



The School Magazine
OF THE
MAIDSTONE
COMMERCIAL
SCHOOL.

Vol. IX. No. 27.
September — 1939.

WILKINSON & Co.,

Boot Repairers,

Quickest Service in the Town.

7 THE BROADWAY,

131 WEEK STREET,

55 LOWER STONE STREET,

MAIDSTONE.

AN OLD MAIDSTONE FIRM WHO NEVER
LET YOU DOWN.

SEE & SONS

FOR

RADIO.

12 EARL STREET, MAIDSTONE.

Tel.: 3958.

135 WEEK STREET, MAIDSTONE.

Telephone: 3294.

MAIDSTONE COMMERCIAL SCHOOL MAGAZINE.

Vol. IX. No. 27.

September, 1939.

This is the first edition of the School Magazine published during the war. We sincerely hope it will be the last. Profound changes are taking place in the life of the Nation, and some alterations may be necessary in School. We believe that our first duty is to continue our activities with as little alteration as possible, this we shall do cheerfully, knowing that ultimately we shall enter the blessed state of peace once more.

SCHOOL HISTORY.

Provisional School Calendar:—

Wed., 20th Sept. Term begins.
Tues., 26th Sept. Old Boys' Meeting.
Tues., 31st Oct. Old Boys' Meeting.
Mon., 6th Nov. Half-term.
Tues., 28th Nov. Old Boys' Meeting.
Wed., 20th Dec. Term ends.

SALVETE.

No. 257. W. J. Manchett, Prep., St. Peter's.
No. 258. N. C. Walker, 3a, St. Peter's.
No. 259. M. A. Sykes, 3a, St. Augustine's.
No. 260. P. R. E. Chainey, Prep., School.
No. 261. M. D. Pearce, Prep., St. Peter's.
No. 262. R. H. B. Metcalfe, 3a, School.
No. 263. L. J. Leaver, Prep., School.
No. 264. P. N. Leaver, Prep., School.
No. 265. J. M. Gee, 3a, St. Peter's.

VALETE.

J. B. Stott left school this term owing to removal into Cambridgeshire. He had been at school over 4 years and our association with the Ship Adoption Scheme was due to the suggestion of his father, Captain W. B. Stott.

The Internal Scholarship Examination in July resulted in G. Cheeseman taking first place and P. Chambers second. Congratulations!

We were all very pleased that Dennis Smith should achieve the honour of a trial for the Kent County Cricket Club. The following is taken from the local Press.

"Rarely does the coveted honour of a trial for the Kent Colts come to a schoolboy at the age of fifteen, but on Monday, Dennis Smith, pupil at the Maidstone Commercial School, was granted that honour.

After bowling a few overs and a knock at the nets he returned to Maidstone content in the knowledge that he had made some impression. He was asked to return again next year, by when his game may have developed a little more style.

Dennis is a useful medium-fast bowler, but on Monday, he had the discouraging experience of playing on a soaking pitch and bowling for the first time on the matting.

Mr. A. M. Williams, his sports master, who accompanied him on his visit to Canterbury, afterwards said: "Dennis is a useful bowler, whose first few overs usually take devastating effect. Last year he achieved distinction by taking most of the opposing team's wickets in a school game, including performing the hat-trick. This was noted in the school magazine, and that is how Dennis was given his chance with the Colts.

"He should prove his worth when he is a little bit older next year."

Sons of Jack Hubble, "Tich" Freeman and Teddy Humphreys have at some time attended the School."

National Savings. Amount collected during Summer Term was £10 16s. 1d. Total amount collected, £67 8s. 6d. Mr. Bettle will be pleased to enter new members.

During the term we were glad to help the new parish of St. Nicholas and its building operations by providing a Concert in aid of funds. Mrs. Piper's Percussion Band was, as usual, a great success, and other items included monologues by Mr. Goodchild, songs by Mr. Bettle, piano and accordion items by G. Reynolds and A. Barham. Twelfth Night and The Crusader by the Upper School and two sketches by Mr. Williams and Mr. Bettle. We gather that our efforts were much appreciated, and £5 7s. 6d. was raised for the funds.

