

The Wathonian



FEBRUARY, 1950.

VOLUME LX.

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EDITORIAL

THE past year has been one of great changes, not only in the world around, but in our own small world here at Wath.

In May the new School dining-hall was opened, and, although we were aware of the great need of a larger canteen, it cannot be denied that the more aesthetically sensitive among us were somewhat dismayed by the interior fittings and decorations. A more serious criticism is that the new dining rooms are already filled to capacity.

There has also been the emergency operation on the Hall which, although somewhat marred by several projecting girders—painted orange, of all colours—has now, we hope, been saved from any serious damage.

At the end of September the Reverend A. T. L. Grear, former Headmaster of this School, unveiled the School War Memorial, two handsome oak panels engraved with the names of the fallen, which will be described in detail elsewhere.

An innovation during the Christmas Term has been the introduction of a system of House Prefects, eight to each House, and they have already justified their existence by helping the School Prefects on corridor duty and looking after the dinner queues.

Despite these ripples on the surface School life flows placidly on. At the end of each term the Headmaster has proved—by decimals—that our standard of effort is worthily maintained, and there is comfort in the report of our Rugger correspondent that our juniors are full of promise. Best of all is the flourishing condition of the School societies in general and of the Dramatic Society in particular.

Finally, we should like to welcome all new members of the Staff and the new pupils, and to say "Good Luck" to all who have left us during the past year. We hope that they will keep in close touch with the School, and we would remind them that they can do so by becoming subscribers to the Magazine.

SCHOOL DIARY, 1949

- Jan. 6—Spring Term began. New members of Staff: Mr. Prendergast (History) and Mr. Schofield (Scripture).
- Mar. 7—11—Lunch hour recitals in the Library.
9—School Cross-country Run won by Troy.
16—Inter-School Cross-country Run won by Wath
- April 6—7—Public performances of "Lady Precious Stream."
8—End of Term. Miss White left.
27—Summer Term began. Miss Nelson (History) joined the Staff.
- May 11—New Dining Hall opened.
19—School Sports won by Sparta.
20—Visit of West Riding Orchestra.
- June 6—11—Whitsun Holiday.
12—Miss Thompson (French) joined the Staff.
16—Inter-School Sports at Thorne.
- July 14—Speech Day.
22—End of Term. Mlle. Chavas left to return to France.
- Sept. 6—Beginning of new School Year. New members of Staff: Miss Brooks (Domestic Science), Miss Cornish (Physical Training), and Mlle. Ducolone (French).
28—Unveiling of War Memorial.
- Dec. 7—House Parties began.
15—16—Evening performance of Christmas Concert.
16—String Quartet Recitals.
23—End of Term.
(Compiled by K. BERRY (Upper VI. Lit.).)

UNVEILING OF THE WAR MEMORIAL

On Wednesday, September 28th, the Reverend A. T. L. Grear unveiled the School War Memorial to the one old girl and thirty-eight old boys who gave their lives during the last war.

After a hymn, a short lesson and another hymn, Mr. Grear unveiled the memorial plaques, and the Roll of Honour was read by Walter Young, Hon. Treasurer of the Old Wathonians' Association. Mr. Grear then gave a short but very moving address, and the service closed with a hymn and two verses of the School Song.

The memorial tablets are made of oak: each rectangular plaque is carved with the names of the fallen, surrounded by the School crest and the House badges (including that of Thebes). At present the plaques hang in the entrance hall, but they are

eventually to be placed on the south side of the main Hall, flanking the show case.

A large number of parents and old students were present, together with several members of the School seniors. Many beautiful wreaths, brought by parents, were placed beneath the Memorial.

Mr. Grear's Address.

"To you who are still at School many of those whom we commemorate this evening will be quite unknown, simply names inscribed on these oaken tablets. I would remind you that, in their day, some of them were leaders of the School, while others, as you would expect, never held positions of responsibility ; but passed through the School as the majority of boys and girls do to-day. All of them helped in their different ways to build up the traditions of a young school.

Many of you have left your school days far behind you : some are their parents or relatives, and others were their contemporaries who worked in the same forms or played in the same teams as they did. To you this little ceremony will be tinged with sadness, for your loss was a personal one. But I would remind you that the Christian belief about life is that it is a training ground to prepare us for a wider and fuller life hereafter. It is not the length of our training that matters, but the effect that it has upon us. So the quality of our lives is more important than their length.

Those we are remembering now did not have a long life, but they proved themselves able and ready to face danger with cheerfulness and courage, and to give their lives to save their country from the horrors of invasion and to preserve for future generations liberty and decency.

'It is not growing like a tree
In bulk doth make man better be :
Or standing long an oak, three hundred year,
To fall a log at last, dry, bald and sere.

A lily of a day
Is fairer far in May,
Although it fall and die that night,
It was the plant and flower of light.

In smaller proportions we just beauties see ;
And in small measures life may perfect be.'

It is my hope and prayer that those who are in the School now, and those who come after them, may, when they see this memorial, remember that in our country's direst peril the Old Wathonians played their part faithfully and well, and gave all that they had to give."

SCHOOL PREFECTS, 1949-50

Boys.

R. S. Robson
W. Howard
I. Gawthrop
B. Scales
G. Waddington
J. Harrop
R. M. Cox
J. Knutton
D. Hill
C. Martin
G. Athay
A. Hazzard

Girls.

Mona Hayes
Evelyn Pepper
Freda Lancaster
Enid Jenkins
Audrey Evans
Joan Clarke
Iris Hunter
Jeanette Barnes
Margaret Sanderson
Geraldine Meyers
Mary Allemby
June Watson

MAGAZINE COMMITTEE

Editor : Robert M. Cox.

Sub-Editor : Keith Berry.

<i>Representatives</i> :	<i>Athens</i>	..	Merle Walton	Gaskell
	<i>Carthage</i>	..	Gwen Holmes	Jones
	<i>Rome</i>	..	Mary Allemby	Kirk
	<i>Sparta</i>	..	Doreen Wood	Banks
	<i>Troy</i>	..	Margaret Grant	Hammond

EXAMINATION RESULTS

HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE

U.VI.Sc.	Barker, Roy	U.VI.Lit.	Buck, John
	Bradley, Keith A.		Fisher, Ernest
	Crosby, Tom		Hankins, Derek J.
	Gawthrop, Irving		Hardy, Peter
	Howard, Wilmer		Mann, David
	Readman, Gerald		Windle, Brian
	Robson, Robert S.		Bond, Margaret M.
	Ryman, Donald		Kilner, Judith M.
	Wade, Donald, H.		Mynett, Patricia
			Ritchie, Edith N.

