



The School Magazine  
OF THE  
MAIDSTONE  
COMMERCIAL  
SCHOOL.

Vol. VIII. No. 23.  
May ——— 1938.

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## MAIDSTONE COMMERCIAL SCHOOL MAGAZINE.

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Vol. VIII. No. 23.

May, 1938.

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### SCHOOL HISTORY.

Wednesday, 4th May.—Term begins.  
Monday, 30th May.—School outing (provisional date).  
Tuesday, 31st May.—Old Boys' Meeting.  
Saturday, 4th June to Wednesday, 8th June.—Whitsun recess.  
Saturday, 18th June.—Half Term.  
Tuesday, 28th June.—Old Boys' Meeting.  
Wednesday, 13th July.—Athletic Sports (provisional date).  
Thursday, 14th July.—Examinations begin.  
Tuesday, 26th July.—Old Boys' Meeting.  
Saturday, 30th July.—End of Term.  
Wednesday, 21st September.—Christmas Term begins.  
Wednesday, 21st December.—End of Term.

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### SALVETE.

No. 226. C. A. Clarke, IVb. (St. Augustine's).  
No. 227. D. A. Percy, IIIa. (St. Peter's).  
No. 228. B. D. C. Mills, IIIa. (St. Augustines').  
No. 229. D. J. Avila, Prep. (School).

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### VALETE.

N. A. Ashton, who has had nearly 8 years in the school, has left to accept a post with the Diamond Fibre Co., of Tovil. Ashton has had a good record both in school and at games and has been a prominent member of his house.

D. R. Bradley, who joined the school in January, 1937, has obtained a post with Messrs. Stonham's, Chemist, Bank Street. Bradley has been a tower of strength to our football and cricket teams and also the winner of Challenge Cups at the sports.

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As announced at the Concert a Scholarship Scheme is now being inaugurated at the school. Particulars are being sent to every parent from which full details can be gleaned as to age, value and general conditions, etc. The papers submitted by internal candidates will be marked by a competent outside examiner.

One other modification which is being made for 1938 only is that pupils who were on the school books on 20th June are considered as eligible for the internal examination. In future years they will be required to have completed two terms to be considered as internal candidates.

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The School Branch of the National Savings Association continues to grow, and now embraces 42 members. During the year ending 31st March, 1938, £25 15s. 2d. was collected—a most encouraging figure. Mr. Bettle, who has undertaken the not inconsiderable duties of Hon. Secretary, would be glad to hear from others wishing to join.

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We are very pleased to welcome Miss M. Henniker, L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M., M.R.S.T., who has been in charge of our musical studies for some time. Her pupils are making rapid progress, and we expect more boys will take piano and violin lessons during the coming term.

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From a friend in S. America we recently received several preserved locust specimens. It was most interesting to see these dreaded insects. They are now added to the School Museum which is being completely reorganised and brought up-to-date.

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Early during last term we attended the Granada Cinema to see the special Safety First Film. This proved most instructive. The most popular performers were, however, the dogs, who were almost too good to be true.

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The Beginning-of-Term Service was held this time on Ash Wednesday at St. Peter's Church. We enjoyed a helpful address from the Rev. Cooper on the meaning of Lent.

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Various improvements continue to be made to the School buildings and grounds. During this term most of the paths have been re-made and re-surfaced.

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Our swimming activities commence once again during the coming term, and we hope all boys who are fit will attend the baths on the afternoon specially reserved for the School. As usual the School will pay for all boys who wish to learn to swim, and will award badges for those who are successful. Eight badges were awarded last year. We hope to do better than that.

The Annual School Outing will take place on 30th May. Last year the party consisted of 87, but we expect to surpass that figure as this year we are to visit the remarkable Ford Motor Works. Our journey will include a boat trip from Westminster down the most interesting part of the Thames to Dagenham.

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The other great Summer event is the Annual Sports. The Committee is all ready at work, and we can promise an enjoyable time for competitors and spectators. The usual appeal will be made, and we are confident that the response will enable us to maintain the standard of previous years.

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Collections have been made on behalf of the usual charities.

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## UPPER SCHOOL NOTES.

The mottoes selected this term were as follows:—"Esprit de Corps" (E. Leeves); "Procrastination is the thief of time" (P. G. Anderson); "Mens Sana in Corpore Sano" (H. W. Parker).

As during the Spring Term last year, "special study books" have been compiled by all members of the form. They will be judged early in May, and the results published in our next issue.

