by the portrait of him, painted by Mr. Brierley, in the New Hall and the perpetuation of the prize he awarded for Religious Knowledge.

No less regretted was the death of Mr. H. Hargreaves two months later. He had been porter at the school since 1911. First on the premises every morning, never late and almost invariably last out, it is amazing that he could undertake such heavy but mundane duties almost unaided for such long hours for so long and yet remain for ever so courteous and so willing that he became the friend of all, masters and boys alike. He must have swept miles of litter-strewn floor and squirted gallons of ink from his bottle into thousands of blotting-paper filled inkwells in his time. He never missed being at the station when boys set out for camps or for trips abroad. The School has had a no more loyal and reliable servant, however humble his rôle.

In July 1934, Miss Mitford Smith, who had now become Mrs. Rowlands, gave up her position as Head Mistress of the Preparatory Department. She was succeeded by Miss A. Berry whose forceful personality dominated the Department till it eventually came to a close in 1964, a year before her retirement. The high standard of work and behaviour she imposed on her charges, reinforced during the year following their departure from her care by Mr. Williams in Form Lower 1, was of immense value in setting a standard for the somewhat diverse annual influx of newcomers to the School in September.

Amongst those who served under Miss Mitford Smith were Miss K.M. Twelves, Miss N. Evans, Miss M. Caiger and Miss W.M. Davies. Miss Twelves, who joined the Preparatory Department in 1920, died a much lamented early death in 1928. Her memory is preserved in the Challenge Cup for Over 10's presented to the Preparatory Department Sports. Miss Evans, who had joined the staff two years later than Miss Twelves, resigned on her marriage in 1927. She had sung in the School choir and the first tentative attempts at "The Magic Flute". Miss Davies's career at Hulme began in 1928. She took great interest in the Preparatory Department Sports and Games and introduced a percussion band there, which was commended by the Inspectorate. She also played the 'cello in the School Orchestra and sang in the School Choir. Miss Caiger's long and outstanding services began with her appointment to the main School staff in 1919, when there was still a shortage of suitable men teachers. When the situation became easier, she transferred to the Preparatory Department, where she served until 1946, when ill-health compelled her to make an early retirement. Though on medical advice she moved first to Buxton, then to Cheltenham, she continued to keep in touch with the school and paid it frequent visits despite the long journey involved. Her sustained interest in the school is shown by the fact that for the rest of her lifetime after her retirement she presented a prize for Middle School French. She died in 1955 and was buried in Manchester where she was born and which she had served so well. Her funeral was conducted by the Rev. J. Mair, a former pupil of hers at the Preparatory School.

At the end of 1935 Sir Edward Donner died. He had been an outstanding figure in the commercial and cultural life of Manchester. He was a Governor of the School from 1903 to 1926 and for many years acted as Chairman. He became a great friend of Dr. Hall and to the School to which he bequeathed £500. His memory is preserved in the name of the School Library and in the School prayer. Sir Edward Donner's shield is to be found in the New Hall in the left hand corner near the entrance.

That the School Committee should continue to include members with a genuine interest in its welfare was ensured by the appointment to that body of the Old Hulmeians H.H. Vlies in 1937 and G.N.E. Gilliat in 1938,

the sons of both of whom have also played a notable part in the history of the School. In 1937 Canon H.F. Woolnough also joined the School Committee. When Dr. Garfield Williams, then Dean of Manchester, who had succeeded Bishop Welldon as Chairman of the Governors in turn resigned in 1938, Canon Woolnough took over the Chairmanship. He occupied that post for the next thirty years with great distinction and devotion. The passage of time served only to intensify the respect in which he was held, as will appear as this narrative proceeds.

In May, 1935 the School was again inspected by the Board of Education. In their report the Inspectors again found much that was pleasing and little to criticise adversely. The Sixth Form was half as large again and the number of Higher School Certificates gained had almost doubled since their last visit. The number of boys going up to Oxford and Cambridge had steadily increased. The Inspectors commended the new buildings, which had been erected since their previous inspection in 1926, but they felt there was still need for a more adequate School Library. Mr. Dennis was doubtless disappointed that the School's out of class activities to which he devoted so much of his attention and of which he was justly proud went virtually unseen, though he was probably consoled by the approval they met with, despite that, in the Inspectors' report.

To replace masters who had left in July 1935, Mr. B.M. Forrest, M.A., was appointed to teach Classics, and Mr. D.R.G. Martin, M.A., to teach Mathematics, both of whom made notable contributions to the School life in the years that were yet to pass before they joined the Army in World War II - already looming ominously on the horizon - and in the year or two after its conclusion, before they again left to take up Headmasterships. Mr. Forrest re-introduced Greek and Ancient History, which had long been abandoned, to the curriculum. Both he and Mr. Martin took very active parts in the running of the School games, in stage productions and the Cadet Corps.

In October, 1935 the School Cadet Corps, on the strength of its record, was one of seven units chosen by the War Office from 194 applicants for promotion to the status of Officers Training Corps. The School unit was attached to the Manchester Regiment and received much help from its officers in the early years of its altered status. The change offered scope for a greater variety of activity, including more ambitious and realistic field days, and involved preparation and training for Certificate A. It also enabled the contingent to attend O.T.C. camps with other units drawn from Public Schools all over the country at Strensall in Yorkshire in 1936 and at Tidworth Pennings the two following years. The change of status provided a considerable incentive to recruiting and revived interest in shooting. Major Barber, however, felt that the time had come for him to retire from this sphere of activity, so the command of the contingent devolved on Captain Anderson. He was supported by Lieutenants Harris and Forrest till the outbreak of the Second World War, when both joined the Army.

By 1935 sufficient boys, nurtured in the Rugby Code, had left School for an Old Hulmeians Rugby Club to be formed. A ground was leased at Yew Tree Road, Wythenshawe, and three or four teams were fielded in that and successive years; but when the war broke out this club's activities had to be suspended. The club owed much in its earlier years to the drive and capacity for organisation of C.G. Dennis, qualities which he had inherited from his father, the Head Master, and which he had himself already shown while Head Prefect at the School.

On October 28th, 1936 the first Parents' Evening was held. Parents for the first time were given a formal invitation to discuss their sons' progress and prospects with the teaching staff. This first occasion was somewhat chaotic, as all interviews took place in the Halls and some parents attempted to see all the masters who taught their boys, on principle, regardless of whether they had any specific matter to discuss and so were inclined to claim for themselves an unfair share of each master's attention. The result was the meeting was unduly prolonged. However, valuable experience was gained and in future years interviews were held in the relative privacy of class-rooms, were limited by a ringing of the bell to ten minutes in length and, in general, to the boys' form masters. This innovation was of considerable importance, as it brought parents into a closer contact with the active working of the School. This was of great value when the war broke out and close co-operation between parents and staff was highly desirable. It may be said to have led up to the formation of the Parents Association, though it was the evacuation and its consequent troubles that effectively brought it into

being. The immense value that body has been to the school it would be difficult to over-state.

It was in 1936 that the Old Hulmeians Endowment Scheme was really started. The idea had been under discussion since 1934, when the Association, under financial pressure, had had to dispose of part of the sports ground purchased immediately after World War I. It was decided to establish a fund to obviate such a regrettable necessity in future and also possibly to enable a suitable ground to be purchased for the newly established Rugby Club. Old Hulmeians and others interested in the welfare of the Association were invited to enter into a ten year covenant to pay 16s 11d annually, which would accumulate with the interest to £10 per head. It was hoped initially that 300 would take up that invitation, but only half that number actually responded. The outbreak of the war and the upheaval it necessarily caused did much to curb the development of the original idea. However, a very valuable capital sum was accumulated, which came in very useful when the war was eventually over and normal activities could be resumed.

In 1937 the Jubilee of the School took place. On January 26th, the fiftieth anniversary of the opening date, the whole School including the Preparatory Department, together with many parents and Old Boys, attended a celebration service at the Cathedral. The Dean of Manchester Dr. Garfield Williams, who was at that time Chairman of the Governors, delivered a memorable address on the occasion, in which he outlined the history of the School. The service was followed by a lunch at the Midland Hotel, organised by the Old Hulmeians Association. In the afternoon there were exhibition Lacrosse matches on the School field. In the evening there was a reception at which a portrait in oils of Dr. Hall by Bernard Hailstone, incorporated in the panelling of the north wall of the New Hall, was unveiled. A history of the School by Mr. Hewlett was read and speeches were made by Mr. Franklin, one of the School's earliest masters, and by prominent Old Boys, representative of each decade in the School's history: B. Muth, S.R. Oddy, F.E. Dehn, D. Cardwell, A.L. Powell, J. Lord, D.Ll. Griffiths, E. Barnes and C.G. Dennis. During the proceedings those present had an opportunity to examine an exhibition of pictures illustrating the history and activities of the School. A chair for the Head Master's use on the platform, made and carved by Mr. Dennis himself in honour of the occasion, the back panel of which bears William Hulme's coat of arms and the dates 1887 - 1937 was also on view.

A table, made by Mr. Bentley, again of light oak, with the shields of the six houses carved by Mr. Dennis on the front, followed soon after. So did a beautifully carved reading-stand, made by Mr. Bentley's son, Bernard, an Old Hulmeian. Many schools, no doubt, have comparable furniture; but one imagines few will be able to claim that theirs has been personally carved by the Head Master. A hymn-number stand, similar in style, was presented by an anonymous donor in 1955. It was given by a great friend and contemporary in memory of A.H. Roy, an Old Hulmeian of great talent and promise, who had died in South America, where he represented a leading Manchester industrial concern. The nephew of a distinguished biochemist and Nobel Prizewinner, Roy was compelled by the loss of both parents to leave school before entering the sixth form. Misfortune continued to dog him in the shape of persistent ill-health till his death in 1943 at the early age of 34.

The service at the Cathedral was so much appreciated by all that it was decided to make it an annual institution. Founder's Day has been celebrated ever since, as near as possible to February 26th and generally at the Cathedral. On some occasions when that building has not been available owing to enemy action during the war or to structural repairs, the service has taken place at St. Mary's, Hulme.

By this time a start had been made on a new building to the south of the New Hall. It included an Art Room on the upper floor, a Manual Work Room on the ground floor and an Armoury and Orderly room in the basement. The basement also included accommodation for the steadily increasing number of bicycles brought to the school every day. The new Art Room allowed the former one to be adapted for use as the much needed Library. It was to the Library that the Upper Sixth repaired in their free periods for private study, then quite an innovation. This procedure was ultimately to lead to the creation of the Sixth Form Centre. The space freed by the removal of the Manual Room was used for changing rooms, baths and wash-basins, also for cloak rooms. The new building was completed in time for the opening of the new school year in September.

New members of the staff that term included Mr. C.R. Darlington, B.Sc., and Mr R. Morrison, M.A. Though both joined the forces soon after World War II broke out, they both made their presence effectively

felt during their brief stay. Mr. Darlington was soon appointed to the Senior Mathematical post and was very helpful in games, the Corps and Harvest Camps till he joined the Navy. He remained in the Senior Service even when the war was over, eventually retiring from it as Rear-Admiral Sir Charles Darlington. Mr. Morrison's commanding features and firm personality gave a then much needed stability to the post of Sixth Form French master. He left the school in the Summer holidays of 1940 to join the Army Intelligence Corps, in which he reached the rank of Major. He returned to the school on demobilisation in 1946, but left again a year later on being appointed to an Inspectorship of Education in his native Scotland. He took with him Miss M. Craig, the Head Master's very efficient secretary, whom he had married shortly before joining the Army.

In 1937 a Hulme Scholarship at Brasenose College, Oxford was established, restricted to pupils of the Hulme schools at Bury, Oldham and Manchester, but not designated to any particular subject. For the first four years it was awarded it was won by pupil from this School, as it has been as often as not thereafter. It should be pointed out that the scholarship is not granted unless in the opinion of the examiners the candidate has reached the exhibition standard of an Open award. The Hulme Scholarships had the effect of balancing more evenly the number of boys going up to Oxford with that of those going up to Cambridge. Those proceeding to Cambridge had been hitherto much more numerous and so it had been possible to establish a Cambridge Old Hulmeians Association in 1931. The numbers of boys going up to the older Universities had been steadily augmented by the almost uninterrupted succession of State Scholarships, as well as Open Awards, won in the years that immediately preceded the outbreak of World War II.

That such a conflict was almost inescapable seemed obvious to everyone. Those who had gone on the school parties to Germany, organised by Mr. Ginever, to Bad Suderode (1934), Schliersee (1935) and Lindau (1937) could not but be aware of the steady intensification of German militarism and its increasingly aggressive and provocative character.

In September 1938, when an outbreak of hostilities seemed imminent, measures were unobtrusively taken to deal with any emergency at school should it arise. Sand bags were ordered, but, with signing of the Munich agreement, the order was countermanded. The Government had, however, plans in readiness should war break out. The Head Master revealed at Speech Day in July 1939 that if the expected crisis did occur the School would be evacuated forthwith, though where to he was not at liberty to disclose. He had, however, visited the school to which the boys and staff would be sent and said he considered the accommodation there to be very satisfactory. His confidence, unfortunately, proved ultimately as misplaced as that of the Government and the general public in the Munich Understanding.

It was at that Speech Day also that the Head Master announced that the School would in future be known as William Hulme's Grammar School. The main reason for the change of nomenclature was the confusion that often arose as a result of the Founder's surname being the same as that of the district in Manchester that lies between that in which school is situated and the centre of the city of Manchester. Letters and strangers intending to visit the school were often misdirected in consequence.

Despite the uncertainty of the political situation, soon after the term was over, Mr. Parren took a party of thirty boys, accompanied by the Head Master and Mr. Gilliat, a Governor, and their respective wives and other masters for a long planned Continental holiday in Switzerland. Though Paris was somewhat crowded and disturbed, they arrived safely in Lucerne. An enjoyable holiday was spent there and in Lugano; but fairly soon after their arrival in Interlaken they were warned that a railway strike was due to take place on the day scheduled for their return. A telegram from Manchester urged an immediate return home. On the homeward journey the previously thronged Paris was comparatively deserted, for all tourists were hastening home; the boat however, was crowded. On their arrival at Dover on Saturday, August 25th, they discovered the threatened railway strike was off: the war, on the contrary, was not.

Few, who were at the school at that time, will have forgotten the week that immediately followed their return, the testing of the air-raid warning sirens and the hoisting of the barrage balloons in the Y.M.C.A. field and elsewhere in Manchester. The staff, recalled by telegram, and the boys reported at school daily, morning and afternoon, for instructions to do they knew not what, to go they knew not where. On Thursday, August 31st, they were warned to come prepared for departure the following day. All assembled, complete with luggage and gas masks, ready to depart, only for orders to be countermanded. However, on Saturday,

September 2nd, there was no such anti-climax. A fleet of buses took the assembled school to Victoria Station, where they entrained for Preston, eventually arriving at its suburb Penwortham. Billets in private houses were ultimately found. Orders were given that everyone should report at Hutton Grammar School, a mile or so away, the following morning. Few will forget either the solemn announcement over the wireless that Sunday at 11 a.m. by Neville Chamberlain that the country was at war.

As one thinks back on that mammoth undertaking in which the School took part then, one can only feel amazed that it was as successful as it was. The school population of the major industrial centres was suddenly uprooted and dumped somewhere else deemed somewhat hopefully to be safe. The destination was an admirably kept secret; but one which caused untold anxiety to all concerned. It was arranged that Hutton Grammar School premises and field should be shared on a shift basis by that School and Hulme. One week Hulme would use the classrooms in the morning and the field in the afternoon. The following week the process was reversed. This would seem, on the face of it, to be a reasonable arrangement, but Hutton was a much smaller school than Hulme. It had only three boys in its Sixth Form against Hulme's 74; ten classrooms against Hulme's fifteen; four pitches against Hulme's twelve. It was thus impossible to carry out normal teaching satisfactorily even half-time. Games, physical exercises, swimming and Corps parades were organised to occupy spare time as far as possible; but arrangements in these unfamiliar and difficult conditions could only be makeshift. Added to this was the difficulty of accommodating the boys satisfactorily in the neighbouring Penwortham. At first they were welcomed with open arms, as their hosts had feared invasion by undisciplined children from slum areas; but soon some hosts - admittedly a minority - began to find the care of strange children irksome and the intrusion on their privacy distasteful and they made their unwanted guests increasingly conscious of the fact. Boys were encouraged by their hosts - and their parents - to go home for the week-ends. As there was nothing particularly menacing happening in Manchester in the early months of the war, they tended not only to go home, but to stay at home. The result for the School could have been - and nearly was - disastrous. Before three months had passed, the School's numbers had dropped by over 100. Parents felt that their boys were just as safe at home as they were near Preston and that full time education at even an inferior school was preferable to the very restricted tuition Hulme was able to offer at that time. Much of the very limited time available in school at Hutton had to be spent in the setting and collecting of homework and matters of purely routine administration. Some boys were sent away by their parents to boarding-schools, or placed with relatives more co-operative than some of the hosts at Penwortham had been. It would be wrong, however, to give the impression that the school was generally shabbily and inhospitably treated. The school Hulme was imposed upon was most co-operative and considerate in every respect and in some cases lasting friendships were made between the boys and their hosts.

Manchester Grammar School was even more unfortunate. It was evacuated to Blackpool and billeted largely on boarding-house keepers, who were dependent for their income on the fees for accommodation they charged, from which the official billeting allowances fell very far short. Such were their difficulties that by October 6th they had prevailed on those in authority to allow them to return to Manchester. A similar plea by Hulme, however, was at first rejected, for it was feared, if it were granted, the whole evacuation scheme might collapse. The Grammar School, with praiseworthy loyalty, declined to accept boys from Hulme; but other schools were less scrupulous and considerate. The situation was getting so desperate for Hulme that, when a deputation from the school to the authorities proved unavailing, the question of petitioning Manchester M.P.'s to urge the return of Hulme was raised. When the School was permitted to re-open in Manchester to an even limited extent in Mr. Gatley's charge at the beginning of November, a steadily increasing number of boys trickled back there. The parents, in desperation, resolved that unless something was done by Saturday, December 2nd, they would bring their boys back to Manchester come what might. However, when satisfactory arrangements for protection in the event of air-raids were put in motion, the authorities relented. On Saturday, December 2nd, there was a general move back from Hutton and on Monday, December 4th, the School re-opened in Manchester. Those who survived the evacuation to Penwortham then resumed as near normal a programme at Hulme as war-time conditions would permit. The School may be deemed to have been lucky in that it narrowly escaped financial disaster; but it did, however, suffer a very considerable loss of income, for the School could not entirely enforce the payment of normal

fees for such limited education as had been given on parents who had withdrawn their boys on the various pretexts which could only too readily be found. The cost of constructing the Air Raid Shelters was formidable, but this was defrayed partly by the voluntary contributions of parents, glad to have their boys at home and partly by a grant from the Manchester Education Committee.

Although the school had been deserted for a time by its normal occupants, it was not entirely abandoned, for a group of Old Hulmeians, who had joined the Auxiliary Fire Service, was stationed for a time there. Their engine, a solitary trailer-pump towed by a commandeered Ford truck, stood by the Springbridge Road entrance to the school. The bare boards of Room 7, where many of the group had begun their school careers, may have stirred nostalgic memories, but they were not very comfortable for sleeping on. Though the official rations were also anything but lavish, the firemen were not permitted to invade the school kitchen and access to the only telephone in the school office was only reluctantly granted. It was not long, however, before "the station" was moved elsewhere.

Though the School's normal programme had been completely and almost disastrously disrupted, the activities of the Old Boys could be said to have continued almost uninterrupted in comparison, at any rate at first. Their Annual General Meeting, held on October 26th at Whalley Range Cricket Club, was well attended despite the black out and the demands of national duties. In the course of this meeting a Badge of Office to be worn by the President on the occasion of Association functions, given by the retiring president, Mr. C.G. Dehn, was handed over to his successor, Mr. H. Cardwell. This Badge of Office consists of a silk ribbon in the Association's colours, from which is suspended a medallion with the Hulme coat of arms worked in enamel. The activities of the Rugby Club and the Dramatic Society had to be suspended as did those of the Motor Club. Founded in 1928, this club had had up till then a fairly vigorous life. Its functions embraced runs, driving tests and similar activities. The Lacrosse Club, however, continued to field one or two teams, instead of its usual four or five, throughout the war. All competitive games were discontinued, but it was felt desirable to keep the club in being so that Old Boys on leave could have the chance of a game and that a nucleus of players should still be available when hostilities ceased and normal activity could be resumed. It also gave encouragement to boys leaving school, who had yet a year or two before joining the forces, to preserve their link with the School in a positive form. The Annual Dinner, however, gave place to a less formal lunch on Founder's Day.

Despite the war the number of boys going up to the older universities continued steadily to increase, though their careers there were frequently interrupted by service in the forces or in other work of national importance. Thanks largely to the Hulme Close Scholarship at Brasenose, the number of Old Hulmeians at Oxford had so multiplied that in 1939 they formed an Association there on similar lines to its counterpart at Cambridge.

In the early months of 1940 the School and Old Boys alike had to contend with another enemy besides Hitler so far as their sporting activities were concerned, a winter of exceptional severity. It was only possible for the school to play four lacrosse matches and the Athletic Sports were cancelled. Cricket, however, took place as usual. The Corps resumed its now more than ever valuable activities despite the fact that Lieutenant Forrest had been called up. Other masters replaced him, but they were soon called up in their turn. In fact between the end of the summer term and Christmas no fewer than five of the school staff joined the forces. To replace them, as had been the practice in World War I, lady teachers were employed. The first of these was Miss M.G. Green, B.A., who remained on the School staff throughout the war, performing outstanding service to the School.

The institution of Parents' Evening, the evacuation to Penwortham and the negotiations finally resulting in the return therefrom, had given the parents a sense of common interest and purpose, which resulted in the formation of the Parents' Association at a meeting held on May 16th, 1940. One of the first measures decided upon was the compilation of a register of parents willing to assist boys who might be rendered homeless by enemy action. Homes were offered for more than 250 boys and promises of help with school fees were also volunteered should the necessity arise. Fortunately, although two parents were killed in the mass Air Raids on Manchester the following Christmas and other casualties occurred, the boys in the main school escaped injury, so the assistance of the Association was not required. A scheme for passing on

outgrown clothing to younger boys was put forward to ease the problems created by the shortage of clothes and the institution of clothing coupons; but it met with little response and so was soon abandoned. Attention was then diverted towards a Careers Advisory panel. Even though the war was in progress, in 1942 educational change was in the air and the Public Schools came under attack. The Parents felt that their freedom to choose what school their boys should attend was endangered and they resolved to fight for that freedom to the utmost of their ability.

Despite difficulties the Corps' Grange Camp was held at Whitsun in 1940, but it was for the last time, as thereafter the problem of obtaining the necessary rations became insuperable. The tents were duly camouflaged to safeguard them from air attack and the usual activities, such as Windermere day, went on largely unimpeded, but the night operations, carried out the previous year, were not repeated, lest the inhabitants of Grange should misinterpret the presence of armed troops creeping along the highways and byways in the gathering darkness, nor was it possible to use the open range at Roughholme. There was, however, no official combined O.T.C. camp during the war years.

The school camp site, nevertheless, came in use once more later that year, but this time as the base for a harvest camp. Throughout the summer holiday parties of boys were sent out to work on farms in the Cartmel, Cark, Flookburgh and Holker districts, their tasks ranging from whitewashing shippens to washing and dipping sheep, as well as the more orthodox harvesting of hay, corn, potatoes and the threshing of wheat and barley. Some were engaged in forestry work. Mr. Barber organised the camp, Mrs Barber did the cooking and Mr. Gatley acted as a quartermaster. They were supported by various members of the staff and their wives. The boys contributed 15s a week towards the cost of the camp and were paid sixpence an hour for their labour. This camp was repeated every summer for the rest of the war, but the site was shifted to Humphrey Head at the camp school belonging to Keighley Education Committee.

This was not, however, the only harvest camp. A second one was established in Worcestershire, in 1940 and 1941 at Knightwick and thereafter at Eastham, near Tenbury Wells. Here the work was mainly fruit picking, plums and damsons, with hop-picking during the final fortnight. Pickers could eat as much fruit as they cared to absorb; but saturation point, they found was quickly reached. This camp was organised by Mr. Anderson, supported by various members of the staff including the Head Master and Mrs. Dennis. This camp actually continued to operate in 1946 when the war in Europe was over. The camp school at Humphrey Head, however, reverted that year to its normal peace time use.

A Savings Group was again formed at School as in the previous war. Another war effort, however, was of a novel character. In response to an appeal articles made of aluminium were collected for conversion into aeroplane bodies. Something like 10,000 articles were amassed.

As far as was possible school life was carried on in the normal way. About this time a violin class was started and lessons took place in the dinner hour. This practice continued for many years.

Although Manchester had been subject to Air-raids since the middle of June, 1940, it was not till October 1st that bombs were dropped anywhere near the School. For the rest of that winter, however, the neighbourhood of the School was fairly frequently under fire. The heaviest raid took place on the night of Sunday, December 22nd. This lasted from 6.30pm till the same hour the following morning. A further, but shorter raid took place the night after. Incendiary bombs were dropped on the gymnasium, the office roof and the science block, but fortunately they did not do extensive damage, thanks to the prompt and energetic measures taken by Mr. Barber who lived near the school. A pinnacle of the School Hall was dislodged from the roof by blast from the many bombs dropped on Whalley Range during those two nights. Countless windows were smashed in the school buildings. It was fortunate, however, that though there were many fatal casualties in Manchester as a result of these two nights' raids, the School's only victim was one boy in the Preparatory Department. Hundreds of houses in the neighbourhood were wrecked. The Head Master's house in Manley Road suffered particularly extensive damage and he had to remove to another house nearer the school. It was fortunate for the School that this raid occurred during the holiday time, for when term began and some of the unmarried staff returned to Manchester they discovered that their lodgings had either disappeared or were uninhabitable.

A "fire-watching" system, to obviate the danger of the school's being burnt down was promptly

established. One of the staff and two senior boys were on duty every night in the Head Master's study till 7 a.m. One of the three was on the alert for the siren, while the other two slept on camp beds. If the siren went, the main entrance door was opened to allow local residents and passers-by to use the school shelters. Ladders were fixed to all buildings so that all roofs were within access if need be. The fire-watching teams were all thoroughly trained in fire-fighting and first aid. This scheme was put into operation at the school before it became nationally compulsory. There was again a fairly serious raid on Manchester on March 11th, 1941, when a bomb was dropped on the school field near Princess Road, but luckily the ground was soft at the time and so little damage was done, apart from the fact that the crater it caused put that part of the field out of action till the following Autumn. Although raids on Manchester continued with diminishing severity for another year, the school premises and grounds escaped further injury. Though some 40 boys were withdrawn from the school after the Air-raids at Christmas, 1940, their places were soon taken and the numbers attending the school steadily increased. By 1942 there were as many boys at the school as there had ever been before and by 1943 the numbers had risen to 600.

Though the School survived that ordeal with relatively little structural damage, there is little question that it imposed a very heavy physical strain on some of those who had to endure it. On February 2nd, 1941, Mr. A.L. Powell died after a short illness. He had entered the School as a pupil in 1903 and left in 1908, in which year he was Cricket Captain. After taking an Arts degree at Manchester University, he taught for some years in elementary schools in Manchester. However, in 1917, he was persuaded to join the School Modern Languages staff. When Mr. J.W. Morley retired, he succeeded him as Senior Modern Languages Master. The loss of the sight of one eye incapacitated him for active service in World War I, but his presence at School was doubly valuable in those exceedingly difficult times. Indeed, in the inter-war years he was very much "a pillar of the state". Besides being of inestimable value in the classroom as a very forceful teacher and a stout upholder of School traditions, he was of immense service to the School games, of which he acted as secretary. He coached the First XI at Soccer until the School adopted the Rugby Code and the Under 14 XI at Cricket. Many of his Under 14 team passed directly into the First XI when they became over age for his team. He was a good actor and had several contacts with the professional stage. He appeared in many school productions and produced others both for the School and the Old Boys. His services to the Old Hulmeians as secretary in the inter-war years were invaluable. Being both Old Boy and Master, he was a very useful link between the past and the present, especially when their outlook and interests would appear to conflict. Before his first marriage, Mr. Powell was a Senior Tutor at Hulme Hall and after his first wife's death he returned there for a while until he found happiness again in a second marriage. No bare account such as this can do justice to "Pongo" Powell's immense zest for life, inexhaustible energy and great sense of humour and fun. Nowhere were these characteristics more in evidence than at the various camps he attended and on the tours to Paris and elsewhere abroad that he conducted. Probably several readers will remember having been, in their guileless youth, sent to the store tent for drying powder for the newly scrubbed camp tables, or having had their legs gently pulled in other such harmless ways. How modestly proud he would have been of his son's conspicuous success as a theatrical and film designer, had he been permitted to survive to know of it. On Mr. J.W. Morley's retirement Mr. Powell had also succeeded him as the School's representative on the Committee of the Hulme Lads' Club. In his undergraduate days Mr. Powell had contributed an article to "The Hulmeian" describing a week-end he had spent at a lodging-house for 'down and outs' off Deansgate, from which he had learnt much of the conditions the less fortunate members of the community had to undergo. His experiences then doubtless stimulated the enthusiastic interest he took in the affairs of the club and the keen desire he always showed that the school collection should steadily increase lest the activities of the club be hindered by financial stringency. By the time of his death the annual collection was in the region of £300. His work for the Hulme Lads' Club was taken over by Mr. Williams. Other masters whom Mr. Powell had encouraged to take an interest in the running of the club were Mr. D.M. Parren and Mr. D.G.R. Martin. Among the Old Boys whom he stimulated to take part in its management were C.H. Jones, G.A. Norris, B.D. Norris, P.M. Evans, H.J. Budenberg, D.L.I. Griffiths, W.W. Land, N. Beggs, R.G. Upton, K.B. Hilton, G. Martin and J.M. Gilliat. The club carried on throughout the war despite considerable disruption and damage caused by the massive Air-raids on the city in December, 1941.

