

The Prestonian



Volume LXVI, Part 2

Spring Term 1970

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The Frestonian

Spring Term
1970

Volume LXVI
Part II

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Drawings by D. Hartley

The Frestonian

EDITORIAL

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Normanton Girls' High School officially disappeared in September 1965. Recent events have shown that Normanton Grammar School could possibly cease to exist within the next few years. During this seemingly quiet term, Normanton Urban Council, through one of its off-shoots, the Normanton Finance and General Purposes Sub-committee, has put forward a scheme whereby the Grammar School and Secondary Modern School would be merged to form Normanton Comprehensive School. This proposal has been turned down by the West Riding Education Committee on the grounds that the distance between the two existing schools (over 800 yards) is too great for such a comprehensive school to operate efficiently. In making the proposal the opinions of those people who are directly involved have not been sought.

Nevertheless, in their support of this comprehensive scheme, politicians have said that the parents think the schools should merge. I assume that these parents represent the majority of the parents with children at the two schools concerned. While I am unable to speak for the parents connected with the Secondary Modern School, I can say that the great majority of parents whose children attend the Grammar School have not been approached on the question of comprehensive education in Normanton. There has been no parents meeting at the Grammar School whereby all parents were given the chance to voice their opinions of the scheme. Consequently, to say that the parents (implying as it must, the majority of parents) want a comprehensive school on a split-site basis (as this seems the only type immediately feasible) is a gross exaggeration made to add weight to the argument of those who wish to see

a Normanton Comprehensive School. Without a definite knowledge of how the majority of parents feel concerning such a scheme, it seems wrong to quote parental opinion in forcing this upon Normanton Grammar School.

As with the parents, neither the staff nor the pupils have been consulted by the politicians who are deciding our future. The Editorial Committee, however, asked one question on comprehensive education in the questionnaire given to the Upper Sixth recently. The answers to this question have shown that three-quarters of Upper Sixth-formers are not in favour of a comprehensive scheme on a split-site basis. When I wrote to the headmaster of Garforth Comprehensive School — a custom-built school, asking him if his school would be able to operate as efficiently on a split-site basis as it does at present as a complete unit, he replied that it could not. Having regard to the great difficulties in the administration alone of a comprehensive school in the form currently envisaged by the Normanton Urban Council, whose view may one accept — that of a person with practical experience in the running of a comprehensive school, or the views of politicians (elected to serve the community) who attempt to remove this Grammar School without any precise knowledge of how the majority of the staff, parents and pupils (who should have been consulted first) feel about the change?

C. J. Faulkner.

NON SPECIALISTS

A robin redbreast in a cage
 Puts all heaven in a rage,
 But only those not Generally Studious
 Put Mr. Drury
 In a fury

A PRETTY DITTY ON CHRISTINE WEBB

Her legs are more long
 Than this song.

SCHOOL NEWS

Readers of journals other than this will have seen the School's name appearing at intervals as the press reported various West Riding County Council debates on the proposal to combine us with Normanton Secondary Modern School as a split-site comprehensive school. Individual readers will have their own opinions on the accuracy of the knowledge and the validity of the views of those who have been involved in the debate, and it is not the function of 'School News' to comment on political discussion. There is nevertheless, one thing which perhaps should be said here, if only to reassure parents. It was stated in the debate at County Hall on March 18th that "in the Normanton area the Education Officer had expressed the view that until re-organisation was introduced they would not get good staff coming in there" ('Wakefield Express' report).

Staff who have already come here in these pre-reorganisation days will of course tend not to share this opinion! To the best of our belief, there is no evidence that this school at least is failing to attract 'good staff': both their qualifications on paper and recent performances in work (e.g. two open university scholarships this year) and games (e.g. the 1st XV undefeated by any other school this season) suggest that the staff are 'good' enough.

* * *

P. Spires has been awarded an OPEN ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIP in physics and chemistry at Imperial College, London, to read chemical engineering. This award provides the pleasantest possible tailpiece to life in the third year sixth, about which he was interviewed in the previous issue of the magazine.

* * *

The Upper Sixth in early January organised an Upper Sixth and Staff DINNER DANCE. The organisation was excellent and the event deservedly proved a popular success: dinner in the candle-lit Lower School Library was followed by dancing at which Miss Hankins was the energetic Mistress of Ceremonies. (Fashion note: only one hint of décolletage, but skirts were less uniformly high than neck-

lines, the formerly ubiquitous mini being rivalled by a modest array of midi and maxi. A request in a game revealed what was not so immediately apparent to the observer : not a single female leg in the room was adorned with stockings. Middle-aged schoolmasters who could remember post-war days when girls would do anything — almost — for a pair of silk stockings, and more senior staff who could recall when black stockings were the schoolgirl's most distinguishing feature could only shake their heads in wonderment at this revelation that we live now in an age of tights).

At the end of term the 1st XV gave an EASTER DANCE. Instead of hiring a second-rate group at a hefty price, the organisers used D. J. Sainter as a disc-jockey; the evening was thus a considerable financial success, it is hoped to use the money to equip the Sevens team with a set of track suits. Hopes that girls could be persuaded to enter a beauty parade from which a Rugby Queen would be chosen were dashed, the girls' refusal stemming not so much from modern militant feminism as from old-fashioned embarrassment. So the Rugby Queen was chosen by lot — which, really, was a much pleasanter way.

* * *

A new Upper School HALL CEILING has been put in this term in an attempt to provide an acoustically livelier room. The School may thus no longer have what must have been one of the quietest school dining rooms in England, but it should have gained a hall in which will prove more rewarding for actors and singers.

The Upper School corridor ceiling has also been re-lined and re-lit — a marked improvement. The battens for the new ceiling tiles were fixed to the old ceiling with the explosive use of a nail-punching gun. The teaching profession still awaits a similar invention for driving knowledge into heads.

* * *

Fund-raising efforts in aid of DR. RARNARDO'S have already started. As usual the Lower School rather than the Upper is leading the way, but it is pleasing to see that an Upper School as well as a Lower School Art Competition

is being held. If new record totals are to be achieved, then the Upper School must become more active than has been its recent custom.

* * *

C. Lambert has been selected at wing-threequarter for the ENGLAND SCHOOLBOYS XV, and thus adds a senior cap to the one he gained at Under 15 level. D. Fretwell has been selected to play for the YORKSHIRE SCHOOLS F.A. XI. The School's representation at International and County level in sport in recent years has been truly remarkable; indeed, having an 'international' in the school has become a regular feature of each season. Meanwhile the 1st XV with a tough fixture list and an undefeated season have worthily upheld our tradition of team success; a tradition — it should be recognised — which owes much to the hard training they are prepared to undergo.

* * *

Other members of the school prepared to do hard extra work are the cast and backstage helpers of THE SCHOOL PLAY, a review of which appears later in the magazine. Because of the limited size of the auditorium and the demand for tickets, the play ran for five nights: instead of its usual three. This certainly put a strain on the cast : to play a major role and then go home about ten p.m. with the homework still to be done is no light undertaking. So those who expressed a wish for a sixth performance because they could not get tickets for one of the five will appreciate that the producer had to be firm over not giving in to their demands.

* * *

Another artistic event was the bi-annual LOWER SCHOOL INTER-HOUSE COMPETITION, held on March 23rd and adjudicated by Mr. Lincoln of Ackworth School. He criticised the boys' lack of interest in such competitions, reassured them that it was not effeminate to be involved in singing, and pointed out that male voices made various songs more lively and enjoyable. The winning Levett choir was commended on its representation of boys — all three of them — and Mr. Lincoln said he was sure this had helped them to be the most successful.

The competition is intended, chiefly for the benefit of its junior participants, but certainly an extra justification for the competition is the challenge presented to the senior pupils who rehearse the teams and organise their repertoire. Katrina Lagunowitsch, M. Woodhead, and Janet Chambers did a fine, intelligent job preparing the Levett choir and programme — certainly a more intelligent effort, one felt, than that of the Levett Housemaster who on a rehearsal day rather absurdly exhorted the choir to 'get stuck in' as if they were so many rugby players,

As for the musical appreciation of the Lower School audience, it is doubtless some reflection on it that during Mr. Lincoln's summing-up a muted voice advised him to 'Gerroff' as 'We'll miss us dinner.' A word of sympathy, however, for those who sat on backless wooden benches for the whole two hours; even had every girl in every choir had the voice of Elizabeth Scwarzkopf (or even of Mary Hopkins) one would still have been aware of one's bottom and spine protesting.

* * *

'The Frestonian' which in its School News section has often recorded and lamented the lack of ACADEMIC AMBITION IN GIRLS in the School, feels compelled to give at least two cheers for this year's fifth formers. For the first time since amalgamation a higher percentage of girls (about 82 per cent) is proposing to continue education into the sixth form. This is something of a breakthrough, and one on which the girls, their parents and the staff deserve congratulations.

* * *

Readers living in Normanton may have found themselves being observed by juniors during school hours. If so, they have unwittingly been providing further material for the 'NEW GEOGRAPHY' to process. Some of this work was described in the previous issue of the magazine; this term's extension of the work has included taking a census of vehicular and pedestrian traffic in various parts of Normanton.

* * *

Mr. Johnson will succeed Mr. Burns as STAFF REPRESENTATIVE on the Editorial Committee for the next issue of the magazine. As only one voice and vote amongst five or six committee members, the Staff Representative cannot hope to be a dictator, but Mr. Burns as 'continuity man' on the Editorial Committee over the past five years has tried to persuade successive editors to make the magazine a reflection of the School's academic and general interests rather than just an extension of the English Department's work. On the whole — with who can tell how much subtle perversion of the democratic process en route — he has managed to have his way. But just as there are a thousand and one ways of constructing tribal lays, so too with constructing school magazines — and, one hopes, 'every single one of them is right.' Mr. Burns would not wish future committees to feel under any obligation to continue the format or policies of recent issues of the magazine: these now belong to the past.

LAMENT FOR A LIBRARIAN

Of Oscar Wilde it was well said
 His sins were scarlet but his books were read;
 About Miss Harrison we're bemoanin'
 Her sins aren't scarlet but her books are stolen.

DEEP IN THE HEART OF NORMANTON

I've heard
 Of music with a heart,
 But never before
 Of music with a Coar.

