

# *THE THORNBURIAN*

*THORNBURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL MAGAZINE.*

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Editor : P.A. BRISCOE.

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## **Editorial.**

Books! 'tis a dull and endless strife!" These poets seem to have an opinion to express on everything; in fact to judge by some of the recent works," such homely topics as education and personal cleanliness do not seem to be outside the poet's scope. Yet how can one of these founts of wisdom tell three hard-worked members of the Upper School that their strife (this was too often literally the case) was dull and endless? Endless the task may have seemed, but we say at once that the task of producing a collection of sheets, blank, written or printed (as the dictionary has it) was not dull. The selection of (often badly) written sheets caused many a laugh and many a silent tear from the Editors.

So high, in fact, did inter-editorial feeling run on occasion, that the question was often settled by a bout of fisticuffs—a most conclusive argument. So do not think that the Magazine Staff are not quite ready to repel any attack by disappointed authors, in spite of their Herculean exertions.

On the academic side, the School has never been more successful than during the past year, whilst the Old Boys kept up our reputation in University and Outer World. Socially, too, we have excelled; Scientific and Literary Societies have been formed, whilst those with a more fickle fancy have been catered for by the Country Dancing Classes and the School Dance Band.

Unhappily, success is seldom untempered with sorrow and the School sustained sad losses in the passing of Mr.G.B. Symes and of Reginald Beszant. The whole School joins with us in extending our deepest sympathy to relatives.

In conclusion, we hope you will find the present issue a useful souvenir of the Jubilee Year and of the School events associated with it.

## **A Visit to the Pyramids.**

*G. Daldry.*

A place of interest, not known to many white people, is that large grey structure, called a Pyramid. Although I have entered several myself, I cannot possibly describe the sensation one has when entering the building. The one I am referring to is in the heart of Egypt, taking up in area, I am told, thirteen acres.

After climbing what seemed to be miles of stone steps, our small party entered a vast stone hall, called by the Egyptians a "Slave Hall." Why this name was given to it, I failed to find out. The interesting thing about this hall was the floor: it consisted of hundreds of small holes, where thousands of years ago, slaves had persistently knelt, praying for a king of their ancestors. The room seemed to me to be very ghost-like, and I was glad to leave it.

Our Egyptian instructor led us, with the aid of a flare, through a number of passages and chambers, briefly telling us the history of each.

The most interesting part of my experiences was the sight of the King and Queen's chambers. They were comparatively small rooms, not more than ten yards square. In the middle of each was a stone tomb, covered with inscriptions.

The party was then asked to crawl through a tunnel, one fifth of a mile long, to the top of the Pyramid. They all refused except two. As I was one of the two we commenced to crawl on hands and knees to open air. After ten minutes of crawling in pitch darkness I decided to turn back. I found that impossible; I could not go one inch further. I shouted; the guide could not turn back. Suddenly I felt something on my face, there was a terrible smell and I remembered no more.

Some three hours afterwards I awoke at the foot of the Pyramid with a camel staring me in the face. I had been drugged to prevent my going almost mad, as others had been known to do. How I was dragged out of the tunnel I could never understand. This was my first and last visit to this interesting place.

## **A Boy's Appeal.**

*B. Lee.*

Oh, why must my face be washed so clean, And rubbed and scrubbed for Sunday?

When you very well know, as you often have seen, 'Twill be dirty again on Monday.

You rub as hard as ever you can,

And your hands are rough, to my sorrow.

No woman shall wash me when I'm a man,

And I wish I was one to-morrow!

## **The Prisoner.**

*J. Dennis.*

The prisoner sat in his cheerless cell  
Bowed down with grief and sorrow;  
What will happen he cannot tell—  
His fate will be known to-morrow.  
His haggard face and sunken eyes  
Show signs of scanty fare;  
Through the bars, into the skies  
He looks, from his cell so bare.

Outside he hears the warder's tread,  
And a clinking of keys in the lock;  
The gaoler stops at the prisoner's bed  
And summons him forth to the dock.

## **I Wandered Alone in a Strange Land.**

*“Wanderer.”*

Unless I am colour blind, a blue ‘bus, one of the Bristol “variety, deposited me in tills veritable Garden of Eden. I was sick at heart, both figuratively, because of being so summarily deposited (although subsequently I found that neither my bus nor my ticket could take me further) and literally because of the jolting and heaving of the so-called -Greyhound.”

I repeat, I was sick at heart, and I took this state of affairs as an omen, for, if I were not to be welcome in the Garden, and I arrived with all humility, why should a super-bus jolt in such a manner as if it were doing a premature penance for me? The fact that I appeared unworthy even to a ‘bus, left me in a condition of profound gloom. “A Stranger in a Foreign Land!” With that thought running through my head, I departed to find a place in which to hide my misery. But lo! The dwellings of the inhabitants possessed no numerical identification marks. “The gods must be displeased,” I sniffed, and tile sound of my sniffing attracted attention. I was guided to a well pitched tent, in front of which I placed my prayer mat in its exact geographical setting, and, with bent head, low voice and many mystic signs, I begged for admission. This was granted me, and, after tasting tile fatted calf, I was led to my couch, and my sickness of heart vanished.

