

Editor : MR. OWEN

Business Manager : MR. AISTON

Publicity Manager : R. MERRETT

Committee :

MISS DUTTON, MISS MAXWELL, MR. POLLARD,
MR. HILL, SHEILA SYDENHAM, PAT KILLE, JILL
YOUNG, M. J. BROWN, ALDOUS.

PHOENIX

SCHOOL NOTES

We bid farewell to Mrs. Badger and Miss Maxwell and wish them every happiness in the future. They will be greatly missed by all of us. Miss Williams has come to replace Mrs. Lawson who left earlier in the term, taking with her the good wishes of all her friends at Drayton Manor. We hope that Miss Williams will be very happy with us. Mr. Johnson is replacing Miss Maxwell in the English Department and we look forward to welcoming him next term.

Phoenix is proud to record that Miss Enid Harding an old pupil of the school, has created a new British record by winning the Women's A.A.A. Mile Championship at the White City on Saturday, July 3rd, in 5 mins. 9.8 secs. We offer her our congratulations.

Many pupils are leaving, and we wish them every success in their future careers. You may be interested to know the future plans of members of the Upper Vith.

Merrett : Civil Service or Commerce.

Pat Kille : Bedford College, London University (training to become an English Teacher).

Aldous : Royal Academy of Dramatic Art or University.

M. Hemming : Exeter or Birmingham University.

Lipscombe : Journalism.

Lee : Journalism.

Sheila Sydenham : Civil Service.

Meredith : Oxford University (to read English).

R. Hemming : Exeter University.

Reade : Reading or London University.

V. Dickinson : Acton Technical College.

D. J. Smith : Exeter University or Civil Service.

Hutchby : Nottingham University.

Wright : Civil Service.

Collier : Civil Service.

Pallister : Civil Service.

Marsh : Air-crew R.A.F. (with a view to Civil Aviation).

This list is not complete, and many of those included cannot yet be sure that their immediate aims will be realised. We hope they will.

Birth: To *Annistasia*, seven bonny bunnies: *Hercules, Flash, Spot, Sebastian, Comet, Tiny Tim and Weiss*. All are doing well, under the careful nursing of Jill Young, Monica Hughes and Susan Lloyd.

We regret that no staff-school cricket match was possible this term. Never were the staff better prepared. We trust that the hard training of Messrs. Russell, Hurd and Behmber has not been entirely fruitless and that the school will have the privilege of seeing cricket as it should be played next year.

By the time this edition of *Phoenix* appears Mr. James will have left hospital after his operation. We are happy to report that, as we write these words, his condition is very satisfactory and we look forward to his return.

The term has been marked by two notable events, the Coronation and the General Inspection. The comic cricket match which was played to celebrate the former was entertaining to watch, but it was disappointing to find so few entries for the Fancy Dress Competition. Refreshments were, as always, popular.

Lunch-time rehearsals continue to be held on Wednesday and Friday, and each week the music falls more sweetly on the ear. We hope that attendances at the choir rehearsals will continue to be strong.

As winter approaches (may we be forgiven so gloomy a reflection) perhaps it would not be amiss to quote a line composed by Mr. Arnold and copied one hundred times by certain young offenders. The line has value, not only as a striking example of alliteration, but as a firm reminder.

"When the black flag is flying the field is out of bounds."

Finally, a word of thanks to all those who helped to produce this magazine, during a most difficult term fraught with worries of all kind! In particular we thank Jill Young for many hours of hard work.

FORM MAGAZINES

The idea of form magazines is not a new one to Drayton Manor. It has been tried before with considerable success. Because of this and in order to encourage initiative within the forms, we are re-introducing the idea in September.

Each form will elect a Magazine Committee consisting of two editors (one boy and one girl) and four members (two boys

and two girls). This Committee will be solely responsible for the collection of articles and the arrangement of the magazine. Assistance from members of staff, if at all required, must be limited to Form Teachers, who may only offer general advice.

The magazine may be typewritten, but this is not essential and will not affect the Selection Committee's choice of the best work produced. General lay-out, neatness and the quality of the material included will be the deciding factors. The different age-groups involved will be taken into consideration and a prize (possibly a merit half-day holiday) will be given to the best magazine.

A closing date will be announced by the Headmaster. Meanwhile, elect your Committees and begin work at once. A selection of the best contributions in each Form Magazine will appear in the next edition of *Phoenix*.

PROSE

SOMETHING FOR NOTHING

It can be argued that the concept of a Welfare State takes too optimistic a view of human nature. Its beneficiaries are its greatest enemies. Before this develops into a political pamphlet let me at once make it clear that I am no advocate of the "ancien régime." I merely feel that in one sphere at least "something for nothing" has come to be accepted as an obligation and not a privilege. I refer, of course, to Education. The moral maxim, "Every privilege has its corresponding duty," is one we could all take heart.

The days, not far back, when every new year began with a list of books to be purchased, and when the local bookseller sold you last year's text-books at reduced prices, did more, I think, to impress upon one the value of books than the present system. The purchase of a new Geometry set in its shining black case was an event which inspired pride of possession even if it did not always carry one successfully beyond Pythagoras and his theorem. There was always, of course, the individual with his "super set" of instruments, but he derived no greater pleasure from this than did most of us from our humbler purchases. Let me not suggest that the old system was without its weaknesses. The painful struggle by parents to educate their children and make ends meet, the humiliating appeal to charity and the frustration of promise by economic necessity were aspects of the old system which, we pray, will never return.

There are, however, new tendencies which must be deprecated by those who believe, as I do, in equal opportunity for all. I refer to a lack of appreciation of the opportunities which are now offered to young people, and an attitude of mind summed up in a modern expression heard far too often in school corridors and on public pavements—"I couldn't care less."

What is the remedy for this? Perhaps the answer can be provided by those to whom this is directed, not as a sermon, but as a "talking-point" for the next edition of *Phoenix*.

ANON.

CAREERS CORRESPONDENCE

"Aim high. Anyone can hit the ground."

"*What should a boy do who wishes to become an engineer?*"

The first thing is for the boy to ask himself, "What kind of an engineer?" A workman at a lathe possibly becoming a foreman one day? A designer of machinery? Or he is going to visualise himself as a well qualified professional man able to give advice at highest levels and fitted to accept responsibility for the design and completion of new projects? Then again, into which branch of the trade does the boy wish to go, light, heavy, electrical, civil or marine?

The boy of average ability should apply *early in his sixteenth year* to some of the many local firms offering apprenticeships (the Schools can provide the names of recommended firms). If he is accepted, then for three to five years he will draw a very reasonable wage and receive training which, with ordinary lessons in mathematics and physics, will enable him to sit for certain National Certificates of proficiency or even go to the University and complete a degree course.

A successful apprenticeship opens the door to becoming a draughtsman-designer and to be given posts of responsibility leading to managerial appointments.

Interest in engineering will, however, find its greatest and most satisfactory development if the subject is studied at the University for three years, after which his services will be sought as a professional man commanding a salary comparable with those of the legal and medical professions.

What professions are open to girls who do not wish to study for a degree?

Here are a few of the most interesting :—

Dispensing medicines. A skilled job where you can earn and learn at the same time. Chemistry essential; also physics, if you are to assist an optician.

Hairdressing, now highly organised with a most potent trades union.

Librarianship. Work here begins with very low pay, but many opportunities for study are given and the maximum salary is £2,000.

Museum work—a real snip—excellent conditions, infinitely varied work, good pay and pension, but hard to get. Apply Courtauld School of Art.

Florist. Good ones now insist on Botany and Art in G.C.E. You not only sell flowers, you advise on growing plants, do decorations for receptions and banquets, maintain window boxes, etc.

I am good at drawing. What careers are possible in Art? I don't want to teach.

Not many are secure. They are unfortunately dependent on fashion, continued inspiration and some genius in yourself.

You might do dress designing and study at a Trade School. You might prefer interior design, for which a five-year apprenticeship is usually necessary and attendance at evening classes.