THE STAFF

As already announced in the previous number Mr. R. S. Burns, Head of the English Department, leaves at the end of the Easter term to take up the post of Headmaster at Ludlow Grammar School, Shropshire. He came to us in September 1965, following a man who had charge of the department for only a year, at the moment when the schools were amalgamated; welding together two different traditions and two sets of staff to form the largest department in the new school with no previous knowledge of the personalities involved or any other factors, presented a daunting task. With what success he tackled it very soon became evident: the number of pupils taking English at A level, and English Literature at O, increased enormously, the results achieved were such that one can scarcely imagine that they will ever be surpassed, and if they were crowned by the successes of David Fairer and John Lancaster at Oxford, they were based on sound teaching which produced also an unusually high rate of success at O level — seven-eighths of all candidates in English Language passed in 1969. Yet this was not achieved at the expense of creative writing, as the pages of "The Frestonian" itself can witness — in guiding the Editorial Committee he showed in another way his ability to lead and inspire. On the sporting side he brought to the coaching of the 2nd XV equal skill and devotion, and immortalised their feats in prose and verse. He well earned his promotion, and we wish him and his family success and happiness at Ludlow.

His successor, Mr. D. K. Cooper, is a Cambridge man (Gonville and Caius) with a good honours degree, and rowed in his college's 1st VIII. He is at present second in the English department of the King Edward VI Grammar School at Louth in Lincolnshire, a very large 14-plus comprehensive, and editor of their magazine. I am confident that he will maintain the standard of the teaching in the English department and ably carry on its work.

As he cannot join us until September, Mr. R. H. Swift has been appointed on a temporary basis for the summer term only: he is an M.A. of London who has in recent years held teaching and lecturing appointments both in East and West Africa.

POLITICS AND THE SIXTH FORMER

This questionnaire was designed by the Editorial Committee to investigate interest of the sixth former in politics. It seemed a topical subject after the introduction of the vote at eighteen. Copies were distributed to all the members of the Upper Sixth, who would be the people most immediately affected by this new legislation. There is a slight discrepancy between the numbers of answers to different questions. This was probably caused by a few people failing to answer a certain question or marking both alternatives. The questionnaire was designed to be completed anonymously : 'The Frestonian' cannot be accused of contributing data to any university file of politicians' activities.

Several people complained that the questions were often awkwardly phrased and did not offer a comprehensive choice of answers. Our only excuse is that we may have underestimated! the interest of the majority of sixth formers in politics. We felt that an exhaustive questionnaire would be too exhausting for many pupils. About a quarter were not sufficiently interested to complete this slight one ; although, of those which were returned, most were answered sensibly. Perhaps those who failed to complete the questionnaire are really the nihilistic intelligentsia of the school, represented partially by the person who wrote that "The questions are as irrelevant as the whole system."

1. *From which medium do you obtain more of your information about politics ?*

(a) *newspapers and periodicals* — 33

(b) *television and radio* — 44

"The only medium from which to obtain frank observation is television, which somehow seems to be more moral and duty-conscious to its audience." From the discussions I have had with other people about the various media, I would think convenience is a more decisive factor than morality.

2. *Do you trust the opinions of your daily newspaper ?*

(a) *Yes* — 12

(b) *No* — 52

3. *Do you accept the facts presented by your daily newspaper?*

(a) *Yes* — 32

(b) *No* — 39

The decreased scepticism about the facts, in comparison to the distrust of the opinions, was probably prompted by the belief that the facts could not be prevented so easily.

4. *Does your family read a newspaper of —*

(a) *your choice* — 7

(b) *their choice* — 30

(c) *no disagreement* — 35

5. *Have you registered as a voter?*

(a) *Yes* — 55

(b) *No* — 17

“More publicity should have been given to the ways of becoming a registered voter.” The figures suggest that this was unnecessary.

6. *Whether you have registered or not will you vote in a General Election when you are 18?*

(a) *Yes* — 54

(b) *No* — 8

(c) *Undecided* — 10

This decisive vote in favour of voting can be compared interestingly with the number who say they are “floating” voters.

7. *Would you also vote in a local election?*

(a) *Yes* — 43

(b) *No* — 18

(c) *Undecided* — 10

Someone made the interesting comment that he had “no personal wishes to call any town or country my own local area for quite some time.” Many of the pupils are waiting to go to university or college and would probably leave the area.

8. *Do you already feel committed to supporting a particular party or are you a "floating voter"?*
 - (a) *Committed* — 27
 - (b) *Floating* — 44
9. *Would your vote be influenced by —*
 - (a) *a traditional family preference* — 4
 - (b) *a personal, but uninformed, bias* — 15
 - (c) *a thorough knowledge of the policies of the major parties* — 48

It is surprising how many people professed "a thorough knowledge of the policies of the major parties," and yet still thought that Richard Marsh, or Rodney Marsh as some said, was the Minister of Transport.

10. *If you wished to vote Liberal would you be dissuaded by the argument that it is a wasted vote?*
 - (a) *Yes* — 9
 - (b) *No* — 64
11. *Are you in favour of comprehensive education on a split-site basis?*
 - (a) *Yes* — 13
 - (b) *No* — 58

This might have been more useful if we had also included a straightforward question on attitude towards comprehensive education. It is difficult to tell from these figures if those who voted 'No' are snobbish reactionaries or realistic liberals.

12. *Do you find you believe most of what Mr. Wilson or Mr. Heath say on television?*
 - (a) *Yes* — 8
 - (b) *No* — 61

"The distrust of today's political leaders is almost total!

13. *Who is the Minister of Transport?*
 - Right answers given* — 15
 - Wrong answers given* — 57

14. *Any comments relevant to the topics covered by this questionnaire ?*

This was where many people complained of the inadequacy of the questionnaire. There were certain constructive suggestions. "There ought to be more political education in secondary schools now that the age of majority has been lowered — details of the English system of government and the general principles of each party should be presented, perhaps in co-ordination with talks by members of different parties." However, my favourite comment was anguished rather than constructive : "I wish, oh, how I wish, that politicians would tell the truth instead of giving us all this puke."

J. Lancaster.

NURSERY RHYME

Rub a dub dub
In the after-match tub,
The Tinker, the Baker and also the Slater

FINAL DESPAIR

I tried to write a funny rhyme
But thinking took up all my time.

OUT OF SCHOOL - I

The pupil traditionally goes 'unwillingly to school.' But, however unwilling some may be as they travel to school, all have something they are very keen and willing to do out of school. For this new occasional series, the Editorial Committee invites members of the school to write about their away-from-the-books enthusiasms. Perhaps amongst us we have someone who, like the boy in the new film 'Kes,' trains kestrels...

Dancing Modern Ballet

by Marny Beckett and Briony Burdon

The very word "ballet" might put anyone off because of the image it inspires. The image of seven or eight year old girls prancing prettily about a stage in front of an audience of loving mothers, fathers and grandmamas. But although this is quite often the case in small dancing schools, there is a completely different side of ballet known only to those who take it seriously. However, few dancing pupils keep on with: their lessons when they reach a certain stage, usually at about thirteen, because their friends think it a rather childish pastime and boys just laugh as they associate ballet classes with little girls. But if this phase passes and the pupil continues dancing, she will eventually realise that ballet is not only pleasing to the audience but pleasing to herself as successfully to interpret a piece of music by dance is a very self-satisfying feeling.

Ballet is not reserved for stage alone but can be just a fascinating hobby. Many dancers might give it up as they realise they are not at all good enough to compete with the truly talented and make a living out of it but more and more people are realising that ballet can just be a hobby.

There are two groups of ballet — classical and modern. Classical is more useful to those who wish to make a career out of dancing, but as it involves point work (or what is commonly known as "dancing on your toes") it seems unnatural and restricting to those who turn to modern ballet. Modern ballet is a revolutionary section of dancing and breaks away from the age-old rules and traditions of classical. It is a whole new way of expression and interpretation of music and introduces new movements con-

centrating on shapes that the body can make. Although modern ballet demands the same — if not more — balance and skill as classical, there are fewer hard and fast rules. Perhaps this is why the new dancers and former classical ballet dancers are turning to modern ballet as a way of escape out of conformity into freedom of interpretation. Maybe they are just impressed by the very spectacle of body and soul dancing freely in the public performances which are becoming more popular, especially among students.

Although modern ballet is free expression and improvisation there are still rules to follow in practising. The early grades (1 and 2) are simpler, to enable the dancer to get used to breathing correctly and controlling the body. These exercises are incorporated into more difficult movements in the higher grades. The basic movements have a set pattern but can be interpreted differently by the dancer. The main theme is of contraction and expansion of the body with many variations on this theme. It is essential that the body is trained correctly to become supple and pliable or the dancer cannot hope to put any individual expression into it.

Modern ballet is not just waving one's arms around but needs much concentration and balance. Some of the fittest rugby players would find this tiring, as has been proved. There are exercises for neck, legs, arms, thighs, fingers, instep, etc. To dance with any feeling at all one has to get involved in the exercises. The teacher cannot teach you to dance freely — this is for yourself to do.

Getting up early on a Saturday morning can become a bit of a drag but after dancing for an hour or so and returning home to find normal people just getting up, you discover just how awake you feel. Dancing also helps you to stop looking at the day in a 'down to earth' fashion and to escape into your own world — this can be good or bad; we cannot really say which.

Modern ballet is a mild and peaceful revolution against conformity and allows the body and mind to escape into natural animal expression. However, this state cannot be achieved without complete concentration and involvement. Even without such great dedication, modern ballet is a marvellous way to keep fit and evokes an appreciation of art and music.

Listening to 'The Nice' in Concert

by P. Golding

The idea of a 'pop' concert will no doubt spring to mind after reading the title, and at best it will amaze you that such subject matter should be published in "The Frestonian." At worst, it may easily repel those amongst you who find "pop" music tedious.

However, "The Nice" in concert can hardly be described as "pop" musicians (are there such things?) and they could *never* be labelled tedious, even by the most conservative of audiences. A concert by "The Nice" is a work of art. Indeed, on numerous occasions they have performed in conjunction with the Royal Philharmonic, conducted by Joseph Eger. One drawback is that their music has been described as rather esoteric, and this may have some truth, although I have known people who have been converted by just one concert.

For example, the last 'Nice' concert I attended, was at the Royal Hall, Harrogate, in February. They had just returned from the Continent and were in great spirits after a highly successful tour. The curtain drew back to reveal a veritable forest of amplification equipment, Keith Emerson's two organs, Brian Davison just visible behind a battery of drums and cymbals, and the customary dark glasses and mandolin-shaped bass guitar of Lee Jackson.

Without hesitation they jumped into a sparkling rendition of Tchaikovsky's "Pathetique." After the welcoming applause, they in turn welcomed us, and asked the audience to do anything they pleased, within reason, including joining them on the stage, which 'brought them even closer to our hearts. Then there was a quick change of style, going straight into "Country Pie," "My Back Pages," and "She Belongs to Me," giving even more meaning to the music of Dylan, especially the very poignant, newly-adapted. "My Back Pages."