Literature to be read this year includes "Midsummer Night's Dream," "David Copperfield" and "Treasure Island."

One main Debate was held this term in the following terms: "That the Theatre is superior to the Cinema." Due in no small part to the advocacy of Anderson this was carried by 12 votes to 6.

The abnormal Spring weather enabled us to start cricket, and we combined the usual Feast with a one-day match at Penenden Heath at the end of the term. A most enjoyable day resulted.

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## ANNUAL CONCERT & PRIZE DISTRIBUTION.

The Seventh Concert and Prize Distribution took place on Monday, April 4th, 1938, before a packed and enthusiastic audience in the Corn Exchange. The high traditions of this event were well maintained, if not exceeded. We were indebted to Councillor J. B. Beaufoy for presenting the prizes. His kindly words of advice and his keen sense of humour delighted the audience young and old. Mr. Piper's report revealed the general advance of the School in all directions, and he mentioned

that during 1937 37 Public Examination Certificates had been gained—a School record. Councillor Beaufoy, in his speech, said how fortunate they were to have a Commercial School where such a sound education could be obtained. A pleasant incident was the presentation of flowers to the ladies on the platform by G. K. Reynolds. Pressure of space forbids comment on the individual items, but it is true to say that every one was excellent.

The programme was as follows:—

Pianoforte Solos, D. Gosling, G. K. Reynolds. Jack and the Beanstalk, produced by Mr. E. G. A. Bettle; those taking part were A. J. King, C. V. T. Twinn, W. N. Swan, C. E. Davis, W. J. Solly, D. A. Percy, G. V. Wilkinson, J. E. Mayger, B. D. C. Mills, J. W. Gladdish, R. Sawyer, C. R. Veitch, J. J. S. Murray, J. B. Stott, R. G. Barham, K. G. J. Fraser, P. R. Stonard, G. Cheeseman, R. C. Marshall, P. H. Stearn, A. J. Wright, J. M. Stearn, G. E. Pickup. Cello Solo, by Miss M. Henniker, L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M., M.R.S.T. The Percussion Band, under the direction of Mrs F. A. Piper, M.R.S.T.; Peter Stearn (Conductor), Bernard Gray, David Swan, Arthur Bolton, David Hughes, Peter Jeffery, Roland Johnson, Florence Piper, John King, John Solly, John Stearn, Tony Wright, George Pickup, Roy Barham, Peter Stonard. Fragmentary History by the Upper School. Accordion Solo, R. D. Sackrée. "Taking you over to Mote Park," A. M. Williams and E. G. A. Bettle. Song, Mrs. F. A. Piper, M.R.S.T. Play, Mrs. Quilps Tea Party, dramatised from the Old Curiosity Shop by Mrs. E. Williams, by Fourth Form; those taking part were A. J. Barkaway, A. V. Smith, C. J. Beale, F. J. Adley, H. N. B. Pullen, A. V. A. Baker, A. J. Taylor, E. G. Knott, J. P. LeFeaver, D. Gosling, J. Thirkell; produced by Mr. A. M. Williams, B.Sc.(Econ.)Int., F.R.Econ.S. Song, Mr. E. G. A. Bettle. "Time Marches on," written and produced by the Fourth Form; those taking part were F. G. Griffin, A. C. Clarke, R. J. Knight, D. Brooker, A. E. Barham, R. Shaw, J. A. Mills, R. Saunders, P. J. King, R. J. Fenner, A. J. Barkaway, A. D. Fraser, D. C. Jones, N. C. Hogg, P. Gibbs, D. J. Froude, R. Croucher; at the piano, Mrs. F. A. Piper, M.R.S.T. "A Midsummer Night's Dream" (all the boys in the Upper School taking part); G. K. Reynolds, D. B. Smith, R. W. Hill, A. W. Seymour, W. F. Tucker, P. Anderson, J. Hopson, B. W. Westover, H. Parker, K. Noakes, E. Tomsett, N. Hartridge, C. Beale, A. Barham, A. Smith, N. Pullen, E. Knott, D. Gosling, E. K. Leeves, R. W. Westbrook, J. H. Stockbridge, F. E. M. Betts, H. H. Mungham; produced by A. M. Williams, B.Sc.(Econ.)Int., F.R.Econ.S.; at the piano, Miss M. Henniker, L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M., M.R.S.T. Stage Managers, E. K. Leeves and R. W. Westbrook. Lighting effects kindly

supplied by J. Irwin, Esq. The following members of the Old Boys' Association kindly consented to act as Stewards or in some other capacity, Messrs. T. George, B. Finn, M. S. Higgins, W. R. Bradley, A. J. Wood, C. H. Smith, J. H. E. Piper and J. W. Beale. Programme sellers, D. Jones, N. Walker, R. Croucher.