Colouring photos is drudgery and poorly paid. Window-dressing is almost a masculine monopoly in the big stores. Doing illustrations for books is a hobby rather than a trade from which a living can be made.

I want an out-of-door job. What are the possibilities?

You could, after only one year of training, get a gardening job in one of the parks or even at Kew.

You could attend a Farm Institute for one year and then become a superior land girl.

You might even be a Vet.; but the way is hard (three advanced level subjects and five years' training) and prospects for a woman rather dim.

Being a kennel maid is not a job in which you could "keep" yourself. The pay is little more than pocket money.

"It would please my parents very much if I became a doctor but I do not think it is at all possible financially."

Many quite poor boys and girls from grammar schools have qualified as doctors thanks to the fairly generous financial help available from such authorities as the Middlesex County Council who, for promising students, pay fees and in addition allow a quite substantial sum to the student for travelling expenses and maintenance. But the competition for vacancies in the Medical Schools is so severe that anyone wishing to apply must have made himself or herself conspicuous at school by academic or athletic ability, preferably both.

"Are my prospects in the Civil Service as good if I enter at sixteen as at eighteen?"

Entrants at sixteen years of age are employed as clerks pure and simple on a salary scale commensurate with the relatively small responsibility carried. It is possible to pass into the next higher grade—the Executive, from this lower grade, but a pupil entering this at eighteen from school will have been well prepared for the examination by the work in Sixth Form studies and will have enjoyed the opportunities offered in the work and life at

the top of the school. The salaries in this grade are much in advance of the lower one and considerably more intelligence, initiative, resourcefulness and sense of responsibility are expected of its members—who may, as many of our past pupils have done, progress to well paid posts of authority.

THE GENERAL INSPECTION

It is unfortunate that the name of "Inspector" still retains some rather old-fashioned associations. As a consequence, when the news was announced that there would be a General Inspection, beginning on the third week of term, there was much speculation, especially amongst the members of the lower school.

At the beginning of the week at first inspector was found by one of the girl prefects, looking forlorn and lonely on a bus, wondering "where Drayton Manor was."

The army was encamped in the library, and as a consequence the style of Sixth Form relaxation was rather cramped; how could first-formers be casually tossed from the windows with the upholders of law and order next door?

And so the Inspection began. In some respects it was surprising. Apart from finding an Inspector around the corner each time anyone made a tactless remark—(which reminded some of us of the war-time slogan—"careless talk costs lives"), school life continued normally.

Many times, on walking into a lesson, we heaved sighs of relief for no inspector was there, but our lightheartedness was short-lived. A familiar shadow would loom outside the door and in would come the inevitable smiling face.

The Sixth Form were particularly surprised to find that it was they who were old-fashioned, for the inspector advocated detailed study of the moderns.

Occasionally we found that our visitors became fascinated by the names which they had learned and only the bearers were allowed to answer their questions, which probed into the ignorance or knowledge of the person concerned. (Anguished glances were exchanged on occasion by both teacher and pupil.)

We found, however, that the Inspectors were both friendly and human and could even refuse the proffered translation of a set-book gracefully and without rancour.

The week drew to its close remarkably quickly. We found many of the suggestions made by the Inspectors very helpful. We wish those pupils who, when we are unsteadily making our way about with the aid of sticks and bath-chairs, will be the next candidates for inspection at Drayton Manor, the best of luck and assure them that "It wasn't so bad!"

P.K.

HOWLERS

Miss Fredericks has very kindly allowed us to print the following from her collection of howlers. Some of them were born in Drayton Manor. They are printed exactly as they were written.

Q. Give an example of a helping verb and use it in a sentence.

A. "The wind blew the man down."

"Blew" is a helping verb, for if there were no blew what would the wind do?

"A sentence is a lot of words with commas and full stop."

"The Elizabethan theatre had a pinafore stage."

"When a child was born in Sparta it was immediately asked whether it was a boy or girl by the government."

"Rabbits are a great nuisance as 144 can almost ruin a field."

"Julius was made Governor of Gaul, a very unruly State which he made Ruly again."

"Railway lines, when in the sun, expand, and wedding rings are a nuisance."

"Il est parti, tant mieux."

"My aunt, it is a party!"

From an answer on "Paradise Lost":

"Satan had a lot more devils. One was called Lucifer like matches, and another one was Balliol."

"The first electric battery was discovered by a dead frog hanging on some railings."

Description of a picture at the National Gallery:

"The picture which I have chosen is called 'A Judgment On Paris.' This picture has no relation whatsoever to its title. It shows four women, and two or three men in a field, surrounded by trees. In the distance there seems to be a town of sorts. There is nothing in the picture to give an indication of time or place. The artist must have had some idea in mind but he certainly did not mean it to be found out. The people may be gods and the place heaven, but this is rather improbable, as at the time the buildings were built, most of Europe were Christians of some kind and only believed in one God."

"EAGLE" AND "GIRL"

It is with much fear and trembling that I attempt a review of the "Eagle" and "Girl" and more knowledgeable readers must forgive any glaring errors!

On first looking at the "Eagle" I must confess that Dan Dare completely baffled me—probably because I am not a science fiction enthusiast and I came into the middle of the story. Apart

from these minor points, it is certainly a colourful, exciting feature. "P.C. 49" and "Riders of the Range" are quite good, but it is difficult to convert a radio show into print.

The smaller and less ambitious sections fare better. "The Foreign Legion" and the sports and other informative articles, especially the one on camping, are excellent. The historical section conveys in an interesting way what many people find dry. Biggles is always welcome, and Harris Tweed is an amusing detective.

The "Eagle" is, I think, a paper which caters for different tastes and which has a good standard.

The "Girl" was disappointing. It lacks originality. "Wendy and Jinx," "Sally Lester," "Penny Wise" and "A Cruise for Christine" are all similar stories, and other stories possess a mere spark of originality. "Linda and the Wild Animal"—a story about a puma—and the serial about Elizabeth I and Lettice Leef were good. The information sections were ridiculous: how to make a jelly and how to become a Nanny! There was no sports section, an astonishing omission, and the less said about competitions the better.

There is plenty of room for improvement in the "Girl," especially on the informative side, and more originality is required, but the two papers are an experiment which is succeeding, although I may say in passing that 4½d. is a shocking price to pay for a comic.

C. MORTON (L.V.I.B.).

CORONATION DAY

The excitement is still in the air after the great day, June 2nd, when our beautiful young Queen was crowned in Westminster Abbey. The service was carried out with solemnity, and was very moving. The Queen was calm and gracious throughout the service, a task which needed strength, both mentally and physically.

The robes worn by all who attended the coronation were magnificent, and the colours were dazzling. The coronets, tiaras and crowns sparkled with all the colours of the rainbow.

The service lasted for three hours, and still the Queen wore a smile after her five mile drive through London and back to Buckingham Palace. The Queen's appearance on the balcony delighted the thousands of people gathered outside the Palace gates and along the Mall.

The day ended with a wonderful display of fireworks at the cost of twelve thousand pounds. I am sure that all the people who watched the coronation on television sets enjoyed it as much as I did.

GILLIAN GRAINGER (3B).

MISAPPLIED QUOTATIONS

Men's Common Room. "Hey!—why, I thought those fellows had been asleep?"—The Critic.

Schools. "Those are vile places indeed"—The Rivals.

Room 16. "That way the noise is"—Macbeth.

? *Lesson.* "Then go to our sleep"—Art and Life—Lord Dunsany.

Pupil on being given a detention. "Damn his news!"—The Rivals.

Senior Choir. "Where will you find such voices as these in England?"—The Critic.

School Orchestra. "Alack! What noise is this?"—Hamlet.

IVth Form Music Student. "— but I have a bad ear"—The Critic.

Staff Hockey Match. "— and it is very comical too"—The Rivals.

The Bell. "Chaos is come again!"—Othello.

Mr. J——s. "— he is the very pine-apple of politeness!"—The Rivals.

• *Homework.* "Oh!—'tis too much"—The Critic.