The second half opened with their own composition, "The Five Bridges Suite," which they had been commissioned to write by the Newcastle Arts Commission. Since half-way through the first half, there had been a chant, clamouring for the now legendary "Karelia." Emerson now attacked it with all his customary verve, bringing the whole house to its feet. Surely this is the way that Sibelius wanted it to be played!

Now, unrelenting, they plunged straight into "America," for a fantastic finale. Even then we were rewarded with an encore of "Rondo '69." This then, must be the ultimate in live performance groups, and if other groups can ever perform likewise and command the same respect, there will be proof that "pop" is not ephemeral and will be here for a long time to come.

THREE POEMS

by Gill Harris

Memorandum to a Geranium

You must have more water.
 But how can a dry being
 Give water?
 I must do something to help.
 How can a person
 Who has no purpose,
 No aim, no point for living,
 Help?
 If only the world stood still
 And I could grasp in my bare hands
 A meaning, a focus.
 If only my head stopped spinning
 And my thoughts commanded.
 'First you must.....then you must.....'
 If I could stop one person, any person
 With a soul shattering,
 earth shaking statement:
 'The price of brussel sprouts is incredible.'
 But I must sit and remember
 The indigo of summer,
 The virgin vermilion of iniquity.
 Now if I were somebody, anybody,
 I'd stand up naked and shout:
 'Liars, filthy bigots with dirty
 Fingers in sticky pies.
 Turn round and look,
 If you dare.
 The glass with the crack
 Is the mirror of truth.'
 But I, wise fool that I am,
 Sit and remember.
 You must have more water.
 You need more water.

Recite Me

Recite me the ten commandments.
 Sing me the psalms of David.
 Open up my soul and let the life flow through.
 O, bounteous healers and teachers
 Of the righteous.
 O, bloody fools and friends of mine,
 We are gathered here
 To mourn the body;
 True, my observant friend, it is not yet dead
 But one last kick should do it.
 Thunders of immorality.
 Whispers of immortality.
 Incessant scratchings from rusty claws;
 Silent touchings from pampered paws.
 Ah, bare the noble breast
 And show the dagger;
 Then slide down on your belly
 And suck the mud.
 Rumours of secret shirts
 On half built bridges;
 Of tar filled streams
 And oyster dreams.
 Spit at your niceties
 And show the fangs.
 Kiss the stone of life
 And return dead.

The Passing of Time Inhuman

Time passes yet time does not pass
 To take the teeth out of the glass,
 Wrinkled paper, edges curled.
 The minutes stop, stop silent.
 'Can you hear the clock of age
 That leaves its mark on every page?'
 For the old to count, the young to wish.
 Bright waters run down age old face.
 The whirring of time starts again
 Of tortured moments, days of pain,
 Impressions and insanity.

LIFE AT UNIVERSITY - VI: GOING ABROAD

Paradoxically, this article will not deal with "Life at University" as such but will be devoted to that part of a University course spent outside the University establishment.

At Bradford University, where I am studying Modern Languages, the course, of four years' duration, includes one such period which now lasts from February of the Second Year until the following February and is divided into two half-yearly "placements" to be spent in the countries whose cultures and languages one studies. It may easily happen that one, or both, of these "placements" is spent at a foreign university but, in general, we are encouraged to take up "industrial placements" throughout the whole of our period abroad. And this is, in fact, what I did, spending the first half in Brussels and the second in Stuttgart.

In Brussels I was working with an American-owned firm, Air Products S.A., whose business interests lay in the field of industrial gases, as an "étudiant-stagiaire." This term, as I later discovered from friends working elsewhere covers a wide range of duties, from tea-boy, secretary in a typing pool, to personal assistant/interpreter to the local "Burgermeister." Although employed as a translator, I, in fact, was required to translate, on average, about 3½ lines of the most uninteresting technical terms imaginable. One of the main reasons for this lack of work was the fact that, Belgium being an artificial entity delineated by frontiers incongruous with political, cultural and linguistic realities, every Belgian with a good educational background was bilingual, French and Flemish, and thus had no great difficulty in acquiring a reasonable knowledge of English, reasonable enough to enable him or her to dispense with the services of a translator in most of their work. I was thus able to read a great deal of French and prepare my dissertation, a piece of work between 8,000 and 10,000 words, written in a foreign language and dealing with some aspect of the course.

During my second "placement," I was working as a translator with Mercedes-Benz in Stuttgart. This was a complete contrast to Air Products : here I was in a subsection of the Translation Office comprising about 50 people

in a firm whose administrative staff alone amounted to some 5,000 people — whereas in Brussels, I *was* the Translation Office! In addition, it is a common supposition that the West Germans work hard and the supreme example of this “Fleißigkeit” is to be found in Swabia, of which Stuttgart is the regional capital and where the local people are considered to be the most hard-working, parsimonious, and unintelligible in the whole of West Germany and to possess all the somewhat dubious virtues that a “good German” should possess. This is borne out in the older strata of the population but, as do many cultural generalisations nowadays, loses an increasing degree of validity down through the generations as the process of “Europeanization” or, as some might prefer in the case of West Germany, “Americanization” accelerates and spreads its wings even wider.

General impressions, then, of my year abroad, in particular, and a year abroad, in general? For the first time I knew that a human being, exploiting his culinary talents to the full, could live on fish fingers, rice and tomato sauce for more than three months without turning into a bloated goldfish; having a landlady in Stuttgart whom I couldn't understand for the first six weeks of my stay; mystification as to how to address a person in Germany at certain hours of the day, there being only five possible choices of greeting; a sense of sublime alienation when in a Flemish village and only being able to speak French; infatuation with German beer and beer festivals, where tents generally have an inebriated population of 4,000 or so people throughout the day There's no end to such a list, I'm glad to say.

Finally, a year abroad is invaluable in that, apart from, to quote the usual phrase, “widening one's horizons,” whatever that may include, it gives you, as a student, an insight, quite disturbing and frightening sometimes, into what is awaiting you at the end of your university career. You could almost say “a glimpse of reality.” It erases the illusions that you previously entertained upon seeing in the Business Review an advertisement for a technical translator, or any other kind of translator for that matter, within some international organisation or concern. In a way, it's disappointing, it brings you down to earth

Geoff Goldie, O.F.

ANTHOLOGY

"WORK IN PROGRESS . . ."

(An extract from a long short story)

J. Lancaster.

Mary twisted the end of the poker into the fire which had again formed a black scab over the red wound. She forced it further into the fire as she thought of the frustration of those affluent years. The sound of the twisting poker was strange. It took her a few minutes to explain its strangeness. But it soothed her to paw the woollen ball of her mind after it had been slashed by the claws of her memory. She realised that the sound was weird because it reminded her of something much more delicate than a steel poker and coagulated coal — the slow erosion of rock by the wind or the grinding of a diamond.

Perhaps it was the sound of a china tea-cup being placed gently on its saucer. After Mary left school, it seemed always to be tea-time. There was no need for her to work. Her mother liked her to stay at home because her father was always working and she was lonely. She also needed someone to help her entertain the same crowd of lonely women who met at various houses for tea or coffee and gossip. It might be that Mary's memory was caricaturing reality, but they all seemed to be the same kind of person. They were persons rather than people. Just as that word suggests a superficial, public image so these women existed. But they were not women! They were ladies. A word which drapes another exquisite veil over any idea of physical existence. Any energy which had not already been dissipated by a meaningless existence was used to maintain the glorious facade. Every lady's hair was always immaculately permed, every eyebrow plucked to perfection, and, of course, the clothes were always chosen with the most precise attention to good taste.

—I told you blue would suit you.

—Well, I've always preferred a darker shade myself. I really bought this for the style.

—Oh no, Amy's right, you should always wear blue. It tones so perfectly with your hair.

—Do you really think so?

Mary was nauseated by their trivial existence. They were as thin as their tea-cups, for all their gilded decoration. She sought an outlet. She wanted to escape into the

world. She tried painting which she enjoyed at school. At first it was exhilarating. It gave her an excuse to walk into the country for the day. She would sit on the top of a hill with her sketch-pad on her knee and fields and houses beneath her feet. Her sketches were always neat reproductions of exactly what she saw. She never added nor subtracted from what was present. But there was a vague feeling of dissatisfaction. It took her many trips before she discovered the reason for the hollowness. She was still not in contact with a physical world. On top of her hill she was an observer. She could lie in the long grass but she had to bend it over her face before she felt any real contact. She was not satisfied to look at a tree, she had to bruise her knuckles and blacken her palms on its disfigured bark

TIME

M. Levitt.

I cannot hold it, it eludes my will
 One heart beat and 'this now' becomes 'that was,'
 I shiver as the grains of sand slip, drop
 So stealthily into the lower glass.
 Man is Time's serf, chained trapped in mutable sand
 close packed; I strain and flounder to keep pace—
 To reassert my ego — to win through.
 I stand no chance, my frailty shouts at me,
 Puppet-like, crude and nevertheless
 I succumb
 And sink, submerged; man
 cannot quell this Foe.

A THOUGHT FOR EASTER

Gail Loundes

The man sat in Joe's shady estaminet just off 48th Street West, Manhattan Island. He'd been there all morning steaming in his own complacent lucidity over an empty vodka glass and the mess of a semi-kosher breakfast. It was his last day in New York. Tomorrow he would touch the raw coarseness of new metal and hold death in his hand.

The plane was cramped and smelled of sweat and stale beer. It made four daily flights to the battlefields.

"It's a great life in the American army."

They had all been conditioned for such thought, it was part of the basic training. But what an opportunity! Ten years service with a pension at the end.

Leonard had been drafted last year. He said the women weren't too bad either.

"Of course they are a bit on the thin side, but they're crumbly and cute like the burnt cinnamon crackers mama used to make."

"Of course," the man said.

"A man needs a break," insisted Leonard.

"Of course," he said again.

The man spawned out of the plane with the rest of the brave middleaged patriots, to become a parasite in a new land. The Objective, Murder.

Mama Zifferman sat at the table of the four roomed apartment, just off 48th Street West, Manhattan Island. The rolls of fat were unrecognisable in the soft dough she was kneading for the Friday supper. It was Easter week; perhaps her son would write. What a good job he was doing in the army. She was so proud; so was Judos Leich the Rabbi.

The telegram was dated Friday, March 27th.

'We inform you that your son was crucified today stop
He died for a good cause stop he died to save us all stop
Unt. States Army.'

