



The School Magazine
OF THE
MAIDSTONE
COMMERCIAL
SCHOOL.

Vol. XI. No. 31.
January, 1941.

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MAIDSTONE COMMERCIAL SCHOOL MAGAZINE.

Vol XI. No. 31.

January, 1941.

Fifth number of the School Magazine published during the war.

*"All our past proclaims our future: Shakespeare's voice and
Nelson's hand
Milton's faith and Wordsworth's trust in this our chosen and
chainless land,
Bear us witness: come the world against her, England yet
will stand."—Swinburne.*

SCHOOL HISTORY.

The School Calendar is as follows:—

Wed., 15th Jan. Term begins.
Tues., 21st Jan. O.B.A. General Meeting.
Tues., 25th Feb. O.B.A. Monthly Meeting.
Mon., 3rd Mar. Half-term.
Tues., 25th Mar. O.B.A. Monthly Meeting.
Wed., 9th Apr. End of Term.
Thurs., 1st May. Summer Term begins.
Wed., 30th July. Summer Term ends.
Wed., 17th Sept. Christmas Term begins.

SALVETE.

No. 307. N. A. Harrison. IV. St. Peter's.
No. 308. D. Earl, Prep. School.
No. 309. P. J. Viner. IV. St. Augustine's.
No. 310. R. J. Perriman, Prep. School.
No. 311. P. R. Barnard, IV. School.
No. 312. D. E. Richardson, IV. St. Peter's.
No. 313. W. E. Tubb, VI. School.
No. 314. W. S. Hamilton, IV. St. Augustine's.
No. 315. J. L. Taylor, IV. St. Peter's.
No. 316. D. W. Delo, Prep. St. Peter's.

VALETE.

C. J. Beale, nearly 8 years at school, has entered the Licenses Dept. at the County Hall. An outstandingly loyal member and Captain of St. Peter's House and of the Cricket and Football XI's. A good swimmer, boxer and winner of the Junior Victor Ludorum Cup in 1936. London Chamber of Commerce exam. in 1939.

J. P. Thirkell, nearly 5 years, is starting his career with the Kent Friendly Society. College of Preceptor's Certificates in 1939 & 1940; also London Chamber of Commerce. Junior Victor Ludorum in 1939. Popular Captain of St. Augustine's and a tower of strength to the Football and Cricket teams.

A. J. Barkaway, nearly 4 years, is accepting a war post with Messrs. Anstey's. A useful member of St. Augustine's house.

D. Brooker, 3 years, is starting engineering with Messrs. Drake & Fletcher. A popular member and Captain of School House and a good athlete.

J. J. S. Murray, 3 years, is taking up farming. He was a useful member of St. Augustine's.

A. C. Clarke, nearly 3 years, has gone to Messrs. Anstey's where he has a war post. A strong member of St. Augustine's and a consistent collector of swimming cups.

C. A. Pantony, 2 years, is assisting in his father's milk business. He was a useful member of St. Augustine's.

EXAMINATION RESULTS.

Last December's College of Preceptors' Examination showed that 6 of our 7 candidates passed. In the Junior Certificate H. N. B. Pullen, passed with honours, in 9 subjects, distinction in Drawing. J. P. Thirkell, passed in 9 subjects. In the Preliminary Certificate T. F. Lederer, passed, with Honours, in 9 subjects, distinctions in Scripture, Geometry, and German. R. J. Knight, passed in 8 subjects, J. S. Gibson, passed in 6 subjects, L. W. Walker, passed in 4 subjects. Knight had very hard luck in missing Honours by only 3 marks.

We believe we shall not contravene any official prohibition if we now mention that bombs fell near the school premises in the early part of the last term. Fortunately we suffered no serious damage although nearly every window was broken and two ceilings descended. The remarkable fact is how well the buildings withstood blast—a tribute to their solid construction. The School was closed for four days, but after we were fully at work as usual.

The School now has its own A.R.P. Squad led by Pullen & Thirkell. Among its duties is an inspection each day of the grounds. We have also adopted the "spotter" system and much valuable time has thus been saved while all reasonable precautions have been taken.

