

VOL. XXVI No. 8

AUGUST, 1954

ISSUE No. 608

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# THE ELIZABETHAN

Vol. XXVI. No. 8

AUGUST, 1954

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#### A WESTMINSTER NOTEBOOK

#### Controversy

About the School I find my Notebook causing heated controversy. "The Notebook was the main reason for the July number being the worst for twenty-six years," says one critic. "Who is this mysterious I?" "Congratulations," writes an Old Westminster. "You can tell everybody that the last issue was very good indeed." I am branded as a second-rate and unlettered journalist, aping the American style: I am praised for my lively presentation of the news. But whatever the truth may be, such controversy is an excellent thing for *The Elizabethan*. It serves to keep the Editors on their toes, and prevents the satisfied stagnation to which school magazines are so peculiarly liable.

#### Men in a Boat

The beginning of July saw the formation of a School sailing club. At a preliminary meeting some twenty-five would-be sailors turned up: all of them had had some sailing experience, and nine were in fact boat-owners. A member of the club told my reporter: "Our main difficulty is finding a boathouse or mooring to operate from. We would like somewhere in the Putney area, but we are keeping our eyes open for a suitable spot more or less anywhere on the river."

#### The Summer Game

"This season the First XI have proved remarkably unreliable. Only one match have they won . . ." So began our cricket correspondent's report in the August issue last year : this year I am glad to be able to tell a different tale. The First XI has played fourteen matches, two of which had to be abandoned through the vagaries of the English "summer". Of the remaining twelve,

they won five, drew four and lost only three. Top of the batting averages comes the Captain, J. W. Tourlamain—his performance this season included a fine 118 not out against the Surrey Colts. The bowling averages are headed by M. D. Garcia, who took twenty-three wickets at a cost of 12.6 runs each.

#### Election

As the Abbey was being stripped of its Coronation finery, the 1953 Election Service had to be held on Election Monday in St. Matthew's. This was so successful that it was decided to hold this year's service again on the Monday: the former Head Master, Mr. J. T. Christie was invited to preach in Abbey. Election Dinner too is being continued this year. A novel idea is the welcoming of guests by the Captain, who makes a short speech in heroic couplets. One of the theses for epigrams this year, "The good is hard to achieve," was the thesis fifty years ago, when the following was written:

To teach the classics is no use, To science let us turn; Perhaps the classics are too hard For scientists to learn.

No comment.

#### Progress

I have good news of the Liberty Boy Tablets in College. Work is progressing steadily, and the whole thing should be ready before the beginning of next term: already some twenty names have been inscribed, including those of R. Busby and Warn. Hastings. Work on the rebuilding of Grant's is also proceeding well, though not as quickly as was at first hoped: the contractors should be out by Christmas.

#### TERENCE'S PHORMIO

FOR the first time since the War put an end to the traditional Latin Play, one of Terence's comedies was performed at Westminster on July 15th. *Phormio* formed a complete contrast with the Play of pre-War days. The production took place in Yard, the modern Latin pronunciation was used, modern dress was worn, and the play was acted not by the Queen's Scholars alone but by the Classical VIth and VIIth.

Phormio is not an easy play to produce; the plot is so intricate that is is very difficult for the audience to follow the action at all. Yet this production, with its novel setting and wardrobe, was so admirably lively that the spectators were able to take a full and intelligent interest in what was happening on the stage. Scene followed scene swiftly: the whole plot in all its complexity was lucidly revealed, thanks to the speedy action and admirable diction of the cast. In short, Phormio was acted not as a play in Latin, but as a comedy, and one felt that Latin was a living language which came naturally to the actors—and indeed to the audience itself. This was perhaps the most striking aspect of a very striking production.

The scene was set in front of Ashburnham House, and the ingenious lighting created a very attractive atmosphere as the twilight deepened. The play opened with a short prologue, written by the Classical VIIth and spoken by Phormio himself:

Salvete, amici: tandem redii Phormio, Olim confidens, iamque confidentior. Nam exsul visus sum peregre annos septendecim Iamdudum apud vos ego desiderarier. Adsum: sed heus! ubi istuc dormitorium? Ubi scaena ista? em, redii mecum in memoriam: Dicunt duellum fulguribus flagrantibus Demolivisse pristinum collegium. Sed me non omne fulgur explosit quod est, Neque umquam explodet, donec lectitabitur A pueris lingua Westmonasteriensibus Nostra. At nunc dicam quot modis mutatu' sim: Primo scholares cum oppidanorum grege Agent me: eorum scilicet qui una student Utrique linguae; dein pronuntiatio Quae iam usurpatur, sane sit recentior, At eadem, quod solet fieri, antiquissimast; Haec vestimenta tertio quae cernitis Maiorum more sunt contemporanea; Postremo, a Marte pulsos recipit Juppiter . . . Sed ecce Davus! Exeundumst! Enico!