We also assisted in dramatic work at the Fête held in the garden of St. Peter's Vicarage.

We should like to offer our hearty congratulations to Mr. Williams on the occasion of his marriage on August 12th. The School presented him with a set of Pyrex dishes, the Upper School a set of silver coffee spoons and the Old Boys' Association with a silver cake stand. Mr. and Mrs. Williams have expressed their appreciation. Mr. and Mrs. Piper were present at the ceremony and conveyed the good wishes of the School and Old Boys.

We are glad to comment on the great number of boys who attended swimming. Free lessons have been provided, and the following badges awarded to those who have learned this term:—Howard, Cheeseman, Sheldon, Gobbels, Fenner, Ives, Brooker and Metcalf. Special mention should be made of Metcalf who failed twice but was successful the third time. Well done.

During the dark winter evenings (darker than ever now) many boys will take the opportunity of reading. The School Library contains several hundreds of books and all boys should belong. Offers of books for the library will be welcomed.

A number of boys attended the special showing of the R.S.P.C.A. film which was much appreciated. During the term we have collected for this organisation as well as for the hospitals.

We should like to draw the attention of our readers to the advertisements in the Magazine. These materially help us in the heavy expenses of the production of a publication of this type. We hope our readers will support in every way our advertisers and so help us to discharge our debt of gratitude.

UPPER SCHOOL NOTES.

A number of boys visited the Gravesend Cricket Ground to see the West Indians against an eleven of Mr. Leslie Ames in a one day match. A very interesting day's cricket was witnessed, and having seen the West Indian stars we were able to follow the Tests with greater interest.

Several boys also visited the Oval with Mr. Williams.

The Special Study Books again reached a high standard, and Mrs. Piper informs us she had a difficult task in deciding the results. Tomsett and Barham secured the first prizes.

Tennis has proved very popular this term. The Final results for the Cup are not yet to hand, and will be published later. E. Leeves has acted as Secretary.

ANNUAL SCHOOL SPORTS.

The following account of the Eighth School Sports is taken from the "Kent Messenger":—

"The keenness of the smaller competitors was a feature of the Eighth Annual Athletic Sports of the Maidstone Commercial School and The Elms Preparatory School on the Athletic Ground, on Wednesday, and when this was mentioned by Headmaster Mr. H. I. Piper, at the prize distribution, it brought cheers from the large company of parents and friends assembled.

Once again favoured with fine weather, the sports were a great success, and competition in all branches were keen, several records being broken.

The splendid organisation was a tribute to the School; there was not a single lag, and the programme finished almost dead on the appointed time.

G. Reynolds broke the high jump record of 4ft. 9ins. by 2ins., and W. Westbrook lowered the half-mile record from 2 mins. 20 2-5 secs. to 2 mins. 18 secs.

One of the most attractive events of the afternoon was throwing the cricket ball, and there was loud applause when E. Tomsett threw the ball 96 yards, thus beating the previous record by two yards.

St. Augustine's won the house cup with 174 points. School being second with 145 points. St. Peter's were third, despite their winning the house relay in fine style and annexing 20 points for that event.

D. Smith, of School, won the Senior Victor Ludorum, while the Junior Victor Ludorum was tied for by J. Thirkell and B. Fernig, both of St. Augustine's.

The prizes were distributed by Mrs. F. A. Piper, who had a word of congratulation for the winners and one of encouragement for the losers. She was presented with a bouquet by G. Reynolds, one of the senior boys, and accorded three cheers.

Mr. Piper, in the course of his speech, referred to D. Smith being tried out at Canterbury for the Kent Colts and expressed the hope that his name might one day be known all over the county.

