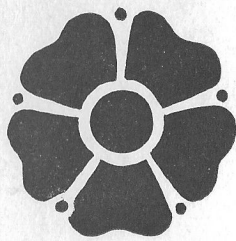


# THE RED ROSE

THE MAGAZINE OF  
KING GEORGE V SCHOOL



Vol. XL  
No. 2  
March, 1961

KG V

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## Editorial

This year the History department basks in the glory of three open scholarships, the sixth form is larger than ever before, and a new house competition has been inaugurated: the choir competition. At this very moment the first fifteen is probably steam-rolling a mesmerised opposition as it has done so many times this season. Behind steel pipes, piles of bricks and mountains of cement can be seen rising new changing rooms. From the hall, each afternoon is heard the not displeasing sound of rich male voices practising various melodies to be sung at the concert, whilst the school quietly hopes for the visit of the Royal Manchester College of Music Orchestra. The whole building is brimming over with interest and enthusiasm. It is the Editor's hope that all this youthful vitality is reflected in the pages of the "Red Rose".

For a school is not just a fact-cramming machine; it is a community where boys may learn how to converse, how to think, how to 'mix'. That is why societies are formed, and, goodness knows, the school has plenty of them! As soon as one of our boys dons his red and black blazer and comes here for the very first time, he is told to join our societies and clubs. Allow yourself to be reminded that contributing to your school magazine is just as vital a part of your education as is learning to play Chess, to develop a photograph, or learning to recognise the constellations.

Younger boys, especially, must be implored not to regard their magazine as being run by a 'clique'; a closed circle. It is presented by a group of boys and one or two masters—who run it for you, so that you can express, and the whole school—and others—may hear your views. They run it so that what you do can be recorded and remembered. Don't complain that you don't enjoy reading the magazine because you are not mentioned; make sure that you are mentioned. Don't complain that your prose and your verse is not printed in the magazine. It isn't surprising; you don't submit any. You would be surprised at the standards you can attain if only you could manage to put aside that overbearing feeling to leave it to somebody else. Remember, the Editor is leaving it to you!

A.K.C.

## Notice to Contributors

As expressed in the Editorial, your contributions are always welcomed but remember:

The essence of good style is simplicity.  
Conciseness is a courtesy to the reader.

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 B. G. F. HOLT, M.A., Liverpool (French).  
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 J. E. TRAYHERN, B.A., University College, Oxford (History and General Subjects).

\* Denotes Housemaster. † Denotes Careers Master  
 † Denotes Librarian

## School Notes

We are glad to record that members of the school have gained three Open Scholarships in History at Oxford.

At the end of last term C. P. Baird won a Demyship at Magdalen, and in January A. F. Kelsall won a Postmastership at Merton, and within a few days this was followed by the news that J. P. Marsh had won an Open Scholarship at St. Edmund Hall. It is many years since the school has had so many successes in one subject.

The Christmas Play this year was Twelfth Night by Shakespeare and was produced once again by Mr. T. B. Johnson.

For the first time the Old Boys' Dance in December, which was held in conjunction with the High School Old Girls' Association, took place at the High School. The new school hall made an excellent dance floor and the occasion was most successful.

The 1st XV continues to have an outstandingly successful season. Two wins to its credit this term so far, and its excellent win at the end of last term against King's College, London, bring the total points scored by the team to 353 against 52. So far only one match has been lost and one drawn, all the remainder being won.

The Poppy Day collection last term amounted to £25 12s. 7d.

The "Red Rose" must apologise to Mr. J. E. Trayhern for not announcing in the last issue his appointment to the staff. His B.A. degree was gained at University College, Oxford.

## Important Dates

Summer term begins	...	...	...	18th April
Swimming Gala	...	...	...	12th May
Half-term	...	...	...	22nd, 23rd, 24th May
G.C.E. 'A' level Exams. begin	...	...	...	8th June
G.C.E. 'O' level Exams. begin	...	...	...	19th June
Summer Exams. begin	...	...	...	28th June
Summer Exams. end	...	...	...	3rd July
Athletic Sports	...	...	...	18th July
Term ends	...	...	...	21st July



## VALETE

- Baird, C. P., 1954-60.—Evans', U6MSch, G.C.E. (A4,O3), State Scholarship 1960, Demysip in Modern History at Magdalen College, Oxford, Senior School Prefect 1960, House Secretary 1959-60, Chairman Local History Society 1959-60.  
Foster, P. G., 1955-60.—Gear's, L6ScA, G.C.E. (O3). Swimming Colours 1960, R.L.S.S. Award of Merit 1959.  
Lowe, J. O., 1955-60.—Evans', L6Sp, G.C.E. (O1).  
Sadler, T. M., 1955-60.—Evans', U5b.  
Shaw, R., 1955-60.—Rogers', L6M, G.C.E. (O5), Junior Rugby Colours 1958, Swimming Colours 1959, R.L.S.S. Bronze Cross 1959.  
Edwards, D. A., 1956-60.—Gear's, U5b.  
Tattler, B., 1957-60.—Rogers', U5b.  
Foster, M. H., 1958-60.—Woodham's, L6ScA, G.C.E. (O3).  
Fogarty, A.M., 1959-60.—Rogers', L6Sp.  
Shepherd, G. L., 1959-60.—Spencer's, L5a.  
Wallace, R. T., 1959-60.—Evans', 3b.

