

# THE WATHONIAN



JANUARY, 1954



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## EDITORIAL

*"So may a thousand actions, once afoot,  
End in one purpose."*

THE transference of traffic from the main gates to Festival Road has created a new feeling of possessive pride. Our new approach along this road has impressed us, for it is from here that we may best view the vastness of our institution. And yet, one disturbing feature presents itself. The stream of passengers, alighting from their 'buses, does not proceed in its entirety, but divides, and subdivides, and indicates our weakness.

We as individuals possess a wide diversity of interests. Consequently as a community we form teams, societies and, sometimes, cliques. It is to these, and not the school as a whole, that we are tempted to offer our loyalty, because we are overwhelmed by the largeness of that institution, which most deserves our loyalty. When the science block comes into use, we shall be further segregated according to the subjects we wish to study, and the present condition may worsen, for already there is evidence of a growing intolerance within the Sixth Form towards opposing outlooks and interests. There is a stubborn refusal by science students to give literary opinions a hearing. Literary students affect a complete and calculated ignorance of scientific matters.

Such tendencies are harmful to our school and must be avoided. Possibly the panorama, as seen from Festival Road, may imbue us with a more ardent loyalty. The new hall, when it is completed, will certainly bring us closer together. But always, the medium, through which we must seek a closer relationship, is "The Wathonian." In it we have a forum for our several interests, and a chance to see the other fellow's point of view alongside our own, compared and contrasted, not in heated argument but in the clearer, premeditated language of the written word.

A feature of the past year has been the large number of marriages among members of staff. We offer our best wishes to Mrs. Reed (Miss Cogill), Mrs. Clews (Miss Upton), Mrs. Higgs (Miss Baldwin), Mrs. Pike (Miss Bryant) and Mr. Cooper. To Mrs. Cooper we extend a hearty invitation to all school functions.

Though we regret the departure of Mrs. Reed, Mrs. Clews and Mr. Schofield, we shall long remember them, particularly for the distinguished part they played in staff productions.

To Miss Seed, Mlle. J. Charles and Messrs. Morgan, Burton, Curry, Eyre and Faulkner we offer a very cordial welcome to the school.

In 'The Alchemist' the staff maintained their customary high standard, which was particularly commendable in so difficult a play and after the loss of so many star performers. The performance of five new players gave ample assurance that the school may look forward with confidence to future productions. Those pupils of Mr. Freestone (that "neat, spruce, honest fellow") who find chemistry something of a mystery, may possibly wonder at times, whether he has confused his alchemy with his chemistry.

The introduction of department sashes for girls is an innovation which we hope the school will appreciate. The sashes are a badge of honour and a reminder to us all of how important bearing is both to our health and in producing a favourable impression on others.

The new blazers and caps for juniors have excited such little comment that we do not know whether they are worn with indifference or resigned stoicism.

Another innovation, House assemblies on Thursday mornings, has proved very successful and serves to give a closer corporate spirit to the now rapidly growing houses with their preponderance of juniors.

Because the new extensions are robbing us of so much playing space, we have procured an extensive new playing field further down Sandygate. Although the field is being prepared, one pitch has been preserved for immediate use. Each Wednesday afternoon C set trudges out to play on the virgin pitch. They bring back reports of thistles, steep gradients and expeditions into orchards after lost rugby balls.

Foundations for a school assembly hall are being laid opposite the girl prefects' door. This has meant that the girls now have to walk right round the building to reach their cloakroom.

We heard with pride of the success of Johnny Wardle in the Manchester test and wish him well on the tour of the West Indies.

We also congratulate Pauline Gregory on her triumph at the Dearne Festival and Noble on his broadcast for the B.B.C.

In December a VIth Form debating team visited Mexborough Grammar School where they enjoyed a debate with Mexborough students and now we hope that we shall soon have the honour of welcoming Mexborough debaters in Wath.

## HOUSE NOTES

### ATHENS



*House Captains :* Judith A. Law,  
G. Kay.

*Games Captains :*  
*Senior*—Pat Law, A. Stables.  
*Junior*—Marjorie Layhe, M. Jones.

*Games Committee :*  
Anne Bentcliffe, I. M. Athey.

*Magazine Representatives :*  
Kathleen Hayes, J. Ashton.

Athens has at last started to climb the ladder of success, even though her foot is as yet only on the second or third rung. During the last year we have been more successful than of recent years in the field of sport although we have not yet started to shine in other spheres.

In the Deeks' Trophy Competition our rendering of "A Roving!" seemed to be appreciated, but as the judges decided that it was vocal talent they were looking for, the cup went to another house.

However, our girls were top of the hockey table, and in the Summer term we made aquatic history by coming second in the Swimming Gala. We won the cross-country and set up seven of the eighteen new records made on Sports Day. Unfortunately, when we realised that we were leading, with our characteristic generosity, we stepped aside and allowed Rome to take the cup.

It is thought by some that we Athenians are becoming over-generous. Let us show these misguided people that we still have some of the old fighting spirit left in us. We are not such a long way from the top and so, with the help of the newcomers, let us continue climbing, and show our patient housemaster and housemistress that they still belong to the best house in the school.

J.A.L.

### CARTHAGE



*House Captains :* Audrey M. Platt,  
P. G. Wilby.

*Games Captains :*  
*Senior*—Elaine Jacob, P. G. Wilby.  
*Junior*—Pauline Ellis, B. Sanderson.

*Magazine Representatives :*  
Elaine Jacob, K. Nelson.

We are extremely happy to welcome Mr. Freestone as our new Housemaster and hope his term of office will be successful and enjoyable. Though gaining the services of Mr. Freestone we have lost the loyal service of Mr. Leadley, to whom we offer our grateful thanks and extend a welcome to any of our activities. We offer our sincere good wishes to Miss Baldwin on her marriage to Mr. Higgs, a former pupil of this school. We are sure that Carthage still claims her loyalty in spite of the honour she has done to a former Athenian.

Carthage was quite successful in the field of sport, winning the Winter Games cup and coming second in the sports—only the famous cross-country team being the weak spot.

Carthage was very successful in the Deeks' Trophy Competition where our melodious voices took us to a comfortable victory with successes in both Junior and Senior parts of the competition.

With this encouragement in mind, we are sure that Carthage will once again come out on top where it traditionally belongs. K.N.

## ROME



*House Captains :* Ruth Collens,  
B. Hooper.

*Games Captains :*  
*Senior*—Eunice Rhodes, A. Mann.  
*Junior*—Vilma Bailey, W. Woodward.

*Games Committee :*  
Janet Wood, B. Hooper.

*Magazine Representatives :*  
Shirley Pyott, F. Hooper.

The Romans chose a startling method of acclaiming their new Housemaster. They won the work cup three times in succession, an achievement they have never before accomplished in the whole history of the school.

Another success was the winning of the Sports Cup for the first time in thirteen years.

Our endeavours to win the Deeks' Trophy, however, were not so successful, in spite of the efforts (not always musical) of the Sixth form. Carthage proved to us that it was quality the judges were looking for, not quantity! After hearing the unaccompanied hymns in House Assemblies each week, our music-lovers are surprised that we managed to gain even third place.

Finally, Rome welcomes all newcomers and wishes every success to those who have left us, and especially to Mr. Spencer in his new post at Ecclesfield Grammar School. We assure him that under the expert guidance of Mr. Richardson, Rome is now capable of anything.

## SPARTA



*House Captains :* Margaret Holmes,  
T. Swallow.

*Games Captains :*  
*Senior*—Pat Winch, N. Beaumont.  
*Junior*—Doris Beck, J. Swinburne.

*Games Committee :*  
Margaret Holmes, J. Darley.

*Magazine Representatives :*  
Barbara Clarke, T. Swallow.

In the Deeks' Trophy Competition, our choristers successfully gained second place. We must congratulate the Juniors on their

rendering of Brahms's "Lullaby", and "High Barbary", for they managed to reach the Carthaginian score and so gain first place, equal with Carthage, in the Junior section. This year we once again won the Swimming Gala, but this time our efforts were rewarded—by a magnificent silver cup.

This success was speedily followed by another. Owing to the unflinching efforts of the Junior boys, who won all their matches, we at last managed to win the Summer Games Cup.

However, we must not rest on our laurels. For the last three terms we have had to be content with second place for the Work Cup, allowing Rome to wrest it from our grasp each time. This will not do!! If more Spartans would join school societies, we should no longer be in this sorry plight and the Work Cup would be ours once more.