SCHOOL CERTIFICATE

- | | | |
|-----------------|--|--|
| V.A. | Binns, Arthur G.
Bower, Joseph C.
Burden, Cyril A.
Evans, Alan
Farmery, Jack
Gladman, Terry
Goldthorpe, Brian L.
Greenhow, Malcolm
Hallworth, Thos. D.
Hammond, William
Kelly, Peter
Maddrell, James W.
Peace, Kenneth
Weston, Robert W.
Wigfield, Ramon | Barstow, Betty
Chesney, Joan
Duffield, Marjorie
Powell, Cynthia
Spencer, Edwina A.
Tate, June M.
Thorp, Patricia
Turner, Jean
Walton, Merle
Waring, Joan
Wood, Doreen
Wroe, Patricia G. |
| V.B. | Chatham, Donald H.
Christie, Derek H.
Ford, Barrie
James, Kenneth
Outram, Harold
Shirley, Peter M.
Smith, Christopher E. M.
Thompson, James M. | Birchall, Margaret
Carter, June
Everett, Margaret M.
Gardner, Iris
Hucknall, Margaret
Kissack, Jean
Leadley, Barbara M.
Sanderson, Margaret
Short, Jean
Tinker, Dorothy J. |
| V. Beta. | Hodgson, Geoffrey
Law, Bryan W.
Osguthorpe, Chas. D.
Porritt, John S.
South, Maurice W.
Taylor, Stanley | Bell, Monica
Bradley, Janet
Davies, Olwyn
Davis, Una M.
Garbett, Shirley
Hadwin, Joan
Neal, Lily E.
Payling, Shirley |
| S.V. | Barber, Donald
Cutler, Douglas
Gill, Leslie
Hill, John P.
Hill, Kenneth
Lake, Brian D.
Molyneaux, Barry
Owen, Malcolm
Prescott, Alan
Roberts, George I.
Rowley, Philip G.
Speight, Dennis R. | Stuart, Clifford
Vaughan, Derek
Wilby, Brian

Chester, Marion
Davis, Marian
Elvidge, Margaret
Grant, Margaret H.
Hillis, Blanche
North, Margery
Tart, Marjorie |

HOUSE NOTES

ATHENS.



House Captains : Mona Hayes,
Robson.

Games Captains :

Senior : Jeanette Barnes, Blackwell.

Junior : S. Nelson, Kay.

Athens takes this opportunity of extending a very hearty welcome to all newcomers, hoping that they may give us the maximum support.

In the autumn term the boys were very successful in their games, losing only one of their matches. The girls have also shown enthusiasm.

Our efforts in the Deeks Trophy Competition were rewarded when we gained second place. Let us make it first place next time, Athenians.

Too many Athenians, however, have been in detention.

We all desire to offer our sincere thanks to Mrs. Cornock and Mr. Smith for their untiring efforts this term. We trust that in the future Athenians will continue to take an example from their predecessors and uphold Athens' glories!

CARTHAGE.



House Captains : W. Howard.
Audrey Evans.

Carthage is happy to welcome Miss Cheney as House Mistress, and wishes her every success.

This term the House has achieved no outstanding success, but can now boast of its own Prefects' Court, which has been redemptive in many cases, and will, it is hoped, continue to protect the weak from themselves.

The House Party this year reached the usual standard. There were several distinguished and charming guests, including Rutter, a member of the crew of the "Amethyst," the Headmaster, and Father Christmas.

Efforts on the games' field have been better than usual, and the Junior boys must be congratulated on a very convincing victory. The Senior boys, meanwhile, are devoting all their energy to the more serious side of school life. It is gratifying to see so many Juniors in various societies, for the future of the House lies with them.

R.P.J.

ROME.

House Captains : G. Meyers,
G. Athay.

At last, Romans, we have won a cup ! Thanks to the brains of our brilliant Seniors, the Deeks Trophy once more belongs to Rome.

However, before we congratulate ourselves, let us consider our failures. Is it possible for Rome to obtain the Work Cup ? Possible ?—yes ! but very improbable, owing to the misdirected efforts of those young wretches whose only object in life seems to be the collecting of detentions.

On the games field both sections of the House have turned out enthusiastic players, but their efforts have not brought us the coveted prize.

School societies are well supported, and it is pleasing to note the Junior Romans' great interest in Drama.

Finally, we would remind all Romans that our objective is to win *all* the cups and, in welcoming new members, we invite them to help us to fulfil this worthy ambition.

MARY ALLEMBY (Upper VI.Lit.).

SPARTA.

House Captains : E. Pepper, Knutton.

Games Captains :

Senior : J. Price. Martin.
Junior : R. Mack. Beaumont.

Games Committee : B. Hough, Knutton.

During the Autumn term we were pleased to welcome Mr. Prendergast as our new House Master, and we hope he will enjoy his stay with us. We were sorry to lose Mr. Dawson, but wish him every success in his new appointment.

After a successful party our efforts in the Spring Term brought us the elusive Work Cup, and a miserable third in the Winter Games. In the Summer Term we did well by winning the Sports Cup and the Swimming Gala, not forgetting the Summer Games Cup for the first time on record. Now we have shown ourselves capable of achieving this distinction, let it not be the last time.

We Spartans seem to have excelled in games and sports, but let us attain the same standard in mental activities and win the Deeks Memorial Trophy and the Work Cup more frequently.



TROY.

House Captains : Iris Hunter, Hill.

Games Captains :

Senior : Monica Bell, Weston.

Junior : Jean Snowden, Barker.

Games Committee : Monica Bell,
Hazzard.

A hearty welcome to all new Trojans, especially to Mrs. Gill, our new House Mistress.

This year Troy, although far from perfect, has been trying hard. The Work Cup has at last been ringed with a yellow band, while the Sports Cup was missed by only half a point. Our speech makers for the Deeks Trophy gained fourth place. This position was also reached in the Swimming Gala, although competitors must be congratulated on their splendid efforts, as must all members of House teams.

A successful House Party on December 7th was enjoyed by all.

The future is bright, Troy! Let there be more praise in these notes next year!

W. HAMMOND (L.VI.Lit.)

Sports Section.

SCHOOL RUGBY, 1949/50

The School First XV is showing form which is a considerable improvement on that of last season, though the standard of play so far has been by no means high. With an admittedly easier task than Ryman's, Gawthrope has led the team well. He shows an exemplary awareness of the shortest route to the opponents' line, a valuable asset in view of the slow service from the scrum. Scales, on the other hand, has shone more in defence, and one must regret that it proved impossible to leave him at scrum-half. Spencer has improved greatly in attack, but is sometimes tardy in defence. This is a general fault among the backs. A good tackle is only really effective if it is early, and there has been a regrettable tendency to wait for the opponent to arrive instead of going to meet him. This has not eased Greenhow's burden, but he has been safe in spite of very indifferent covering. For the rest, Shirley has always proved worth his place, and Martin, on the wing left vacant on Podmore's departure, encourages us to hope that something good will emerge from the present incoherence.

