

THE HULMEIAN



The HULMEIAN

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School Notes and News

We have to thank Mr. J. A. Barber for kindly presenting a prize to the Preparatory Department.

R. K. Gibson and B. S. Knowles have been appointed School Prefects this term.

At the end of this term we have to say a very reluctant good-bye to Mr. W. Robinson, who has accepted an appointment at Downside School, Bath. During the seven years he has been with us he has taken an active and keen interest in all aspects of the School Sports. He has also been in charge of the R.E.M.E. Section of the C.C.F. He will take with him everyone's good wish that he will be as happy in his new post as he has been with us.

It is with great pleasure that we welcome to the School, Mr. I. H. Watts, M.A. (St. Peter's Hall,

Oxford). Mr. Watts gained a First Class Honours degree in Geography at Oxford, where he also gained his Blue for Rugby Football. He has also played cricket for Cheshire.

We congratulate P. Marlton on gaining an Open Scholarship in Science at Manchester University.

Calendar for Michaelmas Term :—

Michaelmas Term will begin on Tuesday, September 14th at 9-15 a.m.

Mid-term holiday will be on October 29th, 30th and November 1st.

The Christmas Holidays will begin on Tuesday, December 21st at noon.

We gratefully acknowledge the receipt this term of *The Gryphon*, *The Lidunian*, *The Savilian*, *The Stopfordian*, *Ulula*, *The Waconian* and *The Wallaseyan*.

The Athletic Sports

The School Athletic Sports Meeting was held on Thursday, April 8th. It was a dull grey day ; but the gentle South-westerly breeze was not sufficiently strong to interfere seriously either with the performances of the competitors or the comfort of the spectators. The ground was firm, but not unduly hard ; in fact, in ideal condition for events.

R. K. Davies, who won the " Gaskell " Cup, broke the record for the long jump, established in 1950, of 19 ft. 8½ ins. with a jump of 20 ft. 3 ins.

C. E. Bryans broke the Mile Record with a time of 4 mins. 40.7 secs. The previous record, set up by S. Plant in 1935 was 4 mins. 46.8 secs.

The 4 × 110 yds. Relay Race record was broken by Dalton House with a time of 47.8 secs. The previous record, held by Fraser, was 50.6 secs.

Other noteworthy performances were P. Marlton's 440 yds. (Open) in 55.8 secs. and J. D. Hague's 440 yds. (Under 16) in 59.2 secs. I. M. Ross distinguished himself in the Under 15 group by winning the 100 yards in 11.7 secs., the 220 yards in 26 secs. and the 85 yards Hurdles in 14.2 secs. In the same group N. V. Barber won the High Jump with a height of 5 ft. 0.5 ins., and in the Under 14 group A. Perry won the corresponding event with a jump of 4 ft. 6 ins.

Throughout the meeting 31 standards were gained. Byrom and Heywood Houses have shown greater enthusiasm and an improved standard of performance.

HIGH JUMP.—Under 14 (4 ft. 6 in.): 1, A. P. H. Perry (H) ; 2, J. M. Thompson (G) ; 3, T. W. Batley (F) ; 4, J. Peats (W) ; 5, P. Harrison (D) ; 6, C. W. Stubbs (W). Under 13 (4 ft. 3 in.): 1, G. P. Mainwaring (B) ; 2, V. H. Lucas (D) ; 3, A. Duckworth (D) ; 4, P. B. Taylor (G) ; 5, P. A. Gee (W) ; 6, J. B. Parkinson & D. Paton (B). Under 15 (5 ft. 0½ ins.): 1, N. V. Barber (W) ; 2, E. R. Birch (W) ; 3, I. W. Rodger (W) ; 4, J. W. Fearon (W) ; 5, P. I. Boaler (W) ; 6, H. G. Birks (D). Under 16 (4 ft. 9½ ins.): 1, P. A. Gabbott (F) ; 2, P. Bee (H) ; 3, A. M. Fish (W) ; 4, T. J. Bush (G) ; 5, C. H. F. Turner (F) ; 6, A. Clark (H). Open (4 ft. 11 ins.): 1, C. F. Rushworth (F) ; 2, N. R. Watson (F) ; 3, B. H. Blakely (D) ; 4, G. T. Skelding (W) ; 5, D. Andrew (W) ; 6, A. Mathias (B) and I. M. Stewart (G).

880 YARDS.—Open (2 min. 10.6/10 secs.): 1, C. E. Bryans (D) ; 2, P. Marlton (D) ; 3, D. S. Norbury (D) ; 4, G. N. Leah (H) ; 5, A. C. Morris (B) ; 6, C. B. Hamnett (D).

LONG JUMP.—Under 14 (15 ft. 3 ins.): 1, A. Gresty (B) ; 2, R. G. Harrison (D) and A. P. H. Perry (H) ; 4, B. Weinholt (G) ; 5, D. Hallard (F) ; 6, E. C. Miles (B). Under 13 (13 ft. 7 ins.): 1, I. M.

Lawless (W) ; 2, P. J. Brisbourne (B) ; 3, B. Hayes (G) ; 4, M. J. Friend (G) and D. B. Heap (D) ; 6, H. A. Thomas (H). Under 15 (15 ft. 5 ins.): 1, J. W. Fearon (W) ; 2, N. V. Barber (W) ; 3, I. W. Rodger (W) ; 4, B. J. Holland (F) ; 5, T. H. Toon (D) ; 6, T. Craven (B). Under 16 (16 ft. 2½ ins.): 1, M. Lord (G) ; 2, C. G. Silcock (D) ; 3, A. Brooks (D) ; 4, D. G. Wright (D) ; 5, P. Bee (H) ; 6, P. G. Arnfield (W).

PUTTING THE 12 lbs. SHOT.—Open (34 ft. 2 ins.): 1, R. K. Robertson (F) ; 2, W. Newey (G) ; 3, P. J. Richards (G) ; 4, M. Credland (B) ; 5, G. T. Skelding (W) ; 6, D. Wilde (W).

THROWING THE JAVELIN.—Under 16 (94 ft. 5 ins.): 1, D. Gill (W) ; 2, P. Bee (H) ; and T. J. Bush (G) ; 4, A. C. Edwards (D).

LONG JUMP.—Open (20 ft. 3 ins. Record) : 1, R. K. Davies (D) ; 2, C. F. Rushworth (F) ; 3, D. S. Norbury (D) ; 4, K. Harding (B) ; 5, D. Wilde (W) ; 6, B. H. Blakeley (D).