A last word of congratulation for the Spartan girls who have found a new enthusiasm for the game of hockey. Attendance at practices in the first weeks of term was phenomenal. We hope this enthusiasm will continue when the House Matches commence.

B.C.

## TROY



*House Captains :* Jean Snowden,  
J. L. Hedges.

*Games Captains :*  
*Senior*—Colleen Varney, G. Young.  
*Junior*—Margaret Goulding, E. Wake.

*Games Committee :*  
Patricia Oldknow, F. Barber.

*Magazine Representatives :*  
Anne Perryman, J. D. Murfin.

A hearty welcome to all new Trojans. We trust that they will be happy and worthy members of the house.

We cannot say that Troy was very successful last year. It seems that we were neither singers, athletes, nor workers, and it is hoped that we shall do much better in the coming year. We were handicapped greatly by having very few members in the sixth forms.

Efforts on the games field have not been exceptionally good and it is high time that the Games Cup was adorned with a yellow ribbon. The Cross Country, however, had better results for Troy and we obtained second place.

Although we had many keen athletes, we were unable to regain the Sports Cup and were placed fourth, but we are determined to do much better this year. Our attempts in the swimming gala were also unrewarded, but we are improving.

Finally we should like to urge all Trojans to join societies and follow the example of the junior rugby team who played very well in their first match this term.

J.S.

## SOCIETIES AND CLUBS



Woodcut BOREDOM by A. DUNN, 5 B

### ART CLUB.

This term the Art Club has fifty seven members, seven more than our quota. Most of them are seniors who prefer the dinner hour meetings to those held on Saturday mornings.

The work undertaken during this, the Christmas term, has included lino-cutting, sketching and painting, the painting of panels for the dining hall, and the making of puppets, folders and Christmas Cards.

While new members are welcome, particularly those in forms not fortunate enough to have Art in their syllabus, we cannot guarantee a place in the Club, unless application is made early in the term, and attendance is maintained.

JOSE WORNHAM (L.VI.Gen.).

### THE CHOIR.

The Christmas Concert and Speech Day were the occasions of the choir's public appearances.

At the Christmas Concert, held on two afternoons and for the school only, Q.1. under the guidance of Mrs. Clews (Miss Upton) sang "*The Holly and the Ivy*", "*Masters in this Hall*", and "*O little one sweet*". III alpha sang two German carols "*Stille Nacht*", and "*O Du Frohliche*." The Lower VI Literary, assisted by some members of the choir gave several Latin carols. The items sung by the Choir included "*The Coventry Carol*". "*This Endris Night*", "*Susanni*", and



"*There were Shepherds . . .*" from Handel's "*Messiah*" with Miss Upton as soloist. The concert ended with "*O come, all ye faithful*" sung by the choir and audience.

The singing on Speech Day was highly praised. The songs were "*All in the April Evening*"—the set piece for the inter-house music competition, "*Rio Grande*"—the sea-shanty chosen by the winning house, Carthage, "*The Ash Grove*" (Welsh Air), "*The Londonderry Air*" (Irish), "*Eriskay Love Lilt*" (Scottish) and "*The Lass with the Delicate Air*" (English).

On October 6th, the Choir and several seniors enjoyed their visit to the Carl Rosa Opera at Sheffield where they saw "*Pagliacci*" and "*Cavalleria Rusticana*."

The formation of a boys' choir under Mr. Eyre seems to be proving a great success. We should like to see them come and join the one tenor at the moment in the School Choir.

EILEEN GARFITT (U.VI.Lit.).

## THE DRAMATIC SOCIETY.

### Seniors.

We welcome all newcomers to the Senior Dramatic Society. Most of them have received training in the Junior and Fourth Form societies and have no doubt benefited from it. The average attendance this term has been about twenty-three.

During this first half term Mr. Easterby is concentrating on general training, such as sitting and walking correctly, the use of hands, voice inflection and facial expression. We hope to receive another lecture on the art of make-up by Mr. Leadley before the end of the term.

This year the Christmas concert will be given to pupils only, as we fear that parents will not have recovered sufficiently by then from the Staff's "rending" of "*The Alchemist*" by Ben Jonson. Our "piece de resistance" at Easter will be "*The Merchant of Venice*." We are sure of its success—if we have the full support of the school.

JOAN DOBSON (Secretary).

### Juniors.

The Junior Dramatic Society has received, this term, as much support and enthusiasm as usual. The society has split up into small groups, which have been doing mimes and short plays for each other. For the Christmas concert, the society hopes to produce in mime, "*The Emperor who Loved New Clothes*."

The Fourth Form Dramatic Society, although smaller than the junior one, has been supported with equally as much spirit and eagerness. It has divided into two groups, each group performing a different one-act play.

We hope that the good attendance at both societies will be maintained throughout the coming year, and that they will be successful in whatever they attempt.

PAMELA M. BROWN (IVa).

## SIXTH FORM DISCUSSION GROUP

<i>Chairmen :</i>	Swallow (Upper VI Literary). Wilby (Upper VI Science).
<i>Secretaries :</i>	Darley (Upper VI Literary). Clayton (Upper VI Science).
<i>Treasurer :</i>	Violet Crawford (Upper VI General)
<i>Gen. Purposes :</i>	Anne Bentcliffe (Upper VI Literary).

Although the decline of oratory in this century is evident in the Discussion Group, the past year has been an interesting one. Outside visitors have included Mr. West from Sheffield University, who spoke on "*The Contribution of the Classics to a fuller education,*" and with whom long-suffering Latin scholars could not agree, Miss Dunkley, also from Sheffield University, who spoke on "*The Fuller Implications of Education,*" Mr. and Mrs. Cole-Stokes who talked about their life in Central Africa, Mrs. Haines of the Dutch Reformed Church, and Mr. Hugo, an Africander. Mr. Hugo gave us a shock by making us realise that people who have so much in common with ourselves hold beliefs on race relations which appear to us to belong to a century and a half ago. The School year culminated in a visit from three West African students, whose intellectual stature and English vocabulary puts many of us to shame.

This term discussion has been lively ; at times so lively that the House of Commons' tradition of opposing parties sitting more than two swords' width apart has been considered. Certain members have given stubborn, antagonistic, often narrow views on such subjects as "*Corporal Punishment*" and "*Are our empty Churches a sign of our spiritual decline?*" The chief contribution made by a student during the past year was given by M. Hooper on Chester Wilmot's book "*The Struggle for Europe.*"

Recently, Mr. Seago, the Manager of the Waterstone Glass works, Herr Doktor Thielke of Bremen, Miss Butterfield, a Probation Officer, and Miss Hoyle, a Civil Servant, have visited us. We are deeply indebted to them for the highly illuminating talks they have given on their particular professions.

Attendance has been quite good, all three sections of the Sixth Form being well represented, but one must note that the standard of discussion leaves much to be desired, and by no means all the members have taken advantage of the opportunity the Discussion Group offers. However, one is forced to the conclusion that tea, "the precious life-blood of a master spirit," and biscuits do much to stimulate discussion.

J. DARLEY (Upper VI Lit.).

## SCIENTIFIC AND LITERARY SOCIETY

Although there have been good attendances at most of our meetings there has been a lack of speakers from the audience, particularly in the debate on Conscriptio, in which Kay and Frost opened in lively and provocative style. Most of the papers, too, have been given by the science sixth.

The papers have been lively and enjoyable. Frank Hooper seemed intent on recruiting girls into the scouts, when he gave his paper "*The Great Game*." Fennell and B. Hooper, gave a paper on "*Comparing and Contrasting popular modern and classical music*." There was more emphasis on contrasting than on comparing till the theme became "*Anything you can do, I can do better*." Featherstone and Hedges' paper on "*Astronomy*" and Mack's on "*Photography*" were both learned and interesting.

The sixth form members of the society have been invited to take part in a debate with Mexborough Grammar School and we hope to create a good impression.

Prospects for the future are bright. We are to have another musical evening, some contributions from the staff, and there is also the possibility that we may even hear Athey's much publicised paper on "*Genetics*."

P. G. WILBY—*Chairman*.

J. ASHTON—*Secretary*.

## JUNIOR LITERARY SOCIETY

This year the Junior Literary Society has met again quite successfully. We have been able to welcome many new members from the second forms.