We have produced few such forwards as Jones; he would be missed by any pack, and his loss leaves ours resembling the hippo

rather than the tiger. There is much honest endeavour, but it is largely negated by a general sluggishness. There is a need for the forwards to realise that attack and defence are not the sole prerogative of the backs. Opposing backs have been given far too much time in which to dispose of the ball and to recover from errors for which they should have paid. The only proper place for a forward is immediately behind the ball ; a forward beside it is a useless passenger. These simple facts must be learned. Only Harrop and D. Hill can be said to have caused any anxiety to opposing defences. However, there are recent signs of improvement. The line-out is better, and in the set scrum only the front row rises further from the ground than one would wish. It seems possible that the present forwards will weld themselves into a real pack. A little more intelligence in play, a little more liveliness, and it will.

Space must be found for a brief mention of the Second XV. There has been a notable improvement in the spirit of the team, which has enjoyed some good close games. It is particularly gratifying to find a second XV doing well, for there rest many of our hopes for the future. The same could be said of the under 15 XV, and here again the outlook is promising. Attendance at practices has been excellent, and great keenness has been shown at matches, down to the last reserve. The senior teams could with advantage, endeavour to copy more closely this example.

GAMES RESULTS.

First XV.

Oct.	1—Thorne .. ..	..	..	A ..	6—6
	22—Rotherham .. ..	..	..	H ..	42—0
Nov.	5—Goole .. ..	..	..	A ..	0—3
	26—Hemsworth .. ..	..	..	H ..	0—17
Dec.	3—O.B. .. ..	..	..	H ..	3—17

Second XV.

Oct.	1—Thorne .. ..	..	..	A ..	3—14
	22—Barnsley .. ..	..	..	A ..	3—9
Nov.	5—Sheffield R.U.F.C.	..	..	H ..	0—12
	12—Sheffield Tigers ..	..	..	A ..	8—3
	26—Hemsworth .. ..	..	..	H ..	5—3
Dec.	3—O.B. .. ..	..	..	H ..	9—11

Under "15" XV.

Oct.	1—Thorne .. ..	..	..	A ..	3—14
Nov.	5—Goole .. ..	..	..	A ..	15—0
	12—Barnsley .. ..	..	..	A ..	8—3
	19—Sheffield Schools ..	..	..	H ..	0—12
	26—Hemsworth .. ..	..	..	H ..	12—8

CRICKET NOTES

1st XI.

The team was chosen from the following :—Gawthrope (Captain), Hill (J.), Griffiths, Knutton, Jones, Knowles, Howard, Hill (D.), Rusby, Greenhow, Scales, Waddington and South.

The final record read as follows :—

Played 6 ; Won 4 ; Lost 2.

Results :—

- v. Barnsley (home). Lost. School 45 ; Barnsley 46 for 3 (Griffiths 2 for 21).
- v. Thorne (home). Won. Thorne 95 (Griffiths 3 for 37 ; Hill, J., 5 for 43) ; School 96 for 9 (Hill, J., 24, Knutton 23, Gawthrope 14).
- v. De La Salle (home). Won. School 108 for 8 dec. (Gawthrope 64 not out, Knutton 31) ; De La Salle 16 (Hill, J., 6 for 9 ; Gawthrope 3 for 7).
- v. Mexborough (away). Lost. School 94 (Jones 29, Knutton 21, Hill, J., 14) ; Mexborough 95 for 8 (Griffiths 4 for 38).
- v. Thorne (away). Won. Thorne 77 (Knowles 4 for 7, Gawthrope 4 for 29) ; School 81 for 6 (Gawthrope 27, Howard 20, Rusby 15, Hill, D., 16).
- v. Woodlands (away). Won. Woodlands 45 (Gawthrope 6 for 8, Hill, J., 4 for 19) ; School 46 for 9.

AVERAGES :

Batting :

			Times				
		Innings.	not out.		Runs.		Average.
Gawthrope	..	.. 6	.. 1	..	114	..	22.8
Knutton	..	.. 6	.. —	..	94	..	15.6
Scales	..	.. 5	.. 3	..	21	..	10.5
Hill, J.	..	.. 5	.. —	..	42	..	8.4
Jones	..	.. 6	.. —	..	45	..	7.5

Bowling.

			Runs.	Wickets.		Average.
Knowles	..	..	20	.. 5	..	4
Gawthrope	..	..	78	.. 16	..	4.87
Hill, J.	..	..	109	.. 16	..	6.8
Griffiths	..	..	129	.. 11	..	11.7

Full colours were awarded to Gawthrope and Hill, J.
Half colours to Griffiths and Knutton.

I. GAWTHROPE.

Under 14 XI.

The team was chosen from the following :—Wilks (captain), Pownall, Goldthorpe, Stuart, Clark, Ellis, Pickerill, Darley, Norman, Neal, Kirby, Dilkes, Holmes, Silcock and Turner.

The final record read as follows :—

Played 6 ; Won 4 ; Lost 2.

Results :—

- v. Barnsley (away). Won. Barnsley 47 ; School 50 for 4.
- v. Thorne (away). Won. Thorne 64 ; School 71 for 2.
- v. Mexborough (home). Won. School 61 ; Mexborough 33.
- v. Hickleton (away). Lost. Hickleton 84 for 7 dec. School 32.
- v. Thorne (home). Won. School 71 ; Thorne 53.
- v. Woodlands (home). Lost. School 31 ; Woodlands 32 for 1.

TENNIS**1st VI.**

<i>1st Couple.</i>	<i>2nd Couple.</i>	<i>3rd Couple.</i>
M. Bond (capt.)	J. Martin	J. Clarke
P. Scott	O. Davis	P. Mynett

The 1st Team played only three matches, winning two and losing one. The 2nd Team won both their matches. Altogether the School managed to score a total of 241 points against 218.

Results :

	<i>1st VI.</i>	<i>2nd VI.</i>
Thorne (home) ..	Won	Won
Sheffield (away) ..	Lost	—
Thorne (away) ..	Won	Won

The teams wish to thank Mr. Black for his valuable coaching both during school hours and in the evening.

IRIS HUNTER, (Upper VI General).

1st and 2nd TEAM ROUNDERS**1st Team :**

M. Holmes (b)	I. Hunter (b.s.)	M. Leadley (1b, capt.)
M. Taylor (2b)	D. Oldfield (3b)	M. Butters (4b)
F. Merrill (1d)	S. Smith (2d)	J. Butler (3d)

The teams had a very enjoyable season, and wish to thank both Miss Ward and Miss Disley for giving up so much of their time to help coach us.

Results :

May 7—v. Mexborough (away).