In view of Mr. Powell's death it was extremely fortunate that Mr Dennis was able to secure the services of the highly competent Mlle. A. M. J. Sizé on the Modern Languages staff, for it had already become depleted the previous summer by the departure of Mr. Morrison to join the forces. She, like Miss Green, who took over the responsibility for organising the department, remained on the staff till the war was over.

The dramatic activities of the school had had to be seriously curtailed. A projected performance of Ian Hay's "Housemaster" in the Christmas holidays had to be postponed owing to the "blitz" on Manchester in 1940, as the heavier air-raids on cities were called. The play was, however, performed on Saturday, February 22nd and Tuesday, February 25th, but in the afternoon as blackout conditions made evening performances impracticable. That such an event could occur at all under the circumstances then prevailing was remarkable. The occasion was made all the more noteworthy by the fact that the play was produced by the Head Prefect, F.G. Higgins, who also played the leading part.

In 1942, however, the entertainments were resumed on a scale more nearly approximating to the usual peace time programme. Besides a performance of Edgar Wallace's "The Case of the Frightened Lady" on Founder's Day, January 26th, Sheridan's "The Critic" was presented on March 14th and 16th. One Act plays were also performed on Tuesday afternoons, as soon as there was sufficient light for the boys to get home safely after the performance was over. Three of these plays as well as "The Case of the Frightened Lady" were produced by the indefatigable Higgins, who must have found the experience gained useful to him when a member of O.U.D.S. and later Senior English Master at Worksop College, Notts. An innovation that session was a Brains Trust, modelled on the popular radio programme established the previous year. On this occasion half a dozen members of the staff constituted the panel of experts. In the following years, on comparable occasions the panel was often made up of senior boys. A debate was also held and the season concluded with a Sacred Concert.

The Modern Language staff was further strengthened in January 1942 by the appointment of Dr. L.A. Jecny to teach German. He remained on the staff till his appointment to a Professorship in German at Lewis and Clark University, Portland, Oregon, U.S.A., in 1963. A refugee from Hitler of mixed Austrian and Czech birth, he had to contend initially with a certain amount of the prejudice these unfortunate people encountered. Even his PhD. at Vienna University was not accepted by the Education authorities as an adequate qualification. However, when he sat for the London University B.A. degree in German he obtained First Class Honours. He also helped with the teaching of French when required and with Russian, for which there was an increasing demand when Russia entered the war. He was useful outside the classroom in a great variety of ways: refereeing games, supervising shooting, helping with the harvest camps, playing the violin in the orchestra and running the School library. Perhaps his most memorable activity, however, was to come after the war, when he conducted winter sports parties abroad annually from 1949 onwards till he left the school. For the first six years these trips were to various resorts in Switzerland. Thereafter parties went to his native Austria, though on one occasion they visited Norway.

Though rationing and other difficulties caused the abandonment of the Whitsun camp at Grange-over-Sands, in other respects the activities of the Corps continued uninterrupted throughout the war thanks to the energy and enthusiasm of Captain Anderson. If those of his colleagues who replaced the other officers who had been called up had limited military experience, he received considerable assistance from local military units, the University O.T.C. and from Old Boys on leave from the services. Parades and field days were held as usual. Interest in shooting had been encouraged by the presentation of a Cup for the best shot by a parent, Mr. C. Ratcliffe, in 1937. A trophy for Inter-House competition, presented by another parent, Mr. W. Watkins, spread that encouragement over a wider field. The main activity, of course, was preparation for Certificate A. Messrs J. and L.W. Kershaw, two Old Hulmeians, gave a trophy in 1944 to be awarded to the best cadet in that examination. In 1942 the establishment of the Corps was doubled to 120 cadets. In that year the cadets were issued with battledress uniforms consisting of blouses, trousers, canvas anklets and forage caps as worn by the troops on active service. The age limit for recognised membership of the Corps was lowered from 15 to 14. Recruits joined even younger.

Games were played, as far as possible, as usual throughout the war, though away matches were somewhat restricted by transport and travel difficulties. Mention should be made, however, of a somewhat

remarkable cricket match in 1942, when a visiting team, one of the School's regular opponents from the Lancashire Coast, was dismissed for 19 runs of which 7 were extras. The School's opening batsmen both scored centuries in reply.

It would not be practicable to mention by name all the twenty or more ladies and gentlemen who served on the School staff during the Second World War, many of whom stayed but for a year or two at most. It should be pointed out, however, that there were far fewer changes of staff than there had been in World War I, although the staff and the School were very much larger in numbers and the Second War lasted longer. For this relative stability the credit must go to the steady direction of the School by the Head Master and the staunch support he received from Mr. Barber, Mr. Gatley and what remained of the permanent staff. Many of the lady teachers helped at one or other of the harvest camps in the holidays in addition to teaching in term time. Miss Green has already been referred to. Mention should also be made of Miss E. Denton, who joined the staff in September 1942 and stayed till the war was over. She not only helped with the harvest camps, produced form plays, took charge of the School's National Savings, when Mr. Parren left, but batted and bowled for the staff in the annual cricket match against the school.

In July 1943 Mr. Parren left the School to take up an appointment as Senior English Master and House Tutor at Aldenham School after fifteen years at Hulme as English Master, Form Master of 6CML and much more besides. In fact there was scarcely any aspect of the School life in which he was not in some way involved. For the last few years he had been an Officer in the Corps, but before that he had regularly helped with the annual camps. He refereed house games and helped with the running of the Athletic Sports. He also played the viola in the orchestra and was responsible for the school War Savings. He took an active interest in the Hulme Lads' Club and was for a short while the School's representative on its committee. He will, however, be chiefly remembered for his performances and productions on the stage, both for the School and the Old Boys. His final production had been Gilbert and Sullivan's "Trial by Jury" the previous Christmas, his final stage appearance in the part of Rankin in Shaw's "Captain Brassbound" in May. His ready wit and infectious sense of humour enlivened not his lessons alone, but every one of the many and varied aspects of School life in which he was involved. His forceful and unique personality was greatly missed. Though he left the School in 1943, his interest in its fortunes has continued ever since.

Such was the shortage of suitable personnel, owing to the war, that when Mr. Johnson retired from the staff as Physical Training Instructor in the Autumn Term of 1942, it was impossible immediately to replace him. However, Mr. J.P. Renny became available in January 1944 and soon established himself as a regular member of the staff. He helped, too, with the teaching of various subjects when occasion required.

In the later war years the main entertainments - to which relatives and friends were invited - consisted generally of shorter plays, as they could more easily be rehearsed during the dinner hour and on half holidays. Also they readily enabled two or three of the staff to rehearse their casts independently, an important consideration, when the time available was for various reasons strictly limited. However, early in 1944 Mr. Dennis produced Shaw's "Androcles and the Lion" and in December, by which time the war was increasingly retreating from our shores, Mr. Brierley produced and staged "Ruddigore". Mr. Williams trained and conducted the orchestra and singers. In future years he undertook the entire responsibility for these productions of Gilbert and Sullivan operas, of which he made such an outstanding success. The singing and acting of Mr. Dennis in "Ruddigore" and "Iolanthe" in particular, will long linger in the memory of those who were present at these performances. "Ruddigore" was however, to be Mr. Brierley's last production as he left the school that term to take up another appointment after 25 years distinguished service to Hulme. He will be remembered for his brilliant comic performances in such plays as "Ambrose Applejohn's Adventure" in which he took the title rôle and for his lavish and ingenious stage effects in that and other such plays as "The Brass Bottle" and "Beggar on Horseback". Under his guidance the Art of the School flourished. The model stages, constructed by his pupils under his guidance, were favourably commented on by H.M. Inspectors in their report in 1935. The posters he designed for a variety of purposes were cherished by those for whom they were executed long after they had served their initial purpose. In his spare time and holidays he painted numerous landscape scenes, which were exhibited in Manchester and Edinburgh and often given to colleagues who treasured them highly. His departure gave rise to considerable misgivings, for it was widely

felt that the School productions would and could never be of the same high standard. However, his successor, Mr. W.A. Barnett was soon to show comparable ability as a stage designer and there were other producers who ensured that the standards established did not decline too markedly, even if the stamp of his personality and great individual talent were missed.

At the end of the following year, 1945, Mr. J.W. Bentley, the Manual Work master, who had collaborated so happily with Mr. Brierley in the staging of so many school plays for so many years retired from teaching to settle at Edale in his beloved Derbyshire, there to become a prominent figure in the village life. He had had an unusual career, for on leaving school, at his parents' persuasion, he had entered an insurance office, where he remained for some twelve years with increasing dissatisfaction to himself. Although by that time married, he took the bold step of changing his career and qualified as a Manual Work teacher. After teaching for two years in Manchester schools, he came to Hulme in September 1920. One of his first undertakings for the school was to build an adequate stage across the whole width of the New Hall. For the next 25 years he was responsible for the stage carpentry of countless production. During most of these years he taught in a somewhat subterranean classroom under the New Hall. When he moved to the ground floor of the new Art building, its vastly improved natural and artificial lighting, greater space and facilities, including the provision of a lathe, enabled him to enjoy the much more favourable conditions such circumstances afforded. In addition to instructing in Manual Work in the Middle and Lower School, he taught music to the junior forms, using his clarinet as his medium of instruction. He played this instrument also in the orchestra, as did his son, and his wife the viola. Despite the loss of the sight of one eye in boyhood, he was a very keen and alert field botanist. His other interests included collecting old china and steel engravings, besides tirelessly walking the Derbyshire hills. Many of his pupils will recall going to him for help in the repair of damaged lockers, or for the replacement of locker-keys. They will remember, too, with pride the articles he enabled them to make. His immediate successor did not stay long; but Mr. J. Foulds, who took over that post in 1949 was to make a valuable contribution to the school's life.

By 1945 World War II had ended: in Europe on Tuesday, May 8th and with Japan, on Wednesday, August 15th. Some 677 Old Hulmeians has served in the forces in the various theatres of war and on the high seas, many with distinction. Perhaps the most outstanding were Brigadier R.W. Lymer, C.B.E., D.S.O. and Colonel G.A. Norris, O.B.E. Immediately after leaving school Lymer had joined the Territorial Army. Upon the outbreak of war he served in France till the Dunkirk evacuation. Thereafter he was transferred to the Middle East, where his courage in the retreat to El Alamein earned him the D.S.O. By the time of the landing in Italy he had been promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He later participated in the landing in France and the advance across Europe. It was at this period that he was given the rank of Brigadier and awarded the C.B.E. for his outstanding services. When the war was over he was appointed a Deputy Lieutenant for Lancashire. His many friends deeply regretted the early death of a man of exceptional personal charm in 1972. Graham Norris joined up in 1939 with R.A.O.C. Workshop and was sent out to the Middle East with the Tanks Recovery Unit. He served in Egypt and was in the first siege of Tobruk. Jaundice sent him back to Cairo. From North Africa he went to Italy and became Assistant Director of Mechanical Engineering with the R.E.M.E. with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. After five years overseas he returned to England as O.C. of the Workshop Company in Oxfordshire. He has been in the Army Reserve since the war and has formed and commanded the 22nd Troop Corps of the R.E.M.E. (T.A.) He is now an Honorary Colonel and has been awarded the O.B.E. for his services. Since 1962 he has been a Deputy Lieutenant of Lancaster and is now Vice Lord-Lieutenant of Greater Manchester, Chairman of the Council of the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology and the holder of many other public offices. His interest in the Hulme Lads' Club is referred to elsewhere. Other awards Old Hulmeians gained included 4 M.B.E.'s, 2 O.B.E.'s, 8 D.F.C.'s, 1 D.F.M., 4 M.C.'s 1 D.C.M., 2 M.M.'s and one Netherlands Bronze Medal. Sixty-five, the majority in the R.A.F. or Fleet Air Arm, made the supreme sacrifice of their lives in the cause of freedom, many of them, lives of great promise, the untimely loss of which we cannot recall without feeling a deep emotional response. Amongst them was Rupert Hawley, an only son, whose mother presented the school with a prize for French to perpetuate his memory. Others endured much suffering as Prisoners of War in the inhumane conditions to which they were subjected. Amongst them were N.A. Barber, who was captured in Singapore

and spent three and a half years on the notorious Burma Railway and J.S. Dodd. When Java surrendered to the Japanese, Dodd took to the jungle, where he was sheltered by a native family, but was eventually betrayed by a native policeman. His experiences in the notorious Changi Prison Camp, described in "Road from Singapore", a biography of him by Diana Norman, inspired in him a deep sympathy with prisoners, which resulted in his devoting his life to their rehabilitation and to providing homes for them. A programme of "This is Your Life" was devoted to him in November, 1963, and he received the M.B.E. in recognition of his work.

With the end of the war Miss Sisé and Miss Denton left in July 1945 to return to teaching in girls' schools. In December Miss Green also left to become Head Mistress of Colston Girls' School, Bristol, before taking charge of London's first Comprehensive girls' school, Kidbrooke, a post she held from 1954 to 1973. In recognition of her services there she was made a D.B.E. in 1968, in which year she also became a Governor of the B.B.C. While at Hulme she had been of invaluable help not only with the teaching of French, but also with harvest camps and fire-watching. It was typical of her courage and devotion to duty that in order to prepare herself for any eventuality that might occur when fire-watching she scaled the ladders leading to the top of the New Hall roof in the dark, a feat of daring many of her male colleagues would have been reluctant to undertake even in the daylight. She had made a notable appearance on the School stage as Olivia in Mr. Dennis's production of "Twelfth Night" in February, 1945. She had also produced many form plays, as well as being of much help with the making of costumes and curtains for the School stage. The last of the ladies to leave the School staff was Miss Williams, who had also given valuable help with the School harvest camps. She did much to establish Biology as a School subject in the Middle and Upper School, an aspect of the curriculum that was to be considerably developed later on when improved facilities became available.

Of the eight members of the permanent staff who had joined the forces, only four returned to the School and of them Mr. Martin alone stayed for more than a year. In fact in the year or two following the end of the war there was much coming and going on the School staff.

The first of the post-war newcomers to establish himself on the permanent staff was Mr. W.L. Bonnick, M.A., who came in January 1946. He soon took over the staging of the School plays, a responsibility he shouldered with infectious enthusiasm and unquestioned success. At that time the lighting equipment of the stage was of a very home-made nature and curtains were very much the worse for wear. As soon as finance and supplies available permitted Mr. Bonnick effected appropriately dramatic and spectacular changes. That his keenness extended to many other aspects of school life will be increasingly apparent in the course of this narrative. The following term Mr. L.H. Watkins, M.A., joined the staff to teach Geography and eventually succeed Mr. Gatley in charge of that subject and as House Master of Whitworth House. He also took over the command of the Corps, which continued to function with undiminished vigour and efficiency despite the cessation of hostilities and even after compulsory military service was discontinued. In fact there was even greater enthusiasm for the Corps, for it was better equipped and outside expert assistance was more readily available. Early in 1946 the Corps was issued with 10 Bren guns, 10 Sten guns and sufficient Lee-Enfield service rifles for each cadet to have his own weapon. An R.E.M.E. section was also started. The signals section was also revived, but it was very different from its pre-war flag-wagging counterpart. The pre-war camps at Grange-over-Sands no longer took place, but units of the Corps regularly attended training camps with contingents from other schools. Though messing and accommodation were organised at these camps on a communal basis, the training took place independently. That was, however, of a more strictly military character and less time was spent on formal parades. Marching, too, was largely avoided by the use of military transport vehicles. These camps have generally been held in the British Isles, but in 1961, 1969 and 1973 units have been posted to Western Germany to gain experience with the Army there at Osnabrück in the first case, Münster in the second and Bielefeld in the last.

Several changes of staff took place in July 1946. Amongst those who left were Mr. Harris and Mr. Lowther. Those who came to fill the vacancies included Mr. H.R. Spencer, M.A., who in his brief stay, before accepting a senior lectureship at Sandhurst, produced a memorable performance of Mary Hayley Bell's "Men in Shadow", in which he himself acted. Mr. E.L. Whitechurch, B.A., who took over the 2nd XI cricket

and the 2nd XV Rugby also came to the School then. Unquestionably the appointment that term of the most lasting significance was that of Mr. C.J. Lowe, M.A., who has contributed so much to the life of the School, and is at the moment of writing, its Second Master. Mr. Dennis's last important appointment was that of Mr. F.J. Smith, M.A., the following term. He, too, was to play an important part in the affairs of the School.

The Old Hulmeians Association did what it could during World War II to keep Old Boys in touch with the School by circulating the somewhat attenuated "Hulmeian" to them as far as possible. The Association had suffered a severe blow by the death of A.L. Powell in 1941. It was kept in being by the devoted work of A.I. Robinson and S. Whittingham during the remainder of the war. In 1947 E. Barnes returned to Manchester and took over the Secretaryship, a post he filled with devotion and efficiency for the next twenty years. The Lacrosse Club had continued to function, if on a very reduced scale, throughout the war. It managed to field two teams, however, in the 1946-7 season, the first team reaching the Flags final and the 'A' team winning the Third Division Championship Shield. The Rugby Club had to make an almost completely fresh start. It fielded two teams, whenever opponents could be found for them and the exceptionally severe weather conditions of that season permitted. Another difficulty encountered was that of securing jerseys, for such things were then commercially unobtainable. The revival owed much to the sterling work put in by P. Harrison, G.A. Anderson and R.C. Spooner amongst others. Without a ground of their own, the teams had to rely at first on the hospitality of other clubs. Eventually temporary pitches were found first in Didsbury and then in Chorlton. Finally in 1948 the club found a permanent home in Brantingham Road, not too far from the school. The field of about four acres in area, afforded sufficient space for two pitches. A disused hard tennis-court provided the base for the erection of a second-hand Nissen Hut, which was used as a changing-room till a permanent Club House was built in 1957. The Club owed much to the support and encouragement it received from T.W.M. Bland, its Chairman at that time. The Association held a reunion in April and a formal Dinner in October. At the Annual General Meeting in September the now maturing Endowment Fund was merged with a War Memorial Fund then set up. The following year the Association's Annual Dance and the Golf Competition were revived.

The School survived the upheaval the war had caused very successfully in most ways. Its premises were relatively undamaged. They had been protected, in theory at any rate, by a battery of rocket-firing guns intended to bring down hostile aircraft, which had been installed on the adjacent Y.M.C.A. field during the latter stages of the war, but never came into action. The School's numbers were greater than ever before and its future prospects promised well. Two of those, however, on whom the burden of keeping the School in being throughout the war had fallen heaviest were by now obviously very sick men. The evacuation of 1939, which at the time seemed likely to result in the complete disintegration of the School, had threatened to overthrow and destroy all that Mr. Dennis had striven to achieve. Although he continued to labour for the School without regard to his own health, it became increasingly obvious that he was a broken man and could not long survive. The Autumn term of 1946 had scarcely got into its full swing before Mr. Dennis's health collapsed. He returned to school in the Spring term of 1947; but he had so manifestly not recovered completely that he felt obliged to hand in his resignation before the end of that term. A further breakdown during the Summer term emphasised the inevitability of that step. Much of the credit for the fact that the school was still in excellent order when Mr. Dennis's successor took over must go to the loyal and efficient support Mr. Gatley and Mr. Barber gave him and the School in that very difficult period, when the School was adjusting itself to the very different and unsettled post-war conditions.

Mr. Anderson, too, on whom Mr. Dennis relied so much for support and to whom he entrusted such varied and exacting duties, was absent from school for increasingly lengthy periods. His normal, peace-time activities as Head of the English department with all the duties that position then involved, such as editorship of the school magazine, control of the Library, responsibility for prizes were burdens enough. To these was added the Command of the Corps, involving much administrative work, which he was reluctant to delegate and which was often done at the expense of his teaching. To devote the whole of his summer holiday, year after year, on top of these commitments to the running of the Harvest Camps was to put too heavy a strain on even his stout heart and he inevitably had to pay the price of such selfless devotion. Endowed with a natural authority that had little need to assert itself, even when dealing with the most difficult and disruptive

of the boys committed to his charge, his strong personality commanded the respect of all with whom he came into contact. The high moral and social standards of behaviour he inculcated were imposed as much by personal example as by precept. When Old Boys came to visit the school, it was 'Jock' Anderson they were most anxious to see. His interest in the boys continued long after they had left school and he was the obvious choice as a representative of the School on the Committee of the Old Hulmeians' Association. His declining health compelled his retirement in July 1947 and his death followed but two years after.

Mr. Dennis's retirement also took effect at the same time. The debt the School owes to him it would be difficult to exaggerate. When he took over the School, though its numbers were relatively high, in almost every other respect its fortunes were at their lowest. In a very short time he had restored order and established amicable relations with governors, parents, staff and boys alike. Mr. E.G.W. Hewlett, one of the early members of Dr. Hall's staff, described Mr. Dennis's advent to Mr. Bird, Mr. Dennis's successor, as being "Like the coming of the Resurrection". His widespread interests and enthusiasm gave new life to the School. His courage and determination enabled the School to attempt the impossible and yet achieve a measure of success. These qualities enabled the School to survive the many vicissitudes of fortune outside forces imposed upon it during the years he held office. The economic austerities of the twenties, the competition from other schools established in the neighbourhood in his earlier years and all the upheaval caused by the Second World War in his declining years were, unlike the adversities undergone by his predecessor, in no sense troubles of his own making; but they were difficulties that had to be faced and overcome nevertheless. That they were overcome and that Mr. Dennis left the School in a far healthier state than he found it is unquestionable. He revived the School by infusing into it energy and enthusiasm; he maintained it by conscientious devotion and an infinite faculty for organisation. He loathed holidays and spent six and a half days a week at school during term time, collecting lost property and inspecting lockers on Sundays. The lost property he distributed during the following week, thus keeping an eye on what was going on in the classrooms, but sometimes disrupting lessons in a manner that his staff occasionally found somewhat trying. On one occasion when he burst into a classroom, he found one of the masters, who was an enthusiastic rock-climber, attempting to diversify his teaching by giving a practical demonstration of his skill by climbing onto the window-sill. It is doubtful whether Mr. Dennis was favourably impressed. Returning lost property, like his attention to lockers and keys, was part of his campaign to instill habits of tidiness, order and honesty in the school. At the end of the school year the whole school would file through his study to inspect still unclaimed lost property; but as one of his former pupils, F.J. Whelan, who later came into prominence as a Judge in Northern Rhodesia (Zambia) has said, it was hardly worth while claiming anything as yours in view of the blistering you would get for not having your name on it. No one questions Mr. Dennis's enthusiasm for games, but some might suggest that he devoted to them too great a share of his attention. These critics, however, are probably unaware of the quiet thought that went into the academic side of the School and the many difficulties that had to be overcome. His close control ensured the weekly production of a mark sheet for every form below the sixth. This in turn necessitated the regular setting of homework. That homework was sometimes set for no better purpose than to produce marks and that marks were sometimes artificially created to comply with the exigencies of the moment is probably true; but thereby valuable habits of industry were nevertheless inculcated. No one would seriously suggest that the academic successes achieved in Mr. Dennis's time were attained in spite of him rather than because of him. They included steadily improving results in G.C.E. at O and A levels, increasing State and Open Scholarships and Municipal awards. Ever higher numbers of boys went up to the Universities and there obtained high honours and distinctions. Among them we may include D.W. Bowett, President of Queens' College, Cambridge, D.A. Parry, Vice-Provost of King's College, Cambridge, A.C. Day, Fellow of University College, Oxford, S.S. Wilson, Fellow of Brasenose College, Oxford, J. Wilks, Fellow of Pembroke College, Oxford, R.H. Pear, Professor of Politics at Nottingham, G.B. Warburton, Professor of Fluid Mechanics also at Nottingham, J.D. Robson, Professor of Engineering at Glasgow and M. Broady, Professor of Social Administration at Swansea University. These are in addition to numerous medical and other professorships mentioned elsewhere. Senior Civil Servants, who were pupils of Mr. Dennis, include Sir Denis Barnes, Sir Philip Rogers, W.W. Simpson and James Mark. Probably the best known to the general public was Sir Robert Mark, who became Commissioner of

the Metropolitan Police. Rear-Admiral J.B. Holt had a highly successful career in the Navy. Others such as Sir William Batty, the Chairman of Fords in England, B. Mead and T.W.M. Bland, prominent in the I.C.I. have obtained distinction in Industry; W.C. Harris, General Manager of the Phoenix Assurance Company, J.O. Spalding, a Director of the Halifax Building Society in the business world; A.V. Williams, Manager of Peterlee New Town, W.G. Jackson, Director of Education for Nottingham in administration. J. Midgley is the American Correspondent of "The Economist", L.O. Mosley a prolific journalist and author. Stuart Jackman has recently had books of a highly original form of religious fiction published.

There would doubtless have been many more such successes, especially in Mr. Dennis's earlier years at Hulme, had economic conditions, particularly in Lancashire, been more favourable. In the years of the depression parents were apt to remove their boys from Hulme as soon as they obtained the School Certificate and the agreement to keep them at Hulme till they were sixteen had expired. They could then obtain a salaried post and cease to be a burden on the family exchequer. Many of the School's brighter pupils, however, by this procedure were denied the chance of a University career and so the opportunity to develop their capacity to its full potential.

It would be wrong, however, to give the impression that promoting the academic or worldly success of the more talented minority was either Mr. Dennis's main aim or his chief claim to the gratitude of those for whose education he was responsible. It lay rather in the expanding of the horizons of the majority and the enrichment of their lives by active participation in a wide range of music and drama, or even by passive appreciation of such works. The standard achieved may sometimes have been somewhat low; but even if that caused distress at the time to the more discerning performers and members of the audience, it probably stimulated their critical awareness and gave the more modest participants great pleasure and a sense of achievement. He was one of the fortunate few to whom is granted the inestimable privilege and opportunity of enriching the lives of the many who come under their influence and who, having accomplished the tasks which destiny has placed before them, leave behind them the treasured memories and lifelong gratitude of those whom they have benefited. His health unfortunately was too frail for him to be moved out of the sight of the school he had loved and served so well and where, in his reluctant retirement, he still longed to be. He had said he would have to be carried out of the school before he would leave it. A stroke, alas, made his words come literally true. When he died in 1950, not very surprisingly, there was little public reaction, for if he ever sought publicity it was for the School, not for himself. His wry sense of humour, vigorous if at times somewhat unconventional gestures and odd quirks of personality as well as his deeper qualities will long be remembered by all those who came into contact with him. They realised that a great man had passed from their midst, whose memory they would cherish with a gratitude and affection time would not efface.

Chapter 6

Mr. J.G. Bird

The new Head Master took up office in September 1947. He was Mr. James Gurth Bird M.B.E., T.D., M.A., a House Master at Denstone College, Uttoxeter, then 38 years of age. He had had a successful school career at King William's College, Isle of Man, where he had been Head of School and Captain of both Cricket and Rugby Football. The latter he had played for the Northern Public Schools against the Southern Public Schools. From King William's he had gained an Exhibition to Saint Catharine's College, Cambridge, where he had taken Honours in Classics. Like his predecessor, Mr Dennis, he had taught for a time at Rossall School; but from there he had moved to Denstone, where he had remained till the outbreak of World War II. During the War he had served with distinction with the First Battalion of the Green Howards, fighting in five countries in Asia, then in Egypt and finally in Italy. He was appointed to the Staff of Major-General Browning and was closely involved in the reorganisation of the Italian Army after it changed sides. He became Deputy Assistant Quartermaster-General with the rank of Major, was mentioned in Despatches and awarded the M.B.E.

