

THE HULMEIAN

MAY, 1969

The HULMEIAN

The Magazine of William Hulme's Grammar School

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SCHOOL NOTES AND NEWS

We congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Jackson on the birth of a daughter.

The closing weeks of the Lent term were very busy and a number of events of widely differing character competed for attention. The talents of the stage staff were very much in demand to provide assistance not only with the House Plays but also with a Junior School production of Capek's *Insect Play*. There was also an Easter Concert which was held in the Upper Hall on 26th March.

Almost every boy in the School was in some way involved in the Charity Week during which nearly £800 was raised for various good causes.

Reports on each of the above activities appear later in the magazine.

On 19th April a Fête was held at School, to raise money for the Expedition to Iceland in the summer. This gave an opportunity for the members of the Expedition to test their ingenuity in devising methods of persuading parents to part with their money. They did so very willingly and, as a result, £280 was added to the Expedition Fund. The members of the Expedition would like to take this opportunity of thanking all the parents and friends who helped to organise the Fête, and all those who attended.

Last term the School acquired a Hammond organ which will not only be useful for morning assembly, but which will give many boys the opportunity of learning to play on two manuals and a pedal-board. The registrations available sound a bit experimental at the moment, but we hope that both performers and instrument will soon settle down.

Mr. Curtis, head groundsman at the School, who had been on the staff for about 17 years, retired at Easter. We wish him and his wife well in their retirement.

The Easter holiday saw a number of trips: parties went to Paris, to the Norfolk Broads, and to the Hulme Cottages at Appersett.

We congratulate C. B. Moritz on being awarded a prize in the Cathedral Arts Festival Poetry Competition.

We congratulate K. M. Dodd on being awarded a W. H. Rhodes Canada Educational Trusts Scholarship.

We apologise for an error in the last edition of the Hulmeian where the photograph on page 2 was wrongly attributed to a Robert Alec Haynes. The picture was, of course, taken by Mr. R. A. Haynes and the Christian names given are neither of them his.

Coming Events:—

| | | | | |
|-------------------------|----|----|----|---|
| Athletic Sports | .. | .. | .. | Thursday, 3rd July, 2.45 p.m. |
| C.C.F. Inspection | .. | .. | .. | Friday, 4th July |
| C.C.F. Field Day | .. | .. | .. | Tuesday, 8th July |
| House Music Competition | .. | .. | .. | Thursday, 10th July |
| Concert (Evening) | .. | .. | .. | Friday, 11th July |
| Speech Day | .. | .. | .. | Monday, 14th July |
| Michaelmas Term begins | .. | .. | .. | Wednesday, 10th September at 10.45 p.m. |

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

C.C.F. NOTES

At the beginning of last term the following promotions were made:—

| | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| <i>To Sergeant:</i> | Corporal Ashmore | Corporal James |
| | „ Holdship | „ Levison |
| | „ Lindsay | |
| <i>To Corporal:</i> | Lance Corporal Morton | Lance Corporal Danecki |
| | „ „ Hollick | „ „ Standley |
| | „ „ Cook | „ „ Clarke |
| | „ „ Eckersley | „ „ Masters |
| | „ „ Handley | „ „ Tebbett |
| | „ „ Hunt | „ „ Peace |
| | „ „ Jackson | „ „ Jones |
| | „ „ Flynn | |
| <i>To Lance Corporal:</i> | Cadet Ogg | Cadet Taylor |

‘B’ Company this term continued with the pre-Cert. A training which forms the essential grounding for their future years in the C.C.F. The routine was broken by Field Day, which was spent at Holcombe Brook Ranges, where some practical experience of working as a platoon was gained.

Arduous Training this year had a larger contingent of ‘B’ Company than usual and I should like to congratulate the six who took part on pulling their weight and keeping up with the older boys.

‘A’ Company continued in their own stoical manner, particularly those unsung heroes of the C.C.F., Signals. Their adventurous term culminated in the usual exam, which the following people passed:—

| | | |
|------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Sergeant Ashmore | Lance Corporal White | Lance Corporal Garnet |
| Corporal Morton | „ „ Higginson | |
| „ Hollick | „ „ Grimshaw | |

R.C.M.T. greased their bolts and oiled their nuts, and they still insist that with a bit of luck and some divine guidance they will have the C.C.F. ‘hot-rod’ motorbikes roadworthy by the end of the year.

‘A’ Company’s Field Day this year took the shape of a Day Exercise: Attack v. Defence. A slight mishap occurred when three of the Attack got lost, however, the gallant commander, R.S.M. Rhodes, fearlessly pressed home his attack. Consequently, the defenders under the joint command of Sergeants Beasant and Brittain, were completely routed.

The coming term sees the highlight of our year, when the Annual Inspection takes place. If the recent improvement of dress is maintained, we should put up an extremely creditable performance.

At the end of the Summer term we have our annual Camps, one in Nottinghamshire which the majority of the Recruits are attending, and a second Camp—attached to the Coldstream Guards at Munster in Germany, which is being attended by the Corps Senior N.C.O.’s, who have been promised ten days of blood, toil, tears and sweat.

ARDUOUS TRAINING

This term's Arduous Training was held at Swineside, in the Lake District. We reached the camp site, which we were to share with another contingent, pitched camp in the early evening and settled in for the night.

The first day was to be a warm up for future things, as Captain Peat described it. In all it consisted of a twelve mile walk along hill paths and roads. It must be added though, that a rather devious trick was played upon us, the result of which was that we ended up walking another one and a half miles, most of it uphill.

For the next two days the party divided itself up into two groups, each group carrying out a separate programme. The recruits, under Captain Peat, camped out for one of the nights (during which they got very wet), and the seniors, under Captain Grange, did various climbs and walks. I think however, that one of the exercises carried out during these two days, above all others, deserves a special mention. This exercise was a series of forced road marches, one-and-a-half and six miles respectively. The news of these ventures was received with mixed feelings and many members of the party were rather dubious as to the results of such exertions. However, Captain Grange set the example for us, by starting off with us and was there to greet us at the finish by being well in advance of the leading group.

The remainder of the week was occupied with a three day exercise for the seniors, and a two day exercise for the recruits (the recruits were to join the seniors after one day and finish the course with them). The weather, though, caused the officers to alter the route set by R.S.M. Ashton; having seen R.S.M. Ashton's planned route, we felt we owed the weather a great deal. However, the weather as it turned out was perfect for the three days and we had rather a lighter time than we had expected.

At this point I would like to mention the farmers of the district who, even in the morning (one such farmer made breakfast for a group of us) were most helpful.

We returned to camp on the Friday afternoon to rest our aching feet, although some people had enough energy left to play a game of football; one wondered if they had 'missed' part of the exercise.

On Saturday we broke camp and arrived back at school in the afternoon.

Finally, we would like to record our appreciation of the work put in by the officers and R.S.M. Ashton in making this a successful camp.

S. TEBBETT

CHARITIES WEEK 1969

This year, for the first time, the School's response to the many appeals received from charitable organisations, took the form of a Charities Week, or more correctly 'ten days' from the 17th to the 26th of March. Over this period the Establishment suffered variously, a dramatic 50% fall in the profit from the Drinks Machines and the pungent and lingering fairground odour of hot-dogs, onions and tomato sauce; whilst surely no Master has ever before accepted "I was just finishing off my thirteenth packet of crisps, Sir" as an excuse for lateness first period after Break! The only limit to our activities was our own inventiveness and we must be grateful to the Headmaster and Staff alike for enduring much under the excuse of "it's all in a good cause".

Most noticeable during The Week was the great response of very many people when asked to take part. The willingness to contribute constructively to the raising of money was surprising and probably yielded greater returns than a straightforward collection, despite the latter needing less sacrifice on behalf of the contributors.

It would be invidious to single out any of the myriad activities which raised over £109 within the School, during the Week. Mention must, however, be made of the tremendous variety of ways by which money was raised, whether the sums were large or small or the organisers young or old: from the £30 4s. 1d. raised by Daniell and the Prefects in the 'School Shop', to the 25s. from MacNeill's 'Straws Competition'. We must also thank: Mr. Ashton for giving up his time in helping with the Shooting Competition; Mr. Benton and Mr. Golder for donating the profits from the Junior School Play Refreshments; and all the individuals who gave of their time and energy, whether it was for the Crisp Eating Competition, Hot Dog Stall, Raffle or Drinks Machine Competition, or in any other way.

The enthusiasm of pupils and Staff in the Junior School was also remarkable, activities such as car-washing, and profit from magazine sales swelling the total. In addition, again for the first time, the Junior School held their own Sponsored Walk, raising the astonishing figure of a net £208. Our grateful thanks go to all those who took part.

The Senior Sponsored Walk was the greatest money-earner, yielding a net £456. We would like to record our thanks to Mr. Peat and Mr. Grange who provided the Staff backing for the walks, and to all those who helped in any capacity.

The proceeds from the Senior Walk are pledged to Cancer Research, whilst the remainder, £317, has been divided by a Charities Committee which comprises a representative from every form. The provisional list of Beneficiaries is as follows:

- The Guide Dogs for the Blind Association.
- National Association for Mental Health.
- Help the Aged.
- Spina Bifida.
- Handicapped Children.
- Multiple Sclerosis Society.
- Proctor Youth Centre (to go to the Library).

The total of £774 so far raised for charity, when added to the £15 we expect to be raised by the coming Folk Concert, should make this the highest sum raised for charity since the school was founded.

THE 1969 SPONSORED WALK—MOLD—SCHOOL

Towards the end of last term sixty boys had been persuaded into giving up a precious Saturday night out to take part in a Charity Walk over a distance of fifty miles.

The 'Expeditionary Force' set forth on a Stockport Corporation bus on the 21st of March on a one way trip.

As soon as the bus arrived at its destination the walkers eagerly started to walk in the general direction of Manchester. The first checkpoint was reached, rather uneventfully just before 10.30 p.m. when we were greeted by two familiar faces from the staff-room (who looked disgustingly warm and full of energy) and provided with 'soup'.

Before the next checkpoint was reached, the walkers knew that a trot through Chester was to be made; Chester now really knows when William Hulme's Grammar School has invaded!

The rest of the journey was not to be very interesting, mainly dual-carriageways. After a hard slog up a long, long hill the second checkpoint was reached, about half-a-mile nearer than was expected, where those same two familiar faces had been joined by a third, looking just as fit and dying to climb a mountain to release some pent up energy!

This checkpoint singled out a few of the walkers, while the rest, stiffly, continued on the trail—more dual carriageway. By the time the third checkpoint had been reached the sun came out and the morning started; not that sunlight inspires tired and hungry lads to do the same!

Most of the walkers retired at this checkpoint. By this time the parents had started their 'Good Samaritan'-type shuttle service, for which I am sure many boys were very grateful!

The next ten miles was a slog along another dual-carriageway to the Altrincham checkpoint where a few more retired.

Eleven boys actually ended up at school of whom mention must be made of one walker, who finished almost before the dormobiles had arrived to greet the finishers. Not content with his tremendous early finish, Simmonds had a short sit down and soon rose and announced that he wanted to walk home. I don't know how he managed it; I could hardly manage to mount the stairs of the Centre to claim a cup of coffee.

To end the saga I should like to mention that the walk gained a net total of £456 which will be donated to the British Empire Cancer Campaign For Research and I should like to thank all walkers, parents, sponsors and Messrs. Grange, Peat and Richardson without whom we would not have had three familiar faces and a bucket of soup to greet us at the checkpoints!

A. DROPOUT (C.T.D.)

THE CONCERT

The Lent term concert this year was a departure from tradition and consisted mainly of a number of short items performed by small ensembles. The two exceptions were an arrangement of 'Brother James' Air' for choir and organ and the march from 'A Little Suite' by T. Duncan (more recognisable as the theme of 'Dr. Finlay's Casebook'). The latter was played on recorders with obvious enthusiasm and enjoyment by what seemed to be all of the first year boys and this no doubt partly accounted for the large audience of parents.

The concert opened with Bach's Toccata and Fugue in D minor played by Mr. D. E. B. Golder on the school's new organ and this was followed by the Sonata in E flat major by Brahms in which Mr. Golder accompanied Mr. G. Smith (clarinet). Both pieces were well received by the audience which appreciated the technical difficulties involved.

A cello trio of Mr. I. Gordon, P. J. Beswick (2B) and P. R. Riley (1C) played a number of short pieces and next came three piano solos by W. O. Aldridge (1D), A. K. Hug (1D) and D. Hellier (4Y). All the piano solos attempted were rather ambitious but the first by Aldridge showed most musical feeling.

A brass group of two trumpets and two trombones—C. J. Lawton (5A), Dore (M6), S. J. Jones (3A) and D. A. Cotton (3L)—blended nicely and moved well together in arrangements of two American folk tunes.

The woodwind group under the direction of Mr. Smith began the second half of the concert with a suite of six pieces arranged by A. Baines. Mr. Smith then joined forces with Mr. Golder and Mr. Gordon to play Beethoven's Clarinet Trio in B flat major and the performance of this difficult work again showed the expertise and musicianship of the players.

The recorder group under the direction of Mr. D. A. Bamforth then played the Dead March in Saul by Handel and an arrangement of 'Scarborough Fair.'

The highlight of the evening was a performance of great merit of Vivaldi's Violin Concerto in G minor by H. A. Lazarus (4L) accompanied on the piano by Mr. Bamforth.

With such a number of sound instrumentalists playing in the concert it was rather disappointing that the full school orchestra did not perform, but this apart, the concert was a great success and was much enjoyed by those present.

P.D.T.

HEARD MELODIES . . .

Last term was by no means an uninteresting one for the Music Department. Instrumental lessons have greatly increased in number, and there have been few days on which the pianos and gramophones have not been generously patronised. An organ has been acquired, and is now installed in an organ-loft and played in morning prayers; the instrument is a versatile one, and free from the complications which caused no little amusement when an organ was used for a short time a few years ago.

Some of the less experienced musicians of the School performed most creditably in the concert given at the end of the term; the organ was also heard to great advantage, and the event was generally accounted a success. It is hoped to give another concert at the end of this term, incorporating the orchestra and choir, and featuring highlights from the House Music Competition.

