

THE LION



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JANUARY, 1953.

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OBVIOUSLY the most important event to take place at School last term was the beginning of the long delayed Science block: it may be ready for occupation by next September. Nothing could be more welcome; but its completion will leave us very far from satisfied. We have hopes that a Sports Pavilion with changing accommodation and a Cycle Shed will not be long delayed and then the Hall needs to be extended with a permanent stage. We all trust that the new Laboratories will be only the first of a whole series of buildings needed by the School if it is to work with full efficiency.

The results of last summer's examination are recorded in this issue and we are pleased to be able to congratulate a large proportion of the entrants; and no less pleased to note the success which is being achieved by Old Priceans at the Universities.

The fortunes of the Football team have been somewhat varied; at its best and at full strength it was a very useful side. Badminton and Table Tennis have also flourished and a marked rise in the general standard of the former has been noticed.

The term ended with the Carol Service at the Parish Church and a triumph for the Dramatic Society: the standard of acting was extremely high and particular praise must be given once more to those boys who became ladies for the occasion—particularly Chinnery who provided one of art's most remarkable triumphs over nature.

REV. R. O. JOHNSTON

It is with profound regret that we have to record the sudden death on Saturday, December 27th, of Rev. R. O. Johnston.

A feeling of hopeless inadequacy must beset anyone who seeks to express what the R. O. J. of countless notices did for the school and for everybody who passed through it. The oldest generation of Old Priceans knew him well; the newest First Former knew him in his retirement as one who came up to the school to teach him hockey. Yet just because he was so well known to all of us the inadequacy of the writer matters less: every reader of "The Lion" has his own memories of R. O. J. to give colour to what is written here.

He came to Price's School at the beginning of the second foundation; it was only three years ago, forty years later, that we were wishing him a long and happy retirement. If the first part of our wish was not fulfilled we may be sure that the second was. Indeed his life was happy; there was so much that he enjoyed doing and he had the energy and the strength to go on doing to the end. He devoted himself to the School in the classroom or on the playing field to an extent no one has surpassed. We can remember his chuckle and his voice raised in wrath; his advice to keep the cricket ball on the ground—advice so contrary to his example; his highly unorthodox but very effective tennis where his remarkable eye made him dangerous even if he had fallen down and apparently mislaid his racket; above all at hockey—it can only be said that his work at Price's was quite extraordinarily successful, as our select band of internationals and large group of county players prove. Not only Price's but Hampshire will mourn one whose services were of incalculable value.

None of us will forget him; on his retirement I adapted in his copy of "The Lion" that mentioned that event the words of Thucydides—'in short, if one were to say that he was born neither to take rest himself nor allow it to others one would be speaking the simple truth.' But now the time has come when we can only say, "Requiescat in pace."

Examination Results

GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION—R. J. Hedgecock (4-A), Lewis (2-A 1-0), G. E. Orchard (1-A 5-0), A. C. Purkis (4-A 1-0), A. R. Reed (1-A 4-0), P. B. A. Ridett (2-A 1-0), A. D. J. White (1-A 2-0).

G. P. Maidment (4-0), J. G. Priestley (4-0), K. J. Burleton (4-0), M. J. Cardy (5-0), J. Cooper (8-0), M. J. Cossens (5-0), E. C. Doughty (5-0), F. E. Elmes (4-0), H. W. Fletcher (5-0), N. G. Harvey (5-0), A. J. Hobbs (7-0), M. Judd R. May (4-0), A. J. Morris (5-0), B. R. Pullen (6-0), D. C. Rudling (5-0), D. W. Sparks (10-0), R. Wallbridge (5-0), R. G. Willis (10-0).

A=Advanced. O=Ordinary.

SANDHURST ENTRANCE—A. B. Byng.

CIVIL SERVICE CLERICAL—D. Sparks, D. J. Boggust, A. C. Walder.

OLD BOYS (Supplementary)

P. J. Ellis, B.A. (Nottingham). M. L. Urry, B.Sc. (London).

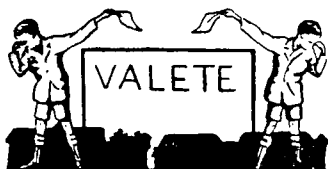


BLACKBROOK—R. E. Shepherd, P. G. Appleton, J. A. Blackwood, M. A. Churchill, D. W. Crosby-Clarke, J. M. Evans, C. R. Lassam, A. R. Mant, D. W. Pallett, J. S. Petch, C. R. Raggett, R. F. Street, P. J. Tudge, R. J. Wharmby.

CAMS—W. M. Alder, K. P. Blakely, V. C. Butcher, D. R. Cherrington, M. J. Cluet, P. J. Cockbain, E. J. Crowle, M. E. B. Groves, M. C. Lawrence, J. W. McGrath, T. A. Schollar, M. J. Smyth, R. R. Thomas, D. J. A. Tinning.

SCHOOL HOUSE—L. A. Baker, T. P. Brice, V. J. Fowle, R. I. B. Kilgour, I. A. Laming, E. T. Mandeville, R. H. G. Peckham, C. W. Silvester, J. M. Smith, R. C. Starky, J. Stewart, J. C. Thomas, G. L. Uniake, R. E. Vinall.

WESTBURY—M. Barrett, R. E. Chase, P. J. Dimon, A. J. Dixon, P. J. Eltringham, A. C. Gibson, D. R. Lineham, C. W. Linford, A. E. Major, J. R. Potier, J. S. Rowsell, R. N. Scorer, J. B. Shakespeare, W. R. Wilson.



BLACKBROOK—J. G. Priestley (Prefect, Swimming Captain, 1st XI Football and Hockey, Captain of 2nd XI Cricket, Dramatic Society), D. G. French (1st XI Football & Cricket), H. W. Fletcher, C. W. Spindler, E. C. Doughty.

CAMS—A. B. Byng (Prefect, 1st XI Cricket, Football and Hockey, Victor Ludorum '50 '51 '52, Sgt. in Cadet Corps, Hants Schools Hockey), R. C. Dimmock (Prefect, House Captain, Captain of Hockey, Vice-Captain of Football, 1st XI Cricket, B.S.M. Cadet Corps, Dramatic Society, Hants Schools Football and Hockey), R. J. Bald, D. J. Boggust, A. C. Walder.

