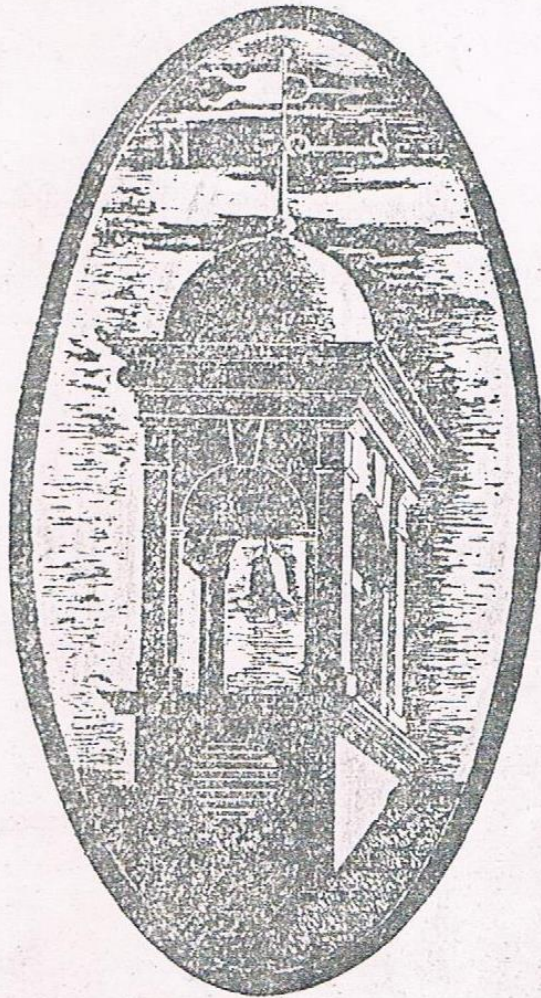


THE MITCHAMIAN



SPRING TERM
1952

THE MITCHAMIAN

EDITORIAL

The appearance of this magazine marks the end of what is probably the busiest term of the school year. For the last few weeks the school has resounded well on into the evening to the sound of choir practices, play rehearsals, pianos, violins, cornets, banjos, and all the noises associated with the assembling of the school stage. The reason, of course, was the Aesthetic Trophy Competition, of which the full results and comments will be published in our summer issue. In addition there have been the host of sports practices, the various School Societies, and the mid-term examinations to contend with.

* * * * *

A perusal of the following pages will show the great range of activities carried out in the school and an attempt has been made to give a comprehensive survey of all of them in this edition of the magazine. It must not be forgotten that the magazine itself is a school production throughout; writing, editing, printing, binding and distribution are all done by members of the School. The Printing Club has now become a highly organized unit and the Printing Room is now stocked with many varieties of type, a result of which is no doubt obvious from the improved typographical appearance of the magazine. Unfortunately it has not been found possible to include a photograph owing to increased costs and to the enforced use of a slightly inferior paper to that formerly used.

* * * * *

In the short space of a month the Summer term will be upon us and the round will start once more, to be carried on with the high standard of enthusiasm which is now a tradition of the school.

B.R.Hrusa

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“TRIAL BY JURY” and “H.M.S. PINAFORE”

This year, when it was announced that the School would produce two operas, there were some dubious expressions to be seen on the faces of some of the Senior school, who inevitably recalled the giants of the past and compared the present generation unfavourably with them. The present generation did its best, though, and a very good best it was — apart from the occasional and (almost) unavoidable contretemps — the night Capt. Corcoran found himself strung up on his own yard-arm, the night Sir Joseph made the dialogue “spontaneous and unrehearsed,” and the last night, when the audience, in an excess of patriotic zeal, sprang to its feet to hear the overture to “Trial by Jury.”

But incidents like these are part of the tradition, and in no way detract from the excellence of the performance. The chorus-work, as usual, was rousing; and a more remarkable fact about the choruses was that, during rehearsals, they never roused the Producer to the fits of demoniacal fury that the more gentle in spirit among us have come to regard with trepidation.

