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MR. C. A. REHDER has recently joined the Board of Governors of the College of God's Gift, Dulwich. He is an Old Boy, and by his many generous gifts has made himself the greatest Old Boy benefactor of the College. There has been hardly an interest in which he has not helped.

Mr. Rehder takes the place of Mr. Matthew Wallace, who, after

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being a member of the Governing Board for many years, has resigned because of ill-health.

HEARTIEST congratulations to J. W. P. Chiles and W. M. Wallis on their brilliant success in the Intermediate Civil Service Examination.

The result shows that of 278 candidates for appointments, of whom 174 passed the qualifying stage, Chiles and Wallis obtained respectively the second and third places, and as the Government regulations announced 55 vacancies to be filled, they should soon get their call to service.

Chiles has gained a very noteworthy success in the difficult Mathematics III. papers, in that he has scored 3,970 marks out of a possible 4,000, and thereby has easily headed the list in that subject. Wallis with 3,677 stood fourth, a very good result.

Everyone connected with the School is very pleased with this result, especially as a School Half-Holiday was granted to mark the event.

THE mid-term service was held in the Chapel on Friday, February 26th, at 9 a.m., when the Rev. A. H. Howe Browne, vicar of St. John's, East Dulwich, preached a most interesting and forceful sermon. He took for his text Judges v. 23, and by many apt illustrations showed that it was incumbent upon everyone "to do his bit" even though he might be young and small.

NEW APPOINTMENTS.—J. D. Halsey and V. A. J. Clark, of Tulley's, F. C. Picton, of Brown's, and L. H. Raybould, of Roper's, have been appointed House Prefects.

H. H. Farthing has been elected School Cricket Captain, with F. C. Picton as Vice-Captain.

F. C. Picton succeeds J. D. K. Lunnon as Captain of the Fives Team.

WE acknowledge with thanks the receipt of The Alleynian, The Olavian, The Latymerian, and The Pilgrim.

The Pictures in the Hall.

OLD Boys and others who have long been familiar with the interior of our Hall will, on revisiting it again, notice at once that the arrangement of the pictures has been altered.

The striking and much-admired portrait of King James I., by Marc Ghaeraedts, which was presented to the School in 1898 by Mr. Henry Yates Thompson, has, by order of the Governors, been removed for the time being to the Picture Gallery.

Of this picture the catalogue says : "The King, who is dressed in white with black hat and cloak, stands leaning with his right arm on a table ; there is a patterned carpet on the floor.

"The picture was among the portraits from Bilton Hall, near Rugby, which were sold at Christie's on June 28th, 1898, having formerly belonged to Joseph Addison and the Countess of Warwick, who were married in 1716. It had, with others, probably been brought to Bilton from Holland House, the residence of the Countess. The Bilton estate was bought by Addison in 1711 for £10,000, and his daughter lived there after his death in 1719, and there died unmarried in 1797. After her death the Bilton Library was sold (in 1799), but the pictures were kept together till 1898, when this portrait of James I. was purchased by Mr. Henry Yates Thompson for £250, and presented to the Governors of Alleyn's School."

The painter, Marc Ghaeraedts, was the son of a Flemish painter of the same name, who was painter to Queen Elizabeth. Marc, the younger, was born at Bruges, and was brought over to London by his father in 1568. He was Court Painter to Queen Elizabeth and King James. He published several works on painting and drawing. Portraits by him are at Woburn, Hatfield, and other great English houses.

The place of the King has been taken by his son Prince Henry, who, it will be remembered, died young. His portrait by some unknown artist now hangs in the place of honour. Engravings of this well-known picture have been published at various times.

The catalogue says : "A life-size portrait of the Prince (eldest son of James I., 1594—1612), in full dress, bare-headed, lunging towards the left with a lance, which is held in a horizontal position."

An engraving from this picture is prefixed to the first part of Drayton's *Polyolbion*. The lines accompanying the portrait are interesting as evidence of the great popularity of this young prince, whose early death deprived him of the perilous opportunity of justifying the prognostications of the poet :—

"Britaine, behold here portray'd to thy sight
Henry, thy beest hope, and the world's delight ;
Ordned to make thy eight Great Henries nine :
Who, by that vertue in the trebble Trine,

To his owne goodnesse (in his Being) brings
 These severall Glories of th' eight English Kings ;
 Deep Knowledge, Greatness, long Life, Policy,
 Courage, Zeale, Fortune, awfull Majestie.
 He like great Neptune, on three seas shall rove,
 And rule three Realms with triple power like Jove.
 Thus in soft peace, thus in tempestuous Warres ;
 Till from his foote, his fame shall strike the starres."

