



The School Magazine  
THE ELMS,  
MAIDSTONE

Vol. XII. No. 35.  
Jan. 1943 to Jan. 1944

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## SCHOOL MAGAZINE

THE ELMS, MAIDSTONE.

Vol. XII. No. 35.

Jan. 1943 to Jan. 1944.

Ninth number of the Magazine to be published during the war.

"They are never alone that are accompanied with noble thoughts."

From Sidney's 'Arcadia.'

### SCHOOL HISTORY.

Subject to emergency alteration the following provisional school calendar has been arranged:—

Easter Recess. 7th. to 11th April.

Concert and Prize Day. Wednesday, 19th April.

End of Term. Thursday, 20th April.

Summer Term begins. Wednesday, 3rd May.

Whitsun Holiday. Monday, 29th May.

Sports Day, Wednesday, 12th July.

Term Ends. Wednesday, 2nd August.

Christmas Term Begins. Wednesday, 20th September.

Term Ends. Wednesday, 20th December.

The following pupils have been admitted during 1943:—

School House. J. D. Branchett; D. A. Goodchild; M. G. Lumsden; B. White; R. Honey; F. Jordan; M. Cuneen; M. J. Drury; P. C. Austen; G. D. Woodward; W. A. Dove; A. Hook; B. P. Hart; M. L. Burrows; B. Larman; R. L. Marten; R. R. England.

St. Peter House. N. Curl; J. Lane; A. H. Brooker; V. R. Craxton; J. D. Hitch; W. Walters; P. A. Lindsey; G. E. McGinty; R. M. Simmonds; W. G. Cox; W. O. Bird; I. L. Madge; R. A. Bird; B. R. Walker; G. H. Carey.  
St. Nicholas House. K. J. Court; D. J. Buckle; L. Glen; P. J. J. Hunt; J. L. Fish; P. J. Clark; M. J. H. Sutton; H. J. Latham; W. J. Oxley; R. A. Buss; M. Neate; A. P. Fairhurst.

St. Augustine House. D. R. Older; D. R. Moore; L. M. Woodhams; P. J. Munn; R. F. Allsop; O. Pantony; B. R. Hardy; B. J. Bishop; D. E. Foster; P. J. Chittenden; B. A. Grant; J. Lingham; D. L. Woodger; R. H. French; R. R. Houckham; N. G. Hoskins; A. J. Randall.

Since our last issue the following boys have left school. The length of their school careers and the posts which they have now entered are placed after their names.

- P. H. Stearn, 9 years. Messrs Stone & Co., Radio Engineers.  
R. Sawyer, 8 years. Art Course.  
W. N. Swan, 7 years. Messrs. Hall & Co., Builders' Merchants.  
R. J. Knight, 7 years. Messrs. Dearle & Henderson, Quantity Surveyors.  
W. J. Solly, 7 years. Specialised Art Training.  
G. C. Cheeseman, 7 years. East Malling Research Station.  
A. Bolton, 6 years. Messrs. Vivish & Baker, Printers.  
J. W. Gladdish, 6 years. Solicitor's office in Bromley.  
E. J. Howard, 5 years. Aylesford Paper Mills. Office.  
B. D. Ives, 5 years. Pupil at Electricity Works.  
B. L. J. Fernig, 5 years. Messrs. Nolan & Co., Quantity Surveyors.  
N. C. Walker, 4 years. Art Training.  
W. A. Gibbons, 3 years. East Malling Research Station.  
B. F. Hopkins, 3 years. K.C.C. Springfield Office.  
D. G. Finn, 3 years. Optical Course at Northern Polytechnic.  
T. R. F. Budge, 3 years. Messrs Sweatman & Hedgeland, Photographers.  
B. F. Ashby, 2 years. Aircraft Construction.  
B. I. Johnson, 2 years. Electricity Works.  
L. E. Town, 2 years. Post Office.  
R. T. M. Filmer, 2 years. Architect's Office, Springfield.  
J. A. Avard, 1 year. Post Office.  
D. G. Avard, 1 year. Aylesford Paper Mills. Office.