Mr. D. P. Martin has now taken charge of the 3rd form, and is very popular with all its members and his colleagues. He is introducing a revised syllabus which will provide a sound basis for work in the fourth form.

The Librarians, H. Pullen & J. Thirkell have reported as follows:—

"Last term owing to the strain of the Public Examinations the library was not opened very regularly. But this term we hope to have still more members and open it twice weekly. Books were presented by L. Walker, B. Fernig, P. King, B. Aslett, R. Marshall."

The magnificent result of National Savings War Weapons week is referred to elsewhere, but other collections have continued as usual. M. Sykes has been a most successful beggar for the local Hospitals. Boxes when last opened contained: Waifs & Strays, 15/7. R.S.P.C.A., 10/3, West Kent General Hospital, 15/8. Poppy Day, 10/7.

Mr. Williams has been appointed an honorary lecturer at the Royal Naval Staff College, Greenwich.

The usual end-of-term service took place at St. Peter's Church, and the Rev. A. S. Cooper gave a seasonable address. Mrs. Piper presided at the organ.

In line with many educational authorities we made a further alteration in School hours towards the end of the term. School now starts at 9.30 a.m. (instead of 10 a.m.) whether there has been a night raid or not. An hour only is allowed for lunch, 12.30—1.30, and we terminate at 3 p.m. This means that boys living near can easily get lunch at home; long distance pupils save the mid-day journey and risks from day raids, and all can get home safely at night. The scheme will be revised as conditions alter. Boys will note (with regret?) that no school time is lost.

We were very pleased indeed to receive a visit from Mr. Bettle while he was on leave. He looked extremely well, and is already a lance-corporal. All our good wishes go with him in the months to come.

May we once more thank our advertisers for their very material help. We know our readers will not forget them.

UPPER SCHOOL NOTES.

Mottoes.

Three mottoes were selected during the term.

"Don't believe all the gloom you hear." Mr. Piper.

"A dig in the garden is worth two in the ribs." J. Thirkell.

"The more time we save in war, the more we gain in peace."
N. Pullen.

Under the more difficult conditions this term the work for the public examinations occupied most of our time, and left little for other occupations especially as two of our candidates only returned a month before the examinations.

Congratulations to those who passed. We are glad that those who took physics (Pullen and Thirkell) were successful, and feel this justifies the inclusion of the subject in the syllabus.

We have noticed quite a traffic in the barter of aeroplane parts. The latest exchange seems to be that 2 inches of metal from a Spitfire is worth a whole bomb rack from a Heinkel.

NATIONAL SAVINGS.

The School branch of the National Savings Association has broken all records this term. Our savings for 6 months are best shown in tabular form:—

Spring term, 1939,	£8 6 0.
Summer term, 1939	£12 4 7
Christmas term, 1939,	£16 7 10
Spring term, 1940,	£29 19 4
Summer term, 1940,	£45 4 5
Christmas term, 1940,	£77 19 3

During the Maidstone War Weapons Week we saved the magnificent total of £42/11/5, made up as follows:—

Upper, £12/15/6, Fourth £12/13/11, Third £9/17/0. Preparatory, £7/5/0. Our first shock came when asking the value of stamps required. We had a few half-crowns, a couple of 5/- worth and then a boy of 9 calmly said, "£5 worth, please!" These results are excellent and about 70 members save each week. We shall encourage these boys to keep it going—"Its the **regularity** that does it."

H. I. Piper.

SCHOOL EXHIBITION.