1st won $7\frac{1}{2}$ —4. 2nd lost 2—3.

May 21—v. Thorne (home).

1st won 1—0. 2nd won 3—0.

May 28—v. Woodlands (home).

1st lost 4—0. 2nd lost 2— $2\frac{1}{2}$.

June 17—v. Thorne (away).

1st lost 6—8. 2nd won $3\frac{1}{2}$ — $1\frac{1}{2}$.

June 25—v. Woodlands (away).

1st lost 14—2. 2nd drew 2—2.

July 2—v. Mexborough (home).

1st lost 2—0. 2nd won $2\frac{1}{2}$ —2.

July 9—v. Barnsley (home).

1st drew $1\frac{1}{2}$ — $1\frac{1}{2}$. 2nd won 2—1.

IRIS HUNTER.

HOCKEY NOTES

The hockey season has been uneventful so far. Owing to bad weather two matches have had to be cancelled.

1st XI.—M. Duffield (G), B. Quigley (RB), J. Martin (LB), J. Clarke (RH), I. Hunter (CH), J. Watson (LH), B. Dyson (RW), M. Bell (RI), G. Meyers (CF), M. Leadley (LI), J. Davis (LW).

Matches played :		1st XI	2nd XI
Barnsley (away)	.. ..	Lost 5—0	Drew 1—1
Mexborough (home)	.. ..	Won 6—1	Won 4—1
Wentworth Castle T.C. (home)		Drew 1—1	
Maltby (away)	.. ..	Won 6—3	Lost 3—5

All team members wish to thank Miss Cornish, Miss Ward and Miss Disley for all their help and advice. I. HUNTER.

SPORTS DAY, 1949.

This year the School Sports were held in May. It was a very dull day, but the proceedings went forward with the usual efficiency.

Sparta followed up the success of previous years by winning the Cup, though only by a small margin over their nearest rival, Troy.

The following records were broken :

- Girls : Group II .. Relay by Carthage.
 Group IV .. 400 yards by Podmore (Rome).
 Group III .. Discus by Wardle of Troy.
- Boys : Group III .. Relay by Troy.
 Group II .. High Jump by Fisher (Carthage).
- Boys : Group II .. Relay by Troy.
 Group I .. High Jump by Vizard (Athens).

J. KNUTTON (Upper VI. Science).

SWIMMING GALA, 1949.

The second inter-House Swimming Gala was held at Wath Baths on Tuesday, 19th July, 1949. As at the previous Gala the hopeful supporters started queueing long before the doors were open, while a few stalwart Spartan boys were labouring with the seating.

At 6.45 p.m. the competitors moved in, followed by the "teeming millions"—or so it seemed to an onlooker.

Outstanding performances in the Junior section were given by the winners of the girls' back stroke, Junior and Middle boys' plunge, and the girls' squadron team. This section was won by Rome, with Sparta second.

Barker and Podmoor caused much hilarity with their demonstration of how not to life-save, while others ably performed the correct methods and showed the mistakes sometimes made.

The Middle section was won by Rome, and the Senior section by Sparta, while the good-night race went to Athens.

The final placings were : Sparta first ; Rome second ; Athens third ; Troy fourth ; Carthage fifth.

JOAN CLARKE & JEAN MARTIN (Upp. VI. Gen.)

SCOUT NOTES

For the first time since 1943, the annual Scout Camp was held as a holiday camp, at Whitbourne Hall, in Herefordshire.

As there was little work to be done (except in the "cook-house") much of the time was devoted to swimming in the nearby lake, and playing quoits and cricket. This cricket practice proved useful, for a decisive victory was gained by the Troop over a village team.

The "Initiation Ceremony," with Walker as high priest, was very successful, the highlight being the initiation of two unfortunate Sixth-formers, whose names cannot be disclosed.

The Friday evening meetings have resulted in a great deal of work being done by everyone (?). The 4th and 5th formers are attempting to gain their first class badges, whilst the rest of the Troop in the capable (?) hands of some seniors, are busy with morse, pioneering and first-aid.

Finally we would like to thank Mrs. Shaw and the kitchen staff for catering for "the mob," and Mr. Gill, Mr. Grear, and especially Mr. Wilkinson, for their valuable aid on Friday evenings.

G. WADDINGTON (Upper VI. Lit.).

GUIDE NOTES

The last year has been something quite new in the history of the School Guides. Instead of the usual Friday night meeting for the whole Company, there has been a meeting on Wednesday for the junior Guides, and a cookery class on Friday for the seniors. The latter has been a valuable experience, and we sincerely hope that it will be continued next term.

Also in this sphere of work we were successful in winning the District Shield, awarded for Guiding technique. We wish to thank all the Guides who helped to gain this honour.

Last summer we again held several outdoor meetings, which were thoroughly enjoyed by all who took part.

As in previous years, there has been a good sale of "Tuberculosis Seals" this Christmas.

We wish to thank Miss Disley and Miss Brooks for their good work and co-operation with the Company. Finally, we welcome all new Guides, and hope that the present members of the Company will continue their good work and attendance.

PATRICIA G. WROE, DOREEN WOOD,
(Lower VI. Lit.).

A.T.C. NOTES

This year 747 Squadron A.T.C. has been quite successful. Over three-quarters of the Cadets are now first class ; four are proficient, Cadet K. Hill being the latest to gain this honour. Two Cadets (Blow and Burden) have gained their "A" gliding certificates at Doncaster Gliding School.

We have had visits to R.A.F. stations at Lindholme and Finningley. At last summer's swimming parade many Cadets won either the Proficiency or Advanced Swimming Certificates.

The camp, attended by 16 Cadets, was extremely enjoyable. We had a good flight in the R.A.F.'s latest transport, the Hastings, which took us to Radlett, near St. Albans, where we looked round the Handley-Page Works. We arrived back at Topcliffe, near Thirsk, at 6 p.m. We also successfully shot up Scarborough, Bridlington, and York, with a pilot who delighted in showing us what magnificent patterns he could weave in the air.

Though the year has been a success, our Squadron is in danger of losing some of the enthusiasm it has kept since its formation, and we appeal to all boys in the School over 14½ who are keen on flying to join the A.T.C.

To conclude, I, on behalf of the A.T.C., would like to thank F/O Pratt, and all who have helped, for the good work they have done for us in the past, and will do, for those who are remaining, in the future.

P. HARDY (late Upp.VI.Lit.).

SCIENTIFIC AND LITERARY SOCIETY

The first meeting of this Society was very encouraging, and a good attendance of both literary and scientific members was recorded. Mr. Freestone gave an extremely interesting paper on "The Chemistry of Sand, Glass and Clay," with suitable practical illustrations.

Owing to the Deeks Trophy Competitions occupying three meetings of the Society, only one other meeting has been held.