## SALVETE

- D. G. Ellis, L. J. Holden, E. C. Mowatt, D. Pessell, G. Pessell,  
J. Pilkington, K. Thoburn, J. J. S. Williams.

## Society Reports

### SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

President: The Headmaster

Chairman: E. Taylor

Secretary: D. R. Karsa

Vice-Secretary: G. A. Stocker

Projectionist: D. Thomas

Committee: P. Dewhurst, M. Goodridge, C. Flemming K. Gambie.

### SENIOR SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

The society commenced the Autumn term with a most interesting lecture given by Mr. Lord on Bacteria. During the coming term we hope to have several lectures given by our own members as well as by outside speakers. We also intend to visit one or two places of scientific interest. During this term we are very fortunate to have Professor A. W. Morrison of the Nuclear Physics Research Laboratory to speak to our society on 'Atomic power.' This should prove to be a most interesting lecture.

Our record attendance figure in this academic year is about 110 members. This gathering witnessed an extremely interesting

and amusing talk, with demonstrations, on 'Oxygen' by a member of 'British Oxygen'. Other lectures taking place during the term were: 'The Analogue Computer', 'Supersonic aircraft' and 'New Fibres and the Behaviour of Elastic Liquids'. The last attracted quite a number of the scholarship form, which is rather an achievement.

We are also looking forward to the chairman's debate on photography.

## JUNIOR SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

In past years speakers have had to modify their lectures, owing to the presence of our many junior members. To overcome this, the Junior Scientific Society has been formed this term. It is open to all members of the school but is specially to interest the juniors. This does not mean, however, that juniors may not attend any of the senior meetings. On the contrary, quite a number of senior meetings will be open to members of the Lower Fifts and below.

The first two meetings last term were very successful. These were a lecture given by Flemming (Upper VI Science X) on 'The five Senses', and a film show given by the Dunlop Film Bureau. We hope to arrange for the future, practical evenings and outside visits.

The officers of the society are embarking upon some research projects, the fruits of which will be shown in the summer Science Exhibition. Also this year, the Science Exhibition will unite Physics Chemistry and Biology with one general theme, thus showing the connections among the three sciences. D.R.K.

## SCHOOL CONCERT

Our annual Choral and Orchestral Concert will be given in the School Hall on Tuesday, 28th March, at 7-30 p.m.; parents and boys not taking part, are given a cordial invitation to attend. Tickets are 2s. 6d. each.

The main work to be performed is Stanford's perennial favourite 'The Revenge' which, although perhaps a little dated in its idiom, can still excite the listener with its panache and colour. Also included in the programme are part of Haydn's Symphony No. 104 in D, Bach's pianoforte Concerto in D minor, items by the Junior Choir and Madrigal Group, a Chamber item under the direction of Mr. W. Lord, and finally, an item which must remain a secret, to be played by the Staff Symphony Orchestra! It is hoped that all concerned with the concert will enjoy themselves thoroughly. R.E.R.

## MUSIC SOCIETY

Music is one of the most important cultural subjects studied at school, and it is heartening to be able to report that this section of our school life is truly flourishing.

Rehearsals are well in hand for this year's Concert, to be held on March 28th. The programme will include Haydn's London Symphony, Bach's Piano Concerto in D minor: with M. Higginbotham as soloist) and Stanford's 'The Revenge' (choral and orchestral work performed with great success at the School Concert in 1954).

The Madrigal Group have had a B.B.C. audition for the series 'Let the People Sing', but have not yet received the verdict. They have also been invited to sing at the Southport Schools' Music Festival Concert this year.

The Junior Orchestra which met during the Summer Term gave us a glimpse of much up and coming talent, some of which has been absorbed into the Senior Orchestra this year. This Orchestra is intended as an introduction to the Senior Orchestra and it is hoped that during the coming Summer term, many of our more elementary musicians, especially string players, will avail themselves of this opportunity to widen their experience.

More boys than ever before are taking advantage of the facilities which exist in the school for learning to play an instrument. Budding musicians include 14 violinists, 2 violists, 4 'cellists, and 7 woodwind and 14 brass players. The figures are most encouraging as the Orchestra is in need of new members in every section. The boys concerned are urged to 'Stick at it', especially during the first year or so when the rewards for labour perhaps seem small. They are assured, however, that early keenness is amply repaid at a later stage.