The following account appeared in the Kent Messenger:—

"The Commercial School held their annual model exhibition on Wednesday afternoon at the school. Some excellent work was on view and a good muster of parents and friends attended. The results were: Working Meccano model, 1 J. Solly (heavy lorry), 2 D. Goble (battleship); stationary model, 1 B. Aslett (lorry), 2 R. Sloman (ship); preparatory models, senior, 1 A. Barkaway, 2 J. Mitchell; junior H. Reynaud; assembly models, 1 T. Baker, 2 W. Manchett; junior, 1 D. Earl, 2 P. Chainey; special awards, D. Earl (theatre), P. Leaver (water wheel); airplanes, senior, 1 A. Barham, 2 J. Gibson; junior, 1 N. Walker, 2 D. Gibbons. Drawing, senior, 1, N. Pullen, 2 J. Gibson; middle, 1 N. Walker, 2 J. Solly; junior, 1 R. Barham, 2 J. Usher. Mapping, senior, 1 E. Mayger, 2 P. King; junior, 1 P. Viner, 2 M. Sykes. Display of Stamps, 1 P. King, 2 G. Wilkinson. The judging of models was carried out by Mr. Barham; airplanes by Messrs. King and Walker; stamps by Mr. Williams, and drawing and maps by Mr. Martin. In thanking the judges, the Principal, Mr. H. I. Piper, said the evenness and high standard of work had probably given them the hardest half-hour of their lives. Some of the other activities of the school were on display and the figures of National Savings showed that over £235 had been saved since the group started in 1937. This term had been a record with nearly £78. War Weapons Week accounting for £42 of this. There were 71 active members at the moment."

We should like to thank all the parents who attended, and the exhibitors who put up such an excellent show.

FOOTBALL.

We have only been able to arrange two 1st XI matches this term. But many interesting practice matches have been arranged, and they have generally been well attended.

There are some promising players in the Fourth Form, including Sheldon, Marshall, Swan, Martin, Viner and Veitch. Craig shows great promise in the Third Form. We should like to see more boys attending the practice matches from this form.

The following were some of the more interesting practice matches. Pullen's XI v. Thirkell's XI. Pullen's team won by 5 to 2. It was a keenly fought game, and all boys played well considering it was the first match of the season.

"Malling" v. "Detling" Detling won by 8 goals to 5. Tubb was outstanding for Detling, Pullen played well in goal. This was the last match of the term.

Others were Cheeseman's XI v. Barkaway's XI. and Howard's XI. v. Davis's XI.

The House Matches were very uneven.

St. Peter's v. School. Result, St. Peter's won by 11 goals to nil. This was the first House Match, and was rather one-sided. Sheldon played well at centre-forward for St. Peter's, and Tubb also played well for School.

St. Augustine's v. St. Peter's. Result, 8—3 in favour of St. Augustine's. Sheldon was again outstanding for St. Peter's, scoring their only 3 goals. Swan, Barkaway and Cheeseman each played a consistent game for St. Augustine's. Scorers for St. Augustine's were, Cheeseman, Swan, Fernig, Thirkell and Pullen (own goal).

St. Augustine's v. School. This proved a walk-over for St. Augustine's; they won by 17 goals to 1. Scorers for St. Augustine's were, Swan (3), Marshall (2), Fernig (4), Barkaway (1), Thirkell (7); for School, Swan (own goal).

St. Augustine's House is therefore the winner of the Football Cup for 1940.

First XI. v. West Malling, abandoned after about 20 minutes playing owing to the bad weather. We were leading by 2 goals to nil.

First XI. v. Teston Boys. Lost 10—4. The game was one-sided in spite of the fact that we were assisted by an old boy, J. LeFeaver. Le Feaver and Pain each scored 2 for us.

CRITICISM OF THE TEAM.

R. Marshall, goalkeeper, a promising player, saves and collects slippery balls extremely well.

J. Pearson, right-back, has a strong kick and uses his weight effectively.

J. Thirkell, (Capt.), left back, (has a sound knowledge of tactics, and sets an excellent example in keenness to the team. long shots particularly good.) Ed.

N. Pullen, right-half, his speed and shoulder-charge make him a good half-back.

T. Tubb, (vice-Capt.), centre-half, is a good tackler and shoots well with both feet, also uses his head to good effect.

Finn, left-half, has good ball-control and feeds his forwards well.

B. Fernig, right-wing, has a strong centre kick, and is a fast tackler.

N. Swan, inside-right, has good ball control but should practice a stronger kick.

A. Sheldon, centre-forward, has fast ball control and shoots well from a running ball.

J. Barkaway, inside-left, is speedy and plays well in his position. Is very keen.

G. Cheeseman, outside-left, his speed and ball control have placed him in good stead.

P. Viner, 1st reserve, his keenness and ball control make up for his smallness. Should develop into an excellent player.

THE GERMAN Mrs. BEETON.