With Mr. Dennis he had many points in common: education at a Public School and Cambridge, good teaching experience, reinforced by valuable acquaintance with life in other spheres that involved organisation and the handling of men. In some respects, however, he was more fortunate than his predecessor. Though Mr. Dennis had been very ill during his last year or two, thanks to the sound tradition and spirit he had established, the School was in a healthy state when Mr. Bird took over. This satisfactory condition of the School was largely due to the loyal and competent stewardship in the inter-regnum of Mr. Gatley and Mr. Barber. Although the staff was for a few years still somewhat subject to change, the temporary lady teachers had nearly all left and there was a strong core of nine of the pre-war staff still serving, most of whom were unlikely to leave before Mr. Bird became well established. He was not faced with the then difficult problem of finding a new home, as an official residence had been purchased by the Governors after prolonged negotiations. It was a large house off Wilbraham Road and near to the School, access to which could be gained by the back garden. As he was soon to discover, that advantage had its drawbacks. The house was architecturally most unprepossessing, as it gave the impression that the builder had contemplated erecting an extremely substantial house; but, on finding the intended project beyond his resources, he had torn the architect's plan vertically in two and had then carried out the left half as best he could. The result looked like the surviving half of a semi-detached pair, the other half of which had been destroyed by a bomb in the war recently over. The unimpressive character of the exterior was unfortunately not misleading. The house was cold, draughty and inconvenient and much in need of repair. In fact, so long as Mr. Bird lived there two clear months never passed without there being workmen in the house putting things right. A cheap purchase had proved a dear bargain. The extensive grounds in which the house stood had been inevitably neglected and needed more time than a busy Head Master, who had all the intricacies of an unfamiliar complex School to master, could spare to devote to it, despite his love of gardening. Paid help was then difficult to obtain. In fact it was not till 1952 that a regular gardener was appointed.

However, as far as the School was concerned, he was more fortunate, for not only was the School in good shape, numerically and academically, its financial prospects were better than they had ever been before. Ever since the First World War there had been mounting pressure for the expansion of secondary education. This had found expression in R.H. Tawney's "Secondary Education for All" and such publications as the "Hadow Report" of 1926 and the "Spens Report" of 1938. It was, however, the impact of the evacuation in 1939 that really drove home to the nation the need for improved educational facilities, resulting in the Butler Act of 1944. This Act made compulsory provision of free secondary education for all pupils attending Local Authority Schools. It also made it possible for Direct Grant Schools, such as Hulme, to charge a graduated scale of fees, varying according to the parents' income and recoup the deficiency from the Ministry of Education, as the Board had now become. As a result of this provision, throughout Mr. Bird's Head

Mastership, a far greater number of parents with a much wider range of income could afford to send their boys to the School. Practically every available place was filled and the School enjoyed a greater freedom from financial anxiety than it had ever known before and consequently a greater freedom of action and capacity for expansion and improvement.

With the relaxation of the financial constraint from which the School had suffered until then, Mr. Bird was able to adopt a more adventurous economic strategy. The School had been run hitherto on a balanced budget. With costs now steadily rising that had become progressively more difficult. He therefore astutely decided to run the School on a deficit budget, thus inevitably compelling the powers that be to acquiesce in an increase in the fees, which would, he hoped, not only cover increased costs, but also allow for future expansion.

If Mr. Bird was fortunate in enjoying greater freedom from financial anxiety about the School's immediate and future prospects, the School was fortunate, too, in having a progressive and imaginative Head Master, who could make effective use of such favourable circumstances. When the Governors applied for the School's retention on the Direct Grant list under the Butler Act, they expressed the intention of providing two more rooms for the School, a house each for the Head Master and the Bursar and a swimming pool. Not all of these projects were put into immediate execution, but all and far more were accomplished during Mr. Bird's tenure of office as a result of his initiative.

One immediate result of the subsidising by the Ministry of Education of the fees payable by the less affluent parents was a rapid increase in the number of applicants for places at the School, amounting eventually to 1,000 or over each year. Hence the School was able to select its entrants more rigorously than had ever been possible before. Between the Wars the entrance examination had attracted a couple of hundred applicants at most and had merely determined the award of entrance scholarships. Few boys were rejected on account of lack of ability.

The improvement in the standard of intelligence of the boys attending the School enabled Mr. Bird to introduce in 1947 an Express Form, which missed the normal third year and so took the School Certificate after four years instead of the usual five. Mr. Dennis had earlier experimented with this procedure. His trial, however, had resulted, not in the boys concerned staying for another year in the Sixth as he had intended, but in their parents - often hard pressed by the adverse economic conditions of the twenties - withdrawing them a year earlier, as soon as they had obtained their School Certificate. He was thus compelled to abandon this practice. In the altered circumstances of the post-war years, Mr. Bird's progressive project was not frustrated in this way. Latin he at first made a compulsory subject for all. Expansion on the Science side was for a time delayed owing to the acute shortage of Science teachers that then prevailed.

Another major change that Mr. Bird introduced soon after taking up office was to shift the responsibility for the boys' behaviour and welfare from Form Masters to House Masters. One master was put in definite charge of each House and two or three others were appointed to assist him. The object of the change was to encourage House consciousness and loyalty on the part of the boys and to give House Masters a more definite interest in the boys in their charge, lasting throughout their school career at least. This change had much to commend it. Most House Masters had already got to know their boys fairly well over the years through games, so the additional responsibilities imposed upon them did not weigh very heavily. The fact that they had some eighty boys instead of some thirty on their hands was countered by the fact that they had charge of them for several years instead of one year only. This point had its drawbacks if relations between House Master and boy were unhappy, but this was only exceptionally the case. The Head Master was enabled to refer minor administrative matters to House Masters. He encouraged other masters to consult House Masters on matters concerning boys in the latter's charge, particularly where corporal punishment was involved. As a result of this there was a marked diminution in the number of boys who received such punishment, though the general standard of discipline and work remained unimpaired. A disadvantage of the changed system was that House Masters normally saw their boys less regularly than did Form Masters, who almost invariably taught the boys in the forms for which they were responsible fairly often in the week. The form spirit also tended to diminish resulting in the decline of form plays and ultimately of Tuesday entertainments generally.

In order to encourage a House spirit two adjacent classrooms, identified by the House shield on the door, were allocated to each House, one for juniors and one for seniors. Previously the form, which occupied the classroom the most frequently, laid claim to the exclusive use of that room during the dinner hour, a claim that was sometimes disputed. Lockers were allocated to Houses and not to forms as hitherto. Whenever possible a small room was assigned to the House Master as his special domain. House ties were adopted, each having its own distinctive design involving the House colour. Though the wearing of some form of School tie was compulsory, the wearing of a school cap by Sixth Formers was no longer insisted on and eventually was only required of the Junior School. It was not till 1956 that House Notes recording the activities and experiences of their members were printed in the School magazine.

When the new dining-hall was opened in January 1949, it was sufficiently spacious to allow boys in the same House to sit together. Three tables were allotted to each House. The House Master sat at the top of one, Prefects or House Prefects at the top of the others. It was still necessary, however, to have two sittings at dinner time.

The new dining-hall, erected to the south of the Art Building, was a light and well-ventilated structure of modern type. It was furnished with a well-equipped kitchen from which meals could be efficiently and expeditiously served on a long counter stretching about two-thirds of the length of the hall. When the meals were served, the kitchen could be shut off from the dining-hall by lowering roll-top shutters. At the south end there was a long high table on a platform for the staff. The new dining-hall was much brighter, healthier and less noisy than the one it replaced and in every respect more practical. When the old dining-hall ceased to function as such, Miss A.M. Bloor, far better known to all as "Mabel", who had presided over the kitchen for 33 years retired also.

During the war years and for some time thereafter the dining-hall's facilities were in great demand, for busy mothers were glad to be relieved of even part of the strain on the family larder caused by the rationing of foodstuffs and the voracious appetites of growing boys. Even boys living quite close to the School stayed for their mid-day dinners for this reason. The numbers attending the School had also steadily grown, so that the burden on the dining-hall had become increasingly heavy. However, despite these heavy demands and the many other difficulties the austerity of the times imposed, Mabel coped. She was reputed to rule the kitchen with a rod of iron. Few will forget the sudden hush when some unfortunate dropped a plate in the inevitable congestion that existed and awaited the explosion of her wrath, or the sigh of relief when the expected tempest passed quietly over. Her reputation for ferocity was, however, probably based on tradition, rather than reality. The disused dining-room was soon converted to a music room and eventually became the Junior School Common Room and Library.

The first of the permanent staff to leave in Mr. Bird's Head Mastership was Mr. McConnell, who retired in December 1947, after 27 years' service. He taught Physics to the middle School, but it was in teaching the lower forms Nature Study, as it was then called, that he was happiest and most successful. A particular feature of his instruction was the precise neatness he always exacted and which he encouraged by his own example. For many years he was responsible for the Natural History Society, whose activities included visits to museums and lectures in the winter months and rambles in summer.

The nurturing of new planted saplings, which surrounded the School field, was very appropriately entrusted to his care. Their sturdy growth today bears tribute to the devoted attention he gave to them. He also took an active part in teaching boys to swim at the Baths. He was a keen tennis player, but that sport was not accepted as a school game at Hulme in his time. His diminutive stature and impetuous nature often made him the target of mischievous boys - and even colleagues - but "Spot" generally took such teasing good-humouredly and bore little lasting resentment. There were occasions, however, when a somewhat unorthodox instrument of punishment came into use. Dr. D.W. Bowett, now President of Queen's College, Cambridge and a Governor of the School, recalls one such incident. To demonstrate the hygroscopic properties of copper sulphate, Mr. McConnell put some in a beaker, which he placed on the top of a high cupboard, suggesting that, at the same time the following week, the class would be able to see how much water had accumulated in the beaker from the atmosphere in the interval. Shortly before the following week's lesson began, some members of the class filled the beaker to the brim with tap water. "Spot" began the lesson

by climbing on a precariously tottering stool and then, because of his diminutive stature, stretching to the limit of his reach to grasp the beaker. Amidst roars of laughter he seized it. Down cascaded the water over his head and arm. Retribution followed, however, this too successful experiment. Everyone in the class had to line up to receive in his turn a thwack from "Spot's" famous "paddle" - half a drawing board - wielded with two hands, fearful to behold but not actually a very effective weapon, as the breadth of its surface distributed the blow. One member of the class dodged his way guilefully to the end of the queue, hoping that, by the time his turn came, "Spot's" arm would be weary and the blow weakened as a result. However, this manoeuvre did not go unobserved and the artful offender received an extra thwack.

By this time the Natural History Society Mr. McConnell had presided over had long ceased to exist and with it the Christmas Party. Mr. Bird, however, introduced that December another form of seasonal celebration, the Carol Service. It was comparable in form with the popular King's College, Cambridge, Christmas Broadcast Service. The singing of Christmas Hymns and Carols was interspersed with the reading of appropriate lessons from the Old and New Testaments by the Head Master, the Second Master, the Senior Mistress of the Preparatory Department, the School Medical Officer, the President of the Old Hulmeians Association and the Chairman of the Governors. The pattern of this celebration continued substantially unchanged throughout Mr. Bird's Head Mastership. Enthusiasm for Carol singing developed in consequence and since 1954 the School choir has regularly participated in the series of Carol Services held just before Christmas at St. Ann's Church in the City.

In January 1948, the Debating Society, which had long been in abeyance, was re-started under the Chairmanship of Mr. Whitechurch. In Mr. Dennis's time it had been the custom to open each session of the Tuesday entertainments with a debate of some description, but that was as far as that form of activity went. The Debating Society has continued to function, under various titles and with somewhat altered constitution to allow for the reading of papers and discussions, more or less ever since. When the Donner Library was opened and its activities usually took place there, the Society was known as the Donner Union. Its scope has been further widened to include play-readings, sometimes held jointly with Whalley Range High School and Withington Girls' School. Debates have also been held with the parents, the Y.M.C.A. and with other schools. It should, perhaps, be noted that A.F. Bennett, M.P. for Stockport North, was Secretary of the Society, when he left in 1957 to go up to Birmingham University.

Two months later the Science Society was also resuscitated. Its meetings, too, have continued virtually ever since, though when the five day week was adopted at the School, the pressure on time so increased that its activities had to be arranged on a less formal basis, as and when opportunities arose. Lectures, however, are still given by visiting speakers on subjects outside the immediate curriculum and groups go on visits or attend lectures elsewhere.

Another lapsed activity, the Chess Club, had also been given a fresh start the previous year, but its immediate revival proved to be short-lived. However, when again revived in 1959, it aroused more lasting enthusiasm. Matches were played against the Staff, the Parents and other schools.

Ironically it was just after the retirement of Mr. Dennis, who had devoted so much time, energy and enthusiasm to the School cricket, that it enjoyed its most successful period. In the seasons between 1948 and 1951 of the 59 matches played, 34 were won and only seven lost. Those drawn generally ended in the School's favour. Much of this success was due to C.S. Smith and A. Godson, both exceptionally successful with both bat and ball. They were well supported by other accomplished players. C.A. Smith was one of the best wicket-keepers the School has ever had. Another outstanding member of the side was A.M. Blight, who was later to become a master at the School and who for many years took charge of the team. C.S. Smith played for the Public Schools, Cheshire and Lancashire while still at School, subsequently for the Army and for Cambridge. He also played for the Gentlemen against the Players at Lords. Godson was also to get his Blue at Cambridge, but that was a few years later and for Rugby. Mr. Bird was, like his predecessor, an accomplished all-round cricketer, as was evident whenever he played for the staff. He left the coaching of the First Eleven, however, to Mr. Williams, who had taken over the team from Mr. Dennis, when the latter's declining health made that necessary. Mr. Williams remained in charge for the next ten years, after which the team eventually came under the control of Mr. Morley, whose responsibility for it and playing career

continued virtually up to the time of his retirement.

The death of two distinguished Old Hulmeians, who had been among the earliest pupils of the School, occurred in 1948. C.G. Dehn had been largely responsible for the revival of the London Association of Old Hulmeians in 1931 and had given to it a Loving Cup. To the School he had presented a prize, like his brother F.E. before him. At the conclusion of his year of office as President of the Old Hulmeians Association in 1939 he gave it a ribbon of office with a pendant medallion bearing the arms of William Hulme to be worn by his successors. D. Knoop, who had had a distinguished academic career culminating in his appointment to the Professorship of Economics at Sheffield University, also founded a prize, which was allocated to English. Whether he or Dr. W.J. Young, a distinguished bio-chemist, was the first Old Hulmeian to attain the dignity of a Professorship it is difficult now to say.

Knoop's "Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration", published in 1905, while he was still an undergraduate, seems to have been the first significant book written by an Old Hulmeian. A review of it in "The Hulmeian" shows very clearly how much industrial relations have changed since that time. Ten years later Knoop published another book, "Colour Impressions", dealing with a theme also eminently topical today, the relations between white and coloured races and the problems involved. It was the product of a world tour of investigation into such matters the writer had undertaken.

In December 1948 another survivor from Mr. Parker Mason's era, Mr. E.L. Wood also retired. The patience and simplicity with which he taught mathematics endeared him especially to the less numerate of his pupils, who often found keeping pace with Mr. Dennis's rapid brain rather hard going. Mr. Wood was for many years closely associated as Treasurer with the Athletic Sports, particularly with the arrangements for prizes. Though he chastised defaulters with a leather strap, "Tiger Tim", he will be remembered rather for his persistent championship of those boys who found it most difficult to reconcile themselves to the exigencies of school discipline and for the indulgence with which he accepted homework done on paper of a very different character from the regulation exercise sheets issued. His colleagues, perhaps, will be more inclined to remember him for the indomitable cheerfulness with which he withstood the many adversities fortune imposed upon him. Although he retired from full time teaching when he left Hulme, he continued to teach part-time at private schools for many years thereafter. He died in December 1975, at the age of 91.

The vacancies on the Mathematics staff were filled by the appointment of Mr. W.F.B. Fearon, B.Sc., and Mr. P.H. Hirst, M.A. Mr. Hirst stayed only a year or two at Hulme before gaining further experience elsewhere and ultimately becoming Professor of Education at Cambridge University. Mr. Fearon, however, remained on the School staff till 1963. During his stay at Hulme, amongst other activities he did much to revive interest in swimming.

The drama season of 1948-9 was notable for "Richard of Bordeaux", one of the last of Mr. Martin's productions for the School and for "Ten Little Niggers", the first of Mr. Lowe's. In each play Howard Baker, who was afterwards to have a successful career in the Oxford University Dramatic Society, took the major rôle. Baker, who was also a most enthusiastic and competent stage manager, on going down from Oxford, took up the theatre professionally, eventually specialising in T.V. production.

The successful spell, recently referred to, the School cricket team began in the summer of 1948 was followed in the winter by the commencement of a decade in which the First Lacrosse XII, too, achieved considerable renown. In 1949 the team won the Lancashire Junior Cup, being the first school team to do so. For its success it owed much to the leadership of its captain, E.W. Ward, who was incidentally also vice-captain of the cricket team above mentioned. He later became a Senior Scientist with the Canadian Government and head of a research group on plant diseases in London, Ontario. The Lancashire Junior Cup was held almost continuously for the next twelve years, for the team was only once defeated in the competition for that trophy during that period and then only in the final round. When in 1963 the School won the North of England Junior Flags, it was again the first school to do so, though the competition had been inaugurated as long ago as 1902.

1949 was a memorable year, too, for the Old Hulmeians' Lacrosse Club, for it fittingly celebrated the Jubilee of its foundation by winning the North of England Senior Flags for the seventh time and also the Iroquois Cup. Seventeen years had elapsed since the last occasion when it had won the flags. It was,

however, again successful the following year. In 1949, too, the Old Hulmeians Tennis Tournament was held for the first time. This event, together with the Golf Tournament on Ascension Day helped to keep interest in the Association alive during the summer recess.

In the April of that year the School Athletic Sports were revived by Mr. Renny after ten years' lapse, with a more ambitious programme than heretofore. The Hurdle Race was extended to all divisions, Putting the Shot was introduced for the Open and Under 16 divisions and Throwing the Cricket Ball for the Under 14s. The following year Throwing the Javelin was added to the programme. It was not, however, till 1955 that the Pole Vault was included in the events. As a result of two years' unfortunate experiences with the weather, in 1951 the Sports were deferred to the end of the Summer Term, of which they have since become a regular feature. Two years later the School entered the Northern Schools' Athletic Championships. Though interest in athletics has been steadily maintained, it has not been till comparatively recently that Hulmeians have achieved any conspicuous success in that sphere. In 1969 C.F. Cusick gained a half-blue at Cambridge for running in the mile against Oxford and he did so again in the following year. In 1973 he ran for England at Oxford in February and in Madrid in March.

In the Autumn of 1949 Mr. W.H. Thomson brought his career at Hulme to a close after 32 years' service. He had had short periods of experience in other spheres including parish work in the Church of England, before he joined the School staff in January 1918. At the earliest opportunity he made History his special subject and the passage of time served only to intensify that early preference. Local History, about which he produced several pamphlets, which he had printed himself, was his dominant interest. He was particularly concerned with John Byrom, the eighteenth century poet and pioneer of shorthand and was accepted as an authority on him. Shortly after his retirement he published a useful "Historical Dictionary of Shakespeare's Characters" and some years later his "History of Manchester" appeared. A continuation of it was incomplete at the time of his death. Had he been alive when this book was undertaken, his help would have been invaluable, for he had a wide knowledge of local history and a natural talent for patient and laborious research. In his early years at Hulme he had enjoyed but indifferent health, but had nevertheless run a tuck-shop, where somewhat sticky home-made sweets were available, and a junior library. With improved health in his later period he was able to take a more active part in school life. During the Second World War he organised the repairing of the school desks, which, as they had been in use since the School was first opened, were very time-worn and creaked with age at the joints whenever their occupants wriggled. Mr. Thomson also took charge of the staging of Tuesday plays for some years. He was the House Master of Fraser House. His nickname "Bud" was known to all, but few could offer a plausible explanation of its origin. It was also applied to his namesake, the present writer, with the further distinguishing epithet "Big", till Mr. W.H. Thomson's retirement made such a belittling discrimination unnecessary.

The outstanding event of the Autumn term of 1949 was the unveiling of the War Memorial, which was carried out at a service at School on November 11th in the presence of relatives of the fallen, the Governors of the School, representatives of the Old Hulmeians as well as the whole School. After an address by the Head Master, the Memorial Tablet, a counterpart to that erected for World War I, was unveiled by the President of the Old Hulmeians Association for that year, Mr. S.R. Best, who afterwards became a Governor of the School. Wreaths were laid before the memorial for the First World War by Lt.-Col. W.A. Hobbins, D.S.O., and before the new memorial by Lt.-Col. G.A. Norris, O.B.E.

At the end of that term "H.M.S. Pinafore" was revived as the Christmas play. Before the final performance on Saturday December 17th, a tea party was held in the dining-hall, attended by a large number of those who took part when the opera was first performed at the School twenty-five years before, as well as the cast of the current production. This opera had been the first major dramatic performance the School had undertaken. On this latter occasion it was produced by Mr. Williams, who had performed in the original production. The leading part of the Captain was this time taken by K. Hoskinson, afterwards to become for some years a member of the English staff of the School. Thereafter a "Play Supper" was held for many years in the dining-hall, when the cast of the School play and the stage staff were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Bird. The proceedings always ended with a game of "Hunt the Pound Note", previously concealed with considerable ingenuity by the Head Master.

The appointment of Mr. H.W. Collings, M.A., in January 1950, as Head of Modern Languages gave to the direction of that department a continuity it had lacked since the death of Mr. Powell. Dame Mary Green, as she later became, had stayed till the war was over, but her successors did not remain for long. Mr. Collings had been at St. Dunstan's School, Catford, the leading lacrosse-playing school in the south of England, as a boy, before going to Emmanuel College Cambridge, where he had gained his half-blue for lacrosse. Thus, on coming to Hulme, he was no stranger to the game for which the School has gained considerable renown. He naturally, therefore, became involved in the running of the School lacrosse. The Six-a-Side House competition, which became such a popular institution at the end of Spring Term was largely due to his initiative. Within a few years of his arrival Mr. Collings revived the Easter trip to Paris, which had necessarily lapsed during the war. This trip was repeated annually for over twenty years until adverse economic conditions made its further continuation impracticable.

At the end of the Summer Term of 1950 Mr. Adams brought his forty year long stay at Hulme to a close. Mr. Adams had been a pupil at Hymers College, Hull, from which he had gained an Open Scholarship to St. John's College, Cambridge. After obtaining a First Class Honours degree in Natural Science, he taught for two or three years at various schools before coming to Hulme in September 1910. He was rejected for the forces owing to his defective vision and so was able to give invaluable service to the School in the difficult years of World War I. Upon Mr. Tristram's departure in 1916, he was given charge of the Science department, a post of ever-increasing importance. He was fully able to rise to the challenge that position presented and during his tenure of office many Scholarships and Exhibitions were won. The outstanding event of his long career was the opening of the Science block in 1927, in the designing and equipping of which he necessarily took a major part. It is perhaps the strongest testimony one can pay to Mr. Adams's success to say that by the time of his retirement the Science Department had outgrown what had then seemed the liberal provision made for it and further extensions were under consideration.

Mr. Adams's qualities as a teacher were well revealed in a tribute paid to him by one of the most eminent of his pupils, the late Sir Herbert Seddon, a distinguished orthopaedic surgeon, who wrote "I shall never forget our last year with him. We were all through School Certificate and working for something higher. He treated us as undergraduates. We were allowed to choose what experiments we should do; he was no longer our master, he was our tutor. This was wonderful and an excellent training for the freedom of a university, which too often, is disconcerting for a boy just out of school."

Sir Herbert was the first of many distinguished medical men who had been Mr. Adams's pupils. Their specialities covered a wide range. They included D.Ll. Griffiths (Orthopaedics), R. Cocker (Dentistry), D.C.A. Bevis (Obstetrics and Gynaecology), D.R. Wood (Pharmacology), A.H.C. Ratliff (Orthopaedics), A.D. Leigh (Psychiatry), T.F. Redman (Obstetrics) and J.M. Beazley (Obstetrics).

Amongst those of his pupils who became engineers mention should be made of J.E. Peters, E. Kirkland and J.H Porter, who became in succession Chief Engineers for the North Western Electricity Board. Another of his former pupils was H. Cartwright, who became Director of the Atomic Energy Establishment at Winfrith, Dorset.

Mr. Adams was primarily a physicist; but when Mr. Harris joined the Army in the Second World War, Mr. Adams also took over the Senior Chemistry work. In Mr. Adams's day there was but one Laboratory Assistant, the faithful and ubiquitous Mr. Parker, who seemed never out of earshot of Mr. Adams, wherever the latter might be. Mr. Adams had but to call "Parker" and, as if by magic, he appeared. Mr. Adams took a keen interest in the School's music. He was a prominent figure in the sacred concerts, played the piano for morning prayers and on occasion conducted congregational practice. He performed this last function with so much life and gusto that small boys wondered at times whether he would topple backwards from his somewhat precarious podium; but their expectations were, however, invariably disappointed. As well as concerning himself with the School's music, he was for many years organist and choirmaster of St Clement's Church, Chorlton. In the inter-war years he took a prominent part in the organisation of the School swimming. A reputation for being "anti-establishment" - probably as ill-founded as most schoolboy legends are - earned him the nickname "Bolsh", which was rather hard on a man who had devoted so many years to the service of the School. An alternative "Bunny" was a little kinder, perhaps. It annoyed him extremely when

boys deposited their satchels on his sacred laboratory benches and he was wont to sweep such offending articles onto the floor on his arrival to take a class. Aware of this propensity one form artfully concealed an open bottle of ink behind a strategically placed satchel and encircled it with the carrying shoulder strap. This "experiment" met with complete success. Mr. Adams reacted predictably, so in this case expectations were not disappointed. Mr. Adams was succeeded as Senior Science Master by Mr. J.M. Faulkner, M.A., who had joined the School staff the previous year.

Mr. Adams's daughter was for several years a very successful mistress at the Preparatory Department till it was brought to a close. On her mother's early death in 1962 she gave up teaching to look after her father who died in 1975 in his ninetieth year, twenty-five years after his retirement.

1951 saw the end of the School Certificate and its replacement by the General Certificate of Education. This change had a considerable impact on the School, as it was now no longer necessary for a boy to pass his first public examination in a definite number of specified subjects to qualify for entry to the Sixth Form. The result was that the Sixth Form became very much larger and also somewhat younger. It became increasingly the practice for University scholarship candidates, who had been in the "express" stream, to spend three years in the Sixth Form before going up to the Universities.

The Parents Association had maintained a steady interest in the School ever since the Evacuation had given rise to its formation in 1940. In 1951 it presented to the School a grand piano and fifty tubular chairs for the orchestra as well as other equipment for the Music Room. The actual formal presentation was appropriately made by Mr. D.M. Brierley (Senior), (O.H.), Director of Opera at the Royal Manchester College of Music. The parents also gave a Sports Shield to the Preparatory Department and an English Essay prize to the School.

A cricket match between the Parents and the Boys had been played the previous year and other such Generation Games were to follow, such as badminton, tennis and chess before long. The parents had their own very lively programme of social functions, which ensured their continued existence as an organisation and did much to foster the active and helpful interest they have shown in the affairs of the School.

The prizes were given out in July that year by Sir Eric Macfadyen, who had been a pupil at the School in its early days before going to Clifton and to Wadham College, Oxford. He served in the South African War and later joined the Malay Civil Service as a cadet. Thereafter he was closely identified with the rubber industry. On his retirement in 1943 he had received the honour of a Knighthood.

The following year the prizes were distributed by Professor H.J. Seddon, C.M.G., M.A., D.M., F.R.C.S., another distinguished Old Hulmeian, who later was also honoured with a Knighthood. After leaving school in 1920 he trained at St. Bartholomew's Hospital and had further medical study at the University of Michigan, eventually specialising in orthopaedic surgery. Eight years after his return to England he was appointed in 1939 to the Professorship of that subject at Oxford University. In addition to giving specialist treatment to war wounded, he was called upon to deal with devastating epidemics of poliomyelitis in war-torn Malta, in Mauritius and later Argentina. When the war was over, he became the first Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery at London University. Among the many distinctions he received in recognition of his outstanding work were honorary doctorates from the Universities of Glasgow, Grenoble and Malta. Amongst his patients were Sir Winston and Lady Churchill. He served as a Governor of the School from 1964 to 1972. He died in 1977.

1951 seems to have been a year of expansion so far as the extra-curricular activities of the School were concerned, for in January the Science Society added a meteorological section to its activities and the Photographic Society was revived. In the following month a new organisation, the Music Society, came into being. The activities of this group consisted of meetings where a wide variety of records were played and discussed. Parties were also formed to attend concerts.