Members of the Orchestra are reminded that there are in existence, the Southport Youth Orchestras, where they will be very welcome. They meet in Christ Church School Hall on Fridays from 7-30 to 9-30 (senior) and on Saturday mornings from 9-30 to 11 (junior).

The school is very privileged in that the Orchestra of the Royal Manchester College of Music is to give a concert in the School Hall on the afternoon of March 2nd. The school has promised to provide overnight accommodation for the 65 orchestra members and it would be greatly appreciated, therefore, if a number of kind offers of hospitality were forthcoming from parents.

As this magazine goes to print, preparations are reaching a feverish state for the Inter-House Choral Competition. This is to take place on Thursday 9th February and the adjudicator will be

Mr. M. R. J. Pilling, Organist and Choirmaster of Holy Trinity Church who has also promised to give a Cup or Shield to the winning house. Each House is to present three items: an unaccompanied hymn, 'Laus Deo'—union song by N. Demuth, and Easthope Martin's 'Fairings', S.A.T.B.

Rather belated congratulations are offered to the following boys who gained awards in The Southport Music Festival in September last:—

T. Davis (Lr. 6 Sc.B) won the "Hugh Wood Trophy and the "F. E. Bailey" Trophy for organ playing.

D. W. Robinson-Todd (Up. 5 Tr.Sc.) gained the "Gee" Trophy in the class for boys' vocal solo (open) under 16.

P. Holgate (3A) won the "James Newsham" Trophy in the boys' vocal solo (local) under 16.

J. R. ASHLEY SMITH.

## GRAMOPHONE SOCIETY

During the last three terms, a varied selection of music has been presented. We have covered almost the whole range of music from the works of the classicists through the ever-popular romantic period of the last century and even to the (sometimes) amazing music of contemporary composers such as Shostakovich and Rubbra. It has been noticeable that we have been perhaps a little overburdened with Tchaikovsky and Beethoven, who always seem by far the most popular composers. But we have also tried to broaden our horizon by the introduction of a little light music occasionally. When ballads sung by Tom Lehrer were presented, our audience was tripled.

The Modern Music Circle, an offspring of the main Society, has attained great popularity and its eight participants have derived much pleasure from hearing music by contemporary composers. Although there has been laughter at times at the odd sounds, we have begun to appreciate these works to a certain extent. Two pieces in particular are worthy of note: Schoenberg's "Ode to Napoleon," although not performed under ideal conditions, was seen to be an interesting and exciting composition using rhythm-recitation, named by the composer "Sprechzimmer"; the Bartok First String Quartet was found so fascinating that it was played a second time, when this difficult work was even more appreciated. These recitals are made available for this Circle by Mr. Hankinson who kindly records them and then transports his tape-recorder to school weekly. The trouble he takes is gratefully acknowledged.

The visits to the Liverpool Philharmonic continue and are growing in popularity. Last term, a group of twenty-five masters and boys went to hear Beethoven's first and ninth symphonies. Despite mediocre seats, it was enjoyed by almost everyone. This term sees the visit of sixty-five people to a concert for which the conductor is the young up-and-coming Colin Davis, and which features works by Mozart, Dvorák and Stravinsky. It is our sorrow that although people are willing to attend a live concert, many refuse to take up forty minutes a week during lunch to attend the gramophone recitals. This is particularly true of orchestra members who, I am sure, could benefit from it. Attendance has been neither good nor bad and it seems to be becoming more difficult to attract a large audience because of the increasing number of other activities during lunch-time.

Lastly, it is hoped that there will be a longer recital one evening at the end of this term when it will be attempted to present a full programme.

A. J. H. M.

### THE ART SOCIETY

Chairman: T. R. Pearce. Secretary: S. R. Smith.  
Committee: D. Greenberg, M. R. A. Hollis.

Last term the Art Society worked very hard in the painting of the scenery for the School Play. All Members helped but a special mention must be made of the junior members who performed their tasks very enthusiastically. The senior members spent most of their P.S. periods in the Art Room and, clad in the most unusual protective garments, did a splendid piece of work under the supervision of Mr. Harrison. A special note must be made of the landscape, brilliantly painted by Coupe and Pook. Which impressed the audiences by its life-like appearance.

With the excitement of the play gone for another year, the Art Society this term continues to be a popular attraction on Thursday evenings.

Soon after 4 o'clock the desks are filled with keen junior boys, their fists full of brushes and pencils, ready to start their work. Small groups still find clay modelling interesting while the braver members attempt eight feet long murals. Lino-cutting is gaining more interest but pictorials of trains, aeroplanes and football matches are a very common sight as always.

More senior members would be welcome to the Society despite the fact they continually declare they cannot draw very well. Ample opportunities are given with expert advice always at hand. The committee is very lonely in the Senior Art Room on Thursday evenings. How about joining us, seniors?

