

BAINES'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

The Poultonian

No. 4.—Vol. XII.

APRIL.

1944

EDITORIAL NOTES.

IMPORTANT DATES.—Easter Holidays : Wednesday, April 5th, to Wednesday, April 26th.

Whitsuntide Holidays : Friday, May 26th, to Monday, June 5th.

Summer Holidays : Wednesday, July 26th, to Wednesday, September 13th.

“ Salute the Soldier ” Week : April 22nd—29th.

School Sports : Friday, May 12th.

Inter-School Athletic Sports : Wednesday, May 24th.

Inter-School Swimming Sports : Wednesday, June 14th.

We have had many letters from Old Boys in the Forces acknowledging the Christmas greetings and the list of Old Boys serving.

H. B. Clarke has completed his University Course for the Royal Navy, and is now Commissioned as Midshipman. G. England has completed a similar course for the R.A.F. at New College, Oxford, where he will shortly be followed by H. K. Stock.

M. Lowe, who has been Troop-Leader of the School Scouts for the past two years, has now handed over to G. Hope. The School scouting owes much to Lowe for his fine work in maintaining the troop at a high level of efficiency since M. Moulding's departure for the R.A.F., and he can look back on a good job well done. He has recently been accepted for a short University Course for the Royal Marines.

H. Eddleston and D. Eakins were selected to play for the Lancashire Schools (North) football team in the North v. South match on April 1st at Manchester.

J. F. Bostock, A. J. W. Beck, E. Kendrick and N. F. Robinson are now Full Prefects. Additional Sub-Prefects have been appointed as follows : G. Hope, J. W. Merrill, P. F. Goodhall, E. F. Whittaker, G. H. Brown, H. T. Greaves and J. K. Rigby.

We are very pleased to state that Sir Wm. Hodgson, J.P., Chairman of the Governors, is making good progress towards recovery from his severe illness, and hopes to resume his public duties in the near future.

B. K. Chambers has been appointed Athletics Secretary, in succession to J. F. Bostock, whose good work during the past twelve months merits commendation.

Mr. J. Creswell, Art Master, has once again had three water-colours selected for the Exhibition of Work by Lancashire Artists, Preston Art Gallery, March 15th to April 22nd, 1944.

Congratulations to Mr. H. E. Tomlinson, M.A., on designing the coats-of-arms which the College of Arms is granting to the University College of South Wales and Monmouthshire (Cardiff); the Royal Holloway College (University of London); and to the Abbey National Building Society.

It is with great regret that we learn of the loss at sea of an Old Boy, Surgeon-Lieut.-Commander L. Merrill, R.N., together with his wife and child. He was proceeding to Ceylon to take up a research appointment in tropical medicine, after serving in the East for a number of years. We extend our sympathy to his relatives, especially to his two nephews, who are in the School.

Sergt. Frank Ellwood, Flight-Engineer, R.A.F., is, we regret to say, reported missing; also Private L. J. Matthews, Commandos, A.B. D. Harvey, M.N., who was reported missing some months ago, is now officially "lost at sea." Their parents are assured of our deep sympathy.

A hearty welcome to the School staff to an Old Boy, Mr. J. J. Marland, who has been invalided out of the Merchant Navy, in which he served for 16 years with the Cunard White-Star Line, Ltd. A reference to his appointment appears in "By the Way."

Mr. C. S. Hayes, Head of the Art Department, Blackpool Technical College, gave to senior boys a most interesting lecture on "Post-War Planning."

Staff-Sergeant E. H. Dinsdale, R.E.M.E., is our most regular correspondent. Extracts from his interesting accounts of experiences in North Africa and Italy were among those read at the Old Boys' Dinner.

Congratulations to John Coope, recently promoted to Sub-Lieutenant, R.N.V.R.

Mr. J. E. Hamer, Clerk to the Governors, has been ill recently, but is now well on the road to recovery.

Remember! Target for April 22nd—29th, £2,500.

SCOUT NOTES.

Early in the term the Court of Honour was again faced with the difficulty of accommodating the many applicants wishing to join the Troop. Plans were therefore made for the future, it being decided that the Troop would have to be expanded to 12 Patrols in September. Preparations for the consequent expansion of the Court of Honour are now under way. In order to ensure complete continuity in the running of the Troop, M. Lowe, who had been Troop Leader for the past two years, resigned, and A.T.L. G. Hope was appointed in his place.

A successful Christmas Social was held. The party, which visited Great Tower at the New Year, spent a most enjoyable and profitable time. A training camp for Second Class Scouts, the potential P.L.'s and Seconds of the expanded Troop, is to be held there during the Easter Holidays. Approximately 30 Scouts will be attending.

Members of the Court of Honour assisted with the running of a Patrol Leaders' Training Week-end, held at Tardy Gate, near Preston. A dozen P.L.'s and Seconds attended a similar Course, held at Fleetwood. The monthly

meetings of the Blackpool Patrol Leaders' Parliament have been well attended by members of the Troop. Regular Church Parades are now held at the local Churches. Certain members of the C. of H. have, on occasions, given assistance to a Fleetwood Troop.