At our first meeting some questions in "*One minute, please*," proved very funny. The following week we enjoyed "*Down you go*."

We have also held a debate on the motion that "*Boys should not do housework*." As one might expect, this motion was proposed by the boys. After a very keen and noisy argument, it was decided boys should do housework.

Owing to the Parents' Evenings and Staff Meetings, we unfortunately, lost three Tuesday evenings.

The following week we held a quiz. It had its amusing moments, as when one of our members said that without a doubt, Grimm's Fairy Tales were written by Hans Anderson.

After each week all our members look forward to the next time we meet again.

CHRISTINE GRAMMER

## GUIDE NOTES

Coronation Year has been a busy time for Guides. Several of the meetings at the beginning of summer were spent in practising for our contribution to the Scout and Guide rally at Barnsley in June. The younger and more athletic members of the company put on a P.T. Display, whilst the older and more staid did a sketch. The rally was very successful and greatly enjoyed by all.

During the summer holidays two of the company gladly accepted an invitation to stay for a week at the Children's Home in the Lake District to which we sent toys last Christmas. The Guides are again busy collecting and repairing toys to send to some Children's Home this Christmas. The activity is becoming increasingly popular, if the hammerings and shrieks of laughter coming from Form I are anything to judge by. As usual several new recruits joined the company at the beginning of the Autumn Term, and in November they were enrolled by the District Commissioner. The numbers are now so large that we have found it necessary to divide into two companies, the 22nd A. Barnsley and the 22nd B. Barnsley. There is going to be some keen rivalry in the future, especially when it comes to district competitions. So, Guides, be on your mettle, and—Happy Guiding !

J.A.L.

## SCOUT NOTES

The Scouts are, as usual, flourishing and have greatly increased their numbers owing to the influx of numerous first-formers.

As usual our annual camp, this year at Whitbourne, was a great success in spite of the rather watery welcome of the Main Party. This year's camp was attended by three old scholars who contributed much towards its success. It was the fourteenth successive camp attended by A.P.

After camp, during the summer holidays, if you passed the school you could at certain times hear wailing noises, shrieks, yells, banging and clanging. A very "hush hush" job was being carried out. It was improving our supersonic "*Scorcher*." We blazed a trail through the Leeds Soap-box Derby Semi-Finals to the Wembley Final but here the trail ended. A speed of over 23 m.p.h. was reached but it was not good enough. However, we did extremely well to reach the finals.

The annual camp fire was well-attended by members of the troop. Certain notable members performed antics round the fires, and some songs, originally the exclusive property of the 8th, were sung in public and were very successful.

This year we thought, that as we had won the Swimming Gala last year, we had better relinquish it this year. Unfortunately we had no option. We gained second place owing to the tremendous effort of the few. Congratulations, you few.

Another member of our troop has joined the list of Queen's Scouts. B. Clayton gained this distinction and it is hoped others will soon follow this example. He gained some of the necessary badges through "Badge Courses" at Hesley Wood. These courses are extremely interesting and a great step forward in badge work. They should be supported more than they are.

A small party of scouts spent a week end, very enjoyably at Hesley Wood, a proceeding we strongly recommend. Another party headed by Scouts camped at half term in October near Holme Moss. We admire their intrepid spirit.

The troop welcomes all newcomers and hopes they will maintain its best traditions.

B. HOOPER.

## NOTEWORTHY OCCASIONS

### SPEECH DAY

This year, Speech Day was held on Friday, July 17th with Alderman H. Cutts M.B.E., J.P., as the chairman and Sir Harold West, the Master Cutler as the visiting speaker. In his address Sir Harold advised young people to choose a reasonable objective in life rather than aim at something that we were not likely to be very good at. Such a mistake would prevent happiness which is the basis of good work. Sir Harold urged us to aim at getting satisfaction in life rather than being second best. He also asked us to remember how much our parents sacrifice for our education and to show gratitude to them.

A bouquet was presented to Lady West who later presented the certificates to the students.

The Headmaster in his report referred to the academic work of the school, which he said was not often considered. Only by the hard way can anything be achieved, and the foundation of all else we do is in our academic work.

Votes of thanks were proposed by Councillor A. Dilkes and seconded by the head girl, Kathleen Ineson.

In addition to items from the school Choir, conducted by Miss Knowles, a choir of the combined Houses sang under the direction of Mary Taylor, who had previously conducted the winning House, Carthage, in the Deeks' Trophy Competition.

Christine Gardener, shortly about to leave the district, was selected for the honour of presenting a bouquet to Lady West. Until Christine's departure there has always been a Gardener in the school, right from its opening with Mr. and Mrs. Gardener whom former pupils will remember with affection.

## THE STUDENT CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT CONFERENCE

The subject of this year's joint sixth form conference with Mexborough Grammar School was "*Am I my Brother's keeper?*"

The speaker was the Rev. Sidney Gordon, Superintendent Minister of the Wath-upon-Dearne Circuit of the Methodist Church and formerly a missionary in Burma. Three talks were given at which Mr. Ritchie, Mrs. Bayes and Mr. Watkinson took the chair in turn. Each session began with prayers followed by a talk by Mr. Gordon. Everyone found the talks most helpful and was very much impressed by the sincerity of the speaker and the illustrations given from his personal experiences.

After each session we divided into several groups to discuss the talks. On returning to the Library, we were able to ask questions arising from the discussions.

Mr. Watkinson conducted a party round Mexborough Parish Church and we from Wath were very interested in what he was able to show and tell us. In fact the tour proved so interesting that we were more than a quarter of an hour late for the afternoon session.

Despite this slight hitch the Conference was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

### DEEKS' TROPHY

In the Easter term an Inter-House choral competition was held for the Deeks' Trophy. Each house provided a senior and a junior choir. The seniors had to sing "*All in the April Evening*" and a sea-shanty of their own choice, whilst the juniors sang "*The Coasts of High Barbary*" and a Lullaby. For weeks before the competition, sounds—some harmonious and some discordant—could be heard issuing from F.4 during the dinner hour and after school.

On the day of the contest the atmosphere was tense. The junior choirs competed first and Carthage and Sparta led with equal marks. The scores of all the houses were very close and now everyone was anxious to know what the result of the seniors would be. Unfortunately Troy's accompanist was absent but a willing hand played a one-fingered accompaniment for them. Carthage were the first in the senior section and so won the trophy. They owe much to Mary Taylor, their conductor, who had the honour of conducting the combined House Choirs on Speech Day.

For the competition won this term by Sparta, extracts in German, French and Latin had to be learned by heart. The German consisted of a short play adapted from "*Die Familie Stockmann*" and a poem "*Der Erlkonig*" by Goethe. The French consisted of a poem "*Le corbeau et le Renard*," a speech of Harpagon's from Moliere's "*L'Avare*" and a poem "*Après la Bataille*" by Hugo. The Latin section also consisted of two parts, a play "*Pyramus and Thisbe*" and a poem "*The Boat Race*."

This competition provided a great deal of hard work for the seniors in charge of it, but proved most interesting.

EILEEN GARFITT (Upper VI Literary)

## VISIT TO ROME

During the Easter holidays a party of fifth and sixth formers under the leadership of Miss Townsend, assisted by Miss Disley, visited Rome and Switzerland.

We set off from Sheffield early on Wednesday morning and arrived in Calais by evening. Then came the worst part of our journey, that across France. Very few of us slept for more than a couple of hours, and when we reached Basle early next morning, it was a tired and dirty party that had breakfast in the station cafe.

Eventually we arrived in Lucerne where we boarded a paddle steamer which took us across the Lake to Brunnen. The scenery in Switzerland was wonderful. The lower slopes of the mountains were wooded, whilst higher up there were pastures with chalets dotted about, and the summits were capped with dazzling snow. There were many small glaciers above the snowline which fed the precipitous mountain streams, which often fell to the Lake in spectacular waterfalls.

After staying the night in Brunnen, we spent the whole of the next day travelling to Rome.

We awoke next morning, very much refreshed, to find that our "pension" overlooked a "piazza" where a magnificent fountain played from 7 a.m. until midnight. Unfortunately we had to climb 140 steps to reach the pension. The food was certainly very strange and many were the laughs when we had spaghetti for dinner.

Accompanied by parties from four other schools, we toured Rome, visiting, on the first day, the grim catacombs and the tombs of Shelley and Keats.