S.R.S.

### THE LIBRARY

Senior Librarians: D. M. Raynor, P. Holland, J. R. Pickard.  
Junior Librarians: D. G. Elias, J. D. Grime, H. M. Higginbotham, T. James, A. F. Kelsall, J. D. R. Lloyd, J. P. Marsh, D. Morris, W. A. Price, J. F. Rennie-Kermode, S. A. Spanton.

During this year the library has undergone changes. Not only have the shelves been re-arranged, but also eight miniature chairs have appeared. Amongst the new books presented or purchased are the following:—

"The United States Political System" by D. C. Coyle.

"Oxford Lectures on Poetry" by A. C. Bradley.

"Form and Meaning in Drama" by H. D. Kitto.

"A History of Southport" by F. A. Bailey.

"France: The Fourth Republic" by Dorothy Pickles.

"A New Deal in South Africa" by C. Leys and C. Pratt.

"The Theory and Practice of Communism" by R. N. C. Munt.

"Ring of Bright Water" by Gavin Maxwell.

and, on the fiction shelves, novels by Joyce Cary, E. M. Forster, Graham Greene, L. P. Hartley, Aldous Huxley, Nevil Shute and Virginia Woolf. We are grateful for the gift of books from the following: A. Bradley, R. M. Greenhalgh, B. J. Kay, E. Stephens, D. C. Thomson.

A new periodical, "Musical Opinion," has been introduced, and the art magazine, "Studio" is shortly to be replaced. Whilst the list of new books is long and impressive so also alas! is the list of missing books.

THE LIBRARIANS.

### School Play

#### "TWELFTH NIGHT"

For its 26th production last December, the debating Society returned to Shakespeare. Its choice of "Twelfth Night" should certainly cause little astonishment—it is, indeed, small wonder that it has not been produced before. It is, without doubt, one of Shakespeare's most popular comedies, and, by virtue of the fact that it has a number of leading parts of roughly equal length, as opposed to one principal part, such as Macbeth or Hamlet, it is especially suitable for presentation by a school group. It is also fitting that it should be performed in December for in many ways it resembles a traditional pantomime with its interweaving of love and comedy and its long final scene in which all is resolved and all ends happily.



It must first be said that this production compared somewhat unfavourably with other School plays, notably in so far as the acting was concerned. But the standard of Debating Society productions is so high that it is doubtful whether this can, in effect, be a real criticism.

P. Holland, as Malvolio, competently portrayed the haughtiness of this outsize character. His airs and graces were suitably exaggerated, and the sniffs of disgust when a servant was near gave the impression of his superiority to everyone around him. His entrance in night attire evoked sufficient laughter to compensate for his candle being visible through the blue side-curtain during the preceding song. The change, however, from this superior steward to the pleasant lover should only be achieved by Malvolio after some effort. With Holland, one felt, it came a little too easily.

E. Taylor certainly had the figure for Sir Toby Belch and there was the desired element of joviality in his voice, but somehow his characterisation was incomplete. He sang his songs (or some of them) with a gusto which outweighed their tunelessness, but in his movements he was unsteady and ill-at-ease, and whenever he had to listen to someone else, he lost the character completely. In his scenes with Sir Andrew, Sir Toby must dominate and steer the action. This Taylor failed to do, with the result that Sir Andrew found himself with an unexpected pre-eminence.

D. Hall shouldered this responsibility confidently in his portrayal of Sir Andrew Aguecheek, so that what we lost from Sir Toby we gained from him. Hall has become an accomplished actor in the space of two School plays, and his performance on this occasion displayed all the innocent buffoonery of Sir Andrew to the full. His voice was pleasing in both bawdy song and lisping conversation, and his appearance and gait earned the laughter they deserved.

D. G. Smith, as Fabian, was full of fun. With a weak Sir Toby, it was he who appeared to be the brain behind the tricking of Malvolio, and he drove the plot-scenes along with relish. His mischievous teasing of Malvolio:—"How is't with you, man?"—was particularly enjoyable.

R. L. S. Stewart-Forshaw fitted perfectly the role of Orsino. His appearance and elegance suggested the nobleman absolutely and his pleasant voice was well modulated. The part itself allowed only slight variety for Stewart-Forshaw's obvious ability, but he moved about the stage with complete confidence, and provided the best performance of the evening.