As is usual during the Spring Term, few Badges have been gained this term. The following have been awarded the National Service Badge :— P.L. E. Butler, Second B. D. Bell, Scouts F. D. Foden and R. J. F. Gregory. The new tests for the Tenderfoot, Second Class and First Class Badges have not, however, upset training arrangements to any marked degree, and, in addition to the many tests passed, the following have gained the Second Class Badge :—M. J. Brooks, D. Lee, G. M. Greenwood, N. Sargeant, J. Stewart, J. J. D. Wylie, R. D. Wylie, P. F. Burns and P. D. Gaskell. It is interesting to note that the last six of these are members of the Swift Patrol (P.L. E. Butler), which is again top of the Inter-Patrol Challenge Competition.

A.S.M. J. F. Walker has visited us on several occasions this term. We are pleased to hear that A.S.M. L. A. Haworth has now been Commissioned as Pilot-Officer. Several members of the Troop keep up a regular correspondence with the Group Scoutmaster, F.O. H. N. Moulding, now "somewhere in Italy," who still maintains a keen interest in Troop affairs.

Good Camping to you all during the Holidays.

"MICK."

WOLF-CUB NOTES.

New Cubs are :—J. Chapman, J. G. Sharples, D. M. Beaton, J. Whiston, D. Robinson, D. W. B. Gibson.

Sixer Barker has just left us for the Scout Troop; we wish him "good hunting."

Grundy becomes Sixer of Greys, and Williams in Blacks takes the place of Philip, who is to join the Scouts in the near future.

Greys lead Blacks by 59 points to 30.

Congratulations to Gordon Hope, a former Cub Sixer, who has become Troop Leader of the Scouts.

AKELA.

SCHOOL SKETCHING CLUB.

The "Spirit" of the Sketching Club has been enlivened and improved by the addition of a few new members.

Better weather conditions throughout February and March have also been an asset, with the result that six profitable meetings have been held and useful sketches made in the neighbourhood of School.

J.C.

AIR TRAINING CORPS.

A few remarks concerning individuals. F./Sgt. H. K. Stock is leaving us to take an R.A.F. course at Oxford University. Throughout his connection with the School Flight he has been a most useful and enthusiastic Cadet and we know he will do well in the Royal Air Force. We thank him and shall follow his career with interest.

Corporal P. E. Goodhall, under Mr. Warburton's direction, has been giving instruction in engineering. He has been promoted to Sergeant.

Sqd./Ldr. Brewer has spoken to senior boys and interviewed candidates for air crew.

Our O.B., P./O. K. Livingstone, D.F.C., was a most welcome visitor, and Cadets would have liked to hear him speak for much longer than the time we allotted to him.

We congratulate our former Cadet Wilkins on qualifying for his "Wings" in Canada.

Here are a few brief comments on activities of the term.

A proficiency examination will be held before the end of this term.

Several parties of Cadets have been to the miniature rifle range for firing practice.

Perhaps the most interesting day of the term was spent at a Fleet Air Arm Station, where some Cadets had the good fortune to be taken over the sea on a bombing exercise. We understand that one Cadet thought the trip was rather wasteful in these days when rations are none too plentiful.

Attested Cadets are being granted the privilege of joining a crew on a long navigation exercise, and the trip should prove to be as interesting as instructive.

Thirty-six Cadets from the School Flight will spend a week on an R.A.F. Station at Easter.

To those who are not in the Corps—apply to the Officers if you wish to join and are old enough.

SCHOOL SOCIETY—PHOTOGRAPHIC SECTION.

A full programme has been possible this term, owing to the generosity of Ilford, Ltd., and Johnson & Sons (Manufacturing Chemists), both of London. They have supplied an interesting series of lantern lectures and demonstrations respectively.

The demonstrations included methods of development, printing and enlarging, whilst amongst the lantern lectures were those entitled: "Infra Red Photography," "Photography serves Mankind," and "Night Photography."

LIFE-SAVING.

After putting in much hard drill, both on land and in the water, since last September, over 40 boys will be examined for the awards of the Royal Life-Saving Society on April 5th. We wish them Good Luck.

THE LEARNERS' CLASS.

It is hoped that this class will commence, as usual, in the Summer Term, at the Derby Baths Learners' Pool. All non-swimmers should take advantage of this opportunity to learn to swim. Details will be announced next term.

J.H.R.

INTER-HOUSE GYMNAS TIC COMPETITION.

29th MARCH, 1944.

RESULT OF GYM. COMPETITION.

SENIORS :

1st.	Whittington House	....	....	....	....	270
2nd.	Hibbert House	....	....	....	....	233
3rd.	Founder's House	....	....	....	....	220
4th.	Hodgson House	....	....	....	....	218

JUNIORS :

1st.	Whittington House	....	....	....	....	298
2nd.	Hodgson House	....	....	....	....	293
3rd.	Hibbert House	....	....	....	....	280
4th.	Founder's House	....	....	....	....	254

COMBINED RESULT :

1st.	Whittington House	....	....	....	....	568
2nd.	Hibbert House	....	....	....	....	513
3rd.	Hodgson House	....	....	....	....	511
4th.	Founder's House	....	....	....	....	474

The Competition was judged by Miss M. W. Barrie, Organiser of Physical Training for the Lancashire County, and Mr. H. Pearson, Organiser of Physical Training for Accrington.

SCHOOL YEAR, 1942-43.