#### EXAMINATION RESULTS.

The 1942 examination results came through just in time for the stop press of our last issue and we are therefore not repeating that list in full. It included 1 London Matriculation, 4 Senior, 4 Junior and 8 Preliminary College of Preceptors, (including 4 honours), 4 Chamber of Commerce certificates, 2 Typewriting and 1 Piano certificates. The 1943 list shows an increase of 5 certificates on the 1942 list is as follows:—

##### London Matriculation.

W. A. Gibbons, (Eng. Maths. Fr. Econ. Geog.)

##### Associated Board of Music.

D. W. Rose, Piano, Grade III. Credit.  
C. R. Craig, Piano, Grade II.

##### College of Preceptors.

- B. M. Goss, Prelim. Hons., 8 subjects, 2 distinctions.  
A. C. Phillips, Prelim. Hons., 9 subjects, 1 Distinction.  
D. H. Goble, Prelim. Pass., 8 subjects.  
R. E. Green, Prelim. Pass., 8 subjects.  
D. G. Gibbons, Prelim. Pass. 5 subjects.

##### Pitman's Typewriting.

- R. E. Green, Elem. 2nd class.  
D. G. Gibbons, Elem. 1st class.  
R. T. Filmer, Elem. 2nd class.

##### College of Preceptors, Junior.

- J. K. Mudd, Hons., 9 subjects, 2 dist.  
B. I. Johnson, Hons. 9 subjects, 1 dist.  
A. C. Phillips, Pass. 10 subjects.  
B. M. Goss, Pass. 9 subjects, 2 dist.  
A. J. King, Pass. 8 subjects.  
D. H. Goble, Pass. 7 subjects.  
R. E. Green, Pass. 6 subjects.  
M. A. Sykes, Pass. 5 subjects.  
B. Larman, Prelim. Hons., 9 subjects, 2 dist.  
D. G. Avard, Prelim. Pass. 7 subjects.  
A. J. K. Reed, Prelim. Pass., 5 subjects.  
H. D. Budge, Lower Forms, 7 subjects.  
P. B. Bolas, Lower Forms, 7 subjects.  
P. F. Caporn, Lower Forms, 6 subjects.  
D. M. Finn, Lower Forms, 6 subjects.  
D. M. Skinner, Lower Forms, 5 subjects.  
L. Y. Wickens, Lower Forms, 5 subjects.  
J. Grigsby, Lower Forms, 4 subjects.

Owing to the growth of the school it is becoming increasingly urgent to have more accommodation at our disposal. The big room at No. 8 has been a useful temporary addition to the school but we hope to be able to house the whole school at No. 66. A School Hall Fund has therefore been launched and it has been suggested that an appeal be made in due course for contributions to this fund as a part of the memorial to those who have given their lives in both this and the last war. Definite plans as to the scope and style of the Hall will be decided when the approximate size of the Fund is known. At present the Principal, Mr. H. I. Piper, and the school solicitor, Mr. A. J. Wood, are acting as joint trustees for the fund and a managing committee will be appointed as soon as it reaches three figures. It is possible that the Invicta Hall might form a good laboratory or gymnasium. The

new hall could then be used for concerts and assemblies as well as for teaching purposes.

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During the year we have again increased the staff. Mr. B. Fitzpatrick, M.A., has taken charge of the Fourth Form and also the History for the Forms from the Sixth down to the Third. Mr. Fitzpatrick has already proved himself a popular and enthusiastic member of the school staff.

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The War Savings Group has eclipsed its own record. The figures for 1943 were:—Easter Term £146/17/9. Summer Term. £116/17/6. Christmas Term, £120/15/4. Our Target of £500 for the Wings-for-Victory Week was completely smashed by the magnificent total of £855/3/0. The grand total for the year amounted to £1,239/12/8. The worst of these large sums is that it is difficult to beat it in 1944.

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We are indebted to the Rev. W. E. Purcell for the Church Services at the beginning and end of each term. A good number of parents attended at the Christmas Service which included a number of carols and special music. Parents and friends are always very welcome at these services and an invitation to attend is extended whenever these services occur.