Mr. H. I. Piper was President of the sports and the other officials were: Hon. Secretary, Mr. A. M. Williams; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. E. G. A. Bettle; Timekeeper, Mr. W. C. Gosling; Judges, Stewards and Records, parents and members of the Old Boys' Association; Programme Stewards, Messrs. R. Shaw, P. King, D. Percy and N. Hartridge.

RESULTS.

100 Yards Open.—1, D. Smith; 2, G. Reynolds; 3, A. Smith. Under 14.—1, J. Thirkell; 2, B. Fernig; 3, C. Davis. Under 12.—1, R. Barham and G. Cheeseman tied; 3, J. Solly. Under 10.—C. Craig.

80 Yards, under 10.—1, C. Craig; 2, B. Baker; 3, L. Leaver.

60 Yards, under 10.—1, B. Baker; 2, C. Craig; 3, N. Dexter. Junior.—1, M. Mitchell; 2, J. Price; 3, R. Johnson.

220 Yards, Open.—1, D. Smith; 2, W. Westbrook. Under 14.—1, J. Thirkell; 2, B. Fernig; 3, C. Davis. Under 12.—1, R. Barham; 2, G. Cheeseman.

440 Yards, Open.—1, W. Westbrook; 2, D. Smith. Under 14.—1, B. Fernig; 2, J. Solly; 3, R. Barham.

High Jump, Open.—1, G. Reynolds; 2, E. Tomsett; 3, C. Beale.

Long Jump, Open.—1, D. Smith; 2, E. Knott; 3, A. Clarke.

Half-Mile, Open.—1, W. Westbrook; 2, A. Baker; 3, C. Beale. Under 14.—1, J. Solly; 2, C. Veitch; 3, R. Marshall.

Potato Race, Open.—1, E. Tomsett; 2, C. Beale; 3, A. Baker. Under 14.—1, L. J. Thirkell; 2, S. Murray; 3, C. Veitch. Under 12.—1, G. Cheeseman; 2, R. Barham. Under 10.—1, C. Craig; 2, B. Baker; 3, D. Swan.

Egg and Spoon Race, Open.—1, E. Knott; 2, A. Baker; 3, C. Beale. Under 14.—1, C. Pantony; 2, S. Murray; 3, J. Gibson. Under 12.—1, P. Stearn; 2, D. Lumsden. Under 10.—1, P. Leaver; 2, N. Dexter.

Sack Race, Open.—1, D. Brooker; 2, A. Baker; 3, C. Beale. Under 14.—1, J. Thirkell; 2, A. Martin; 3, R. Knight. Under 12.—1, M. Sykes; 2, R. Metcalfe; 3, R. Barham. Under 10.—1, B. Baker; 2, D. Swan.

Three-Legged Race, under 14.—1, C. Craig and D. Swan; 2, J. King and M. Sykes; 3, P. Stearn and R. Barham. Open.—1, C. Beale and A. Smith; 2, A. Baker and H. Mungham.

Slow Cycle Race, Open.—1, C. Beale; 2, H. Mungham; 3, W. Westbrook. Under 14.—1, B. Fernig; 2, R. Marshall. Under 12.—1, G. Cheeseman; 2, R. Metcalf.

Obstacle Race, Open.—1, W. Westbrook; 2, A. Clarke; 3, A. Baker. Under 14.—1, J. Thirkell; 2, C. Veitch; 3, S. Murray. Under 12.—1, J. King; 2, B. Fernig; 3, G. Cheeseman.

Throwing the Cricket Ball, Open.—1, E. Tomsett; 2, A. Smith; 3, D. Smith.

House Relay.—1, S. Peter's; 2, School; 3, St. Augustine's.

Tug-of-War.—Reynold's team beat Tomsett's team by two pulls to one.

Swimming, Senior.—A. Clarke. Junior.—R. Marshall.

100 Yards Flat Race, open to any gentleman on field.—1, Mr. Goodchild; 2, Mr. Craig; 3, Mr. Randall; 4, Mr. King.

80 Yards Ladies' Race, ditto.—1, Miss Stearn; 2, Mrs. Johnson; 3, Miss Gee."

The Sports' Committee would like once again to thank all our subscribers whose kindness made the event the usual success, and also all parents and Old Boys who helped us so well on the Sports Field.