Phormio the unscrupulous parasite was well portrayed by C. D. N. Borg, although he had an unfortunate tendency to be a little inaudible at times: with well-greased hair and loud wasitcoat he looked the typical spiv, but he was a villain who endeared himself, as Terence intended he should, to the audience. The part of Geta is no easy one: he has to play second fiddle to the master-intriguer Phormio without ceasing to dominate his young masters and to hold his own with his old ones. J. B. Banbury fulfilled this difficult rôle admirably, and his fine performance was restrained yet lively. As soon as R. L. Sturch staggered on to the stage carrying two immense suitcases, the success of Demipho was assured: he was excellent throughout, and gave the lie to a former reviewer of Phormio who observed that the part "did not give much scope for exceptionally fine acting." His weak-willed brother, Chremes, was well drawn by G. I. Chick, whose incompetent despair was very humorous.

The two young men, Antipho and Phaedria, are difficult and rather unrewarding parts, but D. J. D. Miller and J. I. Willett made the most of them. Willett was amusingly pathetic in the scene with the tough slave dealer, and Miller was very funny as he screwed up his courage to meet Demipho, only to flee as soon as the old man The two female parts were both appeared. superbly acted: M. A. Marshall as Nausistrata, Chremes' domineering wife, was a first-class battle-axe, and P. W. Lewis as Sophrona, the old nurse, was a model of agitated distraction. Dorio the slave dealer, effectively muffled up in a duffle-coat, could perhaps have been a trifle fiercer: but he was convincingly flinty and unrelenting. The three friends of Demipho were very amusing, and even bordered on the farcical as they strenuously tried to avoid Phormio's eye at the beginning of the second act: G. L. R. Metz was ponderously definite, J. M. Goldman apologetically dissented from his views (quot homines tot sententiae), and short A. C. E. Pleasance announced with appropriate gravity that "res magna est." Davus, played by A. C. B. Hunter, was pleasantly unassuming, and J. M. L. Stone, a non-speaking slave, was by an inspired thought dressed as Chremes' butler.

Unlike pre-War productions, *Phormio* did not end with a long epilogue full of sparkling puns and comment on current events: there was,



Villain of the Piece: E. D. V. Borg as Phormio



[Photos: C. Clayton "Agitated Distraction"

however, a short epilogue written by the producer, Mr. T. L. Zinn, and spoken by Demipho and his three friends:

DEMIPHO: Qualis nunc fuerit comoedia nostra videtis. Debeat haec iterum fabula

necne dari ? Hegio, dic.

HEGIO: Ego? Si visumst, prior ille Cratinus

Censeat.

DEMIPHO: At dictum redde, Cratine, mihi.

CRATINUS: Mene vocas?

DEMIPHO: Te.

CRATINUS: Sic visumst mihi: talia debent,

Qae prosint, fieri. Si qua solebat agi. Fabula prisca olim, quam non intellegit ullus, Cur non iure bono

desinat illa ? Tene.

DEMIPHO: Hegio, nunc dicas.

HEGIO: Ego rite hunc dicere credo; At populus variis moribus esse solet:

Nam quot sunt homines, sua fit

sententia cuique. Non mihi reginae traditione piae Quod sanctum fuerit rescindi posse videtur, Et turpe inceptu est.

DEMIPHO: Dic, Crito.

CRITO: Plura mihi Consilia exquiras: res

P. W. Lewis as Sophrona

magna est.

HEGIO: Iam licet ire?

DEMIPHO: Fecistis probius: si tamen ante fui

Incertus, multo sum nunc incertior. Ecce! Quid dubito? Vobis res

agi tanda manet.

In conclusion tribute must be paid to the skill of C. Lewsen, whose make-up was well-nigh perfect, to the electricians, S. T. Gray and J. D. Barnes, O.W., and to the producer, Mr. Zinn, Master of the Classical VIIth. In essaying a production of one of Terence's comedies, Mr. Zinn was taking a bold step: the success of *Phormio* encourages hopes of regular productions under similar conditions in the future.

#### AN UNBEATEN SEASON

SINCE the last report the 1st VI has surpassed our best hopes by winning all its school matches, and also reaching the final of the Glanvill Cup. We have beaten Haileybury, Eton and U.C.S., all for the first time since the fixtures were started: and, in the Glanvill Cup, St. Paul's, U.C.S., Haberdashers, K.C.S. and Eltham, to win the Home Counties Final. This area contains 27 schools, more than half the number entered for the whole competition. The final takes place at Queens Club on Saturday, 24th July.