The orchestra rehearsed a number of short pieces during the term; attendances at rehearsals were good, and great enthusiasm was manifested by all members. A fairly new departure was that of occasional sectional rehearsals, the wind taken by Mr. G. Smith and Mr. Thickbroom, the strings by Mr. Bamforth and Mr. Gordon. Experiments in aleatory and micro-tonal techniques noted by chance listeners were, happily, largely accidental, and a good standard of playing has now been achieved.

The choir, considerably reinforced this year, prepared 'Brother James' Air' for the concert, and spent many pleasant rehearsals singing Elizabethan madrigals. A slightly frivolous approach to such lines as

*I live too long; come gentle death and end
My endless torment, or my grief amend.*

though perhaps not intended by the composers concerned, helped to avoid undue solemnity.

At the end of the term we were sorry to say goodbye to accomplished clarinettist Stephen Claughton, violinist Keith Ardron, whose contribution, though short-lived, was none the less enthusiastic, and Peter Dennis-Jones who not only played the piano, but also proved a firm foundation in the choir. We wish them well, and hope that in the coming months we may maintain the standard they helped us to achieve.

THE INSECT PLAY

On the evenings of 18th 19th and 20th March, *The Insect Play* by Josef and Karel Capek was performed in the Upper Hall by members of the Junior School. This play is probably the most famous written by the Brothers Capek, and was an enormous success when it was first produced in 1923. Its authors describe it as 'An Entomological Review in three acts, a Prologue and an Epilogue', but beneath the thin disguise of the insect forms is a biting satire on some of the more vicious aspects of Twentieth Century society.

The First Act portrays the superficial fashionable world of the early 1920s. The Butterflies have the same ostentatious gaiety as the '20s 'flappers', and the same 'butterfly intellects', passing off their amoral promiscuity as a serious challenging of received moral

values. Human emotions become so shallow that they are meaningless, and consequently poetry degenerates into a vaguely amusing exercise of the wit. The precocious liveliness of this Act made an arresting opening to the production. The Butterflies, flitting back and forth across the stage, revelling in their self-conscious cleverness, evoked perfectly the atmosphere of the '20s. Their brittle laughter had just the right ring of hollowness to remind the audience of the essential unreality of this make-believe world.

Idleness is an essential ingredient in the Butterfly society, but this at least is not a failing of the Creepers and Crawlers of Act Two. Their lives are centered around material possessions, and these they work tirelessly to increase. Through these creatures are revealed some of the follies of the capitalistic society, where money is the ruling force, and no effort is spared to come by the power it brings. All the conventional justifications for avariciousness are rehearsed, and we even see acquisitiveness disguised as an altruistic love for one's family. When acquisition involves the destruction of others with rival claims, the simple excuse is, 'a strong personality is bound to assert itself'. As we watch these tiny creatures we are amused by their similarity to their human counterparts; but our interest becomes more serious as we are shown just how vulnerable property is. The possessions which are acquired at such cost may be lost with corresponding ease. Greed brings no joy, for it can never be fully satisfied. Possession leads only to the desire for greater possession, which brings in its wake added concern for the safety of what one owns. Truly, 'radix malorum est cupiditas'. The comic element in the satire of Act Two was well explored in this production. But the audience became so involved in its amusing side that the more ominous aspects were more or less ignored. Murder and theft, motivated by unbridled cupidity are hardly the subject-matter of pure comedy—and yet most of the actors were so obviously enjoying themselves that it was impossible to see anything even remotely sinister in these episodes.

Probably the most challenging part of this play for a young cast is the Third Act, and this was carried off with a considerable degree of success. The picture of a military dictatorship in the world of the Ants demands a high degree of precision if the atmosphere of ruthless efficiency is to be conveyed to the audience; this was clearly achieved. Death, which was touched upon in Act Two as one possible result of materialistic greed, is now seen in its most horrific form, as war. The fault of the Creepers and Crawlers was that each worked only for himself. The Ants work together for the State, but their aims are misconceived, and the results are even more devastating. The usual sophistical arguments for the necessity of war are recited with elemental glibness—'We are a nation of peace—peace means work. And work, strength. And strength, war'. The contradiction is obvious to all except the Ants, who are actually involved. When the Ants engineer the war they wish for, to test their superiority, the call to arms is embellished with all the usual clichés of honour and glory. It is not until after the victory of the Yellow Ants that we realise that they were spurred on with exactly the same clichés, that they believed the same lies, and prayed to the same Ant god for the same assistance in their righteous cause. Once again, the parallel between the insects and their human equivalents is too close to ignore. The Ants, engaged in moral combat over the land lying between two blades of grass, are remarkably similar to men, warring for a few hundred yards between two trenches. Certainly they are equally misguided. The play has now moved from the gentle mocking of the 'flappers', through the comic allegory on capitalism, to a peak of biting satire on modern man at his most hateful—man at war.

The Epilogue points the lessons of the satire more directly and underlines the comments of the Tramp. Throughout the play he has been the link between the human and the insect worlds. He has been our representative on the stage, and has commented for us on what we have observed. Particular tribute must be paid to John Leigh's handling of this

part. He provided the necessary unity to hold the three Acts together, and maintained a close contact with the audience, thus involving them in the action. The final irony of the play is that, just as he comes to a realisation of the purpose and meaning of life, the Tramp dies, and the struggle for understanding has to begin all over again, in the new-born baby.

The Insect Play provided a very worthwhile evening's entertainment, and brought on to the stage for the first time a large number of boys of the Junior School. It is to be hoped that the talents it uncovered will be seen many more times in School productions.

J.W.W.

HOUSE PLAYS

It is traditional for each of the six School Houses to produce a play, often of high standard, without either the help of masters or large expenditure: from the moment they choose the play they are on their own with £5 and a stage. Undoubtedly this is a valuable experience for all concerned and frequently unsuspected talent is discovered. This year's plays reflected a commendable enthusiasm and corporate spirit.

Gaskell House elected to stage two plays, and were noticeably weakened by splitting their resources. *The Rising of the Moon* was chiefly remarkable for its police uniforms and initial inaudibility—and the inevitable House Play Barrel. In due course C. Moritz and C. Touchin who sang manfully, became comprehensible, but still missed opportunities to create suspense. The play itself was very much a lightweight, but more could have been made of it. Their second play puzzled and startled the audience, but held the attention from the moment the starkly effective bare stage was revealed. *The Spirits*, C. Touchin, D. Cotton, I. Dickson and J. Banks were convincing thanks to costumes and wigs, their musical accompaniment to their weird wraith-like dancing and intimidating choral speaking. Moritz as the Young Man had potential but tended to rush his lines. Banks in particular succeeded in conveying the impression of the remote spirit world by his posture, voice and extremely effective dancing.

Ronald Mitchell's Welsh comedy *Long Live Elias* was presented by Dalton House. After a suitable musical introduction an effective stage set helped the play to begin with immediate poise. Most members of the cast managed their Welsh accents well, though on occasions traces of Scots appeared. Although stage props were used to good effect, various lighting opportunities were missed. Croke gave a strong lead and took full advantage of the humour that the situation afforded. Far more could have been made of the culmination of the coffin scene; although interest was aroused it was not maintained and it was felt that they could have used the stage more effectively.

Fraser House attempted a play deceptively difficult for schoolboys—*The Browning Version* by Terence Rattigan. J. A. Cantrell, as the authoritarian schoolmaster, acted with considerable presence and was clearly audible; D. Kettlewell as the young schoolboy had a clear voice. A lack of a sense of timing and drab intonation prevented the situation becoming credible despite the detailed and convincing scenery.

Whitworth's excellent presentation of *Romanoff and Juliet* left no doubt as to their talent and polish. The novel and very well produced introduction led the way to a whole-hearted, lively and interesting performance, which was sustained well throughout. Scenery, lighting and sound effects were all used to very good advantage, not forgetting of course the 'well-timed' clock. Worthy of particular note were R. J. Wheeler and K. M. Dodd as the two eloquent ambassadors, R. H. Vernon, the General, who turned misfortunes with the door and firework very much to his advantage, and I. D. H. Spicer for his very convincing representation of Juliet, particularly when viewed from the rear. The judges all agreed that

this ambitious production was very competently tackled, amply displaying Whitworth's considerable talent.

The main merit of Heywood's *Two Fables: A Fabrication* lay in the fact that it was produced at all, as rumour had it one week before the performance that they were still in the process of selecting a play. Not unnaturally the acting suffered considerably through lack of rehearsal time—and one felt that this fabrication deserved better. P. J. Taylor and J. D. Eckersley both made a good attempt without ever fully capturing the audience, and A. Seeley and N. S. Farr were incredibly matter of fact and unconcerned as they explained that they had killed their father and son respectively. Both sound effects and lighting (P. Walker) were competently managed and extremely effective. Much credit is due to all concerned for making such a brave attempt.

Despite the programme stating that Byrom's play, *Sordid Story* may appear totally incomprehensible', it was a simple visual representation of the emotions and senses of a petty criminal in times of stress. It was a good choice of play and very well presented. The criminal was well portrayed by J. S. Rhodes, though his 'Dr. Who type' control centre was a little distracting at times. The emotions were clearly distinguishable by their make-up and choice of clothes. P. Dennis-Jones was particularly impressive as Anger; N. Byrne (Jealousy) gave suitable support, as did S. Hampson (Fear) who had a major part towards the end of the play. But it was not individuals who made the play the success it was; the whole cast, including the unspectacular parts of the Senses by T. Beasant, S. Tebbett and R. Taylor, managed to involve the audience completely in the conflict between the emotions. The clear dialogue produced vivid images of the real situation in the minds of the audience. The play could easily have suffered from being too static, but this was prevented not only by good acting but also by sensible stage layout and intelligent use of lighting.

The Judges' decision:—

1. Whitworth
2. Byrom
3. Dalton
4. Fraser
5. Gaskell
6. Heywood

STAGE NOTES

The stage underwent two innovations during the Easter holidays. The first, which drastically foreshortened the Sound Effect Department's premises, was the installation of the organ loft. The second was the modification of Stage Stores, to include the space under the stairs, by P. J. Akers, the Stores Manager, and his assistant P. C. Holmes. As usual the House Plays were produced before the Easter Holidays and this year there was a new item, a Junior School Play, *The Insect Play*, directed by Mr. Benton and Mr. Golder. The House Plays went off quite smoothly except for the usual last minute palpitations at the disintegration of ancient curtains. *The Insect Play* was produced in the Upper Hall with the help of added platforms and supports built by Mr. Foulds and temporary equipment set up by the Electricians and Sound Effects Department.

This term, in preparation for the exodus of the elders in the summer, P. J. Akers became an Assistant Stage Manager and P. N. Walker became Assistant Chief Electrician.

By Easter, the stage staff had already lost two of their most valuable members: S. M. Fletcher, who provided a steady stream of wit and ideas to lighten the load of our daily toil has left for the Nuclear Power Group in Knutsford and then Oxford in October;

A. A. Gardner, who was Chief Electrician for the very complicated lighting plot of the *Fire Raisers* has gone to Ferrantis and then Cambridge. The stage staff regrets their going and thanks them for all their contributions. We wish them every success in the future.

Our thanks, as always, go to Mr. Bonnick, Mr. Foulds, Mr. Furniss and Mrs. Taylor for their constant attention and helpful advice.

PARIS 1969

'Paris in the Springtime' was a myth, our parents were told; we should come prepared for the worst, with thick sweaters, jackets and heavy overcoats. But for us the myth persisted, and temperatures reached 80 degrees Fahrenheit. It never rained at all during the daytime, and it was warm enough at night to go out without wearing a coat. The weather, said to be the favourite subject of conversation of the English, can make or break a holiday, even a holiday where a fair amount of time is spent indoors, and so we were really very fortunate.

The journey from Manchester to Paris lasted nearly 20 hours, and was not particularly pleasant. Luckily the English Channel was very calm and so we arrived at Dieppe tired, but with our stomachs still intact. Here we transferred to the train for Paris, and caught our first impressions of France: predictably, the first poster that was seen said 'Non'. The last lap of our marathon seemed to be the longest and some people were well off by the time we finally pulled into Paris, although others were still lively enough to try to disrupt Anglo-French relations at Rouen.

It was still day when we left the Gare St. Lazare and got into the coach that was to take us to our destination, the Ecole Pascal, and so the driver took a roundabout route in order to give us a glimpse of some of the sights. And then at last, we were there, with England behind us, and with a week to spend in exploring the capital of the frog-eaters.

The Ecole Pascal is on the western side of Paris, halfway down the Boulevard Lannes, and very near to the Bois de Boulogne. From the outside it looks more like a block of flats or a hotel than a school; in fact the storeys above the Ecole are flats. Unlike London or Manchester, the nearer one gets to Paris, the better the suburbs become, and the Ecole is in one of the best parts of Paris. It is an ideal centre for the purpose for which we use it, and is certainly worth fighting to keep. The building is modern and everywhere seemed to be spotlessly clean throughout the whole week we were there. I cannot think of anything against which I can make a complaint.

The food we were given was very similar to what one would expect to get in a moderate restaurant in England, and was mostly quite satisfactory. Only the breakfasts were frugal, giving us an insight into French eating habits.

Apart from conversation with the waiter, there was little opportunity for people to practise speaking French, and this shows that the trip is primarily intended to give people a knowledge of the layout and sights of Paris. In doing this, it certainly succeeds. Buildings trickle into the memory and are mixed into a blurred mass in the brain; but I am sure that, if I were ever to go back to Paris, everything would fit into its proper place, and I would be able to find my way around quite well. In this account, however, I have no intention of giving a blow by blow description of the various things we did each particular day. I cannot possibly describe to those who have not been to Paris what it is like, because I am incapable

of doing so, and those who have already been need no one to stir their memories. If they liked Paris, they will never forget it; and if they disliked Paris, nothing I say will change their minds. Instead I will just mention a few things that come to mind.

The first things most people think of when Paris is mentioned are . . . the Eiffel Tower . . . Notre Dame . . . the Louvre. All of these were included in our itinerary. The Eiffel Tower is, of course, renowned for its magnificent views of the city and the surrounding countryside. When we climbed it in the lifts, the sun was shining brilliantly down; the result was a great heat haze, which meant that we couldn't even see the Arc de Triomphe! I should say, though, that this was the only time I was disappointed, and that everything else was as I had imagined it to be.