PRIZE LIST.

FORM PRIZES.—*Prep. B.* : Barker, W. D. M. ; Williams, P. R. ; Grundy, D. N. (Merit Prize). *Prep. A.* : Philip, D. S. ; Williams, F. T. ; Brook, B. W. (Merit Prize) ; Hall, J. G. (Merit Prize). *Shell* : Lilley, J. ; Collins, R. ; Longworth, G. (Merit Prize). *Form Ib.* : Dodgson, C. ; Johnston, E. C. ; Southworth, D. T. (Merit Prize). *Form Ia.* : Thackeray, J. ; Greenlees, P. ; Houston, I. B. (Merit Prize). *Form IIc.* : Green, J. ; Lawrenson, T. ; Hollinrake, P. St. D. (Merit Prize) ; Myerscough, P. R. (Merit Prize). *Form Iib.* : Lee, D. ; Wigglesworth, E. C. ; Bowker, G. T. (Merit Prize). *Form Iia.* : Booth, G. C. ; Walton, A. *Form IIIb.* : Henry, R. I. ; Fishwick, J. R. ; Stott, B. G. (Merit Prize). *Form IIIa.* : Donnelly, M. F. ; Fisher, N. W. *Form IIIm.* : Mortimer, D. ; Crook, T. A. ; Bradshaw, J. R. (Merit Prize) ; Dick, B. K. W. (Merit Prize). *Form IVb.* : Wood, B. D. ; Nuttall, A. P. ; Fiefield, D. C. (Merit Prize). *Form IVa.* : Haythornthwaite, E. ; Rowe, K. *Form IVm.* : Green, G. T. ; Holland, J. J. ; Butler, E. (Merit Prize). *Form Vs.* : 1st, Barnett, M. P. ; 2nd, Walton, D. ; Maths., Physics and Chemistry, Hope G. ; Geography, Greaves, H. T. *Form Vm.* : 1st, Rigby, J. K. ; 2nd, Taylor, R. F. ; French and Maths., Schofield D. ; English, Chambers, B. K. ; General Science, Hopwood, H. G. ; French and Latin, Haslam, D. J. ; Progress Prizes, Mortimore, A. J., and Stagg, J. R. *Form Vlb.* : 1st, Kendrick, E. ; Physics, Robinson, N. F. ; Chemistry Wyatt, A. G. *Form VIa.* : Richard Place Memorial Prize, Hall, G. B. ; Old Boys' Memorial Prize, Eddleston, H. ; Merit Prizes, Robinson, J. A. Maths. and Physics), Scott, W. N. (Chemistry and Physics), Ord D. (Geography).

ART PRIZES.—Senior : Bell, P. D. (Form Vs.). Junior : Donnelly, M. F. (Form IIIa.).

WOODWORK PRIZE.—

ENGINEERING PRIZE.—Wiggins P. (Form Vs.), presented by the Headmaster.

PUBLIC SERVICE PRIZES.—Bostock, J. F. (Form VI.); Lowe M. (Form VI.); Lister, W. B. C. (Form IIa.); Whitehead, H. (Form IVa.); R. J. Haythornthwaite (Shell); R. H. Haythornthwaite (IVm.).

PREFECTS' PRIZE.—Robinson, J. A.

CROSS-COUNTRY TEAM.

The team this term has consisted of the following boys:—J. W. Merrill, J. Hoy, D. Whitehead, W. Smith, A. J. P. Speight, T. F. Lucas, T. A. Crook, M. Lowe, D. E. Hardwick. There have only been two runs this season and in these we did not do as well as we had hoped, but the foundations of a good team for next season have been laid.

J. W. MERRILL.

THE HOUSES.

FOUNDER'S HOUSE.

Tutors : Messrs. RAWES, TOMLINSON and CROSWELL.

House Captain : E. F. WHITTAKER.

Vice-Captain : J. W. MERRILL.

Hon. Secretary : J. F. BOSTOCK.

We have great satisfaction in announcing that we have gained conspicuous success in the Inter-House activities this term, drawing with Whittington for the first place in the Football Cup Competition.

Many of our members have gained distinction this term. Whittaker, Merrill, Hope, Goodhall, Greaves and Rigby have been appointed Sub-Prefects; Bostock has been promoted to Full Prefect; Chambers is to succeed to the position of Honorary Secretary for Games.

Finally, we must impress on our members the necessity of sparing no effort in the many Inter-House activities next term, to enable us to gain the coveted Cock House Trophy.

J.F.B.

HIBBERT HOUSE.

Tutors : Messrs. HARRIS, READE and WARBURTON.

Captain : H. K. STOCK.

Vice-Captain : M. LOWE.

Secretary : A. J. BECK.

Congratulations to Stock and Lunn on gaining their Football Colours this season. Stock, who has been Captain for two years, is leaving at the end of this term. He is taking a Short University Course at Oxford University. Lowe has been accepted for a Short University Course in the Royal Marines.

Since the Football results were not very good, everyone must make an effort to gain points in the events which are to take place next term. These events include the Swimming Sports, the Athletic Sports and Cricket.

A.J.B.

HODGSON HOUSE.

Tutors : Messrs. WADDINGTON, OKELL, and ASTELL.

Captain : D. EAKINS.

Vice-Captain : G. H. BROWN.