Our box collections have shown an increase and resulted as follows:—Waifs and Strays (present collector — Westacott, taking over from J. Gladdish), £2/15/0. The R.S.P.C.A., (Woodward), £1/7/6. West Kent Hospital, (Stigle), 15/-. Poppy Day, (Sykes), £2/9/5. Tuberculosis Fund (Sykes), 8/6. The Church Collections were devoted to the R.A.F. Benevolent Fund, £1/10/-, and the Merchant Navy Comforts, £1/16/-. Our best thanks to donors and collectors.

Two sacks of books and magazines were forwarded to the Sea War Library Service for distribution to the Merchant Seamen. Quite a number of our O.B's are in this service and they all say how greatly this reading matter is appreciated.

The Sale of Work on behalf of the School Hall Fund realised £12/2/0. The two competitions were won by J. Chittenden (duck) and Mr. Fitzpatrick (eggs).

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Nearly 20 boys took boxes on behalf of Dr. Barnardo's Homes and when opened last February the total was just over £8/10/0. The boxes now issued will be called in shortly. Miss Ramsbotham gave a lantern lecture in this connection at Invicta Hall

and the Senior Boys stewarded the Musical Display at the Corn Exchange.

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Miss Ford gave a lantern lecture on Indian Schoolchildren on behalf of the Zenana Mission. This specially appealed to the girls.

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A number of boys have again assisted with the Christmas mail at the Post Office. We were greatly impressed when one of our imposition specialists gravely walked into school and handed up—a bundle of Christmas Cards. Others assisted during the long holidays with agriculture and quite big sums of money were earned. One boy confidently stated that now he pays his own school-fees!

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A most enjoyable outing took place in the Easter term when Mr. Piper took a party of nearly 20 to the New Theatre to see "The Merchant of Venice." The visit co-incided with the London War Savings Drive and we heard speeches by Mr. Eden and the Soviet Ambassador as well as seeing the bomber in Trafalgar Square, and the American and R.A.F. services procession.

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The Middle and Junior Schools visited the Regal to see "The Scarlet Pimpernel," as a sequel to a series of lessons on the French Revolution.

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## THE CHRISTMAS EXHIBITION.

The following account is taken from the "Kent Messenger" of 31st December:—An Exhibition of models and display of work was presented by the pupils on Wednesday last week, when a high standard of skill was plainly visible in some of the ingenious ways in which the model-makers had overcome the shortage of materials. Scale model airplanes took a high place and showed that hours of work must have been expended upon them, but the best pieces of craftsmanship were undoubtedly the display of ships and yachts, a section which has always been well to the fore in these exhibitions. The A.T.C. boys and the Naval Cadets have been competing for some time past. The judge was Mr. A. M. Skeffington, B.Sc. A sale of work was also held in support of the School Hall Fund and realised just over £12. The results were as follows:—

Working Models. 1, R. England; 2, B. Philpott; 3, G. Letham.  
 Still Models. 1, C. West; 2, A. Monckton; 3, G. McGinty.  
 Models in any Materials. 1, A. Hook; 2, W. Manchett.  
 Ships. 1, J. Taylor; 2, L. Town.  
 Wireless Sets. 1, Peter Bolas; 2, B. Johnson.  
 Scale Aeroplanes. 1, R. Bird; 2, W. Burrows; 3, N. Walker.  
 Duration Planes. 1, W. Woodward; 2, N. Curl.  
 Needlework. 1, Dorothy Finn; 2, Rosemary French; 3, Mary Woodhams.  
 Senior Drawing. 1, R. Barham; 2, N. Walker; 3, D. Skinner.  
 Junior Drawing. 1, R. Bridger; 2, R. French; 3, B. Gray.  
 Black-and-White Drawing. 1, R. Larman; 2, C. West.  
 Pencil Drawing. 1, V. Craxton; 2, A. Monckton;  
 Senior Maps. 1, L. Town; 2, B. Goss; 3, J. King.  
 Junior Maps. 1, C. Craig; 2, B. Philpott.  
 Stamps. 1, G. Wilkinson; 2, J. Branchett.

### THE TRAMP.

Onward, ever slowly steaming  
 Till arrives the voyage end,  
 O'er the wavetops ever gleaming  
 Bringing goods of Lease and Lend,  
 Comes a sturdy British Trader;  
 Rusty hull, grey paintwork glistening,  
 Always ready come what may,  
 Trusty lookout watching, listening,  
 Hoping Fritz won't come to-day.  
 This is but a single tramp,  
 Others of the selfsame stamp,  
 Manned by men of matchless bravery,  
 Help to save the world from slavery  
 And hold on high our Freedom's lamp.

