



The School Magazine
OF THE
MAIDSTONE
COMMERCIAL
SCHOOL.

Vol. VII. No. 21.
September — 1937.

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MAIDSTONE COMMERCIAL SCHOOL MAGAZINE.

Vol. VII. No. 21.

September, 1937.

SCHOOL HISTORY.

Thursday, 16th September.—Term begins.
Tuesday, 28th September.—Old Boys' Meeting.
Tuesday and Wednesday 26th and 27th October.—Waifs and Strays Pageant.
Monday, 1st November.—Half-term.
Monday, 8th November.—Chamber of Commerce Examinations.
Monday, 29th November.—College of Preceptors Examinations.
Tuesday, 30th November.—Old Boys' Meeting.
Saturday, 18th December.—Meccano Exhibition and end of Term.
Provisional dates for next year:
Easter Term.—12th January to 12th April.
Summer Term.—4th May to 30th July.
Christmas Term.—21st September to 21st December.

SALVETE.

The following were admitted in April:—
No. 206. A. J. Barkaway, IIIa (St. Augustine's).
No. 207. R. D. Johnson, Prep. (St. Augustine's).
No. 208. P. Jeffery, Prep. (St. Augustine's).

IN MEMORIAM.

It is with deep sorrow that we have to record the death of John Hooker which occurred on Friday, 11th June, as the result of a cycling accident the previous evening. John, who was Captain of both Cricket and Football Teams, was most popular with everyone and had won for himself a unique place in our affections by his unflinching cheerfulness and good humour. Besides being Captain of School House, he has held the Chess Cup and many other sports and school prizes since he entered the school in January 1933. Our deepest sympathy is extended to Mr. and Mrs. Hooker and his brother. His entire form and many other friends from the school were present at the funeral at Maidstone Cemetery.

Since our last issue the following Examination Successes have been secured:—

Typewriting.—R. D. Sackrée, Advanced Stage, 3rd Class Certificate. R. T. Rand, Intermediate Stage, 1st Class Certificate. F. E. M. Betts, Intermediate Stage, 1st Class Certificate. E. C. Austin, Elementary Stage, 1st Class Certificate. N. A. Ashton, Elementary Stage, 1st Class Certificate. R. D. Corke, Elementary Stage, 2nd Class Certificate.

Shorthand.—D. R. V. Noakes, Speed Certificate, 80 words. E. C. Austin, Stage II Theory Certificate. N. A. Ashton, Stage II Theory Certificate. W. Tucker, Stage I Theory Certificate. R. T. Rand, Stage I Theory Certificate.

Music.—F. A. Hunt, Trinity College Certificate, Preparatory Div.

The results of the London Chamber of Commerce Examinations are not yet to hand.

In accordance with the Royal Command a week's holiday was granted for the Coronation and on our return the special medals, presented by the Maidstone Corporation, were distributed by the Rev. A. S. Cooper at St. Peter's Church. This service replaced the usual beginning of term service.

The use of the Cinema as an educational factor is growing and several excellent films have been seen this term. Among these was one issued by the Ford Company which gave us a good insight into the automobile industry. The one sponsored by the National Tea Growers' Association was exceptionally interesting and showed the conditions under which tea is produced and revealed some of the beauties of Ceylon.

We should like to bring again to the notice of parents the service of hot mid-day meals at school. The importance of a hot meal during the colder weather cannot be over-stressed and this facility should prove a boon to those who are unable to go home for dinner. The service also applies to boys who only require an occasional hot dinner.

The grounds round the school are being rapidly improved and the rockeries and lawns have appeared very beautiful this summer. Yet it is still necessary to remind a few boys that there is a proper place for litter.

Our connection with the British Petrol has been continued under the auspices of the British Ship Adoption Society. We were very happy to receive Captain Stott on three occasions this term. On one afternoon he brought a most interesting collection

of photographs of some of the places he had visited, and about which we have heard in our correspondence with the ship. He has been most generous with his time and pleased to answer the various questions from all sections of the school. Captain Stott is also a keen philatelist and spent a happy morning showing us his interesting collection. He expressed his appreciation of some of the map work done at the school.

One of the attractions of the Summer Term is Swimming on Monday afternoons. Free swimming lessons are provided and a record number of boys have taken advantage of this opportunity of learning to swim. Badges have been awarded to D. Fraser, D. Froud, H. Gosling, C. Larkin, P. Anderson, E. Tomsett, B. Westover, and A. Smith.