Secretary : E. KENDRICK.

The Football matches are now completed and in spite of a fairly good start last term we are placed last.

We congratulate our Captain, D. Eakins, on his being selected to play for the North in the Lancashire Schools Football match.

The Gym. Competition and the Cross-Country Run at the end of this term, and the Athletic and Swimming Sports which will take place next term, give us a chance to make up for the set-back in Football. Every boy must do his best in these events or we shall find ourselves placed last in the Cock House Competition.

E.K.

WHITTINGTON HOUSE.

House Captain : H. EDDLESTON. *Vice-Captain and Secretary* : A. TAYLOR.

We heartily welcome Miss Binks as a new House Tutor, in place of Mrs. Griffiths, who left last term.

This term we are pleased to announce that Whittington House, together with Founder's, holds the Football Cup, and, although the Gym. Competition and the Cross-Country race have not yet taken place, they are due to do so this term and we should gain a good place in each event.

The Sports entries have already been taken in, and we have over 100 entries from 120 boys, which seems to foretell a great effort next term for the Cock House Cup.

A.T.

NATIONAL SAVINGS BRANCH.

For the 11 weeks of this term, up to 24th March, our returns are:—

Average number of subscribers per week, 303 (62% of the School).

Amount subscribed this term, £1,009 5s. 0d.

Amount subscribed since September, 1939, £16,147 13s. 0d.

Persons with the best record this term : IIc., 100% ; Vm., 99% ; Va., 90% ; IIIa., 88%.

The special National Savings Badges, awarded each term for good work, are all retained by those Form Secretaries who gained them last term:— R. H. Haythornthwaite, Vm. ; P. C. E. Farman, Va. ; J. C. F. Chard, IIIa. ; F. C. Foden, IIc.

The "Salute the Soldier" Campaign in the Poulton-le-Fylde area will cover the period April 22nd to 29th. Our target during the Campaign will be £2,500, the same as that for "Wings for Victory Week" last year, when £4,543 was subscribed. The School re-opens, after the Easter holidays, on April 26th, so that our efforts will have to be concentrated into the three days at School during the Campaign.

Salute the Soldier with a full hand !

A.C.O.

OLD BOYS' PAGES. OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION.

ABRIDGED LIST OF OFFICERS, 1944-1945.

President : T. H. NEWTON.

Hon. Secretaries :

G. SHAW, B.A., 14, Ash Drive, Poulton-le-Fylde.
J. RAWCLIFFE, 14, St. Luke's Road, South Shore, Blackpool.

Hon. Treasurers :

E. A. HORNER, 8, Prestbury Avenue, South Shore, Blackpool.
J. SHIELDS, "Snibfield," Hardhorn Road, Poulton-le-Fylde.

Old Boys' Editor :

A. C. OKELL, B.A., "Knaresgarth," Staining Road, Normoss, Blackpool.

OLD BOYS' EDITORIAL.

A gathering of 90 at the Annual Dinner nearly doubled the previous record set up last year, and in every way the Reunion was once more "the best yet." Whatever may have been the true cause of this phenomenal rise in numbers, we welcomed the result. If this "snow-ball effect" continues there is no telling where the first *real reunion* after the war may have to be held!

An abundance of correspondence continues to flow in daily from the O.B.'s in the Services. We assure them that we refuse to be overwhelmed even if they do send letters of 10 or more pages! Our only regret is again the lack of space for granting you the same pleasure that has fallen to us in our capacity as Editor. Our "extracts" from letters are more or less taken at random; an acknowledgment by publishing just a name merely indicates that any attempt at selection would be "spoilt for choice."

O.B.E.

38th ANNUAL MEETING AND DINNER,

AT THE SAVOY CAFE, BLACKPOOL,
SATURDAY, 19th FEBRUARY, 1944.

The following attended the Business Meeting in the afternoon:—The President, T. H. Newton, in the Chair; and H. Ardron, J. R. Bennett, G. H. Brimelow, G. R. Bunting, H. H. Bridge, B. Brewer, G. L. Blagg, W. V. Bolton, J. R. Charnley, Pay Midshipman J. T. Coope, Pilot Officer W. F. Calderbank, F. W. Coope, H. R. Dennison, C. Eastwood, J. R. Eccles, P. G. England, A. Greenwood, H. E. Hopwood, W. Hewitt, G. S. Holden, L./Cpl. E. A. Horner, K. J. Jackson, S. Jeffreys, R. W. Lawson, Pilot Officer J. K. Livingstone, D.F.C., J. R. Lynch, J. J. Marland, A. J. Mortimore, A. Neal, A. C. Okell, H. R. Owen, R. Park, R. Pye, J. Rawcliffe, A.C.2 A. Rayner, D. R. Rimmer, Colonel T. D. Roberts, O.B.E., W. B. Sefton, G. Shaw, J. Shields, P. A. Smalley, J. Smith, F. J. Stafford, D. Sutcliffe, J. H. Sutton, B. B. Syddall, J. A. Walton, P. Wiggins, E. Wilkinson and F. Williams.

At the commencement of the meeting the retiring President, W. V. Bolton, outlined his year of office and accorded a hearty welcome to the many new members of the Association.