BALANCE SHEET.

Commercial School Annual Sports, 1939.

Receipts.			Expenditure.			
£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
Balance in hand	12	6	Hire of ground	2	2	0
Entrance Fees	3	3	Printing	2	15	6
Sale of Programmes	1	6	Music & Loudspeakers	1	15	0
Subscriptions	11	5	Secretary's Expenses	1	1	11
Prizes presented	3	0	Prizes Purchased	7	19	0
			Prizes presented	3	0	0
			Balance in hand	14	8	
	£19	8	1	£19	8	1

24th July, 1939.

Signed, E. G. A. Bettle, Hon. Treasurer.

INDUSTRIAL GEOGRAPHY.

MESSRS. READERS & SONS,
CRICKET BALL MANUFACTURERS.

An interesting visit was made by boys of the Upper School accompanied by Mr. Williams to the factory of Messrs. Readers and Son, Teston.

On arriving at the premises, our guide first took us to the shed where the hides are stored and then stripped and finally stretched. The hides are the finest cow hides obtainable in the country and weigh on an average 25 lbs.

They are marked into strips and cut up. A series of marks at the end of the strips enables the worker to know exactly from whereabouts on the hide that particular piece came. This is necessary, because the quality of the leather differs, the top being the finest and the sides being inferior.

The strips are then dyed, the method used by Messrs. A. Reader colours the leather right through and is their secret.

When dry the strips are conveyed to the cutting department where they are cut into what is termed "quarters" about the size of a large orange skin.

Two pieces of the same quality and shade are joined together.

This "crossing," as it is called, is a skilful job. The quarters are stitched on the inside, and when the cover is reversed the stitches have to be invisible. This is made possible by a special awl which makes the holes for the hempen thread and does not penetrate more than about half way through the thickness of the leather.

Next, the two cup-like covers are attached tightly together and blocked on a gun metal mould. The worker who does this also reinforces the cups with small strips of leather. The leather cups are then ready to receive the centres.

"Quilting," as the making of the centres is termed, is a very interesting process.

The worker cuts the corners off a square piece of cork about 1 inch square. It is then bound tightly with pure white worsted stretched to its fullest extent.

When the quilt forms the shape of a ball he adds a piece of cut cork, winds it with more worsted, adds another piece of cork and so on until the right size and weight is obtained.

The finished quilt and covers are now attached and the seamer is now in charge of the ball.

The covers, which normally seem too small, are then put in a vice exerting tons of pressure on the quilt, and it is in this vice that the seamer puts in his stitches.

There are as many as 95 stitches put into a first class ball and they are put in with the aid of a bristle not a needle.

When the stitching is finished the ball is worked in a clamp mould until the correct shape is formed.

After being inspected by Mr. J. V. Reader the ball is embellished with its stamping of real gold, an excellent finish to such a fine work of art.

R. Westbrook.

DRAKE & FLETCHER (4th Form Impressions).

At the kind invitation of Messrs. Drake & Fletcher Limited, we visited, at their showrooms, an exhibition of Vauxhall Cars.

We saw a full scale model of a Vauxhall 10, which had sections cut away, so as to expose the important points of the design and construction. This model is driven by electricity, and we were told that it cost £1,000 to make.

The chassis and body are made in one piece, which helps to prevent any bending which might occur, and also stops squeaking and noise which would be caused by loose parts of the frame.

The various parts of the frame are made separately and welded together. This operation takes only six seconds.

An interesting feature of the Vauxhall cars is that each wheel is sprung separately, which prevents the bumps from being felt by the passengers. Both coil and bar springs are used.

The weight of the unladen car is $17\frac{7}{8}$ cwt., and when fully laden it is $20\frac{3}{4}$ cwt.