SCHOOL HOUSE—R. J. Hedgecock (Prefect).—D. C. Wassell (1st XI Football), P. D. Lucas, B. R. Pullen, A. Giles, M. J. Hammerton, R. Holmes.

WESTBURY—A. S. Hobbs, A. J. Dowse, K. Stockwell, R. Tregear, A. J. Randall.

Reed Cup, 1951-52

	Blackbrook	Cams	School House	Westbury
Football (S) ...	15	6	15	—
.. (J) ...	2	2	10	10
Hockey (S) ...	12	6	18	—
.. (J) ...	2	2	10	10
Steeplechase (S) ...	6	1½	9	1½
.. (J) ...	—	2	6	4
Cricket (S) ...	6	12	18	—
.. (J) ...	4	—	12	8
Sports (S) ...	6	18	12	—
.. (J) ...	8	4	12	—
.. (M) ...	—	6	4	2
Swimming (S) ...	6	9	—	3
.. (J) ...	4	6	1	1
Totals ...	<u>71</u>	<u>74½</u>	<u>127</u>	<u>39½</u>

Cadet Corps

There has been very little in the way of external activities to report on this term. Training in all its aspects has been going on satisfactorily, but there needs to be a considerable tightening upon discipline; Sergeants are not being firm enough.

The camp, which was held at Bourley, was attended by 80 cadets and we had a very good camp. Food was good and so were all the facilities arranged for us. This will be our last A.C.F. camp and in subsequent years we shall be attending the C.C.F. camp where work will be harder, but, I think, more interesting. Besides that, all will be schoolboys so you will have much more in common with everybody else.

The decision to break away from the A.C.F. has not been an easy one and has been reached after two years consideration, but there can be no doubt that it is a wise one. We shall be able to run a Naval & Air Section eventually and on the whole our efficiency will be greatly increased.

In the sporting field we could probably have made a clean sweep of everything since Farnborough School have changed to C.C.F., but there can be no credit in winning if the opposition is weak. It is not yet understood what the sporting facilities in the C.C.F. will be, but we shall learn in due course.

It only remains for me to say "Au Revoir" to those who are leaving, to hope that you all have had a Happy Christmas and that the New Year will be a good one for us all.

The Dramatic Society

Judging by the applause which greeted the cast at the end of each performance, this year's School Play, "I Killed The Count" by Alec Coppel, was a resounding success. The play, sympathetically and patiently produced by Mr. Keevil, concerns the efforts of Inspector Davidson of Scotland Yard and his assistant Detective Raines to solve the murder of an Italian Count found shot in his flat, and traces their increasing bewilderment as three men in succession confess to the murder, while none of them, as is shown, has actually done the killing. Tribute must be paid to Priestley, who bore the long and arduous rôle of Davidson with great distinction, while Cossens was a capable aider and abettor as Raines. It was, however, of the less important characters that the audiences seemed most appreciative; Mr. Howe as Martin, the timid hotel manager, wearing rimless spectacles and spats and simulating a most becoming impediment in his speech; Orchard as a disgruntled Hebrew business-man disturbed several times during a big business deal, and Chinnery as Renée La Lune, a seductive cabaret artiste, all gave excellent performances. Polly, the pert and unawed maid, was impishly played by Jacobs, whom the audience on all three nights immediately took to their hearts. Savage as Louise Rogers, the actual killer of the Count, did well in a part which gave him little scope, while Coombes, as Count Mattoni, clad in a startling red, dragon-embroidered dressing gown died convincingly three times per night. Ridett, playing a smaller part than usual, that of Mullet, the surly hotel porter-cum-conspirator, acted extremely well, as did Brown, playing the dignified Viscount Sorrington. Rudling, employing a vague touch of rusticity, was admirable as the other porter, while Purkis played the brief part of P.C. Clifton competently.

We must not forget those who work back-stage. This year, their task was twice as harassing as there were four difficult fade-outs to effect. Our thanks are due to the stage managers, Mr. Matthews and Dimmock, to Whitcombe who controlled the lighting, and to several others for the way in which they sustained the continuity and never allowed the play to flag. Our debt of gratitude to many other persons who aided the success of the play must also be acknowledged; to Mrs. Keevil, who assisted with the women's costumes and make-up; to Mr. Briscoe, who painted the set and backing in such a life-like manner; to Lewis, whose prompting was prompting par excellence; to Shepherd, who played the piano before the performances and during the intervals; and last, but certainly not least, to the band of sixth-formers who willingly erected and dismantled the stage and volunteered for the duties of programme-sellers, ushers and so on. Finally, how gratifying it was to see so many boys turning up to witness their own School Play.

M. J. C.

Chess Club

Membership of the Club has increased slightly this term owing to a large influx of younger boys to replace those older members, who have left the school to pursue their various careers. Among these we were particularly sorry to lose the services of R. B. G. Hedgecock, who did so much sterling work on behalf of the Club. It is heartening to notice that there is a comparatively high percentage of the Sixth Science Form now in the Club, and that the general standard of play is gradually rising. Owing partly to the irregular attendance of some of these older members because of rehearsals for the school play, however, there were no league matches arranged this term but we hope to resume this practice soon. We will also be able

to appoint a Treasurer, as a separate officer from the Secretary, which we previously found impracticable. Financially, the Club is now very much on its feet and self-supporting. It was decided, therefore, to reduce the subscription to sixpence a boy, a term, thus making the Club an even more attractive proposition to boys in the lower school. The small 'Library' of chess books that the Club possesses is available to all the members but so far few of them have taken advantage of this.

It is understood that when the new building has been fully equipped, the existing Physics Hut will be demolished, thus depriving the Club of the headquarters it has occupied for so many years. Whether we will settle down amidst the sumptuous new benches and glistening apparatus or elsewhere has not yet been decided, but it seems it will be quite some time before the new laboratories are finally completed.

We wish to thank Mr. Shaddock for the untiring interest that he takes in the Club, staying quite late on some evenings, teaching the fundamentals to those who are new to chess and giving much helpful advice to the others on their many problems. Any boys who wish to join or rejoin the Club will be welcomed next term and their attention is drawn to the fact that Chess Club night for various reasons has been changed from Tuesdays to Thursdays. If these boys will come along to any of the meetings in the Physics Hut after school on that night they can there be enrolled as members.