Thanks to the Assistant-Producer, the soloists carried off their parts with reasonable assurance. It augurs well for the future that several of the senior principals were in the Vth form and below.

The orchestra was again on top-form, and soloists suffering from stage-fright would do well to remember that She-Who-Must-Be-Obedied still plays a very good note in time and in tune. A few hints that are handed down from opera to opera might well be called to mind:

1. Future Dick Deadeyes — beware of K. Flat.
2. Senior principals — if you feel that a glass of port will be good for your voice, leave at least 60 seconds to get from the “Three Kings” to the stage.
3. Junior principals — leave 65.
4. Senior chorus — do not be the chump who uses the pegs near the wash-basin. Not even in “H.M.S. Pinafore” is there a part for a sailor who looks as if he has fallen overboard.
5. All principals — when the Assistant-Producer or the Stage Manager wounds your artistic soul half a minute before you are due on, with a “Where the * * * * have you been?” do not smile sweetly at him and say, “It’s all right.” It’s not all right. He has been looking for you for ten minutes; the least you can do is look harassed.

THE PUNNY STORY OF NOTRAB KID
(Not the friend of Kcoj and Ywons)

Here is a story I think you may like;
It's all about Nottie who murdered his wife.
The fellow was addicted to winking at girls,
Especially those with lustrous blonde curls.
Of course Mrs. Kid would often object;
She didn't want to have her marriage wrecked
By a husband who couldn't restrain his eye
From batting at every blonde Passer-by.
But it was this very failing which funnily enough
Was a means to her end without any fuss:
You see, cocoa was always her bedtime drink,
So he added arsenic as a "lasting wink."
And when the detectives discovered her bones
The sentence was Dartmoor and breaking-up stones,
Since no one could prove whether he or another
Had taken the life of his daughter's mother.

Now this really is where it should begin,
Because Nottie couldn't bear to be shut in.
Even closed windows would make his head groan—
So what would he feel like in a room made of stone?
Whatever happened he just had to escape:
And thereby hangs a tale with a punny shape.

First obstacle was six stout bars —
Not the stuff in tankard jars,
But six thick sticks placed in a row,
Serving as a cell window.
He rubbed his hands till they were sore
And with the saw he cut down four.
But how was he to reach the ground?
He dare not jump in case the sound
Alarmed the warders on their beats.
However, it was raining sheets
Which tied together made a line;
And up to now it all went fine.
But how was he to clear the wall?

If only it were not so tall
He might attempt a flying leap;
Then suddenly he saw a heap
Of flagstones which but yesterday
Had been his means of earning pay.
He took two halves and made a whole,
Through which he very promptly stole
Into the night and p-a-soup fog
That blanketed the moor and bog.
The soup was hot, the blanket warm —
Just right to see him through till dawn.
The dawn broke fast and left for Nott
His due—the stream of sweat we wot
Upon the brow of those who dream
Of eerie beasts — and curdled cream.
He doffed his shoes and then each sock
To paddle there till ten o'clock.
The stream meandered through a gorge
And on the other side — a ford.
Once in the Ford the way was cleared,
So up to London it was steered;
Where luckily he found some men
Who bought his steer for two-and-ten—
An opportune event for him
Since funds were running rather thin.
Finding lodgings? No trouble there —
He built a castle in the air!
But what was he to do for food?
You can't go begging — that is rude.
Ah! But wait a minute, though,
A rood is but a perch, and so
Since any perch supports a bird —
Hey Presto! There's your dinner served.
So finally, full up to there,
He took a stroll round Leicester Square,
And as he did, he sucked a Zube —
Though only because it rhymes with 'Tube',
The region to which he next descended
Equipped with cream (some half-a-pound)

Plus peppermint, where, underground
 He meant to have a works^{הכרה} placed
 To manufacture "KID'S TOOTHPASTE."
 (Mixing it in a smelly bin,
 But using the tubes to sell it in.)

