



OLD MERCERS' CLUB

1963



ERIC H. DAY, M.A., G.S.M., L.R.A.M.,
PRESIDENT, OLD MERCERS' CLUB, 1962-63

OLD MERCERS' MAGAZINE

CLUB OFFICERS, 1962-63

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THE YEAR, 1962-63

ANOTHER Old Mercer year draws to its close as we approach the Annual General Meeting of 1963 on October 25th. As will be seen from the record of events which follows, the Club continues to carry on most of the functions which have constituted its life for many years now. The Dinner attracted an attendance of some 130 but the Christmas Dance, for some reason, was less well supported; it is hoped that this year, with a date arranged by the Entertainments' Secretary which is nearer Christmas, more Old Mercers will avail themselves of the opportunity of giving their ladies a night out, as well as of meeting old friends. It was hoped to repeat the very successful Regional Dance of 1962 but, unfortunately the financial manoeuvrings of the world of hoteliers forced the cost up to such an extent that the Committee felt that the function could no longer take place at a price which could be justified. For the many who were, no doubt, disappointed, the Entertainments' Secretary has succeeded in making a firm booking at the New Inn, Hayes, for a similar function on February 29th, 1964, and feels certain that this time he will not be let down.

For those dozen or so Old Mercers who arrived at Grove Park on Old Boys' Day, the scene was one of desolation; the wicket resembled a swamp and the Chinbrook was the only place where there was much conviviality, though at 2.30 instead of 8 p.m. July 4th is the date for 1964 and it is to be hoped that the Summer of next year will be unlike this one. The cricketers had a most successful tour in the Isle of Wight in May; perhaps the results do not appear to represent success on the field but the speed with which they were asked to return next year testified to the popularity of the Club on tour. Sadly, the Cricket Club Committee have decided that next year there will be only one Saturday side instead of two; this decision was inevitable with no new blood coming in and we must hope that the Football Club's Third Eleven will not soon suffer a similar fate. The Dramatic Club continues to flourish, enthusiasm is tremendous, productions ambitious and entertaining but audiences regrettably remain thin. To one who has spent many happy hours acting for and being entertained by the Dramatic Club, this is quite inexplicable. If you have never been, make the effort next time there is a show, namely next March.

This has been Eric Day's year. Our President is a figure well known in the world of music who has found the time over the years to serve the Club in a number of capacities—Mag. Editor, Dramatic Club, Lodge, to name but a few. As he approaches the end of his year of office he can look back on a number of happy occasions and look forward with keen anticipation, as do we all, to 1963-64, when our President will be a man whose name is known to all, whom so many of us know affectionately, yet respectfully, as "George". These are not easy days for the Club and one feels there is no

better man than H. G. Andrew to lead us in our attempts to keep alive "the Spirit of Mercers' School". The Committee is happy at this moment, to have among its members two of the younger men, C. D. Robinson and I. M. H. Williamson. Their interest and enthusiasm is a tonic to the old hands who soldier on. The Club still has a great future provided that members give their full support. So, instead of ignoring the list of "Dates to Remember" which follow, make a note of them in your diary—NOW!

DATES TO REMEMBER

1963

Saturday, November 23rd.	Oxford-Cambridge Dinner, Jesus College, Cambridge.
Friday, December 20th.	Christmas Dance, Royal Hotel, Woburn Place, W.C.1.

1964

Saturday, February 29th.	Regional Dance, New Inn, Hayes, Kent.
March 11th, 12th, 13th.	O.M.D.C. Production, Chanticleer Theatre.
March 20th	Football Club Supper
May	Annual Dinner.
July 4th.	Old Boys' Day.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 1962

THE Annual General Meeting was held at Mercers' Hall on October 26th. Some 57 Old Mercers attended, and it would be nice to attribute the absence of the remainder to a profound satisfaction with the running of the Club.

The meeting heard from G. H. Parker, the Treasurer, that a loss of £23 had been sustained compared with the previous year's loss of £129. The latter figure had however been inflated by the cost of the Handbook. The principal cause of this further loss was not, apparently, insufficient support from the I.M.F., but a loss on entertainments. The rally in Gilt-edged had continued, however, and the Treasurer concluded that generally the Accounts and Balance Sheet presented a reasonably satisfactory picture.

The General Secretary confessed that, like the First Lord Birkenhead, he was normally undeterred by any morbid sense of self distrust. He was on this occasion, however, a little apprehen-

sive in that he had not had time to prepare that detailed summary of the year's activities which the meeting normally received from the General Secretary. Furthermore, 1961/62 had been even more a year of light and shade than usual, and it defied any precise description. The membership figures, for example, illustrated this: there had been one re-election, and seven new members had joined, but against this thirty-two members had been axed under Rule 3. There were now 1020 Members, effective life 599.

Social activities told a similar story. The Christmas Dance and the regional dance at Chislehurst had gone well, but on the other hand the Dinner Dance had had to be cancelled, and an attendance of 93 at the Annual Dinner inadequately reflected both the importance and pleasure of the evening and also the hard work put in on the arrangements. The Entertainments' Secretary in particular deserved better results for his efforts.

The meeting heard of the growing co-operation between the various constituent bodies, and also of the attention which the matter of the Club's future had received from the committee. The General Secretary completed his report with an emphatic appeal to members to support Club activities.

The Secretary of the Athletic Association reported a satisfactory year. The cricket section had again done particularly well, and the First XI had won a memorable match with the Old Bancroftians by four runs. A cricket tour in the Isle of Wight was planned for May, 1963. The Golf Section also had held two successful meetings.

The meeting was then reminded of the continued vigour and health of the Dramatic Club by the presence and report of its Secretary. Two successful productions, including a double bill, had been staged, and the Club was especially fortunate in the extent of productive ability at its command.

K. Williams then rose to propose the election of E. H. Day as President for 1962-63. Well thought of in the City, and a thoroughly committed Old Mercer, there was, Williams continued, no one to whose care he would more gladly leave the Club. The new President then took the Chair for the rest of the meeting. Officers and committee were re-elected with customary speed, although the meeting heard with regret of the resignation of W. L. Ford, the Records' Secretary. His patient application over a number of years had been appreciated. C. D. Robinson was elected in his place.

The retiring President and those who had assisted at the Service preceding the meeting were thanked in appropriate terms, and then "Any other Business" was brought to a fairly abrupt halt when a member enquired as to the location of the hostelry at which refreshments had been arranged. This led to not the least enjoyable part of the evening's proceedings, and a general admission that the Entertainments' Secretary had "done it again".

D. IVES.

ANNUAL DINNER, 1963

130 Old Mercers and guests sat down to dine at Mercers' Hall on the occasion of the 47th Annual Dinner on May 2nd, 1963. It was a memorable occasion; in these days of decreasing numbers, of little or no intake of new members, attendance at the various functions becomes a matter of conjecture. This year's Dinner served to emphasise that interest in the Club remains keen and our President, Eric Day, must be particularly gratified to be honoured by so many on what is the climax to the President's year of office. The number of younger members who attended was particularly encouraging.

The meal was excellent—Pâte maison, river trout meunière, roast Aylesbury duckling, French apple flan, coffee and an excellent selection of wines with fine port to follow. Fortified, we settled down to hear the speeches. Eric Day proposed the toast of the Worshipful Company of Mercers to which Mark Wathen, Esq., the Master, replied, giving some account of the way in which the Company attempted to keep pace with the hard economic facts of the age.

The toast, "Our Guests", was proposed in his own inimitable manner by the Senior Vice-President, George Andrew. He spoke of the various guests, particularly from other Old Boys' Associations, the Collyerians, Dauntseians and Bancroftians, referring especially to another Old Bancroftian who, said Mr. Andrew, in happier circumstances, might have been occupying his chair this evening. The speech wound to its close by devious routes which included a visit to the court of an Eastern potentate and a story in which schoolmasters, headmasters and dogs seemed to have a bond of sympathy. He sat down to a tremendous reception and a mental resolve on the part of many to hear more next year.

Sir David Muir, C.M.G., the Agent General for Queensland, in his reply to this toast, expressed his admiration of the traditions of the City of London and gave an interesting account of his State of Queensland, without however revealing the secrets of the Brisbane wicket.

George Milne, deputising for Kenneth Williams, who was unable to be with us, once again gave us the benefit of his erudition—last year rowing, the previous year history, this time it was music, not surprising for those of us who remember his efforts on the piano during his cricketing days. Skilfully he outlined Eric Day's school career by means of musical metaphor and paid tribute to Eric's present honoured position in the world of music. In his reply Eric thanked his Committee, mentioning particularly Peter Squirrell and Geoff Parker who had played so great a part in organizing this function. The hour was late and the President told a story against himself to emphasise that the accusation of garrulity often levelled against him was entirely false.

So the formal part of the evening ended—rather too late since there was little time for informal chat. It was a wonderful evening—but perhaps we might start a little earlier next year?

DEATHS

With deep regret, we report the deaths of the following members:

BRIGGS, S. W., (1896-99).

CLARK, H. S. (1899-1905), (192).

COLLINS, A. J. M., Capt. (1894-98), (334).

MORRIS, W. F. (1909-1912), (72).

LANCASTER, The Rev. C. H. (1895-1903), (102).

LEAR, G. M. J. (1895-1903), (20).

WADDELL, J. (1895-1900), (120).

WESTERMAN, Dr. A.

NEW MEMBERS

FOX, G. J., 24 Grosvenor Gardens, Woodford Green, Essex, (874).

WILLIAMS, R. H., "Rapallo", North Road West, Hythe, Kent, (1919-22).

WINDSLEY, H., 10 Abingdon Court, Abingdon Villas, London, W.8 (1941-42), (872).

TRANSFERS TO LIFE MEMBERSHIP

BLACKMAN, A. R., A.R.I.C.S., A.A.I., 142, Powys Lane, Palmers Green, London, N.13 (1942-49), (873).

HOWES, R. J., 15 Ranleigh Gardens, Bexleyheath, Kent (1946-53), (870).

LIKEMAN, P. R., 39 Sherwood Park Road, Sutton, Surrey (1952-58), (876).

MILLER, D. M., 83 Camlet Way, Hadley Wood, Barnet, Herts. (1944-49) (871).

PHIPP, D., 1 Stiles Close, Bromley, Kent (1957-58) (869).

STEVENS, P. A., 74 Riverway, Palmers Green, London, N.13 (1947-57) (875).

Total Membership to date is 1016, effective Life Membership 601.

Dr. A. WESTERMAN

MANY younger, and not so young, Old Mercers will remember "Doc" Westerman, who was School Doctor for many years until the closing of the School. Perhaps, as in the case of the writer, it was a visit to Snow Hill or Charterhouse Square after illness, to confirm that all was now well, or a meeting at some School or Old Mercer function at which he was a regular visitor. What many

may not know of this wise and kindly man was that he was well known and highly respected in the City of London, being elected a Common Councilman for the Ward of Farringdon Without in 1941 and appointed a Deputy of the same Ward in 1956. A Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Plumbers, he represented the Corporation of London on the Association of Agriculture, the Charity of John Land, the London and Home Counties Clean Air Advisory Council, the Divisional Tuberculosis Care Committee and the National Society for Clean Air. He was Medical Officer of Health to the inmates of the Charterhouse and a Governor of several of the Royal Hospitals. During his membership of the Corporation he held the Chair of the Public Health Committee in 1949, the Gresham Committee in 1956 and the Reception Committee appointed to make arrangements for entertaining the delegates to the International Dairy Congress in 1959. We extend our deepest sympathy to his family.

MARRIAGES

MATHEWSON—FARMER. On August 24th, 1963, Michael Mathewson (1945-55) to Elizabeth M. Farmer.

PURDIE—STEADMAN. On October 6th, 1962, Edward John Purdie (1945-55) to Gillian Steadman.

SPRINGHALL—SCRIMSHAW. On March 2nd, 1963, M. Springhall (1947-54) to Pauline Scrimshaw.

TONG—BROOKER. On Saturday, April 6th, 1963, R. F. Tong (1947-54) to Anthea Margaret Brooker, daughter of Mrs. and the late Mr. H. D. Brooker of Dulwich.

BIRTHS

On May 2nd, 1963, to Mary, the wife of JOHN ELLIOTT (1942-55), a son, Timothy John, a brother for Deborah.

On July 9th, 1962, to Beryl, the wife of R. H. RAMSDEN (1944-51), a daughter, Sarah Jane.

On April 24th, 1963, to Maureen, the wife of H. S. BAILEY (1934-38), a son, William John.

On April 18th, 1963, to Elaine, the wife of A. J. CUTTING (1931-37), a daughter, Jacqueline Emma.

On September 12th, 1962, to Sheila, the wife of C. D. FIDGE (1948-54), a daughter, Pauline Deborah.

On August 26th, 1963, to Betty, the wife of R. G. DAWSON (1935-42), a son, Peter William, a brother for Richard and Madeleine.

In June, 1963, to Fiona, the wife of L. T. GARDNER (1937-41), a daughter, Jessica, a sister for Robyn and Imogen.

On January 21st, 1963, to Margaret, the wife of G. HARGRAVE-SMITH (1949-53), a son Mark Nicholas.