100 YARDS.—Open (11.2/10 secs.): 1, R. K. Davies (D) ; 2, K. Harding (B) ; 3, C. F. Rushworth (F) ; 4, P. J. Richards (G) ; 5, R. K. Gibson (D) ; 6, D. Wilde (W). Under 16 (11.9/10 secs.): 1, A. M. Fish (W) ; 2, C. G. Silcock (D) ; 3, F. P. Haslam (D) ; 4, J. D. Hague (B) ; 5, R. I. Buckland (G) ; 6, R. E. Williams (G). Under 15 (11.7/10 secs.): 1, I. M. Ross (W) ; 2, R. J. Wood (H) ; 3, M. L. Lockey (D) ; 4, G. S. Phillips (H) ; 5, T. W. Woodward (H) ; 6, D. A. Price (D). Under 14 (12½ secs.): 1, R. G. Harrison (D) ; 2, G. Thorpe (D) ; 3, N. M. Parr (F) ; 4, T. W. Batley (F) ; 5, J. M. Thompson (G) ; 6, Eccleston (D). Under 13 (13.3/10 secs.): 1, M. J. Friend (G) ; 2, P. J. Brisbourne (B) ; 3, G. N. Bromiley and V. H. Lucas (D) ; 5, D. W. Ogden (H) ; 6, I. M. Lawless (W).

THROWING THE JAVELIN.—Open (123 ft. 2½ ins.): 1, R. K. Gibson (D) ; 2, C. E. Bryans (D) ; 3, M. S. Blackburn (W) ; 4, R. A. Dearden (D) ; 5, I. J. G. Bryce (W) ; 6, J. A. G. Rimmer (D).

ONE MILE.—Open (4 mins. 40.4/10 secs.): 1, C. E. Bryans (D) ; 2, K. L. Kilbey (G) ; 3, K. J. Hinson (D) ; 4, H. M. Greenhalgh (W) ; 5, G. N. Leah (H) ; W. G. Scarlett (W).

220 YARDS.—Open 24.4/10 secs.): 1, R. K. Davies (D) ; 2, K. Harding (B) ; 3, W. Newey (G) ; 4, J. Davis (F) ; 5, R. K. Gibson (D) ; 6, B. Cartwright (H). Under 16 (26½ secs.): 1, C. G. Silcock (D) ; 2, J. D. Hague (B) ; 3, F. P. Haslam (D) ; 4, R. E. Williams (G). Under 15 (26 secs.): 1, I. M. Ross (W) ; 2, N. V. Barber (W) ; 3, R. J. Wood (H) ; 4, G. S. Phillips (H) ; 5, T. W. Woodward (H) ; 6, D. A. Price (D). Under 14 (28 secs.): 1, R. G. Harrison ; 2, H. R. Macallum (B) ; 3, A. P. H. Perry (H) ; 4, N. M. Parr (F) ; 5, T. W. Batley (F) ; 6, P. S. Harrison (D). Under 13 (31½ secs.): 1, M. J. Friend (G) ; 2, V. H. Lucas (D) ; 3, P. A. Gee (W) ; 4, D. A. Wolfendale (D) ; 5, D. B. Heap (D) ; 6, W. D. Yale (H).

PUTTING THE 8 lbs. SHOT.—Under 16 (35 ft.): 1, M. Lord (G); 2, C. G. McDiarmid (F); 3, T. D. Scott (H); 4, T. L. Venables (B); 5, T. J. Bush (G); 6, D. G. Wright (H).

120 YARDS HURDLES.—Open (20.3/10 secs.): 1, R. K. Robertson (F); 2, P. J. Richards (G); 3, G. T. Denton (D); 4, B. H. Blakeley (D).

440 YARDS.—Under 16 (59.1/5 secs.): 1, J. D. Hague (B); 2, T. L. Venables (B); 3, T. D. Scott (H); 4, D. S. Armstrong (H); 5, D. Gill (W); 6, C. J. Chesny (B).

120 YARDS HURDLES.—Under 16 (20.4/5 secs.): 1, P. A. Gabbott (F); 2, A. M. Fish (W); 3, P. Broughton (D).

85 YARDS HURDLES.—Under 15 (14.1/5 secs.): 1, I. M. Ross (W); 2, I. W. Rodger (W); 3, J. W. Fearon (W); 4, B. J. Holland (F).

440 YARDS.—Open (55.4/10 secs.): 1, P. Marlton (D); 2, D. S. Norbury (D); 3, R. K. Robertson (F); 4, M. S. Blackburn (W); 5, A. C. Morris (B); 6, M. Williams (W).

HOUSE RELAY RACE.—4 × 400 Yards Under 16 (4 min. 29.3/5 secs.): 1, Byrom; 2, Fraser; 3, Gaskell; 4, Heywood. 4 × 440 Yards Open (4 min. 9.2/5 secs.): 1, Dalton; 2, Whitworth; 3, Byrom; 4, Fraser. 4 × 110 yards Under 14 (61.2/5 secs.): 1, Byrom; 2, Whitworth; 3, Gaskell; 4, Fraser. 4 × 110 yards Under 13 (62.3/5 secs.): 1, Dalton; 2, Gaskell; 3, Byrom; 4, Heywood. 4 × 100 yards Under 15 (52½ secs.): 1, Whitworth; 2, Byrom; 3, Heywood; 4, Dalton. 4 × 110 yards Under 16 (54.3/5 secs.): 1, Dalton; 2, Whitworth; 3, Gaskell; 4, Fraser. 4 × 110 yards Open (47.4/5 secs. Record): 1, Dalton; 2, Fraser; 3, Byrom; 4, Gaskell.

FINAL HOUSE POINTS.—Byrom, 129; Dalton, 263½; Fraser, 115½; Gaskell, 116; Heywood, 88½; Whitworth, 176½ points.

GASKELL CUP.—R. K. Davies.

CARDWELL CUP.—A. M. Fish and C. G. Silcock.

DONNER CUP.—I. M. Ross.

CHINA CUP.—R. G. Harrison.

ATHLETIC SHIELD.—Dalton House.

CAPTAIN OF ATHLETICS FOR 1954.—R. K. Davies.

The Northern Schools Athletic Championship

The Northern Schools Athletics Championship was held at the White City, Manchester, on Saturday, 15th May.

The School entered for the first time and was represented by the following team: R. K. Davies

(Captain), C. E. Bryans, P. J. Richards, K. Harding, D. S. Norbury, P. Marlton, K. J. Hinson, R. K. Gibson, G. F. Rushworth, D. Wilde, R. K. Robertson, W. G. Scarlett, B. H. Blakeley.

C. E. Bryans was placed second in the mile, being five feet behind the winner whose time was four minutes, thirty-five and nine-tenths seconds. Among other competitors, D. S. Norbury won his heat in the 440 yards and R. K. Gibson was placed in the Final of the Javelin event. The School came third in the 660 yards Relay Race.

There were 57 schools from seven counties competing in the Championship which was won by Birkenhead. The School was placed thirteenth in order.

Colours for Athletics were awarded to the following: R. K. Davies (Captain), C. E. Bryans, K. Harding, D. S. Norbury, P. Marlton, G. F. Rushworth and R. K. Gibson.

Cross-Country Running

Training began just before Christmas, when we took some gentle runs round the School Field. In the Lent Term and under the able direction of Mr. Pentelow, we started training in earnest. Three times a week we paced round the perimeter of the School Grounds, and on several occasions we went through Alexandra Park.

Our main objective was to take part in the Northern Schools' Cross-Country Race, to be held this year at Heaton Park, on the 20th March.

A fortnight before the day, competition to participate in the race was strong, so a four-and-a-half-mile elimination race was organised, and the first six men home formed the team.