### Prize List.

Public Examination Certificates for 1937.—London Chamber of Commerce: F. E. M. Betts, E. C. Austin, R. T. Rand, R. D. Sackrée, S. W. Moore, C. F. Bincham.

College of Preceptors, Preliminary: H. F. Gosling, E. K. Leeves.

Shorthand.—J. H. E. Piper, 70; D. R. V. Noakes, 80; J. H. E. Piper, 80; E. C. Austin, 60; K. F. Mace, 60. Theory, stage II.: E. C. Austin, N. A. Ashton, F. E. M. Betts. Theory, stage I.: R. D. Corke, N. A. Ashton, W. Tucker, R. T. Rand, C. F. Bincham, H. F. Gosling, E. K. Leeves.

Typewriting, Advanced: R. D. Sackrée. Intermediate: R. T. Rand, F. E. M. Betts, N. A. Ashton. Elementary: E. C. Austin, N. A. Ashton, R. D. Corke, C. F. Bincham.

Trinity College of Music, London: F. A. Hunt.

Form Prizes.—Form VI.: Betts, F. E. M., Rand, R. T. Form V: Tucker, W. F., Leeves, E. K., Mungham, H. H. Form IVa: Westbrook, R. W., Smith, A. V., Smith, D. B. Form IVb: Hartridge, N. L. W., Thirkell, J. P., Knott, E. G., Jones, D.C. Form IIIa: Taylor, A. J., Knight, R. J., Swan, N. W., Davis, C. E. Form IIIb: Wilkinson, G. V., Solly, J., Stott, J. B.

Prizes for Meccano Exhibition.—Best working models: Mungham, H. H., Gibbs, P., Westover, B. W. Non-working models: Seymour, A. W., Stockbridge, J. Best model by Juniors: Pickup, G. E. General models: Fraser, D., Westbrook, R. W. Best collective models: VIth Form, Map of World, IVth Form, Maidstone Airport, IIIrd Form, Railway Lay-out, Prep., Snow Scene. Best assembly model: Smith, D. B. Drawing: Tomsett, E. A.

Stamp display: Betts, F. E. M., Tucker, W. F.

Preparatory Prizes.—Top place: Gray, B., Pickup, G. E., Barham, R.

Good progress: Bolton, A., Swan, D., Stonard, M., Hughes, D., Avila, D., Jeffery, P., Johnson, R., Piper, F.

School Certificates.—Form V.: Anderson, P. G. Form IVa.: Seymour, A. W., Reynolds, G. K., Barham, A. E. Form IVb.: Gosling, D. G., Beale, C. J. Form IIIa.: Twinn, V. C. T., Gibbs, P., Cheeseman, G. C., Barkaway, J. Form IIIb.: Stearn, P. H., Sawyer, R., King, A. J.

Challenge Cups.—Football: School and St. Peter's. Cricket: School. House Champions: School. Chess Cup: Westbrook, R. W. Tennis Cup: Tucker, W. F. Sports Cups: Senior Victor Ludorum, Bradley, D. R.; Junior Victor Ludorum, Reynolds, G. K. House Cup: St. Peter's. Captain's Challenge Cup: Betts, F. E. M. Hart Business Cup: Noakes, D. R. and Piper, J. H. E.

### FOOTBALL.

The weather has been favourable to us this term although we have not had so many matches. We have not been so successful either as we have lost the services of four of our best players.

The results of the matches played this term are:—

1st Eleven.—19th January, West Malling Boys' Club, lost 11-1; 12th February, Linton, lost 6-2; 19th February, Ditton, drew 1-1; 2nd March, Maidstone Grammar School, drew 3-3; 30th March, Maidstone Grammar School, lost 7-3.

Summary of matches for the season:—Played 12, Won 5, Drew 3, Lost 4, Goals for 43, Goals against 51.

Rand headed the list of goal-scorers with 11 goals, closely followed by D. Smith with 10, A. Smith 8, Westover 5, H. Gosling 3, Tucker 2, Betts 1 and Westbrook 1.