Of course she cried. Even Jesus would have.

TOUCH

Gail Loundes

Touch : A heated whirlwind.
 You and me.

Touch : A cooling sky,
 ice-break shadow.

Touch : A steaming kettle
 bluesily reaching a crisis
 Touch and love.

BRITON ABROAD

Louise Poulson

Determined to do British,
 be British,
 The Briton abroad —
 brings his cornflakes (his ambrosia)
 to fortify his flagging British
 strength
 Chats to a fellow countryman
 about the food, the beds
 (who else would?)
 Pays in British money, for his
 British cup of tea,
 True British tea (Typhoo?)
 Put on your hats,
 British father says to
 bewildered British sons.
 Old colonial castoffs
 to protect against the non-British
 sun.
 Daddy, what's that shining
 ball in the sky?
 It's the sun.
 Why don't we have the sun
 in Britain, daddy?
 Because it would not be true
 to British pessimism.
 What's pessimism, daddy?
 British, boy,
 British

CROSS-GRUNTY

J. Bell

One afternoon this term, the boys of Normanton Grammar took to the countryside. Athletes of all shapes and sizes donned their most colourful clothes and strolled to the starting gate at Pingle. Excited by the sound of a gun the many-headed monster launched itself into a slow trot.

To ground-level observers the pack was ambling, or crashing blindly around an undetermined course with no apparent aim; but the elevated observer (e.g. occasional low-flying aircraft pilot) would see that the enthusiasts

were really chasing a track-suited member of the same species. Once this quarry had been captured, and swallowed up, the leaders of the pack went mad for more blood. Other victims had been placed at four hundred yard intervals, but these were ignored as the incensed youths were in sight of a real feast — a large mob of the track-suited quarry lurking at the finishing line.

The race was on. Leaders fought it out over the last few fields, driven on by their hunger, and by the insane heavy breathing of the mob behind. However, the hunted were to prove more cunning than the hunters. They had erected a tunnel trap to single out the attackers. As the frenzied runners emerged from the tunnel they had small white cards inflicted upon them. This had the immediate effect of rendering the hunters impotent — They fell to the ground with agonised cries of “never again!”

HOME COMFORTS

Helen Tippey

Coming home, you can be sure,
 It's wipe your feet, don't slam the door,
 Hockey stick about your head,
 If you don't leave it in the shed.
 Wash your face, tidy your hair,
 Don't dump your satchel in the chair.
 Put the cloth on, fetch the bread,
 Not so much noise, your Dad's in bed.
 That dog is ready for a walk,
 Don't be so cheeky, less of that talk.
 To say the least, you're simply shocking,
 Another ladder in your stocking?
 Nor is it time for television,
 Why don't you do some maths revision?
 You know your grading's always poor.
 What's your pen doing on the floor?
 Why aren't your books back on the shelf?
 Don't you always please yourself?
 Now take that bucket and fetch some coal . . .
 This never-ending rigmarole.



A DREAM OF SCHOOL UNIFORM



CHAIR WITH WEIGHT



CHAIR WITH BURDEN



A DREAM OF AFTER SCHOOL

THE JUNIOR INTER-HOUSE MUSIC COMPETITION

A Participant's View — by Jacqueline Gill

I was taking part, singing, if that is what you can call it, for Dodsworth. We were to perform before the adjudicator, Mr. Lincoln, last of all, which meant we would hear everyone else to see how much better than us they were. There was silence in the hall as Mr. Lincoln came in and Mr. Hamilton introduced him to us, after which the competition began. The first to perform were Freston and I do not share Mr. Lincoln's high regard for them: in fact I thought they were by far the worst choir and I found all their songs badly sung and they gave me the impression of being pushed in at the last moment without any rehearsals before hand to make sure of the tunes and words. They seemed to have tried to cram as much as possible into the ten minute performance. Mr. Lincoln seemed to enjoy the song near the end of the performance, 'The Gospel Train,' which had; a very swinging rhythm and melodious beat. For this the choir congregated round Judith Lawson and her out-of-tune guitar.

Next to take to the stage were Levett who were of far superior quality to any of the other choirs and deserved their victory. They sang a very good selection of songs and I enjoyed the piano duet although I think it could have been played with more vigour. 'The Choir Boys' was very comical although the words were a little bit blurred.

After Levett were Ward, who were not very good. The performance of their choir could not have been outstanding as I cannot remember any of their pieces but the recorder piece was excellent. Dodsworth were better although the seconds were not sure of themselves in 'The Pirates of Penzance,' as well I know. Russel Firth sang Dodsworth's solo piece and gave the outstanding performance of the entire concert. The song 'How Little I am in it All' was very beautiful and I especially liked the last three lines.

Levett were declared the winners, with Freston runners-up, Dodsworth third and Ward fourth.

ON STAGE

The school presented two plays in the week 16 — 20 March. Everyone, actors and audience, were on the stage in the Upper School Hall, which was transformed into an intimate theatre behind the curtains.

The Mazarin Stone — reviewed by J. Bell

The play, adapted from the works of Arthur Conan Doyle, proved to be a good choice for the Junior Drama Club. Even though this was only their second 'public' performance their interpretation of the characters was imaginative and skilful.

Peter McDougall played the part of Holmes with professional skill. His speech and gestures were convincingly Sherlock-Holmes like; an outstanding performance. Doctor Watson, played by Mark Senior, also showed that the age of the actor is not necessarily restricting. The Doctor was sufficiently overawed at Holmes's ingenuity, yet was a competent partner for the detective.

The profligate Count Negretto Silvius and his accomplice Sam Merton were lively and amusing. Stephen Clark was effective in the part of the Count. His accent was maintained even in his most angry moments. Keith Ball looked and sounded rough enough to play Sam. His combination of a cockney dialogue with a Yorkshire accent appeared to give great pleasure to his friends in the audience.

Paul Haytack managed to finish his performance as the naughty Lord Cantlemere without laughing along with the audience. He acted exceptionally well, accurate down to the last pompous detail of the part.

The three policemen, David Turton, Philip Robinson and Melvin Hayward performed their duties with speed and efficiency, apprehending the criminals in spite of their size. Katherine Roe and Leslie Morgan played the domestic staff of Holmes, Mrs. Hudson and Billy Leslie timed his appearances well and spoke clearly. Katherine, although only on stage once, made a striking effect with her impeccable lines, and remarkable dress. The costumes were poor, overall; and surely Dr. Watson in full evening dress should have worn clean shoes!

Miss P. Denton deserves every credit for producing the play, which was another success for the Junior Drama Club.

CAST LIST

Sherlock Holmes :	Peter McDougall
Doctor Watson :	Mark Senior
Billy :	Leslie Morgan
Count Negretto Siluius	Stephen Clark
Sam Merton :	Keith Ball
Lord Cantlemere :	Paul Haytack
Police Sergeant:	David Turton
Two Policemen :	Philip Robinson
	Melvin Hayward
Mrs. Hudson :	Katherine Roe

Produced by Miss P. Denton



A Trip to Scarborough

Reviewed by
Philippa Denton

The choice of a play by Sheridan appeared to be made with the idea of providing entertainment rather than taxing the audience with complex moral issues. There is, of course, a moral, as in all Restoration Comedy, but it is on a purely simple level, and in the end we are content to accept that, after the devious intrigue, the situation is, of course, happily resolved. Much of the humour in the play lay in the witty conversations of the actors, rather than the situation, which is, perhaps, a little dated. Unfortunately, however, these conversations were sometimes a little stilted by the actors' occasional hesitancy over their lines, though Briony Burdon deserves full credit for her magnificently controlled trade against Colonel Townley when she rejected him.

The stage and set were kept simple, with a minimum of complicated scenery and props and skilful changes in the backdrop were all that was needed to change the setting totally. Mr. Lumb obviously exercised

great ingenuity and thanks to the efficiency of the scene shifters, whose task was made no easier by the lack of a curtain, these changes were made promptly and with a minimum of fuss.

The idea of having a small and intimate theatre, rather than the traditional hall and stage brought the audience closer, both physically and mentally to the action, so one of the more common faults of school productions, that of inaudibility, was avoided. This proximity, however, does have its drawbacks. The actors, when under such close scrutiny, require great powers of concentration, which were not always upheld. Also, faults in costume were magnified.

The acting was generally competent and lively, but occasionally I got the impression that they had lines to remember and the play sometimes lacked spontaneity because of their efforts. John Sharp gave a fine performance as Loveless, and Briony Burdon as his innocent wife. Ralph Bradley gave us much amusement as the vain and frivolous Lord Foppington and one almost felt sorry for his plight in the last scene. Per-





haps his accent was a little too exaggerated as it was not always clear what he was saying, but he tackled the part with zest and obvious enjoyment, as, in fact, did the entire cast — particularly obvious during the gavotte at the end of the play! Martin McNicholas deserves credit for his part and his brother, Stephen, exhibited a praiseworthy concentration as an extremely convincing mad servant! Martin Levitt was a suitably stern and hypocritical Colonel Townley.

One thing which made me feel dubious was the casting of men - Anthony Garfitt and John Filer - in women's parts, albeit the women were not supposed to possess much femininity. Do we laugh perhaps, just because they are men, or because of what they say and do, as we are supposed to? Personally, I was so worried that Garfitt would lose his falsetto, that I didn't listen hard enough to what he was saying! We did laugh at them, however, and isn't this, ultimately, the purpose of the production?

CAST :

Ralph Bradley
 Briony Burdon
 June Deakin
 John Filer
 Anthony Garfitt
 Martin Levitt
 Richard Levitt
 Martin McNicholas
 Stephen McNicholas
 Russell Pearson
 Louise Poulson
 John Sharp
 Christine Smith
 David Wales
 Mr. C. Beardsley

Stage managers :

Mr. R. Atkinson
 B. Adams
 M. Woodhead
 A. J. Cockrem

Producer :

Mr. D. P. Lumb

Properties :

Susan Boffy

Costumes :

Mrs. M. Busby
 Susan Haries
 Margaret Brown
 Jenny Black
 Janet Cunliffe

Lights :

P. Womack
 D. Appleyard

Sound :

Mr. P. Brown
 P. Bullivant
 Mr. K. Williamson

right arranged by :

Mr. M. Ruddock

Set :

Mr. D. F. Lumb
 B. Adams
 M. Woodhead
 J. Howell
 P. Golding
 S. Barrett

Make-up :

Jenny Camps
 Anne Firth

The Staging — by D. Lumb

Turning the cold print of a play into the flesh and blood of the live theatre involves, for the Producer, a good deal more than just problems of textual interpretation and the movement of the plot. It is the more physical problem of staging that I discuss here.