This was addressed by Joan Chesney (L.VI.Lit.), who gave a paper entitled, "The Life and Work of Chopin." Musical illustrations were provided by Merle Walton (L.VI.Lit.). Again a good number attended and enjoyed the meeting.

Next term we hope to begin a series of very interesting meetings. Let us keep the flame, kindled at rather a late date last term, brightly burning in the following!

MERLE WALTON (L.VI.Lit.), Secretary.

ART CLUB

The usual type of work has proceeded much as before, and has included painting, lino-cutting, sketching and bookbinding. The dinner-hour meetings are well attended but unfortunately the same cannot be said about those on Saturday morning.

Since the last issue of *The Wathonian* the main event for Art Club members has been the exhibition of their work which was held in the Art Room from the 4th to the 8th of July. The exhibits included paintings in oils, water colour, and powder colour, sketches and models. Some of the paintings in the modern style aroused great interest and many questions from admirers. It was well attended and in the not too distant future we hope to arrange a similar exhibition. On Speech Day the exhibits were arranged in the corridors so that parents might see something of our work.

On behalf of all members I wish to thank Mr. Leadley for devoting so much of this time to us, and hope that he does sometimes see a flicker of genius in our work.

K. BERRY (Upp.VI.Lit.)

Vith FORM DISCUSSION GROUP

Chairman : Enid Jenkins (U.VI.L.).

Secretary : P. Gaskell (U.VI.L.).

Treasurer : Denise Chafer (U.VI.L.).

The Discussion Group continues, thanks mainly to the enthusiastic support of several members of the U.VI. Literary. There have, however, been some valuable contributions from members of U.VI.Sc. The discussions unfailingly arouse much interest and deep thought on the part of the members.

The interest of the discussions lies chiefly in the wide range of subjects :—“Can Britain Afford the Welfare State?” “Is the Colour Bar Defensible?” “Should Germany be allowed to rise again?” and “Is Britain’s first responsibility to Europe or to her Empire?” Earlier topics were “Czechoslovakia,” “Marxism” and “Belief in the Supernatural.”

Four members of the Group, two from U.VI.L. and two from U.VI.Sc., are to attend the Conference of the Council of Education in World Citizenship, in London, just after Christmas. The subject is “Democracy and the case for a United Europe,” and we hope that we shall all benefit by their experience.

In February, 1949, members of the Group were the main

supporters of a conference, "Faiths for the Atomic Age" between this School and Mexborough Grammar School.

Finally, more contributions of quality are needed from more members of the Upper Sixth, for this type of activity is a sure sign of intellectual vitality.

R. P. GASKELL (Upper VI. Literary).

DRAMATIC SOCIETY

The Dramatic Society this year has had a full, eventful, and in several ways, unusual season. At the end of the Christmas Term, 1948, the senior section of the group produced three one-act plays, two of which were written by members of the society.

Then, following closely in the tradition, begun by "Macbeth" and carried on by "Tobias and the Angel," for plays of an outstanding and even exotic nature, the Senior Dramatic Society gave six successful performances of the famous Chinese play, "Lady Precious Stream," by S. I. Hsiung. The Chinese theatre has a completely different set of conventions from those of the Western world, and the audiences entered fully into the spirit of the play and accepted property men, artificial "snow" and talking birds as though they were the usual trappings of plays. The cast was far too large to mention individually all who took part, but Margaret Grant as the heroine Lady Precious Stream, Birkhead as the hero Hseih Ping Kuei, Hammond as Wang, Mary Allemby as Madam Wang, and Margaret Leadley as the Queen of the Western Regions, gave performances of the high quality which we have come to expect of them.

The next term was taken up largely by reading a considerable number of plays in order to select one to be given at the end of the Christmas Term 1949. "Courting Christina," a Scots comedy by J. J. Bell was the one eventually chosen.

An innovation which we hope to see repeated often was a play performed by members of Staff. The Junior Drama Society gave a delightful mime performance of the old fairy-tale "Cinderella"; the most outstanding point about this play being the ingenious "transformation" scene.

Next term the Senior Dramatic Society plan to produce "A Midsummer Night's Dream" by Shakespeare, and the cast is already hard at work learning their parts.

Both branches of the Society wish to thank Mr. Easterbey, Mrs. Cornock, and all members of staff who have in any way helped to make the Society the success it undoubtedly is.

EVELYN T. PEPPER (Upper VI. Lit.).

ORCHESTRA NOTES

“What has become of our School Orchestra?”

Many will, I am sure, have asked that question at the Christmas Concert, and it is indeed many years since a School Concert was produced without our orchestra.

We played, as usual, at Speech Day, our contribution being the Minuet and Trio from Haydn’s “Surprise” Symphony. During the Summer Term, a musical week was held, items being given in the dinner hours. Choir and Orchestra performed, the latter playing Mozart’s “Eine Kleine Nachtmusik.”

Then the blow came. At the best, we had only eight players, but at the end of the School year three of them left us. Derick Sanderson, who was the leader, is now studying at the Royal Manchester College of Music, his principal instruments are violin and piano, but he is also practising the viola. The others to leave us were Hazel Randerson, the pianist, and Hodgson, a first violinist. The remaining five were expert enough to continue, but five were not enough, and the promotion of the Junior Orchestra’s best players did not make up the loss, so it was decided to give the newcomers more experience before putting them before an audience. So we may not have appeared at the concert, but we hope to be back for Speech Day.

P. M. LONGDEN (U.VI.Sc.).

CHOIR

Since the last issue of the Magazine the Choir has been present at three major School functions.

On Speech Day (July 14th, 1949) the following items were sung:

“I Attempt from Love’s Sickness to Fly” (*Puccini*).

“As Torrents in Summer” (from Cantata “King Olfr”) (*Elgar*).

“My Love Dwelt in a Northern Land” (*Elgar*).

“Silent Worship” (*Handel*).

The Choir also led the singing at the unveiling of the Memorial Tablets on September 28th.

We have missed several of the senior members of the Choir who left in August. We hope they will prove valuable assets to College and University choirs. After the summer holidays we started to practise for the Christmas Concert. All the meetings were marked with the usual enthusiasm, and the excellent result

was enjoyed by all present at the concert. The programme contained three groups of songs, the first of which consisted of three carols :

- “O Come all ye Faithful” (with descant).
- “It came upon the Midnight Clear” (with descant).
- “Past Three O'clock” (with descants of various carols).

The second group included the following carols :

- “Il est ne le Divin Enfant.”
- “Quittez Pasteurs.”
- “The Boar’s Head Carol.”
- “Song of the Nuns of Chester” (soloist, Jose Davis).
- “In dulci jubilo.”

Two unaccompanied part-songs and one accompanied, completed the Choir’s part in the concert, with the exception of the final carol, “The First Noel,” sung by Choir and audience.