The usual collections for the Hospitals and the R.S.P.C.A. have been continued. Mr. Bettle will be glad to receive tin foil on behalf of the Ophthalmic Hospital.

The school branch of the National Savings Movement was started last January and so far has 26 members who saved a total sum of £12 16s. 8d. during the Easter and Summer Terms. Boys are urged to join the movement and thus form a habit of thrift and to be in a position to have money available for holidays or any purpose they require. The members of the branch sent in an excellent set of paintings for competition and the results were adjudged as follows:—1st, E. Leeves, 2nd, D. Fraser, 3rd, J. Stott, Consolation, R. Croucher. The prizes took the form of savings stamps and apparently were more appreciated than the more usual type of prize. Mr. Bettle is school secretary, and will be glad to give any boy full information.

A number of our boys assisted Kousin Mac at the Keg Meg Fete on Whit Monday. He wishes us to thank those boys and to say that their help was invaluable especially as he knows he can rely upon the job being carried out thoroughly and without constant supervision.

Although it has been summer several boys have continued to use the library considerably. Naturally we expect heavier borrowings next term. The librarians will be pleased to receive further books to add to the collection as old books become worn out. Thanks are due to W. Tucker and C. Bincham for acting as librarians and to G. Reynolds and M. Betts for the presentation of books.

The last day of term was selected for a school exhibition of work and open day. Specimens of work were on view in every

department and a marquee in the meadow held a wonderful display of work by the Preparatory. A very large number of parents and other visitors inspected the work and the school premises and expressed their appreciation of what they saw. The exhibition was mainly intended to show the work and methods employed in the Preparatory Department and the work which Mrs. Piper has succeeded in turning out from these little ones was really marvellous. The whole of their work during the school examinations was mounted on display sheets and the handwork done during the term occupied several tables. The models and colouring and the method of teaching English and History became the subject of much favourable comment.

Exhibits showing other school activities were on view, including our work with the National Savings Movement, the Ship Adoption Scheme, the Neurath Picture Method, Individual Work and Special Study Books and also a Stamp Display by the bigger boys. A copy of the Times newspaper over 100 years old was kindly lent by the Hon. Mrs. A. Fraser, the advertisements for Schools and Schoolmasters read very quaintly.

Mrs. Piper asks us to say that the main purpose of the Exhibition was to enable parents to judge the work of their own children in comparison with that of other children of the same age, and also to see how all the subjects of the syllabus are interconnected and correlated to give reasonable progress in all subjects at the same time.

During the term the Third Form compiled a set of Coronation Scrap Books, and P. Gibbs secured the 1st prize, a cup presented by Mr. Bettle, N. Hogg was 2nd and K. Fraser 3rd. Mrs Piper kindly judged the efforts and awarded the 2nd and 3rd prizes.

UPPER SCHOOL NOTES.

During the Spring Term "special study books" were made by the members of the Upper School. Each boy has selected his own subject, and collected all the information he could by means of pictures and diagrams. At the beginning of this Term Mrs. Piper very kindly consented to judge these efforts. The prize presented by Mr. Williams was awarded to R. Rand whose subject was "Roads," and reached a very high level of excellence. Mrs. Piper was so pleased with the general standard that she awarded three extra prizes to Moore, Betts and Bincham, and Mr. Piper gave a prize to Austin for his study of "Wireless." We are very grateful for these extra prizes.

We were pleased that all those who entered for the Type-writing examinations passed. We should like to see still more taking this essential subject.

During the term an interesting innovation has been made. A tennis section has been organised for those interested. This really takes the place of chess during the Summer Term, and the game is played at 4 o'clock on Friday afternoons. To be able to play tennis is a useful social asset, and it is certainly a health-giving game. In addition we hope that now many more boys will enter for the Old Boys' Tournament when they leave School. Our centre at present is Clare Park, and we often have all four courts in use. At the start only a few boys had any knowledge of the game, and the first day's play was rather spectacular, balls flying in any but the right direction. However, now there is a great improvement, and several boys play quite well.