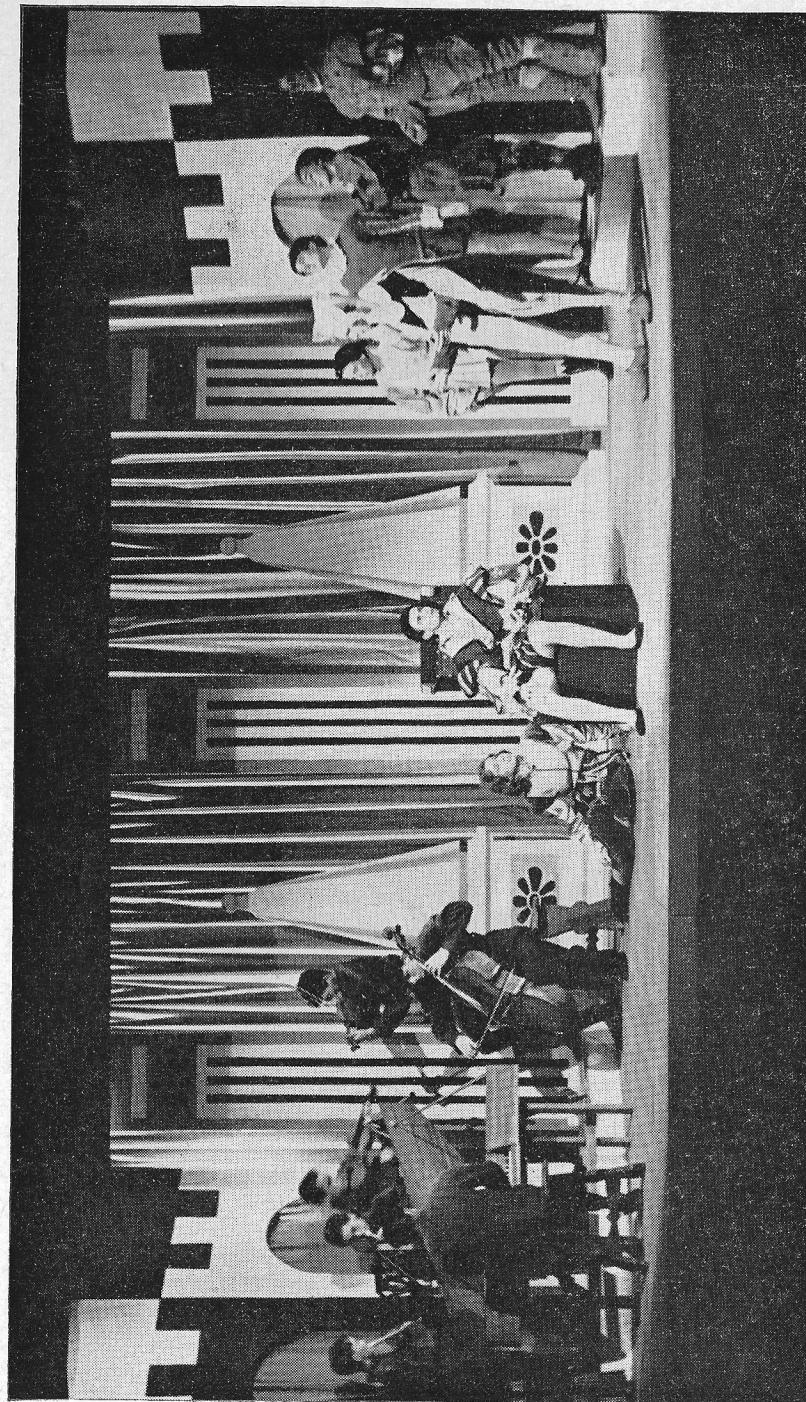
It is by no means easy to be a male portraying a female disguised as a male, yet this was the task facing C. R. Stubington, as Viola, and it is entirely to his credit that he hardly ever allowed



Recovering from the shipwreck



Malvolio and "Olivia's" letter



Feste sings "Come away, death"



us to forget that Cesario is, in fact, a woman. Stubington's voice, however, has a harsh ring and one felt that he might have been happier cast as Sebastian, whereas I. P. Judge's voice is warm and would have been better suited to the role of Viola. In addition, Judge's appearance was more feminine than that of Stubington, and one could not help wondering whether their two parts might not have been interchanged. Nevertheless, Judge took his comparatively small part well, and satisfied us with his happy acceptance of all that came his way, so that he more than sustained the reputation he deservedly earned the previous year.

In the role of Olivia, J. F. Sell was at a disadvantage with his strong northern accent, which he found impossible to hide, his thin voice and somewhat frail appearance. He did not succeed in injecting any form of meaning into the lines he had to speak, which were, in consequence, delivered in a dull monotone. His movements on stage were, however, confident and sometimes ladylike.

A. B. Travis, as Antonio, was rough and dashing enough to suggest that he was a Sea Captain. He has a strong voice and a manly figure, and he made full use of both these assets particularly when he was arrested. His sword-play also gave a touch of authenticity to the part, and he again showed his undoubted acting ability.

As Feste, the clown, J. Fletcher was nicely in character. He had the mannerisms and posture of a jester, but his enunciation was sometimes a little difficult. His rich singing voice added authority to his performance and his gestures were beautifully expressive.