Much more flexibility in the shape of stage is available to a school than is usually appreciated. The conventional method, with the actors raised above the audience at one end of a long auditorium, is, as many of you will know, something of an anachronism. Historically it is almost unknown, and in practice the audience stretches its neck to see and its ears to hear. Few professional theatres use the system; they prefer the system we rather crudely used in 'A Trip to Scarborough' in which the audience looked down, with the actors very close to them. Vision and acoustics present no problem like this and considerable dramatic subtlety can result from quieter voices and the extreme critical proximity of the audience.

There is a third system available which we used in 'Androcles and the Lion,' and one which in theory is the best. The audience sits above the actors on three sides, and the stage thrusts out between the audience as it did in the early Italian and the Shakesperian theatres. Though scenery is at a minimum like this, contact between actor and audience is at its maximum and, as any actor will tell you, closeness to the audience is the greatest single stimulus to a satisfactory theatrical performance. In practice, however, such an arrangement is impossible at school since we have neither sufficient blocks to raise an audience on three sides, nor exclusive use of the Hall to allow the blocks to remain in position. Until such time as we possess professionally constructed collapsible tiers of seats (which could be used for conventional stage productions and on sports day as well, and are remarkably cheap), the potentially most satisfactory method of staging must remain a pipe-dream at Normanton.

Whichever of these systems is used, scenery and its construction are an essential part of staging a play. Only the finest professional actors can act without using any scenery at all. Amateurs seem more convincing when given a sense of location, particularly if this is central to the play. It did not matter just where in France or England 'Oh What a Lovely War' took place; but in our latest production the Trip had to be to Scarborough and it was important that the distinction between, say, Lord Fopping-

ton's bedroom and Muddymoat Hall be clear to the audience. This factor poses few problems with a single-set play like 'The Importance of Being Earnest,' but many plays demand multiple locations. Shakespeare is a conspicuous example.

In solving this dilemma the greatest problem is speed. One cannot have a ten-minute interval on eight occasions while building a new set; on the other hand there must be sufficient sense of location. The answer used in 'Richard of Bordeaux' and 'A Trip to Scarborough' was to make part of the setting permanent and create different effects within it. Thus an eighteenth-century archway offered views of Scarborough, or framed a portcullis, or held a fireplace. In front of the set a selection of tables and chairs provided variety. Since the stage hands worked in the dark every bolt and brace had to be foolproof. The articles on the tables were fastened to a removable table-top, leaving the old table on stage with a new top in place. Needless to say we were; only able to manage a full-scale change in twenty seconds because of the utter dedication of the stage crew who practised for weeks beforehand to get the sequences right.

Stage lighting demands an article in itself. Basically though it is wrong to think that one merely points spot-lights at the stage until there are no gaps left. Actors must be lighted from at least two sides or grotesque shadows are created which spoil the effect. Moreover one must create areas of light which vary according to the relative importance of each actor in each scene. Normanton's stage as at present enough spots to light, properly, about half its area. (Floodlights, which throw an indiscriminate wash of light over everything, should be placed in the school boilers at once). One distinct advantage of the last play was that with a half-size stage area we could offer a sophisticated lighting-scheme, with every scene lighted subtly differently and from the correct angle and distance.

I hope that 'A Trip to Scarborough' was sufficiently different in its staging to demonstrate to even the most inartistic eating their dinner and staring vacantly at the stage, that a School Play is not necessarily acted on stage and watched by an audience up to eighty feet away in the Hall. The staging was an experiment aimed at stretching our resources to their limit and exposing our weaknesses. The play, I feel, succeeded despite our limitations of seating and lighting. If it provoked thought about modern theatre and its relationship to amateur halls the cast will, I am sure, be well pleased.

A CAREER IN RADIOGRAPHY

Old students and those interested in a career in radiography will be interested in the following letter received from Dorothy Morgan (nee Richardson), who is now working at the Groote Schuur Hospital in Cape Town:—

After leaving Normanton Girls' High School in the summer of 1958, I went to Leeds General Infirmary to train as a radiographer in radiotherapy. Not many people are aware of the fact that there are two distinct branches of radiography:

1. Radiodiagnosis — the taking of X-ray pictures to discover what is wrong with the patient.

2. Radiotherapy — The using of radiations of various types, including X-rays, for the treatment of patients.

After qualifying we are all called radiographers, although we can only do one of the above things. The training for either branch takes two years, and if desired, a third year can be done to get the qualification in the other branch.

I chose radiotherapy, I can't remember the reason now but I have never regretted the decision. We see our patients nearly every day for several weeks, thus we get to know them and are able to establish a friendly relationship.

My training centre at the Leeds General Infirmary has now closed down and all the radiotherapy for the district is done at Cookridge Hospital, Leeds 16. This is a very pleasant modern hospital in the country, which specialises in this treatment and which has its own training school.

After qualifying in 1960, I continued to work at Leeds General Infirmary and Cookridge Hospital, gradually working up to a senior post and then deputy to the superintendent radiographer.

My husband and I had been considering the possibility of working in another country for some time, when we saw an advertisement for a senior radiographer at Groote Schuur Hospital, Cape Town. Although the advertisement asked for someone with teaching experience, I applied for the job, explaining that I had never done any teaching, and I was lucky enough to be accepted.

It took us some months to get all the immigration formalities fixed up, and in between the application for

the job and setting sail, the world's first heart transplant was performed at the very hospital where I was going to work. This added a new excitement to our venture.

We eventually arrived in Cape Town on April 3rd 1968 after a very happy journey on board the Windsor Castle, nearly all paid for by the South African government! Cape Town must be one of the world's most beautiful cities. In the immediate vicinity there are high mountain ranges, white beaches and sparkling blue sea, and a Mediterranean climate to go with it!

Groote Schuur Hospital (impossible to pronounce!) is a very impressive white building in the most magnificent mountain setting, however on the inside it is just like any other large general hospital and rather old fashioned too. I have been there for two years now and everyone has been extremely kind and helpful to "the foreigner." My first group of students all qualified, which was a great relief to me. We are now awaiting the results of the second group.

Teaching has been quite a stimulating experience for me. It is the thing which I absolutely refused to consider when I was at school! However, I do find that I miss the personal contact with the patients.

It hasn't always been perfect for us of course, there are times when we still get homesick, and the people here just haven't got a sense of humour like we Yorkshire folks. We have had visits from all our parents since we came, so we are not really so far from home.

We don't see much of Professor Barnard in the hospital, he spends a great deal of time travelling round the world. I have been lucky enough to attend a lecture given by him. He is an exciting speaker, full of life and animation. I have to admit that I was immediately converted to one of his army of admirers. One can appreciate his achievement even more when one realises the difficult conditions under which he worked. All his research was done on a very small budget and his main assistance was from two completely unqualified men.

Next year we are returning to England, the decision whether we stay or not has not yet been made, it is too difficult. One last thought; only last week we met a couple who said they lived in Church Lane, Normanton!

30/4/70

SOCIETIES

Societies were not often active or successful this spring. Everyone's energies in an unusually short term seemed to go into preparing for the trial exams up to half term, and into preparing for the plays, music competition, 'sevens,' etc., thereafter. A number of societies met only once, but many of these meetings were not significant enough to record here. So the absence of a society from this section usually means that it is hibernating rather than that it is defunct.

THE ART CLUB

SECRETARY : S. YATES

Now that the club operates at lunch time, membership has increased. The newcomers are enthusiastic about being able to work in their own time and at their own speed. This encourages pupils who were previously unable to attend after school hours to join the society.

The standard of work has improved, although the girls invariably concentrate on fashion and design. However, the boys have used boxes and tubes and other commercial objects to create works of an unusual nature.

An art competition has furthered interest in the club. Its chief aim is to raise funds for the Dr. Barnardo's Homes, and interest from non-art students. There are five major prizes; one for each year of the Lower School; and two for the Upper School, one of which will go to a non-art student.

CLASSICAL SOCIETY

The Society held one crowded meeting this term. On Monday, February 23rd the classically minded packed into room 18 to be entertained by Professor Amott (Professor of Greek at Leeds University). He showed slides of Troy and Mycenae and very amusingly explained how Troy and Mycenae were excavated. If Schliemann could learn Greek in six weeks on picking up a book of Homer, why do we take three years?

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SECRETARY : LOUISE POULSON

This term, the Historical Society has again enjoyed great success; there have been three meetings, all of which were well attended. Reasons for the success are perhaps the wide variety in subjects for meetings and efficient publicity arranged by John Lancaster. The first meeting of the term was a talk on the history of the school, given by the Headmaster. The talk was extremely successful as it pieced together the various odds and ends of school history which one invariably hears.

For the second meeting an outside speaker, Mr. P. Sawyer, from Leeds University, gave a talk, with slides on Viking ships. It was most intriguing to discover how well engineered the ships actually were. Miss Barron kindly came out of retirement to speak on the historical background of the colour problem in the U.S.A. The talk proved quite controversial and some fervent argument developed from it.

CHESSE CLUB

CAPTAIN: S. KYNASTON

With eight wins from eight and eight wins from ten respectively, the 1st VIII and 2nd VI finished this season by winning for the first time in seven years their respective championships. This sort of event always makes one wonder if this victory can be repeated next season by a team containing some of the inertia of this season's team. Considering that by next season a hard core of Upper Sixth will have left it is perhaps more satisfying to revel in this victory and temporarily forget about the future.

Apart from team matches, individual matches were played this season to decide the local schools U.16 individual champion. A. Kearsley came very close to winning it, losing to Brusby of K.S.P., in the finals.

RESULTS:

1st VIII					
Jan 16	v	Barnsley G.S.	(h)	Won	4½—3½
Jan 23	v	Q.E.G.S.	(a)	Won	6 — 2
Mar 6	v	Thornes House G.S.	(h)	Won	6 — 2
By Default	v	K.S.P.	(a)	Won	8 — 0

TEAM from:

S. Davies, N. Dedross, G. Fearnley, J. Holman, A. Kearsley, S. Kynaston, N. D. Ramsbottom, A. J. Shiel, L. Ward.

2nd VI					
Jan, 23	v	Q.E.G.S.	(a)	Won	3½—2½
Jan 30	v	Silcoates	(h)	Won	3½—2½
Feb 6	v	Rothwell	(a)	Won	3½—2½
Mar 6	v	Thornes House G.S.	(h)	Won	4½—1½
By Default	v	K.S.P.	(a)	Won	6 — 0

TEAM from:

J. Coy, I. Ferguson, Jay, Newton, Pattison, P. Smith D Wales. D Ward.

FRIENDLY MATCH:

Feb 27	v	St. Wilfred's	(h)	Won	7 — 1
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SEASON'S RECORD:

1st VIII		
Played 8;	Won 8;	Lost 0
2nd VI		
Played 10;	Won 8;	Lost 2

GAMES REPORTS

GENERAL REVIEW

Even though the weather has again taken its toll on the number of matches played, the term of winter sports ends in victory for the school. The boys have upheld the school's rugby reputation, and shown that Normanton is not merely residing on its Roehampton laurels. The girls too (predictably not wanting to be beaten by the 'weaker sex') have shown skill and determination in winning most of their hockey and netball matches.