The engine is an overhead valve four stroke, developing 10 h.p. It is called four stroke because there are four movements of the piston for each cycle. These are (1) Induction, (2) Compression, (3) Combustion and (4) Exhaust.

Overhead valves are used because, with these, the combustion chamber can be made a better shape, which helps to reduce the cost of running the car.

Also we were told how the temperature of the engine is controlled with two thermostats, so that the car will reach its proper working temperature after only running for half a mile on a cold morning.

When the car is travelling at 30 m.p.h. the speed of the engine in top gear is 2010 revolutions per minute.

The top speed is from 60 to 65 m.p.h.

The head lamp dip switch is fixed on the floor next to the clutch pedal, so that it can be worked with the foot.

We thank Messrs. Drake & Fletcher Limited for their kindness in allowing us to visit the exhibition.

R. Shaw, N. Hogg, R. Knight, B. Fernig.

FOR THE TROOPS.

Wrist & Pocket Watches.

Luminous and Non Luminous.

A Good Range at Reasonable Prices, from

G. CORNELL & SONS,

12 & 14 GABRIEL'S HILL, MAIDSTONE.

Telephone: Maidstone 3150.

**THE ONLY WAY
TO RADIANT HEALTH**

Drink Milk From

Primrose & Len Dairies, Ltd.,

19 LOWER STONE STREET,

105 TONBRIDGE ROAD,

32 THE BROADWAY (Milk Bar),

AND AT THE MILK BAR,

(19 LOWER STONE STREET),

MAIDSTONE.

Maidstone's Milk Specialists.

**WE SUPPLY THE SCHOOL,
WHY NOT YOU?**

Phone: Maidstone 2610.

CONDEMNED.

(An old sailing ship going to be broken up).

"There she goes," the old'uns say,
With gripping hands and vacant stare,
Queen she was for many a day,
But now with masts all stark and bare
The once proud stance and stately pride
That formed her soul; has vanished: died.

Once that ship now judged and doomed,
In graceful flight did sail the seas
Borne upon her slender booms
The canvas filled before the breeze,
And sent her laden body forth,
To east, to west, to south, to north.

Black and thick the coal dust coats
On decks that once were clean and washed,
And the sea spray often shoots,
Only to be sucked and lost
By rotting wood and rank decay,
That rule this mystic shape of grey.

Wrestling with the hawsers strain,
The water, churned from threshing screws,
Races in a foaming skein
To face the keen and tapered bows,
Which fling with timed and measured care
Those waves to brush the empty air.

Fore and aft her beauty lies,
Though veiled by dirt, disuse and age,
And still her sleek old shape defies
The sweeping white-topped seas of rage.
Behind the tug she slowly fades,
Into the misty, distant shades.

R. Westbrook.

ANNUAL SCHOOL JOURNEY.

VISIT TO CADBURY'S, BOURNVILLE.

We left Maidstone East at approximately 10 a.m., and reached Bournville at 1 o'clock.

We did not have to wait long and after a brief halt at the theatre and dining halls we were split into parties of ten and allotted guides. A motor bus ride was the first thing on the agenda.

On the small pamphlets issued to us we were able to discern the points of interest "en route." The great green expanse to the left and right of us was the 22½ acres of recreation ground. But this was nothing compared to the 96 acres of playing fields. This area contained fifteen football pitches, ten hockey pitches and fifty-three tennis courts. Then we passed through Bournville Village, with its new schools, war memorial, church and groups of shops. There were also a block of residential flats for professional and business women, and a large Working Men's College. The Day Continuation Schools had accommodation for 2,500 students (500 per day).

After this we were shown into a building where the cocoa bean was cooked and ridded of its outer husk. It is interesting to note that the sacks of cocoa beans are emptied at the rate of 240 an hour. The beans after shelling are crushed to a fine powder and transformed into a thick, dark brown liquid.

We then saw the various stages through which the ordinary chocolate passes. The luscious centres being cut to size and the coating of chocolate being applied on the outside. Many mouths must have watered at this delicious sight.