OLD MERCERS' ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

CRICKET SECTION

1962, although not quite so successful as 1961, was really a triumph for the Club and the new Captains A. J. W. Johns and G. Hargrave-Smith, our final results being:—

First XI Played 19, Won 9, Drew 3, Lost 6, abandoned 1.

Second XI Played 20, Won 13, Drew 4, Lost 3.

At the A.G.M. the only Committee change was R. Dean for M. Green in the onerous task of Team Secretary.

The Supper at the Westminster Arms was again very successful with a fine attendance by Club members and friends, plus a number of guests from our opponents.

1963 has proved to be probably the most difficult Season in the Club's history—age is slowly catching up with our members and as they drop out for this and other reasons, so the effort of maintaining two sides consistently every Saturday has at last proved too much, and I regret to say that twice so far the Club has not fulfilled its obligations and has had to cancel matches, with the certainty that more will have to be cancelled before the Season ends. The possibility of this happening towards the end of last Season was foreseen, but hope springs eternal and a full Fixture List for this Season was arranged.

Before next Season, however, there must be some re-thinking as to the Club's policy, but it seems certain that 1964 will see only one regular team on Saturday with an occasional second side, and perhaps the odd Sunday game, plus of course another Tour of the Isle of Wight from 23rd-30th May.

The Season itself has proved very disappointing as regards results, partly due to the varying strength of our own sides, but more so due to the lack of success of our main batting and to the lack of real penetration of the bowling. I trust that this will prove a passing phase and that some of the batsmen will find their former glory!!

On a happier note, the highlight of the Season was our socially successful Tour of the Isle of Wight on which there is a separate Report.

The tragedy of the Season of course was the wash-out on Old Boys' Day, and here our thoughts go out to the wives who spent so much time preparing cakes and sandwiches and who had to feed their families on them I should imagine for days afterwards. Next year, Old Boys' Day is Saturday, July 4th, 1964, and all Old Boys and their friends are expected to attend to make up for the pleasant day which they undoubtedly missed this year.

Our thanks go to all those Old Mercers and friends who have helped us in this difficult year, especially our Groundsman, Charlie

Parker and his wife, and "Dixie" Dean, who has put in a tremendous amount of hard work getting out sides.

F. J. ROBINSON,
Hon. Secretary.

ISLE OF WIGHT TOUR

The carefully vetted advance party proceeding, as is customary in well organised circles, a day early, arrived at the ferry in Portsmouth a full two hours earlier than necessary. Not wishing to waste time, they repaired to one of the local hostelrys where they sampled one of the Island brews, presumably exported to the mainland as evidence that the Isle of Wight has "everything" required for a successful holiday. The brew, we found, pleased our palates, and I am sure that it was from this point on that the three of us were aware that come what may regarding the cricket, our trip was not in vain.

After a calm passage (fortunately) across the Solent and a peaceful drive to Shanklin, we finally established contact with Maurice and Peggy Lucock. After the usual pleasantries and exchange of gossip, we proceeded to demolish a formidable meal worthy of the whole cricket team let alone its advance party. Realizing what lay ahead, we retired to bed early, suitably fortified by a drop of the "hard stuff" to help us sleep well.

The object of the advance party was of course—apart from suiting our own convenience—to "recce" the ground and give an assessment of the local cricket situation. So, with this laudable aim in mind, we set off on the Saturday morning for a day's Grand Tour. Within an hour or so the Shanklin-Ventnor coast had been explored, ice cream sampled, a selection of seaside cards—not views—inspected and rejected, and the Ventnor cricket ground pinpointed on the map. At the next port of call, Blackgang Chine, the driver decided he needed a walk and proceeded to plod down a steep leafy lane for a mile or so to the muttered imprecations of his companions. By the time the three of us had reclinbed the hill and your scribe had developed a pronounced limp, the mutterings had become both louder and more personal. However, suitable refreshment awaited us at the top and all was forgiven. At this juncture our main objective became blurred and good intentions took a turn for the worse. Our stomachs craved sustenance and, after due consideration of the good food guide, we repaired for the next 2½ hours to the "George" at Yarmouth, a yachtman's paradise, where an old sweater and baggy trousers are accepted at the luncheon table. Further exploration was now out, so a gentle drive to Sandown and an hilarious game of pitch and putt on Brown's course filled our afternoon. Back to the hotel—where we agreed that another week of the same routine devoid of cricket and the mob of Old Mercers who were awaiting us would be our ideal.

With the arrival of the above "mob" the tour proper had commenced and that evening "Daishes" with its dozen or so different draught beers was the main attraction, though some others discovered the "Crab" and the somewhat different attractions there.

Cricket matches were played on all of the next seven days, five afternoon and two evening matches. The weather in the early part of the week was cold and miserable, but following rain at lunch on Wednesday, improved for the remainder of our stay. Our results were not good from the cricketing point of view, but obviously we were popular and sociable for we have been invited back next year by all our opponents and hope in fact to have seven or eight afternoon games in the week 23rd-30th May, 1964.

Cricketing memories of the tour are many; they include the "Ventnor Bowl" with steep slopes running up behind the wickets and the ever youthful Geoffrey Darke running up and down those same slopes wearing flannels several sizes too large for him, the secretary nearly having his right hand removed at square leg from a fierce hook off a long hop from H. "oblique" Smith. That was not the expression used at the time however. Though we had the worst end of a draw, the team showed up at its best and really tried hard.

The Northwood evening game was very exciting and we might well have won but the light at 9 p.m. on a cold misty evening was very tricky and the last two overs against us were bowled by the opening pace attack.

The Police match is best forgotten for it was bitterly cold and I think everyone was "one degree under".

The Shanklin ground is very picturesque and here we had our most enjoyable fixture, starting at 4 p.m. due to rain. Our opening pair, Horne and Russell, put on 127 in 75 minutes of glorious batting; following the tea break the rest of the side mustered a mere 22 runs in 35 minutes. As a kindness to our batsmen I will say they were trying to force the pace. The opposition were considerably helped by some good natured and friendly bowling on our part, but both sides voted the game a great success.

At Newport the runs came quickly. Peter Wainwright came "good" and Mike Horne batted by instinct. Alas for us, apart from Tony Hepburn, our bowling was not quite up to getting out batsmen whose one object was to stay in regardless of scoring. This is not a criticism of the opposition but of our own defects.

The last two games on the Northwood ground at the end of the tour really highlighted our deficiencies. Against the school-boys we were asked to put out a weak side—and did—and suffered in consequence. For the return against Northwood, our most successful batsmen had already returned home, so we entered the field somewhat depleted. Ironically we lent Tony Hepburn to Northwood to play for them in a second XI match nearby, and he returned an analysis of 8 for 20. Such is our generosity!

So much for the cricket; we now know our weaknesses and next year for our tour we must try to overcome them. Socially we were very successful, our hosts entertained us well and the way in which we reciprocated was obviously appreciated.

Next year our tour dates are 23rd-30th May and the fixture list is as follows.

Saturday, May 23rd v. Ryde (to be confirmed) 2.30 p.m.

Sunday, May 24th v. Ventnor 2.30 p.m.

Monday, May 25th v. Newport 4 p.m.

Tuesday, May 26th v. Isle of Wight Police at Newport 2.30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 27th v. Shanklin 2.30 p.m.

Friday, May 29th v. Guildford City (on Shanklin ground) 2.30 p.m.

Saturday, May 30th v. Northwood 2.30 p.m.

Support from Old Mercers, both playing and spectating is welcomed, so anyone with a spare week's holiday and wondering how to spend it, should contact the cricket secretary.

Our thanks primarily go to Peggy and Maurice Lucock, who let us take over their establishment and treat it as a "home from home". The cooking of sausages and chips after midnight in the kitchen, the gathering of small parties in certain bedrooms well into the night for "genteel" conversation and the consumption of whisky are facilities not usually granted to holiday makers at most hotels. Next year they will know what to expect, but I think even they would agree we were pretty well behaved.

I would like to record our appreciation of the visit by the President, Eric Day, to our opening match at Ventnor, and to the Senior Vice-President, George Andrew, for his weekend visit at the end of the tour. Active interest like this from the Club hierarchy is rare and all the more welcome for that. Next year I suspect "George" will threaten to play for us.

There follows a list of those odd happenings which seem, somehow, to be peculiar to cricket tours :

The trip round the island in the small hours by the two tourists while the wife of one—the only lady on tour—was safely in bed at the hotel. The rude awakening the same lady received when the secretary blundered in by mistake "looking for his friends", so he said. The bottles of whisky that seemed to disappear when certain members arrived. The member whose only footwear was a pair of "winkle-pickers" that were never cleaned and slowly disintegrated as the week wore on and which may be brought on tour next year. The young man who borrowed a car but was still too late for his date, and the two senior tourists who got locked out and got in through their bedroom window, fortunately on the ground floor. The attraction in the "Crab", and the ribald comments levelled at her when she strained her leg by falling through the trap door in the floor of the pub. Finally the unshaven one who was still in "Daishes" an hour after he was due on the field at Newport.

These are some of the memories of a really enjoyable week of "fun and games" appreciated by all who went. Next year there will be many more, for primarily we intend to enjoy what we know will be a first class week.

THE TOURISTS.



FOOTBALL SECTION

Results (1962-63)

			P	W	D	L
1st XI	...	...	17	5	0	12
2nd XI	...	...	15	5	7	3
3rd XI	...	...	15	4	1	10

The season 1962-63 will be remembered by members as the worst ever experienced by the Club as far as cancellations are concerned. Almost thirty matches could not be played due to the snow, which meant that only approximately two thirds of the fixtures were fulfilled. After the snow finally departed, it was just like starting a new season, so long had been the enforced lay-off. The remainder of the fixture list was slightly disorganised, due to some of our opponents having to play postponed league or knock-out competition matches, but generally there was little difficulty in arranging emergency fixtures from week to week.

The first eleven were deprived of some of their easier fixtures by the bad weather, but nevertheless made quite a good showing in some of their more difficult games, such as against Old Brentwoods. The average age of the side showed a slight reduction for once, due to the inclusion of Colin Evans, who retained his place throughout the season.

The second eleven once again consisted largely of the "old brigade", all still going strongly, and it was good to see that Reg Vanhegan's knee lasted out the season without giving any trouble.

The third eleven results should have been better than they appear, as two of the lost games were played by sides almost entirely composed of second eleven players. Whilst he didn't quite maintain his early promise, we were very pleased to discover a new centre-forward in Mick Manning. David Heard, after having filled most positions on the field, laid firm claims to the left back position, where he played extremely well all season.

The season ended with Royal Exchange and London Hospital six-a-side competitions, and for once, both our teams made considerable progress before being eliminated.

Our grateful thanks are once again due to Dick Dawson, who refereed all the first eleven home games, and also to Fred Robinson, Graham Ives and Bill Parker, occasionally augmented by someone who was not completely fit to play, who shared the remaining home games. We also appreciate very much the efforts of Charlie Parker and his various helpers in looking after us at Grove Park.

The Annual Team Supper, preceded by the Section A.G.M., was held at the "Victoria" on Friday, April 5th, 1963, and appeared to be enjoyed by all present.

Fixtures are practically completed for next season, and the only notable change from past practice is that nearly all the games against "Veterans" sides will be second eleven fixtures, as they are now much too strong for our third eleven.

C. D. ARCHIBALD,
Hon. Secretary.

GOLF SECTION

A small band of faithful Old Mercers gathered at Crohamhurst Golf Club on Monday, April 29th, 1963.

It had been decided that we should play a medal round in the morning for a challenge cup which would be held for one year only. There was some excitement as the scores came in but in the event the cup was won by Simon Hext with a net score of 70. This was excellent going as the bogie for the Course was 74. The leading scores were as follows:—

Simon Hext	92—22 = 70
George Milne	89—18 = 71
Jim Fairbairn	84— 9 = 75
Paul Mazinke	103—24 = 79

In the afternoon all the names were put in a hat and pairs were drawn for a Better Ball Stapleford. This proved to be a most enjoyable competition, and the standard of play was a great deal better—perhaps the luncheon had something to do with this! The leading scores were as follows:—

A. V. Hall and Maurice North	47 pts.
Simon Hext and Tommy Hollings	45 pts.
Derek Archibald and Fred Robinson	45 pts.
Colin Evans and Len Allen	39 pts.

During the evening there were some suggestions about the name of the Cup. These varied from the sublime to the ridiculous, from somebody's goblets to the "egg" cup—by you know who! In the end, we decided to christen it simply the Old Mercers' Golfing Society Challenge Cup, and it was duly presented to Simon Hext with suitable ceremony.

The next meeting is also to be held at Crohamhurst on Tuesday, September 10th, and a great effort is to be made to interest more Old Mercers in this most delightful of sporting meetings. Each one of the original members is to try and bring a guest, and it is hoped particularly that it will be an Old Mercer guest. If any of you are interested, please come along and join us. The lack of a handicap is no bar to entry. Whether you are a budding Arnold Palmer or the most timid of rabbits, we can find a suitable partner for you!

The name and address of the man who organises all these events, and to whom we are all grateful, is Fred Robinson, 49 Clarendon Way, Chislehurst.

G.M.