On Sunday we had an audience with the Pope and were very much impressed by the Swiss guards in their traditional, colourful uniforms.

One of the most beautiful of the places that we saw near Rome was the Villa d'Este. Here in the magnificent gardens, hundreds of fountains play continually, indeed one of the most outstanding features of Rome is the number of fountains there.

During our stay we visited the ruined town of Ostia, which was once a flourishing port at the mouth of the Tiber, but which is now about two miles from the sea.

We spent an interesting morning in the Sistine Chapel and the Vatican museum where among other things we saw some gruesome mummies.

One evening was spent at a nearby Italian cinema and although we could not understand the words we could follow the theme. We also went to an Italian circus during a rainy afternoon, and saw, for the first time, crocodiles being hypnotised. The last morning was spent in buying presents, although we did manage to see the Pantheon and the Spanish Steps. We concluded our stay in Italy with a visit to Frascati—where we sampled the local wine—and to Castel Gandolfo which is the Pope's summer residence.

Our return journey was eventful in many ways. The train in Switzerland caught fire, luckily not very seriously. To our surprise we found it had snowed in Switzerland. It was not too cold, however, and we made the most of a free morning, either rowing on the lake, ascending a mountain by cable car, or exploring Brunnen. After leaving the other school parties who were staying another day in Brunnen, many of us were stricken with what seemed to be food poisoning, and those of us who were unaffected had a busy time looking after the sick. Fortunately we had a much better journey across France and this enabled the patients to rest in comparative comfort.

We arrived home older and wiser people after a most enjoyable, if exhausting, holiday. We would like to take this opportunity of thanking Miss Townsend and the other members of staff who made it all possible.

M. HOLMES.

A. GIBBONS.

J. MURFIN.

## ORIGINAL CONTRIBUTIONS

### A LAMENT

It's hardly in a laddie's make-up  
To keep, at times, frae gettin' fed up  
When day is spent frae hour to hour  
Raisin' "X" to some dizzy power,  
Or learnin' Geographical locations,  
Latin, French and some equations ;  
Then homework, including this attempt at Rhyme,  
Whiles away his leisure time.

However, for this contribution,  
'Tis sad to say I've little notion—  
Ideas come, but flee like lightnin'  
Afore I get them doon in writin' ;  
But come ye back in twelve months' time  
And I promise ye story, or maybe rhyme,  
Weel worthy o' yere wee bit book—  
Meantime, this will maybe fill a nook.

M. MACRAE (Form IIIa).



## WHEN THE FIRE-BELL RANG

'Twas in the cloak-room after gym  
With muscles aching in every limb,  
Fresh from Miss Lumb's ministrations,  
We heard the call "to action stations !"

"The school's on fire !"  
"It's true," they say,  
"O lack-a-day !" "Hurray ! Hurray !"  
"Throw out a life-belt," someone cried,  
"Make for the exits or be fried."

A fourth-form duffer with a grin,  
Grabbed his maths book and wrote within,  
"In case of fire, throw this in."

The outcome of it all was sad,  
It transpired that some careless lad  
Had rung the bell, (against the rule),  
And fired our hopes and not the school.

JENNIFER BARKER (Form IVa).

## LIFE IN RHODESIA

In Rhodesia most people have two native servants, referred to as "Boys" irrespective of their ages. They are fairly intelligent and some of them, especially the "House Boys," speak good English. They are capable of doing all the housework and washing, and are usually excellent ironers. Sometimes they can cook very well, too.

The day starts early—tea is brought in at 6 a.m. and breakfast is served at 6.45 a.m. School starts at 7.50 a.m. and finishes at 1 p.m. with games twice a week in the afternoons.

During the summer months, which start in October and end in March, the heat is great and special precautions must be taken, such as not going out without a hat, taking quinine tablets once per week, and not walking in any long grass. One must always beware of snakes, scorpions, huge spiders and other pests, and during the hot period it is advisable to sleep with a mosquito net covering the bed.

The rainy season starts sometime in February and is most welcome, as everything is dry—even rivers. One has to experience torrential rain to believe it, as it is as though the heavens open and the rain is one thick sheet. During the winter months, however, it is really cold and fires and warm clothing are needed. The cold is not as intense as it is in England, of course, but after the heat it is most noticeable.

Life on the whole is easy and pleasant but as it is a young country one misses the culture that is enjoyed in England. However, most of the people are of English origin and everyone is friendly and sociable. As social barriers do not exist, relations with ones' friends and acquaintances are free and easy.

There is a definite colour bar and Europeans and Natives do not mix. But there again, friendly relations exist between the two races and in Southern Rhodesia it is possible to work side by side.

Rhodesia is a country well worth visiting or living in and has a promising future.

MAVIS SIDDALL (Form IVa).

### SPRING

The Daffodils are dancing,  
In the breezy air,  
The little lambs are prancing,  
In the meadows fair.

The crocuses are peeping,  
Yellow, mauve and white.  
The hyacinths, still sleeping,  
May be out by night.

MARGARET EMSON (I Beta).

### TARANTELLA

(after Hilaire Belloc)

Do you remember a school,  
Priscilla ?  
Do you remember a school ?  
And the pushing and the rushing  
While the teacher's lips were hushing ;  
And the tapping and the scrapping ;  
And the cheers and the jeers of the boys  
At their hopes and their fears.  
Do you remember a school, Priscilla,  
Do you remember a school ?

Never more,  
Priscilla ;  
Never more.  
Never the scuffle  
Of the pupils' feet that shuffle  
As they scurry and they flurry  
Losing things in their hurry  
Will you hear.  
But, do you remember a school,  
Priscilla ?  
Do you remember a school ?

ANNE BURNLEY (IV Alpha).

## A DAY AT THE LONGSHAW SHEEPDOG-TRIALS

There was a hush as Meg guided the three sheep up to the "cross," then, a few seconds later a groan went round the spectators, as a shrill gust of wind from the surrounding Derbyshire hillsides blew the next whistle back into the shepherd's face. The crowd waited expectantly. What would Meg do? She crouched for a moment, waiting. Then, sensing there was something wrong, took charge of the situation, raced round the sheep and guided them safely through "the cross" and the tense silence was broken by a burst of clapping.

"Aye, she managed a'right," the farmers were saying, "but will she pen them 'afore her time's up?"

Now the three sheep were standing at the mouth of the pen but they just would not go in; then after a few agonising seconds, two of the sheep went in but the third, missing the opening, raced away, found herself alone and stood looking around. By this time Meg had got safely behind her and quickly brought her back. But all this had taken time. Now the sheep stood half inside the pen. Ten seconds to go—Meg advanced slowly—five—four—three, and the sheep trotted in to its companions. Then the cheers, clapping and general applause followed Meg and the shepherd off the field.

The day wore on, with fitful sunshine and the chill strong wind blowing the tree tops behind the enclosure. Shepherds from every county brought dogs to show their skill at the trials. When at last the judges announced their verdict there was enthusiastic approval on Meg's being judged the winner.

J. GITTINS. (Q.2).

## COLLECTING BUTTERFLIES AND MOTHS

My hobby is collecting and pinning butterflies and moths. I have been doing this for two years and have found it very interesting and entertaining.

One of the best and biggest of my moths is a Privet Hawk moth. Its wing span is five and a half inches. One of the most beautiful butterflies I have is a large Tortoiseshell butterfly; red, blue, brown, white and yellow are its colours.

When I have caught these moths or butterflies, I put them in a jar with some crushed laurel leaves. These leaves kill them instantly. The correct way to pin them is to bend a piece of cardboard upwards, then open the butterfly's wings outwards and lay them on the cardboard. After this, stick a pin over the wing and do this with all the wings. After an hour or two, take it from the card when its wings are set outwards. We can then pin it through the thorax.

J. SCOTT (Form Ia).

## CORONATION

With splendour, pomp and pageantry,  
In homage paid to Royalty,  
Within the sacred Abbey walls,  
Peers and Nobles take their stand  
With delegates from every land.  
Outside, in distant house and halls,  
A people, seeing yet unseen,  
Await the crowning of their queen.  
The organ peals, the choirs sing,  
As to the dais our queen they bring ;  
And there her life she dedicates  
To us whate'er our creed or race.  
"Your very queen," the cleric states  
And gently leads her forth, to face  
In turn four quarters of the globe,  
Presented and accepted there.  
Richly clad in Royal Robe  
She clasps the Sceptre and the Orb,  
And vows her people's lot to share.  
The crown is placed upon her head,  
Words of benediction said,  
And all their beloved queen acclaim—  
Love and Fealty their aim  
Ready to serve unto the death  
Our gracious Queen Elizabeth.