#### GLANVILL CUP

When the unfinished 1st-round match against St. Paul's was continued, Prince and Cohen were too steady for their third pair and we won 2-1, Gordon and Clarke taking a set off Prenn and Archdale before losing. The 2nd round was played at U.C.S. who, unwisely perhaps, had split their formidable first pair; Haberdasher's second pair appeared to be their strongest; and the result was a very close match all round. Gordon and Clarke won both their matches, and Prince and Cohen playing second pair lost both theirs. In the key match Richter and Farquhar-Smith were 5-2 up in the final set against U.C.S., then 6-7 down and finally got home 10-8. They also had to fight hard against Haberdashers' third pair, two very promising juniors. After this round T. J. M. Farguhar-Smith was awarded Pink and Whites.

The Area Final against K.C.S. and Eltham was played up Fields. We started by getting a valuable 3-0 win over Eltham. The first pairs match was close: Gordon, who was only just recovering from a poisoned right arm, served 3 double faults when 5-4 up in the final set, but went on from 0-40 to win the game. Gordon and Clarke played even more strongly to beat a powerful K.C.S. first pair, whose captain faltered a little under pressure; Richter and Farquhar-Smith lost the second pair match 6-8 in the final set—and all depended on Prince and Cohen. Sustained lobbing finally broke K.C.S. who lost a long tense set 11-9.

#### SCHOOL MATCHES

Of the school matches the one at Haileybury was the closest, but our 4-2 lead at tea was unassailable. Gordon and Clarke duly won one more, as their first pair did: so the odd match was not important. After this match T. F. Richter was awarded his Pinks. Eton had a weaker team this year and could not win a match. Finally U.C.S. came up Fields to try and avenge their Glanvill Cup defeat; but Gordon and Clarke played better and better to beat Hatton and Stewart, who have only lost one school match in three years. It was 3-0 to us at the end of the first round and this was too much to get back. Three fixtures were unfortunately not played—Tonbridge owing to rain, Lancing owing to quarantine, and Stowe owing to pressure of Glanvill Cup needs.

Gordon and Clarke have only been beaten twice in 28 matches: Richter and Farquhar-Smith have fought hard at second pair and only lost twice to other second pairs: Prince and Cohen are undefeated by an opposing third pair and have unsettled some higher pairs by their tactics. All the team have at least one more year at school, except for Prince who is succeeded as Secretary by G. S. Clarke.

#### 2nd VI AND COLTS

The 2nd VI have suffered from rain and even from opponents playing members of their 1st VI—but a heavy loss in a good match against U.C.S. showed that they are not as steady or as strong as last year. R. G. Hay and S. O. Campbell-Jones, the 1st pair, were the most successful and were awarded their 3rds at the end of the season.

This year it has been possible to arrange a programme of Colts matches for the first time, as a preliminary to the Under 16 Competition in Youll Cup week. We beat Mill Hill and U.C.S. and drew with Haberdashers. The Standard of tennis was quite good; and shows that tennis for juniors is worth stimulating. Colts were awarded to J. N. L. Packer and J. S. R. Benson who won all their matches.

The Youll Cup and Under 16 Doubles Competition take place at Wimbledon during the week beginning 26th July. Nearly sixty teams have entered, a promising sign that tennis in Public Schools is no longer considered merely a soft option for those no good at cricket; an absurd point of view which is rightly dying in a world where the Davis Cup Challenge Round is more popular than a Test Match, and certainly as tough. Westminster has encouraged the independence of tennis and rated it as a major sport, a generous and enlightened policy which is now bringing its reward.

#### THE WATER

In the last issue of The Elizabethan, your correspondent forecast: "We have every chance of doing well in the regattas, and, on our present progress, perhaps more than a chance." may roughly be said of almost any set of a rowing school's eights: it is only in the final test that a real estimate of a crew's worth can be made. Furthermore, most of the senior eights are usually training for one particular event only; the very nature of rowing makes it impossible to train seriously for more than one major regatta at a time. Thus it is necessary to look upon races which come before the main event as secondary in importance—perhaps even as practices. That, of course, is not to say that such races are to be put aside as insignificant-far from it. But they must be viewed in the right perspective.

Of its seven races this term, the First Eight has won two. Five of these were rowed before Henley, which was, naturally, the chief objective. An extremely bad start lost us the Vesta Dashes early in May. In our league race against U.C.S. we struck about five strokes a minute less than our opponents the whole way, and lacked some dash which was undoubtedly there, although latent at the time. It seemed odd to some that we only lost by a third of a length. We beat Tiffins, and lost to St. Paul's by one and a half lengths. At Marlow we drew Queen's, Cambridge and 1st and 3rd. Trinity, Cambridge, "B" crew, in which two O.WW were rowing. We went off to a good fast start, and were leading by half a length after about a minute. We then became involved in a collision with 1st and 3rd, and our blades overlapped for a time. Meanwhile, Queen's drew away to win by two and a half lengths in the fast time of 4.09. Trinity beat us by a canvas in what was, for us, an excellent race all the way.