OLD MERCERS' DRAMATIC CLUB

As will be seen, the Dramatic Club continues to flourish and at the A.G.M. in July, when Derek Complin became Secretary, we were very pleased to welcome a number of new members, all of whom wish to play an active part. The past year has been a very full one, memorable not only because of the two productions and frequent committee meetings, but also due to that indescribable party given by Eric Wilkins. It was a wonderful evening or should we say night—and it came as no surprise to members when shortly afterwards Eric advised us of a change of address.

NORMAN FOSH.

A NEW AND IMPORTANT VENTURE

The O.M.D.C. has a great opportunity. A Guild church in the City of London has offered us its premises, with all its facilities, for our Autumn production. As you will realise, this was an opportunity that rarely occurs and which the Committee of the Dramatic Club has accepted with great pleasure. When we were given this chance, we at once cancelled our existing arrangements and prepared enthusiastically for this new challenge.

By the time this note appears the play will have been selected and in rehearsal; indeed our advance publicity may already be in your hands. This will be a unique Dramatic Club occasion and we are doing all we can to make it a memorable one for Old Mercers. Will you of the General Club, therefore, make your contribution by giving us positive support. Old Boys' Day this year was ruined by the inclement weather and perhaps our production will provide you with an opportunity to meet old friends; we look forward to seeing you.

RON PARROTT.

THE AMOROUS PRAWN

by ANTHONY KIMMINS

The Chanticleer Theatre, March 6th, 7th and 8th, 1963

This was the best O.M.D.C. production I have ever seen. These are carefully chosen words because we saw a talented cast and a firm producer rising far above their material.

"The Amorous Prawn" is a trite puffball of a play set in a general's house in Scotland. The general goes away on a mission and his wife conspires with the army personnel who run the house to turn it into a rather superior hotel. They fleece two visiting Americans who knew the previous owner and then the general returns, only to find that he is making money out of a War Office which has been mean to him and so he joins in the fun but then the previous owner of the house comes back and he turns out to be a high ranking bureaucrat in the War Office and threatens to report the general but it is then discovered that he is living with a local barmaid when he is really married to the girl who played wing three-quarters, or something, in the same hockey team as the general's wife at Roedean and so it all ends happily.

The kind of play that, badly done, can make an audience squirm with embarrassment was, however, turned into a very entertaining evening. Most of the credit must go, I suspect, to Eric Wilkins, the producer. Not only had he brought out some excellent performances, he also achieved an overall pace and sense of flow and development which are so often lacking in amateur productions.

The actors followed form. Brian Percy had the kind of part in which he excels, comedy which relies on the slight change of expression, the thrown away line and the essential liveliness that comes through everything he does. He didn't put a foot wrong the whole evening. As the general's wife who was responsible for the whole business, Margaret Kingwill was admirable. This is not a part for great histrionics but it is one which needs someone who knows what she is doing, for she is involved in so much action. Harry Sketchley and Johnnie Johnson made two fine Americans although there were occasions when Mr. Sketchley's accent became Australian and they both lacked some of the control that the two leading players had. Ken Holmes was a splendid, bustling, bumbling general, Joanna Seear an excellent foil for almost everyone and Jock Green produced a delightfully thoughtful characterisation as a private.

The set was convincing and the lighting unobtrusive and there was little to quibble at. Dave Florence tended to turn the part of the chef into a caricature and Derek Complin had to fight bravely against a piece of rank mis-casting. There was a silly pseudonym in the programme but otherwise I can only congratulate this very good team on a highly entertaining evening.

R.G.L.

HONOR DEO LODGE No. 3562

The Lodge has enjoyed a very happy and successful year under the able Mastership of Arthur Cutting. Three new members have been welcomed, Alec and Lincoln Hall, and Roy Parish. J. H. J. Dewey, who has been a member for 43 years, and in active office all that time, has been honoured with the rank of "Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies", by the Earl of Scarborough.

During the year we had the tremendous pleasure of having with us two of our members from overseas; Hugh Bailey from Aden, now the proud father of a son, William John, and John Cottet, Worshipful Master of the Banquet Lodge in Rhodesia. We sincerely hope to have the pleasure of their company again before too many years have passed, and take this opportunity of sending our greetings to them and to all our members who are abroad or otherwise unable to visit us.

Ken Neville once again most efficiently organised our Ladies' Festival which was held at the Zoo Restaurant in June, under the Presidency of Arthur Cutting, very ably supported by his wife Elaine. On this occasion some Old Mercers, who are not Lodge members, attended with their ladies and friends and we were delighted to have them with us. The function proved an enormous success and certainly is a most popular annual event. All Old Mercers, their ladies and guests, are welcome to attend this function in the coming year. The venue will again be the Zoo Restaurant, and the date is Saturday, June 13th, 1964.

F. W. (Jimmy) Lyons has been elected Worshipful Master for the ensuing year and will be installed at our November meeting. This will be the second time that "Jimmy" has been Master of a Lodge and we look forward to another year of good fellowship and a further increase in our membership.

Any Old Mercer who is contemplating becoming a Freemason is cordially invited to get in touch with me at 24 Brunswick Square, W.C.1. 'Phone TERminus 6633.

JOHN SEEAR,

Lodge Secretary.

HONOR DEO CHAPTER No. 3562

The Chapter enjoyed a most successful year. All meetings were well attended and two new members were welcomed.

The Chapter now looks forward to the new season, having elected E. Comp. Sir David G. Watson, G.C.B., C.B.E., M.C., as First Principal, E. Comp. K. M. Scott as Second Principal and Comp. J. E. Seear as Third Principal. These will be installed at the October meeting.

E. Comp. E. N. Lohmeyer is Scribe E. and will be pleased to supply any information requested.

CIVIC GUILD OF OLD MERCERS

The activities of the Civic Guild for 1962-63 were under the direction of the Guild Master, F. W. Yardley (School 1919-23). The membership now totals 80, of whom 20 are liverymen of various City companies and 60 are freemen of the City. Lectures and outings to the Mansion House and Guildhall Museum for Guildmen and Apprentices have been arranged during the year.

At the Midsummer Court G. E. Pow (School 1900-04) was elected Guild Master. The Installation Dinner was held as usual in Tallow Chandlers' Hall, and the guest of honour this year was Mr. Randall H. Monier-Williams, Master of the Tallow Chandlers' Company and for many years Clerk to the Company.

The Court has to record with the deepest regret the sudden death in April 1963 of Past Guild Master E. C. Collins (School 1916-20). E. C. Collins, modest, self-effacing and diffident, served the Guild well and his death leaves a gap in its ranks which it will be difficult to fill.

The Guild is still anxious to increase its membership, and will welcome applications from any Old Mercer. Liverymen members of the Guild will be pleased to support applications by Old Mercers over 21 years of age for the Freedom of the City of London, as the first step to joining the Guild. Old Mercers under 21 years of age will be welcome as apprentices.

Any Old Mercer who would like further information should write to the Hon. Clerk of The Civic Guild, Raymond Smith, or the Assistant Hon. Clerk, A. H. Hall, in a letter addressed c/o Guildhall Library, London, E.C.2.

RAYMOND SMITH,

Hon. Clerk.

There are two Funds connected with the Club, the purposes of which are probably not generally known. These are the Endowment Fund and the Benevolent Fund. It has been thought desirable, therefore, to put a short note in this year's issue of the Magazine, giving a few details.

ENDOWMENT FUND

An extract from the original resolution on the purposes of this is as follows:—

“That the Old Mercers' Endowment Fund should be utilised in making advances to Mercers' boys, or Old Mercers' boys for the purposes of:—

1. Technical Education (including fees and/or premiums for entering into articles of clerkships or apprenticeships).
2. Commencing in practice or business.
3. Furthering Research.
4. The purchase of a partnership, or
5. Generally furthering the interests of Old Mercers whom the Committee may deem worthy.”

It is realised that the objects of this Fund will no longer apply in a few years' time when the last generation of Mercers' boys has become settled in life, but there may be some who would gladly make use of the resources of this Fund and any further information may be obtained from the Secretary, George Milne, 92 Manor Road South, Hinchley Wood, Esher, Surrey.

BENEVOLENT FUND

The objects of this Fund are to provide relief and assistance to persons in distressed circumstances, who are Old Mercers, Past Masters or staff of Mercers School, or dependent relatives of such persons.

The Secretary of the Fund is W. G. Bailey, Innisfayle, Mason Road, Seaford, Sussex, who will be pleased to give any further information that may be required.

CORRESPONDENCE

56 Cat Hill,
East Barnet, Herts.

June 19th, 1963.

Dear Mr. Parker,

Thank you for your circular letter concerning the Old Boys Day Cricket Match on July 6th. I regret I shall not be there owing to this date coinciding with my holiday.

Perhaps you would kindly pass on to O. M. Dawson the news that I have recently been fortunate in that I have had two examination successes, having passed the Final examination of the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors, held in March this year, and of the Chartered Auctioneers and Estate Agents Institute also held in March, 1963. I am at present working for the Hendon Borough Council as Estates Surveyor. I have been with this Borough for approximately 18 months, following a period of 5 years employment with Messrs. King & Co. (Chartered Surveyors) of Bishopsgate, and Winchmore Hill, during which time I gained invaluable experience in the profession.

Recently I received an inquiry at Hendon, concerning a piece of land within the Borough, from a young gentleman who, later disclosed himself to be O.M. N. D. Lemon, who is now working with the Gulf Oil Co. (Gt. Britain) Ltd., and operates, I understand, from their head office at 6, Grosvenor Place, London, S.W.1. An old friendship was pleasantly renewed over a glass of beer and a lunch. For those who may wish to contact him at his home address he is now married and living in Surrey, at 21 Master Close, Oxted, Surrey.

Other O.M.'s whom I have had the pleasure of contacting recently, and who I am not aware are active members of the Club, are O.M. B. J. Atkins (1946-54), who is practising as a Quantity Surveyor, in Preston I believe, and O.M. M. J. Stevenson (1945-55)

who is a qualified Chemical Engineer and working in Lancashire. O.M. K. E. Gray (1945-55) is now qualified as a Doctor and is a Houseman at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London. He informs me that he has very little time for activities outside the hospital, owing to pressure of work there.

It is pleasing to find that in many walks of life one still hears of O.M.'s who were at school in Holborn before or at its closing and who therefore have a link with the school, and it is surprising how often one meets or hears of them through contact with old boys from Haberdashers', Aske's and the City of London School, or through contact with ex-pupils from other schools, to which these transferred on the closing of Mercers.

Yours sincerely,

DAVID J. E. HEARD (1948-52).

St. James's Vicarage,
Clacton-on-Sea, Essex.

September 6th, 1962.

Dear Dawson,

You may be interested for the subsequent numbers of the Old Mercers' magazine, to know that I recently came across Canon Sydney Kingsnorth, of Central Africa House, Great Peter Street, Westminster, S.W.1, who was a younger contemporary of mine and who is now in London as the General Secretary of the Universities' Mission to Central Africa, and has been serving in Northern Rhodesia since 1945.

When I first came to Clacton, after being 20 years at St. Peter's in the Forest, Walthamstow, in the first week I was invited to the Rotary Lunch, and almost the first person I met was R. W. Fulford-Jones, another young contemporary who greeted me heartily with a reminder that I had whacked him when I was Head Prefect! You should get him to join the Old Mercers' Club. I have tried and he seems quite willing. 57 High Street, Clacton.

Another Old Mercer serving with U.M.C.A. is the Rev. E. C. Pocklington who has been in Nyasaland some 20 years. His address is: The Chaplain's House, Balantyre, Nyasaland, East Africa.

With all good wishes.

Yours sincerely,

JOHN BURLEY (1925-30).

Skrink Hills, Deymans Hill,
Tiverton, Devon.

July 22nd, 1963.

Dear Editor,

Having just tidied through my correspondence before moving to the above address, I found, and of course reread, last year's Old Mercers' Magazine. This prompted me to take up the pen and tell

you of some recent events, which may interest a few of your readers.

My recent move is a result of at last completing my studies at the Royal Veterinary College, obtaining a degree of B.Vet.Med., and consequent membership of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons.

After leaving Mercers' in 1955, I served my National Service in the Royal Fusiliers, under the command of Major L. J. Durkin (1933-35), although we did not discover our O.M. connection until a few months before I completed my tour. Thus it was that whilst in Port Said, on Active Service, that one O.M. was able to diagnose the defects in a motor vehicle commandeered by another O.M., saving him from embarrassment, if not the enemy!

Last October I was privileged to be present at the wedding of Jack Purdie (1945-55) and Gill Steadman, where David Ives, performing as Best Man, somehow managed to introduce a political bent into the customary speech.

I also have become engaged, and shall be married to Elizabeth Farmer, on August 24th.

Recent O.M. meetings have been with Dave Duncan (1950-54), whom I found living opposite my digs; and a chap, whose name I believe was Mark—who was Morris Dancing in Trafalgar Square at the time!

May I finally extend a cordial invitation to call and take a noggin, to any O.M. who may find himself in this particular neck of the woods.

Yours sincerely,

MICHAEL J. MATHEWSON (1945-55).

"Kingslea", Eastbourne Road,
St. Austell.

October 16th, 1962.

My dear Dickie,

What a pleasure it was to receive the O.M. Magazine and to receive a note from you with it made it a doubly kind thought.