Towards the end of term a Tournament was arranged, and Mr. Piper kindly presented a cup for the best player. The finals will be played off in September, but the results so far are: Round 1, Tucker beat Betts, Rand beat Ellison, Westover beat Ashton, Leeves beat Bincham, Gosling beat Bradley, and Corke bye. Round 2. Here the games were much more strenuous. Gosling beat Westover, 2-6, 6-2, 6-4. Rand beat Leeves, 6-4, 6-4, and Rand beat Corke 6-2, 6-3, Tucker bye. The final has thus to be fought between Gosling, Rand and Tucker. M. Betts has acted as secretary.

For all of us the Summer Term usually passes too quickly. In addition to outings, cricket, swimming and tennis we had this Term a number of examinations, including the London Chamber of Commerce. However quickly the Summer has gone we can at least look back on a term of useful achievement, and happy memories.

Our special and expert correspondent tells us that "The Royal Mint is what the King puts on his lamb," and that "John Wesley was created Duke of Wellington."

ANNUAL SCHOOL SPORTS.

The Sixth Annual Sports took place on Wednesday, 7th July, and once again we were favoured with superb weather. The most notable feature was the astonishing jumping of G. Reynolds who not only broke the record for the high jump in his own section (Junior), but also broke that of the School by clearing 4ft. 8ins. Mr. Allen again kindly acted as starter, and we are indebted to Messrs. A. Fraser, W. Gosling, E. Winsor and members of the Old Boys' Association for acting as judges, and to Mr. Noakes for acting as time-keeper. Mr. A. M. Williams was Hon. Secretary and Mr. E. G. A. Bettle Hon. Treasurer. We cannot sufficiently express our appreciation to those who by their donations or contributions of prizes ensured

the success of the afternoon. The following is taken from the "Kent Messenger":—

"There was keen inter-house competition in the 6th Annual Sports by the Commercial School and The Elms Preparatory School, when the House Cup was won by St. Peter's with 239 points. St. Augustine's came second with 151 points and School House third with 143.

The Victor Ludorum was carried off by D. Bradley, of the senior department, who gained 27 points and G. Reynolds, of the junior department, won the Victor Ludorum for his department.

Lady Garrard Tyrwhitt-Drake distributed the prizes, and was presented with a bouquet by little Miss F. Piper.

The results were:—

High Jump, open.—1, R. Rand. Ditto, under 14.—1, G. Reynolds; 2, C. Beale; 3, A. Smith.

Potato Race, open.—1, R. Hill; 2, M. Betts; 3, P. Sackrée. Ditto, under 14.—1, E. Knott; 2, R. Westbrook; 3, C. Beale. Ditto, under 12.—1, A. Ellis; 2, J. Thirkell. Ditto, under 10.—1, G. Cheeseman; 2, P. Stearn; 3, J. Stott.

440 Yards (handicap), open.—1, D. Bradley; 2, C. Larkin; 3, P. Sackrée. Ditto, under 14.—1, G. Reynolds; 2, R. Westbrook; 3, R. Marshall.

Obstacle Races, open.—1, D. Fraser; 2, D. Bradley; 3, B. Westover. Ditto, under 14.—1, A. Baker; 2, C. Beale; 3, R. Westbrook. Ditto, under 12.—1, R. Marshall; 2, A. Ellis; 3, G. Griffen.

Swimming Races, seniors.—1, P. Sackrée; 2, F. Adley. Juniors.—1, C. Beale; 2, P. Anderson.

Throwing the Cricket Ball, open.—1, D. Bradley; 2, W. Tucker; 3, R. Rand. Ditto, under 14.—1, E. Tomsett; 2, J. Thirkell; 3, J. Le Feaver.

Tug-of-War.—Reynold's team.

House Relay Race.—St. Peter's.

Egg and Spoon, open.—1, R. Hill; 2, D. Froud; 3, C. Bincham. Ditto, under 14.—1, R. Westbrook; 2, C. Beale. Ditto, under 12.—1, K. Fraser and G. Griffen; 2, N. Swan. Ditto, under 10.—1, J. Stott; 2, J. Solly; 3, G. Pickup. 80 yards.—1, J. Solly; 2, P. Stearn; 3, G. Pickup.

Long Jump, open.—1, D. Bradley; 2, P. Sackrée and M. Betts; 3, R. Young. Ditto, under 14.—1, G. Reynolds; 2, D. Smith; 3, A. Baker. Ditto, under 12.—1, K. Fraser; 2, J. Thirkell; 3, F. Lambert.

