



The School Magazine

OF THE

MAIDSTONE

COMMERCIAL

SCHOOL.

Vol. XI No. 33.

December, 1941.

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## MAIDSTONE COMMERCIAL SCHOOL MAGAZINE.

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Vol. XI. No. 33.

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Seventh number of the School Magazine published during the war.

Thy purpose firm is equal to the deed:  
Who does the best his circumstance allows,  
Does well, acts nobly; angels could no more.

—Edward Young.

### SCHOOL HISTORY.

The School Calendar is as follows:—

Wed. 17th Sept. Term begins.  
Tues. 23rd Sept. Church Service.  
Tues. 30th Sept. O.B.A. Meeting.  
Mon. 3rd Nov. Half-term begins.  
Tues. 25th Nov. O.B.A. Meeting.  
Mon. 1st Dec. College of Preceptors Examinations.  
Wed. 17th Dec. End of Term. Meccano Exhibition.  
Wed. 14th Jan. Easter Term begins.

#### SALVETE.

No. 326 F. H. Skinner, IVa. St. Peter's.  
No. 327. P. Hendley, Prep., St. Peter's.  
No. 328. T. M. Moore, V., School.  
No. 329. R. J. Huckell. Prep. School.  
No. 330. R. Gold. IVa. St. Peter's.  
No. 331. K. I. Cook, IVb., St. Peter's.

#### VALETE.

E. A. Barham, 8 years at school, has left to take up a post with Messrs. Dearle & Henderson, Quantity Surveyors. He was a prominent member of St. Augustine's House and passed a London Chamber of Commerce examination.

C. R. Veitch, 4 years, is going farming on his father's farm at Aylesford. He was a good athlete and a pillar of strength to St. Peter's House.

D. A. Percy, 3 years, was another member of St. Peter's. His family have left the district and the school has lost a good worker.

W. E. Tubb, although only with us for 1 year, has been a valuable member of our football teams and of School House. He has gone into the business of Messrs. Marchant & Tubb, Wholesale Drapers, and his influence and personality will be missed among the boys. He narrowly missed obtaining a place in the recent R.A.F. entrance examination, this was his first attempt and no doubt he will be able to make certain if he re-enters next month.

P. R. Barnard, 1 year, came to us from an evacuation area. He has accepted a post under the L.M.S. Hotels. He was a keen member of School House.

P. E. Sands, 2 terms, St. Augustine's House, has taken a clerical post at Springfield Paper Mill.

It is with the deepest regret that we announce the deaths of two more of our Old Boys, making six in all, whilst on active service. They are John Foord, from Larkfield who went down in the Corvette Zinnia, and Anthony Harrison who has been reported missing while on a bombing raid over Brest.

We feel that an apology is due to our many friends and advertisers for this belated appearance of the September number. The delay is due entirely to war conditions and the necessary re-organisation of staff duties. Since our last issue we have had to bid a temporary farewell to Mr. Williams who joined the school in January 1932. Mr. Williams has won a high place in the affections of the school and also his colleagues, and the work he put in at school will bear fruit for a long time to come. He identified himself with the sport, the dramatic work, the magazine and the social and industrial outings, especially of the 5th and 6th forms, in addition to the routine work of the Upper School and the French and History of the 4th. While with us Mr. Williams fought two Parliamentary elections and also completed the work for his B.Sc. (Economics) degree which he has now passed with the exception of one short language paper, and this, we understand, he will take shortly. A presentation is to be made to him but as we are giving him a special type of fountain-pen he is still awaiting delivery. The makers of this special type are allowed a quota periodically and we have been told that delivery will be impossible before November. Mr. Williams was informed of the position and he said he preferred the real thing rather than accept a substitute. He has asked us to express his thanks in advance. Mr. Williams hopes to return to Maidstone when the war ends, meantime he

is doing special Government work in connection with industrial re-organisation.