To gain experience, we went for a run in the Peak District of Derbyshire on the 10th March, and were entertained to tea by Mr. Renny. Having by now encountered hills and dales, crossed open moorland and stone walls, we were feeling in better shape.

At last the great day came, and in due course the team arrived at Heaton Park along with about 300 other competitors. Soon we were down at the Start, and after a few minutes wait, we were off. Those of us who had no previous experience were astonished at the speed of the start, in spite of what we had been told. This terrific speed continued for the first quarter mile or so, and then the race settled down to a steady run. Up hills and down, along sandy paths, through gates, across a bridge, and over a ploughed field we traversed the countryside. Continuing the run, we went through a wood, round a lake and along a winding road. The next mile or so was over the undulating edge of a golf course. At long last the finish came in sight, the

crowd grew thicker and more intense, and eventually we found ourselves in a long and semi-exhausted line of boys all having numbers taken.

Our team was placed forty-first in the finishing order, and this being our second attempt, was a definite improvement on last year. Next year's race will be at Winton, Eccles, on the 19th March. My advice to would-be aspirants is to start training early, certainly before the end of the Christmas Term.

The School was represented by the following team: W. G. Scarlett (Captain), J. M. Broadbridge, D. S. Armstrong, A. C. Morris, H. M. Greenhalgh, and A. H. Brazendale.

The Preparatory School Sports

The Preparatory School Sports were held on the School Field on Thursday, June 24th. Contrary to their general experience they were exceedingly fortunate in the weather, for they luckily hit upon one of the few fine, warm afternoons we experienced this June. A programme of very varied events was carried out with the usual efficiency. Variety was also evident in the choice of prizes, kindly distributed after the events were over, by Mrs. Wolstenholme. Before recording the results below, we must thank Mr. G. C. Roberts for the kind loan of equipment for the Obstacle Race.

Chariot Race.—11 Years: 1, M. T. M. Hannant and D. G. Moore; 2, W. R. Allman and D. Denison; 3, J. C. Wright and H. J. C. Whitehead. 10 Years: 1, R. Widdows and I. A. Pitt; 2, A. J. Gribble and C. Lomas; 3, C. W. Dearden and D. C. Roberts; 9 Years: 1, T. A. Manning and M. E. Eastwood; 2, P. H. Miller and D. B. Graham; 3, R. P. Bishop and D. G. Smart. 8 and 7 Years: 1, P. A. Merriman and J. A. Ballinger; 2, M. E. Beattie and R. E. M. Lee; 3, I. M. C. Crewe and G. R. Roberts.

Kangaroo Race.—6 Years: 1, R. W. Maskell; 2, G. N. Henderson; 3, A. R. Campbell. 5 Years: 1, G. J. Dent; 2, M. T. Cope; 3, P. J. Allman.

Throwing the Ball.—11 Years: 1, A. H. Williamson, 31 ft. 3 in.; 2, D. Denison; 3, W. R. Allman. 10 Years: 1, D. C. Roberts, 31 ft. 3½ in.; 2, I. A. Pitt; 3, C. D. Cooke. 9 Years: 1, R. P. Bishop, 33 ft.; 2, N. Paton; 3, E. Roberts. 8 and 7 Years: 1, M. E. Beattie, 27 ft. 11 in.; 2, J. A. Ballinger; 3, R. E. M. Lee.

Slow Bicycle.—11 Years: K. H. Tierney; 2, J. C. Wright; 3, D. G. Moore. 10 Years: 1, D. Roberts; 2, C. D. Cooke; 3, J. V. Hill; 9, 8 and 7 Years: 1, J. A. D. Dixon; 2, P. H. Miller; 3, C. H. Templar.

Jack and Jill.—6 Years: 1, D. N. Turner and R. W. Maskell; 2, J. Miller and J. B. Capstick;

3, A. R. Campbell and G. N. Henderson.; 5 Years: 1, G. J. Dent and R. J. Whiteside; 2, R. J. Wood and P. J. Allman; 3, A. D. Crewe and M. T. Cope.

Egg and Spoon.—9 Years: 1, N. Paton; 2, P. K. Kenneth; 3, J. C. S. Clegg; 8 and 7 Years: 1, J. Cheney; 2, J. N. Nesbitt; 3, H. P. Dangerfield.

Visitors' Race.—3 Years: 1, Janet Campbell; 2, Alison Woodhead; 4 Years: 1, Robert Eastwood; 2, Dennis Bishop.

Flower Pot.—11 Years: 1, P. P. Constantine; 2, D. W. Parkinson; 3, A. H. Williamson; 10 Years: 1, J. H. Openshaw; 2, C. W. Dearden; 3, G. S. Martin.

Washing Day.—6 Years: 1, A. R. Campbell; 2, C. J. N. Henderson; 3, N. C. Parker; 5 Years: 1, P. J. Allman; 2, R. N. Curry; 3, G. Dent.

Flat.—11 Years: 1, D. G. Moore; 2, A. H. Williamson; 3, K. H. Tierney; 10 Years: 1, I. A. Pitt; 2, C. W. Dearden; 3, R. Widdows; 9 Years: 1, D. B. Graham; 2, T. A. Manning; 3, R. P. Bishop; 8 and 7 Years: 1, P. A. Merriman; 2, J. H. Woodhead; 3, J. A. Ballinger; 6 Years: 1, D. N. Turner; 2, R. W. Maskell; 3, D. H. Assar; 5 Years: 1, P. J. Allman; 2, A. D. Crewe; 3, G. Dent.

Obstacle.—11 Years: 1, M. G. M. Hannant; 2, A. B. Gillanders; 3, J. C. Wright; 10 Years: 1, I. A. Pitt; 2, A. J. Gribble; 3, C. W. Dearden; 9 Years: 1, N. Paton; 2, E. Roberts; 3, D. W. Stone; 8 Years: 1, M. E. Beattie; 2, G. Roberts; 3, P. G. Rodgers.

House Team.—1, Barrie; 2, Kipling; 3, Kingsley.

High Jump.—11 Years, 1, W. R. Allman, 3 ft. 9 in.; 2, J. C. Wright; 10 Years: 1, I. A. Pitt, 3 ft. 11 in.; 2, C. D. Cooke; 9 Years: 1, P. H. Miller, 3 ft. 5 in.; 2, E. Roberts and D. B. Graham; 8 and 7 Years: 1, J. H. Woodhead, 3 ft. 5 in.; 2, M. E. Beattie and I. Crewe.

Twelves Challenge Cup.—10 years and over.—I. A. Pitt (14 points).

Davies Cup.—Under 10 and Over 8 Years.—M. E. Beattie (10 points).

Shield.—Under 8 Years.—P. J. Allman.

House Shield.—Kipling (79 points); Kingsley (75).

The Donner Library

Recently, a most generous donation of some sixty-nine pounds, the residue of the Old Hulmeians' War Memorial Fund, was made over to the Donner Library. Of this sum nineteen pounds will be spent immediately for the purchase of books, a selection of important works covering a wide range of subjects. The remainder will be invested, and it is hoped to

buy one or two new works with the interest each year. These books will be placed in a separate section of the shelves, marked with a plaque "Old Hulmeians Memorial Shelves." A special book plate will be used for these books.