P. R. L.



FIRST ELEVEN

The 1952-53 Season has not been outstandingly successful. We have won four matches, drawn one and lost five, but School games are not to be submitted solely to the tests of 'games won or lost,' or to the number of goals 'for or against.' The team has played hard and each boy has enjoyed his football. They have developed sportsmanship and courtesy and my opening statement may therefore be amended. It *has* been a successful season. Five of our matches have been against teams of men and the School team put up a brave show in each case. We missed the services of our centre-forward, Barr, who has been out this season for all but two of the games. I am sure that his presence would have made a considerable difference to several of the hard-fought games. The present team is quite young and we are hoping that most of them will be available as the nucleus of next year's side.

A. C. Purkis (Captain)—Centre Half. He has played some very good games this season and with his commanding height he has very effectively blocked the 'way down the middle.'

R. C. Dimmock (Vice-Captain)—Inside-Right. Covers a great deal of ground and is an extremely hard worker. He has not found his form of last season but has been an invaluable member of the team.

D. C. Rudling—Outside Right. The source of most of our goals this season. Good ball control, fast and thrusting with good finishing powers.

D. Percival—Inside Left. An intelligent player who does an immense amount of work in defence and attack. He begins many an attack.

J. G. Priestley—Outside Left. Fast and difficult to dispossess when in full possession, but must develop more ball control and finishing powers.

D. A. Hansford—Moved from forward to half which is more his true position. His tackling has improved and he uses the ball well. He has advanced considerably.

R. A. Spencer—Right Half. Has recently come into the team at half back and is settling down quite well. Tackles and kicks cleanly. His positional play is his chief weakness but he is improving with each game.

D. R. Adams—Right Back. Very fast and thus extremely useful in recovery. He tackles fearlessly and has played some very hard games. An improvement in his ball control would make him an impressive full back.

A. R. J. Wright—Left Back. Tackles and kicks strongly but must learn positional play. He is not very fast and must therefore rely upon placing himself where the ball and opponent are likely to be.

D. G. French—Goal. Played several games for the 1st XI and showed promise. Unfortunately he left before he could develop fully.

W. R. Kilford—Goal. A young player who is shaping very well. If he continues his improvement we shall have an extremely sound and effective keeper.

D. Collins—Inside Left. Has produced some clever football in attack but his help in defence leaves somewhat to be desired. His lack of height was a considerable handicap, especially against the men sides.

K. J. Barr—Centre Forward.—Very fast, with an eye for an opening. Unfortunately, out of the game this season through knee injury.

A. E. Gullick—Left Back. Has been rather too slow for 1st XI football, but positions himself well for tackles.

M. J. Cardy—Forward. Has played at centre forward and inside.

R. E. G. Viney—Left Half, Outside Left. Good ball control but tends to be rather too hesitant.

M. G. Cossens—Goal. Has played quite well but tends to make too many slips.

MATCH ACCOUNTS

Home

SCHOOL v. STAFF

Result : Win, 3-1

The first match of the season was played on a perfect pitch, but a strong wind down the slope made play difficult. With the wind behind us in the first half we were able to attack vigorously and it was not surprising when Barr scored an opportunist goal for the School. A few minutes later Barr scored another good goal after being caught with a stationary ball at his feet. Just before half time the Staff scored in spite of the fact that there were five defenders within ten yards of the scorer. After a spell of continued defence in the second half play evened out and Barr was able to complete his hat-trick. On the whole the team played well. Dimmock and Percival always worked hard, and Rudling and especially Barr continually looked dangerous. The defence, although inexperienced did well against a slow attack.

Home SCHOOL v. GOSPORT G.S. **Result : Lost, 2-1**

This game was marked by a great increase in supporters and it was unfortunate that the players could not give them a victory. Gosport opened the score about 15 minutes after the start when their centre forward had the ball dropped at his feet when he was standing on the goal line, after Kilford had failed to grip a hard shot. But soon afterwards Percival, who played brilliantly throughout, scored with a well-placed drive following one of many good moves. The second half saw our forwards pressing hard but finishing most ineffectively. The defence was not strained and was clearing well with Adams outstanding. As the game drew to its close we were disappointed to see so many shots go wide. Then just before time Gosport scored the winning goal in a match that was from our point of view rather disappointing. Still the team as a whole played exceptionally good football and was unlucky to lose.

Home SCHOOL v. PETER SYMOND'S **Result : Lost, 8-1**

To say that this game was an unfortunate affair for the team would be a drastic understatement, but whatever the team's feelings were as Peter Symond's scored goal after goal, I can only say that even in my misery I could not help admiring Harrison, our opponents' captain. I doubt if such an exhibition of dribbling at speed and accurate kicking will ever be repeated on the school field. It was annoying to see, therefore, Harrison being continually fouled, and the only player who rose from the mire was Adams who played a game of unlimited energy against Harrison. Percival scored for the School in an opening burst of play which boded well, but the team soon collapsed after two quick goals against them.

Home SCHOOL v. OLD BOYS **Result : Won, 4-1**

For this game the team which had been beaten so heavily against Peter Symond's suffered innumerable changes and was practically unrecognisable. These switches did not have the desired effect as the players were often out of touch, thus showing that we were probably panicked into some of them. The only meritorious effort was when Rudling crashed a half-volley into the back of the net before anyone had time to move. For the rest of the game we saw Barr score three goals and miss half a dozen more. Fortunately we had a weak forward line against us or I fear we would have drawn the match.

Away SCHOOL v. PURBROOK C.H.S. **Result : Lost, 2-1**

This, our first away match, was played on an extremely difficult pitch. Play was even for most of the game, but it is a discredit to both forward lines that the score was so low on a pitch which was a defender's nightmare. (Possibly a concocted excuse as their centre-forward scored both their goals). Spencer scored his "maiden" goal in the first half to equalise their first score. During the second half Rudling and Dimmock played brilliantly, but many of the openings which they made were squandered away by their colleagues. Wright played a sound game in defence and Hansford put new life into the half-back line, but just before the end Purbrook scored the winning goal in a rather mediocre match.