The young prince was fond of manly sports. "He is a particular lover of horses," wrote the French Ambassador of the Prince in 1606, "and what belongs to them, but is not fond of Hunting. He plays willingly enough at Tennis, and at another Scots diversion very like Mall (? Golf). He studies two hours and employs the rest of his time in tossing the Pike, or leaping, or shooting with the Bow, or throwing the Bar, or vaulting, or some other exercise of that kind."

Two additional pictures have been brought in from the Gallery. One is a small head of King James I., by some unknown artist. Its chief interest lies in the fact that it is one of the collection originally bought by Edward Alleyn, our founder.

The other is a portrait of King Charles I., after Van Dyck. It has been hung on the left of the Founder's portrait and balances that of Charles's wife, Queen Henrietta Maria, which is on the right of Lord Bacon's portrait. King James I. and his family are therefore well represented in the Hall, but it cannot honestly be said that the changes which have been effected meet with the approval of the majority of those closely connected with the School.

School Chess.

The School v. Whitechapel Foundation School.—Played at Home on January 26th. Lost 2 games to 6 :—W. L. Smith 0, Larholt 1 ; W. M. Wallis 0, Gerlis 1 ; W. N. Cross 0, Halperin 1 ; A. W. Clarke 0, Maetzels 1 ; C. Becker 0, Marcus 1 ; A. E. Speakman 1, Schniederman 0 ; A. E. Owen 1, Totenberg 0 ; H. G. Hobdell 0, Weizman 1.

The School v. Battersea Polytechnic Secondary School.—Played at Battersea on February 5th. Drawn 4 games all :—W. L. Smith 0, Capewell 1 ; W. M. Wallis $\frac{1}{2}$, Gauss $\frac{1}{2}$; A. W. Clarke 1,

Morant 0; C. Becker 0, Owston 1; A. E. Owen 1, Peck 0; H. G. Hobdell $\frac{1}{2}$, Palfrey $\frac{1}{2}$; J. R. Peryer 0, Campbell 1; A. J. Farrington 1, Whympet 0.

The School v. Battersea Polytechnic Secondary School.—Played at Home on February 19th. Drawn $3\frac{1}{2}$ games all :—W. L. Smith $\frac{1}{2}$, Capewell $\frac{1}{2}$; W. M. Wallis $\frac{1}{2}$, Gauss $\frac{1}{2}$; A. W. Clarke $\frac{1}{2}$, Owston $\frac{1}{2}$; A. E. Speakman $\frac{1}{2}$, Peck $\frac{1}{2}$; H. G. Hobdell $\frac{1}{2}$, Campbell $\frac{1}{2}$; J. R. Peryer 1, Bowyer 0.

The School v. Wilson's School.—Played at Camberwell on March 5th. Lost $2\frac{1}{2}$ games to $3\frac{1}{2}$:—W. L. Smith 0, V. G. F. Shrapnel 1; W. M. Wallis $\frac{1}{2}$, H. C. Edwards $\frac{1}{2}$; W. N. Cross 0, H. G. Cannon 1; A. W. Clarke 1, C. E. Cabot 0; A. E. Speakman 0, W. M. Dash 1; A. E. Owen 1, J. C. Tibbles 0.

Swimming.

OUR Swimming Season will open on Thursday, May 6th, at Dulwich Baths. The School swimming days will be as usual, Mondays and Thursdays from 4—5 p.m. for boys who can swim, with Wednesdays for boys who are learning. The House Swimming Captains should make a list of all boys who cannot swim and should see that lessons are begun as soon as the season opens; there will be no lack of instructors and everyone should make the fullest use of his opportunity.

As last year, a Life-Saving Class will be formed under Sergeant Heal. Already twenty boys have expressed their desire to join.

Fives.

ON Saturday, March 6th, the School was opposed by a team of Old Boys which included C. S. Herridge, J. W. Beach, S. H. Jewitt, G. H. Clark, L. F. Masters, and W. Friedson. After some most enjoyable and well-fought games the School proved victorious by 14 games to 4.

The School was represented by F. C. Picton, C. Becker, H. W. Gullick, F. B. Young, G. M. Brand, and J. D. K. Lunnon.