Alas! my joy departed with the appearance of dawn. My former disturbing thoughts returned and I only felt morbidly curious as to the inhabitants of the Great White Palace.

It was with great trepidation that I approached the centre of the local universe next morning. Many were the

stories I had heard of its fame and so I was profoundly thankful to enter tile Palace unobserved by means of the South-east entrance. Fugitive like, I slunk inside, and there a big surprise awaited me. Young people of all ages and sizes and of greatly varying bulk flitted about noiselessly, glaring awhile at the intruder whose passage greatly disturbed the silence of their Sanctum. Being the object of all passing eyes my face turned beautifully crimson. To hide my confusion, I sped to the darkest corner of tile Palace, disguised my agitation with a Cloak of Dignity and returned ready to meet all emergencies. How well my cloak served its purpose! Once more I became the focus of all eyes, but this time they recognised a Higher, if newer, Being. Disappointment showed on all faces at being thwarted from dealing summary Justice to a Disturber of the Peace, and even the uniforms of the maidens turned green with envy.

Suddenly the silence was broken by the thrice-repeated song of a nightingale (?) and, hearing this, the numerous Peter Pans flitted away. I began to move away, when once more the song trifled forth. At this signal, hordes of figures walked silently past me, one and all turning into the Inner Temple. A ghastly silence then ensued, its magnetism drawing me towards the Inner Temple. A note was sounded, and all the people began to wail incantations. Fascinated, I listened. Then, as suddenly as it began, tile lamentation ceased, and the singers dispersed. "Truly an inspiring way of beginning the day," I thought, as I also disappeared along the corridor.

## **A Visit to an Aerodrome.**

*B. Dennis.*

When I was promised a visit to Filton Aerodrome, I was highly excited, and when the afternoon arrived I found myself entering tile big, white gates leading to the engine rooms.

In this place one could stay many hours, and yet not see all. Engines roared; oil-covered engineers with earl)ads tested the motors, while others were oiling, screwing and assembling various parts of the under-carriages, and frames of tile back and front wings. The engine that most interested me was that of the new Hawker Fury -capable of a taxi-ing speed of over two hundred miles per hour.

After this, I entered the dismantling apartment where old and new 'planes were being taken to pieces; the former never to fly again, and the latter to be cleaned up, as it is essential for everything, from the smallest nut,

to the plugs, to be renovated.

I passed on into the hangars where twenty planes were standing, being polished, amid oiled, while pilots put right the gadgets inside the cock-pit, such as the joystick, and elevator levers, which make every difference to flying.

After seeing other things I was shown over the Britain 1st, the plane of the century. The glittering fuselage, and shining steel under-carriage, with "spat" covered wheels, filled me with awe.

To my joy, I was allowed to sit in the cock-pit, with its shining numerals, and gleaming, well oiled levers. The upholstered seats were more comfortable than any others I had sat in. The speedometer marked at its highest speed 400 miles per hour, while the height indicator recorded over 10,000 feet, an altitude rarely attained by planes. The elevators, and wing-flappers worked as only highly tuned and oiled wires could.

Perhaps, in time to come, such wonderful machines will be called crude, but this was certainly not my thought as I left by the same white gates.

## Nightmare before the Oral Exam.

*G.B. & F.R.*

A certain member of the Certificate Form spends the evening before the day of the French Oral Examination learning pages of vocabulary, Grammar notes and idiomatic phrases. When he finds that his brain will hold no more, he goes to bed, but before doing so unwisely partakes of a rather heavy supper.

He dozes off, thinking of the ordeal before him, and imagining the Examiner. He pictures a long-bearded, shaggy-eyebrowed, throaty-voiced old man, as portrayed in "La France," 2d. weekly!

Suddenly, the throaty voice is heard; it says "Dites-moi tout ce que vous avez fait depuis sept heures ce matin."

*Scholar:* "Je me suis levé à six heures et demie pour apprendre des phrases et des mots. Je suis venu à l'école à bicyclette, et j'ai appris quelques choses."

*Examiner:* "Dites-moi ce que vous avez appris."

*Scholar:* (Silence).

*Examiner:* "Alors, décrivez cette gravure."

*Scholar:* (Starts off well, having learnt how to describe a picture). "Dans la gravure, je peux voir un pêcheur avec un panier."

*Examiner:* "Est-ce que le pêcheur a trouvé ces pêches dans la mer?"

*Scholar:* "Oui, monsieur, certainement."

Examiner smiles behind his beard and says "Vraiment

Now our scholar finds himself in a room where there are a great many other pupils. The shaggy-eyebrowed examiner is still there, and this time he is giving dictation but at a rather faster rate than a mere member of the Certificate Form is used to!

Our scholar does not recognize many of the words, and those words he does recognize don't seem to look right when written down. Surely, the perfect tense of aller," second person singular, should have an additional -e -if one is writing about "Ube grosse vieille vache," and doesn't the past participle of recevoir take a cedilla?