The Cathedral of Notre Dame had been recently cleaned, as had many of the buildings, and so we saw it in all its magnificence. The best view for photography is from the back on the river, and we were able to take photographs of it from that direction when we went on the river trip on the 'bateaux mouches'.

By the end of the week everyone was worn out, and visiting the Louvre on the last day of the trip meant that most people were too punchdrunk to pay much attention to the lecturer. The most noticeable thing in the Louvre was the great throng milling round the Mona Lisa, on which I must reserve judgment.

No sooner had we got there, it seemed, than we had to leave. To see all the best sights of a place like Paris, a place in which there seems to be a statue or a monument on every street corner, is not only a great but also an exhausting achievement. When we left, there were still many things that we had not seen, but we had seen enough for one session. Most people had enjoyed themselves, in one way or another, and when, after a painless journey, we returned to the loving care of our parents, we had only a damaged finger and a few rotting cheeses as casualties. I offer the thanks of the whole party to Messieurs Collings, Timm, Langford and Williams for taking us to Paris and helping to make our stay there so interesting and enjoyable. I would also like personally to thank Messieurs Collings and Williams for taking Boyd and myself to see 'Cyrano de Bergerac' at the 'Comédie Française'.

C. LLOYD (6LL)

BIOLOGY FIELD WEEK 1969

With only a few minor delays the Lower Sixth biology set left school at 11 a.m. on Monday, 24th March, under a dull overcast sky which lasted for most of the week. We were accompanied by Mr. Crossland and six student teachers from Manchester University, and together we settled down to an Ecological Survey of the area surrounding the Hulme Cottages in Appersett.

We worked some fairly long and irregular hours; however I think that in all honesty nobody was bored and, if we are to believe Messrs. Haynes and Crossland, then we were hard-working and moderately successful in accomplishing our aims. All the daylight hours were set aside for work and during the evenings we were free.

And so we progressed to the event fondly known as the 'last night', this was Thursday evening, and on the whole the evening passed off very well. The early hours of Friday were very lively indeed. . . .

Our thanks must go to Mr. Haynes and Mr. Crossland and to our student teachers, we would like to wish them all the best for the future field weeks.

R.R.M.

VISIT TO HAWKER SIDDELEY AVIATION

On the first Monday in the Easter holidays a 'bus load of boys went with Mr. Houghton to the Chadderton factory of Hawker Siddeley Aviation. After coffee and biscuits, we were given a talk by H.S.A's. education officer about the various ways one could start working for them. We were split into three groups and met the guides who were to show us round. We saw dozens of complicated machines for making hundreds of parts for planes. The first impression was one of confusion and noise but gradually the pattern of production became more apparent; we never became used to the noise. Among the various machines was one which stretched large sheets of aluminium into the intricate contours required in modern aircraft manufacture. The most fascinating machines were numerically controlled vertical milling machines which produced wing spars and fuselage frames. The scrap metal from them was scattered far and wide at great speed.

All these components were assembled into fuselages and wings at Chadderton prior to final assembly at Woodford, and now we began to see semblances of complete aircraft and we were allowed to step into one of the fuselages of these. The company provided large helpings of pie and chips for lunch, after which another 'bus took us to Woodford to see the planes being finished, not only the H.S. 748 of which we had watched the initial stages of production in the morning, but also the H.S. 801, Nimrod, maritime reconnaissance aircraft.

Before seeing the final assembly we saw the three wind-tunnels, the supersonic, transonic and low speed. Near the last were many finely detailed models of design studies and other projects which were never built, as well as ones of the Argosy, Harrier and H.S. 748. At the other end of the same building we went to look in the flight shed. Next to the flight shed were devices for testing complete aircraft to destruction and we saw the results of two such tests. We were told that there was currently being tested the wing pivot of a variable geometry aircraft, but we were not allowed to see that.

We waited in the 'bus to cross the airfield until the driver returned. While we were waiting one aircraft did some circuits and a Nimrod did some engine tests, then the 'bus took us to the assembly hangar where we saw aircraft being fitted out and painted.

This was the end of the tour and after being fed yet again, we came back to school. It was a good trip, thanks to Hawker Siddeley, the efforts of Mr. Gordon who arranged the visit and Mr. Houghton who accompanied us.

C.H.B. G.J.P. P.G.H.H.



SCIENCE SOCIETY

The Society presented an active programme last term, with items covering a wide range of scientific topics.

On 21st January, the Middle Science Sixth attended the Institute of Electrical Engineers Faraday Lecture in the Free Trade Hall. The lecture was on 'Microelectronics', and supplied an interesting introduction to the world of integrated circuitry.

Shortly after this, on 30th January, Dr. Black of Salford University lectured to us on 'Low Temperature Physics'. This lecture gave us some insight into the science of cryogenics, and was accompanied by several very entertaining demonstrations. Dr. Black is pictured showing boys how to 'fry' an egg in liquid nitrogen.

Most of the Science Sixth attended two lectures given by the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology at the Renold Building, Sackville Street. On 5th February the subject was 'Atomic Physics', and on 5th March, 'Optics'. Both these lectures were illustrated with demonstrations, and most people found them very informative.

The zenith of the term's activities (for the chemists, at least) was reached on 13th February, when Dr. Brian Iddon and Dr. Chris Cook from Salford University lectured to us on 'The Magic of Organic Chemistry'. The lecture was given in the Upper Hall, and took the lecturer some four hours to prepare, assisted by three boys. Despite the total lack of laboratory facilities in the Upper Hall, Dr. Iddon succeeded in showing some very spectacular demonstrations, particularly those showing 'chemiluminescence'. The lecture dealt with polymer and colour chemistry, and was attended by about two hundred boys from Fifth and Science Sixth forms. Everyone who attended found it an excellent afternoon, and a large number stayed afterwards to examine the exhibits more closely. Dr. Iddon and



Dr. Cook are pictured talking to some of these.

During the half-term holiday, a party of about twenty-five visited Jodrell Bank radio telescope. Despite heavy snow the previous night, we managed to get there without mishap, and the film and displays we were shown were quite interesting.

On 21st February, Dr. Young, again from Salford University gave us an extremely good lecture on 'Lasers'. He described the production of a laser beam, and the curious properties it possesses. His demonstrations were a new slant on physical optics, and proved very convincing.

A rather long break followed this, before the term ended with two visits. The first was to Geigy (U.K.) Ltd. in Heald Green, and showed the work the Company was doing in their laboratories. We were given an excellent conducted tour, and the laboratory staff provided some special demonstrations for us, which were greatly appreciated.

The final event of the term was on 31st March, when a party of about twenty visited the Universities' Research Reactor at Risley, near Warrington. After a brief introductory talk, we were shown the reactor itself, its control systems and the radiochemical laboratories. This was a fascinating visit, and all who went found it most enjoyable, as well as educational.

The Society has shown a considerable number of films of a broadly scientific nature in the Upper Hall at lunchtimes, and these have attracted moderately large audiences.

I must thank the staff of Salford University for the advice and help they provided last term, and, of course, our own Science Staff for their invaluable assistance.

M. J. HALLWORTH

CAVING CLUB

The term's caving began with a trip to Easegill Caverns, which the party of one master, one mistress and four boys entered by way of County Pot. An underground journey of about two miles took us to Easter Grotto, a large chamber containing many fine formations. The return was made more difficult because rain outside had turned the second pitch into a waterfall. Apart from this, it had been a pleasant day's caving, very sporting and with spectacular underground scenery.

Cherry Tree Hole was our next meet, attended by a party of nine; again, finding it proved difficult. There are some interesting tight sections in this pot, but there were no hitches, except for a few troublesome lights. However, some of our kit which we left in a hut on Darnbrook Fell could not be retrieved for a fortnight, as the road became blocked with snowdrifts next day! The day after a party of four had collected the tackle, we went up to Newby Moss, where we met the Kendal Caving Club digging in P2b. Our smallest member was seized and put into the hole, which is very tight, to be a human ferret. Unfortunately, even he could not get through.

Our next trip was to P8 in Derbyshire. The pot was a good exercise in wet caving with two 25 feet waterfalls; as the fells were covered in snow, the water was objectionably cold, and the party of seven was not sorry to get out. A camping meet in Barbondale followed, to do Aygill Caverns. We chose a weekend of gale force winds, and one tent blew down in the night. But we still descended the pot as far as was safe in flood conditions. Another party coming out of the cave as we went in had been further, and seemed extremely tired. A 45 feet pitch near the end took us to the head of a short cascade, taking a huge stream, which is normally only a heavy spray, so we retreated.

At the beginning of the holidays, six members and six beginners spent four days in Yorkshire. Bull Pot of the Witches again proved most enjoyable, though as muddy as ever, and Dow Cave near Kettlewell was a good beginners' trip. The last day was spent in ladder practice at the Buttertubs and in walking.

P.B. (3A)

CHESS CLUB

As usual there have been many keen and talented boys from the Junior School, consequently the Junior I team came very close to winning the league. Perhaps they will win next year.

Unfortunately, the Intermediate lacked full hearted support and as many players did not get into regular playing practice—although we were often using Junior I players as last minute replacements—we came a deserved last with no points whatsoever.

It is hoped that things will improve when we introduce a senior team next year.

But we must not harp too much on our failure as there are promising players in the junior teams, Middleton being outstanding and Winward and Smith playing intelligent, creative chess.

We were well represented in the Manchester District Junior Chess Congress, Winward winning his section and Andrews and Halliwell also winning prizes. All present enjoyed themselves and I feel it an excellent chance to improve one's game.

The Inter-House Chess Trophy was won this year by Whitworth, and runners-up were Heywood.

Next year it is planned, if enough members subscribe, to sell *Chess* magazine at half price. It is an excellent magazine and well worth it at full price. We also wish to expand and give more chances for boys to play chess.

Thanks must go to Mr. Bailey for his organisation and transport, to Mr. Bonnick for use of the Junior School Library and, as usual, to Mrs. Taylor for her teas at the Home matches, especially the parents' match, which was as usual an easy win, $7\frac{1}{2}-2\frac{1}{2}$.

I.D.H.S.

HOUSE LETTERS

BYROM

At the end of last term we said goodbye to our energetic Head of House, P. Dennis-Jones, who leaves to join the opposition as a teacher at Oswestry Public School. We wish him well in this new venture, and at Oxford next October. His position is filled by T. J. Beasant, and J. S. Rhodes now becomes Deputy Head of House.

It is pleasing to report that once more the House has distinguished itself both on the sports field and on the stage. This season saw the introduction of the new 'Super League' in House lacrosse. Unfortunately, being the smallest House, we were somewhat handicapped by the shortage of players. Nevertheless we attained a commendable third place in this League.

The Junior Knock-Outs proved slightly disappointing in not fulfilling our expectation of a repeat of last term's rugby double. After defeating a poor Gaskell side 7-3, we were in turn surprisingly defeated by a none-too-good Heywood team 7-10. Mention must be made, though, of the strong and determined play of our captain, G. L. Lord, who was later to play for the North of England.

In the Senior Knock-Outs we succeeded in gaining the Lacrosse Flags, thus acquiring a complete set of Senior Knock-Out trophies. The first round proved a narrow escape when we defeated a strong Heywood side 7-6; the winning goal was scored by J. Makin in the closing seconds of the game. Another hard game followed in the second round when we met a well-drilled Whitworth side, but ran out the eventual winners 8-6, largely due to some magnificent goalkeeping by our captain J. S. Rhodes. In the final we played the 'hot' favourites, Fraser, but triumphed 11-10 through a combination of keen House Spirit and team work. It is hard to single out individuals from this match but note must be made of the powerful defensive play of S. E. Tebbett and the goal scoring flair of P. Norfolk.

The House maintained its standard set in last year's House Play competition, coming a very close second to a Whitworth play of epic proportions. The result was very pleasing as it showed that the vast improvement in the standard of Byrom productions, which occurred last year, and the interest in the competition generated in the House, has been maintained. In previous years Byrom has not been noted for its prowess in the Arts, and it is hoped that the present renaissance may be maintained in future years.

In last term's cross-country championships some fine individual running by M. G. Shepherd brought him the first position in the seniors. In the juniors R. W. Denson and P. D. Adams came second and third respectively. This gave us an equal 1st placing with Dalton in the juniors, and 3rd place in the seniors. Overall, with both results combined, we came an encouraging second.

There was only one competition in which we failed to hold our own this term: the Lacrosse 6-a-Sides. This can be explained if not excused by our large number of absen-

tees. This came about because of such widely separated activities as Biology Field Trips, Music Exams, Dental Extractions and Interviews.

The following represented School teams:—

1st XII: J. S. Rhodes, S. E. Tebbett, G. Jones. 2nd XII: J. A. Koski (Capt.), R. Taylor, J. Makin, R. Waddington. 3rd XII: M. T. Ashmore. Under 15 XII: G. L. Lord, I. R. Dunbar, W. P. Swann, M. H. Lomas. Under 15 2nd XII: A. C. Hobday, S. C. Hobday, D. J. M. R. Burton, D. M. Paxton, T. D. Coyne.

Senior House Lacrosse colours were awarded to:—

J. S. Rhodes, J. A. Koski, T. J. Beasant, R. Taylor, R. Waddington, S. E. Tebbett, M. T. Ashmore, P. Norfolk, N. Kemp, J. Wheatley, R. W. Denson, G. Jones, J. Makin.

Senior Cross-Country Colours were awarded to:—

M. G. Shepherd, T. J. Beasant, R. Waddington.

Drama Colours were awarded to:—

T. J. Beasant, P. Dennis-Jones, J. S. Rhodes, S. Hampson, N. Byrne, R. Taylor, S. E. Tebbett.

Junior Lacrosse Colours have been awarded to:—

G. L. Lord, W. P. Swann, I. R. Dunbar, M. H. Lomas, N. S. Leighton, A. C. Hobday, S. C. Hobday.

Junior Cross-Country Colours have been awarded to:—

P. D. Adams, R. W. Denson, W. P. Swann, D. J. M. R. Burton, C. R. Linsell.

DALTON

This term, for all its usual athletic competitions found in every term, is more notable for the House play competition. As a result of an extremely fine effort by all concerned, *Long Live Elias*, a comedy set in a Welsh rural community, came third. Naturally we had hoped to win, but there must be consolation from the fact that Whitworth and Byrom had to beat us by two very good performances.