New appointments were:—*President*: T. H. Newton; *Vice-President*: H. Mason; *Joint Auditor*: R. Clayton; *Committee*: A. Greenwood, D. Sutcliffe, G. H. Brimelow, W. Hewitt.

The Statement of Accounts showed a balance of £102 3s. 5d., compared with £88 8s. 8d. of the previous year.

Reference was made to the loss sustained during the past year by the death of V. H. Johnston, a Past President and a former member of the School Staff. By a short silence the gathering paid tribute to his memory.

Thanks were again accorded to Mr. Rawes for the great work he had done in keeping the List of Old Boys serving in H.M. Forces as far as possible up to date and for the time and trouble he had devoted in connection with the Christmas Greetings, etc., sent to each one of them.

A unanimous resolution was passed that the Governors of the School be approached in order to ascertain whether the Old Boys' Association might be represented on the Governing Body and, if so, to request the Governors to consider the appointment at the appropriate time of such a representative from the Association.

At the Dinner the party was increased by the following guests:—Rev. N. H. Fogg, Councillor C. Wilkinson, G. H. Brunner, Esq., and Councillor T. Huddleston, Governors; H. Priestley, Esq., O.B.E., President of the Blackpool Grammar School O.B.A., F. Place, Esq., Rev. H. Victor Jones, Percy Wilkinson, Esq., and H. Eddleston, Senior Prefect of the School. Other O.B.'s present were:—F. T. Balderstone, A. Baldwin, T. Baldwin, R. B. Charnock, R. Clayton, C. E. Crookall, J. Crowell, E. Eaves, E. F. Garlick, G. B. Hall, D. P. Keirby, J. J. Nightingale, G. Newsome, J. H. Peel, B. A. Pickett, F. Rawes, J. A. Robinson, Junr. Eng. Officer E. D. Simmons, A. B. Simpson, H. E. Tomlinson, Apprentice A. F. Wiseman, C. Whitehead, T. J. Walton, D. Walton, R. B. Warburton, J. C. Whittaker, F. S. Williamson and B. C. Wilmot.

Demands on space prevent us from recording this time the large number of O.B.'s from whom regrets at inability to be present were received.

TOAST LIST.

- "The King"; Proposed by the President.
- "H.M. and Allied Forces"; Proposed by J. A. Walton; Reply by Pilot Officer J. K. Livingstone, D.F.C.
- "The President"; Proposed by H. R. Dennison; Reply by T. H. Newton.
- "The School, its Founder and Governors, the Old Boys' Association and its Founder"; Proposed by Col. T. D. Roberts, O.B.E.; Reply by the Headmaster and the Rev. N. H. Fogg.

Those who contributed to the night's entertainment were:—The Headmaster, Councillor T. Huddleston, Percy Wilkinson, J. Shields, F. T. Balderstone and F. Rawes.

OLD BOYS' NOTES AND CORRESPONDENCE.

Sigmn. D. B. Lloyd's long and interesting letter (11/11/43) from "an active theatre of operations" (C.M.F., Italy) tells how much he appreciates "the little French that was instilled into him at School," and describes vividly a spaghetti supper! Whilst in Africa he had had malaria, but was again "perfectly all right." On 25/2/44 he wrote to tell us of a chance visit to a concert, where he found himself sitting next to another O.B., W. N. Walsh. On 26/11/43 A.C. D. S. Lane was in Hospital in Southport; we hope he is quite