We have to welcome Mr. J. S. Clipstone, B.Sc., who has taken on the work of the Upper School. We feel sure that Mr. Clipstone will be very popular and successful among us. In addition to a wide experience Mr. Clipstone has enjoyed the advantage of extensive travel abroad and this is always a tremendous asset for those who have anything to do with the teaching profession.

We also have to record a change in the 3rd form. Mr. D. P. Martin who has been with us for a year has accepted a post at Fareham, Hants., where he has taken charge of the wood-working department of the Fareham Grammar School. Mr. Martin did a great deal of hard work here and will always be remembered for his successful work in our Art department. Mr. Martin's place has been taken by Mr. H. M. John who comes to us from London and who has already shown that he is well able to do the work which Mr. Martin so well began. In addition Mr. John has a thorough knowledge of Shorthand, and Book-keeping.

The difficulty of obtaining school requisites and text-books does not abate. When boys have to wait perhaps 2 or 3 weeks for copies of books they must put the blame on Hitler. Prices are still advancing and parents may find that the cost of some books has gone up as much as 30%.

In future Messrs. George H. Leavey Ltd., will be able to supply all school clothing, including caps, at their branch at 86 Bank Street, Maidstone. The manager of this branch is in a position to give all information with regard to school clothing.

The work of our school group of the National Savings movement continues with good results. During the term we collected £50 all but 17/-. The weekly average was £4/1/11 which was 9/9 less than the preceeding term. These slight decreases are rather regrettable but we always use them as an excuse for whipping up fresh enthusiasm and we accordingly hope to top the £60 for this term.

The usual collecting boxes for the R.S.P.C.A., the West Kent Hospital and the Waifs and Strays Society have all

continued to be in evidence and thanks are due to those boys who so religiously shake them in our faces at the top of the steps most mornings.

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The usual beginning and end of term services were held at St. Peter's Church this term and we are indebted to Rev. Cooper and Rev. Watkins for conducting them. We were sorry to hear that the latter is leaving the district and we wish him every success in his new position as an Army Chaplain. He was very popular with the boys and the school contributed towards his farewell presentation. We are also indebted to Mrs. Piper for her work at the organ and also to the boys who very willingly undertake to blow the organ.

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Miss Weedon has done much work with the formation of a school choir. This is valuable work and possibly one which boys do not appreciate to the full at the time. We hope that the choir will distinguish itself and may even be in a position to enter competitions when these are resumed. There are several boys who are learning pianoforte. We commend this paragraph to the notice of parents of musical children. The ability to play is a much desired accomplishment. To come down to a very materialistic plane, we may point out that a very popular and prevalent soldier's grouse at the present time is the exceedingly easy life of a dance-band member who happens to get into the Army.

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A few boys are taking Typewriting and we hope more will avail themselves of this opportunity of learning something practically useful. We are also arranging further Book-keeping classes at school and hope these will be well attended.

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The Geography broadcasts on Thursday mornings have proved popular to an amazing degree. Certain other lessons have been heard, notably English. As is to be expected the dramatic, rather than the didactic, broadcasts have been the more interesting.

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A lantern lecture was given during the term illustrating the work and achievements of the Waifs and Strays Society. The pictures of the excellent conditions in which these children live and receive their education prove what a remarkably high standard has been reached by the efforts of the Society.

Richardson brought a set of slides showing the work and activities of his Scout Troop and these revealed several well-known Maidstone people on the screen. It was rather unusual to see a group of Maidstonians on the canal-side in Holland or climbing over the engine of a Belgian train.

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Photographs have been available of both Cricket and Football teams as well as various events of the Sports and the Concert. Boys who purchase copies will look on them with renewed interest in years to come and we can assure you that the few pence spent on them will not be regretted.

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Mrs. Piper has started a Gardening Club. Boys are holding a show, both now and in the spring. Further particulars in our next issue.

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## UPPER SCHOOL NOTES.