Mr. H——l. "Mine are true-born English legs"—The Rivals.
ANON.

"SUCCESS OR FAILURE"

Once again the figure drops back to the ground with a sigh, tears fill his eyes. So near to success and then—failure. He lies on the ground, gasping, his face contorted in agony.

He turns and sees, once more, the faces of his companions. He shouts out messages for them to give his family and they reply with advice and encouragement.

Thus spurred on, he rises and makes a terrific effort and reaches the hard surface of the obstacle. He begins to climb, his fingers clawing desperately at the slippery surface. Then his fingers grasp a piece of rock or wood—he knows not what—and with a slowness terrible to behold, he begins to move upward. He is within sight of the top when his weakened limbs fail him and he falls back to the ground with a groan, wounding himself on a treacherous piece of wood. His friends groan—he must not fail.

He sobs as he lies there, disappointment and determination conflicting in him. He must not fail. He rises, a determined gleam in his eyes. Perspiration streaks his grimy face. Every step is an agony, every breath racks his body with pain. He raises his eyes as if in prayer and begins his final attempt.

As they follow his movements, the watchers begin to look less strained. Then they give a terrible groan, for the climber lies crumpled on the ground once more. He sobs pitifully, making no attempt to rise, all the spirit gone from him, his eyes dull and tired.

His companions move towards him; one of them speaks: "Come on, you lazy thing. Help us carry the horse back. You can have another crack at vaulting next week."

ANNE MCBRIDE (3C).

"CANADIAN HIGH NEWS"

Every few months my pen friend sends me some very interesting papers entitled "Canadian High News." It is similar to a weekly newspaper but it is published by pupils from High Schools all over Canada and contains articles written by them. These include leading articles such as "How the Budget will affect you"; strip cartoons; readers' letters, jokes and odd items of news. To paint a clearer picture here is a summary of a typical C.H.N.

The first page contains anything from "Experts O.K. 'Coed' School System" or "Expert Vindicates Modern Teens' Behaviour"—a professor of sociology actually admitting that today's teens are better than those of past eras—to "Overturns Dad's Car in Ditch." Page two is one large advertisement for a clothing store.

This is followed by readers' letters which support or hate Johnny Ray, and girls in defence of a critical article by two boys accusing girls of being gold diggers. From this defence I should say the boys' case was torn to shreds. An unusual example from the Humour Dept. was somebody airing his knowledge of analysis in a typical way. "A kiss is a noun because it is both common and proper; is an adjective because it describes love; is a pronoun because she stands for it; is a verb because it is both passive and active" and so on.

The next pages contain news of individual or group achievements from High Schools. The middle of the paper is devoted to sports and photographs—not at all sporting. One photograph was of four boys who won the Canadian Schoolboy Curling championship (anything less like curls I have yet to see!). After this come articles on manners, beauty and fashion hints, clothes-care and the precaution of visiting your dentist regularly. Next follow reviews of the latest films, shows and records; the strip cartoons and finally another clothing store advertisement or a common sense quiz "What's Your Date Ability, Girls/Boys?" Common sense?

When my pen friend first sent me this paper I was puzzled by references to Hot Rodders and Hot Rod Clubs, but upon

enquiry I learned that this was a club formed by teenagers, who owned cars like those that run in the Old Crocks London-to-Brighton race. Apparently they give each other tips on "how to keep the Hot Rod on the road." "Expert Vindicates Teen's Behaviour"? He ought to be shot!

SHEILA EDWARDS (U.6.B).

THE TRIALS OF A MEMBER OF THE MAGAZINE COMMITTEE TRYING TO WORK IN THE ENGLISH STORE

Trying to assemble the magazine in the English store room is a virtual impossibility! Despite a forbidding notice which dares anybody to enter, except on business, the store is invaded by a multitude (even two is a multitude in the English store) of doubtful characters, who blithely announce that "we've come to stock-take!"

They then proceed to remove the books from the shelves by the simple expedient of passing their arms along each shelf.

After excavating the Magazine Committee member from the pile of debris, they then replace the books in the exact position in which they originally were, remarking meanwhile that some of the Shakespeare editions look as if they have been there since "Bill" wrote them.

At this point the member retired to the cloakroom to remove the dust from his eyes and hair and to scrape it off the shoulders of a once-respectable blazer!

On returning, it is discovered that the neat piles of labelled articles are scattered in the narrow confines of the store. One dare not argue with a specimen of the male species who threatens to drop the whole set of "Essays Past and Present" on one's head, so nothing remains except to pick up the contributions and re-arrange.

After what seems hours to the despairing member, they depart, announcing their intention to return. By now, the member is squatting precariously on the window sill (anyone who has ever sat on the window sill in the store will know what the top of Everest must feel like).

Peace returns, broken only by the screams of agony coming from the sick-bed where Miss B——r is imitating Florence Nightingale; the clattering of the kitchen staff who are wading through the mountains of washing up, and the First Forms' despairing groans as another Exam. paper is handed out.

Suddenly a voice is heard. "With luck we should finish the rest of the shelves this afternoon."

The stock-takers were returning. At this point the member fled . . .

COMMITTEE MEMBER.

MASSACRE!

The fighting had stopped, all was silent again. Slowly I picked myself up and stepped over the mass of debris that was once the piano. Airily I shook from my hair the coke that was lodged there. With one careless flick of the wrist, I undid the rope around my neck, and then proceeded to separate the dead from the living. The boy tied to the double bass I took to be dead, but after giving him a tot of rum—which I found in the pocket of one of the more happy boys—he slowly revived and staggered out of the door.

I carried on working, tending to the sick, clearing up the litter, and generally trying to make the old place look its clean, fresh self again.

Many hours later I paused and watched the sunlight filtering through the glassless windows. A new day had begun and my work was nearly done. Soon I would hear again the familiar sounds of the boys playing pontoon and whist.

Many of you will, no doubt, be thinking that there has been a fight in the local gambling saloon. You would be wrong to meditate upon such vulgar thoughts. It is just the end of term in the music hut.

VALERIE EWINS (3C).

“CRICKET CURIOSITIES” BY “THE TWELFTH MAN”

Every man in the England team was called upon to bowl in the England v. Australia Test Match at the Oval in 1884, and the wicket-keeper, Alfred Lyttelton, bowled underhand and dismissed four batsmen!

Len Hutton's left arm contains part of his left leg!; for in 1941, a bone grafting operation was performed on his arm following an accident in 1940.

Of his 110 centuries, Len has never yet scored a century against Gloucestershire, and up until the end of 1951 he had taken 167 wickets for 4,289 at an average of 28.91!

In 1920, Jack Hobbs headed the English bowling averages, when he took 17 wickets for an average of 11.82!

W. E. Midwinter is the only man ever to have played in Test Matches for both England (1881-2) and Australia (1883-4)!

Arthur Wellard (Somerset) has on two occasions—once against Derbyshire and once against Kent—hit five 6's off five consecutive balls; and in 1935 he hit 72 6's.

The first M.C.C. match played outside the U.K. was against Paris, in the Bois-de-Boulogne in 1867. It was a 12-a-side match, and the Paris XII was made up of Englishmen living in Paris!

At Lord's in 1870, the Yorkshire fast bowler, Freeman, knocked all three stumps out of the ground with one ball!

The Edriches of Norfolk have nothing on the old Foster

family, Worcestershire. Just before the 1914-18 war, there were seven Foster brothers playing for the county!

In 1911 at Old Trafford, Manchester, the bowler R. D. Burrows sent the ball 67 yards 6 inches—over three times the length of the pitch!

In 1949, in the Indian Championship semi-final, Bombay and Maharshtra scored 2,376 runs! The match lasted for seven days and altogether there were nine centuries. The scores were: Bombay 651 and 714 for 8 declared, Maharashtra 407 and 604!

“TWELFTH MAN.”

EMBARRASSED

One day, in the last Easter holidays, I went to visit the masters and mistresses of my late school.