The business flourished for some weeks,
 Until a certain Peggie Peaks
 Arrived one day: "To 'ave a try't
 That wot keeps yer teef in tight."
 (She no doubt thought his pasty brew
 A sort of false-tooth fixing glue.)
 Hence Nottie thought he'd have a joke
 By saying, when at last he spoke:
 "It looks like even coal-tar dripping
 Would not prevent your set from slipping."

And now, I fear that moral laws
 Ensure that here I stop, because
 I'm sad to say that thanks to Peg
 They caught him as he pulled her leg;
 And now he's in the clink again
 They'll hang him WHEN THEY FIND A FRAME!

ON LEAVING SCHOOL

Life is not what it used to be.

I had thought, in my innocence, that life for me, after leaving school, was to be one round of pleasure. I am sadly disillusioned. It is a week now since I left the old schoolhouse door for the last time, a week since I bade a fond farewell to my old desk by the door. I loved that desk. It was old and dilapidated and was only holding together with the aid of two French dictionaries and a six-inch nail driven into the floor. The lid was covered with strange and mystic symbols. Feminine names were distributed evenly across it and most of the French irregular verbs were conjugated in the top right-hand corner. The desk I work at now is a new, shiny thing, unfriendly and with no personality. They will not let me write on it.

It is the people in the school that I miss most. No longer are my days crowded with happy hours spent in throwing things at my colleagues. Already my ears are growing unaccustomed to hearing the uproarious merriment which used to greet the remarks of the more popular masters. Here, we are frowned upon if we laugh and they tell me that I must not throw my inkwell about when I am annoyed.

I also miss the punishments. Well can I remember the keen rivalry to get oneself into detention. On Friday mornings there would be a huge mob of boys crowding around the detention notice and shouting the good tidings all over the school, whilst the less fortunate individuals stood to one side, vowing darkly that they would get themselves into detention or die in the attempt. You were treated, I remember, with respect if you managed to collect yourself a detention for more than three weeks in succession, and even a minor punishment, such as an essay to write, was a cause for celebration. But they do not give me any punishment here. They merely frown upon me and tell me that I am supposed to be grown up.

I have to work hard here. This came as a great shock to me. I had never imagined that anyone worked at all after he left school. I am overworked and burdened with worry. My account books will not balance, something is wrong with my insurance cards, I have forgotten my tea-money, my health is deteriorating.

Life is not what it used to be.

B.L.G.

THE CHESS CLUB

The Chess Club has continued the renaissance which began last term. The membership has steadily increased, and many members have benefited by Mr. Madden's instructional classes which are a regular feature of the weekly meetings.

Until recently there have been three divisions and League battles have raged every week. This system has since been replaced by a championship "ladder," whilst a handicap knock-out competition is entering its final stages.

Future events include an 8-board match against Wimbledon School at the end of March, and there have been rumours of a 5-board match against the staff.

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Historical Society has weathered another year of existence with varying success. This year has, however, been very revealing in that it has shown what true support the Historical Society is likely to have now that the sudden and transient enthusiasm of the Society's foundation has passed.

The first talk of last term was given by Sergt. Parker, of the Metropolitan Police, who was one of the leading lights in the construction of "Pluto" (Pipe line under the Ocean). The Society then made the innovation of inviting lady speakers — not adopted, as far as I am aware, by any other Society in the school. Miss Milnes spoke on "Brass Rubbings," and Miss Cox on "The Story of Australia," both of which talks were very well received by the Society. We were not so fortunate with our last talk which was to have been given by Lt. Chaplin (recently returned from Korea) on the Korean War. He was prevented at the last minute from coming, but has promised to give the talk, if possible, at a later date.

This term we have had to cancel two of our meetings, one because of Exams, the other because of end of term. We held a highly successful debate, "That Gladstone was the greatest English Statesman since 1793". Keen discussion took place and the motion was defeated by 11 votes to 6.