Home SCHOOL v. PORTSMOUTH BANKS **Result : Lost, 5-3**

This game was played in appalling conditions with a strong cross-wind and driving rain throughout the game. The game was packed with good football and considering the conditions was easily the team's best performance. The team was a new line up and proved to be the regular team for the rest of the season. The forward line was exceptionally good and was, from left to right: Priestley, Collins, Dimmock (who made a very good centre forward), Percival, Rudling. The Banks

scored first but soon Dimmock scored two nice goals to give us the lead. Kilford making a successful return saved a number of point blank shots before allowing a blameless goal to be scored to balance the accounts. In the opening twenty minutes of the second half our opponents scored three more goals. Then Percival, who played brilliantly throughout scored, and the rest of the match was very even, many good moves being executed by both sides. I will refrain from commenting on the fact that our opponents' centre forward scored all five goals, as I am sure that my ears were not burning for nothing that evening.

Home SCHOOL v. SOUTHAMPTON UNIVERSITY A **Result : Won, 7-1**

This game started in comparatively fine weather, but soon it was raining as hard as on Saturday, although more spasmodically. In the first offensive our opponents had Adams give away a penalty, which was duly converted. Immediately our forwards slipped into top gear and their combination was a pleasure to watch. Priestley opened our score with his first goal of the season when Rudling delivered him a goal area minus its goalkeeper. Dimmock then scored twice; two from Rudling followed, one of which was a lucky effort from a corner. For the first twenty minutes of the second half we lapsed into complacency but fortunately we were brought back to life by our supporters on the touch line. Collins scored from a good move between Hansford and Dimmock. Dimmock then completed his hat trick and the team went off the field with the highest score the School has had for several years. The forward line all played well and it was unfortunate that Percival did not score. Spencer put in a good game at right half in a defence that was for the most part steady.

Home SCHOOL v. READING UNIVERSITY A **Result : Draw, 4-4**

This game was played in perfect conditions and the team, which had had a fortnight's rest, was dead keen. The match turned out to be the right wing's, Rudling scoring all the School's goals. But, as is common knowledge, a winger cannot play a brilliant game without his inside forward's support. It is easy to forget this in the glory of the moment. In this game it was Percival who gave Rudling the passes he needed and it is as a pair that they should remember their match.

We scored two goals quickly but Reading then put up a constant attack and it was not surprising that they were leading at half time. The second half was played at a furious pace and after many narrow escapes at both ends, Rudling gave us the lead with two more goals. As the game came to a storming finish Reading equalized and the struggle became intense, but the game ended in a draw, which was after all fair to both sides. There were far too many gaps in our defence and it is understandable that Reading scored four goals.

Away SCHOOL v. PORTSMOUTH NORTHERN G.S. **Result : Lost, 3-1**

This, our last game, was a grand match with good solid football throughout played on a perfect pitch in perfect weather. It opened briskly in the manner it was to continue and play swung continually from end to end. After about fifteen minutes Wright's bootlace came undone and whilst he was doing it up our opponents scored from a corner. Then Kilford, who played a brilliant game, easily his best of the season, had the bad luck to see a shot he had dived to deflect bounce off the post and be driven into the net over his prostrate body. This goal seemed to inspire our forwards and soon afterwards Percival scored with a well placed shot. The second half saw our forwards striving to score, but muffing their shots as soon as they arrived inside the penalty area. Just before the final whistle our opponents scored again to round off a really good match.

My thanks are due to Dimmock who has been a splendid vice-captain and a most enthusiastic player ; Ridett as a linesman who could stand being baited in our last match by a group of learned men from the opponents' school ; and to all those supporters who turned up to cheer us on, thanks to some extensive canvassing by the aforementioned linesman. Finally I must add what a pleasure as well as an honour it has been to captain the side.

SECOND ELEVEN

The Second Eleven has had what might be called a fairish season ; it has played five games, won two of them and lost three. All the matches were played at home. The season opened with a 6-1 victory over the beefy lads of T.S. Mercury ; an enjoyable game despite the drizzling rain. The next match was against Gosport County and although the play was fairly even the School could score only one goal and lost 4-1. The match against Purbrook Park County High School was played in bright sunshine and a wind approaching gale force. The School did well in the first-half to hold the opponents to one goal, while in the second-half, playing with the wind, we scored three goals, all of them from long shots ; honour was thus satisfied. The less said about the next game, that against Portsmouth Banks, the better. A much heavier and stronger side beat us 12-0 on the loathsome day of rain and mud. The last game, against Portsmouth Northern Grammar, was quite easily the best of the season and although the School lost 6-1, we were indeed unlucky in not scoring at least two more goals.

Throughout the season the principal deficiency has been the lack of a thrustful goal-scorer, although, had the Second XI possessed one, it is unlikely that he would have remained in the team for very long. Of individuals, Doughty, Scale and Harvey have all played well in defence, while Mason and Viney have been determined attackers.

M. J. C.

COLTS ELEVEN

The team played only three matches last term, the first being against Peter Symond's. This was a good game, the School winning by the odd goal in five. Scott played well in goal and as a whole the team played well together for their first game. The scorers for the School were : Ambrose, Brickwood and Deans. The second game against Purbrook was played under bad conditions, and was very fast and even. The School were winning 3-2 until the last few minutes when Purbrook scored two quick goals rather luckily. Kilford played well in goal and saved many good shots ; scorers for the School were Watkins (2) and Brickwood. The last game, against St. Mary's, was also a hard game and I think the team did well to beat their bigger opponents. Mellish and Gillard were reliable backs, and the half-backs kept the forwards well supplied with passes. The forwards, with the exception of Watkins, were sometimes frightened to shoot for goal. We won this last game 2-0, thanks to a great game by Kilford in goal. Scorers for the School were Ambrose and Watkins.

E. S.

HOUSE MATCHES

1st XI				COLTS XI					
Blackbrook	4	...	Cams	0	Cams	10	...	Blackbrook	2
School House	12	...	Westbury	2	Westbury	2	...	School House	1
Blackbrook	9	...	Westbury	0	Cams	4	...	School House	0
School House	5	...	Cams	1	Westbury	5	...	Blackbrook	3
School House	3	...	Blackbrook	2	Cams	5	...	Westbury	3
Westbury	6	...	Cams	5	School House	4	...	Blackbrook	0

Badminton Club

This term has been one of the most successful in the history of the club; we have won all of our fixtures and financially we are extremely sound. Most of our present team will be at school next term and there can be no reason why such a feat should not be repeated. The club must now be ranked as the most popular of the indoor societies affiliated to the School as we have 26 members who have, by subscription, been able to keep the club supplied with shuttles and the other expenses incidental with the running of a club of this description. We are, however, heavily indebted to the benevolence of the Sports Committee who have faithfully kept their promise to look after our racquets to such effect that we have six first-class racquets.