In spite of all difficulties and dangers the upper school still flourishes. We are sorry that Mr. Williams has gone and we hope he will have the best of luck in his future work. We have had a number of teachers, and for some periods have even had to plod along on our own but still the work has gone on and a record number of entries are being made for the Christmas examinations. Boys are sitting for Senior, Junior and Preliminary College of Preceptors and we wish them success; last year we had two Honours certificates and we hope it will again happen so.

Our thanks are due to B. Fernig for supervising the Library, Swimming and Cricket gear; P. King for arranging Tennis; J. Gibson for being "motto-man;" G. Cheeseman for purchase of "France," and also supervision of cycles; T. Lederer for acting as stater for marks and cards, and also to W. Tubb and L. Walker for acting as playground Prefects.

Gibson reports that the motto, "Don't make excuses, make good," did duty for most of the term. We are especially grateful to B. Fletcher for the pleasing show of flowers she has so constantly given us in the classroom.

Mrs. Piper again judged the Scrap books and the winners were as follows:—1. W. Gibbons: 2. J. Gibson.

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## THE ANNUAL SPORTS.

This event was held on the evening of Wednesday, 16th July and attracted a large attendance at the Athletic Ground. The experiment of holding it in the evening instead of the afternoon

proved so successful that we may try the method again when peace returns rather than let it remain solely as a war-time device. The prizes were distributed by Mrs. Beale and her son Brian, an old boy of the school, who together with his father, Coun. R. Beale, had awarded a handsome swimming cup to the school replacing the one destroyed by a bomb.

The results were as follows:—

Event.	Class.	1st.	2nd.	3rd
Half-mile	I. - IV.	W. Tubb.	P. Barnard.	R. Barham.
440 yards	I. - IV.	W. Tubb.	B. Fernig.	A. Sheldon.
220 yards	I.	W. Tubb.	A. Barham.	B. Fernig.
220 yards	II.	B. Fletcher	G. Cheeseman.	R. Gold.
220 yards	III. & IV.	C. Craig.	B. Baker.	W. Manchett.
100 yards	I.	A. Barham.	W. Tubb.	P. Smith.
100 yards	II.	D. Richardson.	G. Cheeseman.	M. Smith & D. Goble (tie).
100 yards	III.	C. Craig.	R. Barham.	L. Leaver.
100 yards	IV.	P. Cheeseman.	N. Dexter.	P. Leaver.
80 yards	IV.	P. Cheeseman.	M. Mitchell.	N. Dexter.
60 yards	IV.	M. Mitchell.	P. Bolas.	P. Leaver.
Gents' 100 yards.	Mr. Finn.	Mr. Finn.	Mr. King.	Mr. A. Baker.
Ladies' 100 yards.	Miss Bolas.	Miss Hanmer.	Miss Hanmer.	Miss B. Hendley.
High Jump	I.	W. Tubb. (4' 6")	P. Wilcox.	A. Sheldon.
High Jump	II.	G. Cheeseman (4' 1")	R. Barham & P. Viner (tie).	R. Barham & P. Viner (tie).
Long Jump	I.	B. Fernig (15' 2")	W. Tubb.	D. Finn.
Long Jump	II.	G. Cheeseman (13' 9")	P. Viner.	R. Barham.
Long J'mp	III. & IV.	P. Cheeseman (10' 9")	F. Skinner.	B. Baker.
Cricket Ball	I.	W. Tubb (82 yds.)	A. Sheldon.	A. Barham.
Cricket Ball II	IV.	G. Cheeseman (57ys)	R. Gold.	N. Dexter.
Swimming	I.	R. Marshall	W. Tubb.	P. Barnard.
Swimming	II.	M. Suttaby.	T. Marshall.	P. Viner.
Cycle	I.	R. Marshall.	G. Wilkinson.	E. Howard.
Cycle	II. & III.	P. Viner.	D. Ives.	L. Leaver.
House Relay.	St.	Augustine's	St. Peter's.	School.
Sack Race	I.	P. Wilcox.	P. Sands.	R. Sawyer.
Sack Race	II.	M. Smith.	D. Ives.	T. Moore.
Sack Race	III. & IV.	F. Skinner.	B. Baker.	D. Swan.
Egg & Spoon	I.	P. Sands.	T. Lederer.	P. Wilcox.
Egg & Spoon	II.	J. Solly.	N. Walker.	J. King.
Egg & Spoon	III.	C. Craig.	P. Bolas.	M. Merritt.
Egg & Spoon	IV.	P. Leaver.	N. Dexter.	M. Mitchell.
Brick & Tile	I.	A. Martin.	P. Sands.	E. Howard.
Brick & Tile	II.	T. Moore.	M. Sykes.	P. Viner.
Brick & Tile	III.	C. Craig.	F. Skinner.	P. Bolas.
Brick & Tile	IV.	M. Mitchell.	P. Bolas.	N. Dexter.
Consolation.	I.	T. Budge.	J. Still.	C. Davis.
Consolation.	II.	R. Sloman.	J. King.	R. Metcalfe.
3-Legged I.	I. - IV.	C. Craig-D. Swan.	R. Barham—	E. Howard—
			—J. Gladdish.	—B. Fernig.
Tug-of-War.	A. Sheldon's Team—Fernig, Richardson, Veitch, Gold, R. Barham, Barnard, Aslett, Fowler, Burrows, and L. Leaver.			
Challenge Cups.	House Cricket; School. Capt. L. W. Walker.			
	Swimming; Senior, R. Marshall.			
	" Junior, M. Suttaby.			
	Victor Ludorum, Senior, W. Tubb.			
	" Junior, G. Cheeseman.			
	Sports House; St. Augustine's. Capt. G. Cheeseman.			