J. K. Mudd.

### THE ATHLETIC SPORTS.

A large attendance gathered at the Athletic Ground on the evening of Friday, 16th July and another very successful event showed that the sports still maintain a great appeal to parents, pupils and the general public, in spite of war conditions.

The meeting had been postponed from the previous Wednesday.

The competitors put up a good show, but conditions prevented any new records being put up.

The House competition gave St. Augustine's the challenge cup for the year. St. Nicholas being runners-up with 137 points against the leaders' 192. St. Peter's took third place with 131, and School 99.

The swimming and the preliminary heats were run off on the previous Monday and resulted in the senior swimming cup going to J. L. Taylor, while M. J. Turrell retained the junior trophy. The senior victor ludorum cup went to B. J. Fernig, with 27 points, D. Goble runner-up, with 18 points. The junior cup again went to A. C. Phillips, whose 19 points were only two ahead of his nearest competitor, D. Bates.

Mr. Piper thanked the prize donors and all others who had contributed to the success of the event. The cups and prizes were distributed by Mrs. Piper and the evening closed with the customary cheers.

The results were as follows:—100 yards.—Class I: Goble, Fernig, Town; II: Phillips, Bates, Philpott; III: Craig and Ross, (tie), Vallack; IV and V: Cheeseman, Mitchell, Bridger.

220 yards.—Class I: Fernig, Goble, Barham; II: Phillips, Bates, Philpott; III: Craig, Ross, Vallack; IV: Cheeseman, Mitchell, Piper.

440 yards.—Class I: Goble, Fernig, Barham; II: Phillips, Bates, Lewin; III and IV: Craig, Swan ii, Anscombe.

Half-mile.—I: Goble, Town, Fernig; II to IV: Phillips, King ii, Bates.

60 yards.—Class V: Brewer, Hitch, Court.

80 yards.—Class V: Brewer, Court, Moore ii.

High Jump.—Class I: Fernig, (4ft. 7in.), Barham, Wilcox; II: Phillips (4ft. 2in.), Bates, Bolas i; III: Branchett (4ft. 1in.), Anscombe, Vallack; IV: Lumsden ii.

Long Jump.—Class I: Fernig (15ft. 9in.), Barham, Johnson; II: Bates (16ft 7in.), Phillips, Curl; III: Anscombe (13ft. 5in.), Craig, Ross; IV and V: Cheeseman (11ft. 7in.), Hickin, West.

Cricket Ball.—Class I: Fernig (77yds.), Finn, Avar d i; II: Bates (72yds.), Phillips, Grigsby; III: Anscombe (67yds.), Branchett, Page; IV and V: Brewer, Mitchell, Munn.

Off to business, girls only: D. Finn, L. Wickins, M. Woodhams.

Old Boys' Race, 100 yards: R. W. Westbrook, T. R. Budge, E. A. Barham.

Gentlemen's race, 100 yards: Mr. Ross, Mr. Craig, Mr. Mitchell.

Ladies' race, 100 yards: Miss Bolas, Miss Evans, Mrs. Fish.

Potato race.—Class I: Johnson, Wilcox, Stigle; II: Phillips, Philpott, Lewin; III: Craig, Swan ii, Branchett; IV and V: Cheeseman, Hickin, Skinner ii.

Egg and Spoon.—I: Walker, Filmer, Viner i; II, Bolas i, Philpott, Lewin; III: Craig, Swan ii, Finn ii; IV: Mitchell, Smith, Skinner ii; V: Swaffer Hitch, Court.

Sack race.—I and II: Sykes, Stigle, Metcalfe; III: Craig, Philpott, Bolas i; IV: Bolas ii, Cuneen, Letham.

Slow Cycle.—Class I: Goble, Reed, Barham; II: Grigsby; III to V: Brooker, Page, Swaffer.

Three-legged.—Class I and II: Bolas i and Lewin, Fernig and Finn i, Phillips and Johnson; III and IV: Craig and Swan i, Wickin i and Gray I.