H. W. Gullick has been awarded his School Fives colours.

J. D. K. LUNNON.



BRADING'S.

THE House has felt the loss of Lelliott very much in every respect, as he was a thoroughly good worker, and gave his time and labour ungrudgingly to all that concerned the best interests of the House. We take this opportunity to put on record our appreciation of his services, and our best wishes for his success.

The House must now pull itself together and second the efforts of its new Captain, Becker, and his willing helpers, H. T. Partridge, and W. N. Cross, whom we congratulate on their promotion to the Prefectoral ranks.

With greater keenness generally, and with less trouble on the score of health and the weather, we should look forward confidently to a satisfactory Summer Term of work and sport.

BROWN'S.

WITHOUT unduly blowing our own trumpet, I think we may say that our football season has been eminently successful. We have won every competition with the exception of the Second Eleven Knock-out Competition. That is to say that our successes consist of the League, the Cup, the Reserves League, the Third Eleven Competition and the Junior School League. Now Brown's, no swelled heads, but do it again!

We have had, this Term, to say good-bye to Lunnon, who has been Captain of the House since last Summer. He has for some considerable time been the main support of the House in all branches of sport. We miss both him and his services, but he is probably of even greater use elsewhere, as he has taken a temporary commission in the 11th Essex Regiment of "Kitchener's Army." We wish him all possible success and good luck.

J. E. APPLEYARD.

 CRIBB'S.

CONGRATULATIONS to H. D. Paterson, A. J. G. Stokes, and R. V. Barham on obtaining their football colours.

We also congratulate R. O. Berchem on passing the London Matriculation Examination in the First Division.

We stand second in the Reserves League and think this fact is promising for future success.

R. J. FITTER.

 ROPER'S.

OUR Football Season ended very satisfactorily considering the results obtained before Christmas. We secured third place in the League, being a very close second to Spurgeon's, and we must tender hearty congratulations to our second team on winning the Second Teams' Championship after two very hard tussles with Tulley's. We lost the Cup to a team with an excellent defence, although every member of our team played an extremely good game. We miss E. P. G. Brand, Fogden, and Jonckheere, to whom, though rather late, we offer our best wishes for success in the future.

W. F. WEST.

 SPURGEON'S.

OUR position in the League is very satisfactory, as our final place is second. We beat Cribb's in all three teams, winning in the 1st XI. by 11—1.

Congratulations to Roberts and Fleming on being awarded their House colours.

J. W. P. Chiles, our old Secretary, gained second place in the recent Intermediate Civil Service Examination. In thus attaining such a high position Chiles has conferred a great honour on Spurgeon's House.

A. W. REED.

 TULLEY'S.

CONGRATULATIONS to Wallis on his passing the Intermediate Civil Service Examination with third place out of some three hundred candidates. The House's loss will be a severe one, for our House Captain represented us in Fives, Shooting, Chess, and in the 1st XI. at Football. H. H. Farthing succeeds him as Captain of the House.

At Football we obtained sixth place in the League, while in the Cup we were defeated by Brown's in the second round. Our 2nd XI. reached the final of the Knock-out Competition, only to be beaten by a narrow margin in a replay.

We offer our congratulations to V. A. J. Clark and J. D. Halsey on their being awarded the much-coveted Prefect's Cap.

BROWN'S HOUSE SUPPER.

On Friday, March 5th, occurred that impatiently awaited annual event—the House Supper.

The good fare having been disposed of, the usual toasts of the King and the Head Master were proposed by Messrs. Brown and Tulley respectively, and were enthusiastically received.

Mr. Brown then briefly enumerated the various successes of the House since the last supper. He also referred to the large number of Old Boys of Brown's and other Houses now serving in His Majesty's Forces. He called on all those present to join with him in drinking the health of these past and very worthy members of the House. This toast was received with enthusiasm by all except the House Captain, whose intended speech proposing the health of the Old Boys was thus shattered. He, however, made the best of a bad job, and, at his request, the health was drunk of those Old Boys actually present. M. Melinsky replied for the Old Boys, and said how much he personally appreciated the value of the House system.

During the course of the proceedings a presentation, consisting of a wrist-watch, was made to Beach, our late House Captain, who expressed his thanks to those who had contributed towards such an acceptable gift.

The company then adjourned to the hall, where a most excellent programme by the "Surprise Quintette" awaited them. The efforts of those Masters who so kindly contributed to the success of this part of the entertainment were fully appreciated.