A. SCHOLEY (Form Va).

## AFTERMATH

They lie, those shapeless forms upon the shore  
These men, now dead, once men at war.  
The sea around their outstretched hands  
Smooths o'er the wrinkles in the sands.  
The surging foam is tainted red ;  
The sand is stained where they bled ;  
The mists of morn drift overhead,  
Shrouding all the silent dead :  
They'll never see the dawn again,  
They'll never feel the pangs of pain.  
Their dreams to none, they'll ever tell—  
They crumpled with them as they fell.  
The price of peace in blood is paid,  
The money on the shore is laid.  
Again we've paid this ceaseless price.  
How futile is this sacrifice.  
Why, O God, is all you taught  
Come to fear, to war, to naught ?  
O, Give us faith to start anew  
That we may tread the paths to you.

F. HOOPER (Upper VI Science).

## EPITAPH ON A PLAYING FIELD

Our school field is growing less and less,  
And it's in the most "terrific" mess,  
There are bricks and mortar here and there,  
And wire-netting everywhere.

Although our spirits are slightly damp,  
As in a concentration camp,  
Our thoughts go forward to the next few years,  
When our new hall will ring with cheers.

CHRISTINE NOBLE (Form IIa).

## TREE

The one thing that never fails to interest me is the old oak tree. I have watched it, daily, from my window, and I have seen it constantly changing.

I have seen it in the Spring, bursting out with a new life and a new freshness. Then, it has gladdened my mind, when I have been worried; it has gladdened my eyes when I have been tired; and it has gladdened my heart when I have been sad.

I have seen it in Summer, waving its green boughs in the afternoon heat. Then, I have been glad to sit in the shade of the friendly old tree, and to gaze into its cool depths, and feel grateful to it for screening me from the pitiless sun.

In the mellow days of Autumn, I have watched its leaves gradually change from green to delightful yellows, reds, and rich browns. Then it has sent its leaves gently tumbling on to my window-sill, to form a thick carpet on the ground below.

In the winter it has still appeared beautiful to me, as I have sat at my window, gazing at its bare black boughs, stretching, like long fingers into the sky. Many is the time that I have lain in bed, whilst the constant tap-tapping of its boughs on my window pane has lulled me to sleep.

And now I am leaving my oak tree. Someone else is going to seek its shelter from the summer sun. Someone else is going to find a friend in it. But whenever I pass it, I shall look up at its old familiar boughs and gnarled trunk, and think of the time when I would sit and watch it from a small, second-storey window.

PAMELA M. BROWN (Form IVa).

## THE CEMENT-MIXER'S SONG

Stir and pound and toil for hours,  
Mixing up this magic brew,  
Raise the cry throughout the land,  
"One of cement to three of sand."

The call so haunts the minds of many  
That, instead of formulae in "chemmy,"  
They just describe with eager pen  
The method of the builder's men.

The girls, enthralled, with mixture stand  
And listen to Miss Searle's oration,  
Then add, with no surprise or exclamation,  
One of cement to three of sand !

Oh, this refrain is the theme of all,  
Whatever their work, there comes the call,  
To every man throughout the land—  
"One of cement to three of sand !"

JOAN SENIOR (Form IVa).

## IN TROUBLE WITH A GERMAN POLICEMAN

Feeling very excited, we set out to explore the town. As we walked, we looked around with intense interest, for it was strange seeing all the shop signs in German, and not being able to understand what they meant. We easily found our way to the centre of the town, and quickly decided which street to take. We walked briskly across the street, and were very surprised to see everyone else stand on the pavement edge like statues, for there was no traffic about. Our progress soon came to an end, however, for our path was blocked by a wildly gesticulating figure that poured forth a torrent of unintelligible German. We stood speechless in front of him, and gazed blankly at his angry face. At last he paused for breath, and my friend seized the opportunity to tell him, in rather halting German, that we were English. Still he was not appeased, though he did speak a little slower. From the jumble of words, we gathered at last what we had done wrong.

In Germany they have traffic lights for pedestrians, too, and we had crossed at red. No wonder the other people stood like statues on the edge of the pavement ; we did, too, for the rest of our stay !

HEATHER COLEY (Form 5a).

## HISTORY

The history test is about to start  
And thump ! thump ! thump ! goes my poor heart ;  
As we file into the empty room,  
Our faces reflect a cloud of gloom.

I dip my pen into the ink,  
I knit my brow and try to think,  
I think and think and think in vain—  
All I've written down's my name.

Did Raleigh play bowls on the Plymouth Green  
While the approaching Armada was easily seen ?  
Was it William the Conqueror burnt the cake ?  
And Alfred the Great who was burnt at the stake ?

1066 and all that, I say,  
Was clear in my mind until today.  
The Fire of London, the terrible Plague,  
The Wars of the Roses now are all vague.

I struggle on till—there's the bell !  
What I've written I cannot tell,  
But our history papers are cleared away  
And I tremble at the thought of reckoning day !

PAMELA DAINTY (Form IV Beta).

## ON PLAYING GOALKEEPER

This essay might almost be mistaken for one of "*The Spectator*" essays for in the noble game of hockey, the goalkeeper is virtually a spectator for the greater part of the game. She is isolated from the rest of the team. They are a team of ten—they have the same hopes and fears, they experience the same emotions. But not so the goalkeeper. She is alone—her reactions to the game are quite different. The team are relieved when their goalkeeper stops a hard shot—she herself is relieved when she misses it.

That is where the real subtlety of the game lies. The object of the game (from the point of view of the goalkeeper) is not to stop all the shots that come her way—that would be foolish and painful. The real object is to let through fewer goals than the opposing goalkeeper does. She must select which shots to stop and which to let through without causing the team to lose. Hence the most favourable position is to be at least two goals up. Thus when the next vicious shot comes along, the goalkeeper must use all her skill and imagination ; she must look as though she is trying to stop the ball, while, in fact, she must ensure that she evades it.

The novice will find goalkeeping rather a painful experience. The first thing that happens is that a friend will come and with a blow on the pads with her stick (which had it been an axe would have cut her leg off) says—"You can't feel anything, can you? It is useless to argue. She admits it—she can feel nothing—her leg seems to be paralysed.

But eventually the novice takes her place on the field—this is usually round about half-time, when the team rest and the goalkeeper exercises herself by changing ends. In her first game, the novice tries to stop all the goals. However, her nobility will undoubtedly decrease with experience.

The essential quality of a goalkeeper is that she must try to keep cool (the effort is unnecessary as far as bodily temperature is concerned). She must be quite unruffled no matter what the state of the game may be. She will get no credit for a victory, and all the blame for a defeat in any case.

And so, if there are any young players who are asked to play goalkeeper, let them be cautious—they are signing away the playing days of their youth.

A. M. PLATT (Upper VI Science).

## BRIDLINGTON HARBOUR

Waves dash against the harbour wall ;  
Pleasure-boat sirens make sea-birds call.  
Boats at their moorings rise and fall  
In the harbour at Brid.

Fishing-boys with lines all a-tangle,  
Experts with rods whose bells jingle-jangle,  
Small boys on steps their brown legs dangle  
In the harbour at Brid.

When shrill blows the gale and the seas are high  
For the call of distress the lifeboat stands by.  
To the peace of still waters small boats fly  
To the harbour at Brid.

J. GITTINS (Q.2).



## WHY DON'T WE ?

Why don't we have a regatta ?  
There's Wath canal quite near,  
And if we all kept at the job,  
By '60 it should be clear !

Why don't we have a pantomime ?  
Of clowns we've quite a few ;  
We have a glut of giants  
And giant-killers too !

Why don't we have a swimming-pool ?  
With so many buildings new,  
One more won't make much difference—  
And far more useful too !

Why don't the girls play cricket,  
The boys play tennis, too ?  
The girls could all do woodwork,  
And the boys might make a stew !

Why don't we have a suggestion box  
For ideas bright and new ?  
Then perhaps these here could be replaced  
By better ones from you !

Anonymous Athenian.

## CURATE'S EGG

### Signs of what is to come

"The future of the world is in the air." This is the ceaseless wail of many misguided middle-school, would-be aircraft designers, who see the future world as one large hangar housing helicopters, jets and comets.