One other actor deserves special mention and that is A. R. Carlisle, who played Maria, and whose fit of uncontrollable laughter at the sight of Malvolio in his yellow stockings was so realistic and so infectious that few in the audience could resist joining in.

Other parts were played by R. M. Williamson, J. M. Davis, R. Halsall, M. S. Armitage, E. D. Sinclair, J. A. Gorse, I. H. Campion-Smith, J. H. Carr, P. J. Cockcroft, J. A. Cohen, P. S. Everett, and W. K. Jewell.

The settings, designed by Mr. N. Harrison, and built under the direction of Mr. H. H. Long, were disappointing. The indoor scenes were confused and unconvincing, and the garden scene was only a little better, but in years to come, when one looks back to "Twelfth Night," the scene which will stand out most in one's memory will be the seashore with its magnificent vista of a turbulent sea and dynamic sky. What a pity it was only fully visible for one short scene! The changes in scenery were efficiently performed by Mr. Trayhern's crew of stage-staff.



The lighting, under the management of D. Thomas and D. A. Stuart, was generally good, although there was one noticeably bad dark patch on the extreme left of the stage (as viewed by the audience).

The play was produced by Mr. T. B. Johnson, who appears to be settling down nicely into the routine of this annual task. In his earlier productions one felt that he had set his sights higher than the resources of the school stage would allow, so that he had seemed, in consequence, frustrated, like Cecil B. deMille being asked to produce "The Ten Commandments" in the Parish Hall. This production was essentially straightforward and entirely workable throughout. Although there were some dull moments, the comedy was always deftly brought out especially in the "shrubby" scene. The incidental music between scenes was pleasant and appropriate, but the efforts of the "ensemble" on stage, consisting of M. Goodridge, H. Harris, C. R. Rawlinson, W. P. A. Smith, J. R. A. Smith and K. Williamson, under the direction of Mr. R. E. Rimmer, were only passable.

Whether the play was a success, however, from the point of view either of entertainment or dramatic achievement is, in many ways, immaterial. The important thing is that everyone who took part derived an immense feeling of satisfaction and pleasure from having done so.

A.B., D.M.R.

## Prose and Verse

### ENGLISH SUMMER

Here the water-lilies gently sway  
Upon an English stream;  
The lilacs by the river play,  
As in the corn I dream.

The sweet and mystic scents of flowers  
Find one in pensive mood.  
"They come from loving Nature's bowers,"  
Mused I, in solitude.

The happy larks are seen to fly  
O'er winding roadways here:  
The sun pours down from Heaven high,  
And summer skies are clear.

While on the blossomed paths, I smell  
The scent of the wild rose,  
And in the shadowed forest dell  
The honeysuckle grows.

P. J. COCKROFT (3X).

### A PORT OF CALL

Her shiny, silver bows cut crisply through the calm, unruffled water. The most romantic and adventurous Eastern city loomed up ahead. Hong Kong, palace of Princes, playground of Millionaires and haunt of thieves. Indistinct yellows, reds, browns and blues were scattered across the horizon, all merging as one. A thousand, thousand junks bobbed up and down on the clear blue sea. Above this blanket of gay crafts, there appeared a solid grey wall reaching upwards to the sea's reflection in the sky.

As our ferry boat came nearer to the Harbour, the junks appeared full of life and Chinese babble. Slippery fish by the score lined the bottom of these boats, and the Chinese workers were scorched by the mid-day sun. Small, grubby, Chinese boys sat on the side of the quay awaiting innocent tourists to throw coins into the water for them to dive for.

The grey, brick wall had disappeared. It had come to life, shops, cafes, smoke filled bars and gambling houses, all at the peak of their day. Every possible space between buildings contained highly decorated, bewildering, Chinese signs. Not one square inch of the dingy streets remained unoccupied. Stall upon stall of badly-made souvenirs brought high prices. The stalls were lined up like bon-bons in a London creamery.

As we returned to our ferry boat amid the mass of junks, our attention was attracted by a Royal Navy aircraft carrier which was sailing majestically into the harbour.

We began to draw slowly away from the chaotic quayside. The junks once again formed a complete blanket covering the sea. The shops, cafes and overcrowded gambling houses merged once again into a lifeless, brick wall. The vivid colours of the boats and stalls became a mere haze. Hong Kong slid away from us as life to a dying man.

A. BAMBROFFE (U5ASc.)

### THE MOUNTAIN LION

These brave unconquered kings of beasts, still  
Rove the American mountains;  
And though strong legs and quick, fast brains  
Will speed them from their kill:  
A shot is often faster.

For to-day this brave unconquered beast  
Is the hunted not the hunter;  
And on the gentler slopes in winter,  
The hunter guards the lion's feast;  
And so a race of lions dies.