The cast, and especially B. K. W. Lightowler the producer, are to be congratulated and thanked for the hard work which they put into the rehearsals.

With the new 'super league' it was unfortunate that the same teams that did well in the league matches also did well in the knock out competition, namely Fraser and Byrom. This was a very rare occurrence before. Also with the 'super league' the knock outs, usually the feature of the term's sport, have lost a lot of their glamour.

Thanks to the house third team, who went through the season unbeaten, Dalton finished fourth in the league.

In the senior knock outs, we drew the very fancied Fraser side and lost in a very exciting match 13-11. We had the strongest attack out of all the house 1st XII's, but unfortunately also the weakest defence, hence matches became very exciting as we had to attack. The win against Whitworth 14-7 must take special mention, as they were reputed to have the best defence. Well, other teams found it difficult to score against them.

The feature of the house this term must be the superb performance by the juniors to win the junior knock out competition.

In T. J. Bentley, S. Nettleton and P. D. Roden they had attack players of a very high class, while the defence, young and of no school U.15 1st XII experience had a promising goalkeeper, A. C. Crane, behind them. At the beginning of the term Crane, just another attack player, volunteered to play in goal, and is now reserve for Lancashire U.15 XII. A mercurial rise to fame. In the semi final, after letting Fraser score four goals, the juniors started to try and won 10-7. In the final against a heavyweight Heywood side, Dalton scored four very quick goals and never gave Heywood a chance, winning by 12-1.

The side, well led by T. J. Bentley was:—S. Nettleton, P. D. Roden, A. C. Crane, P. M. W. Nias, J. F. Erlam, B. R. Claydon, W. D. Simpson, A. Cunningham, J. P. Seed, M. P. Erlam and M. H. Bishop.

They were all awarded House Colours.

Bentley, Nettleton and Roden were all picked for Lancs. U.15 XII while the former two both made the North of England side, to play the South of England.

In the 'six-a-side' competition, we should really have won; it all rested on the final of the 1st sixes of Fraser and ourselves. They won and took the competition by one point. Obviously stamina as well as skill wins six-a-side games. The teams that did well for the house were the 3rd, 6th and 9th who all won their groups, while the 1st, 4th and 5th reached the finals.

Last term the following played on the School lacrosse teams:—

1st XII: W. A. Veitch (Capt.), H. J. Burnside, K. R. Astle. 2nd XII: D. J. Hollows. 3rd XII: D. J. Hollows (Capt.), B. Brittain, J. D. S. Beddard. U.15 XII: T. J. Bentley, P. D. Roden, S. Nettleton. U.15 2nd XII: A. C. Crane, P. M. W. Nias, J. P. Seed. U.13 XII: B. R. Clayden, A. Cunningham.

In the Cross-Country the house came a very creditable third, Beddard coming fourth in the seniors, while H. M. Symonds, P. D. Roden and A. Bocking came first, sixth and seventh respectively in the juniors.

Bocking still maintains he would have done better if he had not had the 'flu'. Unfortunately Boardman, a school team runner, was away on a Biology course, otherwise our third position might have been bettered.

On the School Cross-Country team we were represented by:—

M. A. Boardman, H. M. Symonds, A. Bocking who have run for both senior and junior teams while I. V. Topalian and R. A. W. Bradford are consistent members of the U.16 age group.

Finally, our hopes for next term rest with D. J. Hollows, captain of house cricket, B. G. Johnson in the swimming and Lightowler in the house music competition. Last year he and the 'Dalton all-star band' won. May we emulate that achievement this year.

FRASER

The Lent term proved to be a very successful one for Fraser, during which we won the Lacrosse League (for the second year running), and the six-a-sides, lost the Senior K.O's final by only one goal, and raised our house play position from our usual sixth to a more creditable fourth.

Lacrosse was the predominant feature of last term, Fraser being the predominant feature of the Lacrosse. The introduction of a new, so called, 'Super League' lent itself very well to our wealth of school team players and very good house team players all the way through the house. Both the House 1st and 2nd teams remained unbeaten in the League throughout the season, and with good support from the 3rd, 4th and 5th teams we managed to hold our place at the top of the table all through the season. The Six-a-sides were split into two days, juniors and seniors. The juniors played on a Monday and three of the four teams reached the final; Hughes' (jun.) team was the only one which won outright but the efforts of all the juniors massed a total of 40 points and a lead of 4 points over Dalton. The seniors turn came on the Wednesday with unfortunately about seven key players absent. However the 2nd led by P. J. Everett and the 1st both won outright despite the absentees, and the 3rd, 4th and 5th all won 2 points each so that at the end of the day we had beaten Dalton by 1 point. These two triumphs can be truly considered as a result of constant effort and enthusiasm from everybody involved.

The K.O's turned out to be very exciting if a little disappointing. The juniors, led by Simpson, after beating a mediocre Whitworth team, managed to lead a very strong Dalton team by 4 goals to 1 by half time but were unable to hold them in the second half despite G. D. Kettlewell's admirable control of the defence which contained Peat and Hume amongst others, and the 'nippy' attack in the shape of Threlfall and Howe, and they finally lost 10-7. The Senior K.O. Team was rather fancied to win but, as usually happens, the fancied team came slightly unstuck. In the first round they met a Gaskell team which unfortunately lost their strongest player just after half time and we won by 15-4. In the second round they had a very hard match against a strongish Dalton side which reputedly (see the Dalton report) had the strongest House attack but the weakest defence. The Fraser team played within themselves and managed to maintain a marginal lead throughout the game, despite some late scoring by the opposition. In the final with Byrom we opened the scoring straight from the first whistle but Byrom countered quickly and a ding-dong battle ensued for the rest of the four quarters with first us then Byrom leading. At the final whistle, after several changes in the lead, Byrom ran out winners by one goal 11-10.

This year on a certain Friday in March, the clouds parted, the gods looked out, and smiled benignly on Fraser. We came fourth in the House Play Competition. (They didn't smile hard enough!) This was a truly remarkable achievement considering our limpet-like grasp of the 6th place which we have maintained for the past few years. De la Perelle and Davies managed to mould the *Browning Version* (by Terence Rattigan) around the cast, the converse being impossible. Each member of the cast contributed towards the whole effect; Head as a very relaxed schoolmaster was outstanding, and the House offers all of them its congratulations on breaking a none too happy tradition.

The Cross-Country running this year was an unhappy affair as two of our main runners were unable to be present, as they were on a Biology course. De la Perelle overcame the mental anguish to come a creditable 12th and Day was 17th. The juniors did little better with Howe coming 7th and Halpin 10th to give an overall 4th position.

Those who represented the House on School teams:—

1st XII: D. J. Fletcher, De la Perelle, P. Day, P. Hopton. 2nd XII: Flynn, Danecki, Wong. U.15: Peat Payton. U.15 2nd: Threlfall, Hume, G. D. Kettlewell. U.13: B. Evans.

Cross Country—Seniors: Masters. Juniors: Howe, Halpin, Morello.

This term we look forward to our prospects in the cricket under the captaincy of

Harben, the tennis captained by De la Perelle, the swimming captained by P. R. Day, the athletics captained by P. J. Everett and finally the House music competition directed by Phillips and Brown.

Finally, we say goodbye to S. Cloughton and S. M. Fletcher and, while thanking them for their past services, wish them well in their future careers.

GASKELL

At the end of last term we said goodbye to R. J. Fitzgerald. We should like to wish him and the other sixth formers who left all the best in their future careers. We should like to congratulate P. Dickson on being appointed Head of House and G. H. Hunt as deputy Head of House.

The introduction of the Lacrosse super league last term gave the possibility of a rise in the standard of house lacrosse by the presence of school team players. However a lack of school team players on the Gaskell senior teams proved to be a decisive factor in the lack of success of those teams throughout the season. However, signs of improvement were beginning to show toward the end of the season and it is perhaps unfortunate that many of the games were cancelled because of appalling weather. The junior teams played steadily throughout the season and this shows promise for the future senior teams. It is unfortunate that we finished the season at sixth place in the league table.

In the knockout competition both teams were drawn to play in the first round and were beaten. The senior team lost to a very strong Fraser team 15-3 and the junior team lost to Byrom 8-2.

Despite an encouraging start by the juniors in the Hewlett Cup six-a-side competition, we finished fifth overall.

The cross country championship provided a change in the fortunes of Gaskell and we finished fourth overall. The junior team is to be congratulated on coming third helped by an excellent run by J. L. Hindley who finished fourth in the field. The seniors also put up a convincing run and finished fifth overall with A. C. MacIntosh finishing in seventh position.

The cultural side of the term was represented by the House Play competition in which J. R. Banks decided to break tradition in presenting a combination of two short plays. Both plays were set in the time of the 1916 Easter Uprising in Ireland. Little did we know of their relevance to the present day situation in that country. The first play was the *Rising of the Moon* by Lady Gregory which spotlighted the personal sympathies of the Irish police at that time. The second was a very unusual production of *The Dreaming of the Bones* by W. B. Yeats and portrayed a conversation between a rebel of the Easter rising and the spirits of a previous rising. In spite of the unusual but effective costumes and psychedelic make up, the play was well received by the audience. It is no reflection on the ability and enthusiasm of the cast and all who helped behind the scenes that we finished in a surprising fifth place.

Also amongst our recent achievements was the 'crushing' victory over a 'strong' Whitworth team in the final of the Iceland Fête tug of war! We would hope that this competition could become an annual event! We also finished in fourth place in the newly introduced inter house badminton competition. We should like to thank all those who voluntarily participated in both events.

We look forward to the Summer Term when we hope that hard work and enthusiasm in all spheres of house activities will produce good results for Gaskell House and realise its full potential.

The following represented Gaskell on School teams:—

2nd XII: D. A. Harrison, J. D. Duncombe, A. P. Haynes, G. H. W. Rhodes.
U.15 XII: R. L. Clark (who also represented Lancashire), T. J. Underwood, J. L. Hindley.
U.13 XII: R. N. Bury.

HEYWOOD

Perhaps the most depressing feature of the Lent Term was the lack of interest and effort shown by the Senior section of the House. This is a matter which can only be put right by concerted effort and it is hoped that the Summer Term will produce far better results and a much higher standard in every respect.

On the Lacrosse field, the term belonged almost exclusively to the Juniors, who again put their elders to shame by reaching the final of the knock out competition. Alas, they were at last shown up by a very efficient Dalton side who proved to be worthy champions indeed. Although they put in what was really a solid team effort, Whiteside, the goalkeeper, was at times brilliant in the early rounds, pulling off some remarkable saves. Once again the Seniors, no thanks to the non-appearance of one team-member, fell at the first hurdle, albeit a big one, in Byrom.

Last term also saw the advent of the new 'Super-League' system, which was utterly ruined by the monsoon weather of the winter months. Despite the lack of fixtures, we managed to secure a creditable second position in the league, which could easily have been better. The first team, under the captaincy of D. V. Roberts, played soundly throughout and were unbeaten; none of the other four teams managed to emulate this performance, although several high-scoring feats were achieved, notably by Pearn on the second team, who regularly caused the opposition's net to bulge.

The House Play was performed after a week's frenzied activity on the part of P. J. Taylor, who took over the director's role at the last moment. He also took the lead and performed with great assurance considering his preparations. Unfortunately, his efforts were fruitless and we were placed in sixth position. It is hoped that the confusion of this year will serve as a warning to any future producers of the House Play.

During the Charities Week at the end of term, several members of the House took part in the sponsored walk from Mold to Manchester. Some gave up early on, some kept going and Jeffries finished, again putting to shame his elders whose muscles soon stiffened through lack of exercise.

Only at the culmination of the term did we have anything to rejoice about. Having finished third in the Hewlett Cup, thanks again to our juniors, we embarked on our attempt to retain the cross country, for which we were very much the favourites. Indeed, we fully justified our position in the betting and ran out easy winners. Roberts and Kynaston, dedicated as they are, finished 2nd and 3rd, and Renshaw, who seems to be able to run at will, came 5th. In fact the performance of the entire team was very pleasing and augurs well for the Athletics.

The House was well represented on School Teams:—

1st XII: D. U. Roberts, W. P. Boustead, G. Reading. 2nd XII: A. Holdship, N. S. Farr, V. W. Bennett, J. H. Handley. 3rd XII: N. Goodman, J. E. D. Dean, P. F. Atkinson, L. P. Kynaston. U.15 XII: M. T. Broadhurst (Vice-Captain). U.15 2nd XII: B. Caldwell (Captain), A. J. Higgins.

Senior Cross-Country: A. W. Renshaw, S. Jefferies.

There are many trophies to be won this term and we hope to be around to be able to collect them.

G.R.

WHITWORTH

The Lent Term was one of mixed fortunes for the House. The term started with the commencement of the experimental Super League where, as the first and second teams receive most points, it is the Houses with the most School team players who stand the best chance of winning the league. As it happens, two Houses, Byrom and Fraser, dominated the league and reached the Senior K.O. final.

With so few School team players the House did well to keep off the bottom of the table. The 1st team turned in some very praiseworthy results including beating a full Gaskell team with two brave Juniors, l'Anson and MacNeill substituting for Dodd and Robson who were playing for the School 1st XII. Robson was the main spearhead of the team, and was ably supported by Spicer and Kay (the latter being extremely lazy at times). Dodd and Kettle controlled a competent defence which probably let in less goals than any other House (although the former's attacking instincts caused concern at times especially against Dalton).

The House 2nd XII captained by Baines always tried hard but the opposition usually seemed that little bit better.

The 3rd XII and the people who were 'supposed' to play on this team were a disgrace to the House. It is surprising that the results were not worse.