The "Surprise Quintette" was followed by an entertainment by Mr. Chester, consisting of humorous items and a ventriloquial performance—all very much to the taste of all members of the audience, both young and old.

When the company finally dispersed it was with a feeling that a most enjoyable evening had been spent, and it is certain that no Old Boy regretted his short return to the surroundings and atmosphere of his youth.

J. E. APPELYARD.

House Football.

CUP FINAL.

BROWN'S BEAT ROPER'S 3—1.

The above teams met in the final for the Cup on Wednesday, March 10th. Brown's had fought their way through both the earlier rounds, while Roper's had only to beat Cribb's in order to enter the final round.

The game started at 3.50 p.m. before a very enthusiastic crowd and on a perfect pitch. Roper's, who were defending the School goal, took up the attack immediately, and Brown's defence, which was unfortunate in having to turn out without Haile in goal, was kept busy for the first ten minutes. Roper's were soon rewarded for their constant attacking by Fuller scoring with a low shot at close range. This reverse roused Brown's and play was taken to the other end, where they quickly equalised through Thompson, who took advantage of Roper's goalkeeper, Taylor, saving but not clearing a high shot from Lunnon. Brown's scored again before half-time, thus leading by 2 goals to 1.

On the resumption Brown's continuously attacked and would have scored more goals had it not been for Roper's defence. Charlesworth and Brand in this defence played a great game, always making sure of their kicks, and using their heads very effectively. The efforts of Roper's forwards were now getting spasmodic and Brown's backs were always safe in cases of emergency. Brown's forwards got past Roper's backs once more before time was called and Picton scored.

The winners must be congratulated on winning both the League Shield and the Cup. Roper's must also be congratulated on being represented in every final, *i.e.*, in the Cup, in the Second Eleven Knockout Competition (which they won), and in the Third Team Competition.

A. R. BURMAN.

THE LEAGUE COMPETITION.

			1st XI.	2nd XI.	3rd XI.	Total.
Possible points ...	...	...	15	10	10	35
Brown's ...	...	...	10½	8	10	28½
Spurgeon's ...	...	...	12	5	6	23
Roper's ...	...	...	7½	8	6	21½
Cribb's ...	...	...	6	2	4	12
Brading's ...	...	...	6	5	0	11
Tulley's ...	...	...	3	2	4	9

THE CUP COMPETITION.

First Round: Tulley's beat Spurgeon's 7—2; Brown's beat Brading's 5—1; Cribb's and Roper's, byes.

Semi-Final: Brown's beat Tulley's 9—2; Roper's beat Cribb's 5—1.

Final: Brown's beat Roper's 3—1.

Second Team Competition.—First Round: Roper's beat Spurgeon's 3—1; Brading's beat Cribb's 2—1; Tulley's and Brown's, byes.

Semi-Final: Tulley's beat Brown's 3—2; Roper's beat Brading's 3—0.

Final: Roper's beat Tulley's (after a replay) 3—2.

Third Team Competition.—First Round: Roper's beat Tulley's 2—0; Brown's beat Spurgeon's 3—1; Cribb's and Brading's, byes.

Semi-Final: Roper's beat Brading's 5—1; Brown's beat Cribb's 9—1.

Final: Brown's beat Roper's 3—1.

RESERVES LEAGUE.

1, Brown's 17 points; 2, Cribb's 13 points; 3, Spurgeon's 10 points; 4, Roper's 8 points; 5, Tulley's 7 points; 6, Brading's 3 points. Possible points, 20.

One match between Roper's and Tulley's was not played owing to both Houses failing to bring teams into the field.

Roll of Old Boys Serving in the War.

THE appeal for help made in the last number of the magazine has enabled Mr. Brading to send copies of the War List to Messrs. P. Bayley, H. R. Hopperton, A. S. Lidington, G. A. Mountain, T. G. Robinson, A. R. Sharland, H. M. Smith, C. Wells, G. M. Willey, and R. S. Woods.

Mr. Brading accordingly desires to thank his correspondents for their help, and would make a further appeal for information that would enable him to get in touch with

Allen, G., Lieut. R.N.
Anderson, B., Capt. R.N.V.R.
Bullock, M., R.A. Vet. Corps.
Childs, S. W., Army Pay Corps.
Davies, T. B., R.F.A.
Fitch, C. H., 3rd City of Lond. (R.F.).
McMurray, S., Seaforth Highlanders.
Roberts, H. C., Royal Fusiliers.