The inter-house competitions have shown that there are more people interested in sport than previous editorials and games reviews would suggest. Willing participants were in excess of the demand from rugby and soccer teams. The numbers who fell ill every cross-country day were a minority and missed all the fun.

HOCKEY

1st XI

CAPTAIN: J. GLOVER

TEAM from:

H. Shaw, J. Goodson, S. Hardcastle, L. Martin, J. Glover, R. Fergus, A. Draycott, A. Newsome, J. Addy, M. Dean, L. Ibbotson, H. Fellows, J. Camps.

RESULTS:

Jan 31	v	Wakefield H.S.	(a)	Lost	3—0
Mar 21	v	Huddersfield N.C.	(h)	Won	3—2

SEASON'S RECORD:

P 10; W 5; L 3; D 2; For 20; Against 11

Because of the bad weather only two matches have been played by the team this term. The lack of match practice was evident against a fast and skilful Wakefield side and we were not really disheartened by having three goals scored against us.

The match against Huddersfield was without doubt the hardest and most exciting match of the whole season. After opening the scoring we were overwhelmed by the Huddersfield team and had two goals scored against us. We then scored two goals in quick succession which gave us the lead once again. The game was always in the balance, both teams anxious to win the last match of the season.

Games played at the Hemsworth Rally (knock out tournament)

Normanton	v	Thornes House G.S.	Won	1—0
Normanton	v	Rothwell G.S.	Drawn	0—0
Normanton	v	Wath Comprehensive S.	Drawn	0—0
Normanton	v	Ecclesfield G.S.	Won	3—0

The most unexpected but most pleasing result was the game against Rothwell to whom we had lost 3—0 earlier in the season.

Wath and Ecclesfield were unknown quantities so we faced these matches with some hesitation. After playing each team in our group we found ourselves in first place along with Rothwell and Wath with 6 points (2 points for a win, 1 for a draw, 0 for losing) and 4 goals. We were, however, eliminated from the next round because we had won fewer corners than the other teams.

Congratulations to Andrea Draycott and Ruth Fergus for being chosen for the Wakefield Area Junior Hockey team; also to Anthea Newsome on being chosen for the second team.

U.15 XI

CAPTAIN: A. GARBUTT

TEAM from:

C. Thompson, A. Garbutt, M. Wilkinson, J. Goulding, L. Vallance, G. Holmes, D. Wynne, L. Dobson., D. Taylor, E. Jeffells, H. Carrington, J. Wilcox, C. Corbett, S. Conway, J. Dooler, A. Rushton.

RESULTS:

Jan 31	v	Wakefield H.S.	(a)	Drawn	2—2
Mar 21	v	Huddersfield N.C.	(h)	Won	2—1

SEASON'S RECORD:

P 10; W 9; L 0; D 1; For 46; Against 6

Because of the bad weather most of our fixtures were cancelled this season, disappointing the team members. The matches which were played were of as high a standard as last season's.

The match against Wakefield HS. proved to be the most difficult, possibly because some of the regular team members were absent. The match against Huddersfield N.C. showed a lack of co-operation in the team, probably because of the lack of fixtures in the previous months.

Again our thanks must be given to those of the U.15 team pool who played well in the absence of regular team members and helped the team maintain an unbeaten record this season.

Hemsworth Rally

First Round:

Normanton	v	Selby	Lost	1—0
Normanton	v	Doncaster	Won	2—1
Normanton	v	Barnsley	Drawn	0—0
Normanton	v	Castleford	Drawn	0—0

It is obvious that the team could not adapt to the short matches, when early goals are essential. After the first round, however, the team played with enthusiasm and determination, defeating Doncaster soundly, especially in the forward line. The matches against Barnsley and Castleford were hard fought but without results.

U.14 XI

CAPTAIN : A. CARRINGTON

TEAM from:

P. McTear, A. Sheldon, C. Golding, J. Watson, C. Peakman, P. Davies, J. Gill, D. Larkin, A. Carrington, S. Machin, J. Arandle, J. Greenway, P. Booth, S. Gittins, S. Conway.

RESULTS:

Jan 31	v	Wakefield H.S.	(a)	Lost	0—3
Mar 21	v	Huddersfield N.C.	(h)	Won	3—0

SEASON'S RECORD:

P 7;	W 4;	L 2;	D 1;	For 9	Against 5
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This season the team has played with enjoyment and determination, but the weather has not permitted the full number of matches to be played. Conditions for some games played were very bad and fifteen out of twenty two matches were cancelled.

Although the team has been enthusiastic and hard-working this season, it has not reached the standard of last year's U.14 team.

NETBALL**1st VII**

CAPTAIN : BARBARA GILL

TEAM:

J. Oliver, C. Webb, D. Bubb, Jn. Camps, B. Gill, J. Ellis, K. Cooper.

RESULTS:

Feb 11	v	Ackworth School	(a)	Won	11—9
Mar 11	v	Pudsey G.S.	(a)	Won	30—3
Mar 18	v	N.G.S. Staff	(h)	Won	8—4

SEASON'S RECORD:

P 4;	W 4;	L 0;	D 0;	For 67;	Against 16
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Although we played only four matches this year we can boast of an undefeated season. (We can always boast). Unfortunately, now the team has begun to function as one unit, the season is over.

The match against Ackworth, being the first for four months, was a particularly difficult one and one in which every member of the team had to struggle hard until the very last second. After being 5—0 down in the first half, school quickly realised that no rival team was going to hand them the ball, and from then on everyone's concentration focussed on the game. After a battling second half with many tense moments, school heaved a great sigh to hear the final whistle with the score at 11—9, and another victory.

The match against Pudsey does not merit any special mention. The school team merely took advantage of the weakness of the opposition.

At the end of term, the staff bravely challenged us to a match, and we accepted, but with some apprehension. This was quite a stiff game since some of our key players were harassed by equally talented members of the staff team. Once in the lead, however, we settled down to show them how netball should be played in a blustering gale.

Colours have been awarded to all the team and re-awarded to Julie Oliver.

RUGBY FOOTBALL

1st XV

CAPTAIN: J. R. BAKER

VICE-CAPTAIN: K. BRIGHTON

TEAM:

K. Brighton, J. C. Dyson, C. W. Lambert, S. Cooper, R. Cusworth, J. R. Baker, M. Poole, J. Slater, R. Rowett, S. Rolbiecki, S. Carrington, D. J. Sainter, D. Sidebottom, M. McNicholas, H. Anders, M. R. Anders.

RESULTS:

Jan 17	v	Archbishop Holgate's G.S.	(h)	Won	35 — 3
Jan 24	v	Hipperholme G.S.	(h)	Won	8 — 0
Feb 7	v	Goole G.S.	(a)	Won	6 — 3
Feb 21	v	Acklam Hall S.	(a)	Drawn	16 — 16
Feb 28	v	Heath G.S.	(a)	Won	19 — 17
Mar 7	v	Temple Moor G.S.	(h)	Won	49 — 0
Mar 11	v	Doncaster G.S.	(h)	Won	28 — 3
Mar 14	v	Hull G.S.	(h)	Won	43 — 3

SEASON'S RECORD:

P 21; W 20; L 0; D 1; For 554 Against 136

The above record speaks for itself and gives the school one of the proudest records of any school in Yorkshire, that of having lost only ONE game out of 64 in the last three seasons. Undoubtedly the reason for this year's undefeated run is team work — it has had to be because there was no one in the side of the Steve Trigg calibre, no one who could win a match on his own. Instead the team has worked as unit, throwing the ball around, sometimes in a bewildering fashion and keeping it moving even when tackled.

This term will also be remembered as the advent of the 13-man scrum in school rugby. Initially conceived as an emergency measure it was used as such in the Acklam Hall and Heath matches. At Heath it was used twice and snatched a win from our opponents, while at Acklam Hall it was used in the last minute to gain a well earned draw. (In both these matches the team displayed the ability to come from behind after trailing for so long — at Acklam they were losing 13—3 and at Heath 17—9). But in the following matches this type of scrum was used to gain an early score or as a variation from the ordinary run of play. Even if we lost the ball on the strike, our superior weight and numbers just pushed our opponents off the ball.

The last three matches against Temple Moor, Doncaster and Hull are also memorable because the team really suggested that they might be the best team in Yorkshire. Against Temple Moor they scored 13 tries, while against Doncaster they scored 8. This left the match against Hull as the climax to the season: the Hull team came to Normanton with the record of having had only one try scored against them this term and that was by a university side, but school soon rectified that by running in 11 tries to bring a very happy end to the season, with the last three matches bringing 120 points for and 6 against.

At full back K. Brighton has played faultlessly. He has the ability to be in the right place at the right time and combines this with fearless tackling and excellent kicking for touch and goal. In the later games he has been used with great effect to strengthen the centre position. S. Cooper is the jack-of-all-trades of the team, possessing the ability to play anywhere on the field. Although not the fastest person on the field, he makes up for this with good football sense and a very believable dummy. On the right wing J. Dyson has proved to be a very strong and determined runner, although from his ungainly action you would not think so. If he had caught the ball more often with two hands he would have scored more than the 22 tries that he did. At centre R. Cusworth's strong tackling has more than once disrupted the opposing backs, while his own running and handling have created many chances for his winger. C. Lambert must be congratulated on being selected for Yorkshire and England U.19 XV's (although he is still only 16) on the right wing. Although this season he started as a centre, it seems his future lies on the wing where he combines strength with speed and acceleration. At stand off, M. Poole has handled and tackled really well, forming a useful partnership with his scrum-half, Slater. Much of this year's success is due to Slater's play at the base of the scrum and line-outs. His service, kicking and tactical play have really been excellent.