The poor scholar naturally gets flustered, and in trying to hurry, makes a large blot, which he tried to rub out but only succeeds in rubbing a hole in the paper. By now he has missed at least two sentences, and he gets more worried than ever. At last, however, the voice ceases, the papers are collected and the Examiner leaves the room. As he goes through the opened door, it slips from his hand, and slams.

The noise awakens our student, who sits up in bed with a start. On investigating the cause of the noise he finds that his Direct French Course has fallen from his bed to tile floor. He places it under his pillow and resumes his troubled slumbers.

## School Days.

*F. Ford.*

We go to Thornbury Grammar School  
And cycle all the way,  
Along the road and up the hill—  
"It's such a pull," we say.

When at last we reach the School,  
The bell we hear at nine,  
Then we give our homework in,  
It must be dead on time.

In the hail we always walk  
All in a single file,  
After prayers to lab or form,  
With joy amid cheerful smile.

Quite glad we are when last bell rings  
Then home to tea we go,  
But if we're naughty we're kept in,  
And then we're full of woe.

## School Notes.

We congratulate the following upon their successes in the year 1934-1935 –

Staff.—F. H. Pollard, Esq.: Degree of Doctor of Philosophy.

*Old Thornburians.*—D. Pitcher: B.A. (1st Class Honours) Bristol. M. Atwell: B.A. (2nd Class Honours) Bristol. A. J. W. Lansdowne: Inter B.Sc., Bristol.

*School.*—W. H. O. Chambers: Open Scholarship, Jesus College, Cambridge, Major Scholarship (G.C.C.).  
D. M. Atwell: State Scholarship, County Higher Exhibition, Governors Scholarship, Training Grant.

*First School Certificate:* M. Bacon, G. Batt, F. Curtis, E. Hobby, R. James, H. Kear, B. Sainsbury, E. Sims, B. Smart, O. Teague, J. Willcox, F. Williams, Ball, Eacott, Gain, Pennington, Powell, Richardson, Speller, Watkins, D. Williams.

*Higher School Certificate:* D. Atwell, I. Allen, J. Mersh, Chambers, Organ.

*Pitman's Speed Certificate:* V. Turner, 80 words per minute; I. Carter, 80 words per minute; M. Boyt, 80 words per minute.

*R.S.A. Examinations.*—Vera Turner: Inter. Typewriting, 1st class; Inter. French; Elementary Bookkeeping; Elementary Arithmetic. Ivy Carter: Inter. Typewriting 1st class; Inter. French; Elementary Bookkeeping. Muriel Boyt: Inter. Typewriting; Elementary Arithmetic. Betty Woodrow: Inter. Typewriting, 1st class.

## School Officials, 1934~5.

*School Captains.*—Lewis, D. Atwell.

*Prefects:* J. Lansdowne, B. Clements, J. Mersh, I. Allen,

K. Smith M Boyt. B. Smart, J. Higgins, Briscoe, Chambers, Organ, Bennett, Meachin, Eacott, Pennington, Williams.

*Scientific Society:* Briscoe (President), Harding (Secretary), Styles (Treasurer).

*Literary and Dramatic Society:* Chambers (Chairman), Excell, I. Carter (Secretaries).

*House Captains.*—Glare: Lewis, K. Smith. Howard:

Eacott, I. Allen. Stafford: Chambers, D. Atwell.

*Sports Captains.*—Football: Eacott. Hockey: B. Clements. Cricket: Lewis. Tennis: B. Clements.

*Thornburian.*—Briscoe (Editor), Powell, Excell (SubEditors), Hawkins (Advertisement Manager).



## Speech Day, 1935.

The annual Speech Day and Prize-giving was held this year on Thursday, July 25th. The School Hall was well filled with parents, relatives, friends and pupils of the School.

Captain R. A. Bennett, Chairman of the Governors, presiding, referred to the loss sustained by the School in the death of Mr. G. B. Symes, vice-chairman of the Governors, who had always done his utmost for the School. He also expressed regret at the loss of their late headmaster, Mr. Jackson, who had been appointed Headmaster of Wintringham Secondary School, Grimsby, and welcomed Mr. Rouch (the new Headmaster), wishing him a very happy life in Thornbury. He was sorry, too, that two members of the staff were leaving at the end of the Summer Term; Miss Barlow, who was leaving to be married, and Mr. Bull, who was taking up an appointment under Mr. Jackson, at Grimsby.

In the outside work of the School lie was pleased to say that chestnut palings had replaced the unsightly corrugated iron fence; also that a number of trees were to be planted in the school grounds as a memorial of the Royal Silver Jubilee. The Chairman then welcomed Mr. Dobson, M.A., M.Sc. (Headmaster of Cheltenham Grammar School) and Mrs. Dobson, who had been kind enough to come down to give away the prizes.

The Headmaster, in his report, spoke of the sustained progress of the school in all its activities, especially in Examination successes. In July, 1934, four Higher School Certificates were obtained, and sixteen candidates passed the First School Certificate Examination. Other outstanding successes of the past year were the award of an Open Exhibition in History, tenable at Jesus College, Cambridge, to W. H. 0. Chambers; and the award of a State Scholarship to Dorothy Atwell, also a Board of Education Training Grant. Several other students gained admission to Training Colleges. Two Old Thornburians, D. Pitcher and Mollie Atwell, obtained Honours Degrees in History, while A. J. W. Lansdown, Captain of the School last year, was successful in passing his intermediate examination for the Degree of B.Sc.