And so to Henley. Despite difficulties imposed by exams., we got two outings a day, and on our second day, Saturday June 26th, rowed a course. This was a success, and as far as times are at all comparable, we had every reason to be satisfied with it. On Monday, we rowed a barrier. This was not such a success, but at least we got it over while there was still time. We had drawn Bedford, who had won the Princess Elizabeth Cup four times already, and who looked formidable opponents. Wednesday afternoon came, and eventually we were on the stake-boats. Both crews got off to good starts, and rowed level for about twenty strokes before Bedford went up about half

a length, which lead they increased gradually to three-quarters at the barrier. Westminster, however, kept their length and their heads, although for some the margin between calmness and panic was very narrow. Bedford led at Fawley as well, but an excellent spurt on our part helped us to close the gap, and at Remenham the crews were level. Up the enclosures we just had the extra dash required to row those few extra inches every stroke, with the result that we passed the finishing post to win by half a length. It was a good race, excellently stroked by Doughty and correspondingly backed up by the rest of the crew.

Next day we rowed Monkton Combe, who had drawn a bye. There is not a great deal to be said, except that although we had the doubtful advantage of having gained a certain amount of technical knowledge from our previous race, Monkton Combe were an entirely fresh crew. From the very start they went away from us, and won by a comfortable three lengths. Our row was far from being a scramble, and was well together and co-ordinated. But we lacked the vitality we had had the day before, and Monkton Combe were undoubtedly a faster crew.

Mr. Hamerton must be warmly thanked for bringing us to our peak just at the right time, and also for making our stay at Henley so interesting and enjoyable. Our deepest thanks are also due to Mr. Hartley, who has given much of his time to coaching us, and has made the journey from Eton on many occasions to give us his

advice and encouragement.

Two or three days before Marlow, the Second VIII was going extremely well. Stylistically, they appeared to be better than the First VIII, but were very much handicapped by their lack of weight. At Marlow, they drew St. Edward's, Oxford, and Magdalen College School, and had the centre station. Their start was not as good as it might have been, and they were soon faced with the dismal prospect of having to row past both their opponents, who had got off to better starts—a prospect which did not materialize. St. Edward's rowed well to beat Magdalen College School by two lengths, and Westminster by 2 and three-quarter lengths.

At Pangbourne, where the 3rd and Colts' Eights Regatta has by now established itself as a regular rowing event, neither of our crews won their races. The 3rd VIII were beaten by Shrewsbury, and the Colts by Radley. It is

perhaps worth pointing out that our definition of a Colt means that all the members of our Colts' eight are a year younger than the Colts at most other schools. Of the lower eights, the Fifth has done extremely well, coming first equal in its league after some most exciting and even memorable races.

Looking back over the year from the Schools' Head of the River Race to Henley, we have no reason to be despondent. The general keeness of the Boat Club leaves nothing to be desired, and even if the School's rowing record does not show a succession of victories, a decisive and encouraging step forward has been taken. It is to be hoped that, under G. Francis, the new Head of the Water, the School will enjoy another equally progressive season next year.

## PUBLISHING AND PRISONS

#### POLITICAL AND LITERARY SOCIETY

ON June 28th the Society met to hear Mr. Rupert Hart-Davis speak on publishing. The meeting was undoubtedly a success; and with Mr. MacGibbon's visit last year also in mind one thing in particular seemed to emerge about publishers—or at least those whose concerns are small enough to allow them personal contact with their authors: they must be very nice people. Mr. Hart-Davis emphasized the need for publishers to manage their authors individually-they are, as he made clear with fertile and amusing illustration, an odd and varied lot, and the successful novelist may be no less awkward in his own way than the learned historian or the man with a fascinating life-story but no writing experience. Sales are sometimes very hard to predict: there is, Mr. Hart-Davis remarked, no means of knowing beforehand that a book such as Heinrich Harrer's "Seven Years in Tibet" is going to sell 150,000 copies, and writers who take their sales philosophically are at once rare and very much appreciated. On the ever present topic of "voung writers" he had much to say of interest : about the very real difficulty of deciding what to accept in the first place—and the most experienced firm could turn down three future best-sellers in a year; the adverse circumstances for "nursing" new talent; and the problems indeed of getting writers: much depends on the way in which the publisher's name meets the public eye. particularly gratifying feature of the evening was that for Mr. Hart-Davis the questions afterwards were not merely there to be answered: he treated them as opportunities for changing the direction of his talk; and his replies, witty and discursive, enlightened his audience on the function of the publisher's reader, on authors' rights over "digest" or cinema versions of their work, and on present-day publishing costs (in

fact less than half what they ought to be by reason). It came as a surprise to learn both that Dr. Rieu's translation of the Odyssey was the most popular Penguin, and that very many people preferred bound editions of books that could be bought in paper backs. It was a pity that more members were not present: those absent missed one of the pleasantest meetings the Society has enjoyed for a long time.