R. A. DIX (IV A).

## THE FOREST

The last threads of day are slowly, gradually pulled down behind the dark, still forest by the setting sun continuing her daily round. The last sounds of the day are magically drawn to a close; fading, fading. An owl hoots, the night-life of the forest stirs as the moon climbs steadily from behind the clouds of night, shedding her brilliant, silver beams on all below. A distant train rends the air with a long, piercing blast on her whistle. The trees whisper among themselves, and proudly rustle their green and bronze clothes. A flash of white, streaking earthwards, a short, shrill squeak and an owl finds victory and food, leaving behind a fatherless family of mice. The golden, slinking form of a fox, returning to his lair, with a sorry, bedraggled and mutilated form of a pheasant drooping out of the cruel, slaving jaws, appears, glides past, and is swallowed by the darkness of the forest. On, on into the bewildering night, the trees arched overhead, cutting off all sign of the moon. The night surrounds you like a cold, invisible piece of silk—and then the path suddenly opens out into a clearing, where the welcoming, comforting beams of the moon once more penetrate through the gloom. The calm is interrupted by the appearance of a family of badgers, engrossed in some game. Then, just as suddenly as they came, they disappear, to return to some warm sett in the forest, and leave you pondering. The clearing disappears into the cold, dark atmosphere of the forest once more, where the darkness enfolds you like a cloak. Then, suddenly, the moon sheds her silver onto you once more, and the forest is far, far behind cloaked in an air of mystery and defiance.

A. R. CARLISLE (4Y).

## A SKEIN OF GEESE

Have you seen the wild geese,  
How beautifly they fly,  
Winging their way towards the sea,  
Silhouetted against the sky?

Have you heard the wild geese;  
How plaintive is their cry,  
Calling across the Autumn night,  
Breaking the silence on high?

I have seen the wild geese  
And I have heard their cry;  
Much pleasure they have given me,  
As in formation, they go by.

T. WATKINSON (4A).

Dear Sir,

I am most alarmed at the indifference with which some of the more prominent members of the school are regarding the Inter House Choral Competition.

Although we have with us a very short and crowded term, this competition, I think you will agree, is far more worthwhile than some of the other House rivalries which, in the majority of cases, are treated by all and sundry with far more respect. The first of these to spring to mind is the boxing competition. Do boys take part in boxing matches against other schools? Is there a boxing team which boys, parents and friends can support?

Yet the school choir does both these things at the beginning of December, the Madrigal Choir competed in Liverpool against choirs from all over the country, and once a year parents are invited to the School Concert.

The next competition which I think of is the cross-country. Here is a sport in which one can expend plenty of energy and which is thoroughly enjoyable. Nevertheless the cross-country team very rarely runs.

I am sure you will agree, Sir, when I point out that being a member of a team is a good thing. Yet, in the above examples, is there really any team work? I doubt whether there are any other sports where one is assisted so little by one's team mates!

In contrast to this, each member of the house choir is vital, if the numbers are kept within reasonable limits, and will add just that extra little bit of enthusiasm which could well make the difference between gaining the trophy and being runner-up.

The cup, which is being kindly given for this competition will make the total of non-sporting trophies up to three. Yet four cups are presented just for the athletics.

I am glad that at last somebody has had the initiative to create an aesthetic competition, and it is hoped that future generations of those leaders with red and silver lapels will give more encouragement to this brave innovation.

Yours etc.,

A DISGRUNTLED CHORISTER.

## THE SHIPWRECK

I was captain of a trader ship called the 'Dolphin' which was, in November, 1716, sailing in the Mediterranean Ocean. There were eighty men on board and myself; it was a dark, windy night on the evening of my story. The waves were dashing heavily against the ship and I shouted to the helmsman, "Head for the nearest land, Jack."

I could not see any land myself but I felt sure Jack could find land. On board there was complete confusion ; men were being tossed from side to side. Then suddenly I heard someone shout, "Reef Ahead!" I looked round to see the helmsman lying face downwards on the deck with blood pouring from a head wound. I ran for the wheel but before I reached it the ship collided with a rock. I was thrown against the side of the ship and I felt the ship being torn apart.

The whole ship was being smashed against the rocks, planks were creashing into the sea from the side of the vessel. Getting on my feet, I tried to keep order by shouting orders but, alas, the crew was too frightened and they were running around the deck in confusion. Realising it was hopeless trying to save the crew, I thought of saving myself. The ship was sinking fast; so I dived overboard.

When I hit the water I swam for a piece of floating debris. The waves tossed me over and over and I knew I would never reach the would-be life-saving debris.

In the light of the pale moon I could see the ship sinking and with it men were being dragged down and down to the bottom of the ocean.

Meanwhile I had been thrown near a rock. I swam with renewed energy and reached the black slimy rock. And there I clung until the morning when with uncanny luck I was rescued by a lifeboat from a patrol ship and lived to tell this story.