Last year's members have continued to improve, especially Whitcombe and Percival who must have one of the most competent backhands seen in the School. The "first years" have shown distinct promise, especially Rudling who has proved himself to be one of the powers of the School team this year; other newcomers who should serve the club well in the future include Cossens, Doughty and Harvey.

Finally, I would like to wish all members a prosperous New Year with the hope that the club will develop, as it is capable of so doing, into one of the best in the area.

Results:

Home **v. Alverstoke B.C.** **Won 11-5**

For the first match of the season the selectors were a little dubious of the team's capabilities, but as the evening progressed their doubts were quickly dispelled. The first couple won 3 games and lost 1, the second couple won all 4, the third and fourth couples won 2 games and lost 2.

Team:—Hedgecock and Whitcombe, Purkis and Dimmock, Percival and Rudling, Coombes and Lewis.

Home **v. Hamble B.C.** **Won 11-5**

We were reassured, by our previous victory over Alverstoke, of our ability and the ultimate result of the fixture was never in doubt. The first and second couples won their four matches, the third couple 3 and lost 1, whilst the fourth pair were unfortunate to lose all 4.

Team:—Purkis and Dimmock, Percival and Rudling, Whitcombe and Cossens, Lewis and Coombes.

Away **v. St. John's College B.C.** **Won 9-6**

We had heard so much of the brilliance of the College that we were in grave doubt whether we would be able to prevent disaster, but so well did we play that we actually beat them. At the end of the singles games the score was 3 all with Percival, Rudling and Purkis winning for us. In the doubles all our couples won 2 and lost 1.

Team:—Dimmock and Purkis, Percival and Rudling, Whitcombe and Lewis.

R. C. D.

Although he would be the last to admit it, a large measure of the club's success is due to the work of our retiring Secretary, R. C. Dimmock, who has put his back into his work as no previous secretary has, and I am sure all members of the club will join me in wishing him every success in his future career.

P. W. W.

HOUSE NOTES

Blackbrook

This term the Football Cup has been decided. The Seniors were runners-up to School House who won the cup. The Juniors unfortunately lost every game.

The Senior team looked quite strong, but it had its weaknesses. Percival was outstanding and he played exceptionally well in every match. Priestley always tried at outside-left and Cardy got through a good deal of work in the Cams and Westbury games. In defence Adams was the best player, with Doughty and Scale playing well on occasions. French, who played in goal, made a great effort in a strange position for him.

The first match, against Cams, resulted in a victory for us with a score of 4-0. Having won the toss we elected to kick up the slope. The game started evenly and for twenty minutes or so neither side looked like scoring. Then suddenly Priestley sent a fast curling centre across the goal, which had the good fortune to evade the opponents' goalkeeper and went in the net just by the far post. This goal seemed to inspire Cams and it was only by sheer bad luck that they were one down at half-time. Up till now our defence had been remarkably slow and ineffective and it was heartening to notice the distinct speed up in the second-half. Nearly all this half of the match was spent in the Cams penalty area. It was not surprising therefore when Watkins scored from a perfect through pass by Viney, but it was not without difficulty that the ball arrived in the net. Soon afterwards Viney scored, quickly followed by a goal from Cardy. Percival, who did not score, played a skilful and energetic game, whilst Priestley and Cardy played well in the second half. Adams and Doughty both played steady games.

The game against Westbury was rather a lifeless affair and we went off with 9 goals to Westbury's nil. Even kicking up the slope we had scored three goals by half time, two by Watkins and one by Percival. In the second-half we pressed continually, Watkins scoring three more, Percival one and Cardy one. On the whole the team played quite well.

The match against School House was the final and deciding game and we were unfortunate enough to lose 3-2. We won the toss and kicked up the slope. Immediately we were on the defensive and remained so, except for an occasional breakaway, until half-time. During this half we had conceded an indirect free-kick on the edge of our goal area from which, after a misunderstanding with French, Purkiss pushed into his own goal. Our defence at this stage was definitely uncertain and it was not surprising when School House scored again. Harvey then gave us new life when he scored Blackbrook's first goal from the edge of the penalty area. In the second-half we had a much greater share of the play. After about twenty minutes Viney scored when a cracking shot from Priestley rebounded to land at his feet about two yards from the goal. Then came a deluge of missed chances; only Percival in the forward line being exempt from criticism. It was not surprising therefore when School House scored the winning goal from one of their few chances. Priestley was off the field for the last ten minutes. Adams played a very energetic game and although playing left-back often looked dangerous during his many runs down the wing. As a team we failed owing to the weakness of our forwards who seemed unable to shoot at goal with any accuracy or power.

Of the Juniors it is only fair to say they did not have a very skilful side, but it was always a keen one. Dugan made a keen captain and played well in all three matches. Hayward and Tompkins were between them responsible for all the goals the team scored. Gudgeon made a good half-back and Pallett was quite a steady goalkeeper.

The team lost to a better Cams side 10-2, but at the commencement of play we were without a goalkeeper and by the time he had arrived we were losing 2-0.

Against Westbury we squandered our chances, unfortunately a common fault amongst Blackbrook players this year, and the team lost 5-3.

School House beat us by 4-0 in quite a good game, but it was not up to the standard of the old School v. Blackbrook Junior games of two or three years ago.

Last year the House was not very successful, although we had our individual triumphs in the Athletics; therefore I hope to witness an improvement in the New Year.

Every boy can take part in the Steeplechase and do something for the House; and if he is not in the Hockey Teams he can support them.

A. C. P.

Cams

We were sorry to lose the services of White and Byng this year though we were proud of the manner of their departure since they were joint holders of the Senior Victor Ludorum and did inestimable good to the School, especially in the games activities. The House, I am sure, will join me in wishing them success in their future careers.

House activities last term were confined to football; in this our Seniors lost all their matches, being outclassed in the first two and a little unfortunate to lose the third. The Juniors more than compensated for the Senior results by winning all their matches and the Junior Trophy with a goal record of 19 goals for, 5 against.