## PRIZE GIVING.

The prize-giving and entertainment this year was postponed from its usual date for various causes, partly on account of the black-out and partly on account of the occupation of part of the Corn Exchange for the British Restaurants scheme. In spite of all difficulties we had a wonderfully full house and an enthusiastic audience on Tuesday, 10th June.

The report which Mr. Piper presented showed that the school was still carrying on its work as nearly to normal as possible and that some excellent results were forthcoming especially in the public examinations. The Old Boys' Association was still functioning very actively through the support of the younger members.

Over 80 members of the school were known to be serving with H.M. Forces and since the last prize-day when the death of L. Walters on active service with the Navy was reported there had been three further losses. William Jones had died in Malta as a result of illness contracted while on service; Peter Randall had gone down in the submarine Usk and Noel Stevenson had been on board the Hood on its last fatal voyage. Mr. D. P. Martin was welcomed as a newcomer on the staff pending Mr. Bettle's absence with the R.E.s. Mr. Piper warmly thanked the staff for their work and co-operation and also appreciated the work of all those who had contributed to the success of the concert.

The audience showed evident enjoyment of the entertainment. The items were as follows:—Pianoforte solos by Mr. R. Rand. An historical play by the 3rd form under Mr. Martin. Percussion Band by the Preparatory under Miss Weedon. A dramatic sequence of tableaux with dialogue and music by the 4th form under Mr. & Mrs. Piper. School choir under Miss Weedon. Selections on the bells by B. Baker, A. Bolton, O. Burrows and B. Gray under Mrs. Piper. The death scene from Julius Caesar by the Upper School under Mr. A. M. Williams. Nicholas Nickleby by the 4th form under Mr. Williams. Accordion selection by E. A. Barham. Humorous monologue by Mr. Williams and an uproarious finale entitled 'A Travesty of Justice,' by the Upper School.

The prizes were distributed by Mrs. Piper as follows:—  
 Form Prizes. 5th. P. J. King, W. E. Tubb, G. C. Cheeseman and C. E. Davis.  
 Upper 4th. W. A. Gibbons, P. J. Viner, T. R. H. Budge.  
 Lower 4th. G. V. Wilkinson, H. B. R. Metcalfe, A. J. King.  
 Upper 3rd. R. E. Green, D. H. Goble, I. J. C. Usher.  
 Lower 3rd. D. H. Swann.