The air is full of the signs of "our flying future." Greasy bits of paper with all the latest aircraft plans scrawled upon them "float" everywhere around the school. Pens and pencils steal furtively from Latin, English or Algebra to design 'planes silently under desks. Pamphlets on the complicated subject of aeronautics are passed from hand to hand, whilst eyes are "glued" to them with a fixity never applied to the most enthralling "silent reader." Out on the field even games, at times, give way to the all-powerful sway of the latest home-made gliders. What are these unsightly bulges under jacket sleeves ? Are they new places for lunches or just other hiding places for those precious treasures, model planes ? Even that unwanted "test paper" becomes at last a thing of worth as it is lovingly shaped into a beautiful jet.

Indeed, such are the signs of what is to be, that one almost expects that schoolmates will sprout wings and the school develop into a huge aviary, if, as our budding aircraft designers think,—“The future of the world is in the air.”

PATRICIA YELLAND (Form IVa).

■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

It is very strange how stories good and bad, complimentary or otherwise, get around and the following one is a typical example of how reputations are made or broken.

My father, on his homeward journey from Rotherham in a bus, overheard a conversation between two well-dressed gentlemen who were seated in front of him and were evidently discussing the previous Saturday's sport.

"I think that the attitude of the Wath Grammar School players was one of the best I have ever seen. Their action in loaning two players to the Rotherham team seems to me to be in the finest traditions of sportsmanship."

My father was immediately interested at the mention of Wath and from the conversation he gathered that a team from Wath G. S. had come to play a Rotherham team only to find that Rotherham were a few players short and that the Wath captain had loaned Rotherham two players—each side playing with thirteen men. The two men on loan had played no small part in the success of the Rotherham side, but best of all was the high compliment paid to Wath G. S. on their "sportsmanship." The result did not matter so much as being "good sportsmen." My father and everyone else around who overheard the conversation were impressed and I am proud to be a member of a school that turns out "grand sportsmen."

HUCKNALL (Q.2).

Editor's note : *Though this good reputation was somewhat cheaply won, we can at least strive to deserve it.*

### La Maison Wath

During a highly intellectual dinner-hour discussion, it was suggested that the School Outfitters be abandoned and that instead, all clothes should be sold direct from school. The salesmen at least would be unique. We imagine the masters trying to sell a school cap something like this, "Now this cap has excellent properties and stands up quite well to the reactions of effervescent schoolboys. It costs  $2x(x-y) \div 3xy$  shillings."

Of course, modern language mistresses, knowing so much about France, and, therefore, French fashions, would make remarkably lucrative "modistes." It is understandable that our extremely old-fashioned school hats might be revered a little more when described as "Très chic" and Très jolie."

From our Geography mistresses we should learn that juniors' three-quarter length woollen stockings come from Australia, "from the wool of those wonderful little Merino sheep which are partly descended from our very own Peninne sheep. These animals are truly courageous, giving up their warm woollen coats, just to keep us warm. We really ought not to take this wool. In fact, I don't think I can find the heart to sell you these stockings. You had better try and buy some cotton ones from another shop."

Do you think the idea would work out? I don't. I think that we should all be too prostrate with laughing to buy anything. It would, however, brighten the monotony at "*La Maison Wath.*"

J. FURR (Form V alpha).

### Algebra

For exciting adventure these volumes cannot be beaten.

Read the adventures of Mr. X, the hero whose adventures through page after page can be followed with bated breath.

Will he prove equal to the villainous Mr. Y, and will X be finally set at nought?

One cannot but marvel at the tense excitement of these volumes, but rest assured nervous reader the incredible Mr. X will in the end prove equal to all.

ANON.

### The Sixth Form

Sixth formers are the strange beings who stand in the middle of the corridor, whose poses could do credit to a guardsman, and who bellow down the corridor, "Come back, you," to the lower school boys, "Don't run; go back to the end of the corridor and walk this time." Their voice would not disgrace a regimental sergeant-major.

Surely these guardians of law and order are not the same people who sedately saunter, hands in pocket, disdainfully ignoring the pleas of a first former, who wishes to be early for lessons, to hurry up.

As hale and hearty he-men, they force poor little juniors and trembling seniors to turn out to practices in all weather (and are themselves muffled in sweaters, scarves, and gloves). But where do they themselves get to during dinner times? Surely they do not remain coyly inside for the purpose of studying? In view of the studious natures of the sixth is it possible?

CLAYTON (Form Va).

### The Prefect's Nightmare

Like all the prefects I have an overwhelming sense of duty. Every minute of the day I am on the lookout for things that need putting right, ready to rush in where angels fear to tread. Never for a moment must I cease my vigil; never for a moment can I relax and enjoy the pleasures of life. As a result my health is suffering. I am in a state of serious nervous strain.

The other night I had a most terrifying experience. I was being dragged through a maze of cloakrooms, classrooms, and corridors filled with hordes of shouting horrors. They were standing on lockers, sliding down banisters, and skating along the corridors. I was led into a peaceful, empty classroom. No sooner was I through the door than a hundred heads popped up from behind the empty desks and simultaneously a hundred inky paper pellets flew in my direction. It was an ambush. Powerless, I turned and fled and did not stop until I found myself alone in the middle of a deserted corridor. At last, peace! Then suddenly round the corner rushed a mob of shrieking children,

five or six abreast, running, sliding, bearing down on me relentlessly, malignant grins on their cheeky faces. They were almost upon me but, remembering my duty, like a true hero I stood my ground. Flinging my arms wide, I shouted, above the knocking of my knees, that desperate appeal so familiar to all prefects—"Single file, please ! And don't run, slide, or shout !"

I woke up with a start to find myself safe in my own bed. Gosh ! it was good to be alive in a sane world. Then I remembered ! Today was my turn to read in assembly !

The trouble is that no-one seems to appreciate what we poor souls go through in our endeavours to become such good, kind, conscientious, just, hardworking prefects.

## GAMES

### SPORTS DAY



The sports were held on Wednesday, May 20th, 1953. It was a warm, still day, ideal for our athletes who proved to be on top-form, setting up eighteen records. The sports were keenly contested and interest was high until the final event was over. Only twelve points separated the first three Houses, Rome—267, Carthage—264 and Athens—255 ; Troy and Sparta were 4th and 5th respectively. The records set up are :—

#### Boys.

- Group IV. Discus—Athey (Athens), 129ft. 2ins.  
 Shot—Norman (Troy), 39ft. 8ins.  
 440 Yards—Beresford (Carthage), 55.9 secs.  
 High Jump—Athey (Athens), 5ft. 8ins.  
 Mile—Kay (Athens), 4 mins. 58 secs.  
 Relay—Athens, 2 mins. 3.2 secs.
- Group III. 880 Yards—Caldwell (Sparta), 2 mins. 22.8 secs.  
 Shot—Booth (Carthage), 41ft. 9ins.  
 Relay—Rome, 1 min. 22.5 secs.
- Group II. 80 Yards—Moody (Athens), 9.8 secs.  
 Relay—Rome, 58.4 secs.
- Group I. High Jump—Blythe (Sparta), 4ft. 0½ins.

#### Girls.

- Group III. High Jump—G. Bladen (Carthage), 4ft. 5ins.  
 Hurdles—M. Taylor (Carthage), 12.5 secs.  
 Relay—Carthage, 57.5 secs.
- Group II. Hurdles—P. Edwards (Rome), 13 secs.
- Group I. 100 Yards—M. Parrish (Troy), 13 secs.  
 Relay—Troy, 1 min. 2.6 secs.

New events, introduced for the girls, were :— 180 yards race (groups II and III), and Discus (group III).

G.K.

## INTER-SCHOOL SPORTS

The annual meeting was held on the 14th July at Doncaster. For the first time a neutral ground, that of the Plant Works, was chosen for these sports.

In spite of Mr. Hogg's energy and time spent in training the team, and the hopes aroused by our own sports, the school came from the field empty-handed. Atley alone upheld our prestige. He set up a new Senior High Jump record with a jump of 5ft. 10ins., a magnificent achievement. Our only other victories came from Norman in the Senior Shot, and from the Junior Relay team. We were fourth in the final placing.

This dismal picture was completed by the unfortunate position of our supporters. They could see little and because of the wind (which also caused the withdrawal of the hurdle events) could hear even less. However, not even these handicaps and disappointments could subdue the spirits of Wath.