H. ROBINSON (3B).

### THE WRECKERS

Had you been on the beach last night  
You would have seen the wreckers' light  
Shining forth across the waves,  
Misleading sailors to their graves.

Had you been on the beach this morn,  
You would have seen the village mourn  
For the crew which met its doom,  
Amid the icy, spray flung spume.

If you come down to the beach next year,  
Pray, think of those no longer here,  
Think of the men who lost their lives,  
On the rugged cost of old St. Ives.

G. D. WILLIAMS (4A).

### COMES SPRING

I looked across bright fields of green,  
Where white of winter has lately been;  
From their nest young fledging flee,  
And rabbits play around a tree.  
Can this be Spring?

The hedgerows are bursting into leaf,  
With primroses in flower beneath;  
The pink-footed geese are flying away,  
"It's time to leave" they seem to say,  
This could be Spring.

A cuckoo's singing over there,  
And fox cubs are moving from their lair;  
The sun is higher in the sky,  
Now that winter's past us by.  
This must be Spring.

J. TAYLOR (3B).

### BEAUTY

So much controversy has raged throughout the artistic world about this worn-out term, that it is time something was said to curb further trespasses on its sacred letters.

What is beauty? Is it the expression of perfect alignment and exquisite balance—or is it the opposite: the absolute finality of disarranged curves and distracting incomprehension?

Beauty may be regarded as a standard. If this is the case, all forms of beauty are comparisons. The 'comparer'—the judge, as it were, is oneself. Therefore beauty is 'in the eyes of the beholder' or, it could be said quite simply that it is just 'a matter of individual taste.'

Review the previous paragraph. First statement: 'beauty is a standard'; last statement (which is derived from the first by a series of logical conclusions), 'beauty is a matter of taste'. The question is whether these two statements can be compatible with one another. They seem to be exact opposites, and yet on further inspection it can be seen that they can apply if the 'standard' is universal and almighty.

From the very first principles of these few paragraphs, then, it may be justly concluded that the 'universal standard' must be either a picture of perfection, or a jumble of disorganisation. Thus, it is obvious that the criterion of the meaning of the word 'beauty' must rest on the existence of some concrete or abstract, animate



or inanimate object which answers to one of the mentioned extreme descriptions. Such an extreme, however, cannot be envisaged by man.

From this, it can easily be seen that as far as 'natural' man is concerned, beauty is too divine to be appreciated. Beauty can only be possessed by something supernatural—and it is therefore beyond man's control and understanding.

Let it be hoped that this conclusion has brought home the realisation of the stupidity . . . indeed, the futility . . . of the word 'beauty'. It would verily be an achievement if this deceiving word was allowed to drift into its rightful obscure position.

A.K.C. (L6Sc.).

**Editor's note:** Further points of view welcomed.

#### THE ABOMINABLE SNOWMAN

Is he a myth— or bear? or ape-like man?  
The problem fascinates: I long to know  
The secret of the footprints in the snow.  
What does existence mean for him? What can  
Life offer in that cold and starving world  
To satisfy his hunger? Does he sleep  
In caves of ice, impregnable? Or curled  
Without protection on the frozen ground?  
Legend or fact? The mystery is profound.  
Will search provide the answer? Will it show  
The tracks are strange wind-patterns in the deep  
Bewildering drifts of snow?

J. HASLAM (3X).

#### W. T. MARSDEN MEMORIAL PRIZE

A prize of books will be awarded for the best essay received on the subject:

**ENVIRONMENT:** the nature and extent of its influence.

The competition is open to all boys of the School. Entries, which should not exceed 2,000 words, should reach the School Office by Friday, 19th May. The adjudicators reserve the right to withhold the award if, in their opinion, none of the entries reaches a sufficiently high standard.

#### Old Georgians' Section

J. T. H. Allen (W) (50-57) is a trainee in the buying department of Colgate-Palmolive Ltd.

R. T. Beazley (M) (29-35) is in charge of design, development and sales of centrifugal filters with the Glacier Metal Co.

C. P. Hershon (S) (48-55) is senior Spanish master at King David School, Liverpool.

M. H. Irving (Ev) (45-53) has been appointed Demonstrator in Anatomy at Liverpool University.

W. B. Jennett (R) (40-44) degree of M.D. Liverpool University.

J. T. Jennings (L) (33-39) has been appointed as the new B.O.A.C. Manager at Montevideo.

B. S. Jones (L) (47-51) is taking a two year course on Advanced Ordinance at the Royal Naval College, Greenwich.

R. A. Lloyd (R) (23-29) has been appointed President of the Southport and Ormskirk Law Society.

T. A. Long (G) (20-26) Headmaster, St. Mary's Secondary School, Newton Heath, has been elected President of Manchester Teachers' Association.

A. P. Simm (S) (55-60) has passed the entrance examination for the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst.

A. D. Stewart (G) (49-51) has been awarded his PhD. Liverpool University.