When I arrived, I was just in time to see the juniors go into the hall for assembly, so I decided to join them. The head-mistress gave out the number of the hymn, and I breathed a sigh of relief because I knew it (at least, I thought I knew it!). The master played a chord on the piano, and we started singing. I sang the tune that we sing here at Drayton Manor, but the other children sang the tune they sing. As I was the only one singing wrongly I went terribly red, but afterwards we all had a hearty laugh over my mistake.

ANN FRENCH (3.c).

VERSE

EXAM'S

Slowly, silently, now the Head
Walks the school in his gentle tread:
This way and that he peers and sees
Weary hands rest on weary knees:
One by one the windows catch
Careworn expressions that none may match:
Crouched in his office, looking coy,
With Test Match on sits Mister Joy.
From their smoky cote the deep snores seep
Of masters' Turkish-flavoured sleep:
A first-form mouse goes slinking by
With shivering jaws, temperature high:
And the moveless Sixth in form-room dream
Of wicked Inspectors drowned in a stream.

BY MARINA BEALE,
with apologies to Walter de la Mare.

ODD ODE TO THE H.M.I.'s

This is the tale of the H.M.I.'s
Who came to us (so we surmise)
To find out how our school was run
And how much serious work was done.

The Head had told us " Be well dressed,
 These H.M.I.'s must be impressed."
 But clothes which are immaculate
 Are not what we appreciate,
 And after break of the first day
 They had a coat of school-field clay.
 The " great ones " came, both young and old
 (The latter shy, the former bold).
 They told us off when we went wrong,
 And even gave us lectures long
 On why the Greeks and Persians fought,
 And how in Athens they were caught.
 Wait!—Was it Athens? I don't care,
 These H.M.I.'s get in my hair
 I cannot think, I cannot speak,
 Thank heaven it was just one week.
 Then came the time we'd waited for,
 When H.M.I.'s we saw no more.
 Then staff and prefects one and all
 Rejoiced—'till in assembly hall
 They heard a noise which raised the roof.
*For we had found official proof
 That THEY had gone—the coast was clear
 So what else could we do but cheer?* D. GOWAN (3c).

PARODY

(With apologies to Edward Fitzgerald and Omar Khayam)

Think, in this ancient, crumbling Pile,
 Whose scholarly renown bides still awhile,
 How pupil after pupil in his youth
 After his destined hour, left with a smile.
 They say that prefects once here ruled, in ancient lore,
 With rod of iron and strictness sore;
 That (nameless) the great teacher—the pellet
 Flies through the air, but cannot stop his snore.
 The kitchen with its all-pervading smell
 Which reaches to the inmost, book-lined cell—
 There tread with care! who knows what secrets are
 Not cooked within that steaming, sweating hell?
 I sometimes think this field was ne'er so flat
 When former scholars stood here or they sat;
 This bed of nettles, which the hollow holds,
 Grows from the heart of some detained brat.
 And we, who now play tennis on the court,
 Soon shall be leaving with a curt
 Farewell—shall soon become but names,
 Inscribed on register, on desk and cert.

J. W. WHITTAKER (C.VI.A).

DAWN

No sound, no movement,
No light, no darkness.
Those distant trees stand as
Black silhouettes against a pearly sky.
A few late silver stars
Hang pale on high.
Even the creeper outside my window
Has forgotten its customary sigh.
Wearied eyes of wild night hunter,
Close in deep exhausted sleep.
Candles are dead, the dripping wax frozen hard
And nature, kind at last,
Bids a weeping mother sleep.
Then bears the soul of a suffering child,
On wings of dreamless rest.
The moon sinks away into the dawn,
A pale reluctant wraith.
All earth is locked in one profound timeless trance.
Even I am held within the spell—
Here motionless I stand, suspended between night and day.
When behold! twixt the Eastern hills
A shaft of glorious reviving light shines through.
A cock sends his brazen fanfare echoing through the valleys.
Was ever herald so richly clad
As this fellow in his scarlet, blue and yellow?
“Hail,” he cries, “the sun rises in his golden splendour.”
Birds begin to sing in one great universal choir.
“Rejoice,” cries the world, “darkness is fled away
And before us are the adventures of a great new day.”

MARGARET SMITH (U.VI).

THE ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT

Your dearest son hasn't done his best,
As you'll see in this year's report.
He might be clever, you can't really tell,
But his French marks were next to nought.
He said he tried so hard in his Science,
But his answers were never correct.
He may improve in German next year,
But his Maths. will be worse, I expect.
For Music his marks were a little bit better
(They'd improved for History, too)
But when it comes to writing a letter
He just doesn't know what to do.
To sum this report up in one word,
Your son's nothing more than a dunce.
He never will change, that's what I've been told,
And this splendid chance only comes once.

PATRICIA ELLIOT (3B).

A MORNING'S LESSONS

Biology's a silent one,
No earthly chance of having fun ;
We make a noise, the teacher barks,
And threatens us with conduct marks.
Geography—a time, perhaps,
When I can settle down to maps ;
But someone's eye is fixed on me,
Another question ? it can't be ;
But no, he wants me to attend,
And bring my sketching to an end.
He turns away, I start to stencil,
Oh dear ! I've broken my new pencil !
Arithmetic, Geometry,
Two subjects which just baffle me.
The Maths. master sets us some work
And woe betide us if we shirk.
The rest have finished once again
While I just sit and chew my pen ;
My eyes turn slowly to the door,
Now what's the square of twenty-four ?
I've passed a short note to my chum,
" However do you do this sum ? "
It seems my two friends do not know ;
We're hoping that the bell will go.
Our wish comes true, a sigh goes round,
The form has heard that welcome sound ;
We pack our books, and then, poor sinners,
Off we rush to get our dinners.

SONIA MAY (3C).

TEST MATCH

Hip Hip Hooray ! It's Test Match day ;
Everyone is laughing, happy and gay.
In comes Hutton, looking smart,
Ready now to play his part.
" Here comes first ball "—people shout
Looking down he sees he's out.
Compton now is batting hard,
Then he draws his lucky card,
First two sixes, then a four,
While Kenyon's making runs galore.
Alas ! Compton then is caught by Hole,
That's indeed an unlucky bowl.
But now, alas ! rain has stopped play
And so there is no more today.

SUSAN LLOYD (2A).

FIRST FORM SWIMMERS

We all are changed and waiting
For Miss Bridger to say the word;
Someone talks and, oh crumbs!
Miss Bridger has overheard.

"No swimming for you today, my child,"
And the girl walks sadly away,
Inside her heart she is fuming and wild
For she likes this lovely day.

With a bounce and a splash we all jump in
And swim to the opposite rail
Except for a few who cannot swim
And always seem to fail.

With our arms outstretched and full of glee
We try to swim on our own
And just as I do when in the sea
I sink to the bottom like a stone.

RITA WEBB (1C).

MY AMBITION

I wish that I were old enough
To be a sailor now,
And sail upon the sea so rough,
And walk from stern to bow.

To visit many foreign lands,
I've always longed to do,
So I with all the other hands,
Would be a willing crew.

And when the voyage is over,
We would once more go home,
And pass the cliffs of Dover,
Which are ever washed with foam.

R. G. SHORTLAND (1A).

RIDDLE-ME-REE

My first is in pheasant but not in bird
My second's in hearing and also in heard
My third is in oral but not in said
My fourth is in blanket and also in bed
My fifth is in noise and also in din
My sixth is in smiling and also in grin
My last is in axe and xmas also
My whole is a bird you all ought to know.

JULIET WOODERS (1C).

(Turn to the next page for the answer)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the Editor

Dear Sir,

In the last edition of the "Phoenix," one of your correspondents referred to the stiff tongue of a "Londoner." Has he never heard the tongue of a Cockney "barrow-boy," let loose on an unfortunate child who has touched some of his wares?

I challenge him to call them stiff-tongued, or lacking in vocabulary after hearing one!

Yours truly,
'ARRY.

Dear Sir,

When will the staff take pity on the sufferings of the school in their exams.? To see the Juniors actually sitting on the front lawn working—yes, actually working—hard from a school book is enough to tear the heart of any Sixth Former.