2nd Eleven.—29th January, Bearsted, won 7-0.

Summary of matches for the season:—Played 3, Won 2, Drew 1, Lost 0, Goals for 11, Goals against 3.

The goal-scorers were:—Fraser 3, Knott 2, Tucker 2, Beale 1, D. Gosling 1, A. Smith 1 and D. Smith 1.

Two matches were played between the Upper School and the Fourth Form. The first ended in a draw 4-4. In the return match the Upper School won by 7 goals to 1.

The Fourth Form had their revenge and trounced the Third Form to the tune of 11 goals to 1.

The Town Boys also thrashed the Country Boys by 9 goals to 0.

House Results:—St. Peter's beat St. Augustines', 6-0; School beat St. Augustine's, 5-1; St. Peter's beat School, 7-0.

M. Betts, Football Secretary.

## INDUSTRIAL GEOGRAPHY.

### A VISIT TO SHORT'S.

During the school visit to Short's aeroplane works, we were shown many interesting things connected with aircraft construction. We learnt, to our amazement that, contrary to the general conception, most flying boats are made of Duralumin, which is a very light and strong metal, that can resist the weather very well.

The first place of interest was the Erection Shop. Flying Boats are boats in every sense of the word. They are made like ships, the keel being laid down before the actual body of the plane. The keel is finished and then work begins on the fuselage, which is fitted to it.

Messrs. Shorts have just completed the contract for the Empire Flying Boats. These flying boats, 28 in all, cost £2,000,000. Soon Short's will be starting on the full scale production of a new flying boat for the Air Force. It will be laid down on the basis of an Empire Flying Boat, but with the necessary alterations which have to be carried out on a warplane. These boats will be called the Sunderland Class. Our guide told us that there were about 3,000 different drawings to each machine.

On visiting the assembling shop we saw the Caledonia in for overhaul after her epic flight from England to America—these flights astounded the world.

When we visited the testing room we saw a model of the Sunderland Class machine in a tank 100 yds. long. All movements felt by the model are recorded on a chart which is on the testing trolley. This moves on rails above the tank and the model is suspended from it by a chromium "hand" which is very sensitive to anything which is felt by the model. The water of the tank is skimmed every morning so that there shall be no undue resistance. Rough water can be made by means of a fan or propeller which is under the water.

There are now about 4,000 men employed in the factory. Even out of this mad race for armaments there can be some good, for without this, Short's would not now be needing so many men.

N. A. Ashton.

### A VISIT TO ANSTEY'S MOTOR SHOW.

On Thursday, March 17th, a party comprising members of the 4th, 5th and 6th Forms paid what proved to be an extremely interesting and enjoyable visit to Anstey's Motor Show.

Our time of arrival was 2.30 p.m. and at the door we were met by our guide—the service manager. As we walked up the main aisle, rows of gleaming motor cars stood arrayed on either hand, and at the far end of the showroom could be seen portions of three chassis, which stood in a kind of anteroom. It was here that our investigations were carried out.

On the first of three benches was the main electrical equipment of a car. Namely, a dynamo, a starting motor, and a distributor. These various articles were specially made in “cut-away” section for inspection purposes. Whilst we were examining the equipment, our guide took great pains to explain to us that as coil ignition is now used extensively, the battery is the veritable heart of a car. On the starting motor, was a Bendix pinion, which, when the engine fired was automatically disengaged by centrifugal force.

A coil-ignition lay-out was arranged on the next bench, together with a set of trafficators, electric horns, and head-lights. An amplifier was fitted to the ignition lay-out, which was a four cylinder affair, and this enabled one to hear the “Sparks” quite plainly.

A crankshaft layout was the next on the list (this was also four cylinder) which was oil pressure fed. It comprised pistons, con-rods, crankshaft, piston rings, and webs. The big-end was lined with white metal. On the same bench was a spiral bevel final drive, and a carburettor. Also petrol feed apparatus, shock absorbers of all kinds, shapes and sizes, and an air filterer.

A very interesting machine, was the battery analyser, which enables a battery to be tested, with absolute accuracy. A single-plate clutch was demonstrated to us very clearly, a long lever taking the place of the clutch pedal.

Great enthusiasm was displayed over the chassis of a 1½ litre (12 h.p.) M.G., and a Standard 9 h.p.