Next year we hope to do better. The performance of the juniors in coming second is promising but only by hard work can we succeed.

G.K.

## CROSS COUNTRY NOTES

The Inter-House Cross Country Race was run on Wednesday, the 18th of February. As fifty unfortunates participated, we came nearer to fulfilling the Headmaster's desire of seeing all senior boys suffer once a year. The race was run in fine weather at a good pace. The cup, presented for the first time, was won by Athens, Troy being second, followed by Sparta, Rome and Carthage in that order.

The Inter-School Cross Country was held at Maltby. Someone aptly described the course as being remarkably like a mountain range. In this gruelling race we were beaten into second place by Mexborough whom we congratulate on a fine performance. Beresford is to be complimented on taking 3rd place; the other positions obtained were Vizard, 6th; Royston, 7th; Hooper F., 12th; Hedges, 13th; Hooper M., 19th; Stables, 21st and Kay, 39th.

However, the coming season will see the race run over our own beloved hills and dales. We hope to do better, and, with more training than the previous season and the advantage of the "home ground," we ought to secure the shield once again.

G.K.

## SWIMMING GALA JULY 21st, 1953

Although the Swimming Sports are but young as a school function, this year showed a marked improvement in the general standard of swimming. The provision of a cup for this year's competition increased inter-house rivalry, but again Sparta occupied first place, although Rome was ejected by Athens from its customary second place.

Final results were :—

1—SPARTA	..	121	points.
2—ATHENS	..	100	..
3—ROME	..	91	..
4—TROY	..	84	..
5—CARTHAGE	..	59	..

Local Spartans helped by members of the Staff have now become experts in erecting and dismantling the seating accommodation.

J. DARLEY (Upper VI. Lit.).

## ROUNDERS

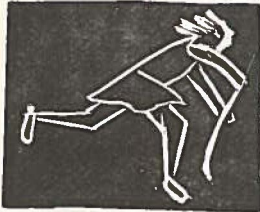
First Team chosen from : M. Holmes, S. Hallat (*Captain*), D. Veazey, M. Beevers, J. Roper, A. Bentcliffe, P. Oldknow, R. Collens, M. Pepper, I. Dyer.

This season was not as successful as last. Even so, the two teams won more matches than they lost. The first team won four and lost one of their matches, the second team won three and lost two, and the junior team lost one of their two matches.

## TENNIS

First team :    *1st Couple.*                      *2nd Couple.*                      *3rd Couple.*  
                   A. Brookes (*Capt.*).    M. Taylor.                      J. Ardron.  
                   P. Winch.                      A. Meyers.                      A. Neale.

The tennis teams were unfortunate in having few fixtures this year. The first team won two and lost two of their matches and the second team won two of their three matches.



## HOCKEY

First Team : A. Platt, G. Bladen, P. Beighton, P. Law, M. Downing, M. Huddart, M. Beevers, M. Holmes (*Captain*), E. Rhodes, J. Wood, B. Hinchliffe.

Last season proved very successful for both the first and second hockey elevens. The first team won nine, drew two and lost only three of their matches, and the second won twelve of their thirteen matches. The climax of the season was the Sheffield tournament in which the first eleven were narrowly defeated in the final by High Storrs. Once again, however, the Staff eleven were victorious in the annual match against the first eleven.

This season has begun quite well. The results so far are :—

	1st XI.	2nd XI.
v. Thorne .. .. .	Lost 1—3	Won 9—3
v. Barnsley .. .. .	Won 6—2	Won 10—1
v. Mexborough .. .. .	Lost 0—1	Won 2—0
v. Woodlands .. .. .	Won 8—3	Won 8—1
v. Doncaster and West Riding Ladies ..	Drew 5—5	
v. Mexborough .. .. .	Won 6—1	Won 6—1
v. Doncaster Convent .. .. .	Lost 2—3	Won 8—5
v. Ecclesfield .. .. .	Won 5—0	Won 13—1



## CRICKET

First Team chosen from : Wilks (*Capt.*), Norman, Hedges, Wardle, Swallow, Darley, Neal, Wilby, Hooper F., Platt, Barber, Hooper B.

Record : Played 8 ; Won 3 ; Lost 4 ; Drawn 1.

### Results :

May 9th	Mexborough .. .. .	.. .. .	H. Lost.
June 6th	Thorne .. .. .	.. .. .	H. Lost.
June 13th	Mexborough .. .. .	.. .. .	H. Won.
June 27th	Thorne .. .. .	.. .. .	A. Lost.
July 4th	Hemsworth .. .. .	.. .. .	H. Won.
July 8th	Old Boys .. .. .	.. .. .	H. Drawn.
July 11th	Woodlands .. .. .	.. .. .	H. Won.
July 18th	Hemsworth .. .. .	.. .. .	A. Lost.

Better team spirit considerably helped towards a more successful season than last year. All the games, except the one with Hemsworth in which the school was well beaten, could easily have resulted in victory or defeat for the school, because the scores were so close and the last overs were therefore exciting. The bowling and batting were better than in the previous year and the season was enjoyed by all who took part in the games. This year the Prefects managed to beat the Staff for the first time in four years.

### The "Under 14" Team :

**Record :** Played 6 ; Won 4 ; Lost 1 ; Drawn 1.

The season was enjoyed by all "Under 14" members whose team spirit and keenness were the keynote of a fairly successful season. Practices were well-attended and the fielding was usually good, except in the Brampton match. The team was chosen from : Smith (*Capt.*), Scherdel, Swinburne, Wilkinson, Wood, Bennett, Potts, Atkinson, Beckett, Clayton, Sidebottom, Ottewell, Good, Mallinson.

<b>Results :</b>	June 13th	Mexborough..	..	..	H.	Won.
	July 4th	Hemsworth ..	..	..	A.	Won.
	July 8th	Brampton Ellis	..	..	H.	Drawn.
	July 11th	Mexborough..	..	..	A.	Lost.
	July 18th	Hemsworth ..	..	..	H.	Won.
	July 22nd	Park Road Modern	..	..	H.	Won.

F.B.



### RUGBY

The first team has been chosen from Swallow, Hooper F., Darley, Hooper B., Kay, Barber, Booth, Caldwell, Stables, Hedges, Camplejohn, Clements, Dunn, Taylor Fennell, Nelson and Beaumont.

This year's pack is almost as heavy as last year's, but by no means as fast. As a result set scrums are up to standard but play in the open is scrappy and often ineffectual. Forwards are slow to follow the ball and do not unite to stop an opponents' attack. Harder, more enthusiastic practice is needed to make the forwards into a unit. On the whole the backs have held their own in matches although their handling calls for improvement. The general weakness in tackling must be remedied before the team can achieve any outstanding success.

Owing to a large number of absences and an inadequate pool of reserves, we have been hard-pressed to produce a worthy 2nd XV. Even so the team has treated its opponents to some hard-fought battles. We have tasted the fruits of victory (cheese sandwiches, tea and biscuits—for which we are grateful to the Vth girls) and the bitterness of defeat. The team works hard on the field and matches have been enjoyable. When the team settles down we can look forward to greater success.

The "under 15" side this season has met with outstanding success, and is one of the strongest of recent years. The backs are particularly effective. In the forwards there is room for some improvement.