He was pleased to say that a Scientific Society and a Literary and Debating Society had been formed, during the year. These were invaluable in the general education of the pupils. The Headmaster thanked the Chairman for the kindness he had shown to him; and expressed great pleasure at having his former Headmaster, Mr. Dobson, and Mrs. Dobson, at his first Speech Day.

Mr. Dobson, after distributing the awards, addressed

tile parents and pupils. He said that during his thirty years as a master he had never been in so beautifully arranged and well-lighted a school as Thornbury Grammar School, and he would like to pay a very sincere tribute to the Chairman of the Governors, on the excellent work which had been accomplished during his regime. He impressed upon the pupils that work and work alone can bring a boy or girl success at School or in later life. He illustrated this valuable piece of advice by quoting one of the verses from Blake's

Jerusalem - Finally, he urged the children to take every opportunity to train their minds and to assimilate the true education which would be afforded them under the leadership of Mr. Rouch, whose influence warranted a prophesy of a very bright future for the School.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Dobson was proposed by Mr. E. Cullimore, who gave interesting reminiscences of the early days of the school, and seconded by Mr. L.

T. Thurston (new Vice-chairman of the Governors).

The School Choir then sang a group of songs—"The Sheep Shearing," (Somerset Folk Song), -One man shall mow my meadow," (Cotswold Folk Song), and -I vow to thee my Country," (Hoist), after which a pianoforte solo was given by Mary Nichols. Members of form IIIa. then presented a play by Maurice Baring, entitled The Rehearsal." The elocution of these young players was so nearly perfect that it was a pleasure to listen to them.

The proceedings closed with tile singing of the National Anthem. The School was then open to visitors, whilst tea was provided by the Domestic Science students, for tile Governors in the Library and for visitors in the Old School.

## **Whist Drive and Dance.**

A very successful whist drive and dance was held in the school on Friday, 18th October, the proceeds being forwarded to the Games Fund for the purpose of re-laying the Cricket Pitch.

Twenty tables were occupied for the whist drive, and between 150 and 200 people attended the dancing. Both events were in progress at the same time, the whist drive being held in the older portion of the school, while the dancing took place in tile hall of the new school.

We believe that everyone present spent a most enjoyable evening, and hope that when the next of its kind is held here (in the second week in February) we shall have as good or even better attendance.

We wish to thank the Staff for their organisation, and those who helped in the preparations on the night; also those outside the school who were good enough to give prizes for the whist drive; and those attending, for their support.

A balance of £18 us, was realised, which was very satisfactory for us; but we are never satisfied where our Sports Fund is concerned and so I think I might add without hesitation—we hope for more next time.

## **Scientific Society.**

*G. Harding (Secretary).*

The Scientific Society is now entering upon the third term of its career. Originating in the last few months of 1934, the Society has proved very successful. Its object has been to promote a general interest in science by means of lectures, debates and visits to places of scientific interest.

A synopsis of the lectures to date may be interesting to many.

The first lecture was a Presidential Address by P.A. Briscoe. He took for his topic "Flame," and discussed the colouration and structure of flames and what they actually are. His many colourful experiments were very interesting.

Television formed the subject of a lecture given by the Secretary, G. Harding. The transmitting and receiving sides of television were explained, and judging by the questions asked, the lecture proved very popular.

The Treasurer, F. Styles, dealt with the construction of a simple crystal set, in his lecture entitled, "how to make a crystal set." This lecture was especially suited for constructionally-minded members.

Naturalists were catered for, by a lecture by D. Hitchens on "Birds of the shore and their eggs." His many specimens of eggs as well as photographs made his lecture most informative.

H. Powell lectured on "Telescopes," illustrated by actual apparatus. The examination of a large telescope, fully pleased the audience.

"Microscopes" provided Miss Irene Northover with the material for a very good lecture. Members were allowed to look at specimens under several microscopes, and as many as imagined were eager to do so.

The beginning of a new school year. resulted in P. A. Briscoe giving his second Presidential Address. "The

Fossils and Minerals of the District - were fully discussed as well as their formation. His fine collection with which he illustrated his lecture, was much appreciated.

The outing to Messrs. Fry's, undertaken by a party of about 40, was indeed enjoyable. This term's outing to the Smelting Works, Avonmouth, was restricted to 28 boys but it fully came up to anticipations.

When Miss Barlow and Mr. Bull left, the Society lost two valuable members of the committee. Miss Hurley and Mr. Sagar, who have consented to become the two new ex-officio committee members are warmly welcomed.

In conclusion we wish to congratulate most heartily Dr. Pollard to whom the Society owes much, on obtaining his Ph.D.