The 4th XII well captained by l'Anson are a very young side (eight of the team are in the third year). This team should mature into a very effective unit. Rodley has been successfully converted into a defender although his tendency to attack is still predominant. Cosslett, when he has learnt to concentrate and use his body more, will be equally good. The rest of the defence was sound and Densley performed well in goals. All the attack played well and showed a lot of determination, even if they were not very mobile at times.

The 5th XII had a lot of fun and provided various results, the whole team showed a great deal of keenness and was a credit to the House.

As far as the K.O's are concerned the Seniors gave the eventual winners, Byrom, a very hard time in a tough physical battle losing by only two goals.

The Juniors were hammered by a useful and much older and experienced Fraser team in the 1st round.

The six-a-side teams were not particularly successful. The 8th and 9th teams both reached their respective finals and although both teams lost they played very well. The new points system used in this competition was a great success. Our final position was fourth.

Those members of the House who represented the School are as follows:—

Lacrosse

1st XII: K. M. Dodd (vice-capt.), K. E. M. Robson. 2nd XII: I. D. Kettle (vice, capt.), I. D. H. Spicer. U.15 1st XII: A. H. Kay (capt.). U.15 2nd XII: L. C. l'Anson, R. W. MacNeill.

Badminton

1st VI: J. A. Greensmith, E. Baines.

Cross Country

Seniors: G. P. Phythian.

The activity which probably gave the House most enjoyment and certainly the best result was the House Play competition. The Whitworth Strolling Players under the joint leadership of Sanig and Dodd put a lot of effort and time into the staging of Peter Ustinov's play *Romanoff and Juliet*. Although a long play with a large cast the audience's interest never wavered from start to finish. Dodd and Wheeler as the Ambassadors were well cast, Vernon as the General provided some unexpected fun when he forgot how to open the Embassy door, but he sustained the action of the play well in what was a difficult and sometimes very amusing role. He was well supported by his two soldiers (N. Greensmith and Rycroft). It is never easy for a boy to imitate a girl and in this respect Spicer and Sydney did remarkably well. Baines and Kettle their opposite numbers were proficient and provided a few laughs. The rest of the cast all did extremely well, and enabled us to recapture the play trophy after a year's absence from our shelf. Elam did a very efficient job as Stage Manager.

Our second success of the term was the House Chess Competition, the team captained by Spicer won easily and since they are all available for next year this is one trophy which should not leave our shelf for some time.

Our final success came in the House Badminton when our team under the captaincy of Baines won narrowly. Particularly successful were the 2nd pair D. Greensmith and MacNeill who only gave away one point in their five matches.

Probably our poorest result of the term came in the Cross Country when we were last overall, this despite the effort of the Seniors in coming 2nd in their race, with Phythian, Kettle and Baines coming 6th, 8th and 9th respectively. The Juniors however had a disappointing result with Laycock being first 'home' in 19th position. However several of the Juniors will be able to run in this age group for the next two years. Laycock, MacNeill, Rycroft, N. Greensmith and Winward (he knows what he must do to remain fit) are fine runners with plenty of guts, and they should do well in future years.

The five major competitions of last term are:—K.O's, Play, Cross Country, Chess and Badminton. The boys who took part in at least three of these events are:—E. Baines, D. Greensmith, N. Greensmith, I. D. Kettle, R. W. MacNeill, A. Rycroft and I. D. H. Spicer. Many others took part in two events and it is people of their calibre that this House needs. There is a huge pit of apathy in the Lower Sixth and Fifth forms at the moment and the present 3rd and 4th formers must be careful not to fall into the bad example shown by many of their Seniors. Let us hope they will shake out of it during this next term.

The following have been appointed House Prefects: I. D. H. Spicer, A. W. Morton, M. J. Holley and R. A. Houghton.

We would like to congratulate K. M. Dodd on being awarded a Rhodes scholarship to Canada thus emulating his illustrious predecessor A. J. McGlue. During the last term A. A. Gardner, D. A. Hockaday and G. P. Phythian left and we wish them all the best for the future.

Finally, let me ask everyone concerned with the House, to pull their full weight during the Summer term, and make it a really successful one for Whitworth. Provided everyone tries hard, the results do not really matter.

I.D.K.

ORIGINAL CONTRIBUTIONS

I see a forest before me
and light upon a sapling in its midst
so young and delicate yet surrounded
by a barrier which I myself raised
since within the commonplace
there is the unacceptable and silence.
It stirs me to write beyond ordinary fears
but even in this I long for the impersonal
to hide me.

J. N. DORE (6CM).

INSIDE THE LIBRARY

Long lines of shelves, warm, mellowed beams
Reflect wanly the golden streams
That slant bright paths 'cross polished floors.
The bustle of the street, once loud,
Is dulled by the obedient shroud
Of silence, held within the doors.
Through silent, warming sunbeams wells
A pleasant, heavy smell, which tells
A century's waxed and polished wood.
And, in the corner, to the right.
Dwell shadows, never touched by light,
Which there, long years since, used to brood.
Along the newer central shelves
The avid thriller addict delves
With eyes agleam for Sherlock Holmes.
And, to the corner's shadowed bay,
Dry academics make their way
To browse among beloved tomes.
Then, over to the left, do lie,
Attractive to the woman's eye,
Those endless novels of romance,
With whose fine heroines can she
Convince herself how she will be
(Or would be, if she had the chance).
And, over all the sacred room,
An air of great content does bloom
From each and every book-laid shelf.
For, in this peace, with charm of books,
Can each man who within them looks
In pleasant dreamland lose himself.

C. F. COLTON (6LL).

GAMES SEASONS

Games must be played on rainy days
Because of all the mud,
Which is ideal to grovel in
As everybody should.
If games are played on icy days
Th' attractions rather new;
Out in the cold someone may catch
Pneumonia or flu.
But when the sun is blazing down,
The grass is hard and dry,
On such days one can break a leg,
Or maybe lose an eye.
This ditty having now been read,
And duly understood,
Advance, ye masochistic friends,
And grovel in the mud.

C. F. COLTON (6LL).

WINTER SUNSET

Winter.
Trees gaunt and bare,
Reaching for the frozen heavens.
Day recedes.
The setting sun turns red to orange,
And purpling the darkening sky
Sinks the golden orb of light.
Gilded spectra hang:
Dying slowly,
Disappearing.
Night draws on.
Chill winds blow litter down emptying streets.
The town darkens,
Lights go out.
All quietens,
And sleeps.

J. A. HAGGIE (4L).

A THUNDERSTORM

Curly strands of tattered rope,
Leading up to the clouds.
River with loads of tributaries,
Flowing through the sky.
Before it comes the air goes warm and moist,
Low cloud drifts swiftly to the scene,
The fearful darkness comes.
The thunder cracks just like a whip
The sky god hits on the ground,

He rumbles on grumpily until he quietens down.
The humid air still stays until the cooling rains fall down.
The pavements steam until they cool,
The streets smell fresh and clean.
The lightning and the thunder stop,
And all is quiet again.
The sky brightens, the birds sing,
As if another day had dawned.

P. HEATON (1A).

SONNET TO MY CITY

My city is not an azured Athens;
Today here stands no regal smiling place.
Scarred and charred, of the cotton-spinning race;
Torn from ancient embryo by Romans.
To frame your Phoenix entity is hard.
It must be hid within these sad, drab stones
Or by the churchyard with sequestered bones,
Though never by man's changes is it marred.
I do not long for times which have once been,
Nor wish to see the fields 'ere there stood mills,
For if I walk by Irwell's fungal green
Or linger in the city's twilight chill,
A midst the grey, insipid urban scene
I sense the soul that man will never kill.

C. B. MORITZ (6ML).

THE POET

The poet kicks, within
His foetal fate;
Striving to escape
From the anguished, artist's state.
And when he's drawn a breath
Of wind in June,
When he knows it to exist
He stands abstracted.
Quiet as the moon.

C. B. MORITZ (6ML).

BUS RIDE

Come through the city on
My bus. Up here at
Advert level, let yourself
Be hammered by the noise,
And swallowed up in faggy
Fellowship.
Watch shapely legs and

New-bought eggs, old
Hags with shopping bags,
And wind-blown, sun-tanned
Navvies.
Come ride up here
At five o'clock amidst
Gay chats and mock
Sobriety; the live
Rush-hour society.

C. B. MORITZ (6ML).

CONTRAST

She sits and sips
Her tea.
At rest, she fingers her
Pearls and talks of
Assorted coiffeurs.
Elderly sterility she
Still maintains her poise,
Can still wear thin high heels.
In dank, dandruffy air,
The conductor hands her a ticket.
Quiet disgust diverts his
Glance from menopausal
Mottle, hairy chin,
Shapeless, spent torso,
To the floor.

C. B. MORITZ (6ML).

SNOW

Snow falling.
Flurrying, resting and hiding everything from view.
The world changes,
Differing from the normal scene.
The light shines brilliantly off the now white-covered earth.
The trees sparkle, their boughs bent low with unaccustomed weight.
Carefully walking, with feet sliding
Sideways, and backwards with shorter steps.
Gusts of wind,
The storm subsiding.
Then, the sun.
And falling, fighting, laughing,
Rolling in the snow.

R. G. ERSKINE (2B).

GAMES

1st XII LACROSSE

Record: Played 12; Won 5; Drew 2; Lost 5.
Goals: for 82, against 84.

With only four members of last year's team again available (W. A. Veitch, K. M. Dodd, D. J. Fletcher and J. S. Rhodes) it looked as if this year's team would not be as good as usual. After the 'pre term' practice games four players, D. V. Roberts, E. E. Tebbett, W. P. Boustead and K. E. M. Robson looked particularly impressive and with P. T. Hopton and H. J. Burnside, regular players for their club sides, things looked much brighter.

W. A. Veitch has led a side, containing many personalities, extremely well. His manner on and off the field and his turn out have been exemplary. His early matches seemed to be affected by his responsibility and certainly by a long attack of 'flu'. His later games were played at first home where he has always played his most effective lacrosse.

Rhodes's goalkeeping has been outstanding, especially so in the second to last match of the season against the Old Hulmeians, and has often inspired an extremely sound and competent defence to greater heights; which has been proved by the fact that only two teams have scored double figures against us. The attack took a lot longer to settle down and only really played their best in the latter stages of the term, when Reading's collar bone had recovered from a rugby injury and he was available for the team. Fletcher has always been a worry to the oppositions' defences, while Burnside has much improved throughout the season and is now a prolific goalscorer.

Results:

Jan. 11 v. Mellor 'A': Away—Lost 7-11

This being the opening fixture of the season, the school took some time to settle into their stride. The defence at first, fairly shaky but as the game progressed became more sure of itself. The attack however relied too much on individual efforts instead of moving the ball about, and often the ball was thrown away by trying to score too quickly. Rhodes had a good game in goal, while Fletcher was the mainstay of the attack with three well taken goals. Day played well in defence.

Jan. 15 v. Stockport G.S.: Home—Won 9-3

After letting the opposition score first, the defence settled down to have a very sound game. The attack did not play well, and was just beginning to settle down when an injury to Rhodes forced Fletcher to go in goal. Thanks to the defence he did not have much to do, and only let one goal in. Burnside was the principal scorer with four goals.

Jan. 18

v. Old Hulmeians Combined XII:
Away—Drew 6-6

The defence were a bit slack in their marking while the attack showed much more fight than in previous games, scoring three goals in the last ten minutes. De La Perelle had a fine game in the attack.

Jan. 25 v. Heaton Mersey 'A': Away—Won 10-8
(First Round N.E.L.A. Junior Flags)

On a firm dry pitch the school had its best game so far. It was a peculiar game in that although the game was pretty one-sided, the school missed many chances while the opposition took all theirs. The school was always ahead until Heaton Mersey scored three goals in the last quarter to force extra time, but here the fitter side won through. Robson played very well in midfield and Hopton was very sound in defence.

Feb. 1

v. Mellor 'A': Home—Lost 9-2
(2nd Round N.E.L.A. Junior Flags)

The conditions were so bad for this game, that it should never have started. There was torrential rain throughout the game, even the football league match at Maine Road was postponed so it can be imagined how bad the conditions really were. Even so, all credit to the school who were only 2-1 down at half time and looked much better and fitter than Mellor did. However, in the last fifteen minutes of the game, the school cracked and the opposition scored six goals.

It is the opinion of many that had the match been played on firmer ground and without the rain, Mellor would have been beaten.

Feb. 14 v. Cambridge University: Away—Won 4-2

A game lacking in skills was not helped by the poor pitch. The attack lacked any penetration and cohesion, while the defence let their men too close to goal. Jones had a promising debut and Rhodes was sound in goal.

Feb. 15 v. Oxford University: Away—Lost 7-4

A very good and fast game in which the school looked a different team from that which played Cambridge. The defence was very strong and the attack pressing hard in the latter stage of the game was extremely unlucky not to have scored more goals. Most of Oxford's goals came through our own mistakes rather than their good play. Tebbett was outstanding in defence.

Mar. 1

v. Stockport G.S.: Away—Won 11-9

This was definitely the worst display of the season by the school. The school opened with six goals in

the first quarter, but when the opposition started scoring from twenty-five yards out, everyone seemed to crack up, and only in the last quarter the ability to hold the ball for long stretches saved the school from defeat. Roberts covered very well in defence, while Burnside scored six goals.

Mar. 8 v. Old Hulmeians 1st XII:
Away—Lost 13-7

Anxious not to have a repeat performance of the Stockport game, the school fought throughout for possession and for three-quarters of the game looked very good value for the seven-all score.

However at this point the Old Hulmeians took complete control and scored six quick goals. Reading had a fine game in the attack.

Mar. 11 v. Manchester G.S.: Home—Won 12-3

The school were now beginning to look a good team knowing what each other was trying to do and playing for each other. The attack looked very sharp throughout the game and scored five goals in the first quarter. After this M.G.S. never had a chance, so much so did the school dictate the game, even to the extent of letting the opposition score their goals, two of which were free positions in front of goal.

Mar. 22 v. Old Hulmeians 1st XII:
Home—Drew 5-5

Against the Old Hulmeians 1st XII, the school played their best lacrosse of the season. The defence backed up by Rhodes's superb goalkeeping kept the Old Boys' score down to their lowest ever against the school while the attack worked non-stop trying to find ways through the Old Boys' defence. Only their greater experience and two very late goals enabled them to be on even terms when the final whistle went. This was the best effort ever by the school against Old Boys and they admitted afterwards this was one of the better school sides. One reason for the good performance was the excellent possession Boustead gained at the centres.