To see this happening every June is absolutely heart-breaking to those who have forgotten the Junior days which they spent here at Drayton!

In defence of a good cause I remain

Yours sincerely,
"SIXTH-FORMER."

Dear Sir,

In M. J. D. Brown's article "Say It With Poison II" of the March edition of the "Phoenix," the few Catholics of the school found a point mentioning "Pope Borgia" both misleading and inaccurate.

The surname of a Pope is never used when he takes over the high office, therefore there was no such person as "Pope Borgia."

There were, however, two Popes with the surname of Borgia, Calixtus III and Alexander VI.

Calixtus III, whose full name was Alonso Borgia, was a good and energetic Pope and had nothing whatsoever to do with any kind of poison.

Alexander VI, whose name was Rodriguez Lauzol, was adopted by and took the name of his uncle Alonso Borgia. He was intelligent, prudent and politic, but unscrupulous and a man of bad life, utterly unworthy of his high office. He practised the most deplorable nepotism.

It is to this man, the "Manor Catholics" believe Brown refers to as "Pope Borgia."

Yours,
AN INDIGNANT CATHOLIC.

Answer : PHOENIX

Dear Sir,

In reply to "Indignant Catholic," I should like to say that it was indeed Alexander VI to whom I referred as Pope Borgia. However, Calixtus III and his son, Cesore Borgia, between them poisoned more than one unfortunate messenger, and the blame lies equally with Calixtus as with Cesore. To a keen student of renaissance Italy, the miracle is that Alexander VI did not descend further than he did, as he lived in very difficult times. The charges of "bad life," "unworthy of his high office," etc. are not really justified as they are a result of his utterly unscrupulous methods in politics. His only real fault was that he thought that any means would be justified by the end attained.

Finally, I would like to remind our Catholic friends that they should try to look at this turbulent period of history with a sixteenth century point of view if they are not to be blinded by the difference in moral standards between the sixteenth and twentieth centuries.

I remain, Sir, yours sincerely,
M. J. D. BROWN (U.V.I.B.)

MUSIC

THE SCHOOL CONCERT

The annual school concert has for some time been an event of major importance. Since I came to Drayton Manor nearly five years ago, according to the reports I have heard and read the standard and quality of the concert has improved in each successive year. This year not only was the well earned reputation of music at Drayton Manor maintained, but, I am sure all who attended either of the concerts given in March will agree with me, that the standard was far higher than ever before. Music has always played a considerable part in the life of the school and we now see that the keen interest shown by both Mr. Herrera and the pupils in the last few years is bearing fruit.

The orchestra has had more instruments added during the last year and now numbers over forty players. Owing to the increase in the variety of instruments and the patience of Mr. Herrera the works tackled in this year's concert were considerably more advanced than in previous years. This year the orchestra, led by D. Sinclair, opened the concert with a performance of Tschaikovsky's Suite, Op. 39. After the interval the orchestra again played, this time two works by Mozart, firstly the Minuet and Trio from the Symphony in C (K.551) and secondly a Ronde for Pianoforte and Orchestra (K.311) with Ann Howarth at the pianoforte. Both these works were well received and great credit must be given to Ann for a very admirable performance.

On the choral side there were the three choirs as usual, but also, this year, a Girls' Choir which has taken the place of the old Senior Girls Choir that apparently existed some time ago. The Junior Choir, who gave the second item on the programme, sang four songs which were most enjoyable. The First Year Choir also sang four songs by different composers including Bartok. Both these choirs deserved the long applause which they received. The Girls' Choir, which sung three Hungarian Folksongs by Matyas Leiber, was extremely good, producing a very rich and pure tone. Although the standard obtained by the other three choirs was good I feel that it is only fair that the greatest credit should go to the Senior Choir for their renderings of *Zadok the Priest* (Coronation Anthem) by Handel, "How Lovely are Thy Dwellings" from "A German Requiem" by Brahms and "Let their Celestial Concerts all Unite" from "Samson" by Handel. All these works are frequently sung by some of the best choirs in the world and are probably more difficult than anything before attempted by the choir, but they managed them admirably and concluded the concert on a most triumphant note. Special mention must be made of Margaret Herbert who accompanied the Senior Choir so well and with such confidence that on the last night she received special applause.

Supporting the orchestra and choirs to give the all round high standard were the soloists all of whom did themselves justice. Janet Seymour played two pianoforte solos, *Tarantelle in A flat* by Heller and *Allegretto* from *Sonata in E Op. 14 No. 1* by Beethoven. D. Sinclair and K. Hudson played three violin duets by Bartok. K. Wilson played a clarinet solo the "Grave and Allegro Motto" from *Concertino* by Tartini and Janet Farrow played *Canotage, Staccato* (from *Mikrohosmos Bk 5*) by Bartok on the pianoforte.

As usual with the school concert, Mr. Herrera's choice of programme consisted of a wide variety of composers, Mozart—Bela Bartok, showing the large scope of music which is fostered at Drayton Manor. Congratulations and thanks go to Mr. Herrera for his patient and skilful preparation for the performances.

SCHOOL RECORDS

The Headmaster decided that as the standard of the Senior Choir and Orchestra was so high for a school of our kind it would be a good idea to have recordings made of them. So at one of the rehearsals the music was recorded on a tape machine and ultimately it was possible to buy records of "Zadok the Priest" and "How Lovely are Thy Dwellings" by the choir and the Mozart Minuet and Trio by the Orchestra. The sale of these records was quite good and we feel that it is an experience and a step forward for the choir and orchestra of 1953 to have left a permanent record behind them. The recordings were fairly good and a number of people have declared that you would not tell they were school performances.—What higher praise could one desire?

WOZZECK

On Thursday 21st May, Mr. Herrera took a small party of senior pupils to the opening performance of the opera "Wozzeck" by Alban Berg (1885-1935) at Covent Garden.

This opera was written in 1925 by Alban Berg who was a pupil of Schönberg. Wozzeck is one of Berg's greatest works and it has placed him without doubt among the most important figures in the development of modern music especially such modern items as "twelve note music" practised by Schönberg. This opera was first performed in England at Covent Garden in January, 1952. The story by Georg Büchner tells of a man with simple intelligence (Wozzeck) who has a child out of wedlock. His captain chides him for this and the drum major elopes with the child's mother. Consequently, in the end Wozzeck kills her.

The story is quite a striking one but we found that Berg, through his music, brings the full significance of the story out. He works on emotions, making us feel such things as sympathy for Wozzeck in places and pity for the poor child who is too young to understand. We all said how impressive the music was and how real it made the story seem. The whole thing was so impressive that we did not have time to think of the strange modern harmonies that were being used. They just seemed to fit perfectly. The main soloists were Jess Walters as Wozzeck, Parry Jones as the Captain, Marcea Wolkowsky as Marie (the mother) and Thorsteinn Hannesson as the Drum Major.

It was for most of us the first taste of modern opera and I think a very good beginning. All who went wish to thank Mr. Herrera for introducing us to yet another type of modern music.

NOTES:

For the first time a few of us went with Mr. Herrera this term to support a local amateur orchestra. The Ealing Technical College has a Philharmonia Orchestra which meet in the evening once a week during the winter months and give two concerts a year. We went last April mostly to hear the Brahms Violin Concerto in D with Robert Lewin as soloist and quite enjoyed it.

Since the last concert yet another musical sphere has been conquered by Drayton Manor. A string quartet has been formed consisting of K. Hudson, R. Livesey, D. Gowan and Susan Lipscombe. The quartet has had a number of rehearsals and are getting on very well tackling such quartets as—Mozart D minor (K. 421) and Hydon Op. No. 3. At one of the rehearsals the school music inspector, who was most impressed, played the 'cello.

The senior choir have made a good start to next year's programme, the main work being "Worthy is the Lamb" from the "Messiah."