In the Senior competition against Blackbrook we started off well and rushed around with great gusto, but our opponents were playing good football and scored with a lofted cross-shot. This goal had a steadying effect on the side and we were very unlucky not to score, their full-back kicking off the line; the score, however, was still 1-0 at half-time. On the resumption we continued to play with much spirit but were still no match for our opponents' better football, and they scored three more goals.

Against School House we commenced with the slope and wind in our favour and Farmer scored with a good shot from an acute angle; our jubilation was cut short as they soon equalised, unfortunately from a penalty, and the score was 1-1 at half-time. With the wind and slope behind them in the second-half they scored four goals. We would like to congratulate School House on ultimately winning the Senior Competition.

In the last match, against Westbury, we played our worst game, as a team, in the series, and even then were a trifle unlucky not to gain at least a draw, but as it was we lost by the odd goal in eleven. We started very badly and they scored four goals to our one by half-time. In the second-half we managed to stage a come-back and after being 5-2 down we drew up to five all, Dove, Farmer and Whitcombe being the scorers; but it was of no avail as they scored again to win the match.

In the Junior Competition we first of all beat Blackbrook 10-2; we played together well and, for a Junior side, the brand of football was exceptionally good. As the score suggests we were never really tested and the team shared the goals between them quite evenly, seven members contributing.

The second match, against School House, we won 4-0, Ireland and Ambrose scoring in the first-half and Leigh and Ambrose in the second-half.

Our last match, against Westbury, was the key match of the Competition and we did not start very well and after fifteen minutes play we were 2-1 down, but we rallied towards the end of the half and finished up with an advantage of 3-2. In the second-half, playing with the slope, we played good football and finished the game deservedly with five goals to three.

The Seniors though lacking in talent compensated this with spirit, and thus there is nobody that can be justifiably singled out for brilliance of play; the usual team contained Pitt, Robbins, Lewis, Sparks, Gullick, Boggust, Farmer, Bradford, Dove, Holland and Whitcombe.

For the Juniors Ambrose was outstanding in attack, scoring 10 goals during the series, and Leigh made an excellent pivot. The defence was firm and goalkeeper Maidment was full of promise as were Hardwick and Phelan. If the talent represented by the Junior team can be played in the future with as much spirit as the Senior team showed, then all augurs well for the House.

I should like to congratulate all members of the House who gained their General Certificates this year at Ordinary level and especially White and Lewis who gained subjects at Advanced level.

Finally, I hope you all had a Happy Christmas and have come back determined to support my successor as excellently as you have supported me, and to win the Reed Cup for Cams.

R. C. D.

School House

We have reached the end of the term having achieved a certain amount of success, and although the Juniors could finish no better than third in their competition, the Seniors won their cup and the House has built up a lead of ten points in the Reed Cup Competition.

In the Senior Competition we played all our matches on the Colts' pitch; won all the matches and finished with a goal average of 19 to 5.

In our first match, against Westbury, the opposition appeared somewhat dispirited, and the most interesting feature of the game was the scoring of six goals by Barr—if not a record a very creditable performance—the final score was 12-2.

In our next game, against Cams, we were somewhat handicapped by the absence of two 1st XI players, Barr and Wright, and this absence was demonstrated by the fact that we only managed to win 5-1. Rudling, taking over Barr's position, scored four goals.

Our final match, against Blackbrook, promised to be comparable to last year's struggle. We lost the toss and played down the hill. We scored two goals, somewhat luckily, as a result of goalmouth scrambles. It is noticeable, however, that the forwards have continually displayed a keen opportunism throughout, not the least being Rudling who scored in every match.

We started the second-half with the lead of 2-1 and Blackbrook were allowed to equalise as a result of a mis-directed pass back. The final goal was scored by Barr from a narrow angle after a long pass from Wright. The defence withstood attacks until the end, Hansford being outstanding.

There should be no need to praise individuals in what is essentially a team-game, but the form displayed by the four new Seniors was very promising for the future.

The Juniors lost their first game, against Westbury, partly because a heavier side managed to bustle them off the ball. Starkey scored our goal in a score of 1-2.

We lost our next game to Cams 0-4; the team lacked spirit. It must be remembered "that a battle is not lost until it is won." No result in House competition can ever be pre-determined. Had our forwards managed to score when playing with the wind and the slope, we might have caused an upset of form.

Playing our last game against Blackbrook we played more as a team and won 4-0. (Terry 2, Izod, Laming).

Although the team finished in a very lowly position for a "School" team, some distinct promise was given by the new boys of greater success ahead of us. I should like to congratulate Kilford, who captained the Junior team, on having played for the 1st XI while still a Junior—a very fine achievement.

It is a pity that I must finish on a note of dissatisfaction. Although constant requests were made for the support of the rest of the House at matches, about six boys only put in an appearance. Every member of a House should support that House on every available opportunity. If boys are not willing to sacrifice voluntarily three half-days per term, they should not be in a House, least of all School House.

P. B. A. R.

Westbury

Last term saw a great improvement in the position of the House in the Sports Competition. We are at present second in the running for the Reed Cup. I say this, not that we may congratulate ourselves on the highest position we have reached in in this competition for some years, but that we may try our hardest in the coming events and so keep this position.

The only House event last term was the playing of the matches for the Football Cup. I am very glad to record that the Senior XI won one of their games and the Junior XI won two.

The Seniors played their first match against School House. We put up a poor show and School House won by twelve goals to our two. I must, however, congratulate Densham on scoring the two goals. Our opponents' large score was due to the fact that we had no answer for the School House attack.

Our second match, which was played against Blackbrook, was played on a pitch (the 1st XI) which was unknown to most of the Westbury players. The first-half we played with the advantage of a light breeze and the sun, but this did not alter the fact that Blackbrook steadily scored three goals and we did not answer. Furious dashes down-field by part of our forward line were soon stopped by our opponents' defence. In the second-half our attacks got fewer and less furious and theirs increased in strength with the result that Blackbrook won 9-0. We gained some knowledge from this game, however: Spencer was more use to us in the defence, a fact which helped us win our last game, against Cams, again on the 1st XI pitch.