Preparatory School. A. Barkaway, M. Mitchell, H. B. Reynaud, A. R. Baker, W. J. Manchett, P. R. Chainey, D. Earl, F. E. M. Piper, Barbara Gray, P. N. Leaver, D. A. Gray, Peter Bolas, Paul Bolas, A. A. Wicken, S. J. Reynaud, P. Hendley, and R. Huckell.

School Certificates. B. J. Fernig, W. N. Swan, P. H. Stearn, M. G. C. Smith, C. R. Craig, L. J. Leaver, B. O. Baker, J. Stearn.

Christmas Exhibition. W. J. Solly, (best working model) B. J. Aslett (stationary model), R. B. Sloman, (do.), E. A. Barham (aeroplane model), N. C. Walker (drawing), R. G. Barham (do.), J. E. Mayger (mapping), M. A. Sykes (mapping), P. J. King (stamps).

College of Preceptors Certificates. Junior. H. N. B. Pullen, Honours, 9 subjects, 1 distinction. J. P. Thirkell, 9 subjects. Preliminary. T. F. Lederer, Honours, 9 subjects, 3 distinctions. R. J. Knight, 8 subjects. J. S. Gibson, 6 subjects. L. W. Walker, 4 subjects.

The school challenge cups were then presented as follows:—

Captain's Challenge Cup, W. E. Tubb. Champion House, St. Augustine's, Cpt. G. Cheeseman.

House Football, St. Augustine's, Vice-Cpt. B. Fernig. Best Cricketer, L. W. Walker. House Chess, St. Peter's, Cpt. A. Sheldon. Chess Tournament, C. E. Davis. Tennis Tournament, C. J. Beale and A. V. Smith.

## CRICKET.

We were sorry to notice that the Thursday games were not so well attended as might be. There is just as much organisation, and as high a cost to cater for a dozen as fifty. We have one of the finest grounds in the whole county, our equipment is adequate and in good condition, the captain and other officers are keen but somehow a few boys seem to have slacked off. We regret that present conditions and adverse weather shortened the match fixture-list but even so we think that more boys ought to turn up on the voluntary occasions.

Our best game was at Ditton, on 17th May, against Preston Hall boys and after dismissing them for 34, we knocked up 69. B. Fernig being top scorer with 28, while W. Tubb secured 5 wickets for 13, and L. Walker 4 for 18. The other games were as follows:—16th May, Teston Boys, at Teston. School lost by 71 runs to 22.

12th June. Preston Hall Boys, at home. Won. Preston Hall, 24 (A. Smith 7-11). School 26 for 3 wickets (L. Walker 11).

13th June. Teston Boys, at Teston. Won. Teston Boys, 20 (Sheldon 3-0). School 108 (Sheldon 35).

30th June. Ditton, A.R.P., at Ditton. Lost. Ditton A.R.P., 129 for 5 (A. Smith 1-17). School 30 (Cheeseman 10).

7th July. Old Boys, at the Athletic Ground. Lost. Old Boys, 102 for 5 (Walker 4-40). School 39 (Finn 8).

The Second Team results were as follows:—

10th July. Tea Pot Lane, at home. Won. Tea Pot Lane 70 School 80 (Wilcox 35).

22nd July. Bearsted Boys, at Bearsted. Lost. Bearsted 169, (Viner 2-19). School 49 (A. Martin 16).

These were the House results:—

School v. St. Peter's. School 62, St. Peter's 17. (Walker 5-3) (Sheldon 5-15).

School v. St. Augustine's. School 75 (Barham 2-5), (Tubb 34). St. Augustine's 44, Tubb 6-12, (Viner 8).

St. Augustine's v. St. Peter's. St. Augustine's 32 (Finn 4-10) (Fernig 12). St. Peter's 27 (Swan 6-5, S. Smith 12).