Since January, 1954, ninety-seven volumes have been added to the Donner Library, including generous gifts from W. A. Baker (6SU), who gave fourteen volumes, F. A. Stone (O.H.); A. D. G. Gunn (O.H.), and Mr. Bonnick. The Borrowing List shows that during the same period one hundred and four Sixth-formers have used seven hundred and thirty books for home study and reading. Unfortunately, there is still a tendency to keep books longer than one week and not to replace them on their proper shelves after using them in the room. A number of books are missing altogether and there is no entry for them in the Borrowing List. These must be returned. The treatment of books is not always as careful as it should be. The importance of observing these few rules—stressed continually—in the interest of all users of the Library cannot be over-emphasised. Sixth-formers, leaving school this term, are requested to return all books, they have borrowed well before the end of term. Some may feel that they would like to commemorate their stay at the School by a gift of one or more volumes, which would be gratefully acknowledged.

The Music Society

Four meetings were held after going to press last term, the first of which was a recital of Beethoven sonatas, the Moonlight, Appassionata and Pathétique, played by Orazio Frugoni. The programme, presented by P. J. Richards, was well received.

On 13th March, B. Bradbury and M. J. Booth gave a recital of modern music by such celebrities as Ted Heath, Les Paul and Doris Day. This meeting also was well attended.

B. H. Blakeley presented the Mikado, by Gilbert and Sullivan, on 21st March. This, as always with Gilbert and Sullivan operas, proved very entertaining.

The final meeting of the term was held on April 3rd, when H. M. Greenhalgh presented his version of Modern Progressive Music. It contained music by Jack Parnell, Jerry Mulligan and Stan Kenton.

Only one meeting has been held so far this term, owing mainly to the G.C. examinations. This meeting, however, was extremely successful and attracted no fewer than forty-two members of the school, the largest attendance of the year. The programme, which was presented by P. J. Richards, was entitled the "Glenn Miller Story," and as it contained much of Glenn's inimitable music, proved to be very popular.

We are hoping to hold a few more meetings before the term ends, to conclude a very successful year.

The Science Society

The Half-Yearly General Meeting of the Society was held this term on Thursday, May 20th, at 4-10 p.m. when a new committee was elected as follows:—

Vice-Chairman—G. G. Ellis.

Secretary—D. Andrew.

Treasurer—I. H. Munro.

Committee—From the Science Sixth: E. A. Rose and T. L. Maunder.

From the Lower Sixth, T. J. Bush.

As there was no member of the Arts Sixth present, none was elected to the Committee.

B. Segal was elected as the new leader of the Meteorological Section and the leadership of the Photographic Section was taken by J. Davis.

There followed a debate on the constitution of the Society. Since an agreement could not be reached it was decided to call an Extraordinary General Meeting later in the term.

During the first half of the term the Society's activities have been limited owing to the proximity of the General Certificate Examinations. At the time of going to press only two meetings have been held, lectures being delivered on both occasions.

On Tuesday, March 16th, at 7-0 p.m., Mr. P. F. Cullerne, of A. V. Roe & Co. Ltd., gave the Society a lecture illustrated with lantern slides on "Aerial Photography." Mr. Cullerne began his talk by telling us of the difficulties they have encountered in constructing a camera suitable for taking air to air photographs. He then showed us photographs of aeroplanes taken from every possible angle and explained how light and shade could effect the final print. There was special interest shown in the photographs of the new delta-wing aircraft.

The second talk was held on Thursday, May 13th, at 7-0 p.m., when Mr. C. Bradley, Head of the Photographic Dept., Shirley Institute, presented a lantern slide lecture on "Photography and Textile Research." He explained, in a very interesting and entertaining talk, how useful photographic methods are in this work, mentioning such special techniques as infra-red and high-speed photography. He brought in a topical note by showing some three-dimensional pictures. Members were afterwards allowed to see some of Mr. Bradley's photographs, including some three-dimensional prints.

Of our two sections (Meteorological and Photographic) the first named is the more active although the Photographic section has been deprived of the use of the dark-room for part of the term.

With regard to the future we hope to hold three meetings before the end of term. The last meeting this term is expected to be an extremely good one as it will be the fiftieth.

The Leonardo da Vinci Society

The last meeting of the Leonardo da Vinci Society took place at the Headmaster's house on March 12th, too late for an account to be included in the last edition of the Hulmeian.

W. A. Baker gave an interesting talk on French music, which he illustrated with numerous records. Having as his starting-point the relative unpopularity of French music in this country, he went on to describe briefly the lives and works of the composers foremost in the French traditions, whom he thought merited a wider audience. A lively and varied discussion followed.

Refreshments were kindly provided by Mrs. Bird, whom the Society again has to thank for her kind hospitality.

At the close of this meeting the Society adjourned for the summer recess.

Swimming

There were good attendances this year at Chorlton Baths for the Friday swimming period, which was arranged for the first and second forms. The non-swimmers received special attention.

The swimming secretary, G. H. Stockdale, has worked enthusiastically, making every effort to arrange swimming matches with other schools.

The match against Manchester Grammar School on Tuesday, May 25th, proved to be a closer one than had been anticipated. Stockdale won the 100 yards free style. I. M. Lawless, the South Manchester District Junior Champion, was just beaten in the 50 yards free style race. We lost the breast stroke and backstroke races; but J. Collinson, R. K. Gibson, J. L. Tatham and C. Swann swam well.

To date, C. Swann is to swim in the final for the J. Dixon Cup and I. Lawless has reached the final for the Judson Cup in the Manchester Schools' Swimming Competition. G. H. Stockdale has been chosen to swim for Manchester Schools in the coming County Championships.

C.C.F. Notes

We say good-bye at the end of Camp to Lt. W. Robinson, who has served with the C.C.F. since he first came to school in 1947. The Signal and R.E.M.E. platoons owe a very great deal to his enthusiastic leadership and technical skill. His going will leave a gap in our ranks, which will be hard to fill. Our loss, however, will be others' gain and we wish him all success and happiness in his new sphere of activity.

At the Certificate "A," Part II Examination, held on 31st May, 1953, the following cadets were found proficient: Cadets Aked, Armstrong, Broughton, Barber, Beaumont, Bethell, Birch, Brooks, Broomhead, Butterworth, Collins, Coleman, Derbyshire, Edge, Edwards, Fish, Hamnett, Hopkinson, Hague, Hinson, Low, Maguire, Mills, Nagler, McDiarmid, Phillips, Ross, Screen, Taylor, West, Wilford, Wilson. No cadet failed to reach the required standard.

On June 30th the Infantry section of the contingent will be engaged on a field-day. A similar exercise has been arranged for the R.E.M.E. section early in July.

The Annual Inspection of the contingent will take place on July 7th. The inspecting officer will be Brigadier R. A. Liddell, C.B.E., A.D.C., D.D. Cadets.

A contingent will move to Purbright, Surrey, for camp on 16th July, and will return on 23rd July.