To conclude the music notes we should like to congratulate Derek Sinclair, who led the orchestra last year and did some valuable solo work in the concert, on winning a violin scholarship to Trinity College of Music where he will commence next September. The music section of the school will be very sorry to lose him but we wish him the very best of luck! B. C. SECRETT (LOWER VIB).

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

HOUSE NOTES

ROMAN

Masters: Mr. Barbanel, Mr. Hislop, Mr. James, Mr. Wright.

Mistresses: Mrs. Badger, Mrs. Dickson.

House Captains: D. Smith, M. Herbert.

Games Captains: R. Merrett, A. Bingham.

The Roman House is very sorry to hear of Mrs. Badger's departure from the school. We thank her for her support to the house and wish her all the best for the future.

The Girls have achieved praiseworthy successes in Netball and Lacrosse. In the former we tied with the Athenians for first place, losing only on goal average. We drew with the Spartans in Lacrosse gaining second place. We hope to do well in the coming house matches, keeping to our usual standard of sportsmanship.

The boys put up a fairly good performance in the House Football matches. The seniors won two and lost one, and a weakened junior team won one match, lost one and drew one. We finally finished second.

The cross-country team was third. We ran well as a team but lacked an individual star. D. J. Smith was seventh and Merrett was eleventh. These two represented the school in the Middlesex Grammar Schools cross-country at Harrow.

Our chances in athletics are rather dimmed by the loss of Macfarlane, although the rest of the senior team should be stronger.

We have every hope and intention of winning the cricket championship, but this may prove more difficult than last year.

D.S. M.H.

SPARTAN

Members of the staff: Miss Axe, Miss Maxwell, Mrs. Curzon, Mr. Herrera, Mr. Hill, Mr. Hurd, Mr. Owen.

House Captains: Patricia Kille, R. Bourike.

Games Captain: I. Lee, R. Hemming.

The house football team were not strong this year and the juniors drew each match, while the seniors lost.

On sports day the middles and juniors should do quite well, but unfortunately the senior boys are not, on the whole, athletes. In spite of this every competitor, we are sure, will give of his best.

Congratulations to Poole of the third form, who came second in the intermediate 880 yards of the Middlesex Schools' Championship at the White City Stadium.

The girls fared more successfully in the winter games of Lacrosse and Netball and gained very creditable results. On sports day we hope for some more successes.

The retiring captains would like to wish the house the very best of luck during the terms to come.

PATRICIA C. KILLE and R. BOURIKE.

TROJAN

Staff: Mrs. Davies, Miss Williams, Mr. Arnold, Mr. Hunter, Mr. Bingham, Mr. Aiston.

House Captains: Mary Jones, J. Smith.

Games Captains: Jill Templeton, J. Wallace (Cricket), J. Smith (Athletics).

At the end of the half-term before Whitsun we said goodbye very regretfully, to Mrs. Lawson, who has left us to concentrate on a new sphere of her domestic life!

We are sure that all Trojans wish her the very best of health, happiness and prosperity for the future! Many thanks to the Trojans who subscribed towards the bouquet of RED carnations with which the house presented her.

We would also like to take this opportunity to welcome Miss Williams. We hope she will enjoy her stay with us, and bring good luck to the Trojan house.

On the games side, the only Trojan team success was by the boys who won the cross country for the second year in succession. The boys ran magnificently as a team to gain a narrow win over the Athenians. Our achievement was doubly outstanding in view of the fact that we were only running seven boys instead of eight also that Wallace was the first man home in a time of 23 min. 44 sec. He must also be commended on the fact that he came 20th in the Middlesex Grammar Schools Cross Country Championships.

The rest of the sports results were very modest. The boys obtained third place in the football and the girls fourth in Lacrosse and netball.

Congratulations to Brown for winning the school Fencing Championship. The boys did well in this by having three in the final six places.

They were Brown 1st, Lewis 4th, J. Smith 5th. Well done, Chapman, Lewis, Wallace and Webb on gaining full soccer colours.

We sincerely hope that by the time this comes to print that the Trojans will have carried off the Phoenician Speech Trophy; it has been running for two years now so it is about time we won it—let's see what you can do.

M.J. J.S.

ATHENIAN

Staff: Mrs. Bunton, Miss Dutton, Miss Fredricks, Mr. Behmber, Mr. Pollard, Mr. Russell.

House Captains: Sheila Sydenham and John Hunt.

Games Captains: Pam Traies and John Hunt.

Both the winter and spring terms have brought success to the Athenians, though of course there is still room for improvement. We attained first place in all three of the winter games, football, netball, and lacrosse. Special mention must be made of Makepeace who gained second place in the fencing competition, Manning who gained second place in the cross country, and Holt who is this year's chess captain.

The Cynthia Clayden Cup was presented last term to Sheila Sydenham and the Janice Huggett Cup to Marjorie Traies for service to the house.

We finish by wishing the House all success and glory in future years.

S. SYDENHAM and J. HUNT (HOUSE CAPTAINS).

SPORT

1st XI FOOTBALL

				Goals	
P	W	L	D	F	A
20	11	4	5	84	31

Despite several team changes during the season a satisfactory record was achieved by the First XI

We started the season well losing only 1 game in 12, but towards the end of the season we suffered some defeats. Outstanding in defence was Carter who held the side together on many occasions. Hunt (vice-captain), Lewis and Chapman showed their skill by the fine record of goals they scored and Webb produced some fine opportunism.

Thanks are due to the girls who provided refreshments, to Messrs. Cherry and Hill, and to the groundsman all of whom worked hard on our behalf.

Goalscorers: Hunt 17, Webb 17, Lewis 14, Chapman 14, Tidd 9, Wallace 4, Carter 2, Boylett 2, Merrett 1, Lipscombe 1.

R. H. MERRETT (CAPTAIN).

1st XI FOOTBALL TEAM—PEN PORTRAITS

STUBBS: Usually sound in goal and at times brilliant, but on occasions known to make fatal mistakes. His kicking is good but his anticipation and catching at times lack sureness.

BOYLETT: His place-kicking is an asset to any side and his heading is good. At times lacks sound anticipation and is inclined to leave his winger unmarked.

BEBBINGTON: A cool, reliable full-back whose heading and kicking are exceptional. What he lacks in inches he makes up in skill and energy.

CARTER: The mainstay of our defence, his speed and strength always dominate the centre. Strong in the air and on the ground, and a good team man.

WALLACE: A polished, attacking half-back, excellent in the air and usually sound in kicking. At times crowds his forwards by being over-enthusiastic in attack, his defensive play suffering as a result.

WEBB: An erratic winger who at times is brilliant. His bustling play and opportunism produced a spate of goals. His main faults lay in his kicking and lack of polish.

LEWIS: A strong, fast forward whose constructive play was a feature of the side. Although his shooting was at times poor he showed a good deal of opportunism and was invaluable in the forward line.

HUNT: A first-class player whose experience steadied the side. His heading, shooting and constructive play are always excellent. A first-class team man and vice-captain.

CHAPMAN: Probably the best "footballer" in the side and capable of winning a game by himself. However, a certain lack of enthusiasm marred some excellent performances. His all-round ability was probably unsurpassed in the team.

TIDD: A brilliant dribbler and first-class shot whose ball control is excellent. A little hesitation in the tackle, and an occasional lack of desire to pass are his only faults.

R. MERRETT (CAPTAIN).

2nd XI FOOTBALL REPORT

At Christmas, the half way stage of the football season, the 2nd XI record was:—

P	W	L	D	Goals	
				F	A
7	6	-	1	57	5

This was achieved mainly by the general excellence of teamwork which promised well for the future.

But after Christmas due to lack of practice and many team changes there was a natural want of understanding among the players resulting in incohesive and sometimes tentative play. Due to the weather there were no matches between November 15th and January 17th and a full team was only fielded once after November 15th.

In spite of these misfortunes only one match was lost and their defeat, at the hands of Isleworth, was avenged in the last match of the season.

Thanks are extended to Mitchell for faithfully carrying out the uninspiring work of a reserve, and to some of the parents whose enthusiastic support, advice, and confidence in us has been comforting at all times.