The following delectable recipes and hints all come from the Propaganda Ministry at Berlin. They are an eloquent commentary on the blessings of Hitler's New European Order.

"The use of stale or defective bread for chicken feeding is forbidden. It can easily be worked up again for consumption as fresh bread." Bremen broadcast (but not by Haw Haw.)

"Horse can be pickled, and it is a good scheme to buy it, as it is not rationed." German Radio in French.

"Butter and Margarine can be replaced with the skimmings off meat soup." and, "Coffee will not be composed of pure coffee, but one-third coffee and two-thirds ersatz. Grape pips are useful in this connection." Nazi broadcast in French.

A DELICACY ?

"Horsemeat recipe, 400 grammes of filet of horsemeat hash, 100 grammes of fat, 500 grammes of onions, 4 gills water, 250 grammes rice, $\frac{1}{2}$ a gravy tablet, dash of vinegar, half a spoonful of flour, quarter bayleaf, pepper, salt, **ONE** clove.

Nazi broadcast in Dutch.

"Grass which used to be dried for cattle fodder, is now to be used for baking. The bread tastes good, though the green colour puts people off buying it."

Dagens Nyheter.

William the Silent.

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A JOURNEY THROUGH THE SNOW.

(An Adventure in Austria.)

Every year the school went for a few days ski-ing. All boys who wanted to come, could do so and be taught how to ski.

This year it was reported that there was more than 6ft of snow over the country and everybody was looking forward to a jolly week.

We started from home at 5 p.m. and were to be at our destination at about 11 p.m. During the journey we had lots of fun playing games, singing and so on, and nobody noticed how the time went by, and we were all very surprised when we arrived at the little station where we were to get out, and heard that it was after 1 a.m.

The little platform was only about 5 yards long, and as our train had ten or more carriages most of us had to get out on the line. Some of us wanted to be clever and took a big jump from the running board of the train, over the signal wires, but alas! on the other side of the wires was a ditch, 6ft deep and nicely covered up with snow. Straight away we were stuck up to the neck in snow, and as we tried to climb out we only sank deeper. To make matters worse on the other side of the ditch was a barbed-wire fence. Finally after much shouting and working we succeeded in climbing out of the ditch under the barbed-wire fence on to firmer ground.

Then came the next disappointment: the sledges which should have taken our baggage had not waited all that time, but gone home. So we had the nice prospect of walking six miles through deep snow, each of us loaded with aprox. 45 lb. including the skis, which we could not put on, as some of us could not use them.

So we started off. One of the biggest boys in advance to tread the snow down. His luggage was distributed among us others, and he started ploughing through snow that reached him

just under the arms. As soon as we left the train we got into pitch darkness and it was well that most of us had torches. One even had a handlamp with a lighting radius of half a mile, which came in very handy, and more than once saved us from running into a brook or barbed-wire fence. The boy in front had to be relieved every two hundred yards for it was very tiring work to walk through this deep snow. We others tramped behind, between two walls of snow 4 ft. high, on a nice hard path, which the first ten or twelve had made. But even that was no pleasure, for the way was long and the loads heavy. The lusty chatter which had prevailed during the first mile soon died and everybody stalked along looking only at his front man's pack. From time to time a tremor went down the line, like "Caution, ditch!" You would hear it start far ahead, hear it come slowly nearer, until you said it yourself automatically, and hear it die away again behind.

The stars were shining brightly and it was a cold, clear night, but nobody took any notice of the beautiful snowclad countryside. Seldom anyone spoke during the last half of the march, and the few sentences spoken were mostly unpolite descriptions of what the speaker thought of the sledge men who would not wait for the baggage.

Finally after what seemed an eternity, but which was really no more than two and a half hours, the big house where we were to stay came in sight. One after the other we tumbled in, kicked off our boots and went straight to bed. Nobody was tempted by the sight of long laden tables, or the smell of frying sausages and of cocoa. About ten minutes after our arrival the house was again quiet and the housekeeper and the cooks were left looking at each other and shaking their heads: never before had they seen a crowd of boys withstand an invitation for a meal in this manner.