The Inter-House Shooting Shield was won by Byrom House. The individual cup was won by Cadet Taylor, J. G.

Lacrosse

FIRST TEAM

Four matches were played after the Easter number of the magazine had gone to press.

March 10—v. Manchester University ...H W 16-7

On an unexpectedly warm day we started slowly, and it took us until after half time to begin to play our normal game. At first, the defensive covering and the passing on the attack were equally casual, and our opponents more than held their own. When we settled down seriously, the result was never in doubt.

March 13—v. Cheadle Hulme School ...A L 8-10

This was an excellent game, which we were rather unfortunate to lose. We started playing down the hill, and good quick passing left Marlton room to beat his man and score three times. This was our lead at the end of the first quarter, when we prepared to face the slope. Our defence was playing steadily, and their

forcing down the hill was tirelessly covered by an attack. They made good use of the slope by shooting hard through a crowd, but we were not kept entirely on the defensive, and at half-time the score was 5-5.

Our obvious policy in the third quarter was to score as many goals as possible, so as to have a good lead with which to face the last quarter. We scored two goals quickly, but then Marlton was injured, and was off the field for nearly the whole of the third quarter and part of the last. This weakening of our attack was the turning point, and at the end of the third quarter the score was 7-7. The last quarter was a great fight. They could not break through our defence, but the long shots down the hill were again dangerous, and they scored three times. We scored once more, and three times hit the posts or crossbar with good shots.

Both sides played well and in an excellent spirit.

March 20—v. South Manchester and
Wythenshawe "A "

Final—Lancashire Junior Cup.
Old Hulmeians' Ground. W 19-5

"South" were a strong and experienced side, but their defence could not cope with our pace and the speed and accuracy of our passing. Repeatedly the ball was given to a man running in at full speed, and only the very good goalkeeping kept our score down to 6 at the end of the first quarter. Their defence fell back and played more closely, but still could not hold our attack.

Meanwhile, our defence was not idle. The "South" attack was strong and clever, and led by their Captain, an old County player of great experience and reputation, kept the ball moving well. But they could not shake off the close marking of our defence, and Newey played particularly well on Pennington, their Captain.

An outstanding feature of the game was Marlton's leadership of the attack, which brought the best out of all the others.

After the game, the Cup and badges were presented to our team by Mr. Eric Barnes, O.H., President of the Lancashire County Lacrosse Association.

April 10—v. Old Hulmeians "A" ... H L 10-14

We had looked forward to this match with the champions of the Second Division, but though we had a most pleasant game, we were very disappointed with our own play. Three weeks had passed since our last match, and we never found our real form. The Old Boys were a very well balanced side, strong, very experienced and clever, and much faster than some of our defence expected. The Old Boys' defence, warned of the speed of our attack, played close to goal and covered extremely well, and our attack was never able to draw them out of position. Our defence started

badly, giving the Old Boys altogether too much room, and being very slow to check when a pass was coming. We were 5-11 down at half-time, but in the second half our defence improved and allowed only three more goals. The attack never worked smoothly, and though the ten goals we scored were more than most teams have scored against that defence, we felt that we could have done better.

The team was at full strength for all these games, and was as follows:—

D. H. Tredwell, C. Gee, A. O. Dyson, W. Newey, R. K. Gibson, F. Martin, J. K. Robertson (Vice-Captain), K. L. Kilbey, C. E. Bryans, P. Marlton (Captain), R. E. Williams, D. S. Norbury.

SECOND TEAM

The Second Team have three games to report, of which two were won and one drawn. The drawn game was against Cheadle Hulme School, and the score of 2-2 tells its own story. The defence was sound, but the attack failed to use its chances. The team continued to suffer changes.

RESULTS

March 13—v. Cheadle Hulme School ...H D 2-2
March 27—v. Heaton M. Guild "A" ...A W 16-6
April 10—v. Ashton "B"H W 8-4

UNDER 15 TEAM

The Under 15 won its last two matches, and thus achieved a 100 per cent. record of wins. Our third meeting with Cheadle Hulme School gave us our third win over them, and the return match with Audenshaw resulted in a much more thorough win than the first game. The team was fortunate in its freedom from injury and illness, so that only one change was made throughout the season.

March 20—v. Cheadle Hulme School ...A W 7-1
March 27—v. Audenshaw G.S.H W 21-1

UNDER 14 TEAM

Three games have to be reported, of which the most exciting was the Final of the Juniors' and Schools' Cup. This was against Cheadle Hulme School Under 15 Second, and was played on the Old Hulmeians' ground as a "curtain-raiser" to the final of the Lancashire Junior Cup. Cheadle Hulme were the bigger side, with an age advantage of a year, but our defence was in no way overawed by the size of some of their opponents, and attempts to break through by force were met by firm body checking. Our superior handling gave us possession when the ball was on the ground, and our clearing was generally cool and accurate. Cornes gave very sound support in goal. The importance of the occasion and the presence of a

crowd led to a certain amount of excitement on the attack. Some of their passing was rather wild, and they crowded goal too much, but they played with great dash and enthusiasm, and some of their goals were good ones.

During the game Stockwell, the Captain, fell heavily and suffered what, later proved to be a fracture of the wrist. With great pluck he insisted on returning to the field, and though in considerable pain and unable to handle properly, continued to hold his man, and cleared when necessary with his feet. His return in these circumstances inspired the whole team, and filled the defence with such determination that Cheadle Hulme did not score again. The Cup was presented to Stockwell by Mr. Eric Barnes.

The other two games were won more easily, though the team was not at full strength.

RESULTS

March 20—v. Cheadle Hulme Under 15 2nd.
Old Hulmeians' ground
(Final, Juniors' and Schools' Cup) W 10-4
March 27—v. Audenshaw G.S.
Under 15 2ndH W 19-4
April 10—v. South Manchester Juniors...H W 13-8

The Cup-winning team was J. Cornes, J. L. Williams, H. M. Stockwell (Captain), I. C. Smith, J. S. Hilland, T. W. Batley, I. H. Birtwistle, A. J. Woodward, M. C. Roxburgh, D. W. L. Burnham, F. A. Kynaston, A. F. Pitty. A. I. A. Smith and A. M. Veal were brought in for the last games.

Cricket

FIRST XI

Writing in the middle of June, it is a melancholy commentary on the weather we have suffered this season that only one match has yet been finished, and one could not be started at all. As practices have been similarly curtailed, it has been very difficult to select the team. Five of last years colours were available, and J. K. Robertson was appointed Captain, with C. Gee as Vice-Captain. Of the new material available, most promise was shown by the juniors, who, of course, lack experience, and they have had little chance of gaining it so far. Only Gee has shown much confidence as a bat, and of the bowlers, K. S. Williams and Warnes show most promise, though Bryans has bowled steadily. The fielding is not yet up to the usual School standard. Mr. Watts has succeeded Mr. Williams in charge of the team.

May 19 v. CHEADLE HULME SCHOOL. Home. Match drawn.