well again. Dvr. C. Worthington (South of England, 20/12/43) had had a serious accident to his arm, but had practically regained full use of it. A.C. J. Fairburn (Cornwall, 13/12/43) told of his strenuous course in the R.A.F.—he obtained first place in his squad at the examination. Fus. H. Wharton was serving along with Baron Lloyd (23/12/43). Cfn. R./M. W. G. Johnson had been on a heavy A.A. site for several months. Lieut. J. A. Paterson (Master), who arrived in Africa during the hottest part of the summer, was (20/12/43) instructing at a height of 3,500 feet, and “longing for the sunshine so little appreciated at the time of arrival!” Pte. J. L. Towler (B.N.A.F., 31/12/43) described his trip of several hundred miles across North Africa in a very primitive cattle truck. F./O. H. N. Moulding (Master) wrote (22/12/43) about his “leisure activities” in Italy and sent sketches (!) of “articles made from old bomb fin boxes.” A.C.2 G. Curwen (formerly in N.F.S.), writing from near Hereford, 9/1/44, gave details of life in a training camp. On 23/1/44 Signm. H. W. Atherton (M.E.F.) had “read the last magazine until it would stand no more.” Bdr. J. M. Bibby (B.N.A.F., 28/1/44) had arrived in “this theatre of war when all the fun was over.” Cadet G. H. Chapman (Master), writing 8/12/43, gave an account of his experiences in O.C.T.U. He wrote again, this time as 2nd Lieut. (16/1/44), to say he had realised his wish and was back in an Armoured Formation. Sgt. James Dickinson wrote (21/2/44) from Habbaniya describing the hot season, now ended, the dust storms and his visits to Palestine and Baghdad—“a very smelly city.” L.A.C. H. G. Pearson (C.M.F., 8/2/44) was one of the very great number who sent thanks for the List of O.B.’s in H.M. Forces. Lieut. A. S. Binnie (India, 6/2/44) tells us that “the last two months have provided many interesting and exciting experiences”—but he doesn’t tell us what! From M.E.F., 14/2/44, Pte. C. L. Kippax reports that, although he had not yet met any O.B., he had seen the name of one in a visitors’ book at a hostel. “Just a few lines” (eight pages to be precise!—Ed.) from Arms. S./Sgt. E. H. Dinsdale, our “regular correspondent,” gave vivid pictures from Italy. In terrific blizzards, howling winds and blinding snow he had still sufficient energy left to “climb a cliff-side at an angle of 85 degrees and finally reach the peak top, from which he could see the peaks of Yugo Slavia in the far distance.” A wolf “watched the descent, but only watched.” A crashed enemy plane a few hundred yards away, a drive over a stretch of road under enemy fire, a couple of “heavies” dropped in the next field, are some of the minor excitements he describes! From Moose Jaw, Canada, P/O. F. Roberts says (3/2/44) that life is “really grand.” Jack Barnes had been with him in the summer. Major A. M. Hutchinson was (13/2/44) back with the battalion that he had helped to found in “the dark days of 1940.” Tpr. R. J. Walker was looking forward when he wrote (10/1/44) to getting to grips with “Jerry.” L.A.C. J. D. D. Lowe tells of his experiences in America. Capt. J. H. Ramsbottom (Church Army Clubs) had (14/2/44) lately returned to England after service in France and the Middle East. Cpl. K. W. Bailey (India, 15/2/44) was hoping to spend his 14 days’ leave in Madras. Cpl. A. G. Pilling (also India, 14/2/44) had come across *Nil Sine Labore* chalked on the wall where he had been stationed, but had failed to discover the writer. Spr. T. Mayoh (India Command, 9/2/44) was afraid that “out there they are a temporarily forgotten army to the British Public in general.” To those O.B.’s still in Civvy Street he says: “Don’t slack up when Germany is beaten; remember us out here!” Sgt. T. Balmer is fit and well in the R.A.F. (M.E.F., 2/3/44). He had recently visited the Asswan Dam. Tpr. J. Wood (B.N.A.F., 3/2/44) was lucky enough to be stationed near Tunis during the colourful Victory Parade and the visit of the King and Mr. Churchill. F./O. J. A. Scowcroft was expecting soon to be training abroad. A.M./L. A. Shufflebotham (R.N.A. Station) wrote (14/2/44) to say that “the Navy had decided that he couldn’t attend the Reunion and asked us to spare a thought for him on his ‘desert island’.” We have also heard from O./S. G. W. D. Dishman (10/2/44), L.A.C. N. Taylor, F./O. K. H. Pickup, O./Cadet K. Hardman, O./S. E. W. Marsland (Cornwall, 25/12/43), Sgt.-Pilot W. Turner (29/12/43), Cpl. R. D. Currie (Scotland, 22/12/43), Cfn. G. H. Bleasdale (Surrey, 20/12/43), Sgt. L. Howarth (Lincs.,

18/12/43), S./Q.M.S. P. W. Gillooley, who was back in Blighty (10/1/44), Pte. D. D. Airey, in the North of England, 13/2/44; A.C.1 D. G. Lyles, F./Sergt. John Dickinson, B.N.A.F. (25/2/44), Marine G. F. Doyle, who told of his tough life in "the south west of England," where he had taken part in a nine-mile cross-country run in boots! Pte. T. B. Eaton wrote to the President of the O.B.A. describing his visit to Nazareth, Jerusalem, etc.

Cpl. J. Danson is stationed in Ceylon. Radio Officer K. W. F. Henderson is in service in the Mediterranean. J. T. Coope is now Sub-Lieut, appointed Secretary to the Captain of a depot supply ship with mine sweepers. Cadet Frank Stewart has received his wings in South Africa. Pte. Ernest L. Morton, reported missing last July when his hospital ship on which he was serving as an attendant was sunk, is now "presumed killed." Surgeon Lieut.-Commander Leslie Merrill, R.N., is also reported missing, along with his wife and son, all of whom are presumed to have lost their lives. He was on his way to take up a new appointment when the ship was sunk. He had been in the Navy since 1934 and had served over two years in Chinese waters on H.M.S. "Scarab," and later on H.M.S. "Galatea." Titley Haworth's son called to see Mr. Shaw recently; he is a Pilot in the Rhodesian Air Force and is operating from this country. Cpl. J. C. Mann, R.A.F. (India), has been recommended for a Commission. A Commission has recently been granted to Sergt.-Pilot, now Pilot Officer, Ronald Evans, who is serving in South Africa. Pte. Leslie J. Matthews is reported missing in Italy. Leonard A. Haworth has been granted his wings in Canada and received a Commission. Able-Seaman Donald Harvey is reported missing, presumed killed.

MARRIAGES.

PLATT : WALLIS.—On Saturday, 5th February, 1944, at St. Peter and St. Paul's Church, Bassingbourn, Herts., Lieut. Norman Brian Platt, R.E., to Mary Amanda Wallis, W.L.A., of the Isle of Wight and Bassingbourn.

EDGE : LAMBERT.—On Thursday, 24th February, 1944, at the American Church, Teheran, Lieut. James Edge, R.E., Indian Army, to Lieut. F. Theresa Lambert, A.N.C., of Des Moines, U.S.A.