You say you soldier on. Down here we are waging a positive campaign. The Girls and the Boys have at last come together, educationally speaking. Since last September 12th we have been feverishly getting used to new situations. The dust begins to settle and some of us are pleasantly surprised to find that the field of battle hasn't quite the flattened blasted look we had feared.

Indeed, the operation has gone remarkably smoothly. The inevitable snags of organisation are there but time and good sense will help remove them. In some ways I quite like it—the old social barriers, artificial and often aggravating, are down. But oh! the size of things! 850 is really too many. This I don't like and finding people has become a frustrating job involving much walking and a

great deal of often ineffective message passing. Still personally I ought not to grumble as I was made Grade D Head of Languages. As a matter of fact I'm enjoying the challenge and activity. Freddie Farnham retains his English post, also Grade D, and is busy in the preliminary stages of putting on "The Winter's Tale".

We too see George occasionally. I'm only sorry his last visit coincided with our being on the point of driving up to Frome and was a bit hurried. If you see him again soon tell him from me that we are anxious to see him again to try to make amends for what must have seemed a rather dusty welcome.

Jack Buckland we saw in July. He was to have come this week but his wife is rather ill and all was cancelled. Spent a holiday in Suffolk this year. Lovely county. Thought of Harold Whate and Mercers' scientists when we went to Flatford Mill.

Kindest regards as always to you both.

JOHN WEARING.

33 Broom Water,
Teddington, Middlesex.

Dear Jack,

I thought you might like to know that I hope to be home on leave again in 6/7 weeks. Pat and the family have already preceded me and bought a house, a Tudor Cottage near Rye.

Since Independence I have been on duty to Madagascar and Nigeria, both fascinating countries.

It is still my wish to seek my Freedom of the City, about which I last wrote to O.M. Hall, who told me that Raymond Smith is holding on to my application. Perhaps you could mention this to him when next you meet.

I had an interesting O.M. incident when a man from Basutoland walked into my office wearing an O.M. tie, Michael Summer (1947-55) engaged in training civil servants in Basutoland. One direct result has been that two of his chaps have made the trip to attend my current course at Makerere. My only other contact with an O.M. has been with David Vermont who looked me up. There is of course another O.M. on the Campus here, David Albrook, and another in the Royal College, Nairobi, Douglas Kettle—a contemporary of mine. I look forward to seeing you soon.

Yours sincerely,

B. L. JACOBS (1929-34).

It was good to see "Jake" at the Dinner in May.—Ed.

17 Pukenui Road,
Epsom, Auckland, S.E.3,
New Zealand.

11th February, 1963.

Dear O.M. Dawson,

At last I have sat down to write a little news on Mercers, assuming that you are still Editor, which is not mentioned in the circular of November 1962. I was going to do this in time for July 1962, but it will now be perhaps your earliest contribution for July 1963. I left England in January 1962 for this country by the P & O "Himalaya". Towards the end of the voyage I discovered that O.M. Sir George Stedman was on board and we made each other's acquaintance again after a number of years. He was more a contemporary of my elder brother at the school, but we had met in O.M. teams. As he was making a round trip via Australia and was going to spend a few weeks in Singapore on the way back, I was able to give him some local colour having left Singapore for England only four months before. I believe that Stedman used to captain Woodford Wells at cricket.

In Perth (W.A.) I met again Brian Macdonald (at Mercers 1923 to about 1927), who is now Archdeacon of Perth. In 1957 I met him at St. Peter's School, Adelaide, where he was Chaplain. In 1959 I attended Holy Communion at St. George's Cathedral, Perth, and he was the celebrant. He was then Dean of Perth. This time (1962) he paid a flying visit to the ship to see us. This time, too, we had long enough to find that we share a birthday, he being one year my senior.

I have now completed almost a year of teaching Maths (with a little Physics) at King's College, Auckland, which is the Anglican public school (in the English sense) of Auckland. I do some coaching at cricket and rugger (which is called football here). This school of 550 boys turns out 19 rugby fifteens every Saturday.

I am hoping to meet D. A. Jackson some time in the future when I can find his present address in N.Z. We last met on the cricket field in Singapore in 1959. I saw him late in the A.G.M. of 1961, but before I could make my way to him through the scrum round the bar, he had disappeared. The last magazine said that he was back in N.Z., but a phone call to his firm only told me that he had left them and had probably gone to Wellington.

I hope that all goes well with you these days. I have all my family in N.Z. now, i.e., a girl of 22, a boy of 20 dairy farming about 100 miles from here, and a boy of 11 at the prep. school of King's College. In the past fifteen years it has not often happened that we have all been in the same country at the same time.

I see from the O.M. booklet that there are one or two older O.M.s in N.Z. I must try to look them up some time.

Must finish off now. All good wishes to the Club and to yourself.

Yours sincerely,

G. P. DARKE (1923-31)

P.S. Forgot to say that in December 1961 my brother (G. H.) and I descended on George Finch in Bishop's Lydeard, Somerset, and sampled some of his beer. I think we spent the evening playing table tennis, when not reminiscing.

Aden Garrison Officers' Mess,
Singapore Barracks,
British Forces Post Office 69.
25th July, 1963.

Dear Sir,

It seems many moons since I was in contact with my old colleagues at school, reasons being entirely due to distance, the clashing of dates and the good old English weather. However, since my conscience continues to bother me, I have decided to jot a few details down, which may be of interest to the readers of your chronicles.

On leaving school, the chemical industry failed to maintain its hold over me and for a brief period prior to National Service I did numerous odd tasks, all of which were both interesting and remunerative. Whilst in London one day, I met Malcolm Geary and over many cups of coffee we discussed journeying to the Saudi Arabian desert, and the backwoods of Canada. I note from the '62 Magazine that his address is c/o a London bank. Can it be that he went and, if so, has anyone heard from him?

So to the call of National Service, where I managed to obtain a commission and consequently had a most enjoyable time. At this somewhat crucial period in one's life my views on a career were still vacant, so after much thought, decided to stay in the Army. I was fortunate in obtaining a Regular Commission in the R.A.O.C. and am now a Captain, and as you will note from the address in an interesting part of the world.

I had heard many things about Aden, most of them derogatory; however, after eight months I have been pleasantly surprised to find that most of them were false. The climate, although energy sapping due to its heat and humidity, does not have a completely paralysing effect on the European. He contrives to live the day to the maximum even though work commences at seven a.m. As a result, social life is gay in the "hot" season and hectic in the "cold". The Services entertain one another on the slightest excuse and it was through attending one of these functions that I was able to meet Graham Howard, who is a Lieutenant on H.M.S. Centaur. After completing a tour of the aircraft-carrier, I seem to remember an excellent evening being spent on a beach near Gold Mohur Bay in company with a representative from Mr. Vat. Howard is the only Old Mercer I have met in Aden, but if there are any others then I would be interested to hear of their whereabouts.

Although one's life is stereotyped in this part of the world, we are able to travel to Africa and the Far East for leave and so the

planning of one's holidays always provides food for thought and helps to remove some of the lethargy which creeps into one's existence.

One of the pleasures which we could indulge in was the motoring by Land Rover into the Aden Protectorate, but unfortunately, due to the political situation, this has now been forbidden. This was, of course, a necessary decision but one which was most unpopular since journeys of this nature provided a most perfect break from the daily routine and atmosphere which always exists in a close knit community.

Once away from Aden Colony, the people "up-country" are extremely proud and kind and certainly most colourful; one small child whom we met, was wearing a pair of sun glasses and carrying over his arm an umbrella. Needless to say, they are always prepared for any eventuality and never seem surprised by an unusual turn of events.

Another amusing experience occurred when the unit was returning from an exercise in the Protectorate. In the middle of nowhere, an Arab camel rider appeared between the sand dunes with two of his sons. He stopped us and requested a lift for the remaining eighty miles to the Aden Colony. After handing his camel to his sons, he duly clambered on board the nearest vehicle and proceeded to collect odd belongings from every village which we passed.

Unfortunately our arrival was delayed by some seven hours due to the breakdown of a lorry and the continual bogging in of the vehicles towing it in the soft sand. Although he was never asked, he assisted in freeing the vehicle whenever it became stuck and seemed to accept his lot quite happily. On leaving us he gave a whimsical smile and looked at our broken down vehicle as if to say "a camel may be slower, but at least is far more reliable and a lot less tiring to operate."

Due to my wanderings around England on leaving school, I omitted to forward an address and as a result received very little information as to what was happening within the school, club and to all personalities who were directly affected by the tragic closure of the school. The following suggestion may therefore have already been covered in routine correspondence, but if it hasn't, it could perhaps be acted upon, without causing too much inconvenience to the hon. sec. and his staff :

The printing of a detailed list of the addresses of all O.M.s who are living overseas to include all members who are in the Services whether they be stationed at home or abroad.

I am sure that many O.M.s who do travel extensively would be only too pleased to look up old colleagues in a country which they intend to visit, but have been unable to do so due to lack of information.

Is it possible to obtain the following, quite from where I am not sure, but maybe someone will be able to help?

1. My half-term Report Book—it was always so consistently and disgustingly bad that for this reason I should like to find it.
2. School Magazines for December 1955 and March 1956.
3. The first three copies of the Old Mercers' Magazine.

Finally, I shall be delighted to welcome any O.M. who may be stopping in Aden for a few days.

Yours sincerely,

DOUGLAS TATEM (1950-1955)

OTHER NEWS OF OLD MERCERS

W. R. AIKMAN (1923-26) has been appointed managing director of C. E. Heath and Co. Ltd., perhaps the largest and certainly the oldest established firm of Lloyd's Brokers and a public company.

L. T. ALLEN (1938-45) has returned to Rhodesia and will be away until September.

M. J. CROWDER (1954-58) has completed his first year at Manchester University studying Mathematics.

W. DENSHAM (1925-29) expects to be in England in October on leave from N'dola, Rhodesia, when his address will be Flat B, St. Austells, George Street, Ryde, I.O.W.

J. H. J. DEWEY (1910-16) was the Delegate representing British brokers at an International Conference in Paris in May. The Editor would once again like to thank Jack Dewey, who never fails to send on any information he has concerning Old Mercers.

A. St. G. DAWSON (1942-48) met J. MARLER, a contemporary of his, at a Dairy Show in October.

D. S. DOIG (1908-13) visited Mr. Haden while in the North recently. He says that "many ears must have been burning." Doig is shortly moving North and offers hospitality to any O.M. who may be near Witchhill, Kinnoull, Perth.

NORMAN DOBSON (1941-48) was in England over Christmas. The Football Club could not have used his services at that time!

F. O. J. KEELER (1916-21) was listed in last year's Mag. "Among the missing". He denies this and wonders whether it is "a subtle move to get people to write". He discovered that he was a neighbour of Dr. F. R. GUSTERSON (1917-23) and a further coincidence lies in the fact that he has recently retired from the South West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board which administers the Worthing Hospital where Dr. Gusterson is a consultant anaesthetist.

P. R. LIKEMAN (1952-58) qualified as a Dental Surgeon at University College Hospital, both L.D.S. of the Royal College of Surgeons and B.D.S. London University, and has now completed the first six months of a year's appointment as one of two Resident Dental House Surgeons to the U.C.H. Group.

P. G. S. LUCRAFT (1930-34), director of Sewell and Crowther, travel agents, is now President of the Travel Agents' Association of the City of London.

E. L. MERRETT (1900-08) was awarded the O.B.E. in the Queen's Birthday Honours List this summer.

DAVID OLIVER (1905-12) sent the Editor a copy of the booklet of the Centenary Celebrations of St. Edward's School, Oxford; it will be remembered that **O.M. J. M. GAUNTLETT** (1904-13) compiled the roll of St. Edward's, a monumental task.

J. L. SCADDING (1918-25) sent news of two Old Mercers who are not members of the Club. **R. G. ANDERSON** (about 1914-20) and **F. GOLDBY** (?-1918) were among those who were admitted to the Fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians on May 27th; they met each other on this occasion for the first time since school-days. Scadding himself was appointed to the newly-created Professorship of Medicine in the University of London at the Institute of Diseases of the Chest, Brompton.

M. J. WHITE (1952-58) has, for the past two years, been organist-choirmaster at St. Martin's Priory, Ruislip. He is taking a degree course at the Royal Academy of Music.

W. X. WILSON (1954-58) is reading Physics at Hertford College, Oxford.

On November 2nd, 1962, the Editor and David Ives, the Club Secretary, had the privilege and pleasure of attending the Annual Dinner of the Old Bancroftians, at which it was announced that the Gordon Allen Memorial Fund had reached a total of £1,000.

The August edition of the Journal of the Royal Institute of Chemistry recorded that "**D. W. KENT-JONES** (1905-09) has been a corporate member of the Institute for fifty years."

GORDON HARPER (1910-16) was recently defeated by one vote in the election for Mayor of Salisbury, Rhodesia.

D. A. BEGGS (1951-56) and **A. C. HEPBURN** (1954-57), two stalwarts of the Athletic Association, are both leaving shortly for warmer climes, Beggs for Aden and Hepburn for the West Indies. Good wishes go out to them from the many who have enjoyed their company on Saturday afternoons (and evenings).

EXAMINATION RESULTS

The Editor is indebted to Messrs. Arnold and Chalmers for the following news from the Universities. He regrets that there is no report of last year's Oxford and Cambridge Dinner but his usual correspondents were not there. Do please, some of you younger men, let us have your news.