During the first-half of this game we kept the lead by two or more goals, but in the second-half Cams stepped up the pressure and at the end of the match we had only won by one goal, the score being 6-5. It is rather unfair to give credit to any individuals as they all played their best in this game, but I would like to congratulate McLarty on his hat trick, and Randall for his fearless display in goal for us. In all the games Sheath, Spencer and Terry II gave fine performances.

The Juniors were captained this season by Kemp, who played a leading part at centre-half. Brickwood gave his usual good show at inside-right, scoring a hat trick against Blackbrook. They won the first game, which was against School House, 2-1. They also won the next game, versus Blackbrook, by 5-3, but they came to grief, as usual, in their last match, which was against Cams. The team was without Brickwood and for some unknown reason consisted of only ten players. Still, the remaining few did their best and Cams won by 5 goals to our 3. I believe that if the team had been complete we could at least have drawn this game. Among the Juniors deserving a mention are Millett, Holden and Shreeve.

Finally I would like to impress the need for every boy in the House who has two complete legs, to run his hardest in this term's Steeplechase. Again I say this: If we are to maintain our position in the competition for the Reed Cup, each one of us must do his best and try his hardest.

A. R. R.

Table Tennis

This term it was decided that the School Tournament should be played off in company with the forthcoming House matches next term. Thus the only event of importance was a match against Mercury "E" towards the end of term. Unfortunately one member of the opposition was delayed indefinitely and they played with only three men. Nevertheless our opponents, with a member of the School, Doughty, playing for them, were quite strong and resultingly many of the matches were very close. Fortunately our Number 1 player seemed to catch the opposition at their most mediocre moments, thus giving the School a very tame 3-0 lead. More creditable performances were given by the other members of the team, Whitcombe, Purkis and Spencer. Whitcombe's performance was very praiseworthy and he deserved more credit than was shown by the loss of two of his three very long and exciting games. Spencer twice rose to the occasion and played extremely well. Purkis played fast and furiously to win one of his two games most brilliantly. Our opponents played well and their stroke play was excellent. Doughty in the Mercury team has improved steadily and is most effective in his play. The School won this match by 7 games to 4 after a most enjoyable evening.

The standard of play in the club this term has been uniform among six or seven players. Rudling has improved with practice and is a leading player. Dimmock has played brilliantly but is still given to impossibilities. Among the other players in the club, we look for improvement in Chinnery and Wooden; however, they will not progress until they realize that all returns are not meant to be smashed by a forehand drive. If they remedy this fault they should become efficient in the future. The dominant weakness is still the lack of a back-hand attack and improvement will not come until this has been mastered.

With House matches and the Tournament to be played next term we look forward very enthusiastically to a series of very enjoyable matches.

An Adventure in North Wales

Last year, on August 1st, five scouts from the old Price's School Troop left Portsmouth bound for Machynlleth, a little Welsh town hidden in the mountains of Montgomery. Their aim was to hike from there through the mountains to Snowdon. This did not mean just humping a thirty-pound pack along innumerable roads to some town a certain number of miles along the road: there is no fun, and quite a lot of discomfort doing it that way. There is adventure, there are magnificent views, there is the satisfaction of achievement in going the way we did.

We arrived at Machynlleth in the late afternoon and set out Northwards to find our first camp site with nothing as a guide but our ability to read a map. The wooded valley we chose had steep sides, with marsh near the river as the only level ground, so we were fortunate to find an old and well weathered moss covered "tip" from a quarry, forming a delightful platform jutting out above the trees. The milk which we fetched from a lonely farm two miles up the valley came straight from the cow into our can, so was fresher than any bottled milk at home. Our next day's march brought us to the South side of Cader Idris (the seat of the goddess Idris) the southernmost of the high rugged mountains of North Wales. A scramble up a thousand feet, by the side of a magnificent cascade, revealed no piece of flat ground large enough for one small tent, so we descended and camped near a friendly farm in the valley. The next day was Sunday. We had early Communion Service in the woods with a rock for our altar, and then, leaving our camp standing, climbed the mountain without packs, along a lake side and round the top of a precipice in a biting wind to reach the top in thick cloud. Monday saw us skirting the foothills in sunny weather. Soon after leaving the road we waved to a Southdown coach, wondering whether the travellers in it guessed we were from "home."

Our camp a few miles from Dolgelly was in one of the most beautiful spots one could choose, among trees near the stream with rugged mountains around. We spent two nights there, climbing mountains during the day. We wore canvas gym shoes for these climbs. For rapid climbing without packs to carry they are much more comfortable than boots or heavy walking shoes, and it saves one the rather futile attempt to keep feet dry, because one gets wet from the start. Our descent from Y Llethr through boulders and swamps to the old slate quarry gave us a fore-taste of what was in store on the morrow when we should pass that way laden with heavy ruc-sacs.

The next day, Wednesday, will always stand out as one of the most memorable days of our hike, a day of achievement, of overcoming difficulties that would make saner people say we were mad to attempt such a hike. The distance travelled does not sound much, only ten miles, but they were long miles to us, carrying tents, bedding, food and the rest. After passing the old slate quarry there was not even a sheep to guide us or help us—in fact even mountain sheep would have avoided that route. It was bog and boulders and knee-deep heather. The rain started when we left the end of the path to the slate quarry and got worse and worse. The clouds and mist obscured the mountains round which we were skirting, leaving no landmark beyond the rise and fall of the spurs of the hills to tell us where we were. There was not, for miles, any ground on which it would have been possible to have pitched a tent or where there was fuel for a fire, so we just had to go on. The rain turned to snow and hail when we turned into the mountains to cross them by the pass Bwlch Tyddiad, and we were relieved to find we had ascended the right gully. On the

other side of the pass were the "Roman Steps"—what a time the Romans must have had there with the ancient Britons lurking behind the rocks.

The sun came out when we were through the mountains, and we pitched camp beside a river close to some scouts from Maidstone Grammar School, and were interested to learn that in two days' time a party of their senior scouts was coming to Machynlleth, where we had started, and was hiking over Cader Idris, over which we had come, and were going over a good deal of the route we were traversing, and were planning to end up at Snowdon.

A mixture of rain and fine weather was our lot for the rest of our hike North to Snowdon, where we pitched camp on a little plateau above the stream which comes down from the Watkins path. That night it rained and rained and rained, and the stream became a raging rushing torrent—woe betide any of us if we had slipped in when trying to get water from it.