Mar. 24 v. Cheadle Hulme G.S.: Home—Lost 8-5

After playing so well and hard the previous Saturday and then some walking from Mold to Manchester; the school was lethargic and no-one played their best against a very determined Cheadle Hulme side, which had only lost one game all year. Perhaps it should be noted that one of their attack scored 5 goals!

Colours were re-awarded to:—

W. A. Veitch (captain), K. M. Dodd (vice-captain), D. J. Fletcher and J. S. Rhodes.

and awarded to:—

S. E. Tebbett, P. R. Day, D. V. Roberts, P. T. Hopton, W. P. Boustead, G. Reading, K. E. M. Robson, H. J. Burnside and P. W. de la Perelle.

Also played: K. R. Astle, G. Jones, D. A. Harrison and N. S. Farr.

Rhodes, Dodd, Tebbett, Roberts, Hopton, Boustead, Reading, Burnside and Fletcher represented Lancashire Schoolboys against Cheshire.

2nd XII REPORT

Injuries, the discovery of new players and fixtures disrupted by the weather meant that the team was never really able to settle down. In fact, the same side was never fielded twice and only one player, R. Flynn, played in all the matches. Consequently, the results of the team suffered and only in the final games did the side begin to look organised and confident.

Good handling proved sufficient to beat the easier sides played, but the team lacked the fight to beat the majority of club sides, whose handling was often not as good.

The defence let goals through more as a result of bad organisation than bad marking. However, the addition of Holdship and Fitzgerald, nearer the end of the season, added strength to the team and Farr's excellent goalkeeping often saved the side from heavier defeats.

The attack played well in the victories, but lacked penetration against stronger defences. G. Jones and P. W. de la Perelle added enthusiasm to the attack when they played, R. Flynn was a prolific goalscorer and I. D. H. Spicer should prove a useful player next year.

The following were re-awarded Colours:—

J. A. Koski, G. Jones and K. R. Astle.

The following were awarded Colours:

N. S. Farr, R. G. Taylor, A. Holdship, R. J. Fitzgerald, J. E. Duncombe, D. A. Harrison, I. D. Kettle, R. Flynn, I. D. H. Spicer, J. Makin.

UNDER-15 XII LACROSSE

This year's team has been a young one, five boys in fact will still be eligible for next year's side. In the circumstances it was valuable having two of last year's colours available in A. H. Kay and M. T. Broadhurst whose experience steadied the side. The attack handled well, moving the ball about quickly and accurately, but had times of inconsistency. The defence was fast and forced well, but at times in the early games it was too open and lacked cover. Lomas was a sound 'stopper' in goal, but must learn to handle out of goal. A pleasing feature of the team was its spirited reaction when things went badly and in such times Kay's captaincy was shown at its best. The team won the Junior and Schools Cup, provided nine members of the Lancashire Colts side which defeated Cheshire and six members of the North of England Colts side which defeated the South at Croydon.

Team Colours were awarded to:—

A. H. Kay (captain), M. T. Broadhurst (vice-captain), T. J. Bentley, S. Nettleton, R. Clarke, D.

Payton, G. Lord, J. Peat, P. D. Roden, I. Dunbar, H. Swann and M. Lomas.

The following boys also played: A. C. Hobday, J. Seed and G. D. Kettlewell.

Results:

| | |
|--|----------------|
| v. Cheadle Hulme Juniors | Away—Won 14-3 |
| v. Marple Hall Grammar School | Away—Won 10-3 |
| v. Stockport Technical High School 1st | Home—Won 13-2 |
| v. Manchester Grammar School Under-16 | Home—Lost 12-8 |
| v. Stockport Technical High School Colts | Away—Won 18-3 |
| (Quarter Final Junior & Schools Cup) | |
| v. Cheadle Juniors | Away—Won 9-6 |
| (Semi-Final Junior & Schools Cup) | |
| v. Manchester Grammar School Under-16 | Away—Won 14-4 |
| v. Cheadle Hulme School | Away—Won 14-6 |
| (Final Junior & Schools Cup) | |
| v. Mellor Juniors | Away—Won 14-4 |

Under-15 2nd XII

The season started with the now-traditional defeat by Stockport G.S., but the promotion of the then captain to the first team seemed to strengthen the side, and the 8-10 defeat was later avenged with a 10-7 victory. Victories were also gained over M.G.S. (23-0) and Cheadle Hulme School (19-1), and, lastly, the Under-13 team (9-6).

The following played: B. M. Caldwell (captain), C. A. Ball, D. J. M. R. Burton, A. C. Crane, S. M. Fisher, A. J. Higgins, J. L. Hindley, A. C. Hobday, D. C. Hume, L. C. I'anson, G. D. Kettlewell, G. L. Lord, R. W. MacNeill, D. M. Paxton, J. P. Seed, R. S. Threlfall, T. J. Underwood.

UNDER-13 XII LACROSSE

Played 9: Won 9, Goals for: 155. Goals against: 32.

This year we had a useful side confidently led by B. R. Clayden at point with C. W. Hodgkinson as vice-captain and attack leader. They had little trouble winning most of their matches and this was the main disappointment of the season. Wins of 31-1 and 27-2 do little good for a team who need to learn against strong opposition.

The most satisfying players apart from Clayden and Hodgkinson were R. J. Newton at centre and O. R. W. Summers both in attack and as a wing

defence on occasion. C. P. Bunnage and W. B. Collier are excellent handlers and developed as a useful pair of wingers whilst R. N. Bury and B. L. Evans were very hard-working members of the defence.

| | | |
|---------|-------------------------|----------|
| Jan. 11 | v. Stockport Juniors | Won 27-2 |
| Jan. 18 | v. Stockport G.S. U.14 | Won 11-8 |
| Jan. 25 | v. Cheadle Hulme U.13 | Won 23-1 |
| Feb. 1 | v. Manchester G.S. U.13 | Won 31-1 |
| Feb. 12 | v. Manchester G.S. U.13 | Won 13-2 |
| Mar. 1 | v. Stockport G.S. U.14 | Won 16-6 |
| Mar. 8 | v. Manchester G.S. U.14 | Won 9-3 |
| Mar. 15 | v. Cheadle Hulme G.S. | Won 9-5 |
| Mar. 17 | v. Broadway School U.13 | Won 16-4 |

(Final of the Centurions Trophy)

R. A. HAYNES

UNDER-12 LACROSSE

Played 3. Won 3.

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| v. Manchester G.S. | Away 10-4 |
| v. Manchester G.S. | Home 24-0 |
| v. Cheadle Hulme School | Away 26-3 |

The first of these fixtures was played after the team had had only two weeks' practice, which some pessimists, unaware of Hulmeian lacrosse instinct, claimed would not be enough. In dreadful conditions, they played some very pleasing lacrosse. In the considerable gap before the other two matches were played handling skills developed through constant practice, and by the final game the team looked a thoroughly competent lacrosse side, scoring some very exciting goals.

Ball has a good eye and the courage and stick-handling ability to make a first-class goalkeeper; Clayden and Tugman have developed a good understanding of how to check and also cover when their own man has not been in possession; the latter is also a particularly effective forcing defence-man; Cooper has used his size and strength to good effect, making a nearly ideal centre who often scores, or creates a scoring position straight from the 'face'; McGurdy has scored a lot of goals by his ability to keep the ball in his stick whilst under pressure, but has missed chances through over-elaboration; Sorensen is an attack player of great promise, and Whitehead, though scoring less goals than the other attack players, has worked hard to retain possession in mid-field and always made good use of the ball. All the other team members played their parts

effectively and the prospects for retention of the Centurions Trophy next season are very bright.

C.P.L.

HOUSE LACROSSE

This year saw the introduction of a new scheme for house games. School team players, who would normally have been practising were made available for house teams.

Unfortunately, the scheme got off to a bad start in that so many cancellations were necessary because of bad weather. What was seen of the 'super league' as it was soon named, promised well and it will be tried during the rugby term as well next year.

A very close struggle soon developed between Fraser and Heywood but because of the cancellations they never met, and when the term closed the first round of the league was unfinished. At this stage Fraser were leading by eight points, having led by a similar margin from the beginning. Final positions: Fraser 84 points, Heywood 76, Dalton 46, Byrom, Whitworth and Gaskell.

Knock-outs:

Although the teams had already met in the league competition, there was little evidence that it had taken away any enthusiasm, and some very good games were seen. Results:

| | | | |
|-----------|--------|-----------------------|-------|
| 1st Round | Senior | Fraser beat Gaskell | 15-3 |
| | | Byrom beat Heywood | 7-6 |
| | Junior | Fraser beat Whitworth | 13-1 |
| | | Byrom beat Gaskell | 7-2 |
| 2nd Round | Senior | Fraser beat Dalton | 13-11 |
| | | Byrom beat Whitworth | 8-6 |
| | Junior | Dalton beat Fraser | 10-7 |
| | | Heywood beat Byrom | 11-7 |
| Final | Senior | Byrom beat Fraser | 12-11 |
| | Junior | Dalton beat Heywood | 12-1 |

CROSS-COUNTRY RUNNING

It seems that the wheel is about to turn full circle. After two years of mediocre performances from the seniors, there has arrived a new punch and depth in the junior team, with results that may presage a

repeat of the 'great old days' of Whaite and Cusick and Co. There has been keen rivalry among individuals throughout the term, and this in turn has inevitably led to harder training, increased tenacity, and hence better all-round results. Unfortunately the present Seniors have only served to accentuate the strengths of the younger runners, with only M. G. Shepherd turning in consistently good runs. In any other year this could have been disastrous, but thanks to the wide amount of talent among the Juniors, the Senior team could quite often be helped out, to decisive advantage.

The term started with a 'round-the-houses' affair at home against Cheadle Hulme, in which, as expected, we swamped the opposition 20-43. With Symonds streaking out to victory and Boardman, as usual, taking second place, it was pretty obvious we were going to win; but one of the more pleasing aspects of the team's run was the good packing of third, fourth and fifth strings, even though we were cut down by injuries in this 'middle' section of the team. Mention must be made, too, of our uncanny ability to pull back seemingly lost positions in the last quarter-mile or so of the race. Again, this pointed to good and intelligent packing.

On 25th January, the day of the East Lancashire Championships, we were at home to Bolton School in the morning. Because of injuries we had to field two seriously depleted teams; Boardman and Symonds had to be press-ganged from the Under-16s to join Phythian and Masters in the senior team. Since there were only four to count in the senior race, this meant that if one of our seniors were to injure himself or drop out, then our already slender chances of victory would disappear altogether. First Bocking led the Juniors home, followed by Hulme runners taking second, third, fourth, fifth and seventh places! Then Symonds and Boardman held off a tremendous challenge from the Bolton first string ("Gee, I thought we were never going to lose 'im") to lead the Seniors home. Despite threats, neither Phythian nor Masters dropped out, but came fifth and seventh respectively. Scores: Under-16; Won 15-44; Seniors: Won 15-21.

Taking on the powerful Manchester Grammar School is no picnic at the best of times; add ankle-deep snow and insidiously low branches on the twisting paths of wild Worksop, and you have the team's only upset of the term: a crushing defeat at the hands of M.G.S. and Worksop College. But the hills and foul conditions were good experience for the majority of the team, even though Hong Kong flu had diminished the numbers in the usual merry band. The weather put paid to a visit to Sheffield, and inadequate numbers of decent runners at Derby School, Bury, caused another match to be cancelled.

And so to Lyme Park. On reflection, it seems a pity that the weather and apathy among the opposition had caused some matches to be cancelled; perhaps a competitive 'edge' might have brought the excellent potential of the Juniors better things. In any case, at a surprisingly chilly (and even occasionally snowy) Disley, Symonds led our Juniors home in a very creditable 20th position; as yet more evidence of our fine depth, the first five Hulme runners came in the first 130 places—no mean feat in a field of over 800 runners from the cream of the North and Midlands. Our final team position was 18th, and one cannot help grow excited at the thought of what our Senior team in two years' time will be able to accomplish. Which brings me, reluctantly, to this year's Senior performance. Shepherd, aided and abetted by a certain dark stranger, ran well, for a personal best position; the best that can be said about the rest of the team is that they ran together well! With the Colts it was, unfortunately, the same old story; lack of competitive experience and hill-training is a serious handicap for any team to bear, even though Howe ran steadily and gave glimpses of some potential.

On the following Wednesday we were away to Cheadle Hulme, on their notorious 'find-the-way-back' course at Handforth. Happily, everyone did find their way back, and we improved yet further on the score in the earlier match by winning 25-58, with six to count. We took first four places.

Inter-House Championships

The Inter-House runs took place on the day before the end of term, Thursday, 27th March, and were regarded by many as a foregone conclusion despite the surprising lack of yellow shirts in Alexandra Park during the course of the term! Heywood, in fact, soon staked their claim for the trophy for the second successive year, by cramming their first three Senior counters into the first five, although they couldn't fulfil every prophecy by taking first place; instead, Shepherd crowned a very competent season indeed by shaking off his yellow-shirted pursuers for the individual honours. There was one shock: the unsung Beddard, in a quite amazing last-ditch burst, managed to close a massive gap, overtake the perennial champion, A. W. Renshaw, and give the leaders a bit of a shock as well. The first six places were filled as follows:—

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. M. G. Shepherd (B) | 4. D. Beddard (D) |
| 2. D. V. Roberts (H) | 5. A. W. Renshaw (H) |
| 3. L. Kynaston (H) | 6. G. P. Phythian (W) |

The Junior Competition turned out to be a two-horse affair, with a 'sound' rather than 'brilliant'

Byrom team battling it out with a Dalton contingent watered-down somewhat by the absence of Boardman. Symonds nevertheless, quite true to form, bounded off for a runaway win, leaving Denson and Adams, both of Byrom, to squabble over second position, seemingly miles behind. But Jeffries and Co. saw to it that Heywood Juniors weren't too far behind, and the overwhelming Heywood Senior success was difficult to fritter away anyway.