## **The Literary and Dramatic Society.**

This Society was formed at the beginning of the Summer Term and is as yet in its infancy. Nevertheless, it has begun to function well. The meetings, consisting for the most part of Debates, have all been well-attended; and considerable interest has been shown in debates dealing with topical political questions.

At the end of the Summer Term, members of each form produced plays which were acted before the School and Staff. They were -

Scenes from Alice in Wonderland -	2b.
Silly Willy -	2a.
"The Swine Herd"	3b.
"The Rehearsal -	3a.
"The Goose Girl -	4b.
Scenes from -Uncle Tom's Cabin	
The Mill on the Floss -	4a.
The 'Ole in the Road -	5a.
The Advertisement -	5a.
Scenes from -The Twelfth Night - .Upper 5a. & 6	

The play by 3a. was repeated in the Speech Day programme and was very well received by a large audience.

A welcome change was a visit to Woodchester to see the Roman mosaic pavement which is world-famous and only open to the public about once in ten years.

Work is now actively in progress for the Autumn Term and the enthusiasm already displayed augurs well for the future of the society.

## **A Visit to the Roman Remains, Woodchester.**

After receiving a short talk from Mr. Morse on Roman Pavements, a party of about sixty pupils and some of the staff set out from the school, about 9.30 on a sunny midsummer morning (July 29th) to visit the Roman Remains at Woodchester.

The journey was made in luxurious motor coaches, passing through typical Cotswold scenery, and occupied about one hour.

Having heard the talk given at school, we knew what to expect from a Roman Pavement, but it simply took our breath away to see the coloured patterns and mosaics which had once formed part of a villa built in the Roman style. We were able to see the design as plainly as modern ones, except in places where parts had been broken up by accident, and cemented in. The design was 49ft. square, and was composed of hundreds of little coloured stones found in the surrounding country. The exposed surface was about 3ft. below the ground level and was surrounded on all sides by the tombstones of the churchyard which had been built over it in olden times.

Interesting points about this pavement were tile raised floors on pillars about 2 1/2 ft. high, for heating purposes, and the base of one of the pillars which had supported the roof.

After having some of the points explained by an authority on the subject, we left Woodchester and arrived back at Thornbury about 12.30.

## **Choral Society.**

### *Songster.*

Oyez, oyez! -shouted the town crier, -A school choral society is to be formed. Psuedo-sopranos, Beefy baritones, Tentative tenors and Husky contraltos are required in large numbers. Roll up and do your bit. Oyez!

This earliest if somewhat lusty appeal met with immediate response. Singers of all descriptions possessing different depths of chest and powers of penetration, rallied to the cause and worshipped at the feet of Orpheus. Names were submitted, a committee was formed, and the society sprang into being.

At present should anyone stand outside the Great Hall in the late afternoon of any Friday, strange noises will be heard. There is no cause for alarm dear listener. Eventually—in fact, in a very short time—these unprepossessing sounds will be welded into controlled harmony and the society can then be considered as flourishing.

## **Old Thornburian Notes.**

Since its last contribution to the School Magazine, Tue Old Thornburians have suffered a severe loss by the death of Mr. G. B. Symes, who, at the time, was Chairman of tile Society.

His ripe experience, his knowledge of procedure, and his abundant tact will be sadly missed in the management of the affairs of the Thornburians.

Mr. S. H. Gayner, another member of the Governing body, now fills the chair, with Mr. G. Rugman, another keen member of the Society as Vice-chairman.

A change will also be found in the President of the Society, caused by the departure of Mr. R. W. Jackson to Wintringham Secondary School, Grimsby, and the appointment of Mr. S. J. V. Rouch as his successor as Headmaster of our School.

The activities of the Society during the year, have been much on the same lines as on previous occasions, although it was found advisable to drop tile Summer meeting.

The Whist Drives and Dances held, one in each of the winter terms, were well attended, with the result that they were both great successes financially, while the enjoyment obtained by those who came, showed that they were equal successes socially.

One of the aims of the Old Thornburians is to be a material help to the School and during the past year the Society has been happy to be able to render the School some assistance.

The expense incurred in the renovation of the School War Memorial was borne by them, and further evidence of its interest in the welfare of the School is to be found in a promise fulfilled by donating Five Pounds to make up a deficiency incurred in connection with the publication of the first number of the School Magazine.

It is hoped that one of the first steps taken by ally pupils after leaving School will be to join the Old Thornburians by whom they will be heartily welcomed. Tue subscription is only one shilling a year, and any information can be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, or any member of the committee.

## **‘Varsity News from Bristol.**

*M.E.N.*

The outstanding feature of last year at Bristol was the success of two Old Thornburians who obtained B.A. degrees—D. Pitcher with first class honours and M. Atwell with second class honours. At the same time I. Lansdown passed his Inter B.Sc. exam.

This term we have very much missed Don Pitcher within his versatile mind and jolly ways, but hope he is enjoying life in such a select spot as Cheltenham. Molly, fortunately, has not yet deserted us, and we are glad to extend a hearty welcome to her sister and another Old Thornburian, Jessie Mersh, who have joined us this year.

Bristol has claimed two Old Thornburians, but at the same time the 'Varsity has lost one of its most popular members, who has joined the teaching staff at T.G.S. We hope Thornbury appreciate their luck!