We had already seen the cocoa made into powder so the tins themselves were next. The sheets of tin were cut out, pressed and hammered, till gradually they began to resemble their well-known shape. One machine dealt with 800 tins an hour. When they were finished, ingenious devices measured out the cocoa, packed it in paper bags and clamped on the lid. The famous "Bournville Cocoa" was finished and ready for dispatch.

The production of chocolates was not yet complete. The boxes, with their coloured pictures and gay ribbons have yet to be inspected. Therefore we were led into a spacious building where the smell of glue immediately wafted into our nostrils. Here was yet another example of the wonderful organisation and specialised workmanship for which Cadbury's are so deservedly famed.

Again more long corridors were travelled and we saw the chocolates being hand-wrapped and stacked for delivery.

Thus with the exception of a big and appetizing tea, and a very welcome tin of samples given to us on our departure, we ended our tour of Cadbury's factory and estate. But let us not forget to thank the girls, who acted as guides, for making our visit so interesting and instructive.

After an hour in Birmingham and another four hours train journey we arrived at Maidstone (about 11.15 p.m.), tired and dishevelled, but more than satisfied.

CRICKET.

This season we have had a better side than for some years and generally speaking we have done well.

We have played mainly against men's sides.

Our fielding has been exceptionally good and has received approbation.

The best game was the home match against Bearsted Old Boys. After getting them out for 34, we found ourselves with seven wickets down for 17, but we managed to "scramble" home and win by 15 runs.

The Wednesday afternoon practice matches have been very well attended.

The best batting averages for these games were by D. Smith, 41.2, and E. Tomsett, 15.4. The best bowling was by D. Smith, 2.0, and J. Le Feaver, 4.0.

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

The results of the School matches played this year are:—

8th June, v. Loose School, away, won by 7 wickets. Loose 68 (D. Smith 5—16), School 82—3 (D. Gosling 21).

10th June, v. a Grammar School XI., home, drawn. Grammar School 70—7 declared (D. Gosling 4—17), School 39—8 wickets.

26th June, v. Old Boys, home, drawn. Old Boys 94—3 declared (Goodchild 37 not out, D. Smith 2—17), School 41—8.

29th June, v. Haynes Bros., away, lost. School 42 (A. Baker 15), Haynes 108—5.

30th June, v. Bearsted Old Boys, home, won. Bearsted 34 (D. Smith 7—6), School 49 (E. Leeves 10).

10th July, v. Vinters, home, drawn. Vinters 72—6 declared (J. Le Feaver 5—20), School 40—5.

20th July, v. Teston, away, won. Teston 23 (D. Smith 7—10), School 46 (A. Smith 12).

28th July, v. Bearsted Old Boys, home, drawn. Bearsted Old Boys 73 (A. Smith 5—20), School 36—1.

The best batting average for the First Eleven was by J. Thirkell, 9.6. The best bowling was by D. Smith, 3.75.

2nd Eleven (four First Eleven and seven Colts):—

24th July, 1939. Teston 52—7 declared (D. Smith 3—14), School 199—2 declared (A. Smith 103 not out, D. Smith 75 not out. Record partnership of 142).

8th July, 1939. School 102—5 declared, West Boro Cen. 23.

Colts Eleven (under 14) v. Mereworth, away, lost. Mereworth 61 (G. Cheesman 3—10), Colts 29.

CRITICISMS OF THE TEAM.

D. Smith, an able Captain, spearhead of our attack with his fast bowling and a free scoring batsman.

D. Gosling, a capable Vice-Captain and all-rounder.

A. Smith, a cautious opening batsman.

A. Baker, a much improved batsman on last season's form.

J. Le Feaver, a valued member of our attack.

E. Tomsett, a hard-hitter.

E. Knott, a good fielder close to the bat.

J. Thirkell, a batsman wicket-keeper.

E. Leeves, a deputy wicket-keeper who gets some runs.

L. Walker, a capable batsman, but fielding needs attention.

G. Reynolds, a hard-hitting left hander.

R. Westbrook, unorthodox, but sure.

H. Mungham, a good change bowler.

Many thanks have to be offered to R. Fenner, our scorer, for the excellent way he has carried out his duty.