A Synchronesh gear box, and built-in “Jackall” hydraulic jacks were the most prominent features of the M.G., while improved springing and carburation was the lot of the Standard 9.

And so we come to the final phase of our visit, in the shape of a “John Bull” tyre stand. A most incredible feature of this stand was that so large and black a tyre could be produced from a small quantity of white liquid which was the raw rubber as tapped from the trees. It is termed Latex.

So ended a very enjoyable visit, and we marched back to school, the richer by an amount of knowledge, and a generous supply of demonstration leaflets and booklets.

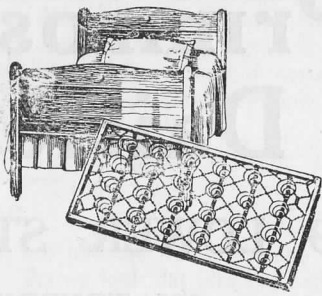
We also enjoyed a visit to Messrs. Rootes’ Motor Exhibition.

H. Mungham.



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## WORD PICTURES.

### PACK DRILL IN THE FOREIGN LEGION.

As they marched, or rather staggered along in the sand, they looked a forlorn set of men, until a brisk “Straighten up there” from the sergeant would send their shoulders squaring back to position. But as soon as the sergeant’s vigilance relaxed, their heavy packs and rifles would again win, making them round shouldered and despondent as before. But they had reason, as the scorching sand made their eyes red rimmed and their mouths parched and dry.

Now and again one of them will use the back of his hand to wipe the glistening sweat from his brow, while another takes a swig at his waterbottle, both of them cursing and swearing in a silent undertone and wondering why the Sahara Desert was created.

This state of affairs continued till at the sergeants’ harsh command, they pushed doggedly onwards fixing their eyes on the horizon where the blue sky met the desert in a haze of dust.

R. Westbrook.

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A LONELY POLICEMAN ON NIGHT DUTY.

"Why did I ever join the Police Force?" These are the melancholy thoughts of P.C. Flannel-feet, as he marches on his lonely beat at the dead of night. In the bright, frosty moonlight, his breath rises like powdered silver.

His vain efforts to keep himself warm are very strenuous, for in spite of the fact that his large feet and his body are encased in an extra layer of clothing his temperature is far too low to be comfortable.

"Of all the monotonous places," he begins, but stops as a venomous spitting and screeching commences almost under his feet and two cats race away into the darkness. This incident leaves him gasping for breath, but, pulling himself together, he marches on, and on, and eventually vanishes round a corner, dreaming about his nice warm bed, and cursing anything in particular.

H. Mungham.

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WAR.

We lie in our mud dugouts, not like the human beings we are supposed to be, but like rats. As we look out into the night, we see the silvery moon shining on wet sand bags and blood splashed barbed wire. The scream of a shell and the rattle of machine-gun fire remind us there is a war on, and that so called human beings are out to kill every enemy they can find, but there—that is the nature of man.

The mud and water which fills our trenches makes us more uncomfortable, it is practically impossible to sleep, which we have to do in full attire. Outside we can hear the occasional hysterical cry of the sentry, "Who goes there?" which shows that his nerves are also on edge as he stands out in the night watching the shadows, helped only by the ghostly light of the moon. Near by are the enemy trenches, they are in the same state as ours.

The glamour and glory of a soldier no longer exists, we are taught to be, not human beings, but savages.

H. W. P. Parker.

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CHESS.

The Chess this term has been of a high standard, even with new players who soon made themselves prominent in the House Tournament.

This year St. Augustine's ran out the Champion House with 50 points, followed by School with 40 points and St. Peter's with 30 points.

The boys winning for their respective houses were:—

Round 1.—P. Anderson (S), M. Betts (A), N. Hartridge (P), H. Parker (A), B. Westover (S).

Round 2.—M. Betts (A), E. Leeves (S), H. Parker (A), W. Tucker (S), R. Westbrook (P).

Round 3.—N. Ashton (S), M. Betts (A), N. Hartridge (P), H. Parker (A), R. Westbrook (P).

Round 4.—N. Ashton (S), M. Betts (A), E. Leeves (S), R. Westbrook (P), B. Westover (S).

The Challenge Cup Tournament came out almost as expected with R. W. Westbrook securing the cup. The surprise was the reaching of the semi-final by G. Reynolds.