As regard life in general, that goes on much the same as last year, with lectures, coffees, dances and society activities—but also plenty of hard work.

## **Country Dancing Class.**

*C.A.*

Eat, Drink and be Merry." So goes the saying. And one of our number, whilst deploring the lack of the first two, has decided to make the best of the third piece of advice.

So it comes to pass that on Tuesday a large number of would-be revellers turned out. Unfortunately, the number of the "sheep" was insignificant compared with that of the "goats"; the former, being shy, hid behind the instrument of rhythm until entreated by the goats to be more sociable. Then the fun began! It was not long before shyness vanished, and antics were reasonably well performed.

Now every Tuesday brings fresh lambs to the slaughter. These all-too-few moments of bliss make a vast difference to everyone—lead feet become fairy-like (?), grace of carriage is achieved, and superfluous weight is lost.

When five o'clock curfew tolls, these trippers of the light fantastic toe are very unwillingly dispersed, to meet again in seven days time.

## **Jubilee Trees.**

*Muriel Boyd.*

This year being the Silver Jubilee of their Majesties King George V. and Queen Mary, it was suggested by our headmaster that we should adopt a scheme by which various types of trees should be planted around the edges of the School Field.

Every one in the School took a keen interest in the scheme, each form purchasing one or more trees.

The Headmaster and each member of the staff subscribed liberally, also Mr. C. H. Ross and Mr. B.

W. Jackson, former Headmasters of the School. Each of these gave two trees, the latter making the stipulation that his trees should not be Birches.

Altogether, about fifty trees have been obtained, and are to be planted very shortly. We hope they will afford some much needed shade to the spectators at the next Sports Day.

## **Clare House Notes.**

*B.C., G.H.*

Once again, Clare has proved itself to be the champion House, and has carried off the Shield for the second year in succession. The House is mainly indebted to the girls, who carried off the maximum number of points in the inter-House games.

There was keen competition, especially within Stafford, on Sports Day, but Clare acquitted itself well, and its combined efforts have borne fruit in the shape of the Shield.

The House has suffered a great loss in the leaving of Lewis. He has proved an excellent House Captain, besides being Captain of the School; and on the field he has always done brilliantly, in spite of his illnesses; in him the House loses one of the best all-round members it is likely to have. We wish him every success in future. The girls have a similar loss in Kathleen Smith, the girl Captain, and we wish her, too, the best of success.

In spite of its losses at the end of the summer term, Clare is going to do its best to retain the Shield. This should not be very hard as the prospects of future Clare teams seem to be very bright. The juniors, especially the boys, show great enthusiasm; the football and cricket teams are of average strength and we have hopes that they will hold their own; the hockey team, although it has lost many of its old members, promises to be very successful; while the tennis team leaves room for improvement, but can probably succeed.

Whatever happens, Clare are ready to fight once more for the Shield, and provided that the same confident spirit animates the House as did last year, we should be able to remain the Champion House.



## **Howard House Notes.**

*P.J.E., I.E.C.*

The privilege of holding the House Shield has not been ours for two years now; in fact, during the last year we scored less points than either of the other two houses. In spite of this, we are not in the least pessimistic about regaining the shield in the near future. On the whole, we feel far more hopeful about our sports teams.

Our hockey and football teams, providing that none of our stalwarts leave us suddenly before the Summer Term, should stand a very fair chance of success. Cricket and tennis teams also show improvement, and we mope great timings from them.

In the past year our successes were not overwhelming but we had a little to say for ourselves in spite of all. Swimming appeared to be our greatest achievement, Howard coin jug out first in the girls' sports and second in the boys' sports; this should prove a safe source of extra points for us next season. In football, Howard seniors reached the finals and only lost by a corner; and in the junior seven-a-side football we also had some promising play, King, Daldry and Ball showed great promise in this direction. For the seniors little can be said of cricket; we hope that by next season some of the juniors will be able to help us.

Howard therefore looks forward confidently to regaining the Shield which was won by them in the first year and is going to be won by them in the fourth year.

## **Stafford House Notes.**

*F.W., C.M.*

Three years have elapsed since the formation of the House system in the school, and still the honour of winning the shield for this house has yet to be obtained. We offer our congratulations to Clare House on winning the Shield for the second year in succession, but hope that it will change hands next time; and with the assistance of all the members of the House, this will be possible amid even probable.

Although many of our best members on the sports field left ins in 1931, the house has had, on the whole, a more successful year.

The football team (including five members of the school team) tied with Clare for the first place, winning three of the matches and losing one in the season. Our cricket eleven also showed signs of improvement, two matches being won, one drawn, and one lost. Sindrey bowled consistently, and with his departure the House

has lost a valuable member. The chief batting honours went to C. Meachin, 44; P. Sindrey, 33; and L. Ford, 28.

The Hockey team was very enthusiastic and was only defeated once by Clare, and also drew one match with them. Tennis, too, was quite successful, Howard being defeated in both matches, while Clare managed to beat us both times. We hope for better luck in this direction next season.