Rousseau, J., Belgian A.M.C.
Rousseau, M., Belgian Army.
Sawtell, J. A.
Sharp, J., 2nd Naval Brigade.
Staples, —.
Thompson, H., Surrey Yeomanry.
Tucker, A. R., Australian Force.
Wilkinson, C. W., R. Sussex Regt.

Alley Old Boys' Club.

A COMMITTEE meeting was held at Alley's School on Thursday, March 4th. Nine members were present and the chair was occupied by the President.

The following were duly elected members of the Club: J. R. Boxall, W. W. Burrows, E. P. G. Brand, H. Cornell, W. Cocksedge, F. L. Crompton, S. Clatworthy, G. L. A. Fogden, C. H. Griffin, J. H. Gain, H. C. George, H. H. Hall, F. R. Himing, A. W. Hubbard, U. P. Jonckheere, R. F. Jones, L. W. Kingswell, F. H. Kempson, H. L. Kempson, S. Lefeaux, J. E. Longstaff, E. J. Lelliott, J. H. McGlashan, A. G. Mellor, F. E. Newell, E. G. Price, H. L. Rouse, R. Southcott, H. S. Thacker, H. R. Ward, and W. H. Young.

The resignation of S. Gunton was accepted with regret.

B. A. Finn, of Kontagora, Northern Nigeria, has become a life member of the Club.

The Hon. Secretary would be pleased to hear from a member who forwarded his subscription but omitted to enclose either his name or address.

Alley Volunteer Training Corps.

DISBANDMENT has a ring of sadness in it, and that feeling was not absent among members of the Corps at the meeting held in the School Hall on the evening of Friday, February 19th.

The Chairman (Mr. A. E. Watts), in a very lucid statement, reviewed the past of the Corps, and gave the numbers of those signing Form A and Form B. Of the members of military age, and there were 170 in the Corps, only twelve had been able to sign Form A, entitling them to membership under War Office recognition. To these twelve were to be added the thirty-six members over military age, making a total of 48 to "carry on."

Those below military age had to be left out of reckoning, as in any case they would only form a cadet corps in conjunction with the Training Corps, and could not obtain recognition as combatants.

Mr. A. Spring proposed and Mr. A. Day seconded, "That in consideration of the facts and figures laid before the meeting by the Chairman, the Corps be disbanded." With this proposition was incorporated an amendment proposed by Mr. H. Gregory to the effect that the disbandment should take place on Saturday, February 27th, if nothing happened in the interim to alter the

decision, it being understood that, before that date, certain pronouncements were to be made in Parliament concerning Training Corps, which pronouncements might affect the attitude of those signing the forms.

Many members spoke to the resolution, the general feeling being a deep regret that the course should have to be taken, coupled with a recognition that this course was the only obvious one.

On being put to the meeting the resolution was carried *nem. con.*

Mr. E. C. Brown then proposed a vote of thanks to the Committee and especially to Mr. A. E. Watts, the Commandant of the Corps. Mr. Brown said he felt sure that everyone there recognised and everyone was grateful for their untiring and successful efforts on behalf of the Corps. Mr. S. J. Brading seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

The Chairman, in replying for the Committee, thanked the officers and non-commissioned officers for the help they had given him in carrying on the Corps, the efforts of Mr. H. Gregory and Mr. F. Weston calling for special praise.

On the proposition of Mr. G. E. J. Swift, seconded by Mr. Wood, the Head Master and the School Authorities were thanked for the help which they had given to the Corps, without which help the Corps could never have been carried on at all.

The Treasurer of the Corps (Mr. C. H. J. Day) in the course of his financial statement made reference to the Allyn War Fund. He said that he was sure all members would wish to continue their subscriptions, and asked that contributions should be sent to him at "Kenwood," Court Lane, Dulwich Village, S. E.

Our Cambridge Letter.