Results:

| | | | |
|------------|----|--------------|-----|
| 1. Heywood | 73 | 4. Gaskell | 128 |
| 2. Byrom | 93 | 5. Fraser | 137 |
| 3. Dalton | 96 | 6. Whitworth | 139 |

Thanks must be given to Messrs. MacDonald, Cowan and Caldicott for transport, help and encouragement throughout the term.

G.P.P.

BADMINTON CLUB

We have had a most successful season, with a high standard of performance, good attendances and considerable keenness shown among members.

We have played matches against Manchester G.S., Altrincham G.S., Stretford G.S., Chorlton H.S., and Kings School, Macclesfield together with the Parents, and during the season have won six, drawn two and lost two. The following have represented the School:—V. W. Bennett, J. A. Greensmith, C. J. Barratt (captain), E. Baines, M. A. J. Potter and E. D. Fraser. The first four were awarded School Colours.

An Inter-House Competition was held during April which resulted in Whitworth gaining 41 points, with the runners-up Fraser, 34 points.

The Middle and Junior Sections, of the Club, continue to be popular. The Club is most grateful to the Committee of the sixth form centre for making available facilities for teas for matches. Among those leaving School this year will be our Captain, C. J. Barratt, and our Hon. Secretary, J. A. Greensmith, we wish them well in their future careers.

Our thanks are due to Mr. Renny for his interest and encouragement, to Mr. Aveyard for his assistance and to Miss Spencer, Mr. Bryans, Mr. P. F. Williams and Mr. Warden, for their help with matches.

OLD HULMEIANS NOTES AND NEWS

HON. SEC.

The above abbreviation—familiar to every member of a club anywhere in the country—undoubtedly means, to the great majority of Old Hulmeians, just one person, Eric Barnes.

In about eighteen months from now, Eric is due to retire from his post with the Calico Printers' Association, and shortly thereafter he and his wife Irene intend to make a new home in the Channel Islands—Irene's original family home. He therefore indicated to the General Committee of the Association, a little while ago, his desire to resign his office as General Secretary—which office will be taken over by Bruce Herbert, already himself well known throughout the Association.

Eric Barnes' service to the Old Hulmeians Association, in one capacity or another, covers a period of forty years—a record which is unlikely ever to be surpassed in quantity, and certainly never in quality. His unequalled knowledge of the history and affairs of the Association, and his constant care for its welfare, have been of inestimable value, and his unswerving loyalty and efficiency have always been of the greatest help and inspiration, not only to the General Committee, but also to many individual members.

No one has done more for the Association than Eric, and formal expression of our debt of gratitude to him was made at the Association's Annual Dinner at the Midland Hotel, Manchester, on 8th March, 1969, when presentations were made, to both Eric and Irene, including a silver rose-bowl, a mounted silver shield engraved with the Association crest, and a book recording the names of subscribers to the Presentation Fund—to which the response was widespread and generous, as was fitting.

It very often proves to be the case that the general health and well-being of a club or association depends to a large extent upon the quality of its officers. The Old Hulmeians Association has indeed been fortunate in this respect, and particularly so in its long enjoyment of the excellent services of Eric Barnes. No greater proof of this could be afforded than by the regularity with which those present at Annual General Meetings, when invited to elect the General Secretary for the ensuing year, have unanimously shouted "Aye"—often without giving the Chair time to deal with the formality of nominations!

To men of the calibre of Sidney Whittingham, the late Ken Rains, Tommy Bland, and Eric Barnes, the Association indeed owes a great deal.

I am confident that I may, on behalf of all members of the Association, sincerely offer their grateful thanks, and very best wishes for the future, to Eric Barnes—the Association's outstanding Hon. Sec.

W. T. CURTIS

President O.H.A. 1968/9

NOTES AND NEWS

We congratulate Rear Admiral J. B. HOLT, the Director-General, Aircraft (Naval) at the Ministry of Defence on being awarded the Honour of Companion of the most Honourable Order of the Bath in the Military Division in the New Year's Honours List.

We also congratulate PHILIP ROGERS on his promotion to Second Permanent Secretary in the Civil Service Department.

F. S. LAUGHTON has been elected an Alderman of Sale.

JOHN GINGER has been awarded a bursary of £2,000 by the Arts Council on the recommendation of the literary panel.

C. F. CUSICK represented Cambridge in the mile in the University Athletics Sports, finishing second in 4 mins. 11.5 secs.

GEOFFREY MARSDEN of the Boeing 707 Fleet with B.O.A.C. has now attained the rank of Captain.

We were delighted to receive a letter from Lieutenant KEN RIVETT written in Kathmandu while touring in India and Nepal during a six-week leave from Hong Kong. Apart from spending ten days in the Himalayas, he has visited Calcutta, Agra, Delhi and Lucknow. He expects to return to England in May before leaving the Army, having completed a five-year short service commission with the Lancashire Fusiliers. He has served in Malaysia and Singapore, as well as in Hong Kong.

HOWARD BAKER is the producer and director of the Granada T.V. series *Judge Dee*.

PETER WHEELER has been working on a number of programmes on radio and television, including a series of current affairs programmes for Yorkshire T.V.

HOWARD WILLIAMSON has been appearing with the D'Oyly Carte Company at the Opera House, Manchester.

BIRTHS

GOULD—On 6th February, at the United Mission Hospital Tansen, Nepal, to Dr. and Mrs. W. M. Gould, a son.

HEMMERDINGER—On 16th March, to Jacqueline and Michael, a son.

BEATTIE—On 20th March, to Diana and Colin, a daughter.

MARRIAGES

DAWSON—WARREN: On 17th February, in Vancouver, Ian Dawson to Ann Warren.

BOWMAN—EVANS: On 3rd May, Keith Douglas Michael Bowman to Carol Margaret Evans.

DEATHS

COOKE: On 25th February, Frederick John Edward Cook, of High Royd, Wiswell, Whalley, aged 64 years.

HARROLD: On 14th March, Norman Harrold, of 30 Gatley Road, Cheadle, aged 53 years.

BUCK: On 31st March, Robert Robinson Buck, of 31 Bramhall Park Road, Bramhall, aged 85 years.

HEWITT: On 16th April, James Hewitt, priest, of 18 Highfield Drive, Alkington, aged 31 years.

OLD HULMEIANS ASSOCIATION

Your Clubhouse continues to provide the General Committee with the most food for thought. Much time has been spent and efforts made by the Entertainments Sub-Committee to offer all members a schedule of social events through the winter but in spite of the improved amenities attendances have been most disappointing. Obviously the Clubhouse

provides the Rugby Section with excellent headquarters but so much more could be done during the close season and on week days. Your Committee would welcome constructive suggestions from any member on how the idle capacity of the Clubhouse can be filled.

The Dinner Dance at Stanneylands, Wilmslow on 14th February, 1969 was a most pleasant occasion in spite of the Icelandic conditions and once more our thanks are due to B. T. Plaskett for the excellent arrangements. This year experimentally a Tombola was introduced and proved to be a most popular added attraction. The same venue has been selected for a similar function on 6th February, 1970.

The Annual Golf competition on the 15th May, 1969 at Chorlton Golf Club will doubtless have been held by the time these notes are read but those taking part would wish to thank J. Foulds for arranging this event once more.

On the other hand the Annual Cricket Match will still be due to be played against the School on Saturday, 5th July, 1969. A. M. Blight at the School would be pleased to hear from any Old Boy who would like to play.

The Annual Reunion Dinner which precedes the Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday, 17th September, 1969. Any boy leaving school in July is cordially invited to attend these functions and so make a first acquaintance with members of the Association in the company of his contemporaries.

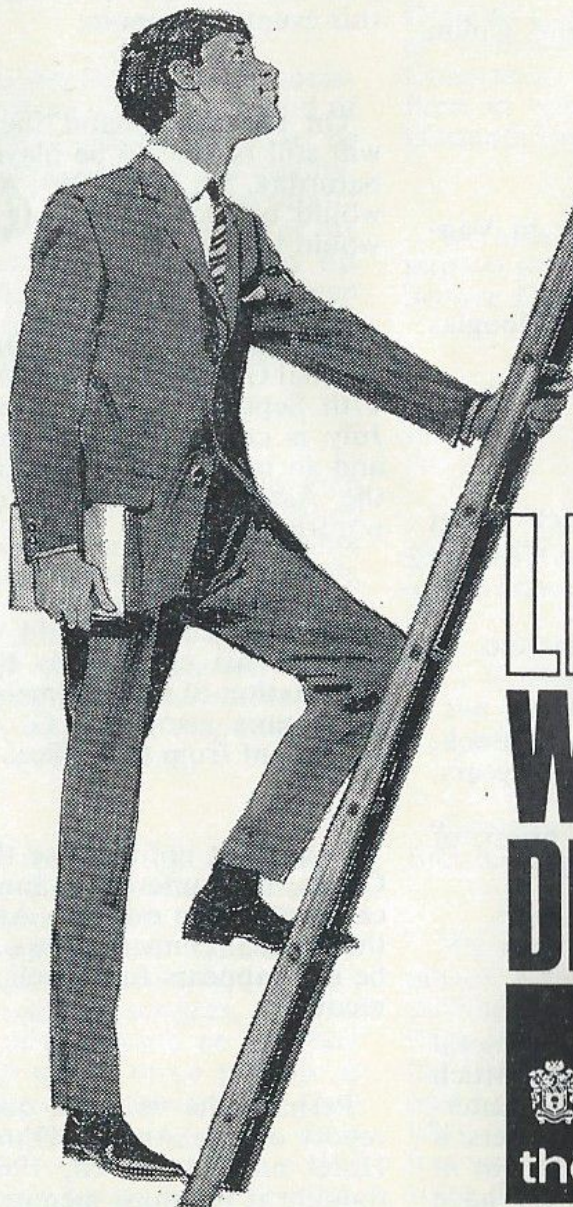
The Association would want to wish E. G. Hall well on his election to the secretaryship of The Association of Old Hulmeians in London and at the same time also wish G. W. Creasey well in his retirement from this office.

It is most unfortunate that our President W. T. Curtis, has suffered so long from a painful illness causing him to miss the Annual Dinner Dance and the Annual Dinner and we are pleased to know that he now appears to be well on the road to complete recovery.

Perhaps the writer is quite the wrong person to report on the Annual Dinner held at the Midland Hotel on 8th March, 1969 but he and his wife thought it the most memorable occasion and would like to thank all members most sincerely for their

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hospitality, generosity and above all, their friendship. A letter of thanks appears elsewhere in this magazine but words alone cannot adequately express their feeling towards the Association. Next year's Dinner will be held at the Midland Hotel on Saturday, 14th March, 1970.

These may well be the last notes written by the undersigned for the magazine but he would like to express his appreciation for the support he has always received from all members of the Association over such a long period of time.

ERIC BARNES

THE ANNUAL DINNER 1969

The Annual Dinner of the Association was held at the Midlands Hotel on the evening of 8th March. In many ways the evening was exactly the same as similar functions held in the past. There is a tradition of toasts and responses which was faithfully observed, with a distinguished Old Boy, Professor D. R. Wood proposing the toast of the School, to which the Headmaster replied with a forthright attack on the dangerous growth of educational slogans which, if not misleading, are often meaningless. The toast of the Association was proposed by D. H. Griffiths, the recently elected Chairman of the governing body of the School, in his own inimitable style, to which Alan Robinson, deputising for a bed-ridden Bill Curtis, replied.

So far the evening seemed to be following its traditional course although, in fact, all those present knew that this was to be one of the most memorable nights in the history of the Association. For the main event of the dinner was to mark the retirement of Eric Barnes from the secretaryship of the Association, and it was fitting that Mrs. Barnes should be present as a guest of the O.H.A. as a mark of appreciation for her unfailing support of Eric and for her own contributions to the life of the Association, not to mention its membership!

Alan Robinson rose again to propose the toast of "The Guests" and went on to speak of the unrivalled work that Eric, the evening's guest of honour, had done for the Association for so many years. After presenting Mrs. Barnes with a bouquet he went on to make the presentations which the Association had chosen to mark the occasion—to Eric and his wife, jointly, a silver rose-bowl, and then to Eric a carved wooden shield with a silver crest and inscription and a book containing the names of those who had subscribed to the presentation.

Those of us who were present will long remember Eric's almost visible fight with emotion as he rose to reply; he not only thanked the Association for its presentations but also paid generous tribute to all those who over the years had shared with him in the life and fellowship of the School and of the Association. He ended his speech with the words of George Eliot which he had seen, appropriately enough, quoted in a recent number of *The Hulmeian*: "What do we live for if it is not to make life a little less difficult to each other?"

So ended a truly memorable evening; we wish Eric and his wife a long and happy retirement and extend to them both our warmest thanks.

The Editor,
The Hulmeian,

11th March, 1969

Dear Sir,

Please will you find space in the next edition of the School magazine to convey a message to members of The Old Hulmeians Association.

I should like to thank them all for their support and help, their kindness and above all, their friendship during my long term of office.

That they should wish to acknowledge my service in such a generous way was totally unexpected but nevertheless greatly appreciated and the presentation at the Annual Dinner on 8th March, 1969 is an occasion of which my wife and I will forever cherish the happiest of memories.

The very beautiful rose bowl and the magnificent shield are among our proudest possessions and together with the handsome book, listing the subscribers, will aid us in the future to remember with great affection our friends the Old Boys.

The warmth of your welcome to my wife and myself at the dinner will never be forgotten and the wonderful bouquet provided yet another highlight to a truly memorable evening.

Thank you all so much.

Yours very sincerely,

ERIC BARNES

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Q "Do I need to be good at maths?"

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Q "Will it be fun?"

A Well, people won't exactly be doing handsprings and blowing up coloured balloons all over the place. But they will be earning good money to buy clothes and holidays. Independence is fun. And so is working with bright and friendly people. And so is dealing with peoples' affairs. This is what banking is all about.

Q "Okay, what qualifications do I need?"

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passes in these "O".....
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THERE WAS ONLY EVER ONE TRANSITION THREE

and that was fifty years ago!