The House congratulates the following –Examination Successes—W. H. O. Chambers, Open

Exhibition in History, Cambridge, Major Scholarship (G.C.C.). Dorothy M. Atwell, Board of Education Training Grant, Governors Scholarship, State Scholarship, County Higher Exhibition.

## House Matches 1934-5.

As in previous seasons the House Matches were greeted with enthusiasm both by players and spectators. All the events were well and sportingly contested, and although skill was often conspicuous by its absence, the untiring energy of the various contestants gave their respective “fans” full opportunity for testing their vocal abilities.

The general result of these matches gave Clare the undisputed right to retain the Shield for another year, amid all members of the other Houses heartily congratulate them for this achievement.

A brief analysis of the results shows that Clare maintained their enviable position chiefly to their success at hockey amid Cricket.

The Cricket eleven, strengthened by the return to play of Lewis, won every match. The Hockey team won all, with the exception of one, in which Stafford played them to a draw of two goals each.

Football and Tennis results show -honours even with Clare and Stafford, each House claiming one win in both sections.

It was pleasing to see that Stafford, after a comparatively lean time, made their presence felt this year.

As regards Howard, the struggle for supremacy was between the other two Houses each of which was strong enough to exact full toll from them in every section.

### TABLES.

#### FOOTBALL.

	P.	W.	D.	L.	For	Agst.	Pts.
Clare	4	3	0	1	11	8	60
Stafford	4	3	0	1	12	6	60
Howard	4	0	0	4	4	13	0

## HOCKEY.

	P.	W.	D.	L.	For	Agst.	Pts.
Clare	4	3	1	0	15	3	70
Stafford	4	2	1	1	9	6	50
Howard	4	0	0	4	3	18	0

## CRICKET.

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Pts.
Clare	4	4	0	0	80
Stafford	4	2	0	2	40
Howard	4	0	0	4	0

## LAWN TENNIS.

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Pts.
Clare	4	3	0	1	60
Stafford	4	3	0	1	60
Howard	4	0	0	4	0

## Football Report: Season 1934-5.

At the beginning of most football seasons the school has been fortunate to find at least half the previous year's team available for the coming season and several capable reserves ready to fill the vacancies.

This season was unfortunately an exception, practically the whole of the previous team having left and Lewis, from whom much was expected, being unable, through ill-health, to help, except in the opening match.

It was suggested that the motor conveyance was not necessary to take the team to away matches, but that a wheelbarrow would be sufficient, and expenses could cut down.

From these remarks, it is obvious that they did not have a very successful season, in fact, the record was one of the poorest in the school's history.

In the first term, every match was lost by big scores, which showed our obvious weakness in defence, the backs and halves being so overworked, that the forwards had few opportunities of discovering the position of their opponents goal.

A steady improvement was noticeable as the season progressed, amid the results during the second term compared very favourably with those of the first.

A solitary victory, 7—5, was recorded against Cotham 2nd Eleven, but perhaps the best performance of the season was the draw of 2 goals each, at home, against Kingswood Grammar School, when compared with the 8—0

defeat at Kingswood earlier in the season. The team promises to develop into a very useful one during the coming season, and with an apparent

abundance of talent in the juniors, we should soon be able to field a strong side and regain our old prestige.

The following players had the honour of representing the school in matches : —Pennington, Jones, Appleby, Speller, Bennett, Eddington, Dennis, Williams, Webb, Eacott, Niblett, Meachin, and Phillips.

## **Hockey Report. 1934-5.**

*B.T.*

The brilliant opening to the season reported in the last issue of the "Thornburian," (the match against Wotton G.S., won 21—1), was a good augury, for by Easter the team had only lost one match, that against Dursley Secondary School,—always a strong team and no mean victors.

The whole team received their colours at the end of the season—a fitting reward for a well-fought victory. The team was as follows —

Goal: R. James. L/Back, B. Bruton; R/Back, I. Jones; L/Half, M. Croome; R Half, B. Thompson; L/Inner, D. Atwell; R/Inner, J. Mersh; Centre, V. Jenkins; Centre-half, B. Clements; L/Wing, N. Nichols; R/Wing, M. Maggs.

Of the above, Isobel Jones played extremely well throughout the season in her position at R/Back, while Beryl Clements also did good work at Centre-half. The latter leads the attack this year, and we wish her and the new team the same success that was achieved last year.

## **Cricket Report. 1935.**

*D.G.G.*

The Cricket Team did not have a successful season, being much weaker than in the previous year, owing to the loss of most of the old outstanding players. We missed the hard-hitting batsmen, Lansdown, who will probably be breaking pavilion clocks for the Bristol University this season, also Smith our left-hand spin bowler and batsman, Dearing, Moody, Eddington and Daniell.

The attack was ably led by Lewis, who enjoyed a successful season, both in bowling and batting. The Vice-captain was Meachin, who, in spite of losing a little form at the beginning of the season, had a very good average, due to his good batting towards the close.