Final analysis:—

P	W	L	D	Goals	
				F	A
14	9	1	4	79	20

M. HEMMING.

1st XI CRICKET

The first eleven record to date is as follows:—

Played 7 Won 3 Lost 2 Drawn 2

The two draws, against Pinner and Chiswick, were both very much in our favour, although the latter match was thrown away by our failure to hold catches.

Spring Grove are the only school to defeat us, the other loss being to the Phoenicians in a match full of interest. That they finally won by one wicket was largely the responsibility of Mr. Hill, who took three of our wickets, and was also the top scorer for the Phoenicians. We have every intention of avenging ourselves in the return match on August Bank Holiday Monday morning.

The team's batting has been fairly consistent, although it is individually inconsistent, and is our main strength. Boylett scored 54 not out against Pinner, and Merrett 65 against Chiswick. R. Hemming has also been batting well lately.

The bowlers have improved with practice and are now good enough to break through the batting of most of our opponents. Derek Wright did the "hat-trick" against Gunnersbury and has taken most wickets so far this season. Wallace has also bowled very well, and R. Hemming has bowled his leg-breaks quite well when required.

The fielding has been erratic. Some fine catches have been held and some easier ones dropped. The ground fielding and throwing too are not as good as they ought to be.

Boylett has kept wicket well, a task far from easy with our bowlers.

We are due to play the Parents, and they appear, from their net practice, to have a slightly stronger team than that of 1952.

We should like to thank Pam Traies and Margaret Chalmers for serving refreshments, Busby for scoring, and Pallister, who has umpired several matches.

We are always glad to see supporters, especially from the girls' side of the school.

Bob Hemming has given excellent support as vice-captain, and his opinions and ideas are of great value.

D. J. SMITH (CAPTAIN).

1st LACROSSE TEAM

With hard work and many practices, the team has enjoyed a more successful season. We managed to defeat our old rivals, Queensgate, for the first time. We hope for a better goal average next season and a more successful visit to the Annual Schools Rally.

WENDY DENNISS (LACROSSE CAPTAIN).

UNDER 15 LACROSSE TEAM

The season was enjoyable although an uneventful one. We lost two and won two matches, and one against Queensgate—away—was cancelled due to bad weather.

The attacking field received the ball quickly and neatly from our able defences, although play in front of the goalmouth was inclined to be rather muddled and the shooting was erratic.

DOROTHY COOK (ONE OF THREE CAPTAINS).

NETBALL NOTES—1st TEAM

Although the season was not a very successful one, the team, played enthusiastically and well. This was perhaps due to some extent to practices against the male section of the school. The centre court players were very strong, the shooting could perhaps be improved. Congratulations to all those who obtained colours, and best wishes for next season.

Colours:—

Full: Wendy Denniss, Pamela Traies, Ann Bingham, Joan Porter, Shirley Penny, Beryl Stimpson, Irene Lee.

Half: Joyce Hunt, Agnes Ley.

Analysis:—

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Goals	
					For	Against
1st	9	3	2	4	137	104
2nd	8	3	1	4	76	87
U.15	4	2	—	2	49	54
U.14	7	2	—	5	67	73
U.13	5	1	—	4	33	32

IRENE J. LEE.

2nd NETBALL TEAM

We only had eight matches during the season. We won three, drew one and lost four. Congratulations go to Joyce Hunt and Agnes Ley, who gained their half-colours. Anne Lowe and Margaret Powell also played well throughout the season.

UNDER 15 NETBALL TEAM

This team had rather an uneventful season. Two of the six matches on our fixture list were cancelled owing to bad weather. We won the matches against St. Augustine's Priory and Twickenham by 18-15 and 20-14 respectively. The games against Walpole and St. Anne's were lost.

We narrowly lost to St. Anne's Convent at the Junior Netball Rally, probably due to some members of the usual team being over-age and three of the Under 14 team having to step, very ably, into the breach.

Our shooting was spasmodic, although our centre play was good and systematic and the defence was steady. The team thanks Miss Bridger for her helpful coaching.

CAROLE BELCH (CAPTAIN).

UNDER 14 NETBALL TEAM

The first few fixtures were cancelled owing to bad weather. Towards the end of the season, we played harder and better, winning most of the remaining matches. I must congratulate the team on their enthusiasm and good team spirit.

ANNE ARNOLD (CAPTAIN).

UNDER 13 NETBALL TEAM

We had many fixtures but, owing to bad weather, only four were played. Out of these we succeeded in winning one—against Bishopsholt with a score of 14-3. I should like to congratulate the team on their spirit, and in particular Mary Gunley.

J. WHITE (CAPTAIN).

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP SPORTS

Since April 28th notices appearing at both ends of the school have announced to certain people that a standard meeting is to be held at a certain place.

These meetings were held as eliminating meetings to select an Ealing Athletics Team to compete in the Middlesex Schools Athletic Association's County Championship Sports. Excluding public schools, any school in Middlesex is allowed to compete, the entrants representing the area in which they live. These sports are not to be confused with the Middlesex Grammar Schools Sports, in which no girls are allowed to compete.

The school showed its athletic prowess by having twelve boys and girls chosen to represent Ealing in various events. This was the largest representation of any school in Ealing. The selection of girls competing showed that athletics on the girls' side is not weak.

Our competitors gained two first positions and several placings in the finals. J. Angrove won the junior girls' 70 yards hurdles and J. Smith won the senior boys' 220 yards, both in record time.

In the junior boys' 880 yards, Poole came second in the fast time of 2 mins. 12.4 secs. Pamela Traies gained third place in the senior girls' 100 yards event. Corbould was placed third in the intermediate boys' long-jump, Hudson placed fifth in the senior javelin, and Makepeace fifth in the senior long-jump. Bowers reached the semi-final of the junior boys' 220 yards.

Corbould and Bowers were members of the Ealing intermediate and junior relay teams. The teams were both placed second.

Other competitors in various events were:—

Kitty Hunt, junior girls' 100 yards and relay.

Margaret Webster, junior girls' relay.

J. Angrove, junior girls' relay.

M. Alvoy, junior girls' high jump.

Joan Porter, intermediate girls' 100 yards and relay.

B. Busby, senior boys' 120 yards hurdles.

Finally I would like to thank all those who turned up at the standard meetings, but were not lucky enough to get picked for the team.

J. SMITH (ATHLETICS CAPTAIN).

THE SWISS EXPEDITION

An account of this was published in our last edition, but we are now able to announce the names of the seventeen pupils who entered for the Third Swiss Ski Test. These were all successful and gained their Bronze Medals.

It was later announced by the School Travel Service that Drayton Manor attained more medals than all the thousand other pupils who travelled with them to Switzerland during the winter put together. For this remarkable success we have to acknowledge the good ski-ing snow and the patience of the instructors.

As well as the following list of medallists, Mr. Cherry and Mr. Bunter attained their Bronze and Silver medals respectively, Mrs. Bunton having previously gained her Bronze medal.

Congratulations to them all!

BRONZE MEDALS

M. HIGGS	BOURIKE	KING
CARTER	C. MORTON	MITCHELL
HUNT	D. HAYDON	GRAVES
M. JONES	ALEXANDER	BUSBY
J. TEMPLETON	A. JENNINGS	E. JACKSON
I. LEE	P. LEGGE	

CHESS CLUB

The school chess team had a disappointing season in the Thames Valley Grammar Schools' Chess League, finishing last of seven schools, after winning the league last year and setting up a record by remaining undefeated.

The final record of the team was:—

Played 11 Won 2 Drawn 1 Lost 8 For 26½ Against 39½

Throughout the season the team was repeatedly defeated by a narrow margin, losing only three matches badly, two of these being lost to the eventual winners of the league. These narrow defeats were mainly due to lack of experience of the teams as a whole and the fact that the members of the team were very rarely able to strike their best form together in the same match. These deficiencies were not surprising considering that only one member of the team had played regularly for the school team before the beginning of this season.