Amongst those who have visited the School this term have been:—Pilot Officer A. E. Adams, Midshipman H. B. Clarke, Ldg. Seaman H. J. Roscoe, Ord. Tel. J. Hodgkinson, Flying Officer J. F. Walker, 1st Radio Officer J. Greenhalgh, who had met Lieut. R. E. Bentley in Calcutta; B. C. Wilmot, formerly Sergt., R.A.M.C., released from the Services to take up a Government appointment in Tanganyika, East Africa; O/Coder G. K. Stewart, Sig. F. C. Davies, Pilot Officer J. Barnes, returned from training in Canada, where he had met K. H. Rawcliffe, F. Roberts and R. Hodgkinson; Sig. J. Bowden, Sig. W. H. Hargreaves, Sergt. Pilot Instr. G. M. Brooker, Lieut. J. W. Yates, R.N.V.R.; Pilot Officer W. F. Calderbank, 2nd Radio Officer A. B. Taylor, Cpl. J. Riding, R.A.F., Marine G. F. Doyle, Cpl. W. Swire, R.A.F.

We welcome as new members to the Association:—

1940. W. F. Calderbank, 11, The Close, Cleveleys.

1943. J. R. Charnley, 15, Tithebarn Street, Poulton-le-Fylde.

1940. R. T. Cookson, 4, The Croft, Conway Avenue, Cleveleys.

1943. K. Craine, 25, Fleetwood Road, Thornton.

1943. G. I. Dick, 1, Guildford Avenue, Norbreck, Blackpool.

1943. F. K. Dixon, 4, Oxford Road, Cleveleys.
 1933. R. A. Dubbin, 119, Warley Road, Blackpool.
 1943. J. R. Eccles, 102, Preston Road, Chorley.
 1943. C. Eastwood, 2, Coronation Road, Cleveleys.
 1935. E. Eaves, 50, Esplanade, Fleetwood.
 1942. P. G. England, 62, Bispham Road, Blackpool.
 1941. F. R. Gregory, 61, Bispham Road, Carleton, near Blackpool.
 1940. W. Hewitt, 17, Victoria Road, Thornton.
 1943. J. Leech, 95, Manor Road, Fleetwood.
 1941. A. Neal, 60, Victoria Road, Cleveleys.
 1942. D. R. Rimmer, 9, Meadows Avenue, Thornton.
 1942. D. G. Stewart, 19, Arkholme Avenue, Blackpool.
 1943. P. A. Smalley, 50, Stockdove Way, Cleveleys.
 1943. D. Walton, 42, Victoria Road, Salford, 6.
 1942. E. Wilkinson, 27, Leslie Avenue, Thornton.
 1942. F. Williams, 88, Victoria Road, Thornton.

BY THE WAY.

There are 503 names on the School Roll.

One new boy has been admitted this term ; he is C. V. Jones, of Prep. Form ; he has been placed in Hibbert House.

We have now survived through five war winters ; the sixth is still far off, but we have good reasons for praying that it may be as free from prolonged spells of cold weather as its immediate predecessor. However, at the moment the high promise of a lovely Spring is with us, and we eagerly look forward to the coming of the long, sunny days. Great events, we are told, are impending. May they bring the day of Victory very near !

Mr. J. J. Marland, an Old Boy of the School, has taken over the work of Mrs. Griffiths. We extend a hearty welcome to Mr. Marland, more especially because he is one of that great and glorious band of men who have risked their lives upon the High Seas in order to maintain our supply-line unbroken. We deplore the misfortune of war which has deprived the Merchant Navy of one of its officers ; but we hope that his return to his old School may be for him the beginning of a new career, no less full of promise than the old.

Mrs. Hampson, the friend of hundreds of boys who have passed through the School during the last two decades, celebrates her seventieth birthday this month. When her husband became caretaker, 22 years ago, she came with him to live in the flat adjoining the old School. Three years later the dining-room was built—it was quite small then—and Mrs. Hampson took charge of the kitchen. In those days there was ample room for the handful of boys who required a cooked lunch, as well as for those who brought their own meal ; but the room has since been twice extended, so that it has more than doubled its original size, and lunch is provided for nearly 400 boys in the same short "dinner interval." This metamorphosis has meant more and more work and responsibility for Mrs. Hampson as time has gone on, but she continues serenely on her way ; neither pressure of work nor the weight of years has succeeded in quenching her high spirit or checking her nimbleness of foot.

No task has ever been too great for her to undertake ; not only lunches, but teas for all kinds of School functions and occasions, refreshments for parents' evenings, School Concerts and Old Boys' Dances, hot-pot suppers for Scouts

and Old Boys ; all these have been willingly and capably arranged by her whenever they have been required.

Nor has she ever been absent from her duties. Illness, she will tell you, is a luxury in which she has no time to indulge. She is small, but tough of fibre, and some of you know to your cost how nimble she can be. Since her husband died, about 17 years ago, she has lived away from School, but she is there in her kitchen every school morning before a single one of you has opened his eyes, and she is still there when most of you have left for home.

Such a record is indeed remarkable, and Mrs. Hampson has deserved well of the School. That you appreciate this fact is shown by your ready response to the birthday fund which has been opened.