The results are as follows:—

Round 1.—P. G. Anderson beat A. W. Seymour, H. H. Mungham beat N. A. Ashton, G. K. Reynolds beat F. E. M. Betts, N. L. W. Hartridge beat E. A. Tomsett, W. F. Tucker beat R. L. Hill, H. W. P. Parker beat J. Hopson, E. K. Leeves beat J. H. Stockbridge, B. W. Westover beat K. Y. Noakes, R. W. Westbrook beat D. B. Smith.

Round 2.—P. G. Anderson beat B. W. Westover, G. K. Reynolds beat N. L. W. Hartridge, R. W. Westbrook beat H. H. Mungham, E. K. Leeves beat H. W. P. Parker, W. F. Tucker, bye.

Round 3.—G. K. Reynolds beat W. F. Tucker, P. G. Anderson beat E. K. Leeves, R. W. Westbrook, bye.

Semi-Final.—P. G. Anderson beat G. K. Reynolds (3 games to 0), R. W. Westbrook, bye.

Final.—R. W. Westbrook beat P. G. Anderson (2-0).

The best players in the room now are:—R. W. Westbrook, P. Anderson, M. Betts, W. Tucker and H. Parker, while most of the others are making excellent progress.

M. Betts, Chess Secretary.

## LEAGUE OF NATIONS' UNION.

The School Branch is still flourishing with members and has thirty who are constantly receiving literature from headquarters, such as the monthly "Headway" and "News Sheet."

Miss Bridget Roberts came to the Girls' Grammar School to speak on the foundation of a Youth Group in Maidstone and several boys are keen on helping.

On April 4th an inaugural meeting was held, at which Mr. G. Carrit, of headquarters, spoke on the formation of this Group.

E. Leeves, Hon. Secretary.

## FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS.

### TELEVISION FROM GRAMOPHONE RECORDS.

Many people are following the development of television, and it is interesting to learn that pictures can now be stored on gramophone records for reproduction through the medium of an electrical pick-up on the screen of a television set. The records are of the standard 10 inch type, and although the first pictures recorded in this manner were "stills," it seems to be only a matter of development before actual moving pictures can be "played" from gramophone records. The new system is called gramovision and seems to be a development of phonovision, one of the novelties introduced a few years ago by Mr. J. L. Baird, the British television inventor.

W. Tucker.

### HOW MUCH WOULD A COMPLETE STAMP COLLECTION COST?

This question can never be accurately answered as many stamps listed in the catalogues are absolutely unobtainable, but for those who like figures I may say that the prices given for used and unused stamps together in the big Gibbons Catalogue total something like three-quarters of a million pounds, about £300,000 of which is attributable to the British Empire section. In spite of the magnitude of the task, there are always at least two or three collectors in the world who are trying to build up complete collections of stamps on the basis of the lists given in the Gibbons Catalogue.

M. Betts.

### ILLUMINATION.

The first illumination was by means of torches made with brushwood and reeds. Later came a crude type of candle made with reeds and tallow which emitted a smoky yellow light. This eventually was formed into a lamp in which the oil was burned on a rush wick. The invention of gas was a great improvement. It was used extensively for street and house lighting. It was invented by the chemist Van Helmont, 1577-1644. The next great step was the use of electricity, which is now greatly used, though for street lighting mercury vapour lamps which give a bluish green light, and sodium lamps which give an amber light are favoured especially on main roads.

The mercury vapour lamps are often known as daylight lamps.

Electricity is used for advertisement signs in conjunction with Neon gas.

A. Seymour.



## THE HAWKER HURRICANE.

This speedy little plane is the pride of the Royal Air Force. It is the latest of its type and is streamlined throughout. It has just come into the limelight by reaching a speed of 400 miles per hour. It has a retractable undercarriage which can be drawn in very quickly.

The engine is a Rolls Royce Kestral. The plane also carries small bombs, as well as having a machine gun which is placed through the engine and fires through the vertical air screw.

One great advantage this plane has over others is that it can take off in a very short space, and climbs almost vertically. It also has a ceiling of nearly 16,000 ft., carries a crew of 4, two of these control the plane, the pilot and the second mate, it is the pilot who fires the gun, the third operates the small wireless set, the fourth is the man called the bomb sighter.

E. Tomsett.

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## LEAGUE CRICKET IN KENT?

I think that League Cricket should be introduced in Kent. The County side could take the promising members of the League and Kent would be probably much higher up in the Championship Table.