Another most profitable evening was held on July 12th when Mr. R. D. Fairn, Prison Commissioner i/c Prison Administration, addressed the Society on the theme "Prison: an Adventure in Paradox". He reminded his audience that prisons as we know them to-day date only from the middle of the nineteenth century, when transportation ceased and the number of capital offences was severely reduced: before this period gaol had merely been "a waiting place for the New World or the Next". Their unification in 1877 marked the beginning of nationalization. The substance of Mr. Fairn's talk was occupied with the problems and circumstances affecting the present development towards putting into practical terms clause 6 of the Prison Regulations—the purpose of a prison is " to establish in its prisoners the will to live a good and useful life". On the subject of "open" prisons the speaker was particularly enlightening; and in view of the astonishing success which such experiments have achieved it is especially lamentable both that the prisons should be so short of staff and money, and that there should at the moment be a popular lack of faith in the prison system. Mr. Fairn gave his listeners the impression of being a very pleasant and a very remarkable man; and the Society's life this Election term, if brief, has certainly been most valuable.

#### WESTMINSTER SCHOOL SOCIETY APPEAL

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#### AN ECCENTRIC SCHOLAR

The cross-examination of a member of College by the Governing Body must be a rare event in the history of the School. The extraordinary case of Arthur Godley, which culminated in such a trial, is dramatically if incompletely revealed in the contents of five papers from the Abbey Muniments.

During the Commonwealth period, the School and Almshouses of Westminster were placed in the hands of a Committee of both Houses of Parliament, and it was the custom for parents to make petitions to the Committee on their sons' behalf, in order to gain Lord's Places, as the scholarships were called under Cromwell. Among these petitions is one of Tridoorye-or Tredway-Godley, Minister of the Assembly of Divines: shewing "that yor. petr. hath a sonn Arthur Godley, of more than an ordinary capacity to make a scholler, and that yor, petr, is disinabled to bestow learning upon him by reason of the almost insupportable losses he hath received by the late troubles."

Evidently the Governors thought highly of Godley, for the School Lists shew him as a Lord's Boy in the Christmas quarter of 1656. In 1657, however, disturbing reports of his conduct began to appear. A memorandum of Richard Busby sets forth the complaints of the three College Monitors of the time-John Hammond, Thomas Pawlett, and William Wigan-together with those of a number of other boys, notably John Horden. They affirmed not only that "he frequently curseth and sweareth," and that "he wished himselfe in Hell that so he might see his fellows there," but also that "he went to the river to drowne himself," "he endeavour'd to stabb himselfe thrusting his knife through his doublett, and cryed out murder when one of his fellows would have hindered him from stabbing himselfe." He also asked for knives, and threatened to "kill his fellows in their bedds, bitt one of his fellows' armes, often beateth (and) abuseth them." Apart from this he ran away twice and often feigned madness. In conclusion the Monitors report that "as to the dutyes of the Colledge and his common Manners he is irregular or disobedient in all things, he always speaketh english, wanteth exercizes, is very sloovingly and uncleane in apparrell, maketh a noyse everywhere. He observes noe orders neither submitteth himselfe to those that are sett over him to give an account of his and others' manners being a grievous example in the eyes of his ffellowes."

An affidavit testifies that Godlev's father, on hearing of these misdemeanours " att Cheesewicke, . . . did break forth into these words that these things should never come before the governors and thereupon took him home." Perhaps he was afraid that his son's "exorbitancies," as Horden called them, would bring him into disrepute: in actual fact an enquiry was held, and the eccentric scholar's answers to his accusers are on record. At first he asserted that he had never sworn unless provoked, and that the word "hell" had never passed his lips, although Horden stated that "Arthur Godley did these crimes and misdemeanours rather out of an ordinary custom than any passion." He based his defence on the assertion that he did nothing except in self-defence. When Horden stated that " finding him unruly in the Fields, he told him he would tell Mr. Busby of him, he reply'd you shall not, and would have run into ye river," Godley excused himself on account of his bad sight, "so that he might run towards a place of danger."

Godley's odd behaviour does, however, seem to have had some reason behind it. He admitted that his motive in threatening to stab himself was a wish to "scare them that they would leave him alone": his attempts at suicide were not, after all, genuine. Although he "thrust the knife first at his brest," he afterwards "thrust it sidelong through his buttonhole and so into his shirt." In other words, Godley was unable to rest content with the attention he drew to himself by his odd dress: he felt compelled to accentuate his curious behaviour by the most extravagant means.