Oxford

- D. DYER (1955-58)—National Science Mods (Engineering).
W. X. WILSON (1954-58)—National Science Mods (Physics).

Cambridge

- J. E. AGNEW (1952-58)—National Science Tripos, Part 2.
C. J. ARNOLD (1953-58)—History Tripos, Part 1.
E. R. DOUBLEDAY (1952-58)—English Tripos, Part 2.
P. A. HILL (1953-58)—English Tripos, Part 1.
B. LEMER (1955-58)—History Tripos, Part 1.
I. AINSWORTH SMITH—Prelim. to Theological Tripos. Part 2.

London

- I. M. H. WILLIAMSON (1952-58)—B.Sc. Electrical Engineering.
C. D. ROBINSON (1952-58)—Mechanical Engineering, Part 2.

UPON THE CLOSING OF MERCERS' SCHOOL

(in the style of Goldsmith)

Dear, happy courtyard, choicer school than most,
Thy doom is come, and we see but thy ghost.
Past is thy sway upon that way of life
Begun in Henry's day, but now usurped in strife.
'To teach for ever' was the pledge unique
But 'ever' now has come, and shows man weak.
Great was the woe when we at summer's end,
From former pride to grief had to descend,
As then they said with measured words and slow
That Mercers' School must soon all life forego.

And now the signs of population fail,
The brick-red classrooms slip behind a veil.
No busy feet the well-worn marble tread,
But all this city courtyard's life is fled—
All but one famous solitary Inn
Where 'Honor Deo' still is read within.
Here in their former quarter, picked for rule,
Did great headmasters lead this famous school.
All men revered they were, and well to know—
They looked at all, enframed, from long ago.

Oh ignorance and misused power! Why can
Such culture and sweet learning, which in man
Is hard to find, be thus condemned
By bureaucrats whose task was to defend?
With all-pervading zeal, they ne'er reprieved
This hapless edifice for which we grieved.

HOWARD H. GORDON (1951-58)

(Reproduced by courtesy of the Editors of the City of London School Magazine.)

THOSE WERE THE DAYS

It would be interesting to know how many Old Mercers remember watching the City Imperial Volunteers march along the Embankment—or was it Holborn? on their return from 'the Boer War'. Much about the same time was a somewhat similar march-past of the men from 'Excellent' and 'Powerful' (I think) who had taken their naval guns to battle in that same South African War. On both these occasions Dr. Scott assembled us in the Hall and, so far as I remember, after addressing us with a resumé of the events of the previous few years, gave the School a half holiday. Possibly, however, the day in each instance may have been a Wednesday and so, other than those 'on the Detention List', we were in any event free for the afternoon. At that time we attended halfday on Wednesday and halfday on Saturday.

Two events and the subsequent celebrations which have always stood out in my memory of those days were the relief of Ladysmith and the relief of Mafeking. At the time of the former, those of us who dined in the old halls of Barnards Inn, after our meal, borrowed the circular metal covers used by the caterer—a Mr. Treleaven, a delightful man with a ginger beard—and armed with these, and led by members of the Sixth Form, marched up and down and around about the playground making an appropriate din with the instruments at our disposal.

The relief of Mafeking was much more widely publicised and we were all much better prepared. Every boy, so it seemed, had brought to school that day a musical instrument of some sort; tin whistles and mouth organs were much in evidence, to say nothing of miniature or toy bagpipes. The *pièce de resistance*, so to speak, was Harry Merrett, then in the Fifth or Sixth, with a big drum. To those of us in the Lower School this was indeed a day of days. We must have been marching about the playground for at least half an hour before the Doctor called us into the Hall and gave us a delightful address, telling us that he would try and get Baden-Powell to come and talk to us at the end of hostilities. I believe he did visit the School many years afterwards. All this made news in the National Press, so that possibly Mercers' School may have had some influence in the coining of the verb 'to maffick'!

Many other unimportant things stand out from those days. Gamages and their wonderful catalogue—about 2in. thick and profusely illustrated; it was always said that A. W. Gamage, who, I think, was frequently in the shop himself, made most of his money from the families of Mercers and their friends!

Then there were the barrows in Farringdon Street and all they had to display from cage-birds to jellied eels, to say nothing about the men with the gift of the gab selling all manner of useful—or otherwise—gadgets.

Who remembers the old Tuck Shop where Mr. and Mrs.

Cousins used to sell sweets—nothing less than a 1d. for Mercers—doughnuts and coffee?

There must be a few Old Mercers who remember these times. I know at least six at the present time.

HOWARD H. CRANE (1896-1903)

MERCERS' UNDER R. W. JEPSON

I joined Mercers' in July, 1935—on three weeks' probation—with a group of boys whose names and faces remain familiar but who, alas, have, in most cases, disappeared from the Old Mercer scene. None of us, as I remember, failed to satisfy the authorities, and we began officially in September of that year, most of us to complete a full seven years at Barnard's Inn and later, for a while, at Horsham. What a wealth of memories those seven years contained, from the nervousness of the first day to the sadness of that final assembly when we met together for the last time before going our separate ways.

It is impossible to put those memories in any prescribed order; I suppose the vividness of each particular memory must determine its position in the narrative. Yet some first things do come first—meeting G.G.A., being put into Acon on the first morning and not realising then that here was the birth of a friendship which was to become one of my most treasured possessions; school dinner in Barnard's Inn; Mr. Bishop and the tuck shop (what a madhouse that was); "Kissing the Queen"; meeting "Tab." for the first time and recognising his tough fairness in class and his ability as a games' coach, the best I ever knew and one whom I have consistently sought to emulate; perhaps the thing which has played a greater part in my career than I can say—Jepson's decision to teach Second Form Latin that year. How we quailed, how we over emphasised the long "e" in "amaverunt"—but how much fundamental Latin we learnt. In the years that followed, I remember, we used to think of R.W.J. as rather detached—yet somehow he knew a good deal about everyone in the School and anyone who lunched in Barnard's Inn was well aware of his sense of humour as he erupted after some sally which seemed often to emanate from Doc. Whitehouse, another figure rather remote from the Junior School.

In the Third Form we met Roy Moore, soon to become Senior English Master and now, of course, Head of Mill Hill. He too had a sense of humour which he sometimes had to hide behind a text book after some quip from our prize wag, Roy Parish. I remember Mr. Boon, who had a heart of gold under a rather forbidding exterior, "Bills," whose Latin lessons might suddenly become a session of "Round the Desk" with "A's" and "Z's" in the register alternately placed at the top. Here, too, Grove Park became more and more important—house matches were near blood baths as comrades of Saturday's School match became fierce opponents when Acon played Gresham.

It was in the Lower Fourth that I met "Mr. Gresham" himself in that Chem. Lab. opposite the gym. His threat to "take a running jump off that fume cupboard" remains with one to this day—I really thought he meant to do it. He had (and, I suppose, still has) the characteristics of a conjuror as all his experiments seemed likely to fail—but he always pulled them out of the hat at the last possible moment with an air of one surprised at his own success. G.G. had now taken over my historical education and an interest was aroused which has not lessened to this day. F. J. Elliott made Maths. appear so logical, almost inevitable. How fortunate we were in our teachers at Mercers'.

And so to the Senior School; self important minnows from the Junior School became very small fry in the larger pool. I recall T.F.J. ("Ghandi") Moss doing the impossible on the Football field, "Tab" making a hundred at Grove Park. School Plays, the Dance Band led by "Mac," who somehow managed to teach P.T. and deal with the Head's secretarial work, and the moment of truth, London General School Cert. and Matriculation, which loomed not far away; all played their part in a full and happy life.

And suddenly we were at Collyer's and the war we all expected had come. For about sixty of us there was only one term in Horsham—to my shame perhaps, the memory of that term is playing for the First Eleven against Collyer's one morning with both schools watching—and winning 3-0 in what Tab. has often said was one of the best school games he ever saw. Then back to London where, somehow, we led a fairly normal school existence. Soccer fixtures were arranged and our Sixth Form careers commenced with lessons in the Library. We revelled in it; the nineteenth century came alive to us, thank to G.G.A., never averse to a diversion which might concern Chelsea or M. G. Harris's impersonations of Churchill; we read St. Joan for the first time, M. Bonner read Victor Hugo with true feeling and we had "Jep" for double Latin in the study while he smoked and supped his coffee under our envious eyes. Across the way H.G.A. was dealing with the Scientists when not refereeing football matches against aggressive Army teams at Grove Park.

And suddenly it was all over; we became Old Mercers and were left with our memories. These have been some of mine, quite unimportant, possibly, to everybody but me. Yet, somehow, as I write, I feel that there will be some Old Mercers who will remember and be grateful that they too had the privilege of being educated at Mercers' under R. W. Jepson. Scholarship was at a high level under a staff who persuaded at least one member of the school that teaching was the only life for him. But there was more to it than that; we learnt a way of life which has stood most of us in good stead through the years. It is now customary at all Old Mercer functions to drink a silent toast to the "Spirit of Mercers' School"—as we honour this toast we remember and are thankful for what Mercers' gave us—and regretful and not a little bitter that our sons may not enjoy the same gifts.

FRAGMENTS FROM A MERCERS' MOSAIC

The worst of the war was over when I came to Mercers' a few months before "D" Day. Yet when the end of the world's ordeal was in sight, Londoners faced an unholy new threat from those capricious secret weapons—the V1 and V2. I vividly remember the day when a V2 fell on Smithfield Market—not because of the noise, or the mortality (which I afterwards learnt was appalling), but because bits of hot shrapnel fell in the playground, fortunately without hitting anyone. It was an experience that should have been distressing and frightening, but I am ashamed to say that I can only remember it as exciting.

Life was an adventure, and there was an element of romance even about the end-of-term tests, which had to be taken in what seemed to be a catacomb but was in fact the old covered playground, converted into a shelter. On looking back (I hope not through rose-coloured spectacles) what amazes me most is the way in which public transport services were maintained: I seldom had any difficulty in getting to School, and if war-time fuel taxed the old STs and LTs, the absence of private cars enabled them to make better time along Oxford Street than today's RTs and RMs.

This reminds me of the trip to Grove Park, which began by bus. The "free" tickets issued to us were valid from London Bridge, and unimaginative souls like myself followed the herd and caught a 17 of 18b from outside the Prudential: the 18b took a devious route and we preferred the 17 (which was discontinued soon after the School closed). My brighter friends quietly disappeared down Fetter Lane to catch a 13, but it was some time before I realised how smart they were—getting off not at London Bridge, but at Cannon Street or Charing Cross, so that they could (a) save time and (b) bewilder the unenterprising by their presence in the train when it drew into London Bridge.

In the compartments, untold damage was done to the upholstery by versions of "tag" and "blind man's buff", in which the more experienced practitioners made straight for the luggage rack. For me, a West Londoner, the journey was always an interesting one, and there were few more invigorating starts to a Saturday morning than the trip from Charing Cross, with frost in the air and the carriage window wide open. Once I remember deciding to show the Bromley-Eltham gang that they weren't the only ones who could cycle to the ground in style: I made quite good time from Wembley to New Cross Gate, but tram tracks were an unfamiliar hazard, and they finally accounted for me in Lewisham. Dirty but determined, I pressed on, took a wrong turning, and got lost in Elmstead Woods about half-past-eleven. On the following Monday I think I said I hadn't felt well enough to play football.

The City, in all its aspects so different from my native subtopia, fascinated me. To start with, the School itself was a curious little backwater, guarded from the outside world by the neat entrance

lodge, where few latecomers escaped the shrewd eye of Mr. Osborne. The elegant late Georgian of the Headmaster's Room contrasted with the vernacular gaiety of Barnard's Inn Hall (known by all just as Barnard's Inn) and the plain two-storeyed Masters' Common Room. Beneath this building were small brick-vaulted passages, used once no doubt for storing wine. There were other cellars, fascinating places, in one of which I remember discovering an old stone carved with the words "Barnard's Inn": where is this now, I wonder?

Then, when I joined the Cadets, there was the walk to Armoury House, past the pungent aroma of Whitbread's, which is still there, and the country colours of the green-grown bomb-sites, which have gone. With the advent of a new regime after the war, it was considered the thing to join the Cadets—except by those who realised it was even more the thing not to belong. There were moments of humiliation at the hands of such daunting figures as C.S.M. Christian, but there were also hours of bliss when we went to summer camp at the Royal Marines' Barracks in Deal. For aspiring cricketers there was a new toy—a "cradle"; for unwilling swimmers there were John Werner's hilarious readings of "And Now All This" at Sandwich Bay; and for me there was a "shore pass" that enabled me to visit Sandwich town with Christopher Snowling and fall under its unique spell. I hoped I could live there one day, and I did for six years, until I moved to another East Kent town which is quite as delightful, though rather more businesslike.

When the School was in College Hill, there were running battle with the Merchant Taylors' boys. Such feuds are as healthy, as they are inevitable, and at Barnard's Inn the traditional rivals were the City of London boys, whom we caricatured as suave, superior swots. To their sober Balliol we played a Bohemian Trinity, and at least towards the end of the School's career our academic and sporting record was more than a match for theirs, bearing in mind our smaller size. This compactness was the strength, as it was to be the downfall, of the School. It was a friendly community, small enough for every member of it to feel that he played an important part in maintaining and enhancing its reputation. If you weren't cut out for book-learning, or if games weren't your strong point, you could still contribute to the School's life by taking part in the Play, the Concert, or the *Conversazione*.