L. W. Walker, Captain.

W. E. Tubb, Vice-Captain.

## CRITICISM OF PLAYERS.

L. Walker. (Captain). A skilful Captain who has led his team with vigour and enthusiasm.

W. Tubb, (Vice-Captain). A good all rounder, and an excellent bowler.

B. Fernig. Good opening bat; a safe fielder.

N. Swan. Excellent fielder and sure bat.

D. Finn. Excellent change bowler and a hard hitting left hander.

G. Cheeseman. A steady bat and good slip fielder.

P. Smith. Much improved on last season's form.

P. Wilcox. A very capable Wicket-keeper and a fair bat.

A. Sheldon. A hard hitter and a good fielder.

A. Barham. A good fielder, but his batting is rather spasmodic.

P. Viner. A sure batsman, but needs experience.

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#### TENNIS.

The Tennis has been well attended this season with many keen players from the fourth. The House and individual cup games have been played off as follows:—

House Cup. Finn and Sheldon beat Howard and Solly, 6—0..

Tubb and Moore beat P. King and G. Cheeseman, 6—2.

P. Smith and Ferrett beat Fernig and Goble, 6—4.

Finals. Tubb and Moore beat Smith and Richardson, 6—1.

Tubb and Moore beat Sheldon and Finn, 6—3.

Tubb and Moore are members of School House.

Individual Pairs Cup.

Finn and Walker beat Moore and Richardson, 6—2.

Tubb and Wilcox beat P. King and Fernig, 6—2.

L. Walker and Finn beat G. Cheeseman and Sheldon, 6—0.

Tubb and Wilcox beat Walker and Finn, 6—3.

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#### SWIMMING.

The Swimming has been very well attended by all forms; the following boys have obtained badges:— P. Barnard, D. Richardson, P. Viner, M. Suttaby, P. Wilcox, N. Harrison, T. Marshall, and J. Taylor.

On the 14th of July the swimming races were held; eight boys entered for the senior race, R. Marshall being the winner, with W. Tubb a good second, and P. Barnard third.

It was an exciting race. Tubb appeared to be winning in the first length but Marshall put on a spurt and romped home an easy winner. The Junior race was won by M. Suttaby, with T. Marshall as second and P. Viner third.

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#### POOR OLD SMITHERS.

Poor old Smithers!

He was always unlucky. From the time when as a boy he was the only one caught, out of ten, for raiding an orchard, and was fined, and was well thrashed by his father. Fate was always against him. I recollect his elbow knocking over a valuable exhibition vase, and he had to pay up, pretty heavily too.

Poor old Smithers!

It was no surprise to me when I heard that through one of his misfortunes he had fallen into the hands of blackmailers. In

desperation he decided to meet the head of the gang and threaten to shoot if he was not left in peace. He took his revolver that night and met his enemy in the attic of a four-storied building.

Here he waited till a sinister knock keyed him up to "do or die."

Poor old Smithers!

He nervously opened the door and tried to open conversation as easily.

Poor old Smithers!

Suddenly he pulled out his gun and blurted, "Get out and never return or else I kill you." The other, slightly taken aback, answered lightly, "You wouldn't dare." But he did,—at least his finger tightened on the trigger and there was a clumsy fall to the floor. Suddenly he realised.

Poor old Smithers!

A footstep outside and the sound of the door handle being tried. Could he face the police, the trial, his friends in the court, the judge passing sentence? He decided to save time and finish it now.

Poor old Smithers!

He balanced on the window-sill, and with a bitter laugh, disappeared into the inky darkness.

W. Gibbons.

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### TILBURY.

Unmanumitted mists  
Deranged unconscious over  
Cold grey waters, lathy wrists  
Of banks and mud saliva.  
Ungleaming steel of cranes,  
Half mist-immersed, outswing  
Bent shadows, sprawl as manes  
Loosely upon the river, tongue on tongue;  
With ships, rusty phantoms,  
Lying speechless, mast and gantry  
Rocking to the waters' powerful tantrums  
Like dead reeds swaying gently  
Then blending with the smoke,  
The wharves and the bleary ribbon,  
The bodyless, featureless snake  
Of the damp horizon.