The Governors were not to be impressed, however, by the arguments of modern psychology: with good old-fashioned straightforwardness they dismissed Godley from his Lord's Place, or so it must be supposed, for his name appears no more on the College Lists.

#### A NINETEENTH-CENTURY LETTER

#### CHOOSING A HEAD MASTER

THROUGH the kindness of Lady Clementina Tottenham, the school has recently become possessed of a red leather dispatch-box which belonged to Charles Abbot, 1st Lord Colchester, Speaker of the House of Commons 1802-1817, who was Captain of the School in 1774.

The dispatch-box, which bears the Royal Cipher together with the initials C. A., contains various interesting relics, amongst which is the following letter:—

Daventry

Jul. 29 1828.

My dear Lord,

Perhaps you have not yet heard of the change which is soon to take place at Westminster. Dr. Goodenough has signified his intention of retiring from the School at the ensuing holidays. It falls to the lot of the Master of Trinity to nominate the person to succeed him. Knowing this to be so, and knowing also the odd temper of the Master, much anxiety prevailed among those who take an interest in the welfare of the School, to learn upon whom his choice would fall. The Dean of Westminster, whose consent is necessary to ratify the appointment, was prepared with his objections if an alien should be nominated, and had determined, or fancied that he had determined, to refuse his consent in that case. Many reports were abroad respecting the Master's intentions, and some said that he had actually promised a Mr. Brass who either now is or was lately a Fellow of Trinity, that he would nominate him. When the resolution of Dr. Goodenough was communicated to him he was in the midst of the business and festivity of the Commencement at Cambridge, so that he answered the Dean of Westminster's letter shortly and with no clear expression of his intentions, and we were kept still in suspense. But about ten days ago he announced his nomination of Mr. Williamson, one of the Fellows of his College. Who is he? we ask immediately. He is the son of a clergyman in Bedfordshire, was some years at Westminster, but not in College, of very good character in every respect, both at School and at the University—not more than twenty-six years old, having just taken his degree of A.M. at the last commencement-not yet in orders. Here was no room for such objections as would justify the Dean in withholding his consent. Some points we could have wished to be otherwise. He should have been a King's Scholar, he should be older, he should be in Orders, but nothing is to be found in the Statutes, requiring any of these qualifications, and one of them could be obtained immediately, another time would bring with it, the third we must be content to dispense with. Therefore, when the Dean expressed his willingness to confirm the nomination provided Mr. Williamson took orders before his admission to the Office, no difficulty was made and the matter is concluded. After the next holidays then the new Master will take possession, and I hope, for the sake of the School, that both they who entirely approve of such an appointment and they who would have preferred a person differing in some respects from Mr. Williamson, will unite in encouraging him if he is found disposed to do his duty well and effectually.

Mr. Preston the Under Master feels, as he may be supposed to do, very keenly, the disappointment of his hopes, for it seems that he had flattered himself with the expectation of succeeding. I do not however know that the M. of Trin: had ever given him any reason to think that he would name him

Without entering into the question of the fitness of *Mr. Preston* for the superior place, I think it due to him to say that in my opinion he has been *most diligent and exact* in the discharge of his duty in his present situation, and I shall be very sorry if he should determine to withdraw from the School. But the *Under Master is miserably ill paid*, and I think has as little encouragement as can be imagined to endure disappointment and vexation.

Of high Ecclesiastical matters I hear nothing beyond the newspaper stories, the arrangements they give seem probable enough, except that I think the D. of W. will hardly make his Brother a Bishop. Dr. D'Oyley is said to be the person.

I moved to this place with my family a fortnight ago, where we shall pass the long vacation.

We all join in respects and kindest regards to Lady Colchester and Your Lordship.

I am ever, My dear Lord Your most sincere and obliged

J. SMITH.

# How you can fly in the Fleet Air Arm

During the past forty years the Fleet Air Arm has developed from the Cinderella of the Royal Navy into its most indispensable branch. This development has resulted from a new type of naval warfare and has opened

up a unique life to many hundreds more young pilots and observers. Because of the skill required, and the heavy responsibilities to be met, they are all Officers. They enjoy a life of adventure at sea and in the air.



ENTRY Some of these young men are officers who entered the Royal Navy through the Royal Naval College at Dartmouth or are ex-ratings promoted to commissioned rank. But the Admiralty also needs large numbers of young men over 17 and not yet 26 to join primarily for flying duties.

After only a very short general service training they start flying. They join as Short Service Officers but, at any time after flying training, they may be selected for permanent commissions. Otherwise they leave with a handsome gratuity, and with the training they have received in the Service they have an excellent start in any civilian career — especially Civil Aviation.