Equally, the work of the Staff must have been more rewarding (as it was probably more taxing) than in a larger school. They took a personal interest in every one of us, and it was clear that Mercers' meant much more than bread-and-butter to them. Even during the difficult period towards the end of the War, when I was in the Remove, Vernon Rossetti's deft hand was shaping a memorable "1066 and All That", the precursor of a long run of School Plays which owed much of their success to his skill as a producer—the strength of his method was that he treated schoolboy actors (even those in the Remove) as equals rather than as inarticulate minds capable of interpreting a part only by rote.

With the arrival of a new Headmaster in 1946 the character of the School changed. In recruiting more of its boys from prep. schools in the middle-class belt, it lost some of its guts, but gained homogeneity. Sports jackets, which had crept in mainly as a result of clothes rationing, were banned, and with the encouragement of black striped trousers, the adoption of the boater, and the introduction of splendid new caps and blazers for "colours," Mercers' became (at least superficially) more like the public school it technically was. Greek was re-introduced, the staff strengthened from Oxbridge, and by 1952 (when I left) the School was clearly on the threshold of a period of unprecedented prosperity. The new policy seemed amply vindicated, for, while Mercers' retained its distinctive atmosphere and community-sense, there followed a run of unparalleled academic successes, many of them at Oxford and Cambridge. Yet six years later, when the Mercers' Company announced that they could no longer afford to run the school, Sir Edward Boyle (then Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Education) stated in the Commons that it was not eligible for direct grant aid because academically it "did not reach the very high standard set". A pronouncement puzzling as well as tragic: for not many people would have agreed that the academic standards of Mercers' were inferior to those of Alleyn's or the nine other schools which had qualified for direct grant aid in the previous year. Lamely we capitulated, and the School became one of the saddest victims of paper rationalisation.

ARTHUR PERCIVAL (1944-52).

COWBOYS AND INDIANS

During May and June I achieved an ambition which had been festering in my mind almost since the day when I first got into the pictures on my own: to visit the Wild West where men are men and cowboys roam, and the Cavalry are never too late. Once I had got over the shock of discovering that there really are still cowboys—who drive their horses about in horse boxes until the going gets too rough for Cadillacs—the experience was one of unalloyed pleasure and unusual excitement.

It is easy to understand why the vision of the Oregon Country pulled thousands of families through the trudgery and hardship of the trek to the west from the Mississippi Valley. The Columbia River Valley is lush beyond description and the uplands of Montana and Wyoming lie between mountain ridges that only emphasise their fertility. The high country offers a range of scenery and experience which is daunting even to the pneumatic traveller; but it offers, too, exhilaration in fresh air, and space, and a sense of physical timelessness that makes the devotion of the pioneers and the trappers—and the agony of the Indian tribes—a credible and admirable emotion. I can't understand why we gave all this up to the Yankees without a fight.

I spent the majority of my time, however, in Utah, the state which claims, on its car registration plates, to be America's scenic wonderland. I support the claims of the State of Utah, though I regret the Mormon Majority's attitude towards tobacco and alcohol. Less than a quarter of the state is arable, but it has unique areas like Bryce Canyon and Zion National Park—and many more technicolored fantasies—which very properly attract thousands of visitors every summer. More remote, Dinosaur National Monument has enough prehistoric relics to fit out the Natural History Museum several times over. I traversed the whole length of this national park with some friends in rubber pontoon-boats, paddling some two hundred miles down the Yampa, and then the Green, River, and shooting—with increasing trepidation—about a dozen and a half rapids, of which the last was very properly called "S.O.B." I heartily recommend this trip for scenery, cactus, canyons and excitement. It is all distinctly character-forming. I never fell in, but I never got ashore dry; and I developed an uncritical taste for the delicious branch-water which goes so well with Bourbon.

The cowboys really look like cowboys, in the same surprising way in which the Grand Canyon is just like the pictures you see. It's bigger, of course, but it's still blue with haze, and seems even deeper than Walt Disney said it was. But the Injuns were disappointing. Navaho; Hopi; Shoshone; Gros Ventres; frankly, I was upset. I didn't expect to see scalps, but neither did I anticipate Palm Beach shirts and sunglasses. And Injun Joe's trading post at Tuba City is as expensive, tartan for tartan, as Pringle's at Portree.

P.N.

DUTCH AND FRENCH GUIANA

Dutch Guiana or Surinam is situated on the north coast of South America between British and French Guiana. Its coast line is about 240 miles long from the mouth of the Corentyne to that of the Maroni on the east. Surinam was first colonised by Lord Willoughby—Governor of Barbados—in 1665, and ceded to the Dutch in 1667. It was again in the hands of the British 1790 to 1802 and 1804 to 1815. The area is about 46,000 square miles and the colony extends inland about 300 miles to the Acarac Mountains, the boundary with Brazil.

The settlements are mainly limited to the coast zone, and Paramaribo, the capital on the west bank of the Surinam river, is some fifteen miles from the sea. Paramaribo, about six degrees North of the equator, is an old and interesting town, very clean and well laid out. Most of the houses are built of wood, and the writer saw several that had the living quarters in the days when slaves were employed. Many mission schools are available and education is compulsory. The population is composed of much the same constituents as that of British Guiana, Indian coolies are imported. The bush negroes are mostly descendants of runaway slaves, and as many rivers are the chief means of communication, the negroes are

useful mainly for canoe work. At this they excel, particularly when doing long journeys into the interior and passing through the dangerous rapids on the return.

A considerable quantity of alluvial gold has been recovered over a very long period from the rivers and flats chiefly in the regions of the Surinam, Saramacco and Maroni, and because of this many attempts have been made by mining companies to carry out mining operations on a large scale by dredging, gravel pumping, ground sluicing and even hydraulicking but all have been a failure.

The natural conditions such as the erratic occurrence of gold, shallow depth of alluvial deposit, high cost for clearing the dense jungle and burning it—a difficult job owing to intermittent rains and humidity—are all against large scale mining operations. The individual native worker known as “porkknocker” is probably responsible for over 90 per cent. of the gold produced in Surinam.

While the yield of gold per cubic yard varies considerably, nuggets have been found weighing up to several hundred ounces. Many years ago a large mass of gold and quartz was found in the Mindrenette creek weighing 509 ounces containing 274 ounces of pure gold.

One of the two main zones of alluvial gold bearing gravel appears to stretch across the country from N.W. to the S.E. beginning in the Corentyne and Nickerie rivers and on to the Saramacca across the Surinam river to the upper Sarakreek and onward to Maroni river.

It was reported in *Mining and Engineering World* (October, 1912) that “the most popular diggings are those in the Sarakreek district which appear to be very rich.” In October 1935 the writer was engaged by the Sarakreek Goudvelden, N.V., of The Hague, Holland, to examine and report on the concessions at Sarakreek. A considerable area was inspected and much prospecting done on surface and underground for alluvial and lode.

After two journeys to Dutch Guiana, a visit to French Guiana and inspection of the Lawa Concessions at the upper part of the Maroni river, work was finished at the end of 1936.

The first part of the journey to the mining camp at Sarakreek is by a narrow gauge railroad from Paramaribo to Dam, the terminus, arriving at the end of the second day, not too bad considering the engine was very old and parts fell off on two occasions, and steam pressure was low due to the wood fuel being soaking wet. Leaving Dam early the following morning the mine was reached two and a half days later, a very unpleasant walk owing to the steaming heat, swamps, mosquitoes and other pestiferous insects, in addition trying to sleep during the two nights under a canvas sheet in a tropical storm which was accompanied by screeching monkeys. To complete the discomfort the native carrying uniform case with spare bush kit fell off a slippery tree over a flooded stream, and carrier plus uniform case were only just recovered—the latter waterlogged.

The company had made a rough kind of road from Dam to the mine camp for transporting the mining plant, supplies, etc., using a caterpillar tractor and trailer, but the latter was most unsatisfactory and was replaced by a large sleigh with long runners. Gangs of labourers were continually employed cutting and laying trees over the swampy parts but did not make a satisfactory job.

The mining plant consisted of mechanical shovels, drag line and gravel pumps for elevating the gold bearing material into large bins for feeding the sluice boxes. Bins were fitted with powerful water jets to help disintegrate the stiff, clayey material but did not solve this problem. A special type of puddling machine was ordered from England after many experiments were made on the clay at the Mining Department of the Delft University, Holland.

Labour, of a very poor type, had to be recruited in Paramaribo, but as the Sarakreek region was considered particularly unhealthy—malaria, dysentery, etc., the Government allowed the men to spend only six weeks at the mine, and then be returned to Paramaribo. This was too costly and unworkable and was later extended to three months.

Much mosquito control work was done such as drainage of stagnant pools and automatic flushing of pools in the bed of water-courses. Special attention was given to the source and supply of drinking water and sanitation. Labourers' living quarters were improved and within a short time there were few cases of malaria and dysentery, in fact, more labourers arrived from Paramaribo with these complaints than were started on the mine.

During the second visit to Surinam on behalf of the Dutch company, an examination was made of mining properties belonging to a London company and adjoining the Sarakreek Concessions, but report was unfavourable. The next examination was at the Lawa Concessions situated up the Maroni river—the boundary between Dutch and French Guiana.

The starting point for this journey is Albina on the Maroni, but as a call had to be made at Cayenne on the coast of French Guiana it was necessary to go by sea from Paramaribo in a small Dutch coaster. Before reaching Cayenne the boat, though not permissible by the French government, passed close to the Ile du Diable, one of the three Iles du Salut, on which Captain Dreyfus was imprisoned. The island looked quite attractive set in a blue sea with its silver sand, palm trees and white walled houses. An example of "distance lending enchantment" and possibly some "window dressing" too.

At about one or two miles before reaching Cayenne is a large rock on which stands a lighthouse—the base of this almost covers the top of the rock. The Captain of the coaster gave the following information: the lighthouse is looked after by two convicts from the prison in Cayenne; once on the rock the convicts never return to the mainland. Sometimes they are there for a few months or less

if in a fight one is killed and the other jumps into the sea. Convicts have been known to make a last desperate chance to escape by jumping into the shark infested sea in the hope of reaching the shore. Unless the men have been able to collect sufficient drift wood to make a raft they are doomed. Only one convict is known to have reached the shore, but he was captured to end his life on the guillotine.

Cayenne is a miserable town and it is most distressing to see the human wrecks of convicts sweeping roads and clearing the sewage. Convicts in the prisons at the Iles du Salut (a misnomer), Cayenne and St. Laurent on the Maroni were stated to be about 6,500.

Leaving Cayenne in the cool of the evening, a refreshing relief from the heat and depressing sights in the town, the boat arrived at the trading post of Albina on the Dutch side of the Maroni river.

Opposite Albina is the main prison of St. Laurent—here the river is about one mile wide. Preparation for the journey up the river to Lawa took one week getting suitable canoes and natives to handle them, camp equipment and provisions. The writer's canoe was just wide enough to take a deck chair over which a plaited grass covering was fixed thereby giving some protection from the sun and occasional rain storms.

Early one evening when sitting by the river enjoying a well iced Dutch beer, a motor launch with three French army officers from the prison reached the small landing stage. The officers, en route for the trading store and cold beer, passed close to the writer who recognized one of them as his table companion on the French liner "Cuba" a few years previously. It was a happy meeting and two days were spent with him at St. Laurent thereby seeing and hearing much about the prison and the unfortunate convicts.

Leaving St. Laurent for Albina several libérés* were waiting on the landing stage with numerous articles for sale which they had made; many were bought because of the pitiful condition of the makers. One article—an excellent working model of a guillotine for use as a cigar cutter—was bought from an old libéré who had been thirty-five years in the penal colony. The guillotine and the tools had taken him many months to make. On giving him the equivalent of £2 10s. 0d. in Dutch currency, the poor old man burst into tears and embraced the writer in true French manner. As several of the libérés had seen the old man receive the money—a considerable amount to them—they probably took it from him.

The journey up the Maroni from Albina to Lawa Concessions, about 160 miles, was most interesting and at times an outboard motor was helpful. Without this it was slow going and much time was lost passing over the numerous rapids when canoes had to be unloaded and the packages carried over a trail by the side of the rapids. Nights were spent on sand banks, in native villages by

the river side or more frequently when some days up the river, in the small camps of *libérés* who were producing alluvial gold. This was generally sold to native buyers from the Dutch side of the river for a small part of the correct value. On a few occasions the nights in the *libérés* camps were not too comfortable; the men were mostly an evil looking lot. On one night a return to the canoes and departure in record time was necessary—absence of body being better than presence of mind.

The inhabitants of some native villages do not belong to South America, but are African negroes descendants of slaves who escaped from their plantation masters. These villages are well kept and are similar, in many ways, to those in West Africa.

Before reaching the trading station at Lawa a night was spent near a White Indian encampment on the Dutch side of the Maroni. They appear to be a wandering tribe and their shelters are a few sticks of wood covered with grass or leaves. Both sexes live practically naked and spend their time fishing or hunting, though some of the men work occasionally at the trading store.