A hearty welcome will be extended to any tenors or basses among the seniors when practices begin for Speech Day, 1950.

Finally, all members of the choir would like to thank Miss Knowles for her unfailing enthusiasm and invaluable help in training them during the year.

C. COOK (U.VI.Sc.).

LIBRARY NOTES

Senior Librarians : Berry and Cox (U.VI.Lit.).

At the beginning of the Christmas Term, 1948, an attempt was made to revolutionise the whole organisation of the School library. Perhaps it is still too early to judge whether the attempt has, or has not, been successful.

The most important change was a new method of borrowing, similar to that in use in most public libraries. At the same time an attempt was made to co-ordinate all branches of the library, but so far this has met with little success. Library users still have to learn to behave in a proper manner before any other improvements on these lines can be made.

During the past year nearly a hundred books have been added to the fiction library, both by gift and by purchase, but our collection is still far from being exhaustive.

Two surveys have been taken of school fiction reading and they show that the girls read more than the boys, and that the “B” forms borrow more books than the “A” forms. Exhibitions have also been arranged from time to time and have met with much approval.

I should like to thank all who have helped in the library in any way, but especially Mrs. Cornock, but for whom there would be no school library as we know it.

ROBERT M. COX.

FRENCH ACTIVITIES

During the past year many opportunities have been given to Seniors who desire to extend their knowledge of French.

In the Spring a party visited Abbeydale Grammar School, where Molière's "L'Avare" was presented by a company of French amateurs. The characters, especially those of Harpagon, the miser, and La Flèche, his son's servant, were well portrayed, and since we had studied the play in class we missed little of the dialogue.

At the beginning of the Christmas term "Le Médecin Malgré Lui," also by Molière, was given at Doncaster Grammar School. To our surprise, it was accompanied by several "Fables de la Fontaine," which were recited in an amusing manner by members of the cast. Unfortunately we were not sufficiently familiar with the strong French accents of the players to be able to understand everything that was said.

Arrangements have been made for a series of films issued by the French Tourist Association to be shown after school. The first two meetings have already been held and were both attended by a creditable number of Seniors.

We would like to thank Miss Bourne and all the other members of staff who have helped in any way to arrange these entertainments for us.

A VISIT TO THE HALLÉ

On Friday, 25th November, a party of pupils and staff, 75 strong, attended a concert given by the Hallé Orchestra at Sheffield. The orchestra was under the baton of Sir John Barbirolli, and the whole evening was one of pure delight. The programme included: Overture to Prince Igor—Borodin (1833-87). Kathleen Ferrier (contralto) then enthralled us by her beautiful renderings of "Ombra mai fu," an aria from Handel's opera "Xerxes," and one of Gluck's loveliest arias "Che faro sênzor Euridice." This was followed by "Variations on a Theme of Mozart" Op. 132, by Reger (1873-1916).

After the interval came the Nocturne and Scherzo from Mendelssohn's incidental music to "A Midsummer Night's Dream." Miss Ferrier made a fitting final appearance when, accompanied by a male choir, she sang Brahms' "Alto Rhapsody." To conclude the programme the Orchestra played the Fantasy Overture "Romeo and Juliet," by Tchaikovsky (1846-93).

Our thanks are extended to Miss Knowles for her part in organising such a successful evening.

JOSE DAVIS (IV.A.).

DEEKS' TROPHY COMPETITION

Combat for the Deeks Trophy took place in the Library on three separate evenings of the latter half of this term, when all five Houses entered the lists armed, not with lances, but with speeches.

The first tourney went to Sparta, whose principal speaker skilfully unhorsed any opponent who dared to challenge the Spartan views on the necessary reforms which would be carried out if she were elected as the School's representative on the West Riding County Council.

The Romans and Athenians were the joint victors in the second tilt, but they had a desperate struggle to prevent their three adversaries from throwing them out of the arena, or rather out of the balloon. Each House placed a person, representing a famous celebrity, into the basket of a floating balloon which possessed only one parachute. Each one then stated why he or she should have the parachute and the others be flung into space. The celebrities were supported by remarks from the floor, but the competition had rather an accent on accents.

Troy won the last bout of the tournament. Her wooden horse managed to take the honours away from the "bucking broncos" of the other four Houses in a series of speeches entitled "The Personal Qualities I Most Admire." Impromptu talks followed, and we learned quite a lot about the human feet from the Romans, who, when the marks from all three competitions were added up, were found to be the winners, and therefore hold the trophy for one term. So ended the battle royal.

MARGARET H. GRANT (Lower VI. Gen.).

SPEECH DAY, 1949

Speech Day this year was held on July 14th, and began with the singing of the National Anthem. After the School Orchestra had played Haydn's Minuet and Trio from the "Surprise Symphony" and the Chairman, Coun. C. H. Williams, had made his opening remarks, Mr. Ritchie gave his report on School activities throughout the year. The choir then sang four songs, and Mr. A. A. Evans, Deputy Director of the Institute of Education of the University of Leeds, presented the certificates and gave an address.

Fourteen University Scholarships, thirty-one Higher School Certificates and one hundred and thirteen School Certificates were gained by scholars last year.

Mr. Evans had much to say on the effects of Grammar School education. He said that when the country was looking for its

leaders, it would be to the Grammar Schools that it would look. This speech was very interesting and enjoyed by everyone.

The vote of thanks was proposed by Coun. C. H. Williams, and seconded by County Coun. W. Cutts, J.P., and the proceedings ended with the singing of the School Song.

A. EVANS (Upper VI.Science).

PRIZE WINNING ENTRIES

For the Junior, Middle School and Senior Competitions.

Junior Section.

On The School Bus.

At four o'clock, near close of day,
We queue up in the proper way,
And once upon the bus, we start,
And from the school we all depart.

The Prefects say "Move to the back,"
We put our bags upon the rack,
Into the seats we push and squeeze,
And sit upon each other's knees.

We laugh and talk and make a noise :
The girls as noisy as the boys ;
"Driver, stop here ! My journey's done,
I must get off and homeward run."

PAMELA CARR (I Alpha) Athens.

Middle Competition Winner.

A Visit to the Dentist.

The dreadful day had come at last :
Oh ! how I wished that it were past ;
For 'twas the day when I must see
That learned man in Dentistry.

My footsteps dragged as I walked on ;
I felt too sad to sing a song.

At last the dread name I 'spied :
"I Pullem. Dentist. Step Inside."

With quaking footsteps I obeyed,
And there was met by white-clad maid.
She looked at me, then said at last :
"Your turn will come at twenty-past."

A door swung open on my right,
And lo ! an old man came in sight ;
His face was white, his mouth was sore,
He staggered past me to the door.