In November Mr. Renny initiated yet another activity, the Athletics Society, which met during the winter to discuss relevant points of interest. Cross-Country Running, which had long been in abeyance, was re-started. Its chief activity at first was training for and participating in the Northern Schools Cross-Country Championship. This event was organised for many years by Mr. Renny. Inter-House Cross-Country Races were run and matches were held with one or more individual schools. An Old Boy who was later to be

conspicuously successful in long distance running was J. Norman. He has won the Annual Three Peaks Fell Race half a dozen times since 1970 as well as many other similar events. In 1976 he was one of three selected to represent Great Britain in the Marathon race at the Montreal Olympics. On the strength of this achievement he was awarded the Gordon Davies Trophy for the Old Hulmeian Sportsman of the Year. This trophy was presented by Mrs. E. Davies in memory of her son, Gordon, who had been a keen supporter of the Association and Chairman of its Motor Club.

However, 1951 also saw the end of the Shrove Tuesday plays. It was felt that with the ever-increasing range of school activities and the claims they were making on the time and energy of performers and stage staff alike, two major productions a year were no longer advisable or practicable. Between 1950 and 1966 the School's main dramatic activities consisted chiefly of alternations between Gilbert and Sullivan operas and Shakespeare's plays, admirably produced by Mr. Williams and Mr. Lowe respectively. One of Mr. Williams's cast later joined the D'Oyly Carte Company for a time. The operas were extremely popular and so invariably played to packed houses. On one occasion there were six performances instead of the usual three. Thereafter the run of these operas normally spread over five nights. This popularity ensured that the performances were financial successes. The profits that accrued were used to pay for improvements and renewals of the stage equipment and for the expenses incurred by the orchestra. Mr. Williams's tradition was continued by Mr. K. Hoskinson, M.A., an Old Hulmeian, who had joined the staff in 1962. He produced "Iolanthe" in 1963 and "The Yeoman of the Guard" in 1966. Mr. Lowe necessarily had to restrict himself to the more suitable of Shakespeare's plays for school performance, such as "Macbeth", "Julius Caesar", "Twelfth Night" and "Richard II". If it is suggested that performing Shakespeare was just something that every other school was doing by this time and a retrogression from the adventurous and progressive policy as regards dramatic activity the School had pursued in the inter-war years, it can also be argued that every schoolboy ought to have the opportunity of seeing one or two at least of the works of the world's greatest dramatist performed during his schooldays and not merely read them in the classroom. In any case Shakespeare was not the only playwright whose works Mr. Lowe produced, for he was also responsible in 1952 for a noteworthy performance of Goldsmith's "She Stoops to Conquer", in 1967 for Bolt's "A Man for All Seasons" and two years later for Gogol's "The Government Inspector". In between came Mr. Dudman's production of Max Frisch's "The Fire Raisers". Since then Mr. Golder has presented Shaffer's "Royal Hunt of the Sun", Golding's "The Brass Butterfly" and Luke's "Hadrian VII". Other departures from tradition were the production in 1954 by Mr. Thornton of R.C. Sheriff's "Home at Seven" and Mr. T.B. Jackson's brave attempt at Greek drama "Oedipus Rex" in 1963. More recently Mr. Callaghan has produced "Conduct Unbecoming" and Gordon Daviot's "Richard of Gloucester".

In May 1952 Canon Woolnough, as Chairman of the Governors, dedicated a Memorial Clock, presented by the Old Boys as a tribute to their fallen schoolfellows. This clock had been erected on the East front of the Art Building. It performed a very useful function, as Hartley College clock had become decreasingly visible and doubts were traditionally - and not altogether unjustifiably - cast on its reliability. The unpunctuality of the College clock was no longer accepted as a valid excuse when boys were guilty of the same fault. A sun-dial erected on the South wall of the Science block provided a somewhat fitful and vague commentary rather than confirmation for the new clock and then only when the sun was in compliant mood.

The extensions to the Science block, referred to as contemplated at the time of Mr. Adams's retirement, were completed by September 1952. Until then the first floor of that building had consisted of two classrooms only. The enlargement extended it to cover virtually the whole of the ground floor. At the North end, overlooking the school field, was the new library, appropriately named after Sir Edward Donner, who had been for many years Chairman of Governors. The new library, pleasingly furnished in light oak, gave increased shelving for books and more adequate seating accommodation for readers. Its administration was entrusted to Dr. Jecny in whose charge it remained till 1963.

At the other end of the extensions were a spacious new Biology laboratory, preparation room and lecture room. Biology had become a subject of steadily increasing importance ever since the end of the War. The establishment of these new rooms for Biology added a new dimension to the School's life. New boys, on first entering these rooms, gazed with wonder at the varied and entrancing specimens of animal life that were

to be their future subjects of study. Parents and other visitors on Speech Days and other occasions were perhaps a little envious and regretful that they had not been accorded similar facilities in their schooldays.

A short staircase from the Biology Department led to a meteorological station on the roof. This was equipped with a rain gauge and a Stevenson screen, made at the School. There were also two new Mathematics classrooms. A particularly striking feature of the new rooms was the vivid and exciting colours in which they were decorated. The walls of the classrooms were painted in differing colours, the doors and the woodwork in contrasting ones; a welcome change from the somewhat drab uniformity that had hitherto prevailed. Mr. Bird did much to brighten the School in this respect as in many others. The somewhat dull and uninspiring autotypes with their uniform sepia shades that had covered the walls of the old building since 1907 were replaced by far more colourful and arresting reproductions of pictures discreetly spaced and more representative of contemporary art trends.

From September 1952 onwards Lower I ceased to exist. The boys who would have come into it remained in the Preparatory Department for a further year till they were able to take the entrance examination into the Main School. It became impracticable to continue its existence, as boys under 11 were ineligible for the Ministry's grant.

Among the appointments to the School staff in September 1952 were those of Mr. S.A. Kirkham, B.Sc., afterwards to become Senior Science Master, Mr. E. Foyster, M.A., a distinguished member of the English staff, who was of much service to its libraries, and Mr. K. Thomas, B.Sc., who introduced badminton to the School and was responsible for the highly unconventional yet very amusing production of "Sweeney Todd" in 1958. This performance was remarkable for the playing of the title role by D.D.A. Lamb, who later became a professional actor, for its fourteen changes of scene and Mr. Foulds's disappearing chair by which the demon barber disposed of his victims. Mr. Thomas, like Mr. D.J. Clews, M.A., who joined the staff the following term, was a Mathematics master. They were both keen amateur actors. Mr. Clews was also a stalwart Rugby player and did much to stiffen the opposition to the 1st XV in Rugby practices and the Old Hulmeians Rugby team in their matches.

1953, the first year of Queen Elizabeth II's reign, was an eventful year for the School in a variety of ways. In February Mr. S. Woollam, who had represented Manchester Education Committee on the School's Governing Body from 1914 to 1950, died at the age of 94. He had taken a great interest in the school throughout that period and had given his views on the way it should be administered very forceful expression. Besides attending the Governors' meetings very regularly, he was generally present on Speech Day and at other School functions. Not the least of his services to the School was the fact that he sent his younger son to it. J.P.V. Woollam was, both literally and metaphorically an outstanding figure in the Old Hulmeians lacrosse team. Like his father before him he became a Governor of the School. There will be further references to his services to the School in that capacity later.

Of more immediate moment was the retirement from full-time teaching of Mr. A.O. Gatley in July. He had been appointed to teach Geography in September 1916 and had been placed in charge of the subject some eight years later. He was renowned for his encyclopaedic knowledge of his subject and the skill and efficiency with which he imparted it. A characteristic of his teaching was his inculcation of facts by the subtle use of mnemonics. If his inclination for topography was stronger than his interest in the broader aspects of social geography, that was true of many teachers of his generation. He was one of the great triumvirate of masters in charge of the fifth forms who dominated the School's inter-war years, the others being Mr. Anderson and Mr. Powell. In out-of-school activities he was most renowned for his efficiency as Quartermaster at School camps, starting from the Harvest camps at Wooller in the 1914-18 War and ending only with the Harvest camps at Humphrey Head in the Second World War. Between the wars he regularly attended the Corps camps at Grange-over-Sands in the same capacity. In his early years at Hulme he was responsible for the running of the Junior School lacrosse. His enthusiasm made Whitworth over which he presided one of the most consistently successful Houses and the envy of the others. A tribute to the value of his services when the future of the School was jeopardised by the Evacuation and afterwards by the breakdown of Mr. Dennis's health has already been paid in these pages. Among his outstanding characteristics was his devotion to his Head Masters, to the School and to his duty, however great the strain

sometimes put upon it. Though loyal to his Head Masters, he was never servile and thus his sensible advice invariably commanded respect. His ready wit, gentle humour, tact and benign smile smoothed over many potentially awkward situations. He was rarely absent from School, never late, whatever the circumstances, although he lived as far away from the School as Stockport. The story that he set his alarm clock at 5 a.m., popped his head out of the window to ascertain the weather and then, if it was a foggy morning, set out to walk to school is a pure fabrication, but it is nevertheless characteristic of his outlook on life. "To be late through slackness", he said, "is an insult to all who are prompt; it is also an admission of one's own stunted moral growth". These words are quoted from an article he contributed to "The Hulmeian" of March, 1932, one of the noblest utterances that has ever honoured its pages, so that one wishes it were practicable to reproduce it in its entirety. He went on to say, "There are those who, because of their love for others, give all without thought of reward; they give out of the fullness of their hearts and for the joys of service, and thus by giving all, they gain all, for they learn that the giving is itself the gain". These words were written to encourage boys, as a form of public service, to join the Corps, a cause which he had very much at heart and one to which his persuasive tongue was of great assistance. How aptly this latter quotation applies to the writer of those words. Another aspect of his character was his kindness and consideration to colleagues and boys alike. He continued to serve the School in a part-time capacity for several years before he finally retired - a life-long bachelor - to live with a niece at Rhyl, where he died in 1974. He was a staunch supporter of the Old Hulmeians in all their activities and was their President in 1948-9; but, perhaps, he will be chiefly remembered in that respect, as the inspiration of the Old Hulmeians Masonic Lodge, which he founded in 1951. Mr. Gatley was succeeded as Second Master by Mr. D.M. Williams, as Senior Geography Master and House Master of Whitworth House by Mr. L.H. Watkins.

At the same time Sir William Coates, K.C.B., F.R.C.S., retired at the age of 93 from the post of School Medical Officer, which he had held since April 1914. He died in 1962 at the age of 102. He was widely known for his work for the Red Cross, the Royal Army Medical Corps and for disabled ex-servicemen. He was succeeded by Col. W.H. Wolstenholme, O.B.E., T.D., M.D., whose sons both had distinguished careers at the School. Sir William Coates's son Col. J.B. Coates, C.B.E., M.C., D.L., became a Governor of the School in 1960, taking the place of Mr. A.W. Boyd, M.C., M.A., the distinguished naturalist, who had died in October the previous year. Col. J.B. Coates's services to the School as Governor have been considered so valuable that on his retirement from that office he was appointed "Governor Emeritus".

There were several important new arrivals on the School staff in September, 1953. Mr. F.E. Eastwood, B.Sc., came to the school to take over the post of Head of the Mathematics Department from Mr. Martin, who had been appointed to a Head Mastership. Mr. Eastwood was to retain this post for the next twenty years. Mr. P. Evans, M.A., who joined the Modern Language staff did not stay for so long, but while he was at the School he did valuable work, particularly with the Corps, command of which he took over from 1956 to 1960. Mr. R.A. Haynes, M.A., and Mr. J. Peat, whose subjects are Biology and Physical Education respectively, are still on the staff. The value of their contribution to the School's life will be apparent as this narrative proceeds.

1953 saw the establishment of yet three more "out of school" societies of differing character and appeal. In the Easter Term the Christian Fellowship was formed, largely on the initiative of the Rev. A.H. Ginever. Its activities consisted chiefly of lectures from outside Ministers of Religion of various denominations and of meetings for Bible study. A Badminton Club was also initiated that term. Membership was restricted to boys in the Sixth and Fifth forms. Games were played in the Gymnasium on three evenings a week and matches were arranged with other schools. The third society to be founded that year was perhaps the most original one. It was the Leonardo da Vinci Society, the aim of which was to bring together boys having expert knowledge of any subject not included in the normal school syllabus. Membership of the Society was, in the first place, by invitation. Thereafter members were either elected or invited after they had read a paper on their particular interest. The first to speak was P.K. Wheeler, who later became a well-known voice on the radio and a familiar figure on the television screen in a variety of programmes. His subject then appropriately was "The Production of Radio Drama". On another occasion the speaker's subject was "Potholing", later to become for a while a school activity. After his talk the lecturer was asked when he was next going to make a

descent. There was great amusement when he replied "On Ascension Day". The meetings did not take place at School, but in either the Head Master's house or Dr. Jecny's.

A Table Tennis Club was to follow two years later. This soon became a well-established feature of School life. As well as running its own internal competition, the Club played matches against other schools.

1953 saw a variety of relatively minor yet significant structural alterations. The Masters' Common Room was expanded by absorbing into it the adjacent Prefects' Room. A new room, adjoining the New Hall on the side opposite to the entrance staircase, was built for the Prefects. This eventually became the Bursar's Office. South of the new Dining-Hall, a brick building was erected to house the groundsman's equipment and the games material, replacing the wooden shed used for the former and allowing the one-time manual room to be used as a workshop by the school carpenter. The flat on the first floor of this building was eventually occupied by Mr. Barber's successor, Mr. W. Taylor.

For in December, 1953, the unthinkable happened, the indispensable, evergreen Mr. Barber retired, when well over 70, after no less than fifty-one years' tenure of the Secretaryship of the School. Those fifty-one years had been by no means easy ones; but years of financial stringency demanding close watchfulness over expenditures, constant vigilance over the domestic side of the School and over its buildings, for which he was responsible. His accounts, kept with scrupulous accuracy and neatness were borrowed by Inspectors as examples for others to copy. Much as the School has owed to its Head Masters, it is conceivably as much indebted to Mr. Barber, whose career spanned the first three of them and did not conclude until the fourth was firmly established. Like Mr. Dennis, Mr. Barber worked six and a half days a week in term time and in his case that applied to much of the holidays also. If a member of the staff was holding a rehearsal in the evening, he generally found, on leaving the premises, a light was still burning at Mr. Barber's desk in the office. Unlike his ultimate successor, he did not enjoy the luxury of a room of his own where he could work undisturbed. He used to say the evening was the only time he could get things done. He seemed to do everything at the School but play in the orchestra or teach. However, on the rare occasions that Mr. Johnson was absent, Mr. Barber was even known to take over the Physical Training periods. He also organised the conducting of public examinations at the School. His appearances in plays, such as Drinkwater's "Abraham Lincoln", were dramatic in effect, though not always quite in the way either author or producer intended.

For many, however, whether connected in any way with the School or not, Mr. Barber meant lacrosse and lacrosse meant Mr. Barber, for it is doubtful whether any one man has had greater impact on the game in this country than he had. He played lacrosse for Cheetham before he came to the School. Though he did not introduce the game into the School, it was to him the School owed the pre-eminence it gained in the sport in his time. Mr. Barber played for and coached the Old Boys and went on playing for them long after younger men had deemed themselves past it and given it up. He became in succession President of Lancashire, the North of England Association and the English Lacrosse Union, Chairman of the League and Flags Committees. He was the coach of the older Universities' teams and the All-England team. His knowledge of the game was unrivalled.

Playing for their lacrosse team was just one aspect of the support Mr. Barber gave to the Old Hulmeians. In recognition of his inestimable contribution to the Association and its welfare he was twice honoured with its Presidency: first in 1932-3 and then again in 1951-2 to celebrate his fifty years as Secretary to the School.

His enthusiasm for cricket - indeed all forms of sport - was exceptional. He shared the coaching of the Second Eleven with Mr. Williams and kept wicket with incomparable alertness for the Staff in its matches with the School. He was a keen golfer, too, and for many years organised the Old Hulmeians Golf Competition, which he occasionally won and if he failed to do so he almost invariably returned a good card. He belonged to the Cheadle Golf Club, but perhaps some of the rounds he enjoyed the most were over the hill course at Grange, popularly known as "the goat track". He encouraged many of his colleagues to join him there, often with spectacular if unexpected results.

For others Mr. Barber meant the Corps, for he commanded it almost from its first establishment in World War I and retired from it with the rank of Cadet Lieutenant-Colonel only when it became an Officers Training Corps in 1935. For most of these others the Corps meant primarily the annual Whitsun camp at

Grange, which he organised and commanded with faultless efficiency. Parades and military training were carried out with exemplary military punctilio; but when parade was over the holiday atmosphere prevailed. Few will forget the light-hearted games of "alec ball", a sort of unlicensed cricket played with mallets or 'alecs', normally used for driving in tent pegs as bats, or the "free for all" football played for safety's sake in gym shoes. One imagines it was this military aspect of his career to which Mr. Barber owed his nickname of "Achi", often abbreviated to "Ack", which derived from the hill-top Achi-Baba that featured prominently in the Gallipoli campaign of World War I.

The Grange camps, however, were not the only camps over which he presided, for he organised and controlled Harvest camps in World War I at Wooller in Northumberland and at Humphrey Head, near Grange, in World War II, with Mr. Gatley as his invariable ally and deputy. He was a special constable, too, from World War I to World War II, rising to the rank of Inspector. When he gave up that post, he became an Air-Raid Warden. The School owes it largely to him that it was not burnt down as the result of enemy action, for he was first on the scene to see that the School was safe when the "All Clear" was sounded and the first to deal with any damage that had been caused.

Before "Careers" became a specific aspect of School life, it was Mr. Barber who found "jobs of the boys", even long after they had left. Many owed much to his help and advice in the years of the depression in the twenties and the early thirties. Help from Mr. Barber of a different character was readily available too, when any accident happened. If a boy was injured he was sent to the office, where he received skilful first aid from Mr. Barber. If that was inadequate to deal with the casualty, it was Mr. Barber who ferried him to his home or the hospital and informed his parents.

When all this has been said, so much has been left out. Mr. Barber showed the same qualities of efficiency, self-sacrifice and devotion to the School that Mr. Gatley possessed, a similar infallible memory for names and faces. His loyalty to the School and his integrity were beyond question. When just after World War II was over and the School had 1,000 applicants for 100 places, Mr. Barber was asked by an unscrupulous parent, anxious to get his boy into the School at all costs, " 'Ow would £50 'elp my boy's chances, Mr. Barber?" His prompt and devastating reply was "It would just about bugger them".

Mr. Barber enjoyed one great advantage in life, a supremely competent and devoted wife. Loyalty in a wife is not an unexpected characteristic, but practical competence of Mrs. Barber's order was a very exceptional bonus to a man in her husband's position. She not only supervised the cooking at Camps of all kinds, but also made herself readily available when any domestic emergency occurred at school. She took a keen interest, moreover, in every aspect of school life and shared her husband's enjoyment of it to the full. He survived his retirement for twelve years and died in January 1965. Her death, at the age of 92, did not occur till six years later.

His son, Norman, from his schooldays at Hulme, inherited his father's enthusiasm and aptitude for lacrosse. He began playing for the Old Hulmeians first team in 1925, when his father's playing career was drawing to its close. They played together, however, on that team for a year or two. Norman was still playing for the 'A' team thirty years later. In 1970 he was elected to the Presidency of the North of England Lacrosse Association. It was the first time a father and son had both held that position. He inherited, too, his father's enthusiasm for military service. He joined the 42nd (Lancs) Infantry Division Column, R.A.S.C. (T.A.) Manchester in 1927 and underwent captivity by the Japanese in World War II. He did not retire from the Territorial Army till 1959, by which time he had attained the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel and had received the Territorial Decoration with three bars and the M.B.E. He married into the Mark family, one of the most outstandingly successful of all those connected with the school.

Owing, to a great degree, to Mr. J.A. Barber's sound stewardship, the School's finances were in very good order by the time he retired, but consequent on ever-rising costs the school fees had to be raised to £51 per annum in 1951 and again to £63 per annum five years later.

Mr. Barber was succeeded by Mr. W. Taylor, who had been his assistant since early in 1951 and was thus fully familiar with the School's routine. To follow someone with so strong a personality and such a well-established reputation as Mr. Barber's can have been no easy task. Mr. Taylor wisely and inevitably concentrated on the more normally accepted functions of a school Bursar - as his position was henceforth

known - but he nevertheless made his mark by the quiet, yet efficient manner in which he carried out his duties. He was, moreover, of great assistance to the Old Hulmeians, particularly in the administrative side of the Association. He also became a member of the Old Hulmeians Masonic Lodge. His sudden death at the early age of 46 in May, 1963, came as a considerable shock. His wife, like Mrs. Barber before her, was of great help to her husband and to the School. When an emergency occurred in 1957, she characteristically rose to the occasion and took over responsibility for the catering in the School dining-hall. This post she continued to hold till 1969. The highly efficient manner and cheerful willingness with which she ran this important facet of the School was much appreciated by the boys and also by the Old Boys and the parents when their functions took place at the school. Mrs. Taylor also for many years took charge of the School shop, where items of School uniform were for sale.

Interest in swimming was revived in 1954. Classes for the First and Second Forms were held at Chorlton Baths. Two years later thanks to the initiative of Mr. Fearon, a House Swimming Gala was held at the Moss Side Baths, at which the Lady Mather Cup was awarded to the outstanding swimmer as in previous years. A new cup presented by C.A. Burnside (O.H.) was allocated to the most successful House in the events. This competition became an established feature, but a Skill at Arms Society, involving fencing and wrestling, and an Archery Society started in 1955 and 1958, had but brief existences.

An important appointment in May 1954 was that of Mr. I.H. Watts, M.A., to teach Geography, a subject in which he had gained First Class Honours at Oxford. He had also won his Blue for rugby football there and had played cricket for Cheshire. His services were most valuable to all these aspects of School life and also to the Christian Fellowship in which he took an especial interest. There was great regret when he returned to Africa, where he had had previous experience, to take up a lectureship in Geography at Kumasi College of Technology, Ghana, in July 1957. Two years after he became Vice-Chancellor of that University.

The following term Mr. R.K. McCulloch, M.Sc., joined the School Physics staff. The contribution he made to the School's life during the ten years he was at Hulme was as varied in sphere as it was valuable. He coached the School Under 15 Rugby team, was Careers Master, played the violin in the Orchestra and re-organised the lighting system of the School stage, a task which involved re-building and re-wiring the switchboard. This re-wiring was necessitated by the installation of front of house lighting affixed to the side walls of the New Hall in 1956. Although he had previously served as an officer in the Navy, not the Army, he took up a commission in the C.C.F., of which he became for a while Commanding Officer, till ill-health compelled him to resign his commission. He was one of those masters - a type not altogether exceptional at Hulme - whose willingness to serve outstripped their physical strength. The value the School put upon him was reciprocated, for though he left the School staff in 1963, he sent a son to the School and paid it frequent and welcome visits.

At the end of the Summer Term in 1955 the Rev. A.H. Ginever brought his long career at Hulme to a close. Before entering Pembroke College, Oxford, from which he graduated with an Honours Degree in Modern Languages, he had served with the R.A.S.C. in the First World War, taking part in the Balkan campaign as well as seeing active service in France. He joined the School staff on demobilisation in 1922 and spent the whole of his teaching career at Hulme. Considerable personal contacts with both France and Germany, obtained during his own education abroad, reinforced by exceptional thoroughness and patience, gave to his teaching a marked individuality and effectiveness.

In between the wars he conducted several parties of boys from School to Germany, visiting either Bavaria or the Harz Mountains, where he had himself been at school. He played the violin in the orchestra for a number of years. He was also responsible for the care of stage costumes, of which the School had acquired a considerable store. During the Second World War he helped with the running of the School Harvest Camps at Grange-over Sands and also with fire-watching at school. After his retirement he accompanied the Corps to camps as chaplain, an office he interpreted to include running the camp sports and games. This was due to the fact that shortly after joining the School staff he took orders in the Church of England. Like the Rev. W.H. Thomson before him, he took Sunday duties at St. Mary's Hulme, a church which has had an especially close connection with the School. On Mr. S Woollam's retirement the Rector of that Church represented Manchester Education Committee on the School's Governing Board until his death in 1963. Canon Robinson

on one or two occasions accompanied Mr. Ginever's school parties to Germany. The School, too, has held its Founder's Day service at St. Mary's, on occasions when the Cathedral has not been available.

Mr Ginever took a keen interest in the spiritual life of the School. He instituted a branch of the Christian Fellowship in the School and presided over its early activities. He prepared many boys for confirmation. He was always closely identified with Fraser House and was for many years its House Master. On retirement from teaching he became Rector of Waltham St. Lawrence in Berkshire and later took charge of a smaller parish in Devon. But a year or so before his death in 1977, his tall figure, erect as ever, was conspicuous at an Old Hulmeians' dinner. He was then accompanied by one of his sons, who had been a pupil at the School. Mrs. Ginever, who had died some years previously, will be remembered for her generous hospitality by many then young masters and also for her exceptionally effective singing with the School choir.

The same term Mr. W.J. Locke, the senior porter, having reached the age of 70, also decided to retire. The first to come in the morning and the last to leave at night, he tended the capricious boilers with unremitting care and performed the countless tasks his work entailed with unfailing cheerfulness. Old Boys remember his stories of his experiences in the Boer War in South Africa, for which he enlisted at the age of fifteen. His services were never of greater value than during the difficult period of World War II, when he was always at School in time to open up in the morning, whatever the night's adventures had been. Everyone admired his allotment on Princess Road. There was no question which was his, for the greenhouse with its brick chimney, which he had built with his own hands made his plot stand out among the scores of others. It was his pride and joy and with good reason. He died in March 1976. He was succeeded by Mr. J. Perry, a less extrovert personality, though also fully efficient in a somewhat quieter way. Mr. Perry retired in 1968 after 17 years' service.

Largely financed by a generous grant from the Industrial Fund for the Advancement of Science in Schools, in 1956 a further enlargement of the Science block was begun. The old cycle shed between the existing Science block and the Gymnasium was dismantled and replaced by a more space-saving industrial type structure elsewhere. This enabled the site to be used for an extension of the Science block, consisting of a Chemistry lecture room and a Middle School laboratory on the ground floor and a further lecture room and laboratories for the Sixth Forms on the floor above, together with an additional Mathematics class-room. The existing Chemistry Laboratories were adapted for the teaching of Physics.

The new rooms involved the construction of a second entrance and staircase, thereby affording much needed relief to the congestion hitherto experienced at the change of lessons. These extensions were to have been opened on Speech Day in July 1957, to be ready for use in the following September, appropriately by the grandson of the 17th Earl of Derby, for it was the latter who had opened the original part of the building. Owing, however, to the sudden grave illness of the 17th Earl, his grandson was compelled to withdraw his acceptance of the invitation to do so on the eve of the function. Sir Graham Savage, contacted urgently by telephone, promptly stepped into the breach and delivered one of the most impressive addresses that has ever been uttered on such an occasion at the School. Sir Graham Savage, former Chief Inspector of the Ministry of Education, had often visited the School when in earlier years he had been the local Inspector.

At the same time as this extension was begun, the exterior of the original building was repainted. The substitution of a creamy white paint on the ironwork of the window frames and on the panels of the doors added considerably to the brightness of the School's appearance. The laying out and planting of flower beds on the Springbridge Road side of the premises the previous year had notably enhanced its attractiveness. The construction of an asphalt track along the North side of the School field proved a great asset in winter and prevented the ever-growing encroachment on the grass available for football pitches. A new fence erected about the same time along the Princess Road side of the field did much to secure the premises from vandals and marauders. They were not, however, altogether unknown in future years.

Facilities had now been increased by the erection of the new building, but so also had the numbers in the Sixth Forms. Partly on this account, the number of periods devoted to A level work was reduced and Sixth Formers were encouraged to study optional subjects outside their normal curriculum. In order to widen the range of their interests a weekly double period devoted to "Current Affairs" was instituted. Lectures were given to the Upper Sixths by various members of the Staff and eventually by outside speakers as well. On one

occasion the fact that Countess von Moltke, a descendant of the famous German General of World War I was to give a lecture became known to the press and reporters besieged the School. Fortunately when the private character of the occasion was explained, the threatened invasion by the general public was avoided. Another memorable lecture was that given by Eric Newton, an Old Hulmeian, on "The Enjoyment of Pictures". Eminent as an art critic, both in the press and on the radio, he later became Slade Professor of Fine Arts at Oxford.

The Association of Old Hulmeians in London, which had lapsed on the outbreak of World War II, was revived in May 1956, thanks largely to the drive and enthusiasm of C.G. Dennis. Though this revival has continued up to the time of writing this account, owing to a large extent to the zeal and tireless energy of its successive secretaries, G.W. Creasey, E.G. Hall and G. Carter, its future existence seems somewhat uncertain. The Old Hulmeians Motor Club was restarted in 1955 with J.G. Rickards as its Chairman and Allan Smith, one of its founder members as its secretary. Its activities included treasure hunts, driving tests and rallies of varied descriptions, as well as film shows and its own dinner-dances. The increasing congestion of the roads, however, and the restrictions thereby necessitated, made the holding of many of their events progressively more difficult to organise and less enjoyable to participate in. The mounting cost of motoring, especially the sharp rise in the price of petrol, owing to the oil crisis, proved a further deterrent and so the Club's activities came to a close in 1975, despite the valiant efforts of its successive secretaries J.L. Williams and F.E. Pickup to keep it going.