Relay race.—St. Augustine, St. Nicholas, St. Peter.

Tug-of-war.—Anscombe's Team.

Swimming.—Senior Sprint: Gibbons, Taylor i, Hopkins; Junior: Bates, Turrell, Viner ii; endurance: Hopkins, Taylor i, Turrell; diving: Wilcox, Marshall, Taylor i.

## CRICKET.

The House Cricket results were—St. Augustine beat School by 35 runs; and also beat St. Peter by 2 runs; St. Peter beat St. Nicholas by 2 runs; St. Peter beat School by 10 runs but lost the other game by 7 wickets. St. Nicholas beat St. Augustine by 30 runs and later by 80 runs; St. Nicholas beat School by 20 runs.

### FINAL POSITIONS.

	Played.	Won.	Lost.	Points.
St. Nicholas	4	3	1	6
St. Augustine	4	2	2	4
St. Peter	4	2	2	4
School	4	1	3	2

Owing to the present difficulties it is impossible to arrange our usual full fixture list for the 1st XI with the result that only 4 matches were played and of these 3 were won. We defeated a Teston XI both at home and away but were beaten by the 1049th Squadron of the A.T.C. We were successful in the hardest and most important game—against the Old Boys— and decisively beat them. A 2nd XI team beat an XI from the Technical.

### CRITICISMS OF THE TEAM.

- B. Fernig has made a reliable and successful captain. He has played with judgement and shown all-round ability.
- W. N. Swan, as Vice-Captain, has proved a reliable opening batsman.
- D. Finn has been a consistent bowler and a good fielder.
- R. Filmer has developed into a good batsman but would do well to get more fielding practice.
- C. Anscombe is a very promising player and should be one of the strongest in 1944. Excellent for his age.
- P. Viner is good in the field and with a little more experience should give good performances with the bat.
- D. Avar and J. Avar have proved excellent all-round players. There is very little to choose between them, as befits twin brothers.
- D. Bates has been a good hard hitter.
- J. Branchett is a younger player who displays great ability for his age.

We are grateful to Mr. Williams who still takes an interest in the cricket and who has helped us on various occasions during the season.

## FOOTBALL.

The House Football results during 1943 were:—

School beat St. Peter, 2—0 and 2—1; St. Nicholas beat St. Augustine, 2—1 and 4—3, also drew 2—2; St. Augustine beat School 4—0 and 16—1; St. Nicholas beat St. Peter, 3—2 and 12—0; St. Nicholas beat School 7—2 and 6—2; St. Augustine beat St. Peter, 2—1 and 8—5.

### FINAL POSITIONS.

	Played.	Won.	Lost.	Drawn.	Goals		Points.
					For	Against	
St. Nicholas	7	6	0	1	36	12	13
St. Augustine	7	4	2	1	36	15	9
School	6	2	4	0	9	34	0
St. Peter	6	0	6	0	9	29	0

### THE SCHOOLMASTER SPEAKS.

When I was a boy at school I had my own father as Headmaster. For me this provided a strange mixture of happiness and unrest because although it was an advantage to have access to the school at all hours I did hate to overhear my classmates speak of school affairs in that insolent fashion which one associates with irresponsibility. On fine days we paraded in front of a long white wall which enclosed a cemetery and marched into school in single file feeling more important as the years went by. I always associate brilliant sunshine with crows because after lunch on fine days the playground was filled with birds looking for crumbs which had fallen from small hands. As we lived in the country we generally found hide-and-seek a dull game and loved to play at Red Indians in the fields and woods beyond the school. And this sometimes led to accidents and quarrels which were settled after lessons in the usual savage manner of two people kicking and scratching each other whilst everybody else yelled encouragement. It was to prevent this sort of thing which led to my father dismissing us by calling out the points of the compass at four o'clock on the assumption that two bullies cannot live on the same stretch of road. I remember one very cold winter it was found necessary to send us out every day at eleven

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o'clock to run a quarter of a mile and back. We referred to this break as 'The Run' and although there is a new school now and the winters are not so cold the boys and girls still speak of their break as 'The Run.'