Throughout this year, the Historical Society has been extremely badly supported by the 5th and 6th forms, even allowing for the fact that last term the Opera and this term House Activities have interfered with their attendance. The whole-hearted support which we have had from the Fourth Form promises well for the future. We are contemplating returning to "Members only" attendance at meetings and therefore I would like all who wish to be members next year, especially those at present in the third form, to give their names to me.

D.J.S.

DEBATING AND LITERARY SOCIETY

This school year has seen a change in the scheme of holiday meetings. In order that all three societies could meet on a Friday, the customary day, without clashing, it was decided that each society should meet every three weeks. This reduced the number of meetings of each society to four during the Autumn term and four during the current term.

The subjects for the meetings have been varied as far as possible. During the autumn term two debates were held. The other two meetings were a Symposium on Music, with illustrations (recorded and otherwise) by the contributors, and a talk on "The Modern Novel". So far, during the present term a debate and a record programme have been held. The third meeting of this term, a Brains' Trust, was abandoned owing to lack of support. On the whole, considering the competition from the Opera and other school activities, attendances have been good, although the lack of support from the Sixth form and the variability of that of the Fifth form has been disquieting. It is hoped that this tendency will be reversed quickly.

B.R.H.

PHALANX

The Phalanx has been in existence now for eight years and remains as vigorous as ever. It meets on alternate Wednesdays for business and on intermediate Wednesdays for social activities. All meetings have been well attended and although the year started with only a few old members, the numbers have been gradually increased. At present the number is back to a reasonable total.

The activities of the Phalanx have been varied, ranging from mending pianos to painting the chains along the school drive. Also, a social has been arranged but at the time of writing this is a future event. It is hoped that it will be as successful as former social evenings.

For newcomers to the school the Phalanx is a society to which boys of the fourth form and above are elected as showing a keen and intelligent interest in the school and its activities.

D.M.K.

RUGBY

The 1st XV this season has been disappointing. They have certainly won more matches than they have lost, but apart from their first game with the Old Boys, where they lost to a better team, their games were thrown away through lack of confidence. Both forwards and backs have been too concerned with defensive tactics and will not rely on one another. Forwards must realize that their job is strong hard scrumming, getting the ball and guiding it to the backs, while the backs must run and pass the ball, not just kick to touch. In the team's second match against the Old Boys they showed that they had the ability, and the result was a good game with a well deserved win.

Team: Ward, Pearson, Banks, Laming, D.M. Kinsley, A. Hilton, N. West, Blatch, James, Maberley, Werro, Barrow, Fisher, Emere, I.F. Galbraith, T.R. Gillard.

Critiques

WARD — Full-back. Has improved wonderfully this season but still lacks confidence in himself.

ELDERGILL — Wing three-quarter. Has had a disappointing season and missed a lot of games through injury. He must learn to cover up quickly in defence.

PEARSON — Wing three quarter. Has had a good season. Had a tendency to wait for a centre to come up rather than relying on his speed to get through on his own.

BANKS — came in at wing three-quarter towards the end of the season. Will be a useful player if he can learn to carry the ball in both hands and give a pass.

LAMING — played well at full-back, tackles well and can make an opening but must develop more speed.

KINSLEY — brought great honour to himself and the school by playing for his county.

HILTON — Captain. Played well in the key position of stand-off half and did a good job in holding the team together.

WEST — Scrum-half. Unfortunately missed several games through injury but showed that he has real ability.

BLATCH — did quite a good job as scrum-half while deputising for West.

JAMES — Hooker. A very thoughtful player, is learning the art of hooking and should be very useful next year.

MABERLEY — Forward. Has done quite a lot of solid work in the scrum.

WERRO — Forward. Towards the end of the season played quite well, but must learn to go hard for the whole of the game.