They won the toss and batted first on an easy wicket, but K. S. Williams gave us a good start by taking the first two wickets for three runs. Cheadle Hulme were saved by their Captain, but we did well to get them out for 72 in 130 minutes, though chances were missed in the field. The start of our innings was delayed by a storm, and we batted on a wet wicket in poor light. Gee batted soundly, but after he was out only Royle seemed able to cope with their fast bowler until Kilbey and Williams in a stubborn stand for the eighth wicket saved the game and brought us within reach of their total.

CHEADLE HULME SCHOOL

K. Broadbridge b. Williams	...	...	...	0
Bishop b. Williams	...	...	...	0
Layfield b. Warnes...	...	...	...	34
Hulme b. Bryans	...	...	...	7
Carpenter b. Williams	...	...	...	0
Leach c. Archer b. Delany	...	...	...	18
Watson b. Bryans	...	...	...	3
Couzens c. Warnes b. Bryans	...	...	...	6
Blackwell b. Bryans	...	...	...	3
Gardner not out	...	...	...	1
P. Jackson b. Delany	...	...	...	0
Extras	...	...	...	0
Total				72

Bowling : Williams 3 for 23, Delany 2 for 19, Bryans 4 for 12, Warnes 1 for 15, Gee 0 for 3.

SCHOOL

C. Gee lbw. b. Leach	...	...	...	21
C. E. Bryans b. Leach	...	...	...	1
J. D. E. Rayman b. Leach	...	...	...	0
E. A. Royle c. Broadbridge b. Leach	...	...	...	13
T. W. Warnes b. Leach	...	...	...	5
M. Lord b. Leach	...	...	...	0
J. K. Robertson b. Layfield	...	...	...	0
K. L. Kilbey not out	...	...	...	7
J. H. Delany b. Layfield	...	...	...	0
K. S. Williams not out	...	...	...	6
Extras	...	...	...	8
Total (for 8 wickets)				61

D. W. Archer did not bat.

Bowling : Leach 6 for 26, Jackson 0 for 6, Layfield 2 for 21.

May 22 v. HULME HALL. Home. Match abandoned.

We started after some delay on a very wet wicket, and it soon began to rain again. The bowlers were handicapped by a wet ball and insecure foothold, but there were again mistakes in the field. Heavier rain at tea time made further play impossible.

HULME HALL

A. B. Taylor not out	...	...	...	43
C. F. Bispham c. Archer b. Williams	...	...	...	6
J. D. Rainbow b. Williams	...	...	...	0
T. W. Jones b. Warnes	...	...	...	2
J. C. Clegg lbw. b. Warnes	...	...	...	0
G. H. Hull not out	...	...	...	22
Extras	...	...	...	5

Total (for 4 wickets) 78

Bowling : Williams 2 for 14, Delany 0 for 20, Bryans 0 for 1, Warnes 2 for 21, Gee 0 for 10, Royle 0 for 7.

May 26 v. Bolton School. Away. Match Drawn.

We batted first on a slow wicket, and though Gee and Bryans made a sound start, the rate of scoring was much too slow. Rayman and Lord improved our position, and we were able to declare at 110 for 8. They made a good effort to get the runs, and some of our bowling was not steady enough, while the fielding was still not good enough. Close and interesting finishes seem to be becoming a tradition in our games with Bolton School.

SCHOOL

C. Gee lbw. b. Stanley	...	...	...	14
C. E. Bryans b. Gorton	...	...	...	16
E. A. Royle b. Gorton	...	...	...	8
T. W. Warnes c. and b. Whittle	...	...	...	1
J. O. E. Rayman b. Stanley	...	...	...	27
M. Lord b. Coope	...	...	...	30
J. K. Robertson not out	...	...	...	2
K. L. Kilbey b. Stanley	...	...	...	1
J. H. Delany b. Stanley	...	...	...	0
Extras	...	...	...	11

Total (for 8 wickets declared) 110

K. S. Williams and D. W. Archer did not bat.

Bowling : Coope 1 for 27, Bailey 0 for 9, Whittle 1 for 16, Stanley 4 for 19, Gorton 2 for 28.

BOLTON SCHOOL

D. V. Kirkham b. Williams	...	...	...	1
C. E. Coope b. Bryans	...	...	...	23
J. D. Pollitt c. Robertson b. Williams	...	...	...	39
A. Eden lbw. b. Bryans	...	...	...	23
J. B. Berry c. Warnes b. Bryans	...	...	...	9
L. Hardy lbw. b. Williams	...	...	...	1
A. C. Whittle not out	...	...	...	5
Extras	...	...	...	7

Total (for 6 wickets) 108

H. M. Stanley, C. D. Gorton, E. Barnes, and W. Bailey did not bat.

Bowling : Williams 3 for 21, Delany 0 for 16, Bryans 3 for 35, Warnes 0 for 27, Lord 0 for 2.

May 29 v. KING EDWARD VII SCHOOL, Lytham. Home. No play owing to rain.

June 16 v. OLD HULMEIANS. Home. Lost by 53 runs.

The Old Boys batted first on a slow wicket and we felt we had done quite well to keep a strong side to a score of 104 for 6 declared. Some of our bowling was good, but there was too much loose stuff to leg, and chances were missed in the field. We batted during rain, which got heavier, and the light was not good, but that was no excuse for the utter failure of our batting after the loss of Gee and Bryans.

OLD HULMEIANS

B. M. Oakes c. Archer b. Warnes	...	...	...	4
E. Barnes c. Archer b. Bryans	...	...	...	9
D. J. Price b. Warnes	...	...	...	12
J. C. Edwards c. Delany b. Warnes	...	...	...	16
B. C. K. Ballinger b. Williams	...	...	...	17
R. Edwards c. Robertson b. Gee	...	...	...	10
J. Buckland not out	...	...	...	25
N. C. Cuthbert not out	...	...	...	5
Extras	...	...	...	7

Total (for 6 wickets declared) 104

A. Godson, E. B. Jackson and W. W. Land did not bat.

Bowling : Williams 1 for 17, Delany 0 for 10, Warnes 3 for 23, Bryans 1 for 31, Gee 1 for 18.

SCHOOL

C. Gee c. Buckland b. Godson	...	...	...	7
C. E. Bryans b. Godson	...	...	...	9
T. W. Warnes run out	...	...	...	2
N. R. Watson lbw. b. Jackson	...	...	...	8
J. O. E. Rayman lbw. b. Godson	...	...	...	7
M. Lord b. Jackson	...	...	...	1
J. K. Robertson st. Buckland b. Jackson	...	...	...	0
K. L. Kilbey b. Land	...	...	...	6
J. H. Delany b. Land	...	...	...	4
K. S. Williams b. Land	...	...	...	2
D. W. Archer not out	...	...	...	0
Extras	...	...	...	5

Total 51

Bowling : Godson 3 for 19, Cuthbert 0 for 14, Jackson 3 for 7, Land 3 for 3.

SECOND XI

So far only four matches have been played, one of these being abandoned because of rain. The weather in general has been most unkind and has made it difficult to hold a sufficient number of practices.

The games played, however, have been full of interest, and whatever the team may lack in technical skill, they have made up for in determination.