TRAINING The first few months of the new Officer's life are spent in a carrier undergoing general nautical training. After that comes flying training either in the U.K., U.S.A. or Canada.

The Observer learns the intricacies of aerial navigation, Radio, Radar and modern antisubmarine Sonar equipment. His mastery of aircraft electronics is vital in A/S warfare and all-weather night fighting. The Pilot goes through another expensive form of training. The first solo flight, the award of wings and the first decklanding are great days in his life.

SQUADRON LIFE After training comes the time for the young Officers to earn their 'bread and butter'—to put their training into practice. They spend two years in a 1st Line Squadron at sea mastering the finer points of aerial warfare and becoming part of a fighting team in a fighting Fleet. After this their lives follow no fixed pattern. Some may specialise in one aspect of flying such as weapon training or photography. Some may spend two years flying at a Naval Air Station in Scotland, Malta, or Singapore. The best will eventually command a Squadron of naval aircraft, and progress to the higher ranks of the Service.



These men lead a life that is crammed full of incident, responsibility — and enjoyment. There is plenty of sport, ample leave, expeditions ashore in places ranging from Gibraltar to Japan, plus the convivial life of a Wardroom Mess.

The way into this life is, on the face of it, easy: physical fitness and a G.C.E., or equivalent, with certain passes. But to meet the intense training, the responsibilities and the excellent prospects, the character and spirit of the candidate must be of high quality.

Full details of Fleet Air Arm Commissions, including National Service aircrew commissions can be obtained by writing to:

ADMIRALTY, N.C.W. BRANCH (DEPT. EQ/54) QUEEN ANNE'S MANSIONS, LONDON, S.W.1.



# THE WESTMINSTER SCHOOL SOCIETY THANKS ALL THOSE WHO HAVE RESPONDED

TO

#### THE APPEAL

Please send subscriptions to the Hon. Treasurer, Westminster School Society, 3 Little Dean's Yard, S.W.1.

#### THE ESSAY SOCIETY

SINCE the last review of the Society's activities, there have been two more essays read, bringing the total for the year to five—a figure which denies any imputation of inertia but which should imply

activity to a steady nature.

In the Lent Term A. R. Dicks was elected President for the remainder of the year, but because of a combination of various set-backs only one essay was read in that term. Queen's Scholar R. L. Sturch obliged the Society with a very scholarly biography and assessment of that notorious Old Pauline and Old Westminster, Judge Jeffreys. The essayist, if he did not succeed in whitewashing his subject, did at least manage to disperse much of the bigotry that surrounds a biographer of Jeffreys. He laid emphasis on his very considerable ability as an advocate, and placed the blame of much of the odium that he incurred on the fact that he was on the losing side.

The Election Term was wholly barren of essays until the last fortnight. As usual, members were

far too occupied with outside activities to find the time to write, but in the last fourteen days one essay was forthcoming. I. R. Cameron treated the Society to a maturely-written and well thought-out critique of James Joyce. He dealt mainly with three books—Ulysses, Finnegan's Wake and A Portrait of the Artist. First he mentioned Joyce's Flaubertian pre-occupation with language and style, and then went on to study his attitude to the myth as exemplified in Ulysses and the Viconian cycle with the philosophical myth in Finnegan's Wake. For Joyce the pattern of human experience was that of exile and return, and himself an exile, he found support in his one-ness with humanity.

The questions following the reading of the essay showed how stimulating and thought-provoking it had been. The essayist himself thought Joyce at his greatest when parodying, though he confessed to finding his pedantic

humour and puns somewhat tiring.

#### WESTMINSTER'S LITERARY MAGAZINE

THIS year's issue of The Trifler contains some fascinating reminiscences by Richard Wollheim of a Westminster excited to intense political enthusiasm in the years before the last war; a translation of a charming poem by the minnesinger Walther von der Vogelweide from Michael Hamburger; a story by Mr. Zinn about an Englishman who reacts unusually to the Italy of his dreams; an examination of William Blake's use of Vortexes in his prophetic books by Kathleen Raine; and a scholarly article on American negro music by R. R. Milner-Gulland which gives an unfashionable view of this most important subject. Janet Adam Smith's *The Smallest School* is a moving and unidealized picture of the anachronistic sanity of West Highland life; while Mr. Lushington vividly recalls O.U.D.S. rehearsals for a Swedish tour that never came off. There are two good King-Farlow poems, and a quietly pointed story by ex-editor James Madge: one thing to be noticed about some of the other pieces of fiction is a very variously interpreted urban landscape, which theme also provides a background for an editorial Bit (out of season). This last strikes a note of eschatological gloom which perhaps appears in the cover, as well as in

some of the poems from the school—of which N. D. Deakin's very sensitive 17th Century Pastiche is possibly the most successful, though the standard of writing is everywhere remarkably high...