And then I heard, to my dismay,
The dentist say : "Right, come this way."
I followed him, sat on the chair,
And gazed around in sad despair.

The tools were gleaming on a shelf ;
Each one was smiling to itself.
Ah, happy thought ! They seemed to say,
"We'll pull another tooth to-day."

The Dentist said : "Now, open wide,
Then I can see what is inside."
He peered and peered ; I heard him say :
"Ah, yes ! It must come out to-day."

He took his tools down from the shelf.
"No needle !" said I to myself.
And then I really felt quite glad,
As on my face he placed a pad.

In dreams I drifted far away
To hockey fields and girls at play.
When I awoke, I looked around,
I touched my face, and then I found—

Oh ! Joy of joys ! It did not ache.
I shook myself—I was awake.
The smiling nurse then crossed the floor,
And led me to the open door.

Along the path and through the gate
I rushed, not wanting to be late.
I really could not miss the fun
Of telling mother it was done.

KATHLEEN HAYES (III.A, Athens).

Senior Competition Winner**A CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

If anything ever deserved to wake the dead it was the School Orchestra's rendering of Mendelssohn's Overture to "A Midsummer Night's Dream," which opened the Christmas Concert. Indeed I doubt whether even Mendelssohn himself would have been able to recognise his own music.

The next item truly deserved a prize for muddle-headed production and mismanagement. This was Act 5 of "A Midsummer Night's Dream." There was a slight hitch at the beginning when the curtains refused to open. Willoughby minor who was in charge soon removed the safety pin which held them in the middle, and everything went off to a flying start, including Willoughby minor, who still held on to the curtains. This caused the biggest laugh of the evening, which speaks well for Willoughby minor, if not for the Dramatic Society.

I can find no words to express my feelings on the scene which ensued. There was no scenery and to give the effect of a wood someone had hit upon the brilliant idea of using green lights, which were certainly novel if nothing else. They fused just as Pyramus was saying "O grim look'd night! O night with hue so black," and this certainly added weight to his words, as the next five minutes were acted in complete darkness. The applause at the end was just loud enough to wake those who had been overcome by "the magic of the wood" in time to hear Shuttleworth sing "Art Thou Troubled?" I certainly was, because at that moment some dear little child behind me dropped a lump of ice cream down my neck. I turned round and gave it a black look, whereupon it started to cry and had to be taken out, its screams completely smothering the applause.

The final item was the Allegro from "Eine kleine Nachtmusik" by Mozart, given by the strings of the orchestra. The conductor afterwards explained to me that the strange noises were produced by Miss Daydream, who thought they were supposed to be playing the Rondo. She was playing it so well that it would have seemed such a shame to stop her.

When the last notes died away there were many sighs of relief. Most of those present were surprised that the concert was so short, but for me at least the surprise was a pleasant one.

K. BERRY (Upp. VI. Lit.)

WHERE WOULD YOU LIKE TO FIELD ?

There comes a time in most cricket matches when your captain saunters up to you, places a woolly arm round your shoulders, and asks where you would like to field. This is a difficult question to answer for all honest answers are forbidden by the canons of good form.

You must not, for example, answer "Nowhere," because it is a point of honour in cricket to pretend that you enjoy fielding. Neither must you ask where old Bill is fielding before stating where you, yourself, would like to field. The question should be faced cheerfully and answered without flinching.

You may not say, "Well, when the bowling's at this end, I should like to field long-on to be near that girl in pink by the hedge." Long-on and long off have ever been popular with the susceptible. If you say "long-on" you may be put long-on at the wrong end.

Another answer which is extremely tempting is : "Anywhere, so long as I have the sun in my eyes." This, however, would not be taken seriously, as it is an accepted fact that the captain always fields in that position. The advantage of fielding with the sun in your eyes is that you can miss catches without loss of reputation. It is quite simple. You circle under the ball ; suddenly you clap your hands to your eyes ; the ball drops with a thud. Everyone exclaims : "Bad luck, old chap !" But nobody in the history of cricket has ever frankly asked to field with the sun in his eyes, and I am too unadventurous to be the first.

I have learned that when a captain asks where you would like to field, he has already decided. You may say you usually field cover-point, or in the dip, or by the cow-shed. But if you do, he will reply : "Awfully sorry, Hill is fielding there. Would you mind fielding silly short-leg ?"

Once again you are faced with a question no cricketer can answer honestly. Of course you'd mind fielding silly short leg. You'd mind even fielding serious square-leg—but you have to go.

Where you would like to field has nothing to do with it.

R.P.J.

SCHOOL SONG

At Much Swotting on the Dearne,
Our married teachers have increased their numbers.
At Much Swotting on the Dearne,
They'll help each other out of all their blunders.
Some new Staff have come along to help us on our way,
Miss Brooks has come to teach the girls to be good cooks some day
Miss Cornish sees that all of them keep fit in every way,
At Much Swotting on the Dearne.

At Much Swotting on the Dearne,
We think it's time we got a new piano ;
At Much Swotting on the Dearne,
The one we've got would only fetch a tanner ;
When playing in the morning Miss Knowles' face is grim,
The noise it makes is not the tune that fits in with the hymn,
And with this healthy exercise she's keeping really slim,
At Much Swotting on the Dearne.

At Much Swotting on the Dearne,
The prefects are becoming rather jealous,
At Much Swotting on the Dearne,
As the mistresses are getting rather callous,
They've fixed a notice on their door which says "Please knock
and wait,"
And so we have to stand outside like sheep before a gate,
We think now that it should be changed for something up-to-date,
At Much Swotting on the Dearne.

MONA HAYES
S. ROBSON
I. GAWTHROPE
G. WADDINGTON

(Athens).

OLD WATHONIANS' ASSOCIATION

There have been two large gatherings of Old Wathonians this year. The Annual Reunion was held in April, when, once again, old scholars had an opportunity of getting together to exchange news and spend a pleasant evening with old friends. The Committee was re-elected *en bloc* with power to co-opt two new members in place of those retiring.

Unfortunately the Reverend A. T. L. Grear could not be present on that occasion, but, later in the year, he came to dedicate the War Memorial. This consists of two oak plaques bearing the names of our old scholars who fell in the War.

We are very sorry that our Secretary, Gladys Gregory, felt it necessary to resign from the Committee when she was married in September, but we do wish her all happiness, and offer her our sincere thanks for all the work she has done for the Association.

This year the Association has been much more active. The Hockey Club has been revived, and has made a good start with Jean Watson as Secretary. There have been two theatre visits. A party of Old Wathonians went to see the Wath Theatre Guild's presentation of "A Jealous Wife," and another party went to the Doncaster Arts Centre to see "Eight Bells." Both performances were very much enjoyed, and we are hoping to arrange further theatre visits.