60 Yards, under 10.—1, J. Solly; 2, P. Stearn; 3, J. King; 4, G. Pickup.

100 Yards (handicap).—1, M. Betts; 2, J. Stockbridge and D. Bradley. Ditto, under 14 and over 12.—1, D. Smith; 2, R. Westbrook; 3, N. Hogg.

Sack Races, open.—1, F. Hunt; 2, D. Fraser. Ditto, under 14.—1, A. Smith; 2, E. Knott; 3, A. Baker. Ditto, under 12.—1, J. Thirkell; 2, G. Griffen; 3, K. Fraser.

Three-Legged Race, open.—1, P. Sackrée and R. Rand; 2, B. Westover and C. Bincham. Ditto, under 14 and over 12.—1, A. Baker and H. Mungham; 2, C. Beale and N. Hogg.

100 Yards, open.—1, M. Betts; 2, P. Sackrée; 3, J. Stockbridge. Ditto, under 14.—1, G. Reynolds; 2, D. Smith; 3, R. Westbrook. Ditto, under 12.—1, J. Thirkell; 2, K. Fraser; 3, P. Smith. Ditto, under 10.—1, G. Cheeseman; 2, J. Stott.

Slow Bicycle Race, open.—1, F. Hunt; 2, D. Fraser.

Fathers' Race (100 yards).—1, Mr. King; 2, Mr. Fraser; 3, Mr. H. Piper.

Half-mile (handicap).—1, D. Bradley; 2, N. Hogg; 3, R. Marshall.

Ladies' Race.—1, Miss Stearn; 2, Mrs. Bursbridge; 3, Mrs. Young.

There were two consolation races. The first resulted: 1, Barham; 2, Gosling; 3, Croucher; and the second: Jeffery (aged five, with 35 yards start); 2, Carlton; 3, Wright. Result of the Old Boys' Race was: 1, J. Birchell; 2, E. Bettle; 3, Mr. A. M. Williams."

INDUSTRIAL GEOGRAPHY.

A VISIT TO THE G.P.O.

An interesting visit was made during the term, to the telephone section of the General Post Office, Maidstone.

We began our tour by visiting the "manual" switch-board, that is, where connections are made by hand. To me, these manual switch-boards, only meant a panel perforated with rows of neat holes and flashing lights.

Operators sit in front of these switch-boards with telephones clamped in front of their mouths and earphones on their heads, pushing terminals in their corresponding holes. As soon as a connection is made a tiny bulb lights up on the switch panel, and another instrument registers the number of minutes of duration of the call. The speed and accuracy with which calls are dealt with is amazing.

It is interesting to note that at night time when calls are not so frequent, a bell automatically rings at every call made to

assist the operators. Operators certainly have a busy life and besides making connections have to book down the calls to the subscribers. So if you are given a wrong connection, don't grumble at the operator for his job is tiring and monotonous.

Then we proceeded to the Automatic Section. Suppose Mr. B. wishes to phone Mr. C. who is in Maidstone, or in other words Mr. B. wants to make a local call. He dials his friend's number and he is immediately connected with him without any human labour. As Mr. B. dials he sends out, automatically, electrical impulses to the Exchange which work electro-magnets which complete the connection. These automatic exchanges resemble a metal frame-work containing miles of wire and bewildering mechanisms. It is quite uncanny to stand among these machines and hear them send out peculiar "clicks," as they make one connection after another.

Our guide next conducted us to the power plant. The current for the telephone is obtained from a gigantic accumulator consisting of twenty five 2 volt cells connected in series. This immense accumulator is thus of 50 volts and contains 1,800 amp. hours, lasting approximately 3 days without charging. The G.P.O. possesses two such accumulators, one being used as the other is being charged. The accumulators are charged by two dynamos (generating 50 volts at 350 amps.) that is, one dynamo for each accumulator, each generator being run off the mains supply at 970 revolutions per minute. Both dynamos are fitted with an automatic cut-out so as to prevent overcharging the batteries which would cause the lead plates in the accumulators to "buckle up."

Every telephone line which goes into the G.P.O. is fitted with a fuse, and several panels in the Exchange are bristling with nothing else but hundreds of tiny fuses which sound an alarm when "blown." In the event of lightning striking one of the telephone lines it is immediately run to earth, and the same thing happens when a line accidentally touches the mains; thus all dangers are eliminated.