CAMBRIDGE University assembled for the Lent Term in the middle of January. The members found Cambridge vastly different from what it was when they went down in December, for during the Christmas Vacation over 40,000 soldiers had been drafted into the town—that is to say the number of people residing in Cambridge was roughly doubled. Probably the townspeople are very pleased that this has happened, for the soldiers have brought a great deal of trade to the small shopkeepers, and many of them have been billeted on landladies whose tenants are undergraduates now absent on military service. A great number of them have been placed in the Colleges themselves, and it seems very strange to see soldiers' garments hanging from College

windows. In Trinity College, one complete court—Whewell's Court—has been taken by them. There are none in Selwyn (we only have nurses), but we felt that we must do something for the soldiers, more especially as during the vacation our Hall had been used as a canteen and reading room for them—it was impossible for this to be done during term,—so we did the next best thing, and converted our bicycle shed (putting the cycles into any odd corner) into a canteen. The members of Selwyn take it in turn to assist there, and some get up at 6 a.m. to take duty, and as the average College man's time for going to bed is in the early hours of the morning, this is no easy task. When one first assisted, it was very difficult to understand the soldiers, as they nearly all come from Wales and Monmouthshire, but after a few days' experience, one could tell whether one was being asked for "a packet of Woodbines" or "a sheet of notepaper"!

The number of students up at the 'Varsity is less than last term, and is still diminishing. Next term will probably be the strangest and saddest May Term Cambridge has ever seen: yet there is a King's man, who is at present with the Forces, still paying for his lodgings here, because he is confident that the War will be over in time for him to keep his May Term. The O.T.C. is still going strong. Those who intend to take commissions at once, are still required to give their whole time; but from those who have not yet quite made up their minds, only three afternoons a week are asked for instead of five, as heretofore. In addition to the members of the ordinary O.T.C., the M.A.'s of the 'Varsity, resident in Cambridge, have turned out in full force, and have set a fine example by drilling every afternoon.

At night time complete darkness sets in, except for light given by the moon, and an occasional darkened lamp at street corners. The first reduction in lighting was made in response to a request from the Mayor of Cambridge on the day after the air raid on King's Lynn; then on the eve of the Kaiser's birthday orders came from the War Office that no lights were to be shown at all in the streets. One result of this was that Colleges had to have their dinner in a dim religious light produced in some cases by one or two candles. This state of darkness lasted for two or three weeks, but now we do have shaded lamps at busy street corners.

It was felt by all Colleges that January 27th should not be allowed to pass by without some recognition of the Kaiser's birthday. Although there was no recognition made by the 'Varsity as a whole, yet each college had its own little "rag"; in Selwyn the "rag" took the following form:—

All the members of the College assembled at the foot of one staircase at 11 p.m. on that day. Here there was an effigy of the

Kaiser, made of old clothes, with a painted lamp globe for his face, illuminated by candle light. This was then raised shoulder high by four bearers, and the whole company, led by a Chaplain and Executioner, proceeded in dead silence round the College Court. The procession eventually mounted the Hall steps, where the Chaplain recited the Kaiser's crimes, and asked if it were the Assembly's will that he should be executed. There was a unanimous "Aye," and the Executioner stepped forward with a large axe, and the Kaiser's effigy was no more. This had its sequel on March 5th, when a court-martial was summoned to try the Chaplain and Executioner for signalling to hostile aircraft (by means of the candle light in the Kaiser's face). The trial took place in the College Hall and lasted for over two hours, every member of the College taking part in it. At the conclusion the prisoners were found "Not Guilty!"

A. J. ARCH.

Letters from the Front and Elsewhere.

IT is my regretful duty to report that at the meeting of members held at the School on Friday, February 19th, it was resolved unanimously to disband the Corps. On Saturday afternoon, February 27th last, photographs of the Corps were taken. These will be on sale to members and any others interested and will serve as a reminder of the very happy and busy time we have spent together for five months.

Old Boys have renewed School friendships and made the acquaintance of Masters of the School hitherto unknown to them, perhaps, and the association of so many Old Boys and Masters for so long a time cannot but be of benefit to all concerned. The pity of it is that we had to stop our work.

I should like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Collins and the School authorities for so kindly allowing us the use of the rifle range and the various rooms we used for our work, because without such facilities it would obviously have been impossible for the Corps to have attained the proficiency which it undoubtedly did reach. The Committee of the Corps have under consideration the formation of a rifle club, and full particulars will be announced shortly to all members of the Corps. I must thank all the officers and non-commissioned officers who have so loyally supported me and who have so efficiently trained their companies. I feel it only right specially to thank, not only on my own behalf but on behalf of all members of the Corps, Colour-Sergeant Weston for the splendid way in which

he has devoted much time and energy to the working of the Corps. The members of the engineering squad also deserve special mention. They had plenty of hard work and performed their duties most efficiently.