In September, 1919 thirty boys assembled in what was Room 7 at the then Hulme Grammar School. They were a motley collection with an unusually wide variation of age within one form. The writer was eleven, nearly twelve, at the time and there were boys of nearly thirteen and others of ten yet they had one strong bond in common—they were all 'new kids'.

Perhaps it would help to paint the picture were some of the circumstances of that era remembered. The effects of World War One were still apparent and there was an acute shortage of teachers—there were at least six form masters during the year but the one who will be remembered and who stayed longest was Mr. B. J. ('Paddy') Roche who also taught us French. There were also several lady teachers, 'Daisy' Gordon and 'Ma' Caiger being two who come to mind.

The School itself consisted of only the Old Hall and the classrooms adjoining the New Hall which was then about three-quarters of its present size. In other words there was no Science Block, Gymnasium, Sixth Form Centre nor dining room Block and the playing field ended where the pavilion now is but there was then no pavilion. Association football, lacrosse and cricket were the games played. At that corner of the ground nearest to the Y.M.C.A. and Princess Road was the 'pit' the size of a football pitch and at the diagonally opposite corner was the 'top ground' also the size of a football pitch. During the ensuing years the 'top ground' was levelled by moving the soil, a barrowload at a time, into the pit. The boys did most of this work themselves, two Houses in turn each Wednesday and Saturday being detailed for 'digging' but one wonders just what weight was moved personally by Mr. Trevor Dennis who attended every session.

The School drew most of its five hundred pupils from Whalley Range or Chorlton and the handful of boys who came by train to Alexandra Park Station (later Wilbraham Road Station and now closed) were regarded almost as foreigners. The Headmaster was the Reverend William Alexander Parker Mason to be replaced a year later by Mr. Trevor Dennis. The School has always been blessed with a nucleus of long serving stalwart assistant masters and 1919 was no exception. Messrs. J. Dorrans, J. I. Franklin, E. G. W. Hewlett, C. E. Kelsey and J. W. (Pete) Morley will be well remem-

bered as the elders with Messrs. F. Adams, B. Brockbank, E. E. Dentith Davies, A. O. Gatley, A. L. Powell and the Rev. W. H. Thomson of a younger generation lending wonderful support. Messrs. H. R. W. Anderson, W. A. Brierley and J. W. D. McConnell all fresh from the forces were new masters that year and Mr. J. A. Barber had only been secretary for seventeen years.

There were no houses between the School and the 'Jam' College and Springbridge Road was no more than a cinder track. Many boys walked to and from School four times a day going home to lunch. The tram fare from Chorlton to School was one half-penny.

Apart from School teams, games were not very well organised and it was possible to join in a game of football without changing. P.T. was carried out in the Old Hall under Sergeant Major Johnson (Johnnie) but one only took off one's jacket or jersey and changed into gym shoes to take part.

It would be possible to go on reminiscing at great length, but in bringing these notes to an end one must remark that, although at the time it was not realised, the School was on the threshold of tremendous progress and development growing into the magnificent School we know today.

It is remarkable that of the original thirty boys, approaching half of them are still members of The Old Hulmeians Association and there is never a function at which the old form is not well represented.

The names of the boys in Transition III in alphabetical order were:—

K. W. Adams, A. Allman, A. V. Barlow, E. Barnes, G. Black, C. R. Chaloner, W. J. Cooke, R. A. Deas, J. E. Ellis, J. E. Fielding, G. E. Green, R. G. Green, R. H. Green, G. O. Hackett, F. L. Horn, W. E. Kay, W. Liggett, A. P. Longshaw, F. Robinson, A. P. Ryder, E. Sharples, J. Shaw, J. E. Shortland, P. M. Smith, C. A. Spencer, R. Thom, J. Watson, D. J. Welsh, J. H. Winskill and W. B. Withers.

The Annual Reunion Dinner will be held at School on Wednesday, 17th September, 1969 which would seem to be an occasion when the members of Transition III get together again for a Golden Jubilee Reunion on almost the exact date they first met in 1919.

ERIC BARNES

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OLD HULMEIANS RUGBY SECTION

'We are not now that strength which in old days
Moved earth and heaven; that which we are: we are;
One equal temper of heroic hearts,
Made weak by time and fate, but strong in will
To strive, to seek, to find and not to yield.'

TENNYSON

I am writing these notes in the early hours of Saturday morning. We have just finished entertaining Pontyberem R.U.F.C., Llanelli. The last Welshman has recently departed pointing vaguely in the direction of his hotel. A disappointing evening, really—they didn't appear to have any class tenors in their party, not a 'Land of My Fathers' all night, and it was quite late before they would attempt 'Cwm Rhondda'. The game?—oh, that was quite entertaining. National honour was satisfied—a 6-6 draw and two Welshmen taken to hospital for treatment. P. Cavanah, our winger, had a disappointing evening—two dashes, one of 75 yards and another of 50 yards, were robbed of their just reward.

Earlier this season I ventured to suggest that the new laws would mean higher scoring, and that our record number of points scored in the '50-'51 season might be in danger. We have not quite bettered that season, although I think that our fixture-list was a little easier in those days when we still had chopping-blocks like the R.A.P.C. and Kersal 'A'.

The comparison is as follows:—

| | P | W | L | D | For | Ags. |
|---------|----|----|----|---|-----|------|
| '50-'51 | 29 | 22 | 5 | 2 | 331 | 133 |
| '68-'69 | 30 | 16 | 12 | 2 | 326 | 308 |

With one game still to be played at the time of writing, the record could still be broken.

The high-lights since the last edition have been a 19-0 victory over Old Rochdaliens and another, 14-0, against Toc H (although the latter was disappointing in the second half), while our 17-30 defeat against Sale 'A' was a most exciting and entertaining game. At one stage we had scored two tries and Sale three, all near the touch line, but Freddie Griffiths had converted all theirs. This, together with the ability of Sale's left wing, proved

to be the decisive factor. We did score two memorable tries, one of which, scored by Hanson after a 70 yard run, was in a way his own undoing. En route he sold the above-mentioned Griffiths a beautiful dummy; he tried it again a second time in the second half, but this time it was not bought, and Danny was incapacitated for the rest of the game. The second try was scored by G. Peart after a lightning dash from a set scrum twenty yards out which caught all the Sale defence flat footed. Once again, the whole team played themselves out and it was all they could do to draw breath in the dressing-room for some time.

The lowest point of the season was reached against Old Salians where we lost 3-8. For the first time in my life I nearly left a game before no-side—my notes are vitriolic. We had no will to win and all expertise had been left behind. There would have been more zest in a Tubby Hubbies Tiddleywink Club outing.

The 'A' XV presents a problem even to write about. It is permanently under strength. It includes players who are really asked to play a grade or two above their capacity, and consequently it is quite frequently on the receiving end of a severe mauling. That it comes up smiling week by week is some tribute to the character of the chaps involved. There is only one basic answer—regular readers by now know my *cri-de-coeur*. Those who don't, come to Brantingham Road and I will explain.

The Griffins were not so successful in the second half of the season until Easter, when they 'came good'. A victory against Lymm, whose Colts were unbeaten, moved the Lymm Committee to write to us to say it was unfair of us to send such a team to play a Colts side. There was a certain smug satisfaction in replying that they were beaten by a genuine all schoolboy Colts XV.

The Club Dinner at the Willows was an unqualified success—we seem to have more eaters and drinkers than players in the Section. The only note of regret was the absence of the President who lay on his sick-bed. We would remind him training starts on 1st August.

To those of us who still dream dreams, it was a pleasure to offer our facilities to the Lacrosse Club at the end of their season, and to have both sections operating at the same place at the same time.

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Lastly, I have been asked to mention that vice-captain C. Wilde was the only player with 100% record this season. I was, of course, asked to mention this by C. Wilde, who claims he has never seen his name in print after years of faithful service. He has hooked very well and only once have I seen him worsted—and that should keep me in beer and cigarettes next season!

One last piece of information. We were the beaten finalists in the Toc H Sevens. We can sympathise with Leicester City.

MUDDIED OAF.

OLD HULMEIANS LACROSSE SECTION

The 1968-69 season draws to a close. For the first time since the war, the first team look like finishing outside the first four in the first division. "What went wrong?" is the universal cry. John Williams, our new captain for 1969-70, is determined to remedy the situation. Regular training sessions are to be a feature of next season's programme and increased effort in recruitment will be made.

We are losing three of our most promising players, namely Graham Simpson, Eric Broadhurst and Howard Burnside. Sheffield University is delighted, but they will be sorely missed on the Old Boys' attacks.

The tale of woe told by the first team is fortunately not echoed by the other sides in the club.

The 'A' team came as close as any side can do to winning the Junior Flags. Less than one minute from the end of a closely contested final we led Cheadle by the odd goal in fifteen. A loss of possession followed by a goalmouth scrummage resulted in the equalising goal. The final whistle came before the ball was back in play. Heavy pressure by Cheadle in extra time enabled them to run out winners by 13 goals to 9.

Cheadle have proved too good for us in the league also, and we have to be content with a probable second place. However, despite never having fielded the same team in consecutive weeks, mainly owing to frenzied efforts to build a successful first team, the 'A' can be well pleased with their performance.

The Extra 'A' have gained promotion to the third division and celebrated their elevation with a gay

evening at an Inn, set among the Derbyshire Hills. The careless abandon of this occasion does not reflect the careful plotting and scheming by the architects of this success, Rod Paulson, Dave Thornley and Company.

David Flunder as skipper of the 'B' may yet lead his side into the fourth division. This colourful team has fought with great spirit throughout the season. It comprises the greatest contrasts in styles in the club, ranging from the grace and old world skill of Messrs. Barber, Martin and Flunder to the busy harrying of Ian Buckland and Andy Leak. We must not forget in this catalogue the efforts of that gentle giant and vice-captain elect, Paul Norris. Results to date:—

| | P | W | D | L | For | Ag. |
|----------------|----|----|---|---|-----|-----|
| 1st Team | 17 | 10 | 0 | 7 | 120 | 94 |
| 'A' Team | 19 | 15 | 0 | 4 | 176 | 92 |
| Extra 'A' Team | 18 | 15 | 1 | 2 | 171 | 79 |
| 'B' Team | 19 | 13 | 0 | 6 | 172 | 102 |

At the A.G.M. our Chairman, Eric Barnes, reported an extremely successful season socially, but regretted that results on the field had been disappointing in some sectors.

Alan Marsland has relinquished his duties as Chief Enforcer, or Team Secretary as the position is sometimes termed. The club is indebted to him for his sustained efforts over the past five years. These have resulted in the provision of four full sides on a Saturday afternoon when there were, on occasion, apparently less than 48 players to call upon.

Paul Marlton has taken over this task and all players are asked to co-operate fully in making it as easy as possible.

Once again I would appeal to University and School leavers to join the section. If you are interested please do not hesitate to write or telephone me, Dave Lomas, at 9 New Hall Avenue, Heald Green, Cheadle, Cheshire. Tel.: 437-6733.

OLD HULMEIANS MOTOR CLUB

We have continued our winter programme of monthly meetings in the Clubhouse with film shows and a quiz, and in early April held our first outdoor meeting of the year, a Sunday afternoon visit to a private collection of old cars in Rossendale.

Amongst the cars seen were a Phantom I and Phantom III Rolls-Royce, the latter in daily use; a 1903 Wolseley which regularly does the London-Brighton run, and a 1910 Rover which will be on the Blackpool run this year on 1st June. There were also four different Healeys, built before their name became connected with Mr. Austin, a 1936 Bentley, and various others. For motorcycle fiends there was a Scott and a Sunbeam, and a pennyfarthing was discovered in one corner. The collection was completed by an old fire engine, alleged to be in full working order, apart from having Tetley's mild in its emergency tank.

The Summer programme is to continue with a visit to a tramway museum and a stately home. If you are interested please contact F. E. Pickup, 19 Wenlock Road, Leigh, Lancs.

OLD HULMEIANS RIFLE CLUB

We are glad to report that we are once more on a 'winning streak'. The first team, competing in the County Postal League, were first in their division, winning twelve out of their fourteen matches, with the two matches lost conceded by only a single point in each case. The second team, weakened by lack of club members and by illness, have managed to win only four of their nine matches in the National League; one new member shot for the team as a substitute after only a few practice cards and before we had sufficient cards to give him an average score to submit!

We were sorry to lose Bill Curtis half-way through the term and hope that he does not blame his back trouble on the cold evenings we have spent on the range. His absence has emphasised our urgent need of recruits and reserve team members, and we hope to see more new members this term.

The usual two members will again be travelling to Bisley in June, and we are still involved in the National Team Handicap Knock-Out Competition.

A. WILSON

260 Brooklands Road, Manchester 23

OLD HULMEIANS MASONIC LODGE No. 7062

We had another convivial and very enjoyable Ladies Evening at the Embassy Rooms, Sale, on 12th April 1969, when W.M. Ronald, E. Kemp and Mrs. Kemp were hosts to some 160 members, guests and friends.

Ralph B. Cowin was received into the Lodge in February, another very welcome member from the School Staff.

Hon. Sec.

Percy M. Smith,
30 Milton Crescent,
Cheadle, Cheshire

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

The Association held the Annual Supper Dance in March at the Embassy Rooms, Sale. There was a good attendance—a welcome indication of support after the somewhat disappointing figures at the Dinner Dance—and we had the pleasure of the company of the staff and their guests. During the evening we gave parents the opportunity of voting for their preference as regards future social functions. The committee has considered the ballot and will be presenting a rather different programme next year.

When these notes appear our Annual General Meeting followed by the Cheese and Wine Evening will have taken place. Because his son is no longer at School, Mr. McGlue, our Treasurer, is not

seeking re-election. We thank him for all the work he has done on behalf of the Association.

The swimming pool is again open to Parents on Tuesday evenings between 7.00 p.m. and 9.00 p.m. Now that the summer weather is coming—summer does come some years—you can take advantage of the swimming facilities at the School, and the facilities are really good.

Our best wishes to all the boys leaving in July. We wish them every success in the years to come.

Hon. Secretary, Maurine E. McKeon, 8 St. Brannocks Road, Manchester M21 1UP. (Tel.: 061-881 4942.)

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