However, towards the end of the season the team gained confidence and played more consistently and were unfortunate, through illness, not to win more than twice.

Next season a junior team will be formed and several matches have been arranged for them in conjunction with the league matches.

The club wish to congratulate Mr. Behmber on his appointment as president of the league's committee after several years' service as match secretary and adjudicator of unfinished games.

P. J. HOLT (CAPTAIN).

FENCING CLUB

The fencing team has had a fairly good year, having won six matches and lost ten. R. Makepeace took over the captaincy when P. Carter left in January, and has done very well in that post.

The school individual championship was held last term. M. Brown was champion and Makepeace and B. Campbell were second and third respectively.

Recently a fencing exhibition was given by Mr. Mount-Hayes, the physical training inspector, who is an international fencer.

Newcomers to the club, especially girls, from the fourth, fifth and sixth forms are always welcome.

B. D. CAMPBELL (SECRETARY).

SOCIETIES AND VISITS

THE LITERARY SOCIETY

This term, all our activities have centred almost entirely around Shakespeare: there have been four visits to see some of his works performed at the theatre; and the fifth and sixth forms have given readings of two of them.

The fifth and sixth forms have, indeed, been particularly fortunate, for they both saw their G.C.E. "prescribed texts" performed by professional companies and, as a further help to them, they heard the plays being read by their own form-mates.

The fifth form, therefore, saw "Julius Ceasar" at the Old Vic and, later, heard a reading of it, under the able direction of Blake.

In the case of the sixth form, however, the order was reversed, and Mr. Owen and Meredith took charge of a reading of "Antony and Cleopatra" only a few days before a trip was made to Stratford to see it acted. The reading, it must be added, was enhanced through the inclusion of the "Drinking Chorus" from "Othello".

Miss Redman is to be thanked most heartily for arranging the outings and providing the most delightful refreshments at the readings.

Her work had not begun there, however, for she had previously directed parties to the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, to see "As You Like It" and "The Taming of the Shrew". In each case members fully enjoyed themselves.

The term saw, too, successes in the Ealing Musical Competition Festival (Elocution Section). Miss Redman, Miss Maxwell, Mr. Owen, Pat Kille and Aldous helped train entrants, a quarter of whom gained Certificates of Merit. Two entrants gained placings. These were:—

SECRET (Entered 3 classes)

17-years-old Class: Placed first; won Challenge Cup.

Shakespeare Class: Placed second.

Sonnet Class: Placed third.

ALDOUS (Entered one class)

Sonnet Class: Placed second.

It is hoped that next term's events will be as successful as those of this term have been, and certainly as well attended.

J. R. ALDOUS (SECRETARY).

HISTORY SOCIETY

This term the History Society has been handicapped by the claims of examinations and other school functions upon the time in which meetings could have been held.

On March 3rd the society met for a very interesting lecture on "Old London Bridge" given by Mr. Spenser, an authority on the subject, from the British Museum.

A second meeting was held, in which the History Society and Junior History Club combined to hear a lecture by Mrs. Rowan on "Lost Villages in Yorkshire".

The society hopes for many new members and ideas next term to ensure that next year is successful.

PATRICIA C. KILLE (SECRETARY).

THE STRATFORD TRIP

At five o'clock on the morning of May 20th the sun dawned bright and clear on Paddington Station, only to be put to shame when, four hours later, a party of sixth formers, accompanied by Mr. Owen, arrived en route for Stratford-upon-Avon, where they were to witness a matinée performance of Shakespeare's "Antony and Cleopatra".

So much more brightly and so much more clearly did this party dawn, that all the finer shades of the spectrum were to be described in their gay apparel. Indeed, the station management had to ascertain that the Coronation decorations had *not* arrived too early.

Be that as it may, it was decided to accord this singular company a compartment to themselves, but even then their brilliance overflowed into the adjoining one, where all other passengers were speedily evacuated—some on their own initiative.

The train sped away from the station at an unprecedented velocity, and, for the first time in its history, arrived at its destination dead on time.

On leaving the station, the group dispersed to sundry cafés and restaurants, where they either ate their sandwiches or accepted the expensive luxuries provided by the proprietors.

Between then and the stated time of performance, Drayton Manor was to be seen in all corners of Stratford making use of Miss Redman's guide books.

The play itself was thoroughly enjoyed by all, although various adverse criticisms were levelled at the performances of some of the players.

Peggy Ashcroft, as Cleopatra, was considered to be extremely fine. In this interpretation of the part, Miss Ashcroft showed that part of Cleopatra's "infinite variety" lay in the infinite variety of tunes her voice could produce.

Antony, played by Michael Redgrave, was not particularly satisfying. Mr. Redgrave's performance consisted almost entirely of ranting, raging and, occasionally, mis-quoting lines.

True to tradition, Harry Andrews played Enobarbus as a coarse, brusque, raucous, rough-humoured soldier. Some of the party did not agree with this, for unless Enobarbus was a little more refined, as some of his speeches suggest, his harmlessly malicious remarks and ennobling thoughts would render him pretentious in the eyes of Antony, Cleopatra, Ceasar, Pompey and the many other people with whom he was so well-known and popular, and he would be no less than "a pain in the neck".

The party left the theatre with only ten minutes to spare before the train home was due to depart, and hurried with all possible speed towards the station.

A few of the company, however, boarded that part of the train not intended for London, much to the mingled consternation and delight of the onlookers. At Leamington Spa, happily to relate, the problem resolved itself and all were happily re-united.

Day was just tottering into bed when finally the train pulled into Paddington.

The girls, in order that the brightness and clearness of the morning might not be denied them, made use of their "beauty kits" before stepping on to the platform, and after this slight delay, Drayton Manor was home again, elated after a very enjoyable day.

To end this account, the party would like to express their thanks to all members of the staff who helped organise the outing, and particularly to Mr. Owen, whose company was greatly appreciated.

J. R. ALDOUS (U.VI.A).

THE TAMING OF THE SHREW

In his curtain-speech, Mr. Donald Wolfit referred to "this boisterous comedy"—certainly it was played for all the laughs the company could get, Shakespearean and of their own devising. Mr. Wolfit is to be congratulated upon a vigorous and interesting production (including a flying ballet!) and a dynamic Petruchio. There was, however, shallowness in the interpretation of the two female leads. Katharina (Miss Rosalind Iden) did not convince *me* that she had been genuinely tamed; perhaps she overdid the "curst shrew in Acts II and III. Bianca (Miss Sarah Carter), a model of Elizabethan innocence and purity, was here portrayed as a shameless flirt. These were flaws in a clever production.

The supporting rôles were well done and Mr. Ernst Stern's scenery lent a medieval touch heightened by some atrocious music.

Many thanks to Miss Redman for the arrangements which enabled fourth and sixth formers to see a matinée performance at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, on April 29th.

J.W.W.

"BRITANNICUS"

Soon after the term began, a party from the sixth form were fortunate enough to have the opportunity of visiting the St. James' Theatre to see the "Comédie Française" production of "Britannicus" by Racine. As this is one of the prescribed examination texts, Racine's play succeeded in "instruire" as well as "plaire et toucher".

In this truly magnificent and powerful production one of the surprising features was the unusual and striking décor. Massive grey pillars, one on each side of the stage, gave the impression of a Roman palace, and luxurious crimson hangings, draped artistically, provided an atmosphere that was at once expressive of Nero's grandiose luxury and the French gift for tasteful display.

For the play itself, the production was dominated by Aguiquine played by Marie Bell. We felt that when she came face to face with Nero that his "génie étonné" did indeed "tremble devant le sien". Jean Chevrier as Nero seemed to me to make a very young "monstre naissant".

Renée Faure and Roland Alexandre both gained all our sympathy as Junie and Britannicus. Narcisse, played by Maurice Escandre inspired hatred in all of us, and thoroughly deserved his punishment of being torn to pieces by the crowd.

We should like to offer our very grateful thanks to Mr. Barbanel who arranged the visit and Mrs. Curzon who accompanied us.

PATRICIA C. KILLE (VI).