BARROW — Forward. Height makes him very useful in the line-out but seems to be rather a disadvantage in the set scrum.

FISHER — Forward. Came in late in the season, works very hard and should become quite a successful forward.

EMERE — Forward. Has not fulfilled his early promise as a goal-kicker and must work harder in the set scrum.

GALBRAITH — Forward. Has had a good season, but must also remember that a forward's first job is in the scrum.

GILLARD — Forward. Like the other loose forwards, must remember that a forward must concentrate on getting the ball, not marking the opposing backs.

H.M.

COLOURS

Old Colours, re-awarded

A. HILTON, D.M. KINSLEY, T.R. GILLARD.

New Colours

I.F. GALBRAITH, N. WEST.

2nd XV The past season has been a reasonably successful one, largely because the team has been fairly fit, but mainly because every member of the team has played with keenness. Had the team been of a heavier build, the results would certainly have been better.

The team had some weaknesses which experience should remedy: lack of keeping the outsides fed, hesitation in passing and keeping the ball moving, an occasional lack of enterprise in creating openings, too much hopeful booting ahead. On the other hand, the standard of tackling was better than that of previous years, and nobody lacked spirit. Shulman proved himself a good captain.

Team from: Shulman (capt.), Leeson, Mortimer, Mears, Cornish, Banks, Stanley, Blatch, Dummer, Godbold, Wilson, Gillard II, Burton, Stuart, Pearce, Goodge, Seabrook, Steel, Nokes.

Colts XV The team well led by Yass, has enjoyed a very successful season, losing only one match and that by a narrow margin. The basis for the success was the good understanding reached between the half backs, Davis and Watts D. Both, however, were prone to kick too often. Yass at wing forward tackled and covered well in defence. Fisher, a good forward, also showed great ability as a goal kicker. The faults of the team as a whole were a failure to heel quickly from loose scrums, an over-reliance on kicking ahead, and poor line-out work.

Team: Chapman, Howe D., Henn, Williams, Keen, Watts D., Davies, Fisher, Goldney, Hall, Gillett, Nicholson, Watts M., Daniels, Yass.

Under 14 Team The forwards were, for the most part, overweighted, and so the backs did not get many chances. Their best effort was to beat Wallington away.

Team: Andrews. (capt.), Boyd, Osmond, Howe B., Mogg, Sullivan, Hathaway, Gaisford, Gough, Elliott, Baker, Couldridge, Bristow, Forrester, Geddes.

W.B.J.

RESULTS. Matches played up to and including March 15th, 1952

	1st XV	2nd XV	Colts
BECKENHAM	W 14 5	L 3 19	D 3 3
WANDSWOTH	L 6 18	W 11 8	W 6 5 W 11 6
TIFFIN	L 3 9	L 0 5	
WALLINGTON	W 15 11 L 6 14	W 11 3 L 0 8	W 14 6
THAMES VALLEY OLD BOYS	W 29 6 L 0 19 W 13 3	W 17 5	W 16 3
SHOOTERS HILL ST. JOSEPH'S	L 6 18 W 13 0 W 23 3	L 0 22 W 9 3 D 11 11	W 11 6
SELHURST	L 0 11 W 20 3	W 12 9 L 0 3	W 21 5 W 8 3
SURBITON BADINGHAM SUTTON	W 14 13	W 17 0 L 3 6 L 0 18	L 3 8 W 39 5 W 52 0 W 23 3
WHITGIFT MIDDLE		L 8 23	W 6 0

JOHN RUSKIN
ST. OLAVE'S
WOKING
BALHAM

W 32 3

L 0 35

W 5 3

W 27 3

W 6 3

COMBINED CADET FORCE

The C.C.F. this year has been composed of a number of recruits, with only a few Cadets remaining from last year. This has meant that the weekly parades have been devoted to basic training and study for Certificate A, Part I, the examination for which will be taken this summer term. Afterwards we hope there will be a strengthening of both the Army and the R.A.F. sections, and that activities will be more varied and more advanced.