My father spoke with great fervour on many subjects and was for ever reminding us of greatness as personified in men he had known or read of. His list included St. Patrick, Lloyd George, Field-Marshal Foch, Mr. Churchill, President Wilson, and the chief of the Scotland Yard Flying Squad and a famous Harley St. Surgeon both of whom were natives of his own parish. We were well instructed in the Arts of War and Peace and although we knew of the 'Daily Mail' editorials which had forced the hand of the War Cabinet during the Great War, virtue and vice as exemplified by simple happenings in our own district were always considered worthy of mention in the daily review. Text-books were almost ignored, there was no home-work and nearly all the teaching and learning was oral. All this I loved and by the age of twelve I was well versed in politics, history, geography and mathematics and was able to speak and write with ease in two languages.

With all this I had managed to have a very happy boyhood. On fine summer evenings I read books in a small meadow near the house or played at being a traffic 'cop' behind the Church. When I was ten I came into the possession of three white rabbits which I shut up in a large cage in our back garden. I don't believe I have ever loved or understood animals and so treated my pets as curios. Even so, every evening after school I walked through the fields in search of food and came back with a sack filled with luscious clover. And on Saturday mornings I took my three bunnies to a green patch where they could have sun and exercise. But after, one of them died and on Boxing Day the second one lay still in the winter snow despite my brother's efforts to revive him with whiskey. Three weeks later the third was killed by a monster of a dog belonging to a burly red-faced man. This upset me very much and although I have always been frightened of dead things I took the white stiff body to the grave-digger and asked him to bury it. This is my earliest recollection of wanting to cry but I went through the necessary procedure and have never since bothered with animals. All this sounds very blasphemous as not even a white rabbit is entitled to Christian burial but it serves to show what a part the local grave-digger played in our lives. This man had been digging graves for forty years and had never travelled outside his own parish yet was possessed of a natural cleverness which many people must have envied.

(To be concluded).

## BATTLE.

The slim-winged fish of the air that are diving  
In a close formation falling apart,  
With a laugh like the devil from harsh guns raving  
Their chattering cry while the bullets spurt. . .  
. . . the bullets that plunge through the smooth metal skin  
Of an engine cowling, then the fumes and the heat  
From the silent engine, the slow sad spin,  
The half-slumped body, the blood on the seat.

R. Westbrook.

## CONCERT AND PRIZE DISTRIBUTION, 1943.

(The following account of the Concert on 10th June is taken from the "Kent Messenger.")

The twelfth annual entertainment and prize distribution of the Commercial School, Maidstone, was held at the Corn Exchange on Thursday evening last week. In presenting a brief report of the year's working, the principal (Mr. H. I. Piper) said the main difficulty was not accommodation or equipment, but staffing.

The school, he added, had touched a high record for numbers and examination results had been highly satisfactory. A fund had been started to erect a Memorial Hall, which would prove very useful for many school purposes.

Prize-winners would notice their awards were small books, as instead of the usual gift books, National Savings stamps of equivalent value had been presented.

Officers of the R.A.F. had visited the school in connection with the Wings for Victory Week and a target of £500 had been set, an average of nearly £4 per head. The prizes were presented by Mrs. Piper.

## CONCERT PROGRAMME.

Songs by the two school choirs were sung under the direction of Miss Weedon, and a number of plays were given. They included two French sketches under the direction of Miss Newman. The junior boys gave a scene from "Alice in Wonderland," under the direction of Miss O'Boy. The middle school under Mr. Howard, gave a realistic jungle play, while the senior boys presented a dramatic version of the life of Robert Clive, and an enjoyable burlesque in mime was put on by the older boys, in addition to a comedy laid in a dental surgery.

A scene from the "Taming of the Shrew," and solo items on the piano by Miss Weedon, David Rose and Colin West, were included in the programme, but the popular item was the Victory Troupe presented by Mrs. Piper's percussion band, in which some of the performers were only five years old. The number included club swinging, solo bell items, Irish jig, accordian and a tableau of Britannia.

## PRIZE WINNERS.

The Prize list was as follows:—

Public examinations.—London Matriculation: T. F. Lederer.