R. W. Westbrook.

### A HUNGARIAN GYPSY ENCAMPMENT.

Through the thick green foliage burns a tremendous fire, the flames of brilliant red tinged with orange shoot forth from the heated mass of burning logs into the depths of darkness above. The brightness of the fire illuminates the numerous caravans, all of different design and colour, but all very clean.

Above the fire hangs an old black caldron, simmering—the gypsie's evening meal. In a circle in front of their caravans are the gypsies in native dress, some standing, some seated, but all in magnificent clothes of delicate shade and design. Several have combined in playing native instruments. The sound of these, together, makes very pleasant hearing. The spirit of friendship reigns supreme, an example to everyone in the world of today.

E. A. Barham.

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### A PEEP INTO A LONDON BASEMENT.

Inside the dimly lighted cellar sat an enormous man. He was wearing a dingy moth-eaten shirt, which in its prime had once been blue. The view through the barred window was obstructed by a thick array of cob-webs, and winging their way on the dirty glass, were several moths of bright red and blue. In the centre of the room stood a battered tea chest, on which rested three tankards and a small keg of rum. In the shadow of the ancient fire-place, resting on a level, newly-cemented step, was a dark object, which rather resembled a printing machine. On the top of it lay several small books. Leaning over these books were two men. One was dressed in respectable clothes, while the other was an oily-complexioned fellow, who wiped the perspiration off his hideous features with a dirty red handkerchief. Closer scrutiny revealed why the men were so interested in the small books, for there, printed on the covers, could be distinguished the words "Clothing Coupons."

W. Tubb.

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### THE LONDONER OF 1941.

It was one of London's worst nights. Bombs and incendiaries dropped all round. The Sector Warden was making a tour of his district, going from shelter to shelter, looking in and cheering up the people inside with a few snappy sentences. Just as he was nearing the last shelter on his round, he heard behind him the ominous whistle of a bomb. He flung himself



to the ground and a moment later a deafening explosion about a hundred yards behind him was followed a second or so later by another just in front. He was covered with dust and a few small pieces of brick hit him. He got up and ran towards the spot where the bomb had fallen. He saw that a water main had burst and water was rising rapidly in the shelter for which he had been aiming. Just as he was going to the nearest telephone to call the Rescue squad a young man appeared beside him—"We'll have to hurry up!" he said, and with that dived into the fast filling shelter, to appear a moment later with a child in each arm. Five more times he dived under the water, which filled the low entrance, each time coming back sometimes with two people, sometimes with only one, whom he handed to the Warden. When all were saved he came up himself and was welcomed by the thanks of the people he had saved. The Warden began to ask him for his name and address, with the intention of reporting his heroism, but the young man only shook his head: "It was nothing," he said, and with a laugh he disappeared into the surrounding darkness.

T. F. Lederer.

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#### SEEN FROM AN UPPER WINDOW.

At this moment I am standing in the grain room of the old water-mill. Just below the old green squeaky water-wheel is turning at its slow constant speed for the miller has just thrown over the gear control.

The sparkles of sunlight seem to dance on the water and I see a sudden flash as the sun catches the side scales of a fish playing in the cool clear water. Just ahead are four beautiful old Weeping Willows from which, every now and then, drops of water fall, looking like diamonds as they splash into the stream. On a branch of one of these sits a patch of rainbow—the king-fisher, shining in his tremendous array of colours.

All around on the banks in the warm sunshine lurk the grasshoppers singing their squeaky violin-like song. Here and there a primrose has pushed its way through the dense jungle of grass. Over in the wood stand the light blue blue-bells with the white cuckoo-flowers by their side.

There is a splash as a trout tries to jump the water-fall while just down the stream I can see standing like a post, one of the best of nature's anglers, the heron, quite motionless, on his thin spindly legs. His body is no bigger than a chicken's but it looks twice its real size.

J. S. Gibson.

#### OLD BOYS' NOTES.

Since our last issue we have heard of the following who are now in the Services.