Strong cricket counties, like Yorkshire, have League cricket. Who knows? Kent may find a player like Hammond of Gloucestershire. We could have had this world-famous player as he was born at Dover. He asked the County for a trial but did not get one.

I hope that some time in the future we shall have League Cricket in Kent.

D. Smith.

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## OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION.

This term has proved a busy and important one for the Association. The Annual Dinner took place on January 26th, and was the most successful and enjoyable, yet organised. The number and length of speeches were cut, and the proceedings made as informal as possible. The following account is from the "Kent Messenger":—

Over 40 members of the Commercial School Old Boys' Association attended the Association's sixth annual dinner, over which Mr. J. W. Solman presided, in the Queen's Hall of the Royal Star Hotel..

Mr. W. C. Beale (vice-chairman), proposing "Absent Friends," said that he was pleased to see the young members coming along, and he would do all in his power to rally the older ones.

The "Association and Officers" was proposed by Mr. H. I. Piper (President), who said that they had secured 51 new members in the past two years, and were pleased to have as friends many influential people in the town.

Mr. Finn, responding, outlined the past and future activities of the Association and said it was undoubtedly growing. He praised Mr. A. M. Williams (hon. secretary), upon whom so much of the work fell, and Mr. T. C. George (hon. treasurer).

Mr. A. J. Wood, proposing "The School," said that he had spent eight happy years at the school and owed a lot to its founder, Mr. McCabe, and to its present headmaster, Mr. Piper.

Mr. Williams (senior master), responding, said that the school's character and tradition was laid down by the late Mr. McCabe, and worthily maintained by Mr. Piper.

He assured them that the school would try to continue to be worthy of its founder and the Association.

Old boys who contributed to the entertainment which followed were: Messrs. R. Rand, R. D. Sackrée, E. G. A. Bettle, and A. M. Williams.

The Annual General Meeting took place on Tuesday, 25th. The following officers were elected:—

President, Mr. H. I. Piper; Vice-Presidents, Mr. H. Gilbert and past and present members of the staff; Chairman, Mr. J. W. Solman; Vice-Chairmen, Messrs. W. C. Beale and E. G. A. Bettle; Joint Hon. Secretaries, Messrs. A. M. Williams and A. J. Wood; Hon. Sports Secretary, Mr. B. Finn; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. T. C. George; Hon. Auditors, Messrs. R. T. Rand and J. Elbourn.

Mr. George presented the Annual Accounts which showed that the Association's funds were satisfactory.

It is with very great regret we have to record the death of two Old Boys of the School. On January 13th Ronald Wood passed away. He had been ill only a short time, and his death was a great shock to all. Ronald was greatly liked at School,

and had promise of a successful career with Messrs. Smiths. In common with the School the Association was represented at the funeral and sent a wreath.

John Pierce had been ill for 2 years, much of which time he had spent in bed. He passed away on the 21st March. At School John was most popular being an excellent bat, and keen footballer, and always most willing to help. G. Goodchild represented the Association at the funeral. To the bereaved parents of both these Old Boys we send our deepest sympathy.

We were pleased to receive a visit from J. Foord, who is engaged on the technical side at the paper mills, New Hythe.

A special meeting was convened by Mr. Williams in March to consider the formation of a football team for next season which would be able to enter one of the divisions of Maidstone League. Mr. Williams stated that with the wealth of talent available it was a great pity that the Association could not offer its members a team which would bring renown to all. A special committee has been formed with Messrs. Goodchild and Bowler as Joint Secretaries. Several meetings have already been held, and a ground at Thurnham secured. The secretaries would be glad to hear of any member willing to help in any direction in the new venture.

We should like to place on record, once again, our great appreciation of the help rendered the Association by Miss L. Filmer. Her kindness in duplicating our letters and notices is of the greatest assistance to the Association.

The last Dance of the season was held on Thursday, April 7th at the New Inn Hotel. Those present had a splendid evening. Mr. Finn and the Social Committee were responsible for the event, and during the evening Mr. Piper presented the "Doubles" Cup to Mr. Tolputt and partner who were leaders in the Tournament.

A. M. W., A. W.

N.B.—Old Boys' Association colours, ties, scarves, squares and blazers can be obtained from J. Birchall, 74 Bank Street, Maidstone.

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*This Magazine is the Official Organ of the Commercial School, Present and Past and all O.B's and friends of the School are urged to keep in touch by subscribing to it. Joint subscription to Magazine and the O.B. Association, 3/6 per annum.*

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