A.J.N.

BADMINTON CLUB

The club is of necessity small in numbers and there has been competition to gain entrance. It is only open to boys of the 5th and 6th Forms but considerable interest has been shown by members of the 4th and Junior forms who have taken advantage of the opportunity to watch home matches.

For the first time matches with other teams have been played and these have proved to be very enjoyable. So far there have been four matches, three of which have been won and one lost. During the latter part of the term it is hoped that matches will be played against the Staff and the Old Boys.

Results:

- v. Alpha Youth Club. (Home) Won 6—3
- v. Alpha Youth Club. (Away) Lost 4—5
- v. St. Barnabas Youth Club. (Away) Won 7—2
- v. St. Barnabas Youth Club. (Home) Won 5—4

Team from: Mr. Madden, Eldergill, Ward, Werro, Hilton, West, Barrow, Hartley, Hellicar, Pratt.

B. L. W.

THE PRINTING CLUB

The Club started the term well and the calendar was printed in record time, being issued a week after the start of term. The apprentices recruited from the fourth form soon learned the typographical art and the strange terms associated with it. The regular Monday meetings were doomed to an early death owing, probably, to lack of material to print between the calendar and the magazine.

The magazine was started very early and ten pages had been "put to bed" by the middle of March. The target was "a page a day" and bystanders would be amazed to see the printing-room a hive of activity as late as five-thirty in the evening. A glance at this page will show that the standard of printing has improved considerably since the new type was introduced. Owing to rising costs, however, it was found impossible to include an illustration in this edition, which has had to be printed on a cheaper quality paper.

A visit to the "Daily Mirror" will be held on the 3rd April, to see how a modern paper is produced and printed. A full report of this visit will be included in next term's magazine.

P.G.W.

THE ART CLUB

The lack of interest shown by Senior members of the school and those who are responsible for Advanced work is compensated by the enthusiasm of the Middle school, especially that of the Third forms. In former days the initiative of some Sixth formers directed much of the Club's activity and at one period offered suggestions for making the programme more varied. The Club affords opportuni-

ties beyond that of the usual routine work for examinations, exploring the wide field of the Visual Arts through lectures and discussions, beside experimenting with new forms of expression.

In such a manner the Art Club might become something more than a "classwork continuation class" and have some greater value. This cannot be achieved without the support and example of Senior members of the school.

R. J. M. J.

OLD MITCHAMIANS R.F.C. SEASON 1951-2.

The Club has enjoyed a very successful Season although there are still one or two features of general play that could be improved, tackling being the most striking weakness.

The 1st XV took a while to get into its stride but is now a well knit team. The main strength has been in the two wingers, J. Brett & L.G. Glover. Both have had a good season and their strong running has brought many a point. The full-back position, vacated by J. May at the end of last season, has been ably filled by B. Goldney and the forwards have been strengthened by the return of R. Brett.

The A XV began the season with thirteen consecutive wins, due in no small measure to the leadership of F. Worman and the support of N. Andrews, D. Elliot, E. A. Golbourne and E. King. W. Everett joined the team after serving in Korea and has been a considerable asset to the side.

The Ex. A XV has been fielded whenever possible — often with great difficulty. Under the able leadership of R. Box they have had some good games although the regular players have had their games spoilt by the unreliability of the few. More playing members are needed and this is where we rely on boys leaving school to join the Club. New members wishing to join should contact the Team Secretary, A.G. Dawson, 13, Abbots Road, Pollards 3305.

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Pts. For	Pts. Against
1st XV	21	16	4	1	290	105
A XV	20	15	5	—	352	94
Ex. A XV	11	3	8	—	92	205

J. B. Pritchard.
Captain.

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

New boys have joined the school and many of the older ones have left. So it is with the Parents' Association. New members come and old members leave us. From the Association's point of view, this is quite unnecessary and at our next A.G.M. we hope to establish a scheme, whereby the parents of boys who have left the school will be able to retain their interest, through the Parents' Association.