HOUSE RESULTS.

St. Peter's 85—7 (Le Feaver 18) v. St. Augustine's 49 (Le Feaver 6—17).

School 105—1 declared (D. Smith 67 not out, A. Baker 28 not out. These two batsman produced 100 runs (record), St. Augustine's 71 (A. Smith 30, D. Smith 5—19).

School House 86 (D. Smith 26), St. Peter's House 8 (D. Smith 6—2, D. Brooker 4—5).

The best batting averages for the House matches were by D. Smith (93.0) and A. Baker (39.0) both of School House. The bowling, D. Smith (1.9) and D. Brooker (2.2), also of School House.

School House have won the Cricket Cup for the third successive year.

D. Smith, Captain. D. Gosling, Vice-Captain.

DIVING.

On the May 23rd we enjoyed a visit from Captain Lawson Smith, a professional diver. Captain Smith told us of the many dangers of diving, and how the diving suit is constructed to withstand great pressure (at 210 ft. the pressure is 95 lbs. per square inch). He also spoke of the signals used, and the tools necessary, and showed us a diver's lantern of 2,000 candle power. Captain Lawson Smith showed us how old ships are blown up and demonstrated how metal is cut under water.

G. Reynolds.

Since writing the above report readers may have noticed photographs of the *Thetis*, which appeared in the "Picture Post," taken by Captain Lawson Smith under water. The camera was worked by his teeth and concealed in the diver's head-dress.—Ed.

POOLE POTTERY.

(We are pleased to publish this article by an Old Boy).

Poole, in Dorset, is famous for its hand-made pottery which has been manufactured by Messrs. Carter, Stabler & Adams, Ltd., at East Quay Works on the side of Poole harbour since about 1870.

The clay they use is a special composition of which local "ball clay" forms the major part. The composition is made into a sticky mass and pieces of the requisite size are thrown on to the potter's wheel which is turned at high speed by a series of gears and pullies. As the clay is revolving it is moulded into shape with the fingers and thumbs, a large amount of water being splashed on to the pot during the process in order to keep it workable.

The pot is then left to dry slowly for a day or two, after which it is turned on a lathe to make it quite true. The principal tool used in turning is a piece of bent and sharpened hoop iron; it does the work perfectly and seems to be one of those simple craftsmanlike implements which cannot be improved upon, as indeed, it has been used in its present form since the introduction of the turning lathe at the beginning of the eighteenth century.

Handles and spouts are added next and after a further thorough drying lasting anything up to several days the pot is fired in the "biscuit" kiln to a temperature of 1160 degrees Centigrade. The firing and cooling process takes about a week.

The pot is then covered with a spray consisting mainly of powdered glass, powdered flint and sand, and coloured if

necessary, which later forms a semi-matt glaze. The design is now dexterously painted on the absorbent glaze surface with paint made from metallic oxides mixed with water.

Finally, the pot receives a second firing in the "glost" kiln which reaches a temperature of 1050 degrees Centigrade and takes about five days to cool sufficiently for the pots to be removed. During this firing the pot becomes completely hardened and the spray and paint previously applied become semi-glossy and permanent.

It takes about a month to make a piece of Poole pottery and most of the processes employed are highly skilled and similar to those which were used in the manufacture of the famous sixteenth century Italian majolica ware and the seventeenth and eighteenth century incomparable Dutch "Delft" pottery.

J. H. E. Piper.

THE OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION.

Tennis, cricket and an outing have comprised the chief features of the Old Boys' activities during the term. The Tennis Tournament has proved popular and the games have been first class. Details to date:—

Singles (15 entrants). Round 1.—N. Stevenson lost to F. Long; W. Westbrook given game from L. Simmons; A. Wood beat F. Tolputt; A. Williams beat F. Hunt; H. Hooker beat R. Rand; B. Westover beat S. Farman. Byes, H. Gilbert, G. Lynn, E. Hughes.