Newcomers to the attack were Hosken, Sindrey and Beszant, who all bowled admirably. We were very sorry to learn of Beszant's death, and the team extend their

deepest sympathy to his parents in their sad bereavement. The batting was, on the whole, more consistent, members not being so enthusiastic to build Poultry Farms. A welcome innovation was made by our Headmaster, in awarding colours. These were awarded to : —Lewis (captain), Meachin (vice-captain), Hosken and Sindrey (bowlers), and Garn (wicket-keeper).

We should like to thank the Headmaster for the valuable coaching he gave the team throughout the season.

## **Tennis Report, 1935.**

*B.C.*

Our team had a very successful season this year and kept its proud record of being defeated only once in four seasons, and only then by the Old Girls.

The School was the only one to defeat Dursley G.S. team this season, which was a notable and long-awaited achievement. The team, all of whom were awarded colours, was as follows : —1st Couple: D. Atwell and B. Clements.

2nd Couple: K. Smith and J. Mersh.

3rd Couple: F. Hobby and I. Northover.

Next season, however, five of these stalwarts will have left us, but we hope to meet them again on the other side of the nets, and also to retrieve from them the victory lost to this season's Old Girls' Team.

Towards the end of the season, Junior Tennis showed distinct signs of improvement. Several juniors appeared to be very promising when playing for their houses, and we hope that they will continue to prepare for the teams of future seasons.

## **Swimming Notes.**

*D.R.W.*

This year, swimming sports were introduced into the School, and were enthusiastically supported. Everything went with a splash, especially in the exhibition diving. Points were won for each house, but these did not count for the shield, as it was the first occasion.

Clare House boys won the fray, with Howard 2nd, while Howard girls were first and Clare second; Stafford was at the bottom of both lists but they must not be downhearted, for -the last shall be first -next time—who knows!

Undoubtedly the best swimmer of the day was Beszant, who gave a splendid display of under-water

swimming, when he retrieved five of six plates, almost completing a circuit of the baths before coming to the surface. Another incident, of a more amusing nature, was provided by one competitor floundering at the start of a race.

Well, here's to next year, when the points will count in the fight for the shield—and may the best mouse win.

## Sports Day, 1935.

*E.T.R.*

When Sports Day arrived, Clare House were only twenty points ahead of Stafford and it seemed rather doubtful which of these would be -top dog -after the sports. From the first event, however, Clare began to mount up their score, and subsequently gained 67 of the available 149 points, Stafford being second with 44 1/2 points and Howard obtaining 37 1/2. This gave Clare a total of 197, Stafford 154 1/2, and Howard 37 1/2.

The most outstanding performances on the field were those of Lewis, Garry (1 mile and 440 yards), and Speller for the boys and Edna Newman for the girls. We are sorry to lose such a distinguished all-round sportsman as Lewis, and wish him every success in out-of-school athletics.

To end the programme, two relay races were arranged—one for the Old Boys and one for the Old Girls. Having witnessed these two exciting finishes, the visitors departed, having spent a most entertaining afternoon, thanks to the untiring efforts of the Staff and the enthusiasm of the competitors.

The Shield was not presented on Sports Day, as there were still several cricket matches to be played; but on Speech Day it was presented by Mr. Dobson to the Captains of Clare house for the second year in succession.

Congratulations to Clare, and may the others have better luck next year.

### RESULTS.

#### BOYS, 100 YARDS.

	Senior.	Intermediate.	Junior.
1.	Lewis	Ford	Lee
2.	Speller	Jones	Stovold
3.	Daldrey	Harding	

#### GIRLS, 100 YARDS.

	Senior.	Intermediate.	Junior.
1.	B. Thompson	F. Newman	D. Palmer
2.	R. Pullen	D. Ledger	F. Reeves
3.	B. Bruton	D. Brown	A. Carter

BOYS, 220 YARDS.

	Senior.	Junior.
1.	Lewis	Harding
2.	Speller	Ford
3.	Powell	Jones

GIRLS, SKIPPING RACE.

	Senior.	Intermediate.	Junior.
1.	B. Thompson	E. Newman	D. Palmer
2.	A. Collins	D. Ledger	S. Thompson
3.	F. Williams	D. Brown	B. Pearce

BOYS, 1 MILE, OPEN.

1. Garry
2. Wood
3. Dennis

GIRLS, 150 YARDS, OPEN.

1. K. Smith
2. K. Gazzard
3. M. Croome

BOYS HIGH JUMP.

	Senior.	Junior.
1.	Lewis	Beake and Garrett (tie)
2.	Speller	

GIRLS, EGG & SPOON, Open. GIRLS, POTATO RACE, Jun.

1.	B. Woodrow	1. E. Newman
2.	D. Hayward	2. F. Ford.
3.	B. Curtis	

BOYS, RELAY RACE.

	Senior.	Intermediate.	Junior.
1.	Stafford	Clare	Howard
2.	Howard	Howard	Stafford

GIRLS, RELAY RACE.

	Senior.	Intermediate.	Junior.
1.	Clare	Clare	Stafford
2.	Stafford	Howard	Howard

BOYS, 440 YARDS, Open.

1. Garry
2. Wood
3. Ford

TUG of WAR.

1. Howard
2. Clare