Our social events throughout the year have been very well supported and, I think, enjoyed by those who have attended. We have tried to cater for all our members by staging various types of entertainment, such as Dancing, Whist Drives, Film Shows and Talks, and a Christmas Party. One of our most interesting evenings is "Careers for Boys." This will be held on May 15th this year and we have already arranged for speakers on Banking, Civil Service and Accountancy. This is the opportunity for the boys who will be leaving school to obtain some idea of the situations available in these professions. Do come along and bring Mother and Father with you.

Our sporting side was maintained, with cricket matches against the School and the Old Mitchamians, and a tennis match *versus* the School. Please forgive me if I do not mention the results of these encounters and just say that we all had an enjoyable time.

The Association is indebted to the School staff for the assistance they afforded us and to those parents who have taken such an interest in our efforts.

A. Furnish (Hon. Sec.)

GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

During the past year the Society has done a fair amount of work. It has been encouraging to see more members give interesting and varied talks to the Society.

As ever, the rambles have been the most popular events. Mr. Brewer led a very interesting walk in the Chilterns in the autumn and Mr. Purbrick led rambles in Sussex and Surrey. The first was abandoned owing to torrential rain and thick mud but the second was most enjoyable and the weather was perfect for the time of year.

The two new sections, the Cycling and Philatelic, which were started last year have been attracting a good many members. The cyclists have visited many places of interest in the Home Counties and records are being kept of these trips. Dungate has led a small section of postage stamp collectors and a fair deal of "swopping" has been done. The Society has enrolled the services of Sproxton, to lead the photographic Section; he, being technically-minded on the subject, has offered to pull the Section into shape after a year of inertia.

Mr. Marsh gave a very interesting talk about his holiday in Amsterdam and Mr. Mounsey gave a lecture on Aerial Photography, a subject with which he had dealings during the late war. Campbell gave lectures on a French tour and Mexico.

The Annual Tea and Theatre visit was held on March 14th. Great thanks are due to Mrs. Rose and her staff for their work in providing such a good tea. This event rounded off the year's work but the rambles will continue throughout the rest of the year.

S.V.D.

SCHOOL CHOIR

The Choir has had a fairly good year; although the individual voices are probably not so good as in last year's choir, the voices blend well together.

The conductor's own enthusiasm has been infectious and prac-

tices, which were suspended for some time during the Autumn term, were well attended.

The number of members remaining from last year was small, so that the first weeks were spent in learning the parts — notwithstanding this, the choir was entered for the Woking Music Festival in November. Here the adjudicator, although awarding us high marks for both pieces, expressed his surprise at hearing an all-male choir in a mixed voice competition. We were placed second.

A concert was given to the Parents' Association in February and, in spite of some ambiguous remarks made by the Chairman in thanking us, we thought that the majority of those present enjoyed the singing.

We shall be giving, later in the term, a concert to a local Darby and Joan Club.

SPEECH NIGHT 1952

The school year of 1950-51 was finally brought to a close by the Speech Night that was held at Central Hall, Tooting, on Wednesday, 19th March. The school was honoured by the presence of the former Home Secretary, Mr. Cauter Ede.

The programme had to be re-arranged because Mr. Ede had to be back early at the House of Commons. The evening started with the Headmaster's Report. In this Mr. Doig said that the work for the year had been satisfactory and nine boys had secured places at Universities. There were no boys who could not do geometry but there were some present who would not. He went on to say that it was good for the boys, especially senior ones, to exert themselves to the limit of their capabilities and then do a bit more.

After he had distributed the prizes Mr. Cauter Ede addressed the school. His speech was amusing and even the junior school listened attentively as he used his House of Commons technique in addressing the back-benchers. He said that boys should be proud of their homes and be grateful to their parents for the sacrifices they made. The greatest thing a boy could say was that he had

done his best. He went on to say that they must always do the right thing, even though it might be easier and more profitable to do the petty, mean and shifty thing.