We had planned to be at Llanberris Church early on Sunday morning, and the rain was so bad on Saturday that we went right round Snowdon by bus instead of going over the mountain. However, we returned over the mountain top on Sunday and were glad to find the restaurant on the summit open even on Sunday to give us shelter from the cold wind and mist. A few hundred feet down the Watkins path we came out underneath the clouds to see good views, and had a fine walk back to camp, meeting on the way another party of scouts who were also fools enough to ascend Snowdon on such a day as that. Further down we paused to scale some rocks about 100 feet high which are used as a training ground for rock climbing. And then we passed the "Gladstone Rock" where a tablet commemorates that as the spot from which the Grand Old Man addressed a crowd on liberty in politics and religion. What a change must have come over this countryside in the last 80 years that this now desolate, wild and remote spot could then have produced an audience for the Prime Minister!

Our last day was a tramp to Betws-y-Coed. Rain washed out our plans for walking over Moel Siabod, and we tramped our last day's journey 14 miles along the road in a steady downpour, which at any rate made the waterfalls worth looking at. That night, with nearly everything about us soaking wet, we had a little cottage up in the hills all to ourselves, with calor gas to cook with and beds to sleep on. The tenants who had it for a fortnight's holiday had got tired of being cooped up by the weather, so they went home to Manchester, leaving us their cottage for as long as we liked on the sole condition that we left it as tidy as we found it.

And so, the journey back by train the next day ended what was to all of us a wonderful experience.

Coming of Spring

A Blackbird sang and through the rain
A beam of yellow sunshine came,
And where it fell there seemed to shine
The dainty yellow celandine,
And pussy-palm, and catkins free
Dangling and swinging on a tree;
The primrose then was gold and pale
The snowdrops in a shadowed vale.

A Blackbird sang and through the rain
A promise of the springtime came.

D. C. C.

Old Priceans' Association

REV. R. O. JOHNSTON

The last day of 1952 will always be remembered by us as the day on which one of the greatest stalwarts the School has ever known, was laid to rest.

He would have felt very proud if he could have seen the number of Old Priceans who came to pay homage to his memory. There were scholars present, representative of all the generations of the School, from the early days to those who have left quite recently and to those who are still wearing the School cap.

R. O. J. endeared himself to all. His kindly smile, his ready advice, his great ability on the Playing Field, and above all, his great sense of fair play and sportsmanship were byewords with us.

The School and its Scholars (You and I) were the objects of his greatest affection, and even when he had retired he could not stay away, but still continued to give all he had on the Playing Field.

It is impossible to say how much he will be missed, but of this we are sure—we shall never forget him.

The Annual Dinner of the Association was held at Pyles Restaurant on Saturday, 18th October, with the President, Mr. Ashton, in the Chair. The attendance was poor compared with the previous years, but nevertheless we had a most enjoyable evening, and were pleased that several old friends were able to be with us once again. Our guests were the Rev. A. H. Watkins (Chairman of the Governors), Mr. Keen, Mr. Hinxman and P. B. A. Ridett, the head of the School. The first and last of these were new faces at our table, and we were glad to make their acquaintance. It was a privilege to have with us the new Chairman of the Board of Governors, and we look forward to seeing a great deal of him in the future. As to Ridett, we hope to have him with us regularly as an Old Boy when he leaves the School. Messrs. Keen and Hinxman are so much a part of us, that their presence needs no explanation.

The toast of "The School" was proposed by P. J. Ellis at very short notice, and was replied to by P. B. A. Ridett in a very able manner. L. S. Goodall proposed the toast of "Our Guests," his usual ebullience in no way damped by the presence of his Chief, Mr. Keen; Mr. Watkins responded. The toast of "The Association" was given with obvious enjoyment by Mr. Keen, and the Assistant Secretary, E. G. Dimmer, replied.

It was very gratifying that Mr. Bradley was able to be with us once again. Of our other Vice-Presidents Mr. Johnston and E. R. J. Hinxman were both present. Mr. Gale wrote to say how much he wished to be able to come, but the distance made it impossible.

Many old friends were not able to be with us on this occasion, and we hope that next year we shall see them again.

We welcome the following new members:—

M. Judd, 3 Chetwynd Road, Bassett, Southampton.
E. B. Moulson, 154 Burnley Road, Todmorden, Lancs.
C. F. Fowler, 14 Gudge Heath Lane. Fareham.

M. A. Flemons, 11 Central Road, Wicor, Fareham.
 G. Maidment, Tresco, Winchester Road, Bishops Waltham.
 R. B. Cockbain, Montgomery House, Alexandra Park, Manchester 16.
 B. R. Pullen, 43 Longfield Avenue, West End, Fareham.
 R. B. G. Hedgecock, 89 Hillson Drive, Fareham.

Change of address:—

D. E. Cummins, Wadenhoe House, Wadenhoe, Oundle, Nr. Peterborough.
 C. Dunn, 10 Fordington Avenue, Winchester.
 D. F. C. Bonsey, 18 Collingwood Road, Bristol 6.
 E. F. Warren, Town Farm, Worminghall, Aylesbury, Bucks.
 M. R. Beale, Boundary Stones, Studland Road, Lee-on-Solent.
 C. J. Shaddock, Christ's College, Cambridge.
 A. S. Hobbs, 7 Granville Road, Westerham, Kent.
 R. J. Hamper, 65 Eynsham Road, Botley, Oxford.



The second Dinner of the year was held at "The Red Lion," Fleet Street on 5th December. This has become a regular venue for our functions and a comfortable room and good food go a long way towards making the occasions successful. The following were present:—

R. D. Gaiger	R. Mullins	D. Strugnell
D. C. T. Humphries	S. G. H. Miller	G. W. Winsor
A. F. Hobbs	D. C. Priddon	P. E. Watts
A. J. Harvey	M. Privett	B. G. Buckley
L. V. Martin	D. H. Swinstead	

Either my co-Secretary, E. W. Grogan of 61 Springfield Gardens, Kingsbury, N.W. 9, or myself, will be pleased to hear from any Old Boy who may be interested in L.S.O.P. activities.

51, Beverley Avenue,
 Sidcup,
 Kent.

BRIAN BUCKLEY,
 Hon. Secretary.

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