We all slept the deep sleep of exhaustion and next morning at breakfast made up for lost time.

T. F. Lederer.

THE ECONOMIC WAR FRONT.

Our great economic offensive against Germany's resources commenced from the very beginning of the War. It operates through a new and very important Ministry of Economic Warfare, and is assisted by the Royal Navy which carries out the Contraband Control (prevents raw materials from reaching Germany), and also by the Royal Air Force which systematically bombs stocks and home production centres. An interesting League of Nations' report stated that a nation that wanted to make war for a long period upon a large scale required no less than 33 essential raw materials. The Nazis possess perhaps four of these within their own boundaries. Let us see how the supply of the others has been affected. The following figures are estimated percentage cuts in Germany's peace-time requirements:—Raw Cotton 93 per cent. (there is some leakage through Vladivostok) oil seed 96 per cent.; raw coffee and cocoa 100 per cent.; raw wool 61 per cent.; mineral oils 74 per cent.; skins and hides 63 per cent.; copper ore 74 per cent.; maize 67 per cent.; rubber 100 per cent. iron ore 30 per cent. (we cannot interfere with the iron supply from Sweden). It must be remembered that these figures are percentages of peace-time requirements, and the Reich's war needs must be much greater. Against this fact we must set the rigid system of rationing, and the looted stocks from the occupied countries. Of the latter Dr. Dalton the Minister says that they are nearly exhausted. The oil position is very serious. Germany had accumulated large stocks, and there had been leakages through Italy at one time, but her war consumption was far greater than any European supply. Roumania could only supply less than Germany used in peacetime (and at the present moment the Danube is probably frozen, and several pipe lines were damaged in recent earthquakes so that transport is an added difficulty). Russia might supply heavy oil, but she is buying rarified spirit in the world markets for herself, and had none to spare. Transport by sea is impossible, and by rail would amount to only a trickle especially as the Russian gauge was different to the Polish and German, and both countries were suffering from a shortage of railcars. The R.A.F. had paid particular attention to home production of oil though in any case the amounts manufactured were but a small part of the needs. It seems certain that shortage in this vital commodity will alone cause the enemy the greatest dilemma in the coming months. Silently and continuously this great pressure is crushing the Nazis. The Blockade cannot alone win the War, but resolutely applied it will shorten the conflict, and bring us final victory.

A.M.W.

HISTORY BOOK.

Turn over the pages, my son, so we can see
The nobler deeds that History has wrought
And moulded from its hours of sanity.
The mystery of engines, aeroplanes,
Oil, petrol, molten steel and all the thought
United in the frenzied scream of trains;
The hum of dynamos and sliding cranks
Battling Atlantic storms for mastery
Of expeditions breaking through the brinks
Of mapped-shores to cold and frozen sea.
Turn over the page, my son, so we can see
These worth while things—for on this page a choir
Of black typed chapters in solemnity
Cry out the formal challenges of war.

R. W. Westbrook.

CHESS.

Owing to the examinations there has been very little Chess played this term. We hope to resume activity again next term when the House Tournament will be played.

L. Walker, Chess Secretary.

THE LONE WATCH.

His collar turned up and hat pulled down shielding his face from the strong wind, he stood crouching against the weather beaten Elm tree. After looking nervously over his shoulder once or twice, he continued on his way from tree to tree; he travelled about thirty yards when he halted behind a hawthorn bush. Then the moon came out and revealed in front of him a grim looking manor. It cast dark shadows across the ivy clad walls of the old building. For a while he stood there struck by the beauty of the scene. He strained his ears for the slightest sound which was only broken by the chirping of crickets in the grass nearby. Then suddenly he stiffened and stood rigid: for a few seconds his heart beat wildly against his chest and his eyes, staring before him. He couldn't be mistaken, there it was sure enough making its way out of the window towards his place of concealment.

By this time however, he had raised himself, his hugh chest heaved with emotion. He clenched the fence beside him and the veins on his forehead stood out. Then preparing for a great effort, he drew a deeper breath and shouted.

"Can't you put that blinking light out?" in a manner which only the most perfect Air-raid Warden can make his own.