Lawa Concessions covered a very extensive area and it is reported that in the 1890's two thousand "porkknockers" were working there entirely by hand. This method has continued but in a very small way. The natural conditions and mining difficulties are practically the same as at Sarakreek—shallow depth of alluvial deposit containing very erratic gold values within a most tenacious clay. The washing or panning of samples was a long job owing to the time taken in complete disintegration of clay.

Owing to the river being high, the return journey to Albina took three and a half days compared to eight days going up river to Lawa. The canoes passed safely down all the rapids thanks to the amazing skill of the native polemen.

In 1957 a Canadian mining company, attracted possibly by an approximate estimated yield of some \$11 million (U.S. cy.) in gold from the Lawa Concessions, acquired the mining right to 57,000 acres. A $4\frac{1}{2}$ cubic foot dredge was purchased in West Africa, dismantled and cut into parts weighing up to 8 tons for air transport. These parts were sent by sea to Paramaribo, thence in a C-82 Flying Boxcar to Maripasoula in French Guiana near the Lawa Concessions.

The airlift commenced in October 1961 and was completed early 1962 at a total cost of less than \$100,000. Weight of dredge 550 tons. In March 1963 the re-erection of dredge was nearly completed and expected to "soon be digging its way forward at the rate of 28 buckets per minute, 24 hours a day."

Excellent work, but whether the dredging will be economically successful remains to be proved.

R. F. ALLEN (1897-99).

* *Libéré*: a convict who has served his prison sentence but who is still condemned to reside in the penal colony.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS 1962/63

- ALLDAY, L., 15 Tunstall Court, Hatherley Road, Kew Gardens, Richmond, Surrey 1918-22 (357)
- ALLEN, L. T., "Jarolea", Pine Grove, Windlesham, Surrey 1938-45
- ANDERSON, G. C., 57 St. John's Road, Petts Wood, Orpington, Kent 1957-58
- BARNETT, A. A., "Beechcroft", Edwin Road, West Horsley, Surrey. 1921-26 (412)
- BEGGS, D. A., 1 Durrant Way, Farnborough, Kent. 1951-56.
- BIGG, R. E. A., 1 Shallcross Crescent, Hatfield, Hertfordshire. 1918-23 (366)
- BIRCH, J. L., 66 Hilcrest Road, Camberley, Surrey. 1956-58
- BLACKLER, A., 32 Lensfield Road, Cambridge. 1946-53
- BOULTON, P. G., 84 Tangier Road, Richmond, Surrey. 1944-49
- BROOKS, W. K., "Little Firle", 23 Avenue Road Bishops Stortford, Herts. 1933-38 (644)
- BUIST, I. A., 36 Waterbury Drive, Weston, Ontario, Canada. 1937-40 (613)
- CHAMBERLAIN, M. D., "Green Leaves", Westerham Road, Keston, Kent. 1954-58
- CHURCH, A. P. R., "Staddles", Riverside Road, West Moors, Dorset. 1911-16 (293)
- CLEAVER, Canon A. H. W., 42 Boscobel Road North, St. Leonards-on-Sea, Sussex. 1907-12 (125)
- COLE, The Rev. R. G., 11 The Causeway, Sutton, Surrey. 1951-54
- CRAWFORD, P., 77 Durban Road, Beckenham, Kent. 1953-56
- CUMMERGEN, M. J., 100 Piccadilly, London, W.1. 1947-55 (820)
- DARKE, G. P., 17 Pukenui Road, Epsom, Auckland S.E.3, New Zealand. 1923-31 (417)
- DAVIS, D. A., "The Willows", Colyford, Colyton, Devon. 1908-09 (207)
- DAVIS, Lt. Col. D. H., "Hillside", Foxendown Road, Meopham, Kent. 1917-18 (295)
- DENSHAM, W., Medical Inspector, Box 32, Ndola, Rhodesia and Nyasaland. 1925-29 (375)
- DESBOROUGH, T. S., 39 Oaks Avenue, Worcester Park, Surrey. 1956-58
- DOUBLEDAY, E. R., 34 Greenway, Southgate, London, N.14. 1952-58
- DUKES, P. A., c/o Ffestiniog Railway Co., Station House, Minffordd, Penrhyndeudraeth, Merionethshire, Wales. 1954-58
- EDWARDS, G. D., 24 St. Wiain Court, Colney Hatch Lane, Muswell Hill, London, N.10. 1925-29 (616)
- FOSTER, D. M., "Merrivale", 5 Beaufield Close, Beechwood Avenue, Woodley, Berks. 1946-54 (759)

- FOWLER, D., B.A., Buchzelgstrasse 86, Zurich 7/53, Switzerland.
1943-47
- GAUNTLETT, J. M. D., M.Sc., A.R.I.C., 295 Woodstock Road,
Oxford. 1904-13 (259)
- GADBURY, D. H., F.A.L.P.A., Gadbury, Bond & Co., 6-8 Sackville
Street, London, W.1. 1931-35 (681)
- GLADWYN, E. J., "The Rise", Bray Brooke Road, Wargrave, Reading,
Berks. 1921-27 (421)
- GOLDING, E., 99 Fore Street, North Petherton, Bridgwater, Somerset.
1913-19 (345)
- GRANT, S., 28 Beaufort Road, Ealing, London, W.5. 1952-58
- GRAY, Dr. K. E., 12 Chaucer Court, Winnats Park, Haywards
Heath, Sussex. 1945-55
- HERNIMAN, P. G., 119 Lodge Avenue, Gidea Park, Romford, Essex.
1938-46
- HOLDEN, M. J., 5 Chestnut Avenue, Staplehurst, Tonbridge, Kent.
1945-54 (769)
- HOLDER, J. E. K., 14 Blackacre Road, Theydon Bois, Essex. 1944-52
(757)
- HOWLET, I. M., 2A Transmere Road, Petts Wood, Orpington, Kent.
1953-56
- HUDDLESTON, L. C., "Trails End", West Drive, Pitville, Cheltenham,
Gloucester. 1933-42 (496)
- HULLS, D. A. F., c/o Bunge & Co., Chamber Building, 87 Motiyeel
Road, P.O. Box No. 150, Dacca 2, Pakistan. 1943-47
- LAWTON, Capt. C. G., 38 Brackendale Road, Queens Park, Bourne-
mouth, Hants. 1923-29 (553)
- LEE, B. D., Holm Hill, Walston, Carlisle, Cumberland. 1949-54
- LEE, M. E., The Coach House, Sole Street, Nr. Cobham, Kent.
1949-53 (793)
- KEELER, F. O. J., High Hollow, Longberry Hill, Storrington, Sussex.
1916-21 (325)
- KINGSTON, The Rev. H. J., Fishbourne Rectory, Chichester, Sussex.
1906-11 (96)
- MARCHANT, J. D., c/o Roy Marshall & Co., 2 London Wall Build-
ings, London, E.C.2.
- MARKS, R., 16 Broadgates Avenue, Hadley Wood, Barnet, Herts.
1942-48
- MATHEWSON, M. J., "Highlea", 46 Dial Hill Road, Clevedon,
Somerset. 1945-55 (790)
- MATHEWSON, M. J., Skrink Hill, Deymans Hill, Tiverton, Devon.
1945-55 (790)
- MAZINKE, R., "Paterdale", Glentrammon Road, Orpington, Kent.
1943-51 (718)

- MOSS, F. C., 25 Betchworth Avenue, Earley, Near Reading, Berks. 1933-36
- MOYS, H., 25 Fitzroy Avenue, Harborne, Birmingham, 7. 1921-27 (505)
- MOYS, S. W., J.P., 7 Goffers House, Blackheath, London, S.E.3. 1919-22 (429)
- NIBLETT, G., "Dunsley", Green Lane, Lower Kingswood, Surrey. 1950-54
- OLLIS, G. S. A., "Wayside", 202 Stansted Road, Bishops Stortford, Herts. 1914-19 (303)
- PARKER, F. W., 1 Squires Close, Brisenorton, Oxfordshire. 1918-24 (408)
- PATMORE, R. A., "Otterdene", 13 The Moate, Charing, Ashford, Kent. 1944-49
- PEARSON, I. C., 128 Finchley Road, London, N.W.3. 1944-48
- POCKLINGTON, N. R., 10 Highgrove Way, Ruislip, Middlesex. 1927-31
- POCKLINGTON, S. M., 10 Highgrove Way, Ruislip, Middlesex. 1953-58
- RAMSDEN, R. H., c/o St. Felix School, Southwold, Suffolk. 1944-51 (717)
- RICHARDSON, E., 75, Maxwell Gardens, Orpington, Kent. 1953-56.
- ROBERTSON, S. B., 286 Hangleton Road, Hove 4, Sussex. 1898-1907 (177)
- ROBINSON, C. D., 12 Gardner House, Albany Street, London, N.W.1. 1952-58
- ROBINSON, G. O., "Broom Cottage", Gosfield, Halstead, Essex. 1928-32 (404)
- SILVERWOOD, I. G., "The Anchorage", 40 Squires Bridge Road, Shepperton, Middlesex. 1927-35
- SMITH, D. M., The Chequers Inn, Dorchester-on-Thames, Oxfordshire. 1924-28 (683)
- STEINER, Dr. E. H., "Nesfield" The Ballands South, Fetcham, Surrey. 1927-34 (549)
- SWAIN, P. J., 19 Maultway Crescent, The Maultway, Camberley, Surrey. 1947-49
- WARD, P. D. O., 8 Tollgate Court, Trentham Road, Longton, Stoke-on-Trent. 1950-58 (827)
- WARD, W. J., 34 Fortismere Avenue, London, N.10. 1957-58
- WEBB-BOWEN, R. A., 2 The Spinney, Eastern Road, Haywards Heath, Sussex. 1939-43 (552)
- WERNER, A. C., 37 Lancaster Grove, London, N.W.3. 1945-55
- WILKINS, E. S., 10 Mulbrook Road, Putney, London, S.W.15. 1934-38 (520)
- WILLIAMS, W. K., 27 Broadway, Nettleham Road, Lincoln, 1934-39. (638)

WINN, T. A., "Tzigane" 24 Roseacre Road, Welling, Kent. 1944-50.
(750)

YETTON, J. L., "Cuddy Croft", Jewitt Lane, Collingham, Wetherby,
Yorkshire. 1911-14 (150)

THE EARLY HISTORY OF MERCERS' SCHOOL

Before the Mercers' School finally closes in July, 1959, it may be as well to review its relationship with the school in the Hospital of St. Thomas of Acon, which preceded it on the same site in Cheapside. Though it seems an intrinsic probability that the two schools were identical, and that one was but a continuation of the other, this has never been certain. The Report of the City of London Livery Companies' Commission (1884) cautiously states of the Hospital school only that it "appears to have been kept up until the Reformation," and adds that "its discontinuance probably occasioned the foundation of Mercers' School." The object of this note is therefore twofold: first, to establish that the school in the Hospital of St. Thomas of Acon was kept up till the Reformation; and secondly, to establish its identity with Mercers'.

Mercers' School, as such, first opened at Michaelmas, 1542. On the dissolution, in 1538, of the Hospital of St. Thomas of Acon, with which the Mercers' Company had been closely associated, the Company had applied for liberty to buy the hospital's buildings. The application was granted, and a Conveyance dated 21 April 1542 transferred these from the Crown to the Company. On the same day an indenture of bargain and sale was entered into between King Henry VIII and the Company, whereby, in consideration of the King having granted the application of the Company, the latter covenanted (among other things), at their own cost and charge, to find and keep a free grammar school within the city of London perpetually, and also a sufficient master to teach 25 children and scholars, freely, continuously for ever. It may be noted (though it cannot be considered as positive proof of the previous existence of the School) that the very anxiety of the Crown to see a school maintained by the Company strongly suggests that one already existed.

The school in the Hospital of St. Thomas of Acon was founded in 1447. In that year, the Rectors of four City churches, including John Neel, the Rector of St. Marv Colechurch, who was also Master of the Hospital of St. Thomas of Acon, asked permission of King Henry VI to open grammar schools in their parishes, and authorisation was given by an Act of Parliament.

Is there any evidence, first, that the Hospital school was kept up till the Reformation?

Stow, in his *Survey of London*, recalls seeing in his youth the annual disputations in the churchyard of St. Bartholomew's, Smithfield, between the scholars "of the free schools of St. Paul's in

London, of St. Peter's at Westminster, of St. Thomas Acon's hospital, and of St. Anthony's hospital, whereof the last named commonly presented the best scholars." Stow was born in 1525, so the Hospital school must have been in existence just before the Reformation.