Last, but not least, the thanks of the Corps are due to our hard-working Secretary, Walter T. Jacobi, and also his assistant, Mr. Wilcher, and to our indefatigable Treasurer, Mr. C. H. J. Day, who, by the bye, is making arrangements to collect subscriptions from the members for the War Fund, which many members have intimated they would still like to continue. I hope as many as possible will do so, because the Fund wants all the help it can obtain, and the disbanding of the Corps will unfortunately probably affect the amount of subscriptions from Old Boys. As a final word, I should like to say how much I appreciate the honour the Old Boys conferred on me in appointing me C.O. and Adjutant and that I sincerely regret that our good work has had to be stopped.

A. E. WATTS,
C.O. and Adjutant.

I was sworn in at Chelsea on September 23rd, 1914, and after a training of three months, consisting of lectures on sanitation, purification of water supplies and first aid, supplemented by field-work, stretcher, squad and company drill, I formed one of a company of 150 men and N.C.O.'s which left England on Christmas Eve. We landed in France early on Christmas morning after a wonderful crossing, for the sea was like a mill-pond and we were escorted by units of our marvellous Navy.

We marched up to a "rest camp" some four miles away, situated on a plateau which gave us a splendid view of the open sea. Here we stayed over a week and I did some of the hardest work, in the way of dock fatigues, that I have ever done in my life. We were under canvas—rather strange housing for December—and for a day or two, owing to non-arrival of transport waggons, our food though good was very meagre; that, however, was soon remedied, and I must say that the organisation of the food supply of this campaign must be wonderful beyond the ordinary for a small unit like ours to enjoy such rations as bacon, butter, margarine, jam and fresh meat day after day without interruption. When the history of this war comes to be written no praise will be too great for the Army Service Corps and Motor Transport which have made such things possible.

After this side-tracking, I will return to the main road of my tale by saying that we left our "rest" (a misnomer) camp on Saturday, January 2nd, and after a train journey, in a cattle truck,

of twenty-two hours, only broken by a four hours' stay in a famous Cathedral city, we landed, or rather detained, at Headquarters, whence, when we had eaten our bully beef and biscuits (travelling rations), we marched five miles to our billets. Our billet was a store-house (Fr. *hangar*) and I was deputed by my comrades to *parlez-vous* for some straw. We finally got two bottles (bundles), and after ventilating our new home—it smelt abominably—we arranged our beds on the stone floor, and when we had drunk some coffee in an *estaminet* quite handy, retired at 8.30 p.m. profoundly glad to get a good night's rest. I find a note in my diary, "Accent here can be cut with a knife, but I have no difficulty in following and interpreting."

After my first night's rest on straw, I awoke frozen as to the feet (how one's Latin construction sticks!), but a wash under a pump on the other side of the road, and some bully beef, biscuits, and hot tea (with milk), soon thawed me, and I proceeded to my orderly duties for the day. During my stay at this sleepy old village we heard guns every day and saw scores of English aeroplanes. One piece of mild excitement occurred when I arrested a supposed deserter who was finally sent into Headquarters under an R.A.M.C. escort.

We packed up our traps on a bright sunny morning, Friday, January 8th, and marched into Headquarters, myself as guide, where we entrained for a well-known town much beloved of the German "Taube," and here we billeted in a hospital, originally a seminary for priests; I managed to get a decent bed that night and I stripped to the skin for the first time since I had left England. Next morning we travelled by motor waggon to our present billet and found we were drafted to the Second Cavalry Division. For a week we slept in a boys' school with a stone floor and on beds of straw. Then we trekked back to a fairly large village some twenty-five miles away on Sunday, January 17th, and stayed for a fortnight in the dancing hall of an *estaminet* near a large aviation ground. Aeroplanes all day long, plenty of cold weather, no fire in our billet, one waterproof sheet and one blanket, sleeping in our fur coats, all helped to pass the time, then suddenly we were hurried back to where we came from a fortnight before, and that brings me up to last Sunday, January 31st.

The town here consists of one street; the roads around are execrable, and even the inhabitants say they are *sales*. Signs of German occupation are seen in ruined houses, damaged church steeple, a clock whose striking mechanism is sadly deranged, and a rifled till in an *estaminet* known as "Au Charron," which is shown to enquirers with the mark of the tool used in forcing it open. The very voluble lady of the house assures one in a mix-

ture of French and Flemish that the Germans drank quite a hundred litres of beer. We hear the sound of heavy artillery all day and all night, and when taking a constitutional before retiring we can see the skies lit up along the firing line by magnesium star shells.