1956 saw the death of three outstanding Old Boys who have been already referred to in these pages: H.R. Classen, S.R. Best and H. Hough. Classen, a keen cricketer, who had celebrated his sixtieth birthday by scoring 100 runs against Bowdon, had done much for the School, the Old Boys and Whalley Range Cricket Club. S.R. Best who had been intimately connected with Manchester University, had been appointed a Governor of the School in succession to H. Cardwell. His wide experience had been of great value during his period of service. H. Hough had been the life and soul of the Hulme Lads' Club as its leader for over 40 years. He had very deservedly been awarded the M.B.E the previous year for his tireless and devoted work for the Club. By his death the Lads' Club suffered a staggering blow, for not surprisingly it proved impossible to find an adequate successor to him, as able and willing to absorb himself wholeheartedly in the activities of the organisation.

In that year also P.J. Richards, the Head Prefect, left school. During his stay at school he had collected more for the club than any other boy had ever done, no less than £600. Although a record collection for the School as a whole of nearly £800 was achieved two years later, from that time on the amount declined and the School's interest in the Club seems to have been on the wane.

Two years later also the Lads' Club was to lose its Chairman, H.S. Wihl (O.H.), who had served the Club for more than forty years, during the last eighteen of which he had held that office. Although, on retirement from business, he left the district, he continued his lively interest in the Club. He was succeeded as Chairman by Colonel G.A. Norris, O.B.E., J.P., D.L., also an Old Hulmeian, who has likewise been closely involved in the Club's activities and as devoted to its welfare. This lively personal interest has also been shown by his brother, B.D. Norris.

In 1956 Major L.H. Watkins, T.D., who took over the command of the Corps soon after the end of the War, had to retire from that position to comply with War Office regulations. Though in 1948 the Junior Training Corps had become a unit of the Combined Cadet Force that had made little difference to the Hulme Contingent's status. There had, however, been a marked expansion in its activities. Week-end camps were held. First individual cadets and then contingents were sent to Outward Bound camps, where very strenuous exercises were performed. A new and more adequate range than "the tunnel", which had been in use since World War I, was built to the North of the gymnasium with funds provided by the army. Major Watkins was succeeded by Major P. Evans, who had also had considerable service experience.

On Founder's Day 1957, the address at the Cathedral service was delivered by the Rev. Dr. H. Roberts, M.A., Ph.D., Principal of Richmond College, who became the following year President of the Methodist Conference and the World Council of Methodist Churches. This was the first time the School had been addressed on such an occasion by one of its Old Boys; but it was not to be the last, as since then the address

has been given by the Rev. H. Embleton, M.A., Q.H.C., a Royal Navy Chaplain (1961), the Rev. J.P.H. Slade, M.A., (1962), the Rev. Dr. A.O. Dyson, M.A., the Principal of Ripon Hall, Oxford, (1970) and the Rev. G.E. Barritt, M.A., Principal of the National Children's Home (1976), all of whom are Old Hulmeians.

During the Spring Term of 1957 a House Play Competition was held for the first time. Each House was invited to present a play of not more than an hour's duration. It was to be produced by a boy, for House Masters were not allowed to do other than act in an advisory capacity. The producer had to work to a strictly limited budget and enjoyed comparatively meagre stage facilities. The form of the competition has changed gradually over the years, but for some time it has been held on two successive Friday nights towards the end of the Easter term with three plays being performed on each night. Inevitably standards of acting and production fluctuate from year to year, but these House plays have enabled several hundred boys to become familiar with the works of modern dramatists as varied as Pinter, Simpson, Exton, Beckett, Eliot and Shaw, and even more important, they have given boys the opportunity to take part in one of the most rewarding and enriching experiences that the School can offer.

Tribute should be paid to the Stage staff who erect and dismantle three separate sets on each night of the competition. Very often junior members of the stage staff are given the responsible tasks of stage managing and lighting these productions. Thus they prepare themselves for the more exacting demands of major school productions. The winning House is awarded a trophy, which originally took the form of a statuette designed and made by Mr. W.A. Barnett. In 1968 it was replaced by a very handsome silver trophy in the form of a stage spotlight. This was presented to the School by past and present members of the stage staff in memory of M.J.B. Smith, one of the most gifted and enthusiastic stage managers the School has ever had. Smith had died two years earlier, very soon after leaving school. Prevented by a life-long illness from taking part in school games, he found in the school stage an outlet for his abundant creative energies. Though sometimes ill-health restricted him to directing activities from a chair in the wings, or advising by letter from hospital, by his radiant enthusiasm he nevertheless made his influence felt. Though counselled, in his final year at school, to cut down his stage activities, so that he could prepare for university scholarships, he disregarded this advice and carried on with his back stage work as usual. However, notwithstanding this, he won not one, but three university awards. His life was brief, but it was worthily lived.

The stage hands were so happy in their work that they frequently returned to admire, criticise or help, if need be, for some time after they had left school. Stage work was not merely setting up the décor for plays and planning elaborate lighting and other effects, it also involved staging other events such as Speech Days and Christmas parties. The stage staff on occasion also produced their own entertainments. These, such as "Macbeth" and "Guddi-rore", tended to be, with the cynicism characteristic of the professional stage hand, derisive burlesques of the productions they had recently been responsible for staging. They were not always, however, so light-heartedly flippant. At the end of the season of 1952-3 R.K. Bowden concluded his distinguished career as stage manager with an impressive production of Christopher Fry's verse play "The Boy with a Cart", memorable alike for the high standard of its acting and the imaginative use of lighting. This production was repeated at the Library Theatre in the City as part of Manchester Schools' Drama Festival held to celebrate the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II.

During the Easter holidays of 1957 the Parents Association held an "Easter Fair" in a very successful effort to raise funds for the School. The proceeds were devoted mainly to the provision of two hard tennis courts on a site near the Head Master's house. Tennis thereupon became an officially recognised school game. Matches were played against the Parents, but it was not till three years later that games were played with other schools. Mrs. N. Wright, the wife, sister and mother of Old Hulmeians, whose husband had been an enthusiastic lawn tennis player, gave a cup for competition in that sport in 1959.

With money still available from the proceeds of the "Easter Fair", the parents also bought a piano for the Preparatory Department and provided financial support for the extension of the cricket pavilion, designed by Mr. Foulds and carried out by boys under his instruction.

As has already been said, as soon as was practicable after World War II was over, School parties to Paris were resumed and Winter Sports parties inaugurated. 1957, however, saw further expansion of such activities. Mr. Haynes and others took a party to Yorkshire at Easter and other small groups went to Belgium

during the same holiday and to the Norfolk Broads in August. The following year, in addition to the Paris trip, Mr. Collings took a party to Bad Honnef in the Rhineland. The year after that Mr. Haynes led a party to Italy. Expeditions such as these became for many years a steadily expanding feature of school life.

In October 1957 a clubhouse that had been erected on the Old Hulmeians Rugby Ground on Brantingham Road was officially opened. It had been designed by O.R. Dennis, the second son of the late Head Master, himself a keen rugby player, who shared his father's proficiency and enthusiasm for all forms of sport. The clubhouse was primarily intended to provide changing accommodation and facilities for the Rugby Club, but it was also available for other sections of the Old Hulmeians Association for dances and a variety of other social activities. Having at last a permanent home of its own boosted the morale of the Club and membership increased at first in consequence. Results improved and a better fixture list was obtained. However in 1958 sixteen players, eleven of them first team regulars, had to leave the district owing to changes in their occupations. Although the first team's good results were nevertheless maintained for a time, there was not adequate reserve strength to provide reinforcements when the need arose. Though good results were still obtained in 1961, by that time recruitment from the School, for reasons explained elsewhere had become perilously low. It was all that F.T. Morley, C.H. Nesbitt, F. Burton and other stalwarts could do to keep the Club going.

In July 1958 Speech Day was held for the first time in a marquee, especially erected on the School field for the occasion. Use of the New Hall for the event had become increasingly impossible with the steadily growing numbers of boys in the Main School, now approaching 700. On a hot summer afternoon a number of boys often fainted with the heat and inevitable crowding. Chairs were placed in the Old Hall for those crowded out of the New Hall and the sound was relayed to them, but this was hardly a satisfactory solution to the problem.

There was a natural reluctance to hold the function anywhere else than in the School grounds, as it was justly felt that the occasion would have lost something of its authenticity and intimacy had that been the practice. This solution to the problem, however, met with an unexpected hazard. Over the weekend before Speech Day took place marauders entered the School grounds and wrecked the marquee. Fortunately the damage was put right in time for the proceedings to take place as arranged. Volunteers from the staff camped out in the marquee during the intervening nights to ensure that there was no repetition of this vandalism. One is glad to say it never recurred in the fifteen years that followed between then and the building of the Sports Hall in 1973 which made the erection of a marquee unnecessary. The prizes were given out that year by Colonel Bolton, the Chairman of the Hulme Trust, who became a Governor of the School in 1965.

In September 1958 when Mr. D.F. Manning, M.A., and Mr. W. Jackson, M.A., joined the Classics staff, the House system underwent a slight modification. The first and second forms were reconstituted to form an independent Junior House, which was entrusted to Mr. Bonnick's supervision. He has exercised that trust with his invariable abundant energy and infectious enthusiasm. Part of the old dining-hall was allocated to the Junior House for recreational use and a Junior Library was established there. This new arrangement simplified the organisation of house games and had many other advantages.

The audibility of proceedings on Speech Day the following year was much improved when a Public Address System, presented to the School by the Parents' Association, came into use for the first time. The prizes on this occasion were given out by Mr. Eric Newton, the eminent Art Critic, who had been a pupil of the School in Dr. Hall's time. A prize for Music, presented by Mr. D.M. Brierley (Senior) (O.H.) was awarded the following year. The School also received two cups that year.

Shortly after his death, Miss Hewlett kindly presented to the School the cup given by the Old Boys to her brother, Mr. E.A.G. Hewlett, M.A., on his retirement from the School staff 24 years previously. This cup was assigned to the House Lacrosse Six-a-Side competition, which had recently been established as a concluding event to the Lacrosse season. The prefects also presented a cup purchased with the profits from "The Crucible", a supplementary school magazine entirely devoted to original work. This publication had been initiated by Mr. A.A. Dudman, M.A., who had joined the English staff in January 1956. It was edited by two of the Sixth Form, P. Clark and B.W. Derbyshire.

At the beginning of the next School year in September 1959, Mr. A.M. Blight, Dr. A. Powrie, M.Sc.,

Ph.D., and Mr. G. Phillips, B.Sc., all of whom have made a considerable contribution to the School's life, joined the staff. Mr. Blight was then the only Old Hulmeian on the staff. He had had a distinguished career at school and had been Head Prefect when he left in 1950. The following year amongst the newcomers were Mr. T.B. Jackson, M.A., Mr. G.W. Johnson, M.A., and another Old Hulmeian, Mr. C.E. Bryans, B.Sc. They, too, all made their mark.

The link between the School and the Old Boys was further strengthened by the initiation of a new function at the beginning of the Autumn Term of 1960. This was a Reunion Dinner held in the School Dining-Hall. This function was especially designed to introduce those boys who had left the School the previous term to the Old Hulmeians Association. The holding of the Annual General Meeting as part of the evening's proceedings was intended to encourage these newcomers to involve themselves in the running of the Association.

That year Government grants were made available to all students on leaving school. In consequence at the end of their School career increasing numbers went up to the universities, which were by this time much more numerous and more widely scattered throughout the country. In earlier days if boys, who were continuing their education, had not gone up to the older universities, they had almost invariably gone to Manchester University or to the College of Technology. The result of this dispersion was often that boys did not return to the Manchester area at the conclusion of their courses. This has incidentally tended to detract from the membership of the Old Hulmeians' Association and from the attendance at their functions.

On July 8th, 1960, to mark the Centenary of the Cadet Movement in England and Wales, a special parade and march past was held. The parade was inspected by Brigadier R.W. Lymer, C.B.E., D.S.O., T.D., an Old Hulmeian and former member of the Corps. Every endeavour was made by a wide variety of demonstrations, exhibitions and competitions to make this a particularly memorable occasion. It was to help with the considerable clerical work involved that Mrs. Clarke first came to the School. Two N.C.O.'s were later invited to attend the Centenary Parade in Buckingham Palace Gardens and a special service in Westminster Abbey. In October Major Evans relinquished the command of the Contingent to Captain R.K. McCulloch, who was promoted to Major. Ill-health, however, compelled him to relinquish the command shortly afterwards and for the next three and a half years it was taken over by Captain F.J. Smith, T.D.

A noteworthy event in December 1960 was that A. Godson and M. Lord, both Old Hulmeians, played for Cambridge in the 'Varsity Rugger Match. What added significance to the occasion was the fact that the three tries by which Cambridge was victorious were scored by these two players. Godson had played in this match the previous year. Further to encourage enthusiasm for rugby, the Old Hulmeians Rugby Club presented a cup to the School, named after their President, T.W.M. Bland, who had done so much for the Club and continues, as Treasurer, to play so important a part in the life of the Old Hulmeians Association.

A new set of grey velvet curtains presented by the Parents Association, did much to improve the appearance of the School stage for the 1960-1 season. A permanent proscenium, painted to harmonise with the panelling of the New Hall and adorned with the arms of William Hulme in the centre, greatly enhanced its effectiveness. That same Autumn term a television set, capable of receiving all stations, was installed in the Science Department. It was, however, equally useful to other sides of the School. A photograph of a class listening to a televised lecture was published in the "T.V. Times" of January 13th, 1960. This installation was further developed later, when with improved technical knowledge the opportunity arose to do so. A 16mm. cine projector was acquired about the same time as the television set.

By 1961 the number of boys in the Main School had risen to over 700. The teaching staff had increased to 40, so the Common Room was again enlarged by incorporating into it Room 8, the adjacent class room. The same year an oil-fired system of heating the School was installed, which proved much more efficient and saved considerable labour.

In the Michaelmas Term a Model Railway Society came into being, largely owing to the enthusiasm and initiative of K.N. Walton. The Society's objective was to build home-constructed representations of railway complexes and then set them in a realistic background. The intention was that, as far as possible, items should be made by the members, not just bought. The exhibition of the results of this Society's activities on Speech Days has been an attractive feature of these functions ever since its foundation. A further development of it, a

Railway Society was established in 1974, the activities of which included visits to railways and the showing of railway films.

A Sixth Form Jazz Club was also formed that term. This Society operated on similar lines to the Music Society, but did not in any way supersede it. A Jazz Band was formed, but it seems to have had only a brief existence. A Modern Language Society was also started, the activities of which included lectures, films and visits to the theatre. If not all these organisations the upsurge of which has been recently mentioned, had a long-lasting duration, they are nevertheless evidence of abundant initiative and vitality on the part of the staff and boys concerned. The manifold and necessarily often conflicting claims that such activities must have made on their participants inevitably resulted in the early discontinuation of the least successful of them, but not doubt they had their impact on the life of the School while they lasted.

It is not to be imagined that all these activities were undertaken at the expense of academic achievement. During the last three years prior to their abolition in 1962, the number of State Scholarships gained had been 8, 9 and 8. Awards gained at Oxford and Cambridge, too, had been steadily increasing in number, the corresponding figures being 6, 3 and 6. Examination results in the General Certificate of Education at both Advanced and Ordinary Level also showed steady improvement.

Early in 1962 it was obvious that great developments were in the air. The Parents Association, to celebrate the seventy-fifth anniversary of the opening of the School, organised a Barbecue, which was held on the School grounds on April 28th to raise funds. The umbrella term "Barbecue" covered a wide variety of activities besides ox-roasting, including stalls, dancing, displays, draws and band performances. An appeal for £100,000 was launched, which met with an immediate response, for a quarter of that sum was received or promised by July of that year.

Two Old Hulmeians, A.H. Allman and J.P.V. Woollam were co-opted as Governors of the School, especially to advise on matters connected with this appeal. A.H. Allman, all five of whose brothers had also attended the School, had recently been appointed a Director of Williams Deacon's bank on his retirement from its General Managership. In this post he was succeeded by R.G. Upton, again an Old Hulmeian and also like Allman an enthusiastic participant in the running of the Hulme Lads' Club. J.P.V. Woollam, whose father had been for 36 years a Governor of the School, had the previous year been appointed Chairman of Simon Carves of Stockport, the engineering firm, in whose service he had travelled the world. A.H. Allman was made treasurer of the appeal and J.P.V. Woollam headed the subscription list with a very generous donation. To the School's great loss neither of these gentlemen long survived their appointment to the School committee.

The object of the appeal was to help finance perhaps the most ambitious and enterprising undertaking Mr. Bird ever embarked upon, one it would scarcely be an exaggeration to say was something of an education revolution. It was the Sixth Form Centre, the first of its kind in the country. The Sixth Form by now numbered considerably over 200 boys and the Head Master felt that there was a danger of the two sides - the Arts and the Science with their various sub-divisions - losing contact with one another. The middle floor of the building projected was to consist of a Common Room for the Sixth Form, where all sections could relax and discuss their differing points of view, share their common interests and thereby educate one another. It was to be furnished with tables and chairs and a long window-bench was to run to the south side of this room. There was also to be a small kitchen, suitable for the supply of light refreshments, when they were needed on social occasions. There were also study rooms for private work. This Sixth Form Centre was to be managed by the boys themselves. In earlier days practically all the Sixth Form had been School Prefects or at least House Prefects. This was no longer possible with the much enlarged sixth form, so the Head Master resolved that if the Sixth Form could no longer learn how to exercise authority wisely by governing others, they should at least find out how to manage themselves.

The upper floor was to consist mostly of a brightly lit and well proportioned hall, large enough to accommodate a moderate sized audience, one too large for a classroom, yet insufficient to fill the New Hall. This room was designed for concerts, debates and meetings of all kinds including film shows, for there was also to be a properly equipped projection room. On the same floor a suite of rooms for the Music Department was to include a classroom and smaller rooms for individual tuition and practice. On the ground

floor there were to be some further class-rooms, House rooms and rooms for masters in charge of Houses or subjects.

At the end of 1962 the present writer began his somewhat protracted retirement. He had been on the School staff since January 1926. When Mr. Anderson retired soon after World War II was over, he succeeded him as Senior English Master. This involved editorship of "The Hulmeian" and responsibility for prizes, as well as other activities. For seventeen years he had been in charge of House Games, which took place every Wednesday and Saturday afternoon in term time. He was also responsible for "Current Affairs", a series of lectures given weekly by outside speakers throughout the School year. The process of his retirement was protracted, first by the failure of a successor to materialise and secondly by his appointment as librarian. The Donner Library had been for many years in the charge of Dr. Jecny. With the assistance, amongst others, of J.E.O. Screen - now Librarian of London University School of Slavonic Studies - he had done much good work in re-organising the Library on the Dewey system that is in general use in Public Libraries.

A change, however, was contemplated that was too great for a full-time member of staff to carry out in his spare time. This was to convert the library from being one for the Sixth Form only to one available to the Middle School also. Books that were specifically required for Sixth Form study were withdrawn by masters in charge of subjects and incorporated in their own departmental libraries. Apart from re-stocking the library with books covering the wide-ranging interests of the Middle School, the first task of the new librarian was to ensure that there was a catalogue card for every book and a book for every catalogue card. Before he finally retired in 1972, handing over the office of librarian to Mr. F.J. Smith, an author catalogue had also been completed. When the present writer began retiring, he was succeeded as Senior English Master by Mr. C.J. Lowe and as House Master of Heywood House by Mr. S.A. Kirkham.

In October 1962 the School lost one of its most loyal and enthusiastic supporters with the death of H.H. Vlies. He entered the School in 1889 and left in 1896; but his association with the School ended only with his death. He was a very keen member of the Old Hulmeians Lacrosse Club in its early days and an ardent supporter of it when his playing days were over. He eventually became a very valued Governor of the School, his interest in which was shown by his annual award of the Modern Language prize, his gifts of foreign books and periodicals to the Library and in many other ways.

In January 1963 another prominent Old Hulmeian also died. Walter Thorpe had entered the School in 1892. He, too, was a very keen member of the Old Hulmeian Association. It is his firm which has been responsible for the erection of all the major buildings at the School this century. He generously provided the Cricket Pavilion at his own expense and helped with its extension and maintenance.

Mr. Fearon retired in July 1963 after 16 years' service at the School as Mathematics master, though he had also taught Physics when there was a shortage on the Science staff. That bare statement hardly does justice to his many activities. The chief of these were reviving interest in swimming and acting as Careers Master on the retirement of Mr. Barber. Refereeing house games, acting as time-keeper with his infallible watch at sports, producing form plays were some of his other official activities. Perhaps he is as well remembered for his less official ones, for his amiable disposition, absent-mindedness, more apparent than real, and occasional oddities, which endeared him to masters and boys alike. Though on retirement he removed to live as far away from school as Llanfairfechan, he has kept in close touch with the School.

The following month Lieutenant-Commander L.F. Potter, B.E.M., F.C.I.S., R.N., took up the post of School Bursar, rendered vacant by the sudden death in the previous May of Mr. W. Taylor. Commander Potter worthily maintained the great tradition for efficiency established by Mr. Barber, whose enthusiasm for sport - golf in particular - and general in every respect of School life he so manifestly shared. He proved an outstanding administrator. Without him the very great advances in building and equipment in his time would have been difficult to achieve. The larger size of the School, both as regards buildings and personnel, together with complexities of modern legislation and regulations have added very heavily to the Bursar's burdens and responsibilities.

Commander Potter did much to bring the administration of the School up to date. Shortly after his arrival telephones were installed in the Masters' Common Room, the Science Building, the Dining Hall and elsewhere controlled by a switchboard in the office. Instead of their being just one hand-worked duplicator

for office and staff use, there are now besides the Roneo, a mechanical duplicator in the Common Room, another in the office, an electronic stencil cutter, addressograph machine, photo-copying machine, offset litho-printer and electronic print out calculator.

Besides his normal school duties Commander Potter was Secretary and Treasurer of the appeal for the Sixth Form Centre and of the later Independence Appeal. He also acted as secretary of the reconstituted Finance Committee of the School in its complicated negotiations with the Hulme Trust resulting from the resumption of the original state of independence.

As soon as was practicable after Commander Potter had settled in to the post, the Governors purchased No 95, Springbridge Road, the house adjacent to the School grounds, as an official residence for the Bursar. After sixteen years' excellent service to the School Commander Potter retired in 1979. He has been succeeded by Lieutenant-Commander B.I.D. Stranack, R.N.

Mr. J.H. Furniss, M.A., who joined the School staff in September 1963 served the School for a similar period before leaving in July 1980 to take charge of Science at Shrewsbury School. In addition to making outstanding contributions to the development of the Physics Department at Hulme that will be elaborated upon later, he was of valuable service to the stage lighting and to school holiday parties.

The new entry that year was organised on a four form basis. The actual number admitted remained roughly the same, but instead of three forms of thirty-two or three, there were four forms of twenty five each. Two years later, however, by which time additional classrooms in the Sixth Form Centre building would be available, there would be three third forms of seventy-five boys in all, instead of two of thirty-two each. The smaller forms permitted a greater degree of personal attention and relieved congestion in the smaller classrooms.

That school year was destined to be the last for "Peveril Mount" as the home of the Preparatory Department. It was known that Miss Berry, who had presided over it with such distinction for thirty years, would shortly be retiring and with the increased demand for places at the School from all quarters its continued existence was no longer essential to the well-being of the School. The proceeds of the sale of the premises helped to pay for the new Sixth Form Centre. So that the two forms remaining of the Preparatory Department could be provided for, accommodation was found for them in Rooms 1 and 2 at the Main School and Miss Berry deferred her retirement for another year to take charge of them. The last corporate activity of the Preparatory Department was a performance of William Golding's "The Lord of the Flies" in the last week of the Summer Term of 1966. The trophies that had been presented to that Department are now competed for by the First and Second Forms.

In 1963 the School's annual collection for the Hulme Lads' Club came to an end. It had been steadily declining since 1957, when it reached an all time record of £781. The reasons given for this step are of varied character. The principal one was, perhaps, an increasingly widespread feeling that with the steadily mounting general affluence in Manchester the disparity between the amenities and resources for recreation available to the Club and those enjoyed by boys at the School was becoming progressively less marked. To this attitude of mind was allied a stirring of the national conscience over the plight of the under-developed countries. The general climate of opinion thus favoured collections in aid of overseas charities rather than for those at home, who were held to be in less pressing need of help.

An annual decline in income on average well over £500 was a crippling blow for the Hulme Lads' Club, which the members, even if more affluent than their predecessors, could hardly be expected to make good. The Club, however, continued to receive generous financial support and practical assistance from the Old Hulmeians. Mr. L.H. Watkins and Mr. G. Phillips from the School staff continued to take a personal and active interest in the Club.

In view of the close association between the School and the Club some indication of the latter's further history may be of interest and not considered out of place here. Owing to post-war demolitions in the Hulme area involving the Club's own buildings, a new home had to be created for it. An appeal was launched of which C.H. Jones (O.H.) was the treasurer. A larger and better equipped structure was erected in Great Jackson Street, not far from the site of the Club's former venue. The new premises were shared with the O'Hanlon Youth Club, an organisation for both boys and girls that had been established in 1918. The Lad's

Club met on four nights of the week and the Youth Club on Wednesdays and Sundays. The new establishment was formally opened by Lord Derby in March 1966.

Although members were making increased contributions towards the running costs, they became progressively heavier, whereas donations diminished. By living on capital the Club continued to maintain full independence till April 1974, but then it was compelled to ask the Manchester Corporation Education Department to take over the major responsibility for its maintenance and direction. In the same year as the new Club was opened it was to lose by death two of its most loyal and long-standing supporters, H.S. Wihl and P.M. Evans, both of whom were also long established and enthusiastic members of the Old Hulmeians Association. The School's connection with the Club has been further renewed by the appointment in 1979 of D. Bremner (O.H.) as Warden of the Proctor Youth Club.

1963 seems to have been the occasion of some unusual activities, for during the Spring Term a party of fifteen boys in the Lower Sixths undertook a fifty mile walk to Blackpool. Only four of them and Mr. Bryans actually completed the journey, but it was a good test of endurance nevertheless. At the end of that term almost the whole School abstained from eating the school dinner one day - not as a protest against the quality of the food or its distribution, or indeed as any form of demonstration - but so that the money saved, nearly £40, could be donated to the "Freedom from Hunger" campaign.

In addition to the trip to Paris that year there were school parties to the Yorkshire Dales, to East Anglia and the Norfolk Broads at Easter, to the Yorkshire Moors again at Whitsun and to Italy in the summer holidays. A Junior Camp had been held at Towyn in 1962; in the following year it was transferred to Wensleydale. There were also in 1963 expeditions to Derbyshire and the Lake District under the auspices of the newly founded Outdoor Society.

Expeditions such as these so multiplied in 1964 that the majority received only a passing mention in the School magazine. Reference should, however, perhaps be made here to a joint expedition by minibus that year in which two other schools participated in the course of which Athens, Corinth, Megara, Daphni, Delphi and Epidauros were visited. Another party that year went to Switzerland and Provence.

Mention is made in the record of that year to the formation of a Geographical Society and the institution of a Middle School Society. Most School societies attracted membership mainly from the Upper School or appealed to specialist interests. The Junior School, too, was developing a life of its own, so a Middle School Society was established to cater for the third and fourth forms, which might otherwise have seemed rather left out of the extra-curricular activities. Their functions consisted chiefly of lectures and debates.

In 1964 Golf was accepted as an alternative School game. Matches were played between the boys and the staff and with the parents. In the following and succeeding years, like the Old Hulmeians, the boys held a golf competition on Ascension Day. Mr. A.S. Fortune, a parent, presented a cup for that event. That summer, too, there was an expansion in Athletic activities. Matches involving all age groups from Under 13 to Under 17 and over were carried out against other schools, either in direct competition or as triangular events.

After distributing the prizes at the end of the Summer term, Lord Fisher of Lambeth, who had only recently retired from being Archbishop of Canterbury, officially opened the Sixth Form Centre and unveiled a plaque commemorating the occasion. The whole-hearted approval of this new venture he expressed in his address, coming from an eminent and highly respected ex-Head Master, was greatly appreciated, as was the benign informality with which he carried out the proceedings.

Dr. Jecny, who had been on the School staff since the middle of World War II, left that term to take up the post of Associate Professor of German at the Lewis and Clark College at Portland, Oregon, U.S.A. He had looked after the Library for many years, had produced several form plays, had been of great assistance with games, camps, the orchestra and in a variety of other ways. He will probably be chiefly remembered, however, for the Winter Sports parties which he ran for so many years. With the closure of the Preparatory Department Mrs Jecny also withdrew from the School staff. Dr. and Mrs. Jecny will be remembered, too, for their hospitality to the Leonardo da Vinci Society.