Sergeant-Major Brown, of the Air-Borne Troops, lectured to a large number of boys at the beginning of the term. It was a talk which held you enraptured from beginning to end, and you will not quickly forget it. No wonder the Paratrooper looks bulky!—he is obviously a cross between a travelling Woolworth's and a walking munition factory. The work of this branch of the Army is evidently far from being all "beer and skittles"; and we shall remember this talk when we hear of the exploits of our men on the Continent, perhaps in the near future.

Nor shall we forget the talk given by our Old Boy, Pilot-Officer Livingstone, D.F.C., who had many interesting things to say, but not enough time to tell us all that we should have liked to hear.

Senior boys saw an excellent series of slides in the lecture given by Mr. Reade on the subject of "Photography in the Service of Mankind."

Our Football Elevens have played very well this year. A word of commendation is due to the First Eleven for the way in which they have settled down and welded themselves into a very good schoolboy side, often playing against sides superior in physique and experience, and at all times producing a good game.

Flying-Officer Moulding is "somewhere in Italy." We are informed that, as a result of his experiences in that alleged land of sunshine, he has resolved to foreswear camping once the war is over. Scouts, please note!

Here is news in brief of other Masters :—Lieut. Paterson is training troops in N.W. Africa ; Squadron-Leader Charlton is also engaged in training men in Egypt ; and 2nd Lieut. Chapman is with the Royal Corps of Signals, preparing for the "Second Front." Flt.-Lieut. Alderson is "somewhere in the North-West of England," doing educational work with the R.A.F.

Some of you suffer from a superabundance of what Kipling called '*satiabile curiosity*'. You cannot resist investigating the unknown and the uncommon. If someone presented you with a hand grenade, you would doubtless hurl it at the nearest wall to see what effect it had. You are told not to pick up strange objects which may be found lying about, but you do. One of our boys has been absent for over a term, because he decided to try the effect of a flare on the nearest fire. (We gather that the effect on himself was not to his liking.) Another fellow decided to tamper with the detonator of a cartridge, fortunately without doing anything more than scare himself and those who were near him. If you must carry on this kind of research, and we hope that you won't, please do it away from the School premises. The results of these experiments are apt to be messy!

One of our erudite Seniors (doubtless in a moment of mental strain!) writes, concerning the South Wales coalfield, "There is good farming on this coalfield, and they manufacture coal in the towns." No doubt the latter part of this remark is merely wishful thinking!

A Happy Easter to all!

FOOTBALL.

Captain : H. EDDLESTON.

Vice-Captain : J. COOPER.

Hon. Secretary : J. F. BOSTOCK.

FIRST ELEVEN RESULTS :—

B.G.S., 10 ; No. 3 School of Technical Training, R.A.F., 2. H.

B.G.S., 0 ; No. 3 S.T.T., 4. H.

B.G.S., 4 ; 1543 Squadron, A.T.C., 2. H.

B.G.S., 1 ; No. 3 S.T.T., 2. H.

B.G.S., 1 ; Preston Grammar School, 0. H.

SECOND ELEVEN RESULTS :—

B.G.S., 1 ; 1543 Squadron, A.T.C., Second Eleven, 2. H.

B.G.S., 7 ; 1543 Squadron, A.T.C., Second Eleven, 1. H.

W. G. Lunn and H. K. Stock have been awarded Football Colours.
Mulineux and Rigby have played in the First Eleven this term.

" UNDER SIXTEEN " ELEVEN.

Jan. 29—B.G.S., 6 ; Thornton Army Cadets, 5. H.

Season's Results : Won, 3 ; Drawn, 1 ; Lost, 0.

Scorers : Lunn (4), Humber (4), J. Withers (2), Mortimore (2), Hopson, Barlow, Cooper, Davies.

" UNDER FOURTEEN " ELEVEN.

Feb. 12—B.G.S., 1 ; Palatine Central School, 1. A.

Season's Results : Won, 3 ; Drawn, 6 ; Lost, 0.

Scorers : Durie (9), Dawson (6), Spencer (5), Taylor (4), Johnston (2), Coe (1).

" UNDER THIRTEEN " ELEVEN.

Mar. 4—B.G.S., 6 ; Hodgson Senior School, 0. H.

Mar. 11—B.G.S., 1 ; Hodgson Senior School, 0. A.

Mar. 18—B.G.S., 3 ; Palatine Central School, 0. H.

Mar. 25—B.G.S., 2 ; Palatine Central School, 1. A.

Season's Results : Won, 4 ; Drawn, 0 ; Lost, 0.

Scorers : Dawson (4), Darlington (3), Durie (2), Hetherington (2), Coe.

The following have played :—Martin, Scott ; Walters, Lawrenson, Edwards, Counsell ; Glossop, Halstead, Garner, Porter ; Hetherington, Coe, Darlington, Durie (Vice-Captain), Dawson (Captain).

An interesting analysis of the results since December, 1942, shows that the " Under Thirteen " and " Under Fourteen " Elevens have played 23 matches without defeat, winning 16 and drawing seven, and scoring 95 goals against 22. These goals have been scored as follows :—five from outside-right, 15 from inside-right, 35 from centre-forward, 23 from inside-left, 10 from outside-left, five from half-back, and two by opponents.

H.E.T.