Round 2.—G. Lynn lost to W. Westbrook; F. Gilbert lost to F. Long; A. Williams beat E. Hughes; H. Hooker received game from B. Westover. Bye, A. Wood.

Round 2a.—A. Williams v. W. Westbrook.

Semi-Final Draw.—A. Williams or W. Westbrook v. H. Hooker; F. Long v. A. Wood.

Mixed Doubles. Round 1.—A. Wood and Partner beat H. Hooker and Partner; F. Long and Partner given game from A. Williams and Partner; G. Lynn and Partner given game from R. Rand and Partner. Bye F. Tolputt and Partner.

Semi-Final.—(Winners) A. Wood and Partner v. G. Lynn and Partner; F. Tolputt and Partner v. F. Long and Partner (Winners).

Final.—A. Wood and Partner v. F. Long and Partner.

* We have pleasure in printing the following account of the outing from E. Hughes, who with Mr. Hooker and Mr. Williams, were the organisers.

It was not a very promising day when the party assembled at the Maidstone & District Bus Station for this new venture of our Association.

This did little to upset our spirits and we were soon settled and enjoying the outward journey through the Kent and Sussex countryside, passing through Staplehurst, Cranbrook, Hawkhurst, Hurst Green, Robertsbridge and Battle.

We arrived at our destination at about 11.15 a.m., and the weather having improved, most of the party had already had their day planned before the arrival. We were able, however, to make a party of a dozen or so to accompany Mr. S. Reynolds on a delightful walk over the cliffs returning in time for lunch.

When the party assembled for the homeward journey it was obvious all had enjoyed a fine time, and made the most of their 8½ hours at Hastings.

The return journey was made in the best of spirits and proved a splendid conclusion to a wonderful day. I am sure all will have happy memories of this new venture of the Association.

The cricket match is referred to elsewhere, but we may mention how much it was enjoyed by all and we regret we were unable to organise a return match. G. Goodchild made a splendid 37 not out, and we were happy to be captained by our Vice-President, Mr. H. Gilbert.

WEDDING BELLS.

We have to report two marriages. On August 12th our Secretary, Mr. A. M. Williams was married at Beckenham. A silver cake stand was sent on behalf of the Association. Mr. E. Long was also married and the customary telegram sent to him. To both we sent our good wishes for a happy and successful future.

We have been visited by J. Foord and D. Bradley during the term and are glad to know that they are progressing satisfactorily. J. Foord is hoping to join the Royal Air Force.

The monthly meetings of the Association have transacted the business. In view of the unsettled conditions we cannot forecast the exact future activities of the Association, but we shall endeavour to meet regularly believing that the fellowship of Old Boys is more than ever necessary now.

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.

Take Our Tip - -

Don't get the Jitters - -

Get a DARTBOARD - -

from

Hubble & Freeman,

23 Gabriel's Hill, Maidstone, Kent.

Phone Maidstone 3497.

Billiards and Indoor Games Specialists.

SOMETHING EVERYONE OUGHT TO KNOW.

That for everything in Groceries and Provisions,
Earthenware, Coal, Coke, Corn, etc., at lowest
prices and right quality, shop at

ASHBY'S CHALLENGE STORES, Ltd., MAIDSTONE.

MAKERS OF CLOTHES THAT LAST.

J. Birchall & Son, 74 Bank Street, Maidstone.

'Phone: Maidstone 3513.

Leading Men's Wear Agencies, viz.—
Swallow, Battersby, Two Steeples, Dents,
Van Heusan, Tootal, Etc, Etc.
Sole Agent for Your Old Boys' Ties, Scarves,
Squares, Blazers, Badges, Etc.

Buy Your Clothes from an Old Boy. You'll
Never Regret It.