The School Choir followed with a rendering of five-part songs and it must be commended on its determination. The School-Captain's Report mentioned all the School Societies and also the performance of 'Ruddigore' now just fading from memory.

The evening ended with the usual cheers.

J. H. L.

MY REPORT

My English marks are all too few
My parents both agree;
But they could be worse, and in my view
They're very good for me.

Now Science is a mystery;
At Maths I'm not the best;
Dates get all mixed in History
Whenever there's a test.

To "Parlez-vous" in French I aim
With ease and fluency,
But verbs like "avoir" aren't, I claim,
Just my cup of tea.

"Good at all games and never late,"
I pointed to with pride.
But Dad failed to appreciate
How gallantly I'd tried.

Just once I'd like to see an "A"
And "Good" instead of "Bad,"
To hear my friends and masters say,
"We have misjudged the lad."

P.P.

BROWN'S ACCIDENT

It was nearing the end of a particularly strenuous Physical Training period last Friday morning. Those of us with a high technical competence were performing on the window-ladder and the wall-bars, whilst the weaker members of the fourth team were endeavouring to balance themselves on the beams and walk along them. From my elevated position I had a clear view of the whole gymnasium and am able to give the following facts with some authority.

It appeared that Brown, alone and quite unaided, had eventually braved the perils of his particular beam and had managed to take up a stance ready to walk across it. It was unfortunate that our instructor should choose that moment to announce that our time was up and to request us to make our way to the changing-room. Whether Brown heard this request or not is still uncertain but the fact remains that he was half-way across the beam when the accident happened.

The fourth team, highly exhilarated by the fact that the lesson had finished, or perhaps merely with the desire to please, decided to put their apparatus away and, with their usual clumsiness and extreme forgetfulness, they made a mistake and put Brown away with it. The rapidity with which the event occurred astounded everyone. One moment Brown was walking sedately across the beam at a height of three feet above the ground and the next moment the unfortunate child was hanging on at fifteen feet. All would have been well had not Brown lost his head and let go of the beam. As it was, he fell fifteen feet through the air and crashed spectacularly to the floor. What really finished him off, though, was the fact that somebody lowered the beam on to his head as he was attempting to rise.

CROSS COUNTRY

This term has seen the formation of a regular school team once more. Before this term ends there will have been another two matches, against Surbiton and Roan. We have been very unlucky

to have had three cancelled out of our six arranged fixtures. Thus it is impossible to give any idea of the success, or otherwise, of the team. Practices have been regular and a junior team has now been formed.

Senior Team from: Galbraith (capt.), Mears, Gingell, Goodge, Baron, Clark, Leeson, Rix, Stanley, Ward and West.

Junior Team from: Keen (capt.), Bicknell, Davies, Davis, Emmett, Farr, Frost, Gommon, Hodges and Tanner.

RESULT: Senior Kingston 27 Mitcham 80 Hampton 87
Junior Hampton 54 Kingston 58 Mitcham 60

J.R.H.

SCHOOL NOTES

¶ The inter-house cross-country race was won by Green House. First in each race were A: Mears (Blue); B: Keen (Green); C: Couldridge (Green).

¶ The collection for the Cancer Research Fund this term totals £28 8s. 7d.

¶ In matches played on March 22nd the Colts beat Badingham 69—0. The second XV lost 14—0 to Badingham.

¶ The positions in the various sections of the Aesthetic Trophy to date are:

	Black		Blue		Green		Red	
Points	S	J	S	J	S	J	S	J
Art	3	12	9	9	6	3	12	6
Crafts	12	12	9	9	3	6	6	3
Literature	12	9	9	12	3	6	6	3
Elocution	1	1	2	4	3	3	4	2
Music	6	4	8	8	4	2	2	6
Choir	15		15		21		9	