The Exchange is fitted with several small amplifiers which are used to amplify long distance trunk calls making them clearly audible.

The timing of call durations is controlled by a contrivance equipped with escapement mechanisms which allow teathed wheels to revolve once in three minutes.

Thus concluded a most interesting visit, and I did not leave the G.P.O. without thinking of the intricate and delicate nature of the machines which must have been brought to perfection with many failures and bitter disappointments to their creators.

E. C. Austin.

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CRICKET.

The weather this season has been in our favour, and generally we have done well.

The best match was the School v. The Old Boys. Tucker captained the School in this match, and proved to be an able leader.

We have enjoyed having Mr. Williams to play with us, and his interest in the First Eleven, has given it great encouragement.

The Fourth Form proved victors over the Upper School in one of the matches played, the other being a draw.

Results for the School matches for the season are:—

26th May, v. Mereworth, away, won by 4 wickets. School 43 for 3 declared (Tucker 21), and 65 for 6 (D. Gosling 22). Mereworth 17 and 30.

27th May, v. Marden, away, won by 42 runs (Le Feaver 21). School 49 and 41. Marden 32 and 16.

9th June, v. Mereworth 1st Eleven (Men's team), away, lost by 84 runs. School 38. Mereworth 122.

7th July, v. Old Boys, home, lost by 21 runs. School 32. Old Boys 53 (L. Beale 20).

8th July, v. Linton, away, lost by 46 runs. School 55. Linton 101 (Skinner 25, Last 25).

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SCHOOL 2nd ELEVEN.

2nd June, v. Mereworth, away, won by 50 runs. School 108 for 7 declared (Parker 33 not out, D. Smith 33). Mereworth 52.

CRITICISMS OF THE TEAM.

W. Tucker. An able captain, and a good all round player.
R. Rand. A good fielder, and a useful batsman.
B. Westover. A good change bowler.
H. Gosling. A steady opening batsman.
D. Smith. A capable slip fielder.
A. Smith. Has played only once for the School, but has already proved himself a good bowler.
Le Feaver. A useful all round player.
D. Bradley. Has played well behind the wickets.
H. Parker. A careful batsman.
A. Hunt. A good fielder on the boundary.
E. Tomsett. A hard hitter.

HOUSE RESULTS.

School 82 (Tucker 22, D. Smith 30 not out). St. Peter's 24 (Tucker 7—9).

School 39 (Tucker 20, Parker 6—16). St. Augustine's 30 (Tucker 5—10).

St. Peter's 83 (Thirkell 6—15). St. Augustine's 28.

The best batting average for the season was that of W. Tucker, which was 9.7.

The best bowling average was again that of W. Tucker with 5.4.

W. Tucker, Captain.
R. Rand, Secretary.

ANNUAL SCHOOL JOURNEY.

On Tuesday, 8th June, we were the guests of the Aldershot Command at a special afternoon performance of the Tattoo. Leaving Maidstone at 9.30 by private train, the School party of 87 reached Aldershot at 12.50, where, to our disgust, we found it raining. After a wait of a quarter of an hour, we proceeded to the arena; here Mr. Ratcliff of the "News Chronicle" was conducting Community Singing, accompanied by the Band of the Royal Army Medical Corps. Simultaneously with the first item the rain poured down again, and we thought we were in for a wet afternoon. Fortunately in a few minutes we were bathed in sunshine, and thoroughly enjoyed the performance from our seats right in the front of the stand.

Space forbids a description of all nine events, and it is difficult to particularise, but the item termed "All in the Day's Work" was most popular with the younger members of the party showing as it did reconnaissance by light tanks which seem to be able to go anywhere at an amazing speed, and mechanized artillery going into action with much smoke and thunder. The "Banners of the Empire" was a most artistic number performed by 1,200 men, and we all admired as much as we envied the Physical Training Display performed by 600 men in red, white and blue gym kit to the music of "Pop goes the Weasel" and "I'll see you again," etc. Perhaps the most amusing incidents occurred in "Lodging the Colour in the days of King Charles I," when we saw the elaborate postures and heard the curious words of command during the pike and musket exercises, such as "Clean your pans," "See that your pans are dry," and so on, until we wondered if they ever did fire a musket in time to be of any use. The massed bands were most impressive, and the mounted musicians attracted much attention.