## Results :

<b>1st Team :</b>	Sept. 19th	Ex-Captain's XV.	..	..	H.	Won	18—13
	Oct. 17th	Goole	..	..	A.	Lost	0—14
	Oct. 24th	Sheffield University "B"	..	..	A.	Lost	3—6
	Oct. 31st	Doncaster	..	..	A.	Won	12—3
	Nov. 7th	Old Boys	..	..	H.	Lost	11—19
	Nov. 14th	Internat. Harvesters	..	..	A.	Won	25—6
	Nov. 21st	Thorne ..	..	..	H.	Won	8—5
	Nov. 28th	Hemsworth	..	..	A.	Lost	3—13
	Dec. 5th	Sheffield Tigers	..	..	H.	Won	23—0
	Dec. 19th	English Steel Corporation	..	..	H.	Won	6—5
<b>2nd Team :</b>	Oct. 3rd	Rotherham R.U.F.C. "B"	..	..	A.	Lost	11—13
	Oct. 17th	Goole	..	..	A.	Won	27—8
	Oct. 31st	Sheffield Tigers	..	..	H.	Won	28—6
	Nov. 7th	Sheffield R.U.F.C. "B"	..	..	H.	Lost	5—11
	Nov. 21st	Thorne ..	..	..	H.	Lost	6—13
	Nov. 28th	Hemsworth	..	..	A.	Lost	6—15
	Dec. 5th	Sheffield Tigers	..	..	H.	Won	10—6
	Dec. 19th	English Steel Corporation	..	..	H.	Lost	9—11
<b>"Under 15" Team :</b>							
	Oct. 17th	Spurley Hey	..	..	A.	Won	18—3
	Nov. 7th	Oakwood Technical	..	..	A.	Won	21—0
	Nov. 21st	Thorne ..	..	..	H.	Won	28—0
	Nov. 28th	Hemsworth	..	..	A.	Lost	5—11
	Dec. 19th	Sheffield Schools	..	..	A.	Lost	5—8
<b>"Under 14" Team :</b>							
	Oct. 17th	Oakwood Technical	..	..	A.	Draw	3—3
	Oct. 31st	Spurley Hey	..	..	H.	Won	9—3
	Dec. 12th	Spurley Hey	..	..	A.	Lost	0—17

## OLD WATHONIANS' ASSOCIATION

The chief event of the year was, as always, the Annual Re-Union, held on Friday, March 27th. Many old boys and girls attended and the evening passed very pleasantly.

On Wednesday, July 22nd a party of Old Wathonians and friends went to Chatsworth to see the Derbyshire Coronation Pageant, Henry V. After many days of doubtful weather, that evening was glorious, and all agreed that the whole outing was most enjoyable and well worth while.

The Tennis Club flourished during the Summer.

We are always pleased to have news of Old Wathonians. Any information should be sent to Miss Swift at school, or to the Secretary : Kathleen Clark, 19, Claypit Lane, Rawmarsh, Rotherham.



## MARRIAGES

Loise Hewitt (W.G.S.) to Donald Buchanan (W.G.S.).  
Betty Atkinson (W.G.S.) to Bryan Ward.  
Jean Atkinson (W.G.S.) to Dennis L. Adams.  
Margaret Buncall (W.G.S.) to Barrie G. Keast.  
Audrey Watson to Philip Cauwood (W.G.S.).  
Barbara Darwin (W.G.S.) to William Scarrott.  
Jean Baldwin (W.G.S. Staff) to Ernest W. Higgs (W.G.S.).  
Joan Kenworthy (W.G.S.) to William Shutt.  
Margaret Leadley (W.G.S.) to Peter Bellwood.  
Joan Martin (W.G.S.) to Jenneth Glasbey.  
Mavis Hickling (W.G.S.) to Geoffrey E. Gleadall (W.G.S.).  
Greta Birkinshaw to John Edward Myers (W.G.S.).  
Dorothy M. Smith to Raymond Sickler (W.G.S.).  
Jean White (W.G.S.) to Graham Wood (W.G.S.).  
June K. Willey (W.G.S.) to Richard Walker.  
Alice Wood (W.G.S.) to Harry Walker.  
Mary Hawke (W.G.S.) to Donald Hill.  
Mary Waddington (W.G.S.) to Stephen Wilson.  
Betty Phillips (W.G.S.) to David Earnshaw.  
Brenda Clarke (W.G.S.) to Edward Clarke (W.G.S.).  
Brenda M. Triffit to Eric Readman (W.G.S.).  
Margaret Kitchener (W.G.S.) to Alan Sykes (W.G.S.).

## BIRTHS

Mr. and Mrs. G. Barlow (Olwen Armitage)—a son.  
Mr. and Mrs. Marsh (Doreen Curt)—a second daughter.  
Mr. and Mrs. Nelson (Margaret Hewitt)—a son.  
Mr. and Mrs. Stott (Stella Bennett)—a daughter.  
Mr. and Mrs. Wither (Dorothy Green)—a daughter.

## DEATHS

We record with deep regret the deaths of:—

Hilda Birkinshaw (nee Ward) (W.G.S., 1932 - 1937).  
Donald Morton (W.G.S., 1944 - 1948).  
Eileen Woodcock (W.G.S., 1940 - 1945).

## CONGRATULATIONS

Our hearty congratulations are extended to:—

Derrick Dexter, M.D.  
Colin Booth  
Robert S. Robson  
Jack Harrop  
Irving Gawthrope  
Wilmer Howard  
Robert M. Cox  
Rev. A. E. Potts  
Denis Lightley

on obtaining their degree.

Margaret Keast (nee Buncall)—L.R.A.M.  
Alec Lazenby—Lectureship at University of Cambridge.  
Robert O'Donoghue—on passing the final examination of the Chartered Institute of Secretaries.  
Douglas Crofts—on passing Part I of the Managers' Certificate of the Institute of Housing.  
Tom Martin—on qualifying as a Veterinary Surgeon.  
Corporal Raymond Sickler was on the route of the Coronation Procession.  
Squadron Leader John Miller, D.F.C., was awarded the Air Force Cross on the Queen's Birthday and Coronation Honours List. He took part in the Fly Past of Meteor Jet Planes on Salute to the Queen on Coronation Day.  
Wing Commander G. C. Unwin, D.F.M. and bar, has been awarded the D.S.O. for services in Malaya.

## OLD WATHONIANS RUGBY UNION F.C.

Though at first sight the Club's record this season appears pretty dismal in comparison with previous years, better days are very obviously just ahead. After a shaky start the team appears at last to be settling into a reasonable blend, and our newcomers becoming more seasoned to the hurly-burly of Club football; where regrettably, at times finesse and ability count for little when opposed to certain types of robust play . . . In point of fact five of our lost games have been surrendered by the odd score, usually in the shape of gift penalties to the opposition; the remedy for this of course being experience.

Up to going to press the Club's record is as follows:—

Points					
P.	W.	L.	D.	For	Against
11	4	7	0	108	92

We have been pleased to welcome Ulliyott, Podmore, Royston, Fisher, Leech, Green, and Hambleton this season; and reiterate our annual invitation to all interested players.

Our grateful thanks are extended to the School Staff for the help and encouragement given us during our crisis of a few weeks ago and to the School Governors for extended use of the School playing area.

Any enquiry as to joining the Club may be made through any member of the Club Committee;

*At School*—Messrs. Cooper, Atkinson and Hogg.  
or *through* K. Anstess, G. Wood; or the  
*Secretary*—K. Y. Lythe, of Wombwell.

### PREFECTS, 1953-54

#### Girls.

Audrey Platt (*Head Girl*), Anne Bentcliffe, Elizabeth Buncall, Ruth Collens, Kathleen Hayes, Janet Wood, Joan Shreeve, Rhoda Jennings, Margaret Holmes, Barbara Clarke, Eileen Garfitt, Judith Law, Barbara Garside and Jean Snowden.

#### Boys.

F. Hooper (*Head Boy*), J. L. Hedges, B. Clayton, B. Hooper, R. Frost, I. M. Athey, S. H. Platt, J. B. Fennell, J. Darley, G. Kay, G. Featherstone, P. G. Wilby, T. Swallow, B. Whitfield and F. Barber.

### GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION, 1953

**Advanced**—Altogether 41 candidates took papers at advanced level, and 38 obtained certificates.

#### State Scholarship :

D. Ellis.

#### County University Exhibitions :

Marjorie Carr            Malcolm Hooper  
Jean Harrison            John E. Wardle.

#### County University Bursaries :

James M. Beresford    Barbara Hutton  
John Darley            Kathleen Ineson  
Jos. G. Featherstone    Charles T. Norman  
Frank Hooper            John H. Seago.

#### Miners' Welfare Scholarship :

James M. Beresford.

**Ordinary**—Altogether 151 candidates took papers at ordinary level and qualified for 141 certificates in one or more subjects.

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We acknowledge gratefully the receipt of the following magazines:—“Alumnus,” “Danensis,” “Don and Dearne,” “The Morleian,” and the magazines of Rotherham Grammar School and of Rotherham High School.

The thanks of the Magazine Committee are due to Mr. Leadley for his cover design for the present magazine and to Barber (VI Gen.) for his woodcuts illustrative of school games.

—————::—————

*Editor* : B. CLAYTON (Upper VI Sc.).

*Sub Editor* : BARBARA CLARKE (Upper VI Lit.).