A contributor to *Notes and Queries* drew attention (inadvertently) to the second piece of evidence some years ago. In a *London Chronicle of John Stow 1523-1540* it is recorded that on 11 November 1535, in the Lord Mayoralty of Sir John Allen, there "was a great procession at London by the Kyngis commandement." First came the six City waits, then "the children of the gramer scoll of sente Thomas of Acres wt the schollmayster after them," and then the children and masters of St. Anthony's and St. Paul's. This reference proves the existence of the Hospital school at late as 1535. It would be pleasant to ascribe the place of honour occupied by the "gramer scoll of sente Thomas of Acres" either to a victory in a recent 'disputation' at St. Bartholomew's or to its seniority (it was the oldest of the three schools mentioned), but the probable explanation is less romantic. Sir John Allen was a Mercer: the Mercers' were closely associated with the Hospital: what more natural than that he should wish the children from the Hospital school to take precedence over those of other schools? Sir John Allen, it may be added, was one of the body of eleven members of the Mercers' Company later appointed (in 1539) to negotiate with the Lord Privy Seal (Cromwell) for the purchase of the buildings of the dissolved Hospital. He had been twice Lord Mayor (1525 and 1535), he was, according to Stow, "a man of great wisdom, and also of great charity," and he was a privy counsellor. As a man of influence, who may have had a special interest in the Hospital school, possibly he was personally responsible for ensuring its survival.

So much for the evidence which takes the existence of the Hospital school up to the very eve of the Reformation. What proof is there of any sense of continuity between this school and Mercers'?

Again Stow is the main source of information. Writing in 1598 about the Hospital buildings, he says they were then called Mercers' Chapel, and adds "therein is kept a free grammar schoole, as of old time had been accustomed, and had been commanded by Parliament." In these words Stow stresses the fact that, whatever religious upheavals there may have been, the School has gone on. (At the same time, by saying "as of old time had been accustomed" he makes it quite clear, if it is not clear already, that the Hospital school did exist.)

Further evidence of the identity of the two schools is furnished by a passage in the *Summary of English Chronicles*, published in 1565-6. This is a later version of the *London Chronicle of John Stow* already referred to, and it has been brought up to date. Accordingly we read that after the six City waits in the procession came not "the children of the gramer scoll of sente Thomas of

Acres wt the schollmayster after them," but instead "the children of the schole of the mercers chapell with theyr master."

Finally, the accounts of the Elizabethan philanthropist, Dean Nowell, of St. Paul's, include the following entry:

"... To henry Palmer in St. Thomas of acres schole
 xiiij s. iiij d."

The exact date of this grant is not certain, but it was probably in 1569 (certainly not more than a year later or earlier), no less than 27 years after the School had ceased officially to be known as "St Thomas of acres schole".

ARTHUR PERCIVAL.

This article appeared in "*Notes and Queries*," in April, 1959.—ED.

MISSING MEMBERS

The Records Secretary would be pleased to receive any information as to the whereabouts of the following "missing" members:

Years			Years		
Name	Life No.	at school	Name	Life No.	at school
A. S. Akehurst	313	1914-1921	A. U. McMinn	733	1919-1925
S. C. M. V. Ambler	422	1931-1933	W. Maybey	—	1956-1958
G. W. Arthur	441	1929-1934	H. Meyer	315	1905-1909
A. E. Bendix	110	1906-1911	C. J. Moore	528	1934-1938
A. E. Bramwell	377	1924-1929	A. R. Overton	861	1943-1950
K. W. Colebourne	562	1935-1942	G. R. P. Philipp	373	1924-1928
F. J. Colman	497	1933-1937	G. O. Reynolds	470	1930-1935
C. R. Corney	518	1934-1937	E. B. Roberts	—	1957-1958
R. J. Cracknell	432	1927-1933	B. Russell	401	1915-1924
J. C. Dawson	673	1926-1934	M. A. Russell	623	1937-1939
G. C. C. Drayton	428	1930-1933	K. H. M. Simmons	393	1915-1919
H. T. Earland	254	1910-1914	A. M. Skinner	363	1921-1924
J. Fulton	419	1927-1933	A. F. A. Sloga	609	1940-1944
C. J. Gilmour-Wood	301	1908	C. H. H. Spencer	—	1922-1929
H. T. Goodger	507	1930-1937	F. G. Stanton	524	1924-1935
P. G. Guest	628	1940-1942	P. M. Strong	310	1913-1919
C. V. Gunter	329	1912-1919	H. M. Sullivan	309	1914-1918
R. J. W. Hawks	527	1934-1938	C. J. Thomas	265	?
C. J. Harris	400	1927-1932	S. W. Thrower	513	1932-1938
R. W. G. Harris	583	1936-1942	P. V. Turner	443	1928-1934
D. A. Hickman	601	1940-1945	L. W. Tye	260	1915-1917
J. D. Ivall	—	1945-1953	F. L. Walker	367	1913-1921
M. D. Jones	752	1936-1940	J. D. Walters	316	1916-1920
K. E. Jones	723	1927-1931	J. A. Watkins	669	1932-1937
D. M. Landsman	674	1937-1944	E. R. E. White	—	1946-1955
H. S. Lovejoy	532	1931-1939	D. M. Whitehead	159	1909-1916
J. E. Lucraft	416	1928-1933	G. E. Willis	501	1932-1937

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

This year, as you will see, the President is having the last word!

His term of office has been more than enjoyable; he has met many Old Mercers, and, if that were possible, he seems to have drunk more pints of beer than he would have done had the year been a normal one.

He regretted missing Old Boys' Day, not because he wilfully failed to put in an appearance, but because the weather decided to misbehave as fractiously that day as at any other time this summer.

What will stand out in his mind, however, is not the weather but the spirit of enthusiasm for the Club amongst so many Old Mercers, especially the younger members whose time at the School was fore-shortened by the closure, and who had to take up the threads elsewhere—to use Milton's words "... untrifled his loyalty he kept, his love, his zeal".

Next month, George Andrew will become President, an event to which everybody looks forward because of George's unique place in the Club. In wishing him well, the retiring President knows his successor will be the rallying force for an increasingly re-vitalised Club.

OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE OLD MERCERS' CLUB

Typical of the informality of the Oxford and Cambridge Old Mercers' Club's one annual meeting is that no minutes of the occasion were kept, and thus nine months later it is difficult to do justice to the pearls of wit and wisdom let fall by various after-dinner speakers. However, there are certain basic details about the meeting which cannot be disputed by the most port-mellowed memory and which should perhaps be recorded for posterity. First and foremost this was the Tenth Annual Dinner of the Club, no mean achievement in itself for a Club which has no constitution or organisation. It was held this year on November 24th, 1962, in Brasenose College, Oxford, and twenty-nine Old Mercers from Oxford and its East Anglian offspring attended, all but seven of them travelling quite considerable distances to be present. This last fact raised quite considerable problems of accommodation, but finally everyone was housed in quarters that varied in comfort from a pub (guess who!) and college guest rooms, to a "bed" of cushions and overcoats on my floor.

Now to the question of the decisions taken after dinner on the future of the Club. I think that the only person who can dispute my version is Mr. Haden, whom, I believe, I saw taking notes. First of all it was decided unanimously that the Club should continue in its present form for as long as there were sufficient Old Mercers at

Oxford and Cambridge to organise an annual dinner. However, in order to spread the burden of administrative work Peter Nailor and David Vermont kindly offered their services to produce circulars and lists of members, and generally to provide continuity from one year to the next. Any decision as to the future of the Club beyond the next few years was postponed till it could be seen what support there would be as undergraduate membership dwindled still further.

As regards the 1963 dinner, Christopher Arnold and Peter Hill were co-opted President and Secretary, and arrangements have now been made for the dinner to be held in Jesus College, Cambridge, on November 23rd. If any Old Mercer who is or was at Oxford or Cambridge has not received a circular he should contact Chris Arnold at Jesus College.

I must finish by saying that in 1962 we were very pleased to welcome to the dinner E. H. Day, both as President of the Parent Club and as a member of the Oxford and Cambridge Club in his own right, a combination that I believe will be repeated this year. Also we were very glad to meet O.M. J. M. Gauntlett (1904-13) who teaches at St. Edward's School, Oxford, and hope to see him at many more dinners.

Lastly, I append a list of those present as my literary skill is not sufficient to introduce all their names naturally into my account. W. D. Haden, H. S. Moss, H. G. Andrews, H. Fyson, H. White, F. J. Elliot, E. H. Day, J. M. Gauntlett, P. Nailor, D. N. Vermont, M. D. Jepson, J. Werner, A. C. Werner, B. N. Clements, M. A. Nash, L. C. Johnson, K. E. Gray, M. G. Harman, T. P. Brent, D. J. Walton, J. M. Slater, B. Chalmers, A. J. H. D. Greely, J. Siller, D. A. J. Dyer, W. X. Wilson, J. E. Agnew, P. A. Hill and C. J. Arnold.

David Walton.

GOLF SECTION

The Autumn Meeting was held at Crohamhurst on Tuesday, 10th September. In spite of all the gloomy prophesies, the weather was kind and 21 members turned up.

The Autumn Challenge Cup was won by Hugh Webb with a nett score of 69.5 under bogey!

Please note our next two meetings:

Tuesday, 7th April, 1964—Royal Mid-Surrey, Old Deer Park,
Richmond.

Tuesday, 8th September, 1964—Crohamhurst.

MORE CHANGES OF ADDRESS

ANDERSON, G. C., 43, Runnymede Road, Egham, Surrey. 1957-58

BEGGS, A. F., "Little Padmall," Sandyhurst Lane, Boughton Aluph,
nr. Ashford, Kent. 1955-58

BEGGS, D. G., P.O. Box 360, Chartered Bank Building, Crater, Aden.
1951-56

DARKE, G. P., 17, Pukeni Road, Epsom, Auckland, S.E.23, N.Z.
1923-31 (417)

DAVIDS, J. S., 15, Welbeck Avenue, Hove 3, Sussex. 1940-45

KENDALL, H. W., 2, Graham Gardens, Surbiton, Surrey. 1913-17 (255)

SNOWLING, G. C. E., 12, Levett Road, Polegate, Sussex. 1944-53

TABERT, P. W. J., 5, Marine Terrace, Criccieth, Caernarvonshire.
1951-58.

Perhaps the most important change of all, the Entertainments' Secretary, P. J. S. SQUIRRELL, now lives at "Maple Lodge," 29, Latchmoor Way, Gerrard's Cross, Bucks.

CRICKET RESULTS

FIRST XI

Cudham 156—O.M. 110 for 7	Drawn.
O.M. 59—Centymca 60 for 3	Lost by 7 wickets.
O.M. 116 (G. Ives 59)—St Bartholomew's Hospital 106	
(Squirrell 5-31)	Won by 10 runs.
Ventnor 136—O.M. 83 for 9	Drawn
Northwood 121 for 5—O.M. 118 for 7	Drawn.
O.M. 86—I. of W. Police 87 for 3	Lost by 7 wickets.
O.M. 149 for 9 dec. (Horne 63, Russell 67)—	
Shanklin 154 for 5	Lost by 5 wickets.
O.M. 184 for 4 dec. (Wainwright 56, Horne 46)—	
Newport 119 for 8 (Hepburn 5-38)	Drawn.
Carisbrook Grammar School 117 for 6 dec.—O.M. 95	Lost by 22 runs.
Northwood 190 for 6 dec.—O.M. 81	Lost by 109 runs.
O.M. 155 for 9 dec.—Epsom 146 for 5	Drawn.
O.M. 34 and 86—O. Bancroftians 137 for 7 dec.	
	Lost by an innings and 17 runs.
O.M. 101—City of London Police 102 for 5	Lost by 5 wickets
Eltham 109—O.M. 80 for 9	Drawn.
Epsom 144 for 6 dec.—O.M. 89 for 5 (Dawson 48)	Drawn.
O.M. 75—O. Erithians 77 for 2	Lost by 8 wickets.
Leigh 183 for 8 dec.—O.M. 106	Lost by 77 runs.
Australia House 204 for 9 dec. (Nicholson 4-81)	
O.M. 157 for 7 (Shimmins 60)	Drawn.
O.M. 130 for 9 dec. (Shimmins 56)—Edenbeck 118 for 9	
(Squirrell 8-60)	Drawn.
O.M. 24—Eltham 25 for 1	Lost by 9 wickets.
Won 1, Drawn 9, Lost 10.	

SECOND XI

O. Colfeans 158 for 4 dec.—O.M. 39	Lost by 119 runs.
O. Brockleans 154 for 8 dec. (Lucas 5-34)—O.M. 72	Lost by 82 runs.
O.M. 181 for 7 dec. (Dean 49)—Petts Wood 31	
(Hepburn 5-11)	Won by 150 runs.
Lloyds Bank 78 (Robinson 4-15)—O.M. 80 for 7	Won by 3 wickets.
Orpington 106 (Parker 4-35, Lucas 4-32)—O.M. 62	Lost by 44 runs.
O. Citizens 102 (H. Smith 5-38)—O.M. 106 for 3 (Dean 57)	Won by 7 wickets.
O. Cholmeleians 127 for 3 dec.—O.M. 112-7	Drawn.
St. John's 105 (Eldridge 4-13)—O.M. 107-6	Won by 4 wickets.
O.M. 113—Lloyds Bank 114 for 8 (Parker 4-38)	Lost by 2 wickets.
City of London College 103 (D. Ives 4-23)—O.M. 107 for 4	Won by 6 wickets.
O. Brockleans 105 (Lucas 6-24). O.M. 101	Lost by 4 runs.
O.M. 231 for 7 dec. (Johns 96, Wainwright 68, G. Ives 42)—	
Orpington 144-6	Drawn.
St. John's 94 (Rolt 5-44)—O.M. 92 (Dean)	Lost by 2 runs.
Won 5, Drawn 2, Lost 6.	