College of Preceptors: Senior honours, R. J. Knight (three distinctions); senior pass, W. A. Gibbons (one distinction), B. J. Fernig, G. C. Cheeseman; junior pass, D. C. Finn, G. V. Wilkinson, W. N. Swan, E. J. Howard; preliminary honours, K. J. Mudd (one distinction); preliminary pass, B. I. Johnson, A. J. King, B. D. Ives (one distinction each): R. B. H. Metcalfe, W. J. Solly, P. J. Viner, M. A. Sykes.

London Chamber of Commerce; Handwriting R. J. Knight, A. J. King, W. J. Solly, B. M. Fletcher.

Pitman's Typewriting: Elementary, 1st class, W. A. Gibbons, B. M. Fletcher.

Associated Board of Music: Piano, grade 2, D. W. Rose.

Form Prizes.—Upper Fourth, A. Phillips, R. Sloman, B. Goss, J. Stearn; Lower Fourth, R. Westacott, P. Bolas 1., D. Swan; Upper Third, H. Budge, M. Turrell, P. Caporn, T. Grice; Lower Third, B. Payne, P. Burrows, A. Crouch; Upper Second, R. Bridger, T. Baker, B. Philpott; Lower Second, D. Earl, W. Burrows, P. Bolas ii.

Exhibition Prizes.—D. Goble, C. West, W. Stigle, P. Bolas i., M. Taylor, D. Benton, R. Brewer, A. Reed, B. Gray, B. Ashby, D. Skinner, R. Green, M. Turrell.

School Certificates.—R. Green, L. Town, J. Gladdish, J. Viner, R. Wickens, A. Barkaway.

Scrap Book Competition.—J. King, J. Taylor.

War Work effort.—B. F. Hopkins.

Preparatory.—M. Mitchell, M. Hickin, P. Chainey, D. Gray, A. Wicken, G. Smith, H. Swaffer, T. Spooner, J. Topley, A. Moore, G. Wilton, K. Court, J. Lane, B. Hardy, J. Hitch, P. Hunt, R. Honey.

## CHALLENGE CUPS.

Captain's Cup, R. J. Knight and B. J. Fernig (jointly); Football House cup, St. Nicholas (W. N. Swan); Cricket House cup, St. Augustine (G. Cheeseman); Champion House, St. Augustine (B. J. Fernig).

Chess championship, W. N. Swan; Tennis Tournament, D. G. Finn; Business and commercial, W. A. Gibbons; Best Cricketer, W. N. Swan; House Chess competition, School (R. Metcalfe); House school work, St. Augustine (B. J. Fernig).

## HOW STANLEY FOUND LIVINGSTONE.

One of the most interesting stories about African explorers is how Stanley found Livingstone.

A newspaper editor in New York, one evening, asked Stanley if he were willing to look for Livingstone who had been missing



in Africa for a long time. Stanley said he would go and immediately set out for Africa. He knew Livingstone often risked his life to help the poor slaves who were taken by the Arabs. Stanley had to travel a long way through thick jungle and meet with many dangers from wild animals. Sometimes the native chiefs opposed him and made his progress more difficult.

After many weeks of hardship he was one day surprised to meet a black man in a white robe who spoke to him in English. This was Susi, Livingstone's faithful servant, and Stanley knew that Livingstone could not be far away. Very soon the two white men met at a place near Lake Taganyika.

They made some wonderful journeys together and they found a river which they hoped was the upper part of the Nile but it turned out to be a river flowing into the Congo. When Stanley returned, Livingstone insisted upon remaining behind. He died soon afterwards and his body was carried down to the coast by his faithful servants and was then brought to England and laid in Westminster Abbey.

F. Brasington.

### OWED TO PIETY.

If you're feeling black and blue, And you're getting in a stew  
Because your homework's marked 'Redo.' If you're feeling like  
a worm Crawling towards the end of term, There's only one thing  
you can do,—

Join the ———.

If your ruler's done a bunk, And your compass sent for junk, Let  
not your soul in gloom be sunk, You must smile and kill the germ  
That's apt to bite you during term, You need not be a cloistered  
monk,—

Join the ———.

Though life be gloomy, dull and bare, And fellow culprits pull  
your hair, A cheerful cove will not despair, But ask the firm  
with fervour huge, In spite of homework, lipstick, rouge, To  
choose you now at once as their,—

Assistant ———.