R. K. Gibson has captained the side very capably and though sometimes a little unimaginative in his field placings, has kept the side on its toes. He is still at his most successful as a batsman when he really goes for the ball, though this year he has employed some defensive shots as well. He has been ably supported by D. P. K. Greenwood, the vice-captain, whose batting has improved enormously and whose leg-breaks can usually be relied upon for a wicket at a crisis. He must try to develop more guile in his bowling.

G. F. Rushworth has been our most successful bowler, with two good performances. Though technically his action is very imperfect he has generally been accurate in both length and direction and has plenty of determination.

M. J. Roberts has also bowled well at times, as has P. H. F. Ribbon, though without much luck. N. A. Watson is probably potentially our best bat, and played a good innings against Bolton.

J. Davis and J. D. Hague have both batted well, the former being invaluable as wicket-keeper and the latter possessing possibilities as an orthodox slow left-arm bowler, though his length is at the moment erratic.

M. Pattinson has proved to be a most promising batsman whose footwork to a ball on the off is a pleasure to watch.

A. C. Morris is still much too defensive in his batting, but he also has shown determination, especially against Bolton. His bowling has been too short and he must beware of dragging his foot. R. E. Williams and G. E. Ramsdale have not been very successful with the bat so far, but have been unlucky in receiving good balls early on in their innings.

The fielding has been generally satisfactory, and should improve with more practice.

RESULTS

Played 4, Won 2, Lost 1.

May 15th v. S. W. MANCHESTER at Home. S.W. Manchester, 113 (Warnes 5 for 26). School 115 for 4. (Rayman not out 34, Lord 40, Williams, R. E. 24). School won by 6 wickets.

May 19th v. CHEADLE HULME SCHOOL 2nd XI Away. Cheadle Hulme, 113 (Rushworth 7 for 36); School 41 (Flanagan 7 for 11). Cheadle Hulme won by 72 runs.

May 22nd v. TOWN CLERK'S DEPARTMENT at Home. School, 129 (Greenwood 47, Hague 24); Match abandoned because of rain.

May 26th v. BOLTON SCHOOL 2nd XI at Home. Bolton 105 (Appleyard 54, Rushworth, 7 for 32); School 106 for 8 (Watson 38). School won by 2 wickets.

House Games

CRICKET

The weather has played us false this season. A period of scorching sun just before the term began prevented the field from recovering from hard use towards the end of the lacrosse season. When we returned, the weather changed and has since frequently interfered with games fixtures. So far, four games have been played. Heywood is at the top of the league, and Whitworth occupies the bottom place.

Again the first and second forms have shown that praiseworthy keenness which seems to fade later in their school career. What happens to the appetite for cricket among middle-school players? Does it become surfeited with over-indulgence? Certainly not this term. Perhaps the former keenness of early years may be discerned in the alacrity with which Sixth-formers have this term proposed their names for coaching.

LACROSSE

The results of the House Knock-Out Competition were as follows: Dalton Seniors beat Byrom 12-2; Fraser Juniors beat Gaskell 7-2.

G.T.D.

Rugby Football Fixtures

The following 1st XV fixtures have been arranged for next term:—

Sept. 29th—L. H. Watkins Esq.'s XV.....	Home
Oct. 2nd—Sale R.U.F.C. Schools' XV.....	Home
Oct. 6th—Manchester Grammar School.....	Away
Oct. 13th—The King's School, Macclesfield.....	Away
Oct. 23rd—Cheadle Hulme School.....	Home
Nov. 3rd—King Edward VII School, Lytham.....	Away
Nov. 11th—Queen Elizabeth's G.S., Wakefield.....	Away
Nov. 17th—Birkenhead School.....	Home
Nov. 20th—Old Hulmeians R.U.F.C.....	Home
Nov. 24th—Wallasey Grammar School.....	Away
Nov. 27th—Merchant Taylor's School,	
	Crosby.....Home
Dec. 4th—Manchester University Freshmen.....	Away
Dec. 8th—Broughton Park R.U.F.C.	
	Schools' XV.....Home

The Return of Spring

See how heaven's pearl overcoat is torn,
Its grey gown shorn into rags of blue,
And a rain-flurry floods the worn cheeks
Of winterlocked land with fresh hue,
How beggarman tatters of cloud
Are blasted away to eternity!

That thick black pool in the meadow-dip
Simmers in the sun: rainbow stained does it run
With cloud-colours; swaying hedges hum;
The sapless yellow grasses steam a hay scent.

New stitches bind the rotting rags of cloud,
As winter's sky flaunts us her final shroud.
The belling skirts of stormy night
Swathe all within their womb, but we
Have seen the embryo of spring,
Have glimpsed New Life.
This is winter's knell—let it ring!

A. H. BRAZENDALE, 6 CU.

Easter in Paris

Thoughts of "April in Paris" were uppermost in our minds when we departed from Manchester London Road at midnight on the 10th April. The weather stayed fine throughout the crossing from Newhaven to Dieppe and the sun was shining when

we crossed the Seine and entered Paris by the Gare St. Lazare.

The hostel at which we were staying was situated at Mairie D'Isay on the outskirts of Paris and we were forced to use the somewhat wearisome but very efficient Metro system for our excursions to the city.

A week in Paris is too short a time to see everything, but thanks to a well-planned programme we saw much. On the first day we visited the Eiffel Tower and I think this impressed us most on the tour. It was well worth the rather precarious journey to see the frightening but magnificent view. On the Wednesday we went to the Hôtel de Ville by invitation of the Mayor of Paris. Together with many other schools, both foreign and British, we were treated to an agreeable morning's entertainment. This consisted mainly of folk singing by the Austrian and traditional dancing by the African tourists. Later that day we were joined by Dr. Wilson, a friend of Mr. Woolfenden's, who took us on a tour round the artists' quarter of Montmartre and to the heights of Sacré-Coeur. Later in the holiday, Dr. Wilson was able to give us good advice on bargains in the shops, of which most of us took advantage.

We had by now become acquainted with the strange but excellent food and also with the wine, which we found cheap and refreshing. A drink is perhaps needed after having to cope with the tactics of the French drivers. The accident rate is high and we could well understand it as we saw the speed with which they weaved in and out in the Place de l'Étoile. The question of tipping left us puzzled. I think everybody had a natural resentment against doing so and thus we tended not to give enough. This led to much abuse and many baleful glares from waiters and cinema usherettes.

During the week we left Paris and went to Versailles. We toured the magnificent palace and the rather disappointing Hall of Mirrors. Most of us tried to follow the explanations of the guide, but finally only one or two managed to understand his fantastic flow of French. Some of us later went rowing on the Grand Canal du Versailles and though we all got thoroughly drenched we considered the time well spent. Later in the week we visited the beautiful Notre Dame cathedral. The decorated interior was truly magnificent and the view from the tower breathtaking.

The final highlight of the trip was perhaps the visit to the Louvre Museum. We saw the famous statue of the "Venus de Milo" and the painting "Mona Lisa," besides many other wonderful exhibits.

So we sadly came to the end of our holiday. We said good-bye to the many friends we had made and on the last night we had a final celebration. So early on Sunday morning we reluctantly left Paris for Dieppe.