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#### OLD WESTMINSTERS

Dr. G. K. A. Bell, Bishop of Chichester, was presented with the freedom of Chichester on the twenty-fifth anniversary of his consecration.

Mr. E. E. S. Montagu, Q.C., has been appointed Deputy Chairman of the Court of Quarter Sessions for Middlesex.

Dr. C. H. V. Sutherland has been awarded the Royal Numismatic Society's medal for 1954 for his services to Roman and British numismatics.

In the Birthday Honours List Brevet Lieut.-Col. R. A. J. Eggar was awarded the O.B.E., and Mr. W. R. van Straubenzee the M.B.E.

At the Trinity Ordinations the Reverend G. G. F. Greig was ordained priest, and Mr. M. E. Adie was made deacon.

Mr. M. L. Berryman, Q.C., has been re-elected a member of the Bar Council.

Canon Guy Beech is resigning the Rectory of Northchurch, Herts.

Capt. F. W. E. Fursdon, R. E., and Capt. O. J. Peck, Royal Signals, qualified at the recent examination for admission to the Staff College.

#### BIRTHS

AKERHIELM-On May 29th 1954 at Furneux Pelham to Lynette, wife of Edward Akerhielm, a daughter.

DELLER-On June 8th 1954 in London to Patricia, wife of Dr. Peter Deller, a son.

MURRAY-HILL-On May 10th 1954 at Chalfont St. Giles to Phyllis, wife of Peter Murray-Hill, a son.

#### MARRIAGES

CRISP: GILLETT—On June 5th 1954 at St. Paul's Hammersmith, Sir Peter Crisp, Bart., to Judith Mary, youngest daughter of the late Mr. E. H. Gillett and Mrs. Gillett of Castlebar Hill, Kensington.

DEAKIN: BUCKLEY-On May 8th 1954 B. M. Deakin and Ann Philippa, younger daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Buckley of Woodcroft Castle, Peterborough.

#### OBITUARY

FRANCIS DONKIN BEDFORD, who died recently a few days before his ninetieth birthday, was at Westminster from 1877 to 1881. He was by profession an architect, but also became an illustrator of books, among them the first edition of Barrie's Peter and Wendy, and a painter of water-colours. He married in 1895 Katharine Helen Carter.

OSBERT JOHN RADCLYFFE HOWARTH was admitted in 1888. He went up to Oxford where he was elected University Scholar in Geography in 1901. He became Geographical Assistant to the Editor of the Encyclopaedia Britannica in 1904. From 1909 until 1946 he was first Assistant Secretary and later Secretary to the British Association. He was author of several textbooks, and was joint editor of the Oxford Survey of the British Empire. He married in 1909 Eleanor, daughter of the late Stephen Paget. He was recently Curator of the Darwin Memorial at Down House.

SIR ARTHUR ROWLAND KNAPP, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., C.B.E., was admitted to the School as a Queen's Scholar in 1884. From Christ Church he entered the Indian Civil Service, and went out to Madras, in which Province he served for thirty-four years, finally becoming a Member of the Executive Council. On his retirement he came back to England, and shortly afterwards became Chairman of the School Mission. In 1936 he was co-opted to the Governing Body, and in 1939 he was elected a Busby Trustee. When at school he had been Captain, and it was largely due to his energy that arrangements have recently been made to re-erect in College the lists of Liberty Boys and Captains which adorned the walls of the Dormitory before the war. He was the authority on the portraits of Warren Hastings, and in 1932 organized the Centenary Meeting up School and the remarkable collection of Hastings relics up Library. He married in 1899 Florence Annie, daughter of the Rev. Edward Moore, D.D.

SIDNEY CHARLES SEYMOUR-LUCAS was born in 1878 and was at Westminster from 1892 to 1895. He was the son of John Seymour-Lucas, R.A., and was himself

PHILIP GAY WATERFIELD was at the School from 1886 to 1890, and went to Edinburgh University. He married in 1911 Violet, daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel J. M. Coates.

#### A GOLDEN JUBILEE

The XIX Club, formed in 1904, celebrated its

Golden Jubilee at a Dinner on July 6th.

Major R. C. Orpen was in the Chair and replied to the toast of the Club proposed by Mr. A. C. Grover. Mr. Norman Andrews proposed the Guests and Mr. Oswald Lewis replied. Mr. W. E. Gerrish proposed the Founders and Mr. E. R. B. Graham (Hon. Secretary 1904-1954) replied.

Mr. Maurice Houdret was another O.W. Founder

The Club is believed to be the first English Club to send a football team across the Channel and in 1905 played the Racing Club de France, The Stade Français and the Gentlemen of Paris. Several other football tours were arranged and cricket teams were also sent to Paris.