D. Percy, (4th Form).

WAIFS AND STRAYS TALK.

One afternoon the Rev. Beeney gave an interesting lecture on the Waifs and Strays Society. It was illustrated by a large selection of lantern slides.

He told us that it was founded by a Mr. Rudolph in 1881. There are now over 100 homes. Special homes for cripples, where special treatment is given. There are two convalescent homes, one at Pevensey and another at Broadstairs.

Most children enter between the ages of 2 and 3. They are admitted at the rate of 4 a day.

Boys are trained for carpenters. Some enter the Navy and train on the Indefatigable.

There was no charge for admittance to the lecture but a collection was made. The amount contained in the box when opened was one guinea.

R. Knight.

OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION.

The following are additions to the list of Old Boys serving with the Forces:—52 H. Hooker, Royal Artillery; 53 R. Martin, Royal Army Pay Corps; 54, K. Fowles, East Surrey Regiment; 55, J. Verral, Army; 56 R. J. Randall, Army; 57 R. Bushby, R.A.F.; 58, A. Croucher, R.A.F.; 59 R. Harman, R.A.F.; 60 J. Birchall, Royal Engineers; 61 R. Tapsfield, R.A.F. 62, E. Haywood, R.A.

We shall be glad to know of any other Old Boys serving and to hear news from them.

The Association sent Christmas and New Year Greetings to all Old Boys in the Forces.

We are very sorry to have to announce the death of W. Jones which occurred at Malta. He was with the Army, and died from the effects of pneumonia. We tender our sincere condolences to Mr. & Mrs. Jones.

We have published notes from Mr. Bowler in this Magazine. Paddy has had more adventures when his vessel was attacked, and he sustained slight injury, but was in fine fettle when we saw him last.

Congratulations to Sergeant and Mrs. Finn to whom a daughter was born at Newmarket.

We have also to send congratulations to Constr.-Lieut. R. Anscombe who was married at All Saints' Church to Miss Hyacinth Kathleen Mithen.

We hear that Lieut. Anscombe has had a number of narrow escapes at sea. We also congratulate him on this.

It is with regret that we learn Ivan Thorpe is a prisoner of war. Perhaps the time is not so far distant when he will be with us.

We were very pleased to see the following when on leave:— J. H. E. Piper, (R.A.) who had been at Dover and seemed very well in spite of local "incidents." P. G. Anderson, (R.A.F.) Leon Noakes, (R.A.F.) who we must also congratulate upon marriage. Fred Tolputt, (R.A.P.C.) J. Beale (Royal Navy), H. Hooker (R.A.), W. Apps, (R.E's) and E. G. A. Bettle (R.E's). We have also received a number of interesting letters. Edgar Butler, (Fleet Air Arm) recalled old school experiences and said he had not forgotten us. Jack Elbourne and K. Whibley, both of the R.A.F., are progressing well, and Whibley is doing special radio work.

We are pleased to record that J. H. E. Piper and F. E. M. Betts were successful in the Intermediate Examination of the Institute of Chartered Surveyors. Well done!

It was a disappointment when League Football in the Town was discontinued, for we had worked hard to get an Old Boys' Team (and believed that we had the making of an excellent new activity).

It is with pleasure therefore that we have been able to form a team of younger members for the Minor League. We are very grateful to Mr. Piper and Mr. Williams for the trouble they took. The team is called the Old McCabians Reserve. C. J. Beale is an efficient secretary and W. Westbrook an able Captain. We hope to publish a full report in the next Magazine. We are sure that all Old Boys will be glad to know that we are keeping the flag flying.

No decision has yet been taken about the Annual Dinner. So many members are away and conditions are sometimes difficult for an evening event. The matter will be discussed at the Annual General Meeting. We hope to hold some kind of gathering if at all possible.

We are pleased to print a poem by Westbrook, and shall be happy to receive articles from Old Boys.

The Secretaries.

Every effort will be made to maintain the Magazine in its present form during the war. We hope we shall be supported by all O.B.'s and friends of the School. Subscription 2/6, with O.B. membership 3/6. New subscribers welcomed.

Hubble & Freeman,

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