Our thanks are due to Mr. Woolfenden for his work in arranging this most enjoyable trip.

M. BOOTH, 6 LS.

Epilogue

"Sweets to the sweet, farewell."

You jaded critics with pencils poised do not condemn this play. You actors and actresses do not abuse my words if, in the round of time, you suffer as I suffered. It well may be that with the changing years some woman will take upon her my Ophelia. Then, above all, let her not abuse my poetry. Instead let tear-drops flow on her cheeks like dew upon sweet roses, and, dear God, make her not as was my own Ophelia in her life.

My own Ophelia, not as I set her down on paper, but the creature of flesh and blood I met in the woods—so like the Arden forests of my childhood—outside the city where one can dimly see the tower of Old Saint Paul's. Deep in their green and yellow depths I lived once more my happy youth, telling her, as others had told me so long before, the names of all the flowers, and as I did so I made an idol of her. She was young, beautiful, sweet, gentle, with a pleasing melancholy—that was the creature which I fashioned from her. I loved her. She called me, "Will," and smiled.

Two strange months passed in which she favoured and neglected me—two little months, and then she disappeared awhile. Time passed. My love made years of hours. It was near three weeks before I saw her once again. Then, what can I say? my idol smashed.

It was a muddy street and she spattered by me with some friends on horseback, courtiers with their rain-bowed satins, and I, all in my sombre black. One glance she gave me as the cantering hooves drenched past, cried, "Look, my muddy, pale-faced playwright," and laughed.

That night I learnt she was betrothed to a common, drunken fellow. A snivelling porter told me more of her . . . That some men should eat up their days in glutinous wastefulness! That she should turn to men like that, and marry one of them!

I could no longer write. My incoherent love drove me to wander once more through the woods, and nature mocked me. That one should smile, and smile, and be—what she was, the plaything of the guilded peacocks at the court. Frail, frail woman! And I was so alone. My heart was broken, and all the glory of the world, and all creation, blank! In whom could I confide? My inner anguish gnawed my very soul, and life lost all its charm. I did not wish to live, but after death, if life continued, to what vile hell might my sorrows fling me? Would I had stayed a child in Arden, hot, dirty, dishevelled, but not unhappy.

"The cankered body. The withered limb."

I fell ill. I could not act, I could not write. I bore my sorrow with a statue's face, but all within was grief. I could keep up no longer. My very words troubled me, their very power unuttered but turned in magnified the greatness of my loss. A strange, distracted melancholy came upon me. Snatches of old songs from the wild days gone past re-echoed sadly now in my brain, and I fell ill.

Somehow my life was saved. I had not even the desire to give it up and so, with the turn of fortune's wheel, I lived. During the days that followed as my forever weakened body struggled back to consciousness, I saw once more the sunshine breaking through to the dim room of my heart from the world outside. I felt growing within me an urge, stronger than my feebleness, forcing me to write. Before I was even walking again I had begun a play.

It told the story of a man distracted by grief, surrounded by the mocking fools of court who did not even give him peace to feel his anguish. A pensive man, like myself, whose same thoughtfulness breeding thoughtlessness had turned my idol from me, to a man that I despised. Oh, God! even the fools in the theatre, who could not, or would not have understood my plays even had they been well performed, even the groundlings laughed at him. That she should turn to him! again the same grief.

I wrote my play. My pensive man in the midst of his misfortunes, his mother married to his father's murderer (my Ophelia's drunken lover) was deserted by his Ophelia, yet he deserted her as well. There was tragedy on both sides. Then she went mad with my strange madness. What more can I say? She died. How could my broken idol of the spirit live when the body was gone? She died, and with her burial my grief became a melancholy, and I felt for a time peace.

"Sweets to the sweet, farewell."

Like the brief flame of a flickering candle my love went out, and yet, and yet if there were time the tale is still unfinished. I could tell you how I met another

idol, how foolishly I placed all my trust in her, how when she turned against me I wished to curse the earth even with my own folly, and fearing for my reason wrote a play about a man, a king, who did go mad.

Had I but time I could tell you how the ripening years matured the first full flush of sorrow, and with the heavy tread of time I learnt new wisdom from the old, and yet it is better that, in this earth, some things should never be unfolded lest man, reaching for heaven should find, as I found, hell. The rest is silence.

M. M. KELSALL, 6ML.

The Lakeside

Out of a crystal-clear blue sky the hot summer sun was beating fiercely on the already scorched earth. There had been no rain for weeks and the water supply in Pickering-on-Dainwater was getting dangerously low.

Nevertheless I was not thinking of anything like that at the moment for I was at Rishtorne Mere, a placid lake about one mile long and about a quarter of a mile wide. There is a beck at the north end which, after a meandering course, trickles into the River Dainwater. Clumps of old oak trees form a semi-circle at this north end and a few poplar trees stretch their lofty necks high into the air, and these stand behind the oaks. Fir trees, which mark the edge of the Manor Forest, come down to the water's edge at the south side and various kinds of reeds, weeds, bulrushes and water iris straggle along the west. The extensive lawns and Dutch Gardens of the Manor House stretch high behind the reeds, forming a lovely background to the lake.

However, this afternoon I was in my favourite spot, opposite the Manor House, under a solitary copper beech which spread its branches over me, drowsily watching a moorhen wheel over the lake to her nest of reeds. I was particularly lucky on this occasion for a flock of wild geese came swimming over the water, their magnificent colours sparkling in the sunlight. Also the two swans from the Manor came over to my side, as I was a friend of theirs, for morsels of dry bread.

Spring, summer, autumn or winter, the mere has always held an attraction for me. In wintertime there was much sport to be had by skating on the ice.

Spring brought the masses of frogspawn which I used to collect in two-pound jam jars. Fishing came, along with the summer as there were some sizeable fish near the fir wood. I would be standing at different parts of the lake when autumn came, scanning the lovely shades and tints of the dying leaves.

On this hot summer's day flies were out in their millions and the poor Hereford cows, irritated by the pestering insects, had come down to drink at the lake.

Now and then the slight breezes would cause ripples on the water. If one looked close enough in the water the various kinds of submarine creatures, including beetles of all kinds, could be seen going about their business.

As the cool of the evening brought the noise of life to a close and the setting sun cast its last rays on the still waters, I turned once more to the lake which looked as lovely as ever, and went about my business too.

R. V. CHADWICK, 5Y.

A Homework Puzzle

Our English master ordered us,
There was no saying nay,
To write an essay or an ode
And hand it in next day.

To write an essay or an ode
Seemed easy to begin,
For two hours now I've racked my brain,
I'm sure I'm getting thin.

I thought at first a story would
Be simple to write down,
But here I'm stuck without a plot,
Or hero of renown.

No villain bold comes to my mind,
Nor damsel in distress,
If inspiration comes not soon,
I'll go to sleep I guess.

Perhaps an ode would easy be,
I'll really try this time,
But though I rack my brain so hard,
I cannot make it rhyme.

And now the metre won't come right,
The lines seem all alike,
If marks I lose, it can't be helped,
From now on I'm on strike.

R. CRAINE, 4S.