In 1965 the Old Hulmeians Lacrosse Club inaugurated an Easter Lacrosse Festival. Teams of Old Hulmeians from all the Universities at which lacrosse is played were invited to enter into competition with the

Club. Matches were played on the School grounds and afterwards the teams adjourned to the Brantingham Road Clubhouse for refreshments. The function was designed to encourage those who had recently left school to keep in touch with the Lacrosse Club should they return to the Manchester area at the conclusion of their degree courses.

While on the subject of the Old Boys' lacrosse, one may mention that five former pupils of the School, including the captain, Dr. G.A. Macdonald, were members of a group of twenty-two players, representing the English Lacrosse Union, who made a tour of America and Canada in May 1967. Four years later of the party of twenty-four who toured America with the English Universities Lacrosse Team nine were Old Hulmeians. Seven Old Boys were in the English Lacrosse party which toured Australia in 1974 and took part in the World Lacrosse Championships there.

A further activity for Old Hulmeians was provided in 1966 with the establishment of an Old Hulmeians Rifle Club. This Club has used the School range for practice competitions for its own trophies and for postal matches with other clubs. Individual members and also teams have competed at Bisley and elsewhere with some measure of success. The Club has held joint dinner-dances with the Motor Club to which many of its members have also belonged.

In July 1965, Mr. D.M. Williams brought his record teaching career, spent entirely at Hulme and unsurpassed in length and in many other respects, to a close. He had first joined the School staff in September 1920, only two years after the termination of World War I, when the School was passing through its unhappiest period. It was a trying time for a young newcomer - Mr. Williams was but twenty years old at the time of his appointment. Few new recruits to the staff can have had to meet a more formidable challenge than that which faced Mr. Williams. The School was grossly overcrowded, classes had to be held in most unsuitable places under most adverse conditions, his colleagues were mostly elderly men, many of whom were very disgruntled with the prevailing state of affairs, or temporary lady teachers of very varying quality. However, his quiet manner and competent assurance enabled him to overcome the manifold difficulties he encountered. An early lesson he happened to give on Perkin Warbeck, the Yorkist pretender to the throne in the reign of Henry VII, earned for him, in the odd way boys distort such nomenclature, the nickname "Pecker". The success of his career at Hulme should be measured not by its length alone, but by its quality. He was an inspiring teacher of history, who did much to release the presentation of that subject from the trammels of mediaevalism in which it was enmeshed when he came to the School and gave to it a greater relevance to modern conditions.

Soon after his arrival he was made form master of Lower I, an inspired appointment, which gave him the responsibility for introducing a nucleus of boys from the relatively small and sheltered Preparatory Department to the bewildering complexities of the main school. He held this post for as long as Lower I lasted. Many hundreds of boys must be grateful for the kindness and encouragement they received at his hands, which they repaid by loyal support and by making their annual form play and their collection for Hulme Lads' Club the most successful of all. Lower I, under his guidance, initiated the general intake the following year into the geography and traditions of the School. Apart from his teaching Mr. Williams will be principally remembered for his numerous productions of Gilbert and Sullivan operas, referred to elsewhere, and his competent and enthusiastic handling of the School's music, of which he took complete charge on Mr. Dennis's retirement. Probably next in esteem would be his devotion to the School lacrosse, where he served as an admirable lieutenant to Mr. J.A. Barber, as also in cricket. The Corps band owed much to his training. This was not the only service he performed to the Corps, for he was a most efficient cook at its camps. He performed a similar service for the Harvest camps. In fact he was a most enthusiastic supporter of all aspects of the School's life. When Mr. Powell died, he acted as liaison officer between the School and the Hulme Lads' Club, to whose funds his form's collections had contributed so generously. It was natural to him to give the Old Hulmeians every support by encouraging leavers to join their Association and to participate in their activities. In recognition of his services to the School and the Old Boys he was honoured with the Presidency of the Old Hulmeians' Association in 1966-7.

On Mr. Gatley's retirement, Mr. Williams became Second Master, a post he held for the last twelve years of his career and one demanding considerable exercise of tact and forbearance at times, qualities in

which fortunately he was by no means lacking. He maintained his close interest in the School and its Old Boys in his retirement, an interest shared by his wife, who is the sister of an Old Hulmeian, H.E. Elderton. He was of invaluable help in the writing of this history. He was replaced on the History staff by Mr. J.W. Warden, B.A. His position as Second Master was held jointly by Mr. Morley and Mr. Lowe, till Mr. Morley also retired. On becoming Second Master Mr. Lowe surrendered responsibility for the English Department to Mr. A.A. Dudman. Mr. Williams died in July 1980, shortly after attending a Farewell Dinner for Mr. Bonnick, held at the School.

The Donner Union, as the Debating Society had been designated since 1955, came to an end in the Spring Term of 1965, but it was revived under the name of the Sixth Form Society in the Autumn Term with a somewhat wider scope. Besides the usual debates and play-readings, this new organisation included in its functions competitive quiz programmes with Whalley Range High School on the lines of the ITV University Challenge series. A very commendable activity initiated by this Society in 1968, was a Christmas Party for unfortunate children, selected by the N.S.P.C.C.

This activity clearly indicated that despite the ending of the Hulme Lads' Club collection, the boys were not indifferent to the welfare of those less fortunate than themselves. This was further emphasised by the sponsored walk from Lancaster to Manchester, which took place in March 1968, when a sum of £300 was raised thereby for "Shelter", an organisation for the homeless. Road relay races had been held between Chester and Manchester in 1963 and succeeding years; but this was the first time any such undertaking had been harnessed by the School to charitable ends. "Christian Aid Weeks" from 1966 onwards became regular institutions. The variety and ingenuity of the fund-raising activities engaged in were too numerous to catalogue here in detail. The record year was 1969 in which a total sum of £800 was raised, thanks largely to a sponsored walk, this time from Mold in Flintshire to the school.

As if to re-assure Mr. Williams in departure that the musical tradition he had done so much to foster would not be lost, in July 1965 a House Music Festival and Competition was held for the first time. It was organised by Mr. Johnson and Mr. Hoskinson of the English staff. The houses were invited to contribute items, vocal or instrumental, solo or ensemble, to an afternoon's programme. These items were assessed according to their level of accomplishment and the houses ranked accordingly. This first undertaking was necessarily largely experimental; but it attained sufficient success for the event to be repeated the following year and to become a permanent feature of the School's programme.

Another and perhaps more surprising innovation later that year, again as the result of Mr. Johnson's initiative, was the introduction of Horse-riding as a school activity. It was, alas, not to have a long existence, for with the sudden death of Mr. Johnson at the conclusion of one of the riding sessions, during the Spring half-term in 1967, the impetus behind the undertaking was lost.

Mr. Johnson, who had joined the School staff in September 1960, had done much to enrich the teaching of English and Music during his stay at the School by the breadth of his approach to these subjects and the erudition that lay behind it. As the above paragraphs will indicate he did much to extend the range of the School's activities in those years. No such bare statement of his contribution to the School's life, however, can convey the impact of his personality upon those with whom he came in contact, or the deep sense of loss all felt with the untimely passing of a man of exceptional personal charm. A fund, established as a tribute to his memory, was devoted to the perpetuation of a prize awarded annually to the boy who has contributed most to the cultural life of the School.

Fortunately the response to the appeal for funds to enable the building of the Sixth Form Centre was sufficiently generous to permit the plan to build the long-wanted swimming-pool also to be put into execution. "Ballidon", a somewhat rambling and outmoded house at the corner of Springbridge Road and Wilbraham Road had been purchased in 1962 and demolished as no effective use could be made of the building. Two further tennis-courts were laid down on the site, still leaving room for the projected baths. Once the baths were decided upon, there was little delay in their construction, which was of a very modern, simple character. A conventional 75 foot pool, 9ft 10ins deep at the diving end was enclosed in a superstructure built entirely of aluminium alloy, enamel finished to provide a corrosion-resistant surface. The cladding of this framework was of fibreglass, requiring no painting or maintenance. Its vivid blue did not meet

with universal acceptance at first, but it has mellowed with time. The enormous advantage it is to the School to have its own swimming-pool on the premises can hardly be overstated. Abundant use has been made of this long desired facility, by boys, old boys, staff and parents. Swimming sports have been developed and are now carried out in a fitting manner. Those who were at school in earlier days will recall how events at Chorlton Baths had to be held in such quick succession that two sets of competitors were in the water simultaneously, so that the pool could be used for as short a time as possible. The School's Pool came into use at the beginning of the Summer term in 1966. Since then Water Polo and other aquatic sports have been added to the School games.

A further development that year was the establishment of a centre for school activities in the Yorkshire Dales. Inspired by an idea of the Head Master's, four friends of the School, by generous financial provision, enabled the purchase to be made of two four hundred years old stone-built cottages in the village of Appersett, one mile west of the market town of Hawes in Upper Wensleydale. The intention was that the cottages should be renovated and used as a base primarily by working parties of biologists, geographers, geologists and historians, secondarily by groups from School intent on hiking, caving, potholing, cycling or any other suitable pursuit then being carried out under the School's auspices.

An immense amount of time and energy was generously devoted by the staff, parents and other well-wishers to making the cottages suitable for use. A wide range of gifts of furniture and other amenities was readily forthcoming to make a stay there as pleasant as possible. Mr. Haynes was appointed Warden and Mr. Manning Secretary-Treasurer. Some indication of the abundant and varied use that has been made of these premises will transpire as this narrative proceeds. The School has much cause to be grateful to Mr. Bird for envisaging this development and to Mr. Allman and Mr. Woollam (Old Hulmeians and Governors), Mr. Brewood (then Chairman of the Parents' Association and also later a Governor) and his wife for making it financially possible.

The not infrequent collisions of builders' lorries with the narrow gates to the School field during the building of the Sixth Form Centre made it advisable for a wider and more solid structure to be erected. As a further precaution there was also a side gate for pedestrians. Additional entrance gates to the New Hall were also built in 1965 similar in style to the main entrance gates, thus giving a finish and unity to the School frontage.

The Head Master's house "Dunoon", had proved a somewhat unfortunate investment. It was in constant need of expensive repair and very uncomfortable to live in, so that it was eventually decided to replace it by a modern timber-built structure erected elsewhere in the garden, better adapted to modern conditions and more in accordance with the Head Master's requirements. When the new building was completed, the unsightly original structure was demolished. Characteristically Mr. Bird had insisted that the new house for himself should not be built until the other projects he had conceived had been completed.

In September, 1966, Mr. Bardsley, B.A., and Mr. C.P. Langford, M.A., joined the School staff. Mr. Langford is an Old Hulmeian. Both were keen lacrosse players and have played for many years with the Old Hulmeians. Both, too, have done valuable service in organising school parties and helping with entertainments. Mr. Bardsley left the school staff in 1973, but Mr. Langford is still at the School and is now House Master of Dalton.

A Radio Club was revived that term after a lapse of over forty years. Though the members had a common interest with their predecessors, one imagines the apparatus they handled and discussed was somewhat different. A Motor Club was also formed, which was closely linked to the Old Hulmeians Motor Club, which had been formed for some time by then and could give this club valuable assistance.

A third activity, the Canoe Club, was an off-shoot of the Adventure Training Activities of the Corps. This was the inspiration of Mr. G. Phillips, B.Sc., who had joined the staff in September 1959. Soon after his arrival Mr. Phillips took up a commission in the Corps. In December 1964 he took over the command from Captain F.J. Smith. The Canoe Club's initial training took place two nights a week in the School swimming-pool. When sufficient proficiency had been attained tours of the Ribble and Bollin Rivers were undertaken at week-ends. Before the season was over some of the members were sufficiently expert to enter the Slalom Competition organised by the Cambridge University Canoe Club at Llangollen in October.

In September 1966 Mr. J. Peat also joined the Corps, especially to take charge of its Adventure Training programme. In running these activities he had valuable help from Mr. J. Ashton, who had come to the School as a Sergeant-Instructor in July 1964. Mr. Ashton took charge of the shooting and helped with the administration of the Corps, with camps and in a variety of other ways. Part of his time was spent in the very skilful and artistic decoration of the School. His departure in July 1972 was much regretted. An off-shoot of Adventure Training has been the ski-ing Camp held at Aviemore from 1968 onwards. Ski-ing had been introduced to the School by Dr. Jecny soon after World War II was over, but purely as a civilian sport. This activity terminated with his departure in 1964, but it was revived in 1971, since when School winter sports parties have gone either to Switzerland or Austria.

A link with the defunct Shrove Tuesday play tradition was provided by the performance on Ash Wednesday, 1967, of Samuel Beckett's "Waiting for Godot" in the Upper Hall. It was the first time this room had been used for such a purpose and its intimate atmosphere seemed well adapted to such an undertaking. This courageous and enterprising production, for which Mr. Dudman was responsible, was reviewed for "The Hulmeian" by Mr. Johnson a few days before his sad and sudden death. The illuminating and acutely penetrating character of this critical appraisal forcefully underlined the loss the School had suffered by his untimely passing.

A further departure from established tradition that year was the production of Benjamin Britten's "Let's Make an Opera", a joint effort in which senior pupils from Withington Girls' School were also involved. It was produced by Mr. Freeman and conducted by Mr. Hoskinson.

In 1967 a Language Laboratory was installed in the School. The wall between the Sixth Form Modern Language room and the corresponding Classics room was removed to make one larger room again of what had been in earlier times in succession the Art Room and the Library. In it were housed 32 booths and a teacher's console. Each booth contains a tape-recorder with individual microphone and head set. Each has its own orthodox controls, which can be over-ridden at any time by the master-control switches on the console. The teacher can address the whole class, or any individual member and can listen-in undetected to any booth. The material which is broadcast can be from tape or gramophone source or can come live from the teacher's voice. The principal aim is to allow all pupils to talk simultaneously without distraction and to allow for repetition or correction without halting the work of the rest of the form. On play back the pupil can listen critically to his own voice. While the success of language laboratory work must depend on the quality and suitability of the material fed into it, there is no doubt it can do much to improve pronunciation and the absorption of sentence patterns.

At the end of the Summer term that year Mr. C. Morley, the one remaining survivor of the pre-war staff, retired from the Headship of the History Department, a post he had held since he had joined the School staff in 1932. During the period in which he was in control, the Department fully maintained the high standard it had reached under his predecessor, whose erudition he shared. Among Mr. Morley's former pupils are two Professors of History at British Universities, D. Read and M.W. Flinn, as well as many scholars and exhibitioners at Oxford and Cambridge. He had an infallible memory for dates, whether of historical events or of school occurrences of relatively trivial character. He was housemaster of Byrom and of great service to the School in a variety of ways; but he will be chiefly remembered, apart from his teaching, for his contribution to the School games, especially cricket. He coached the Under 15 cricket team from the death of Mr. Powell until he took over the first XI. Accomplished alike with bat and ball he found the game an enjoyment he readily imparted to others. When Mr. Williams retired he was Joint Second Master with Mr. Lowe till his own retirement from full time teaching. He continued to serve the School on a part-time basis for a further year or two before he finally retired to his native Yorkshire, unfortunately to enjoy retirement for only a matter of months before his death in 1970.

At the same time Mr. J.M. Faulkner retired after seventeen years as head of the Science Department. During his period of office the staff of the department had grown from five to eleven and the premises had also proportionately increased, largely owing to the grant from the Industrial Fund for the Advancement of Science in Schools. It was under his guidance and supervision that the new laboratories were built and equipped. Mr. Faulkner, like his predecessor, Mr. Adams, was keenly interested in music and took an active

part in many school activities. He was succeeded as head of the department by Mr. S.A. Kirkham, who had joined the Science staff in 1952.

Mr. G. Phillips, a member of the Chemistry staff since 1959, also left that term to take up another post. Soon after coming to the School he took up a commission in the C.C.F. and between December 1964 and July 1967 he was its commanding officer. During his period of responsibility for it, the adventure sides of the training syllabus which embraced week-end camps, Duke of Edinburgh Scheme expeditions and more elaborate "Arduous Training" camps were considerably developed. The Canoeing Club's activities, under the auspices of the Corps, owed almost everything to his initiative and encouragement. He gave valuable help to many other aspects of School life and was keenly interested in the Hulme Lads' Club in the running of which he was of considerable assistance. He was succeeded in command of the Corps by Mr. H.V. Grange, B.Sc., who had been appointed to the Science staff in January 1967.

In July 1967 Mr. F.H. Mainprice's long years of service as Clerk to the School Governors came to an end with his sudden death. His association with the School had begun soon after his return from active service in Gallipoli and France in World War I in which he had been awarded the M.C., but had the misfortune to lose his left arm. He was a member of the firm of Taylor, Kirkman and Mainprice, the senior partner of which Mr. Stafford Taylor had succeeded his father, Mr. Henry Taylor, as Clerk of the Governors in 1900. Though it was not till 1932 that Mr. F.H. Mainprice had formally taken over that responsibility, he had, from time to time, acted on the School's behalf during his senior partner's tenure of office. He was the School's spokesman in negotiations with the Hulme Trust and with the Ministry of Education. He was of invaluable help, too, in securing funds for the School in time of need. He took a keen interest in the School and attended many of its functions, always in a modest, retiring manner. He was one of those whose services to the School far exceed the publicity and acknowledgement they receive. He has been succeeded by his son, Mr. H.R. Mainprice, M.A., who has shown the same lively interest in the School's fortune that his father evinced before him.

Amongst those who were appointed to the School staff in September 1967 were Mr. D. Heap, M.A., as Head of the History Department in succession to Mr. C. Morley and Mr. J.W. Worth, B.A., who joined the English staff.

When the Government's subsidy for school milk came to an end the following year, so did the issue of school milk. Originally intended to supplement war-time diet, changed conditions had rendered it no longer a necessity. At one time it had been distributed in class to ensure that it was not wasted, with consequent disruption of lessons. Automatic vending machines, from which tea and coffee could be obtained, were, however, installed in the main building and the Sixth Form Centre to compensate for the loss of mid-morning milk. These automatic vending machines had the further advantage that they were available at all times and proved a useful source of revenue.

In May 1968 the Prefects' Room was refurnished to become the Bursar's office and he thus enjoyed a greater degree of privacy and freedom from interruption than he had previously experienced. The Prefects were removed to Room 2, a class-room under the School stage, for which, thanks to the opening of the Sixth Form Centre, there was no longer pressing need.

As he had followed the narrative the reader has doubtless been impressed by the number and variety of activities the School embarked upon during Mr. Bird's headship. Some of these inevitably died when the master who initiated and directed them left to take up another appointment, or when the generation of boys who were first caught up by his enthusiasm completed their school careers. Even so, however brief their existence, these activities had their impact on the School's life and added considerably to the experience of those who participated in them.

None of these undertakings, perhaps, were of more unconventional character than the two sharply contrasting ones, alike alone in being of somewhat hazardous a nature, that were initiated in 1968, caving and gliding. Caving was introduced by Mr. Heap, who had had previous experience in this direction when he came to Hulme. At first the Club's activities were limited to Lancashire and the adjacent counties, but during the Summer holidays a caving visit was paid to Norway. The visit was repeated in 1970 and the two following years. The aim of the expeditions was to find, explore and survey new caves in areas north of the

Arctic Circle; but the parties' experiences and achievements were not limited to these objectives. No brief reference such as this can adequately convey the hazards, excitements and austerities these expeditions involve, the calls they make on courage and endurance of those who participate in them, or the complexity of the arrangements that have to be made for them to be put into operation. The accounts of these undertakings in the School magazine, their trials and accomplishments, make fascinating reading. The Club's activities were by no means confined to these trips to Norway or to Sutherland in Scotland at Whitsun, for at almost every half-term and holiday, in fact at every conceivable opportunity, Mr. Heap led parties to Yorkshire, Derbyshire, the Lake District or elsewhere either for caving or walking trips, or a combination of both. Though Mr. Heap left the staff on his appointment in 1974 as Headmaster of Handsworth Grammar School, Birmingham, it is to be hoped that this enterprising and challenging activity will nevertheless continue its existence.

The other activity, first embarked upon in 1968, was of a more transitory nature. Gliding was introduced by Mr. J. Gordon, B.A., who joined the Modern Language staff in 1964. Members of the Club were given theoretical and practical instruction in the complex art of flying gliders. When Mr. Gordon's glider first appeared on the School field, it caused considerable stir, as did the model glider he used to explain the basic principles of flight. Boys eventually had the opportunity of putting the knowledge they had gained into practice at the Lasham Gliding Centre in Hampshire and at Great Hucklow in Derbyshire. The more accomplished members of the Club eventually graduated to solo flights. On Mr. Gordon's departure in 1973 to take up another post, his glider naturally went with him, so this activity inevitably came to an end.

In July 1968 the prizes were distributed on Speech Day by Sir Denis Barnes, an Old Boy of the School and Permanent Under Secretary of State at the Ministry of Employment and Productivity, who had received the honour of Knighthood the previous year. That term Mr. A.A. Dudman and Mr. K. Hoskinson of the English Staff both left to take up other posts. Both had made considerable contributions to the School's dramatic activities during their stay at Hulme. Mr. Dudman had succeeded Mr. Lowe as Senior English Master, when the latter had become Second Master. He gave a fresh start to the teaching of English and did much to encourage original writing in both the official School magazine and "Crucible", the supplementary magazine which he sponsored. His place was taken the following term by Mr. G.E.B. Golder, M.A., whose considerable experience and musicianship have been of great value to the School.

Mr. Hoskinson, besides teaching English, had done much to preserve the School's musical activities after Mr. Williams's departure. In some respects he broke with tradition by giving greater prominence to popular music than it had hitherto enjoyed at Hulme. He was replaced as teacher of music by Mr. D.A. Bamforth, B.Mus., who was the first whole time and professionally trained musician to be appointed to Hulme. Hitherto music had been largely the part-time concern of masters with some musical inclination and somewhat varying degrees of aptitude for teaching the subject.

During the summer holidays of that year the school cricket team, then in the charge of Mr. A.M. Blight, undertook for the first time a tour of the West Country, camping out overnight on its way. Five matches were played, mainly against other schools in Cornwall, Devon and Somerset with the fluctuating degree of success, so far as results are concerned, that almost inevitably attends away matches played on unfamiliar grounds. The tour, however, was in other respects such an unqualified success that it has been repeated annually ever since.

During that summer holiday, too, the School lost an old and valued servant with the death of Mr. Fred Bowes, the School carpenter. He had joined the School staff as junior porter in 1933 and except for his years in the army during the War he was at Hulme for the rest of his life. He was so useful a handyman that eventually he gave the whole of his time to the repair and construction of desks, chairs and fixtures of all kinds at the School or at camp or wherever there was need for his services. He was a cheerful and willing worker, for whom no task seemed too great, no practical problem too difficult to solve, no small boy too insignificant to merit attention.

The Autumn term of 1968 saw the end of Saturday morning school. During the preceding two or three years it had been gradually phased out. In the first stage games, apart from matches against other schools were no longer played on Saturday afternoons, but in the latter part of the morning. However, eventually by

readjustment of the number and length of periods during the rest of the week, Saturday school was completely eliminated from the time-table. This change had been necessitated by the increasing general adoption of the five day week and the growing number of School activities taking place at some distance from the School, particularly the ever expanding use of the School cottages at Appersett.

In January 1969 Canon Woolnough resigned from the Chairmanship of the Governors, a responsibility he had held for thirty years and so for longer than any of his predecessors. Advancing years and declining health, which his lively demeanour and deceptively youthful appearance belied, had made this step advisable, though he continued as a member of the School committee and attended its meetings whenever fit enough to do so till shortly before his death in 1973 at the surprising age of 88. The School had been one of his main interests. The Head Master had found him a loyal supporter and adviser in all his projects. Apart from presiding at the Governors' meetings, he attended as many of the School's functions as he possibly could. The Founder's Day Services owed much of their effectiveness to the care with which he made arrangements for them and the dignity with which he played his part in their conduct. He presided over Speech Day, attended the Carol Services, Plays and C.C.F. Inspections and other functions. His services to the School were not, however, exclusively of an official character. Masters and boys alike owed much to his kindly interest and help. Canon Woolnough was succeeded as Chairman of the Governors by Mr. D.Ll. Griffiths, F.R.C.S., the first Old Hulmeian to hold that position.

Early in 1969 the School acquired a Hammond organ which was not only of use at morning assembly and in concerts, but also enabled boys to have tuition and practice on this instrument. In addition to this many pleasurable dinner hour recitals have been enjoyed thanks to the proficiency of Mr. Bamforth and Mr. Golder as organists.

At the end of the Spring term the Junior School performed "The Insect Play" by Josef and Karel Capek in the Upper Hall. This enterprising undertaking brought a large number of Junior boys on to the stage for the first time. Other such productions were that of Anstey's "Vice Versa" directed by Mr. P.J. Callaghan in 1974 and Shaw's "Androcles and the Lion" in 1975. Mr. Langford, who produced the latter, had appeared in this play himself nine years earlier when a pupil at the School.

At the same time, Mr. Curtis, the head groundsman, retired after some seventeen years' service at the School. As well as having had charge of the general maintenance of the playing field, he had been largely responsible for the laying out and upkeep of the attractive flower borders that had fronted the School and the rose garden between the Art Building and the Dining-hall, which did so much to give the School a less austere appearance to visitors and to encourage boys to take a pride in the school they attended.

Another retirement of no less significance that year was that of Eric Barnes from the Secretaryship of the Old Hulmeians Association. One of the most popular boys who has ever passed through the School he had served the Association in one capacity or another ever since he left the School in 1926. The value of the service lay not merely in its length, but in its quality. The generosity with which he put his time, expertise and other resources at the disposal of the School and the Association are unlikely ever to be surpassed. The periods of adversity and financial stringency it had to undergo put the future of the Association in jeopardy from time to time and it took all his courage, tact and equanimity to overcome the obstacles that lay in its path. The success with which its existence continues is greatly due to his geniality, resource and dogged determination. The lacrosse section owes much to his infectious enthusiasm and prowess as a player. In fact the whole English lacrosse world is deeply indebted to his keenness on the game and his efficiency as an administrator and guide. The Memorial Clock, installed in his memory in the pavilion of the Whalley Range Cricket and Lawn Tennis Club, is a fitting tribute to one who gave his time and energy so generously to the advancement and prosperity of the game. On his retirement from business he went to live in Jersey, his wife's home. Unfortunately but few further years were granted to him for he died in 1974. He had been invited to present the prizes at Speech Day that year, but his declining health compelled him to withdraw his acceptance. His three sons have also attended the School and been enthusiastic lacrosse players and loyal members of the Association. The Eric Barnes Memorial Trophy, presented by Mrs. Barnes, is fittingly awarded to the boy who has made the most outstanding contribution to the Sporting and Athletic life of the School.

The usual manifold school travel parties took place in 1969, but special mention should be made of the expedition to Iceland conducted by Mr. Bardsley and Mr. Worth that year. Elaborate plans had been made and considerable fund-raising activities carried out to finance this exceptional enterprise. The tour, which lasted over three weeks, was not of the usual sightseeing or recreational character, but was rather a geographical and scientific exploration of an inadequately surveyed region of the island. This involved map-making and a wide variety of geological and meteorological activities. The success of the expedition would have been greater but for the unusually strong winds and exceptionally heavy rainfall for the time of the year it encountered. The adverse weather conditions resulted in transport difficulties, which owing to the limited facilities available could not be satisfactorily overcome. One cannot help feeling, as one reads the accounts of this undertaking and those to Norway earlier referred to, that the participants were prompted by something akin to the spirit of adventure and urge to probe the unknown that had animated our Elizabethan forefathers centuries ago.

During the Summer holidays one of the class-rooms in the Science block was converted into a laboratory, owing to the development of Biology in the School. To help cope with the increasing number of boys staying to school dinner an extension to the dining-hall was also constructed. Mrs. Taylor, the widow of the late Bursar, who had taken over the responsibility for the School catering temporarily in an emergency in 1957 in the first instance, but who had stayed on till then, now retired to take up residence near the School's cottages in Appersett. There she still takes a lively interest in the School and is of much useful service. Besides catering for a wide variety of functions for the School and the Old Hulmeians alike, to the latter she had been of great help in a secretarial capacity. Mrs. Taylor presented a prize to the Junior School in memory of her husband, whose untimely death has already been recorded. After a brief interval, she was succeeded as Supervisor of School Kitchens by Miss L. Walker, who fully maintained the high standard of loyalty and service set by her predecessor. Her sudden death in May 1976 came as a great shock, for she, too, by her willingness and competence earned the gratitude and respect of all the many she served so well.