The performance concluded with "The Challenge" in which appeared a massive Imperial Lion. The theme being the Coronation, and a magnificent climax was reached in the pageant which followed showing the Banners of the Kings from 1066 onward, the Royal Houses of Normandy, Plantagenet, Lancaster, York, Tudor, Stuart and Hanover being represented.

So to tea, which, considering the thousands present, was well organised. We sank into our seats, and let the Southern Railway bring us home. We returned to Maidstone at 9.45, a little fatigued, but contented with our day of glorious and colourful pageantry.

William the Silent.

A HOLIDAY IN GERMANY.

It took us a whole day and night to reach Karlsruhe. While waiting at Dover for the boat to start I liked to watch the ships in the harbour and all the people coming from the boat trains.

It was very cold on the water but the sea was calm. At Ostende we had to go through the customs sheds but they did not open our cases. We left Ostende at 11 o'clock at night and travelled right across Belgium before dawn. We passed through Bruges, Brussels, Liege, and Verviers. At Aachen we had the German Customs examination and reached Cologne at 6 o'clock.

We changed trains at Cologne and while waiting I saw the lovely Cathedral, which the Germans call Dom. We had breakfast on the train going down the Rhine, the railway runs beside the river and the scenery is beautiful. Grape vines grow on all the hills.

At Bingerbruck we left the Rhine and went down the Nahe valley to the Pfalz country. The scenery here is wonderful, high mountains covered with pine trees and deep winding valleys almost down to Landau. The country side in Germany is very neat and tidy and not a foot of land is wasted.

Just before reaching Karlsruhe our train crossed the Rhine by a pontoon bridge and we could feel the train swaying. The Rhine is very wide and deep and flows very fast. Quite large boats come from Holland right up to Switzerland.

Karlsruhe is a very nice place and about 160,000 people live there. All the streets are wide and are in the shape of a fan. The Castle, or Schloss, is the centre of the fan and is the place where the Margrave of Baden lived. Karlsruhe is not a very old town, being only about 300 years old. The Stadgarten is a lovely spot and there is a fine Zoo there with some lovely little bears who played very prettily.

When we reached the Hotel, General von Mackensen and other German officers were there and all the streets were decorated with Nazi flags. We went into the German Army War Museum and saw the uniforms worn by German soldiers during past wars. We also saw a photograph, taken from a German bomber on 7th July, 1917, showing a bomb bursting on the General Post Office in London, where my mother was working at the time.

We saw the Rhine bathing Beach at Rappenwort and saw a man catch a live adder in the water. There is a large aerodrome at Karlsruhe and the Germans are building a lot more hangers. At Hornisgrinde we ran into a bad storm at the top of the mountains and the clouds came right down so that we could not see anything. As we came down the clouds cleared and we could see the Vosges mountains in France. At Bruchsal we saw the first iron fireplace ever made in Germany.

We went all over the old castle at Heidelberg, this was destroyed by the French soldiers 250 years ago and has not been rebuilt, the walls were quite 20 feet thick and had been blown up with gunpowder. We had our lunch at the Gasthaus where the Duke of Windsor and the Duke and Duchess of Kent stay when they go to Heidelberg.

Our guide and interpreter was a very nice gentleman named Herr Schnorr, and he told us the meaning of words and all about the places we visited. He has promised to send me some maps if I write to him. On our return journey we came by fast train to Mainz where we got on a Rhine steamer to Coblenz, passing many fine castles on the way. Near Bingen we passed the old Mouse Tower and further down the Lorelei rocks, both of which are famous in German legends.

J. Solly, age 9.

THE PARIS EXHIBITION.

A party of boys from the Upper School, and two Old Boys accompanied Mr. Williams on a brief visit to Paris, and the Exhibition. Travelling via Dover and Dunkerque we experienced the new Ferry Service, and were impressed with the ease with which the trains were shipped, though not impressed with the fine coal ash that falls all over the upper deck. Upon arrival in Paris coffee was taken in a street café, and the first impressions of the city were gained.

Starting from the magnificent Opera House, really the centre of Paris, we went by way of the Metro (an interesting experience) to the Arc de Triomphe. Here we saw the grave of France's "Unknown Soldier" and the flame of "Remembrance," and enjoyed a magnificent view from the top of the Arc (148 ft. high) of the streets and traffic of Paris.