Yet there's a risk you can't neglect, The class of chap the firm  
elect. You've got to scrounge, orate, detect, All wandering books  
must quickly spot And seize them while the trail is hot. But  
all this poem I suspect Is here to show you what a lot Of silly  
notions boys have got. And so I say,—

Don't read the ———.

(P.S. The last word rimes with 'Pot.')

William Takesbeer,

### OLD BOYS' NOTES

The following account of the annual dinner is taken from the "Kent Messenger," of the 26th February.

A goodly number of members of the Commercial School Old Boys' Association gathered for their annual dinner and re-union, at the New Inn, on Saturday evening.

The chairman, Mr. A. J. Wood, proposed the toast, "Absent friends and members on active service," and read a list of the eleven Old Boys, who had given their lives during the present war, and also of two who are prisoners of war, and added that everyone present sincerely hoped that the next occasion of a re-union would mark the victory celebrations.

Mr. D. C. Jones and Mr. F. E. M. Betts (for the younger members) suitably replied, in place of Wing-Commander Finn whom operations had prevented from attending.

Mr. A. M. Williams, who had been secretary for many years, proposed "the School" which he said fulfilled a well-defined need in the town. He was proud to have had some share in the work of the School, and concluded with some humorous reminiscences of incidents connected with members of the Association.

The President, Mr. H. I. Piper, said the policy had always been to develop character and personality by hard work and a certain sturdy independence. They welcomed the Education Bill as it would mean recognition of the efficient independent schools and close down the inefficient ones. Plans are being considered for the provision of a school hall, which was urgently required, and a fund had been inaugurated for that purpose.

On behalf of the staff, Mr. B. Fitzpatrick, one of the vice-chairmen, said he liked to carry happy memories of both school days, and of teaching times, and he felt this was the case now.

The toast of "The Association," was in the hands of Mr. V. F. S. Brett, vice-president, who reminded members of their good fortune of having an association all ready for them to join the moment of leaving school, and he urged them to support it by all means in their power. The stronger the association the greater the power and influence of the school in the town.

In reply, Mr. T. C. George said the organisation had been going strong for several years and these re-unions were a unique opportunity of renewing these associations.

Mr. R. Westbrook appealed for more support for the chess and sports sections. The latter was necessarily in abeyance during the war, but there still remained the chess, and discussion group, and he reported enthusiasm for the latter venture.

In addition to the members mentioned in the above account, there were present Messrs. C. L. Howard, W. F. Pearson, R. J. Knight, W. A. Gibbons, G. V. Wilkinson, G. C. Cheeseman, T. F. Lederer, B. J. Fernig, L. E. Town, R. C. Marshall, D. E. Richardson, J. Solly, R. Sawyer, P. J. King, A. C. Clarke, R. A. Rawlings, L. W. Walker, and A. E. Barham.

Congratulations to Barry Ball, Ray Rand, and Roy Bushby who have married during 1943. Also to B. W. Finn upon the birth of a second daughter.

About 105 new members have joined the O.B.A. since 1936. We would like to see every boy who leaves school becoming a member as soon as he leaves. A strong association is vital and when the boys come home at the end of this war they will hope to find that the O.B.A. is active and ready to welcome them again to the former activities and some new ones as well. And, of course, the Hon. Treas. reminds me, don't forget to pay up the annual sub. even before it is asked for.

It is with deep regret that we have to record the deaths of three of our Old Boys. Sgt. Kenneth P. Froud was lost while on operations over Germany. It is just 10 years ago since he left school. Derrick A. Reynolds, who left in 1933, died after illness last December. Ronald W. Clark died in January in the West Kent Hospital at the age of 14 after a long illness following rheumatic fever. We extend sincere sympathies to the parents of these lads.

All Old Boys are urged to retain their names on the list of subscribers to the School Magazine. The cost has not been increased and stands at 2/6 for three issues. Owing to printing difficulties numbers will appear at irregular intervals but we are endeavouring to publish at least one issue per year. The membership subscription to the Old Boys' Association can be sent at the same time as the Magazine subscription. At present this stands at a nominal minimum of 1/-. Mr. Piper will be glad to let you have particulars.

## SALUTE—THE—SOLDIER WEEK.

Army Message to the School Savings Group:—

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