In 1969 a prize for Physics was presented by the Rev. H. Palmer and Mr. C.W. Palmer in memory of their brother W.H. Palmer, who was killed in World War I. All three brothers attended the School. By the will of Mrs. E. Wood the School also received a very generous bequest in the memory of her son, Norman Wright Wood, who was shot down and killed while flying with the R.A.F.V.R. in the battle of Falaise Gap in World War II. This bequest has been used to finance the Modern Languages Laboratory recently referred to. The previous year Mr. D. Lloyd Griffiths presented a prize for the best candidate who intended to take up medicine as a career. A similar award was made the following year by another Old Hulmeian and Governor, Mr. J.P.V. Woollam. This time the prize was for the boy who won the best Science, Mathematics or Engineering award to a British university.

In October an Autumn Musical Festival was held for the first time in addition to the customary one in the Spring. This occasion was remarkable especially for the very varied contributions to the programme made by J.R. Banks, which included "Variations for Piano Duet" of his own composition, all the more noteworthy for the physical handicap of deafness the composer had to overcome.

"The Hulmeian" published that month was the last termly issue. Thereafter, owing to the ever-increasing costs of production, it was published annually. Original contributions were relegated to new supplementary magazines, open to all forms, such as "Tabard" and "Vision", which replaced the former "Crucible", contributions to which had been accepted from the Sixth Form only. The Old Hulmeians' activities were increasingly covered by their own publication "The Old Hulmeians' Newsletter" ably and enthusiastically edited by J.G. Rickards, which is also published annually.

The following year was in several respects a momentous year for the School. The relationship between the School and the parent Hulme Trust came under review with the result that the Trust accepted responsibility for repairs to the fabric. The terms on which the Governors served were also revised and Mr. G. Kenyon and Dr. R.A. Rainford added to their number as representatives of the Trust.

In that year also the Labour Government announced its intention to discontinue the Direct Grant method of financing secondary education and made clear its intention to support only so-called "comprehensive" schools. This threat was not new. It had been a subject of discussion at Head Masters'

Conferences throughout Mr. Bird's Head Mastership. It was consequently his aim to ensure that the School was so soundly organised and so fully equipped that it could compete successfully, independent of State aid, with those maintained by public funds. Ever since the Direct Grant system had been introduced, just after the Second World War, a powerful section of the Labour Party had opposed it and had openly declared its hostility to schools such as Hulme. The chief reason for this disapproval has always been that the Direct Grant Schools were permitted to select their pupils according to an assessment of their ability to benefit from the type of education that these schools offer. This was contrary to the sincerely-held egalitarian principles of the Labour Party, though the concept of selective education was supported by many authorities and even by many individuals in that party.

It was, of course, realised that the withdrawal of government financial support from the School would have serious consequences, as would the inevitable lowering of standards which would have resulted from the conversion of the School into a non-selective "comprehensive" school.

The increasing threat from opponents of the Direct Grants system had led the Governors to set up a sub-committee to consider its implications as early as 1967. In 1970 the Dennison Commission appointed by the Government, recommended the abolition of all selective secondary education and when that Commission reported, the School Governors, on the advice of their sub-committee, announced their intention of resuming the status of a wholly independent school if the Direct Grant were withdrawn. Their intention was declared publicly in these words: "After considering the Dennison Commission's Report the Governors of the School have concluded that the proposals put forward do not offer an opportunity for continued partnership with the State, and that if they are implemented the School will be obliged to resume full independence. Such action will be taken with great reluctance and much regret".

One imagines the ghost of Doctor Hall, the School's first Head Master, who resigned his post rather than submit to outside control must have greeted this news with some satisfaction and is now conceivably at rest. However, a short respite was obtained for the Direct Grant system by the Conservative victory in the General Election of 1970, but Manchester's Labour controlled Corporation announced that it would take up no more places at William Hulme's, nor at any other Direct Grant school after September 1971. Other authorities followed suit. These bodies agreed to continue to support boys already in the School, but not any boy admitted after that date.

The breach with the Manchester Education Authority was particularly regretted by the Governors, who had always considered the School to be part of the life of the City of Manchester. The manner of the breach was especially unhappy, for the Manchester Authority sent to the School nothing more than a bare statement of their intention, with no word of regret, no mention of many years of successful and happy co-operation and without even the customary cordialities of courteous correspondence. Indeed, sneering and untrue statements were made at the Corporation's meeting and though these were refuted in a letter from the Chairman of the Governors published in "The Guardian", this long relationship ended somewhat sourly.

In the Lent Term of 1970 a School Community service Group was established under the guidance of Mr. Warden. Ten Sixth Formers volunteered to visit the elderly, decorate their homes and tend their gardens. When Mr. Warden left the School staff in the July of that year, the group was taken over by Mr. P.J. Wilde, M.A., who joined the Classics staff the following term and has remained its inspiration ever since. Besides engaging its members in the service of the community, particularly the old and the handicapped, the group brings home to boys the social problems which are prevalent in large cities like Manchester. As well as providing the above-mentioned services to the elderly, the group has arranged holidays to Wales for underprivileged children. Other forms of social service have included the collection of newspapers. As each ton of newspapers collected represents forty fully grown trees, this undertaking has ecological as well as financial value.

The activities of this organisation have been largely financed by the proceeds of Folk Concerts, which have been held at School once or twice annually since 1972. These concerts entitled with undue modesty "Fiascos", were originally performed by a group of boys in the Junior School who called themselves "The Present Tense". The group still flourishes up to the moment of writing. Their highly popular programme of songs, sketches and musical items attract capacity audiences embracing the whole range of the School, as

well as parents, friends, the staff and their families. The performances of the group are supplemented by those of several members of the staff and by professional entertainers. Members of other Community Service groups have also contributed to the programmes. Concerts have been given, too, at Old People's Homes and donations made to charitable organisations.

Mr. Wilde's activities have also included organising lectures by Chris Bonington and Martin Boysen on "The First Ascent of Changabang" and "Everest South-West Face" at the School again to packed audiences.

In time for the opening of the 1970-1 season of entertainments the School stage was equipped with a completely new main lighting system, which included two pre-wired barrels with spotlights and floodlights and a cyclorama consisting of four new battens. This was the gift of the Parents' Association. The new Front of House lights were fixed to the stage. These replaced those which had been suspended from the New Hall roof since 1966. These new installations were effected under the supervision of Mr. J. Furniss.

The School and the stage, however, suffered a great loss when at the end of the Summer term in 1976 Mr. J. Foulds retired. He had joined the School staff as handicraft master in 1949. The annual exhibition of the work of his pupils on Speech Day bore ample evidence of his skill as a teacher both as regards the high standard of accomplishment he encouraged and the variety and originality of the articles created under his supervision. His craftsmanship and skill were readily available to the School stage. Particularly memorable were the sets he designed and constructed for the Gilbert and Sullivan operas and the famous disappearing barber's chair he created for "Sweeney Todd". Useful, too, were the sight-screens for cricket and the extensions to the pavilion constructed under his supervision. He will be remembered also for the enthusiasm with which he exercised his duties as Form Master of 1A and the remarkable success he achieved in guiding these boys and other newcomers into the ways of the School. He took a great interest in the Old Hulmeians, especially their Masonic Lodge of which he was Worshipful Master for two years. On the death of Mr. J.A. Barber he took over the secretaryship of the Old Hulmeians Golf Section. Although he moved to St. Asaph on his retirement, he still pays visits to the School.

A.J. McGlue and K.M. Dodd had toured Canada and the United States in their final school year in 1968 and 1969 respectively under the auspices of the W.H. Rhodes Educational Trust, as had D. Paton in 1959 and R.H. Dakin in 1963 before them. However, in 1970, a small party accompanied by Mr. Warden embarked on an American tour. Visits were paid to American students to whom members of the party had been hosts in England. Masters on the staff at Hulme had exchanged posts with teachers in the U.S.A. in 1963-4 and 1966-7. Though these American teachers were deservedly popular in the year they spent at Hulme and most useful, not only in class, but by giving lectures to societies and involving themselves in the School life in other ways, the masters they replaced did not stay long enough at the School after their return to England to compensate for the disruption to its normal routine their original departure had caused.

In 1970 the death occurred of two eminent Old Hulmeians, H.G.E. Williams and H.S. Needham. Williams came to the School in the early years of the century and left in 1910, having been a School Prefect and Captain of Lacrosse. He won a scholarship to King's College, Cambridge, where he gained his half-blue for lacrosse - the first Old Hulmeian to do so there - and captained the University team. Upon completing his medical training at St. Bartholomew's Hospital he joined the R.A.M.C. in World War I and saw service in Egypt and Palestine. After the War he became an M.D. and was founder member of the Royal College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, in which branch of medicine he specialised. He served again with the R.A.M.C. in World War II before he finally retired.

H.S. Needham came to the School in 1900 and went on to Manchester University to read Classics. After graduating he joined the Overseas Police Service and was appointed to India. He eventually became Deputy Commissioner and Justice of the Peace in Bombay. He was involved in the difficult period of civil disobedience before India became independent, during which many Indian leaders were imprisoned. Among those, whom Needham described as his "guests", was Pandit Nehru, later the first Prime Minister of India and father of Mrs. Gandhi, his successor.

1970 also saw the much regretted end of the Old Hulmeians Rugby Club. As has been earlier explained, for some years boys, on leaving school, had tended to go up to Universities other than Manchester to pursue the greater variety of courses now open to them. This often resulted in their not returning to Manchester at

the conclusion of their academic careers. Consequently the recruits to this section became progressively fewer and fewer in number. Players other than old boys of the School were invited to make up the teams, but this procedure is obviously an unsatisfactory one, so eventually the Club had to be wound up. Unfortunately that has also meant the loss of the Clubhouse over which so much time, effort and money has been spent; but it was inevitable in the circumstances. The loss of the Clubhouse is somewhat compensated by the generosity with which the Whalley Range Clubhouse is made available for social occasions.

The Old Hulmeians Lacrosse section, however, still flourishes, if with less consistent and conspicuous distinction than in some past years. Between the end of World War II and 1970 it won either the Flags or the League Championship, or both, in most years. If it is less frequently triumphant now than in earlier days, that may be ascribed to the stiffer opposition it now encounters. Four teams are run and there is no shortage of available players. A return to previous form seemed on the way when the Flags were won in 1976. At that time there was still a Buckland playing for the Old Hulmeians, this continuing a tradition of outstanding players to a third generation.

Interrupted only by the war years, the Old Hulmeians Golf Section has continued to function ever since its foundation in 1913. For most of its existence the Ascension Day meeting has been its only activity; but of recent years there has also been an Autumn Competition for the Captain's Prize. Matches have also been played against other Old Boys' Clubs.

Although the Motor Club, like the Rugby Club, has succumbed, the Rifle Club, of which Dr. Alan Wilson has been secretary ever since its foundation in 1965, has survived some rather lean years thanks largely to his enthusiasm and that of a few other stalwarts, E.S. Thelwall and J.L. Williams among them. One is glad to add that the Old Hulmeians Masonic Lodge, established in 1951 through Mr. Gatley's initiative is still also in being.

The practice of holding the Old Hulmeians Association Annual Dinner at the School instead of at a Manchester hotel, gave a chance to the Old Boys, particularly appreciated by those no longer resident in Manchester, to see something of the developments at the School since their day. It lasted from 1971 to 1978, since when it has been held at the County Cricket Ground at Old Trafford. The inevitable rising cost of the meal, due to inflation, has tended to discourage attendance, but there is still a hard core of loyal enthusiasts who can be relied upon to attend this and other functions such as the Reunion Dinner in September and the Dinner-Dance.

Just a year after Mr. Fould's retirement, Mr. Barnett, who had collaborated with him so often and so happily in the staging of so many school productions, followed suit and retired also. Suffice it to say that in his time the Art Department achieved the same high standard as it had attained under his predecessor. It would be difficult to say which exhibition received the greater admiration on Speech Day, the Art or the Handicraft one, for they were close rivals in their excellence. Each had its own merits and testified to the good work being done in the relevant department. The same high standard, as has already been indicated, was evident in the scenery he painted for the school plays, for which he also designed the costumes when required. His retirement was unfortunately marred by a motor accident, for which he was in no way responsible, shortly after he gave up teaching, resulting in his wife's death and his own severe injury. Though he eventually recovered apparently normal health, he died but four years later.

The prizes were given out on Speech Day, 1971, by Sir W.B. Batty (O.H.), who was then Managing Director of the Ford Motor Company in England. The following year he received the honour of Knighthood. In retirement he became the very active President of the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders. The following year it was again a notable Old Hulmeian who graced the occasion. Sir Robert Mark, after an outstanding career at school and a brief period in business had joined the police service. His eminently successful career therein, narrated in his autobiography, "In the Office of Constable", came chiefly after distinguished service in the army in World War II. It culminated in his being appointed Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, the honour of Knighthood in 1973, the G.C.B. in 1977, honorary doctorates from three Universities and numerous other distinctions. These included the Freedom of the City of Westminster, which has been conferred only five times, one of the recipients being Sir Winston Churchill. He had been responsible for outstanding changes in traffic control, drastic reforms in the C.I.D. and the putting forward of many other

suggestions for alteration in the administration of justice. It had also involved him in participation in many of the outstanding events in London in the seventies and fairly frequent appearances on television, so that he became a nationally known figure. Among the prizes he gave out was one for Sixth Form Biology, established that year by the Old Hulmeians Association.

The variety of journeys abroad undertaken during Mr. Bird's headship was so wide and so consistently maintained that to record them annually in detail would be tedious and impracticable. Mention, however, should perhaps be made of the expedition to Greece, organised by Mr. Bailey in 1971, in which thirteen Fifth and Sixth Formers took part. The arduous journey overland by mini-bus, sometimes over very indifferent roads, took six days each way. The food and accommodation often left a good deal to be desired. However, to visit such renowned sights as the Acropolis and the Palace of Mycenae, to see Mt. Olympus and Mt. Parnassus, to witness a performance of Euripides's "Heracleidae" in the open air theatre of Epidaurus must have been an experience of a lifetime and adequate compensation for the trials endured.

Senior Old Hulmeians in whose day the playing of card games by boys on the school premises was strictly forbidden may perhaps learn with some surprise that a Bridge Club was formed at the School in 1971. They will probably accept it as just another indication of how times have changed since their day. The club, which was under the supervision of Mr. W. Jackson, was affiliated to the Manchester Schools Bridge League. Matches were played against other schools and clubs as well as games between its own members. It is now, however, defunct.

In the same year an extension to the Bursar's Department was built over the new boiler house, which had been erected when the School changed over to oil fuel. An assistant was appointed to relieve him of some of his routine work, thus enabling him to give greater attention to the many developments requiring his supervision. At the same time the alcove in the passage between the Old Hall and the New Hall was converted into a stationery store room. A new and improved system of heating the library was installed. Its walls were then redecorated so as to form a suitable background for a series of mezzotints given by Mrs. H.H. Vlies, the widow of a very generous governor and Old Hulmeian, who had himself died in 1962.

Another Old Hulmeian and Governor, but of a later generation than Mr. Vlies was to pass away in November 1971. One of six brothers all of whom were educated at Hulme, A.H. Allman was himself at school during the difficult period of World War I. He made his career in Williams Deacons Bank, of whose Manchester Head Office he eventually became General Manager. When in January 1962 he was co-opted as a Governor of the School his experience and knowledge made him an obvious choice for the Chairmanship of the Building Fund Appeals Committee. The success that appeal met with, largely due to his efforts, enabled the building of the Sixth Form Centre and of the Swimming Pool to be proceeded with. The establishment of a pension scheme for non-teaching staff owes much to him. He took a large part in the negotiations with the parent Hulme Trust, which have much strengthened the School's position. He was a very keen member of the Old Hulmeians Association, on the general committee of which he served for many years and whose President he had been in 1956-7. His manifold other interests embraced Manchester University, of which he was for a time Chairman of Convocation, membership of the South Manchester Hospital Management Committee and the Scout Movement.

In January, 1972, a Project Club was formed under the auspices of Mr. G.N. Grant, who had succeeded Mr. Foulds as Handicraft Master. The Club might be described as an offspring of the modern "do-it-yourself" movement, for its activities have consisted in constructing useful articles such as display cupboards and shelves and carrying out minor repairs and reconstructions involving school fittings of very varied character. Another activity, but of a less energetic nature has been the Philatelic Club founded about the same time. The Junior School, too, thanks largely to Mr. Callaghan's initiative, from that time has staged its own concerts.

That Spring term the School lacrosse team was extremely successful, winning 11 of its 13 matches and losing only to Oxford University and the Old Hulmeians. It won the Lancashire Junior Cup, defeating Liverpool University in the final. Five of the team were included in the English Lacrosse Union's Under 18 tour of the U.S.A. The Cup was retained the following year. The same year the Parents' Association presented the School with new flags for the House lacrosse competition to replace those which had been presented to it by the Old Hulmeians Association in 1911.

July 1972 saw the retirement of Mr. J.P. Renny and M. F.J. Smith, both of whom had been for some years responsible for the School Debating Society under the varying names it had assumed. Mr. Renny joined the staff in the middle of World War II, when the School's Physical Education was in dire straits and was carried out in a perfunctory amateurish fashion by whoever happened to be available. Mr. Renny soon re-established this aspect of the curriculum on a proper professional basis. He also made himself available to supplement the teaching of a wide variety of subjects whenever the need arose as in those difficult days it not infrequently did. When the War was over, he revived the School Athletic Sports, enlarging their scope. He gave every encouragement to Cross-Country Running as an alternative school sporting activity. The Northern Schools Athletics and Cross-Country Championships owe much to the enthusiasm with which he carried out his duties as their Honorary Secretary and to the help he gave to the organisation of their events, particularly by recruiting masters and boys from the School to act as officials. At school Mr. Renny took a great interest also in the Badminton and Table-Tennis Clubs and presided over many of their activities. He will be gratefully remembered for his services to the School, the hospitality he and his sister dispensed, and not least for his tolerance as a form-master and quiet, sympathetic support of boys who found themselves in danger of incurring official disapproval.

It was not complete retirement in the case of Mr. Smith, as he continued in the service of the School as librarian and also did some part-time teaching. He came to the School in 1947 as Head of the Classics Department, which met with considerable success under his direction. Apart from his inspiring teaching he will probably be remembered principally for the very active part he played in the School Corps ever since he came to the School. Though he was officially Officer Commanding for only four years of that time, there is little question that the Corps since the War owes more to him than anyone else, for he gave to that organisation the continuity, knowledge and experience it required. The efficiency of the School unit owed much to his enthusiasm, firm but kindly control and mastery of administrative detail. The award to him of the M.B.E. in 1977, in addition to the T.D. he already held, gave general pleasure. Mr. Smith succeeded Mr. Ginever as House Master of Fraser House in 1954 and the success of that House while in his charge owed much to his enthusiasm and support. He took a keen interest in the Old Hulmeians Association, especially their golfing functions. His sudden death in February 1979, while still on the School staff, came as a great shock, for he always appeared to be very fit and had rarely, if ever, been absent from School on account of health. His unfailing courtesy, personal charm and acute sense of humour made it also a matter of general regret.

He was succeeded as Senior Classics master by Mr. W. Jackson, who joined the staff in 1958 and as House Master of Fraser by Mr. C.E. Bryans (O.H.) who had come as a teacher of Biology two years later. Mr. Bryans was an enthusiastic player of lacrosse, indeed of all games, when at School, and continued to play with notable effect for the Old Hulmeians thereafter. He also took camping parties abroad to the south of France and elsewhere. He left the school staff in 1975.

In 1972 the school cottages at Appersett were sold and the village school and Headmaster's house at Hardraw, a mile away, purchased in their stead. The variety of activities for which the cottages had been the base in the six years since they were first purchased had included: boating, caving, camping, hiking, fishing and photography; field courses for biology, geography and mineralogy; arduous training for the Corps and - almost equally physically exacting - training for cross-country runners. Though the cottages had had much to commend them, including excellent cooking facilities and an admirable situation, they had lacked adequate parking space at the front, space behind for games and sufficient lavatory accommodation for large parties of boys. The Junior Camp had on occasion numbered over a hundred boys. The new premises had all the amenities that had been lacking in the cottages. The acquisition of the new property was due to the initiative of Mr. Bird and Mr. W.N. Brewood. The purchase had been made possible by the generosity of Mr. Brewood, who had been a tower of strength as Chairman of the Parents' Association. In October 1972 Mr. Brewood became a Governor of the School as had Mr. C.H. Jones (O.H.) and Mr. C.N. Midwood earlier in that year. Parents and staff were very generous with their time and money in effecting the removal, in furnishing and equipping the new premises and thereby making them as comfortable as possible.

For a number of years it had been necessary to hire a minibus to enable some of the expeditions to be

undertaken. In 1972 two Ford minibuses were obtained to obviate that expense. One of them was bought with the profits from the drink-vending machines. These vehicles have been of great use to the School in a variety of ways, such as conveying Old Folks to entertainments organised by the Community Service Group. They have also greatly facilitated tours such as the lacrosse team's to Oxford and Cambridge during the Spring half-term, inaugurated in 1969, to play matches with the University teams. Visits to Oxford one year and Cambridge the next for this purpose had taken place since 1955, but it had not hitherto been possible to play both Universities in the same year.

In 1973 a Sports Hall was erected, adjoining the existing Gymnasium, by the same firm as had been responsible for the Swimming Pool. It was made of similar materials to those of that building, but was somewhat larger. It also contained a balcony and additional changing rooms and shower-bath accommodation. Thus for sports activities the School is no longer at the mercy of the weather. This new building is well-equipped thanks to a generous gift of £700 from the Parents' Association. It is used for indoor games such as badminton, basket-ball, volley-ball and squash; for five-a-side football and six-a-side lacrosse; for training for the main games, such as passing practice for lacrosse and rugby and scrum practice for the latter. On the balcony there are five table-tennis tables permanently erected and available for use whenever the opportunity arises.

One of the first activities that took place in this new Sports Hall was Speech Day at the end of the Summer term. The prizes were then given out by Lord Bowden, the then Principal of the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology, to which so many boys have proceeded on leaving this School. Some have become members of the staff there, including Mr. D. Cardwell, M.Sc., B. Comm., who when he ended his 37 years' service there was its Vice-Principal. The following year the prizes were given out, as will be related more fully later by the retiring Head Master, Mr. Bird, and in 1975 by Dr. D.W. Bowett (O.H.), the President of Queens' College Cambridge.

After twenty years at the School as Head of Mathematics, Mr. F.E. Eastwood retired at the end of the Summer term in 1973. During these years he did much to develop this department, particularly as regards the Sixth Form course established, just before his arrival, for those intending to become accountants or actuaries or to embark on careers involving a high standard of mathematics. This course, in conjunction with Physics, was especially appropriate for those intending to take up any branch of engineering. Of later years a few boys who have opted for careers in the economics field have taken history as a subsidiary subject. Others have taken mathematics in conjunction with two Science subjects. The department has met with considerable success in obtaining University Scholarship awards. As it was felt that the 'O' level course could be rather narrow for most of the boys to spend five years on it, for the last twelve or fifteen years the majority of forms have taken 'O' level mathematics at the end of fourth year. This has allowed boys, not then entering the Sixth Form, to do work outside the normal examination syllabus on such subjects as statistics and the basic principles of computing. The increasing use of mathematics in all walks of life - management techniques in particular - has encouraged this development in the teaching of Mathematics. It has also increased the already considerable demand for mathematicians and, in particular, teachers of the subject. Though the turnover of staff in this department has been considerable, the School has fortunately been able to maintain a full establishment of capable teachers. The further extension of the Science block in 1956 made it possible to establish a Practical Mathematics room and equip it with apparatus for mechanics experiments. This room has been the venue for the department's exhibition on Speech Day and for lunch time chess. It has also served as a Mathematics Sixths' Common room. Shortly after Mr. Eastwood retired the Mathematics department acquired a teleprinter and computer terminal, which was installed in a small room adjoining the Practical Mathematics room. The teleprinter is linked with Salford University's computer. This acquisition is proving very popular and of increasing use to staff and boys alike. On Mr. Barber's retirement Mr. Eastwood took over responsibility for the often complex arrangements necessary for conducting Scholarship and G.C.E. Examinations. In the organisation of these functions he showed his customary efficiency. He also took a lively interest in the School's music and its major athletic functions.

When in July 1972 Mr. Grange was granted a year's leave of absence, Mr. J.F. Chudleigh who had been an officer in the Regular Army, was appointed to the School staff and took over the command of the Corps.

In April 1974 with a party of ten boys and another officer he set out for Spain on an Army sponsored Initiative Test. They travelled in civilian clothes across France with a mini-van and a car towing a newly acquired Corps speed-boat. After but two and a half days journey they encamped at Doret del Mar. No doubt tired by their long journey, they slept heavily. As they were occupying a civilian camp site, no military guard was posted. Soon after their arrival one of their tents was slit while they were asleep and some of their money and clothing stolen. Owing to adverse weather conditions little use could be made of the speed-boat which has since been disposed of. Despite these misfortunes the trip was thoroughly enjoyed by the party. Captain Chudleigh and two other Corps officers had the privilege of attending a Royal Garden Party at Buckingham Palace accompanied by their wives in the July of that year. On returning to the School staff at the end of his year's leave of absence Mr. Grange resumed his Commission. He is now also House Master of Fraser House.

In August 1974 Mr. J.G. Bird's 27 years' tenure of the headship of the School came to an end, years of greater accomplishment, expansion and prosperity than it had ever previously known. During his holding of this office, thanks to the Butler Act and the grading and subsidising of fees that it established, all the places available had been filled with boys capable of profiting by the opportunities the School offered, irrespective of their parents' means. Thus boys did not have to forego the advantages of the Sixth Form in order to earn a salary to supplement the family income as had been the case in earlier years. This permitted a steady expansion and diversification of the Sixth Form with a consequent development in the educational standards achieved. Examination results steadily improved and the number of University awards and places gained increased considerably. By the time of Mr. Bird's retirement it was the normal, rather than the exceptional, procedure for a boy to go up to a university, despite the higher standard of qualification for entrance the Universities were able to impose, owing to the improved grants system and the consequent greater competition for places.

When taking up office, Mr. Bird inherited some half a dozen survivors from the Inter-war staff, whose retirement has already been recorded. Besides them there were a few then relative newcomers, who remained at the School throughout his headship. These included Mr. F.J. Smith, whose career has already been referred to, and Mr. Bonnick, to whom the Junior School and the School stage has owed so much. This bare statement does inadequate justice to Mr. Bonnick's single-minded devotion to the School and his willingness to help in all eventualities. As Master in Charge of the Junior School he was outstandingly successful. He combined close personal control with carefully selected delegation of duties. This was also his policy with the Stage staff and Dalton House. He encouraged First and Second Form Masters - often relative newcomers to the staff - to become involved with their forms in all activities. He himself set an example by his own vociferous encouragement of Junior School teams, at home and away. He has been known at one school he visited as "Bonnick the Voice"! Through his position as Master in Charge of the Junior School he formed a close liaison with the parents from the moment their boys entered the School. This he maintained by the ready assistance he offered, as Master in Charge of the stage, to the organisational side of their functions whenever the need arose. Though latterly he relinquished responsibility for the stage for which he had done so much to Mr. Grant, his advice and experience continued to be of service. He retired from the School staff in July 1980.

Another was Mr. C.J. Lowe, a former pupil of Mr. Bird's at Denstone, who has been Second Master since Mr. Williams's retirement. The debt the School and Mr. Bird have owed to him it would be hard to overstate, for his tactful handling of the inevitable difficulties that must arise in the everyday running of the School has done much to ensure the smooth carrying out of the policy Mr. Bird initiated. Mr. Lowe's services have certainly been no less valuable since Mr. Bird's retirement, particularly when his successor had to be absent from the School on account of health for a long period a year after taking up office. Individual members of the staff also will gratefully acknowledge the benefits they have received from Mr. Lowe's kindness and never-failing help. The present writer has particular cause to be grateful for his loyal co-operation, which has continued to the very compiling of these pages. In his time Mr. Lowe has been responsible for several noteworthy productions on the School stage and has helped with the make-up for many more. He has also taken a great part in the running of House games, the debating society and other activities. Of great importance, too, has been the lively interest he has taken in every aspect of School life, in

which Mrs. Lowe has fully shared. His concern for the boys has continued after they have left school, alike as individuals and as members of the Old Hulmeians Association, for which he has done so much.

One other member of the staff Mr. Bird inherited was Mr. L.H. Watkins, who, alas, but briefly survived Mr. Bird's retirement, for he died after a short illness in 1975 while still teaching. Mr. Watkins was of great value to the C.C.F., of which he was in command for nine years, during Mr. Bird's early years and with almost every aspect of the games while still fit to do so. He fully maintained the high standard of enthusiasm and achievement of Whitworth House, which like the headship of the Geography Department he had inherited from Mr. Gatley.