79, R. C. Ellison, R.A.F.; 80, D. B. Smith, R.A.F.; 81, T. Mercer, R.A.F.; 82, K. Wills, Indian Army; 83, L. Baker, R.A.S.C.; 84, H. Gosling, R.M. Signals; 85, N. Kennedy, R.A.F.; 86, E. C. Locke, R.A.F.; 87, E. Harries, Lieut. Buffs; 88, J. S. Stockbridge, R.N. Wireless; 89 R. T. Rand, R.A.F.; 90, N. A. Ashton, R.A.F.; 91, B. Beale, R.A.F.; 92, D. Noakes, R.A.F.; 93, T. H. Joyce, R.A.; 94, G. Stone, R.A.O.C.; 95, P. Durtal, Queen's Own.

If any O.B. has lost touch with any of his school-day pals and wishes to write to them the Association or school can usually supply the necessary address. Letters are appreciated in the Services.

We have been visited by the following:—H. Hooker, (R.A.) very busy searchlighting in Surrey; Ted Hughes (R.A.F.) quite fit and taking his embarkation leave; Bernard Finn, (R.A.F.) Pilot-Officer, on commissioning leave; Will Apps, (R.E.) on special duties; Mr. Bettle, now wearing his third stripe in the R.E.s.; Arthur Berry, (R.A.F.), who has completed his training; Gordon Goodchild, who was enjoying his leave from the R.C.S.; Ronald Young, of the Merchant Navy, who has had a good time in America and seen only a few U-boats; Jesse Piper, (R.A.) who has been taking a documentation course in N.W. Kent; Billy Shaw, who is plane-patching at a local drome; J. Beale, (R.N.) now stationed at Chatham, and Denis Smith, just as he was about to start his Pilot-course in the R.A.F. We have also had visits from C. Bincham, Colin Beale, W. Tucker, J. Pearson, G. Reynolds, H. Parker, E. Tomsett, C. F. Huggins, (at school in 1920), G. Griffin and J. Dodson (at school during the 1914 War and now a sergeant in the City Police).

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Our tame humourist sends the following:—

#### EXPERIENCES AND THOUGHTS

extracted from Old Boys' letters and remarks and reproduced unadulterated. ("thoughts" though given here are not usually used by O.B.s. after leaving school. Sometimes however they break out by accident).

H. Parker after volunteering for the Life Guards writes—"When we began to clean this place, we swept out so much dirt

that we practically swept the floor away." L.A.C. Dennis Smith, now training for a pilot in America, writes of his first solo flight "When you are up in the air and all by yourself, it's lovely. I did a slow roll to celebrate and flew upside down a little while. I can handle a Tiger Moth as well as my bike now."

Signalman H. Gosling, R.N., says nothing exciting has yet happened to him except that "a munition barge berthed alongside caught fire under a rain of incendiaries and had to be put out."

Random Remarks (duly censored) which cannot be attributed to anyone in particular are: "Shaving and washing is done in cold water about 7.0 a.m., P.T. at 6.25, and I'm telling you I don't like it in vests and shorts at this time of the morning."—"I met my political double in Hyde Park last week, he's been in jail twice!"....."You seem to be back at your old footer form again."....."How is S—S— getting on?"

The Association has continued its meetings at two-monthly intervals. There has not been much business except the gratifying process of electing several new members and knowing that the younger members are keeping the home fires burning for the duration.

Two teams have been entered in the Minor Football League and also Chess is in favour. New players can have a season's chess for 2/6, from 6 to 10 on Mondays and Thursdays. Particulars can be obtained from Mr. Piper. There is still room for more players of football or chess.

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We hope that we shall be able to keep the Magazine in full circulation, albeit in reduced condition, it will be solely printing and paper difficulties if there is any alteration, the material and the spirit remain as large as ever.

We welcome the support of all O.B.s., parents, and friends of the school. Subscription, 2/6; with O.B. membership, 3/6. All enquiries should be made to Mr. Piper.

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