Prop R. Rowett has led the pack enthusiastically, being a solid worker on the field. His bursts down the centre of the field are a marked feature of his game. It is with his help that S. Rolbiecki has managed to gain so much ball from the scrum. Rolbiecki has also developed into a jumper while his rucking has improved enormously. S. Carrington with his characteristic hair style has been a tireless worker, with his strength and mobility playing a valuable part in both tight and loose scrums. In the second row D. J. Sainter and D. Sidebottom have formed an efficient power house. Sainter, drawing on last season's experience, has been a useful line-out jumper, while displaying mobility in the loose. Sidebottom has improved tremendously as the season has progressed and his backing up has been a notable feature of his game. M. McNicholas at wing forward has had a quiet but sound season. He has a useful knack of wrestling the ball from the opposition. H. Anders, the other wing forward, is the perpetual motion forward in the pack, always being around when required. His speed from the scrum or line-out has caught more than one unwary opposing stand off. M. Anders has displayed all the qualities of a good No. 8 in both defence and attack, both varying play and breaking strongly from the base of the scrum. Last but not least is the captain J. Baker, who from the left wing has led the team quickly and well. He too this year has played for Yorkshire.

Without Mr. Jubb's help this record would not have been possible. His raucous voice from the touchline has stirred more than one player into action when things have looked bleak. Much appreciated also are the quieter exertions of all the girls who helped to prepare the refreshments after the games.

Congratulations to Sainter, Lambert, and Slater on being awarded their colours.

2nd XV

CAPTAIN: C. J. FAULKNER

TEAM from:

J. Heaton, B. Unsworth, J. Bell, A. Timmington, S. Midgley, D. Smith, S. Bailey-Lee, D. Fisher, S. Harrison, D. Illingworth, C. J. Faulkner, A. Dobson, D. Poundford, K. Fawcett, R. W. MacFarlane, G. Lumb, S. Tomlinson, M. Turner, L. Hill, G. Thrall, G. Strangwood, K. Tinker, J. Filer.

RESULTS:

Jan	28	v	Hipperholme G.S.	(h)	Won	22— 3
Jan	31	v	Matthew My. C.S.	1st XV (a)	Lost	10— 19
Feb	21	v	Acklam Hall G.S.	(a)	Won	9— 8
Feb	28	v	Heath G.S.	(a)	Won	19— 0
Mar	11	v	Doncaster G.S.	(h)	Won	12—11
Mar	14	v	Hull G.S.	(a)	Won	14— 0

SEASON'S RECORD:

P 17; W 16; L 1; D 0; For 343; Against 72

Had the master in charge of rugby not arranged for us a fixture against a 1st XV, the 2nd XV this season would for once have been able to bask in the sustaining glow of a totally victorious season. The sixteen 2nd XV's we encountered we conquered. Was this then our best 2nd XV of recent seasons? At its best, no; at its worst, yes.

To illuminate that rather obscure answer. This team never plumbed the murky abysses of ineptitude and inertia into which their predecessors sometimes slipped: even matches which still cruelly scar the memory when recalled had their redeeming features — for instance, the fecklessness of the first half against Moseley Hall last term was redeemed by the altogether more purposeful second half. So our performances even when bad were not horrid. This was probably because we had no forward as slow as the slowest forwards of recent years (no names, no pack drill) and because the pool of adequate players was more extensive than ever before. This term we were often far short of full strength sides, yet could still win. On the other hand, this side's best performances were, even when high scoring, less spectacularly clever than that of, say, the 66-67 side against Crossley and Porter's; they lacked the pattern weaving that can delight the aesthetic senses even if it sometimes proves a long way round to the tryline — when the halves finally used a scissors in the fifteenth match of the season (and, what is more, scored from

it) the coach at least was so surprised he only just remembered in time to enjoy it. But it would be both churlish and inaccurate to suggest that this side never gave a really good performance; one need instance only the Scarborough match of last term, which contained some glorious team work and running. And let it be reaffirmed, unlike every other 2nd XV since amalgamation, this team never gave a really bad performance. As the season ends, its supporters' teeth remain remarkably ungnashed.

This term was a watery one; so drenching were conditions that only two home fixtures were fulfilled. Hipperholme's impressive defeat of us last season was easily enough avenged, but Doncaster gave us a tremendous fright by scoring twice in the opening ten minutes. Happily, superior fitness told in the end and the team displayed its usual comforting habit of spending the second half in its opponents' territory. Away, at Matthew Murray's, we had watched the U.14's playing before taking the field ourselves, and the M. Murray U.14's had been so incoherent in their play that we approached our 1st XV opponents confidently. It came, then, as an unpleasant shock when from the kick-off Murray's gathered the ball, moved it most swiftly across their threes, then put in a perfectly judged cross kick which descended in front of our posts and the thundering hooves of their forwards. We scrambled it gratefully away and went on to score two well-taken tries rather against the run of play. But the superior size and individual running skills of the opposition told in the end, and though firmer tackling might have saved two scores, the result was a fair reflection of the difference between our best players and Matthew Murray's pair of Fijian stars. The away match one remembers most fondly is the one against Hull, not because we played particularly well but because it brought a happy ending to the 2nd XV life of such long-serving stalwarts as Faulkner, who was quite rightly chaired off the field at the end, and Fawcett. Both of these first played for the side in 1967, maintained their enthusiasm through a first season in which it was their trying role to be the reserve or touch judge fairly frequently, and seemed still as eager for each Saturday's fray in 1970. On such loyalties, of senior team members, unsustained by any award of colours, must a 2nd XV always partly depend, whilst simultaneously helping to mature younger players who will move on to the 1st XV.

Faulkner deservedly takes his place in the gallery of wholehearted characters who have been recent captains: Jennings, Banks, Faulkner. 'Max' gave an excellent lead as captain and some alarmingly 'swinging' performances as hooker; fortunately some of the referees he encountered seemed to be members of the permissive society. As for other members of the team and 'pool,' the end of such a successful season is no time for turning too coldly analytical an eye on their strengths and weaknesses; so rather than judiciously apportioning praise and blame let us rather recall some aspects of their play which we shall remember with pleasure and admiration. Ladies and gentlemen, pray be upstanding and raise your glasses to: Heaton's splendid dummy (you need drink only to his first dummy, as the second or third were subject to a law of diminishing returns); Unsworth's unfailing determination to get the ball away to a backer-up when he was held himself; Bell's brilliant inside (alas!) sidesteps; Timmington's high-knee action and fear-some hand-off during his meandering cross-field runs; Midgley's speedy outside swerve; Smith's pace, tackling and useful place-kicking; the

acceleration and eye for an outside gap of both Bailey-Lee and Fisher; and Harrison's indiarubber ability to survive at scrum half and provide such a neat link. If you are still upstanding and can manage some more toasts (and the proposer of these toasts, having once been required on a French rugby tour to salute each Louis of France in numerical order, appreciates that such things become increasingly difficult), pray salute the forwards: the determination, of Illingworth and Dobson, the long strides of Poundford; alliteratively, the ferocity of Fawcett, the thrust of Thrall, the strength of Strangwood and the tackling of Tomlinson; and the tigerishness of Tinker and the fidelity to the team of Filer the reserve and . . . and . . . a final memory, the surging runs from tap penalties of Lumb and the speedy runs of MacFarlane.

It was all quite a ball, albeit oval.

COLTS XV

CAPTAIN . K. BANKS

TEAM from:

N. Tuffs, T. Higgins, A. Fisher, D. Ward, G. Peasant, N. Dean, G. Tinker, M. Beedle, R. Golby, R. Sharp, P. Garner, J. Friend, N. Smith, K. Hobbs, S. Bridgewater, B. Lomas, R. Marson, C. Ratcliffe.

RESULTS:

Jan	24	v	Hipperholme G.S.	(a)	Won	24—0
Jan	31	v	Matthew Murray C.S.	(h)	Won	27—0
Feb	7	v	Goole G.S.	(a)	Lost	6—11
Feb	28	v	Heath G.S.	(h)	Won	17—3
Mar	11	v	Doncaster G.S.	(a)	Won	9—3
Mar	14	v	Hull G.S.	(a)	Won	31—0

SEASON'S RECORD:

P 18; W 15; D 0; L 3; For 394; Against 70

The bad weather which has haunted us all the way through this term has greatly reduced the number of matches played. Our first game against Archbishop Holgate's G.S. had to be cancelled and so we had to wait another week before we could play, and this was against Hipperholme. Although we won convincingly by 24—0, we showed the signs of having had a long spell without match practice owing to the Christmas holidays. Playing up the hill in the first half the forwards started at a fast pace and some very good loose play by them gave the backs the chance to score three quick tries. This good start was soon to fade, probably because of lack of stamina after the long holiday, and play became a little scrappy. Elementary mistakes allied to the sluggishness of the forwards stopped us from really dominating the game in the second half, even though we now had the slope in our favour. N. Tuffs, normally inside centre, played on the wing, owing to selection problems, and scored 4 tries and 3 conversions.

The date of our next game, against Matthew Murray School clashed with that of the Leeds and District teams match with Manchester

and District, and we had four of our team representing the Leeds and District team. Thanks to our good pool of reserves the problem of being four short was easily overcome. In this game we were very well led in the forwards by B. Sharp and J. Friend and we were able to get a lot of possession. The threequarters, enjoying an abundance of ball, scored most of our tries, and G. Peasant and T. Higgins were the best of the backs. Even with the reserves playing the victory by 27-0 was mainly due to teamwork.

The only defeat of the term and only the third of the season came at the hands of Goole G.S. by 11-6. Goole had a very good and very heavy pack of forwards, and all their harassing and tight approach to the game had its toll on our team. J. Friend the No. 8 forward was off the field for most of the match with a damaged shoulder and R. Golby the pack leader was a passenger for all the second half with a recurrence of a back injury. Goole were probably worthy of their slender victory, but if the two forwards mentioned had kept injury free the result might have been to our favour. Again for the next match we had the four Leeds and District players out. The game was against Heath G.S. and our team had things more or less their own way, although at times our forwards tended to relax and take things too easy and play became a little scrappy. The best displays were by S. Bridgewater and G. Tinker in the forwards and R. Marsh and T. Higgins in the backs.

Our last two matches were against Doncaster G.S. and Hull G.S., the results being 9-3 and 31-0 respectively, the harder of the two matches obviously being against Doncaster. In this game we were up against a good pack of forwards and only sound performances by M. Beedle and J. Friend in the forwards kept them at bay. K. Banks and N. Tuffs obviously had the beating of their opposite numbers but they were not given enough possession.

Our final season's record is a fair reflection of the team's ability. The games lost have been against sides who have beaten us up front in the forwards. We have yet to play a side that has a back division as good as ours. Congratulations to the whole team and the best of luck in the future.