In addition to Mr. Eastwood, whose retirement has been recently referred to, Mr. Collings, Mr. Kirkham, Mr. Haynes and Mr. Peat were all members of Mr. Bird's staff for over twenty years. During Mr. Collings's headship of the Modern Languages Department he steadily built up an excellent departmental library. In addition to French and German, taught as a regular part of the School syllabus in preparation for the Certificate examinations, Spanish has been introduced as a Middle School option. Russian has been taught in the Sixth Form, whenever there was a demand for it and time and the staff to teach it were available. Mr. Collings was closely involved in the installation in 1967 of the Modern Languages Laboratory previously referred to. As well as taking parties yearly to Paris since his very early days at Hulme, he has frequently conducted parties to Bad Honnef in Germany. On Mr. Bonnick's taking over the Junior House in 1958, he succeeded him as House Master of Dalton. When Mr. Collings retired in 1975, his place as Head of Modern languages was taken by Mr. H.W. Timm, B.A., who came to the School in 1961. As House Master of Dalton, he has been succeeded by Mr. C.P. Langford, M.A., an Old Hulmeian.

Mention here may be made of the valuable services Mr. Manning has rendered to the School. Appointed originally in 1958 to the Arts side to teach Classics, after a few years he transferred to the Science side to teach Mathematics. This breadth of teaching experience has put him in an ideal position to give impartial advice to boys as Careers Master. Some previous years of service in Public Administration have made him an obvious choice for this position, in which he has been conspicuously successful. Equally important has been the expertise with which he has constructed the School time-table of recent years. Until the last year or two of his headship Mr. Bird always did this himself armed with little more than a blank form, pencil, india-rubber and years of experience. In recent years, however, the time-table has become much more complex with the increase in the number of "sets" lower down the School and in the variety of subject combinations available to Sixth Formers. Aided by an elaborate time-tabling "kit" and the occasional use of the School's computer, Mr. Manning has mastered its complexities. Such experience has not been without its value to him in advising boys on the most suitable course of study they should follow to prepare for their future careers.

When Mr. Bird took up office there were two lecture rooms and four laboratories for science. By the time of his retirement the former had increased to five in number and the latter had doubled. The science staff had more than doubled to cope with the steady expansion of this side, which since 1967 has been in the overall charge of Mr. Kirkham. This expansion is manifest not merely in the ever-growing number of boys taking science but also in the increasingly advanced level at which the subject is being taught. There has been much public discussion and investigation about the techniques and procedure of science teaching. In those inquiries the School has played its part. New syllabuses in accordance with modern thinking have been tried out. The practical side of science teaching has shown most marked development during the period in question. An electronics room has been established which is used by the Sixth Form for project work as well as conventional experiment. The instruments and apparatus available for use by the boys, as well as by the staff, have advanced not only in quantity but also in sophistication. Thus boys in the Junior and Middle School are now introduced to cathode ray oscilloscopes, digital clocks capable of reading to milliseconds and to detectors of radio-active disintegrations such as the Geiger counter complete with scaler or ratemeter.

A closed-circuit television set was introduced at the School in 1968 with the advent of relatively cheap and reliable Japanese equipment on the British market. A video tape recorder, T.V. camera and associated monitors (T.V. sets) were acquired. The system has been administered by Mr J.H. Furniss, the Head of the Physics Department. Initially the system was a portable one, wheeled from room to room in the Science block; but soon it was developed on a more permanent basis to become what may well have been the first

remotely controlled school T.V. system in the country. Classroom monitors were placed in the Sixth Form Centre and in the Physics department. A control room was built and the video tape recorders, together with some small monitors, were installed in it. Mr. Saxon, who has been Chief Technician since 1963, has presided over this. He has recorded Broadcasts for Schools and organised replays for various departments. The teacher has been faced only with a T.V. set of conventional design and a switch to start and stop the video tape recorder in the control room, where Mr. Saxon has adjusted the machines and monitored their output. The camera was used in live experiments in the Science department and some filming was done. Using the camera as a "common eye" has made it possible for some interesting teaching in the field of optics to be carried out. The system grew in the four years following the original installation and many visitors came to see it. Mr. Furniss wrote articles for the National Education Closed Circuit Television Association (N.E.C.C.T.A.) and also lectured at their Annual Conference in Liverpool in 1973. Mr. Saxon has developed some interesting and unique video switching techniques and has devised a machine which can produce two third inch tape from two inch tape donated by Granada T.V. and the B.B.C.

In 1972 the system was replaced by one based on the Philips Video Cassette Recorder which gives the extra impact of colour reproduction. Colour replays can be obtained in the Sixth Form Centre Audio/Visual Room and in the Biology department and black and white replays in other rooms of the Science department. The system operates in much the same way as did its predecessor and it is widely used for replays of Schools' broadcasts by most departments. Editing of programme material is possible with the new system. This is useful in science teaching as single concept films may thereby be used in lessons. Some filming has been done, of which the film of a project on "Linear Induction Motors", made by Mr. Furniss and a group of boys as part of an exhibition for the North West Science Fair, is a significant example.

Most of the developments in this department have been expensive and inflation has caused the cost of apparatus to soar. It is to be hoped, however, that it will still be possible to continue to develop the department on these progressive and experimental lines.

The credit for the expansion of the Biology department must go primarily to Mr. Haynes. When he came to the School the subject had only recently been incorporated into the curriculum and had a relatively subsidiary status. The Biology Laboratory had only just been built and there were but a half-dozen boys at most taking the subject. Now there are some twenty boys in both Lower and Middle Sixths, together with a small group doing scholarship work. There is a second laboratory used mainly for microscopy and visual aids. In 1960 a greenhouse and animal house were installed on the laboratory roof. The greenhouse has been used to provide materials for plant physiology and plant genetics; the animal house for rat and mouse genetics and animal dissection. In addition, there have always been aquaria and insect breeding projects in the laboratory and an apiary on the roof. Much work has been done in connection with the development of the Nuffield Biology teaching projects both at 'O' level and 'A' level. A close relationship has been maintained in this subject with the Department of Education at Manchester University and over the last ten years or so a very valuable field course has been run in Wensleydale in conjunction with Mr. R.W. Crossland and student teachers of that Department. Thanks to the high standard of work achieved an increasing number of boys, on leaving school, take up a medical or dental career, for which they are far better prepared than were their predecessors.

Mr. Haynes has also been very largely responsible for the expansion of the School's holiday parties. Scores of boys - and their parents, too - must be grateful to him for introducing them to the wonders of Italy, as he did almost annually between 1959 and 1973. Changed economic conditions have made the continuance of such trips abroad increasingly impracticable. Mr. Haynes has also organised countless holidays in England, in the Yorkshire Dales and elsewhere, many of them based on the School's hostels at Appersett and Hardraw, for which he has done so much. He revived the Photographic Society, the members of which are as greatly indebted to his guidance as the School is to his expertise with the camera.

Mr. J. Peat is Head of Physical Education and responsible for all games, athletics and swimming. This side of the School has expanded so much that there are now two other masters who also devote almost all their time to these aspects of the School's life. Mr. Peat is also an officer of the Corps and is closely connected with its Arduous Training activities.

It will be seen that there was little change in the Heads of Departments during Mr. Bird's period of office. These masters helped much to give the School essential continuity and stability. Others, whose stay was briefer, made, as will have been seen, valuable contributions to the School's life. No one, however, will deny that to Mr. Bird must go the chief credit for the School's accomplishments since his coming. The ready co-operation he enjoyed from his staff was largely due to the tact and understanding with which they were treated when presenting their problems, personal or professional, for his consideration.

The considerable increase in the size and number of the school buildings in Mr. Bird's time has already been recorded in this book with the dates of their construction. It is perhaps as well, however, to list them here so that a fuller realisation can be formed of the extent of the expansion due to his initiative. Besides two additions to the Science block and the extension of the dining-hall, there have been three completely new buildings: the Sixth Form Centre, the Swimming Pool and the Sports Hall. In addition to these there have been other relatively minor new buildings, and improvements to existing edifices, which have done much to help the smooth running of the School.

Buildings, however, are of little value unless abundant purposeful activity takes place within them. That that condition was amply fulfilled during Mr. Bird's Headship must surely be obvious. That Mr. Bird enjoyed more favourable economic conditions than his predecessors, both as regards the School's financial position and the general prosperity of the neighbourhood, can scarcely be gainsaid. The School's relative affluence permitted its expansion: freedom from financial constraint allowed a wider range of parents to send their boys to the School and - equally important - to keep them there longer. Granted these points, it cannot be denied that during Mr. Bird's Headship there was a considerable academic advance, whether measured by improved examination results at 'A' and 'O' levels, or by the increased number of awards gained at the older Universities. In December 1971, eleven open awards, a record number for the School, were gained: five at Oxford and six at Cambridge. Perhaps a more valid if less statistically demonstrable criterion would be the variety of studies pursued or the higher standard of intellectual awareness that prevailed in the School. Many of his pupils have obtained distinction in a wide variety of fields. Academically, the following have been appointed to professorships: D. Read in History at Kent University, G.L. Davies in Geography at Dublin, J.M. Beazley in Obstetrics at Liverpool, M. Sumner in Economics at Salford, J.H. Cairns in Industrial Technology at Bradford, M. Broady in Social Administration at Swansea, A.O. Dyson in Theology at Manchester. A.B. Wilkinson was appointed to a Chaplaincy at St. Catharine's College, Cambridge, A.J.B. Hilton to a Fellowship in History at Trinity College, Cambridge. R. Calderwood has been in succession Town Clerk of Manchester and Chief Executive of Strathclyde Regional Council. H. Baker and P. Wheeler have made their mark in television. J.M.A. Thompson was appointed Director of Art Galleries and Museums in Tyne and Wear, J.N. Hopwood to the Managing Directorship of the "Manchester Evening News".

If the above list of distinctions seems less impressive than others that have been recorded earlier in this account, two factors should be born in mind, first that Mr. Bird's pupils were of a younger generation than their predecessors and so have not necessarily yet reached the peak of their attainments, second that owing to changed conditions such as the proliferation of universities Old Boys are now dispersed over a wider area and the more extensive range of studies pursued and greater variety of careers entered upon make obtaining information about their achievements progressively more difficult.

Turning to the other side of School life, as is indicated elsewhere in these pages, the range of sports and interests pursued in Mr. Bird's time was wider than had ever been the case before. Whether the School should be considered more successful than in previous eras depends largely on the criteria adopted and is in any case much influenced by changed social conditions. Whatever the level of attainment may have been, the standard of enthusiasm - and this is the thing that really matters - was as high as ever. In giving practical encouragement, by his presence, to every aspect of out of school activities Mr. Bird had the loyal support of his wife, who accompanied him to the field and elsewhere, even when weather conditions were most uncongenial.

Reference to the School's hostel in Yorkshire has already been made. This also was due to Mr. Bird's initiative. It serves not only as a base for an immense variety of activities, it also gives to boys who stay there - if only for a brief while - something of the educational advantages of a boarding school, without cutting

them off appreciably from the benefits of their home environment. The success of this hostel owes much to the efforts of Mr. Haynes and other members of the staff and to the generosity and support of the parents.

That the parents have been fully appreciative of the opportunities the School has provided for their boys cannot be questioned. This was apparent in their cordial relations with Mr. Bird as individuals and collectively as members of their lively and progressive Parents' Association. In addition to his Report on Speech Day, Mr. Bird addressed the Parents' Association annually on some topic of educational concern, thus keeping the parents in touch with developments and the progress and future prospects of the School. The goodwill of the parents has also been shown by their hospitality to the staff, which has generally taken the form of wine and cheese evenings and invitations to their Dances. Their active collaboration with the School has also been much encouraged not only by Parents' Evenings, but also by the talks given to them by members of the staff on School activities such as the expeditions at home and abroad they have conducted. The cordiality of the parents' response has been shown by the generosity with which they have supported the School's undertakings, either in the form of cash donations, gifts in kind, or actual personal co-operation. Reference to this very welcome and encouraging assistance has been made in these pages, but to list these benefactions completely would be impracticable and to refer to individual parents invidious. Exception to this may, perhaps, pardonably be made in the case of Mr. W.N. Brewood, who has done so much for the Parents' Association and the School and is now one of its very active and enthusiastic Governors. Gone are the days when a distinguished Head Master could say, "Boys are always reasonable, masters sometimes, parents never". Since the outbreak of World War II, contact with parents has been progressively closer and it intensified in Mr. Bird's time to the unquestioned advantage of all concerned. The high opinion the parents held of Mr. Bird is testified by their Association's presentation to the School of a portrait of him, painted by Mr. J. Chirnside, who was also responsible for that of the School's second Head Master.

The smoothness with which Mr. Bird's work was accomplished was greatly facilitated by the highly competent secretarial assistance he received in succession from Miss Bean and Miss Hillyard, just as the efficiency of the office is heavily indebted to Mrs. Clarke.

The School owes much to its Governors, whose selfless and public spirited services to the School are, perhaps, not as widely known and fully appreciated as they should be. With them Mr. Bird's relations were always most cordial. It was a pleasing gesture when they honoured him with the invitation to distribute the prizes himself on his final Speech Day. That the Governors have increasingly included in their numbers Old Boys who have gained distinction in a variety of spheres with a consequent diverse range of experience and contacts is all to the good. Their intimate knowledge of the School, its past and its present, has made them well aware of its traditions and has given them an intensified sense of responsibility for its future well-being. Other governors so devoted themselves to the School and so closely identified themselves with its interests that they, too, might well be thought to have attended the School. The School has been able to benefit by the knowledge they have gained in other educational establishments.

The School has profited, too, from its happy relations with the parent Hulme Trust, which owe much to Mr. Bird's initiative and skilful presentation of his projects.

The successful and happy relations Mr. Bird enjoyed with all these sections of the School society: Boys, Old Boys, Masters, Parents and Governors, with their inevitably varying interests and potentially conflicting points of view was evidence of his high qualities as a Head Master. That he had the vision to initiate so many expansions and improvements in the School's activities testifies to his energy, imagination and integrity of purpose to pursue these projects to their accomplishment in practice. He would not have been able to see these ideas carried into execution without the willing co-operation he readily obtained of everyone involved in their performance. These accomplishments would not have been possible if he had not been a man of great character and profound conviction.

It was characteristic of his generous nature that when a fund was set up as a tribute to his long and distinguished Head Mastership, he expressed a wish that the proceeds should be devoted to a fund to enable "The Head Master of the Day" to assist deserving pupils, who might otherwise be unable to do so, to embark on any undertaking requiring initiative and a spirit of adventure, particularly in the field of sport or travel abroad. This fund which bears his name, will tangibly perpetuate his memory. Those who had the privilege of

serving under him, or of passing through his hands as pupils of the School, will remember with gratitude his countless acts of kindness and consider themselves indeed fortunate on that account.

Conclusion

Recording the retirement of Mr. Bird has brought this History so nearly up to date that it is tempting to conclude this account at that point. However, some comments may perhaps usefully be made on the situation of the School today as compared with what it was just over fifty years ago when the present writer began his career at the School. The approach to the school from Wilbraham Road was then still by a narrow path with a cornfield on the left till the school grounds were reached. Otherwise the setting was much as it is today, apart from the fact that there were then trams running along Alexandra Road South, Wilbraham Road and Princess Road. The field was then bounded by a low railing, which afforded little obstacle to intruders and was totally ineffective as a barrier to balls hit, kicked or thrown out of the field to the imminent hazard of pedestrians or vehicles passing along Princess Road. The premises were then limited to the Main Building and New Hall, which was three-quarters of its present length. There were 526 boys in the school, of whom only 38 in all were in the Sixth Form; whereas at the moment of writing the corresponding figures are 795 and 231 respectively. There were then three Sixth Forms only with First and Second Years generally working together. Now there are six Sixth Forms in each year. There were then 24 Assistant Masters on the staff, about half the present number. The fees then were £8 a term. When the writer finally retired, thanks largely to inflation, they had multiplied almost eight fold. Altered circumstances have since compelled considerable further increase. The Head Master and Mr. Barber had each a secretary equipped with a typewriter apiece; but they had no other help with correspondence or similar matters such as receiving visitors or answering their enquiries. Fitting boys with caps and blue and gold striped ties, the wearing of which was compulsory, blazers for summer wear, shirts and jerseys for winter games was done by Mr. Barber and these two young ladies, in addition to issuing books and stationery and performing countless other tasks. There was then but one telephone in the office, though an extension to the Head Master's room was installed soon after. A telephone was not put into the Masters' Common Room, however, till after World War II. Nowadays there are three lines to the school and almost every part of the buildings can be reached by a telephone extension controlled by the main switchboard in the office.

When the time for school examinations came round, if printed question papers were necessary the whole staff had to compete for the one hand-activated duplicating device, into which each sheet had to be fed separately by hand. Consequently, whenever possible, masters chalked the questions on the blackboards, which were sometimes of a somewhat primitive character. The blackboard in some rooms rested on an unreliable easel, the pegs of which were sometimes mysteriously missing. Dusters were equally elusive - perhaps they still are today. Nowadays there is a Roneo duplicator permanently in the Masters' Common Room, by which examination papers and other material can be mechanically produced. In addition to this there are many other machines available in the office, including a "Roneotonic" stencil-cutter, which makes exact stencils to masters' drafts for running off on their own duplicator.

Fifty years ago when lectures were held in the New Hall as part of the season's "Entertainments", if they were illustrated at all, it was by monochrome slides projected by the school's one and only lantern. This was manipulated by Mr. Adams with the help of his faithful and indispensable laboratory assistant. One remembers how proud Mr. Gatley was of his epidiascope which could project picture postcards as well as slides, when it first arrived. Nowadays there is a variety of equipment available for such purposes. Tape-recorders, too, can be used at need.

If the curriculum, when the present writer joined the staff, was very different from that laid down when the school was first opened forty years before, it has changed very much more markedly since then. Inevitably its content is very considerably influenced by the requirements of external examinations. Where there is scope for original and experimental teaching, it has proceeded on the lines already indicated. There is now increasing emphasis on originality and individual work, whether in the form of research on projects or of original writing, representative selections of which appear in the School magazines, or of independent as opposed to class reading. There is less emphasis, perhaps, on formal grammar; but the discipline of mastering basic essentials is not neglected. Use is made of the wide variety of teaching aids available.

The change in the attitude to the teaching of Religious Knowledge is most marked. Fifty years ago it was

part of a Form Master's duty to teach that subject to his form one period a week, irrespective of his convictions or lack of them. However, as the subject was never examined upon in any way, it was not unknown for some masters to catch up on arrears in their own subject in that period, particularly if an examination was looming, or to devote the time to form business. Mr. Bird restricted the teaching of the subject to masters with a positive interest in that direction, though regardless of the religious body to which they belonged. Nowadays Religious Education is in the hands of specialist teachers with a definite academic training in the subject. The syllabus today is a very broadly based one, which should enable boys to form their own balanced opinion on such matters. It is very different from the sterile scheme of work which obtained fifty years ago.

Games were then Association Football, Lacrosse and Cricket exclusively. Rugby Football has long replaced "Soccer" and a variety of other sports are played. These include Tennis on the four courts available; Swimming and Water Polo in the pool; Badminton, Table-tennis, Basket Ball and Volley Ball in the Sports Hall. Athletics and Cross-Country Running are much more extensively pursued. Fifty years ago besides the First and Second Teams and possibly a Third, there was only one other school team, the Under 14 team. Now there is a school team for each year from Under 15 downwards to the Under 12's for all games and an Under 16 for Rugby as well. All these teams play matches against other schools.

In these days when the wearing of caps is no longer a general practice, the award of colours for consistently meritorious performances is signified by the wearing of a ribbon of gold and blue in oblique stripes at the top of the breast pocket of the standard blazer. House awards in the colour of the house are now also worn thus. The range of activities for which colours are awarded includes music and drama as well as the full range of sporting activities.

The uniform the Corps wears has changed as has its status. The Grange camp at Whitsun has gone; but the Corps is still a very active and enthusiastic body. There is less concentration on routine drill and more realistic preparation for military service than used to be the case. The facilities for shooting are much improved.

Less change, perhaps, is noticeable with regard to dramatic activities. Changed conditions have necessitated the abandonment of the Shrove Tuesday play. Two major productions a year were always something of a strain. The House Play Competition has replaced Tuesday Form Plays as supplementary activities, reflecting the greater emphasis on House as opposed to Form that now exists. If productions are less elaborate now than they sometimes were fifty or so years ago, that again mirrors the changed circumstances in which the plays are performed. If the level of performance has shown little advance, that can be reasonably interpreted as an indirect tribute to the high standard of the past. To the present writer the first School play he saw, Galsworthy's "Strife" was an unforgettable experience. Memorable, too, for the standard of acting, variety of interest and elaboration of costume and staging were Milne's "Make Believe" (1929) and "Toad of Toad Hall" (1935). Each generation will naturally have its own preference. For many it will be Mozart's "Magic Flute" (1930), one of the most ambitious undertakings the School has ever embarked upon. We are often told how bad it was in this respect or that respect; but the odd thing is that it is that production which is remembered, whilst others more successfully performed in their way are forgotten. Incidentally R. Mark played a leading part in all three productions just named.

The stage today is much better equipped with front of house lighting and other facilities; but are such amenities really appreciated? Improvements are readily accepted, but after a time they pass unnoticed unless there is a decline from the standard previously attained. For the efficiency with which behind the curtain activities are carried out we have to thank not only the masters involved, but the well-established tradition of enthusiastic and highly competent stage managers and electricians they have encouraged. They include the imperturbable S.B. Foulds, whose calm assurance must have since given comfort to countless patients about to undergo anaesthesia in a theatre of a different kind; Howard Baker, the television producer; M.A. Harris, also engaged in television; Russell Bowden and A.J. Royle, and not least the deeply mourned late M.J.K. Smith. Who knows what he might have achieved had he been spared? Such is the spirit of the stage staff - a boy does not leave it when he leaves school, but only when he leaves the neighbourhood, or he feels reluctantly convinced that he is no longer indispensable.

In 1926 there were the Tuesday Entertainments after school at four o'clock, but otherwise the only societies were the Science Society and the Natural History Society. Membership of the former was generally confined to the Upper Science forms and of the latter to the Lower School. Societies come and go as the enthusiasm of their members waxes and wanes. There are now some half a dozen societies catering for a wide variety of tastes and interests. These include Science, Photography, Philately, Model Railways, Chess, Debating (Senior and Junior School), Community Service and Christian Fellowship. There is perhaps in these days greater enthusiasm for sporting and athletic activities for which the Sports Hall provides ample opportunities. The introduction, however, a few years back of "School Buses", which pick up boys outside the school at 4 o'clock, rendered inevitable by the ever increasing pressure of public transport, and "the five day week" have had an adverse effect on attendances at out of school activities and also on work on the School stage.

Fifty years ago there was but one porter and one groundsman. The machines the latter could use were sometimes horse-drawn, but were generally man-handled. A somewhat unreliable motor-mower had, however, recently been acquired. When, one sunny afternoon, its noise interrupted Mr. McConnell's class, he was provoked to remark somewhat derisively: "There goes our automobile." Whereupon a wag in his class immediately exclaimed: "Surely, Sir, it's grass it ought to mow, isn't it?" Sometimes a flock of sheep was invited to assist the groundsman in the labour of keeping the grass down. The field was then little more than half its present size and large areas of that consisted of a mound in one corner and a pit in another diagonally opposite. There were no shower-baths and no specific accommodation for visiting teams. There was no pavilion for cricket, the scorers sat at a table in the open and recorded the state of the game on a somewhat primitive stand. Tea was taken between the innings in the somewhat remote dining-hall.

A smaller percentage of the boys stayed to dinner, which was served on the four full days only. On half-holidays most boys went home for their mid-day meal; the rest brought sandwiches. The noise and stench in the confined conditions, coupled with the inevitable delays in the service of meals tended to discourage attendance, despite the appetising meals 'Mabel' managed to cook in the somewhat primitive and restricted kitchen. There were no potato-peeling machines, dish-washers etc. to lighten the kitchen staff's labours in those days, or refrigerators in which to keep the food. The larder, however, was subterranean enough to ensure that the food did not deteriorate in the short interval between its delivery to the school and its consumption even in the height of summer. The school-kitchen of today enjoys much more modern equipment than did its predecessor.

It is a much changed school that the present Head Master, Mr. Peter A. Filleul, M.A., has administered since September 1975. Mr. Filleul, was born in Jersey in 1929 and was educated at the Victoria College there, apart from the war years, which he spent at Bedford School. From school he proceeded with a College Exhibition to Exeter College, Oxford. He trained as a teacher at the Oxford University Department of Education. He then spent three years with the Royal Air Force Educational Branch, during which he was awarded the Sword of Merit, before he turned to teaching in a grammar school. He was for ten years at Portsmouth Grammar School previously to becoming Head of History at the Stationers' Company's School. He was then appointed Head Master of Cardiff High School. He is thus a man of wide experience.

For his first five years as Head Master of Hulme he had the support, as Chairman of the Governors, of one of the ablest and most distinguished pupils the school has ever produced, Mr. D. Lloyd Griffiths, M.B.E., B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S., a man who has had a highly successful career as an orthopaedic surgeon. Mr. Griffiths has been one of the most loyal and devoted of Hulmeians. His interest in the school has never faltered since the day he left. His voice, his pen and his purse have ever been at its service. His generosity must be known to many, but few are aware of how widely it has extended. No man has given his heart more unsparingly to the School. Owing to the increased inroads on his time of his work as Director of a Medical Research project in six countries in the Far East, involving frequent visits there, Mr. Griffiths has now retired from the Chairmanship of the Governors after ten years devoted service in that capacity. He remains, however, a member of the School Committee. His portrait has been placed in the New Hall to mark his period of Chairmanship.

He was succeeded as Chairman of the Governors in 1979 by Mr. E.B. Jackson, Financial Director of the

Renold Group of Companies, who is likewise an Old Hulmeian, as are Mr. J.N. Hopwood and Dr. D.W. Bowett, President of Queens' College, Cambridge, who have recently joined that body.

Since Mr. Filleul took up office there has been little change in the outward appearance of the school. Developments in Mr. Bird's time have been fully sufficient for present requirements. However, to comply with modern safety regulations fire doors were installed throughout the buildings in 1976 and an additional safety exit from the New Hall was built in 1979.

Increased costs and other causes made the discontinuation of the Easter Trip to Paris inevitable in 1975. However, a Junior School trip to Dinan in Brittany during the summer holidays of 1978 was so successful that it was repeated in the following year. In 1979, too, a trip to Iceland was organised on similar lines to that undertaken ten years previously. Fortunately the weather was kinder than it was on the former occasion. Another ambitious undertaking, which involved considerable fund raising activities in preparation, was the cricket tour of the West Indies in 1978. Matches were played against schools and other organisations in St. Lucia and Granada in very varying conditions and with a corresponding variety of success.

To help compensate for the withdrawal of the Direct Grant an appeal was launched in October 1975 to establish a fund to enable able boys, whose parents could not afford the full fees, to attend the School. This appeal met with immediate success and the original target has been met, though the fund is still open for further contributions.

Of recent years much discussion has taken place between representatives of the School Committee, the Hulme Trustees, the Charity Commission and others with the object of producing a new Scheme to replace the one under which the school has been hitherto administered. In August 1979 the Charity Commission published this new scheme as the outcome of these deliberations, which was finally sealed on the 26th of October. This creates a new and separate trust with the title "William Hulme's Grammar School Foundation" whereby the School becomes a separate and distinct foundation, though still linked financially to the parent trust "The Hulme Trust Educational Foundation" and from where income will still be derived for the upkeep of the School buildings in the terms of the original trusts. The various properties comprising the school land and buildings will now be managed and administered separately as part of the School Foundation.

The School has never faced a more challenging position than it does at present. With the withdrawal of the Grant the school has reverted to a status of economic self-sufficiency somewhat similar to that which existed when Dr. Hall retired over sixty years ago. The labours of the first Head Master and his successors, however, have not been in vain. The School is still the Public School that it was Dr. Hall's wish it should become, a wish Mr. Dennis was able to see realised and Mr. Bird and Mr. Filleul have been successful in maintaining. One thinks that if Dr. Hall could come back to the school he would be pleased with it and glory in its accomplishments and those of his pupils. What of William Hulme? Would he, too, be proud of the school that bears his name? One cannot but feel that the portion of the income from his estate that has been used to establish this school and foster its growth has been money well and profitably spent.

What of the future? It is re-assuring that thanks to the generosity of the Hulme Trust and the Parents' Association, coupled with the wise administration of its funds by the Governing Body, the School is as well equipped as it is today.

Is there any valid reason why the School should not continue to exist as it is at present constituted? Will it ever have to surrender its independence and become just an undistinguished part of a centrally controlled or regional education system? Will it have its policy dictated to it by outside authority regardless of its traditions and interests? Will it have to accept whatever pupils are allocated to it regardless of whether they have the capacity to profit by the opportunities it provides, or can appreciate their value? These are disturbing questions. The answers to them lie enshrouded in the lap of the future. One trusts these answers will be in every case a resounding "NO!"

1980.

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