Lunch was taken in the charming gardens of the Tuileries, and after a brief look at the Louvre and the famous street Rue de Rivoli we went to the Ile de la Cité upon which is the world famous Notre Dame, masterpiece of Gothic art. Here we admired the sculptures and the beautiful stained glass windows. So to Napoleon's Tomb in the Hotel des Invalides. Who could fail to be moved by the grand beauty of the resting place of the great Caesar under the Dome supported by Mansart's Doric and Corinthian columns!

One could easily spend a month in the Exhibition alone, covering as it does 250 acres, and with its 31 entrances, and representing 51 nations. However, we had a very good idea of its greatest features, the fountains of the Trocadero (25,000 sq. ft.), the Planetarium, the Aquarium with whirlpools and sharks, and the Palace of Light. We wandered through the British Building, and through Germany and Russia, and Canada, etc., hearing all the tongues of the earth. Of the Amusement Park we had perhaps better say nothing for never have we seen such devices for literally raising your hair, and prematurely whitening it.

The journey home was uneventful, and most of the party slept below decks in the comfortable bunks. Thus ended a short visit to a great city, and a great Exhibition. Let us hope that this glimpse of another world will instil the desire for travel. Remember Shakespeare's dictum, "Home keeping youths have ever homely wits."

STRANGE, BUT TRUE.

When a speedboat is streaking through the water, the frictional heat developed would be enough to burn the boat to cinders, were it not for the body of water surrounding the craft.

The seasons are changing. In 12,000 years January will be midsummer in the Northern Hemisphere!

Refrigerators to the Pole. Admiral Byrd took two refrigerators with him to the Pole, to keep the food from freezing.

When an aeroplane flies East its shadow moves faster than the actual plane, because of the apparant motion of the sun.

If you built at the North Pole, the windows on all four sides would face south. This is quite correct—work it out for yourself.

The snail is not the slowest thing in the world. A wheel in a clock in Potsdam, Germany, has beaten the snail. This wheel takes four hundred years to revolve once. This is the world's slowest thing.

One side of the moon has been minutely explored by astronomers, but what is on the other side is still an absolute mystery. For the same side of the moon is always facing the earth.

An inch in America is longer than in England. One is 2.54 centimetres the other is 2.55 centimetres.

N. A. Ashton.

OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION.

We are glad to be able to state that there has been a welcome increase in new members to the Association. We are, however, not yet satisfied, and hope all members will have a supply of membership form in their pockets so that we may still further increase our strength.

The main item this term has been the Tennis Tournament organised this year in two sections, doubles and singles. Mr. Finn, our Sports Secretary, reports a good entry for both events, but some difficulty has been experienced in playing off the various rounds. For that reason we shall have to hold over details of the finals until our next issue.

The Association was well represented at the Annual Sports, and members acted in various capacities. The 100 yards O.B. race was won by Mr. Bettle, with Mr. Birchall second, and Mr. Williams third.

An outing was arranged to the Maidstone Zoo where we were to have been conducted round, but owing to the uncertain weather the venture was abandoned. We hope to arrange for this event to take place in the near future.

On the evening of Sports Day (July 7th) the School v. Old Boys' match was played, and we consolidated our victory of last year by another win this. The School were soon all out for 32 runs in spite of the super efforts of W. Tucker and Mr. Williams. However, we were little better, and but for an excellent stand of 20 by L. Beale we should have been in difficulties. Our final score was 53. Mr. W. C. Beale and Mr. W. Gosling acted as umpires. Jim Birchell captained the Old Boys.

At the Annual Dinner last January, the Mayor, Alderman J. Hillier French suggested that members might like to help him during the Coronation Festivities. A number of our members volunteered though unfortunately wet weather interfered with the arrangements.

We are pleased to record the marriage of our Assistant Secretary, Alan Wood, on August 16th. The usual congratulatory telegram was sent.

We were pleased to receive a visit from Mr. V. Corke, who has been living at Eastbourne. Members will be sorry to learn that G. Goodchild has had to have an operation as a result of being hit in the face by a cricket ball. He has now quite recovered.

The Secretaries will be pleased to hear from any Old Boy at home or abroad.

A. M. W., A. W.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

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