Congratulations to K. Banks, N. Tuffs and M. Beedle for their selection to play for the Yorkshire U.15 team which played against Lancashire on December 27th at Abbeydale Park, Sheffield. The result of the match was a win for Yorkshire 19-16 and special mention must be made of the fact that Keith Banks was captain of the side.

Congratulations also go to the same three boys plus R. Golby and J. Bridges (3rd year) for representing the Leeds and District Team.

U.14 XV

CAPTAIN: I. WESTWOOD

TEAM from:

I. Westwood, J. Bridges, M. Lindley, M. Spragg, M. Grace, M. Stabler, K. Morgan, A. Whalley, S. Tarp, S. Gamble, N. Gibbons, S. Bailey, P. Haytack, S. Dean, N. Hill, K. Plant, R. Davis, S. Stoney, P. Musther.

RESULTS :

Jan 24	v	Hipperholme G.S.	(a)	Lost	9—10
Jan 31	v	Matthew Murray C.S.	(a)	Won	35—3
Feb 28	v	Heath G.S.	(h)	Won	26—0
Mar 11	v	Doncaster G.S.	(a)	Won	20—3
Mar 14	v	Hull G.S.	(h)	Won	18—0

RECORD :

P 19; W 15; L 4; D0; For 435; Against 115

The term started with a hard game at Hipperholme which was lost 9—10, despite scoring three tries to two. The team failed to take sufficient advantage of the slope in the first half, leading only 6—0. Then they woke up when losing 10—6 and in an exciting finish scored once and narrowly failed several times, thanks to Hipperholme's fine defensive covering.

Lindley returned for the last four games of the season and brought about *an* immediate improvement in the backs. He has scored twelve tries in his six games this season and it is to be hoped that next year he can play in them all. These last four games were won quite easily despite losing a player in the first five minutes against both Heath and Doncaster. In fact the display against Doncaster was one of the season's best; after Westwood went off our seven forwards dominated the loose and six good tries were scored. Dean, deputising at full back, Spragg in his first game at inside centre, and Musther playing his first ever game for us at wing forward, all played very well.

The season has been a good one, the team has been developing all year into a competent unit, and a settled team has now been achieved. As before the main deficiencies are lack of drive in the backs and lack of mobility in the forwards, but these have improved all season with regular practice. A pleasing feature has been the regular attendances at training sessions all season.

U.13 XV

CAPTAIN : B. BANKS

TEAM :

B. Banks, P. Graveling, J. Hoyle, D. Fennell, D. Hartley, C. Jackson, P. Tarpy, N. Walker, Martin Hayward, Melvin Hayward, M. Hartshorne, D. Buckingham, J. Allen, A. Grice, R. Wells, A. Pruchniewicz, A. Short, S. Friend, D. Dolby-Glover.

RESULTS:

Jan 24	v	Hipperholme G.S.	(a)	Won	20—0
Feb 7	v	Goole G.S.	(a)	Won	23—3
Feb 28	v	Heath G.S.	(h)	Won	33—6
Mar 9	v	Temple Moor G.S.	(h)	Won	8—3
Mar 14	v	Kettlethorpe H.S.	(a)	Won	17—9
Mar 20	v	Bridlington H.S.	(a)	Won	21—6
Mar 21	v	Scarborough H.S.	(a)	Won	25—0

SEASON'S RECORD :

P 19; W 19; L 0; D0; For 518; Against 67

Congratulations to the team on another unbeaten season. Only against Temple Moor School and Kettlethorpe School was our unbeaten record in danger and in both these games injuries and illness seriously weakened the team. The match against Temple Moor was a test of strength and stamina, as the opposition included some very big boys. However, the reserves proved very capable and we managed to restrict them to one try — a breakaway effort by their giant back row forward (12½ stone!). To offset this Graveling scored a grand individual try, breaking through from halfway and scoring under the posts. The goal kicking of Banks was a decisive factor in the result, however, for he converted Graveling's try and had previously kicked a very good penalty in the first few minutes of the game. Other important points arising from the match were that we prevented Temple Moor from getting too much ball — we won nearly all the set scrums through superior scrummaging, whilst we shared ball from the line-outst and loose play. This meant that their very big back row and second row forwards had only limited opportunities for breaking through our defence with their superior strength. On one occasion when this happened Allen distinguished himself at full back with a very good try saving tackle.

After this game followed a tough fixture at Kettlethorpe, though we had five regulars missing. Banks opened our account with a good try following a break from a scrum. Despite scrappy forward play, when we played like individuals instead of in a pack, three tries by Hartshorne gave us a 12—0 lead at half-time. However, Kettlethorpe, with the wind behind them and beginning to look the stronger team, closed up to 12—9 with two tries and one penalty. The team pulled itself together, fortunately, and we finished the match by scoring a superb try involving a scissors between centre and winger.

The season ended with the usual tour to Bridlington and Scarborough. Against Bridlington we played badly in the first half and were level 6—6. However, the forwards began to play as a pack, instead of individually, whilst the backs handled more capably, so that we emerged easy victors. At Scarborough we again started scrappily, but improved as the match progressed. Buckingham rounded off a fine season by scoring three tries in this game and he finished as the leading try scorer with 37. His speed and deceptive body swerve are his chief assets and he is hard to stop in full flight.

Banks has been an admirable captain throughout the season, driving the team on, and delivering the odd sharp word or two to certain players when necessary. He is also an outstanding player and as a stand-off usually makes the right decision whether to break himself, to serve his threequarters or to kick. Hayward has developed into a very constructive centre, much responsible for Buckingham's success on the wing.

Graveling has been the outstanding forward — his lively play in the loose has set an example to the other forwards. Tarpay has always been in the thick of things whilst Hoyle is developing more aggression. Wells, as hooker, has always given us a superior share of possession from the set scrums. Dolby-Glover — a newcomer to the team — is settling in, though he has much to learn.

If a criticism can be levelled at the team it is that the forwards do not always play as a pack. The result is that the backs do not

always receive 'good ball.' If this fault in rucking and loose play can be eradicated they should have a very successful season next year.

U.12 XV

CAPTAIN: S. BURNAGE

TEAM from:

R. Newton, R. Davenport, C. Morgan, J. Burnage, T. Carter, S. Burnage, C. Dean, P. Robinson, T. Gittins, K. Wood, T. Barker, M. Johnson, S. Harvey, P. Morgan, A. Whitlaw, R. Betts, P. P. Smith, N. Stackhouse, N. Green, R. Lawson.

RESULTS:

Jan	31	v	Matthew Murray C.S.	(h)	Won	43—0
Feb	28	v	Hippnolme G.S.	(a)	Won	19—6
Mar	3	v	John Smeator G.S.	(h)	Won	20—8
Mar	20	v	Bridlington G.S.	(a)	Won	17—10
Mar	21	v	Scarborough G.S.	(a)	Won	17—0

RECORD:

P 13; W 12; L1; D0; For 216; Against 68

Six matches had to be cancelled this term because of bad weather and the dismay with which the team received the news of each cancellation was a fair indication of how they looked forward to their games. Considerable progress has been made this term in tightening up and organising the play, and in nearly every case it has been better team work which has brought victory. The forwards have worked much more as a unit and have always been able to push their opponents off the ball in the scrums. One or two still tend to stand around in the loose, but the work rate of all the pack has increased satisfactorily. The backs have continued to pass and run with determination and fly-half, S. Burnage, is now rarely caught standing still as he receives the ball. He has been able to get the whole line running forward, and running dangerously. J. Burnage and C. Morgan have scored fine tries by bursts through the centre, while Davenport has continued to impress on the left wing. The main area for improvement is in tackling. The aim so often seems to be to throttle the opponent rather than floor him, with the result that determined runners have been able to break through. It was fortunate that a new full-back in Newton was brought into the team, as he tackled low and hard and played with great coolness in all the matches this term. In attack forwards and backs linked up well, but in defence we had to wait until the final game with Scarborough for a really satisfactory defensive display by the back row.

The first match of the term was against Matthew Murray at home. Our opponents were sadly disorganised and only individual selfishness prevented an even larger score. The virtues of teamwork had to be stressed after this game and there was much improvement in later matches. At Hipperholme we had the advantage of a considerable slope, to gain a convincing lead at half-time. For a time in the second half Hipperholme seemed to swamp us, but a fine effort by

Davenport, beating five men, restored our balance, and we won comfortably. The game against John Smeaton was a credit to both sides. Our opponents had a fine hooker, but our pack shoved so well that John Smeaton always got the ball running backwards. In the loose two good teams battled it out but the Normanton backs were always going forward. Davenport and Morgan scored good tries, and the win was a fair reflection of an excellent game. The season was completed by the annual tour to Bridlington and Scarborough. Weak tackling against strong runners allowed Bridlington to score two converted tries, but in general Normanton always had the advantage. In the second half two excellent tries were scored, each involving about ten players. The final game at Scarborough was especially satisfactory because, while the attacking play was as good as ever, very few mistakes were made in defence and these were covered up quickly by low tackling or falling on the ball.

Taken as a whole the season has been enjoyable and successful. A number of boys who have not played rugby before are learning the skills of the game and the pool of players up to team standard has enlarged. There is, of course, much still to do and little cause for complacency. There is plenty of team spirit, skill and potential and the side should continue to do well in coming seasons.

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

Our monthly held Dances have once again proved financially successful. Final profit realised on the New Year Dance was £88-12-3.

The Beetle Drive and Coffee Evenings still have reasonable support, although we would like to see many more of our members attending these evenings which are held on the last Wednesday of each month.

Profit from the Jumble Sale held on March 14th was £21-6-2.

This year 994 books of tickets were sold for our Easter Raffle which realised £41-5-10 profit.

During Spring Term the Association held three further activities. The first was a talk about the teaching of new maths given by Mr. Ruddock. The second a talk about Decimalisation given by the manager of Barclays Bank. Attendances at both these functions were disappointing. The third was a Musical Evening at which Mr. Stanford Robinson entertained an audience of 200 with a talk entitled "A Conductor's Point of View," illustrated with Music by Gilbert and Sullivan.

The following articles have been donated by the Parents' Association to the school during the last term:

Telescope £49
 Safety Mat £36-16-2
 Repair of Musical Instruments £56-17-0
 Record Player £30
 Oscilloscope £52-15-0
 Record Player £30-19-6
 Folk Dance Equipment £13

Balance of Association funds approx £299.

B. G. PLANT, Hon. Secretary.

Our cashier was last seen heading south!

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(Maths or Physics 'A' level and one other)

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(Maths and Physics 'A' levels)

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Computing

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Engineering, Building
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Further information from

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