On Friday, January 6th, 1950, there was an Old Wathonians House Party. We do hope that now the Association is coming to life, old scholars will help it to thrive by taking part in the activities that it offers.

Our congratulations are extended to:—

Margaret Richards, Marjorie Myers, José Shaw, A. Lazenby, D. Spencer, B. Machin and A. P. Walker, on obtaining their degrees.

Donald Bateman who has been appointed Chief Electrical Engineer at the Ireland Colliery, Staveley.

Frank Sale, on his appointment as Headmaster of Bolton Junior Boys' School.

Sergt. William George (R.A.F.) who has been awarded a Dutch decoration, the Bronze Medal of Honour, for heroic work in November, 1945, this honour being conferred upon him by H.R.H. Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands.

Philip Garner, who has been appointed Clerk of Works at a coke oven plant, Vryheid, Natal, South Africa.

James Arthur Stamper, who has qualified as a mine surveyor. Len Eyre, who was invited to represent England in the one

mile and three miles races in February 1950, at Auckland, New Zealand, and came in first in the latter race and second in the mile.

H. Knutton, who has captained the Devonport Services.

We also note that Jack Rutter was Leading Radio Electrician's Mate on board the "Amethyst."

BIRTHS

- Mr. and Mrs. M. Thompson (Nancy Midwood)—a son.
 Mr. and Mrs. G. Hardwick (Marion Howard)—a son.
 Mr. and Mrs. John Hargreaves—a son.
 Mr. and Mrs. J. Hackford. —a son.
 Mr. and Mrs. S. G. Atkinson (Ida Ryalls)—a daughter.
 Mr. and Mrs. K. Steer—a daughter.
 Mr. and Mrs. Poole (Irene Ellis)—a daughter.
 Mr. and Mrs. N. Kemmer (Margaret Wragg)—a son.
 Mr. and Mrs. J. E. G. Salmons (Joan Wood)—a daughter.
 Mr. and Mrs. L. Barber (Mary George)—a daughter.
 Mr. and Mrs. R. Beard (Elsie Quinney)—a daughter.
 Mr. and Mrs. G. Parkes—a son.
 Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Broughton (Marion Jarvis)—a daughter.
 Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Rich (Hilda Booth)—a son.
 Mr. and Mrs. Wheeler (Barbara Staton)—a daughter.
 Mr. and Mrs. Wither (Dorothy Green)—a son.
 Mr. and Mrs. Lord (Jenny Lockwood)—a daughter.

MARRIAGES

- Herbert Cooper (W.G.S.) to Molly Green (W.G.S.).
 Ronald Knowles to Gladys Gregory (W.G.S.).
 John Michael Hawksworth (W.G.S.) to Joan Dallas.
 A. Charles Evered to Lucy Horsfield (W.G.S.).
 Thomas E. Cooper to Ida Wood (W.G.S.).
 Jack C. Craigie to Kathleen M. Ibberson (W.G.S.).
 C. Wraith to Lilian Bailey (W.G.S.).
 Walter George (W.G.S.) to Barbara Spencer.
 Harry Starkey to Renee Wyer (W.G.S.).

DEATHS

We record with regret the death of the following Old Wathonians :—

- Miss Ivy G. Jones (former Geography Mistress), killed in an air crash.
 Mabel Walton, *nee* Barber (1937-44), killed in a street accident.
 George Blackburn (1938-45), accidentally killed.
 Donald Leather (1942-48).

OLD WATHONIANS' R.U.F.C.

The Club has so far enjoyed a reasonably successful season. This year we are attempting to field two teams in order to ensure that no-one is without a game, but support for the "A" XV could be greater, and thanks are due to School players for turning out when requested. Both teams have attractive fixtures, some of which, Bakewell, Gainsborough and Scunthorpe, are new this season.

Up to going to press the 1st XV's record is as follows :—

P.	W.	L.	D.	Points.	
				For	Against
11	.. 7	.. 4	.. 0	151	.. 98

The most consistent scorer has been J. Wilkes, centre three-quarter and team captain, followed by G. Wood, left wing. Many tries have been improved upon by B. Wilkes, who has some splendid goal-kicking to his credit.

Home matches at present are being played on the School ground, and all Old Wathonians are cordially invited to these games. The Club is ready to begin expanding with stronger and stronger teams, but support is needed, new players and spectators, all will be welcome. Any enquiries may be made through Mr. E. J. L. Grear at the School, or any member of the Committee : J. Wilkes, P. Ardron, R. Barnes, J. Walker, or the Secretary, L. Barber, 18, Sandygate, Wath-upon-Dearne.

CAMBRIDGE LETTER

Cambridge,

December, 1949.

Sir,

As I write, the "gown" part of Cambridge is preparing to take its leave of the "town" for the Christmas vacation, and is resolved to catch up in the next few weeks on the work sacrificed to the more pressing needs of the University's social, sporting, and political clubs. Many of us will also be glad to escape from the press of Cambridge crowds and the enthusiastic, if inexpert, cyclists who jam our complicated one-way traffic system. Meanwhile tension is high in both sporting and political circles, and the results of the Inter-Varsity Rugger match at Twickenham, and the Union elections, are anxiously awaited.

The town is at its wettest and foggiest at this time of year, and the riverside, incomparably beautiful in the summer, is so

grim and forbidding, that only the hardest enthusiasts turn out to watch the Trial Eights already practising vigorously for next term's Boat Race.

The Fifth of November, traditionally the day on which Cambridge "rags" are to be seen at their craziest, was this year washed out by a thunderstorm, though it has been suggested that the large numbers of policemen drafted into Cambridge from surrounding districts for the occasion, and the dire threats of reprisals made by the University authorities, may also have served to damp a few of the more fiery spirits. Indeed, there are many who assert that a more sober spirit has been evident in undergraduate society over the past few years, but perhaps with the influx of younger men fresh from the Sixth form, the gown may once again become the symbol of gay irresponsibility. Already, many undergraduates of Newnham and Girton, flushed with the triumph of their recent admission to full membership of the University, wear their too-new gowns in a chic and jaunty manner frowned upon by their seniors, and clamour vociferously and militantly for admission to the few male strongholds such as the Union, from which they are still barred.

The contingent of Wathonians in Cambridge is still small, but we hope that the numbers will be increased, and if any old boys or old girls of the School come up in 1950, we can guarantee them an enthusiastic welcome.

Yours, etc.

CAMBRIDGE OLD WATHONIAN.

(No mention has been made of Sayles who played in the (Rugger) Seniors match, or of Probert and his Union broadcast, but the C.O.W.s are notoriously modest.—Ed.).

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We wish to acknowledge receipt of the following contributions, and to apologise for any omissions:

Acta, Alumnus, Danensis, Rotherham County Grammar School for Girls, Woodnotes and Don and Dearne.