I saw a fight between a Taube and a French aeroplane the other day, and thanks to a number of shrapnel shells from an anti-aircraft gun (one could see the fleecy balls of smoke from the bursting charges), Mr. German wobbled a bit owing to atmospheric disturbance, made a demi-tone, turned tail and fled. The same morning an English aeroplane gave us an exhibition of range finding which was more than interesting, I can assure you.

From the foregoing history, you will see that we are not far from the trenches, and most probably by the time you have received and waded through this pamphlet I shall be right up behind the trenches carrying out sanitary duties. These last two words remind me that I have given you, up to the present, no idea of our duties out here. Well, being a sanitary company, we supervise the sanitary accommodation of the various regiments in our division, digging, or rather seeing that are dug, latrines, pits for the disposal of refuse, incinerators for the burning of waste food, faulty food, and manure, and, last but not least, the provision of good potable water for the troops, as you know, here in France no water is drinkable. When they are resting, there is no difficulty with it; but when troops are fighting or on the move, for their safety it becomes necessary to sterilise and to filter all water before it is drunk; here we come in, and personally I consider this the most important duty we have to perform. Incidentally, we are called upon to do sanitary work in the villages; for example, the other day I had to undertake the improvement of existing arrangements at a house in the village. To-morrow I am off to view a ditch which we badly want to drain. The existing sanitation in French villages is deplorable, mainly owing, I think, to the disinclination of the local authorities to increase their expenditure. I dread the summer and its attendant odours!

Finally, I must say that we are very happy and well fed; we have a clinking, top-hole commanding officer, who treats us jolly well, and our work, although necessarily monotonous at times, is so essential that we lose sight of its monotony. I have never felt so fit in all my life, and I have put on two stone in four months. (I know it too, when I look at my face and my uniform and try to sprint with a Rugby ball.) I will write again when I have had some experiences of trench work, and I hope to make my letter more interesting. Buck up, School!

EDW. J. PLUMRIDGE.

I actually heard a lark singing to-day. Could you imagine anything more calculated to remind us of our England? There are other and much larger larks flying about in the shape of aeroplanes, which are always particularly active in fine weather.

We are out of trenches for four days and are in very comfortable billets. The good lady here does all our cooking and mending and looks after us like a mother. I have a cold at present and she is going to make a potash bath for my feet to-night. It seems they use soda and water as we do mustard and water.

We went one evening to a Pierrot entertainment. It was held at one of the field ambulances, the members being some of the orderlies and I believe some artillerymen. There were also three French girls who could not speak a word of English. They sang a French song accompanied by the soldiers in English so that the result was rather comical. While the ladies were singing "Si tu veux mon bonheur" the men were singing "Will you have a souvenir?" at the same time offering an assortment of body belts, bully beef tins, candles, etc.

It was strange to reflect that while all this was going on the Germans could have dropped a nice fat shell in our midst.

A. NUTTING (Sergt.).

I am hundreds of miles away from operations in the Cameroons, but of course one feels, even out here, the effects of this fearful war in heaps of different ways.

It may interest you to know that this is a thoroughly splendid place in many ways. To begin with, it is some five hundred miles from the beastly coast-line, where it is always damp and sticky, even in the hot weather. The Niger, which is of course the big river in this bit of the globe, is a good seventy miles off. I was staying at a place on one of its banks a few days ago, and I had an eye-opener as to its size, for from bank to bank it must be a good five miles across. Indeed, the opposite bank is invisible to anyone standing on one bank on account of the innumerable islands, of which some are half a mile wide and two or three miles long and almost choke up the main stream. We are just over eighty miles from the railway and the centre of civilisation, represented by the capital of the Protectorate, Zungeru. Of course, all travelling is done on horseback, when once one leaves the railway, except in certain riverain districts, which are the home of the tsetse fly. I was fortunate in coming out here in May, just as the hot weather was ending. The rains were much later than usual last year, but made up for this by going on longer. This is the "cold weather," so called because the nights are indeed cold, the thermometer running down to

fifties and forties from the ninety or a hundred odd degrees which it has stood at for six or seven hours during the day. In about a month's time we shall begin to be getting into the really hot weather.

B. A. FINN, Kontagora, Northern Nigeria.

Our voyage ended without anything happening worthy of note, although we now know that if we had been a few hours later on our journey it might have gone badly with us, as hostile craft were on our track. However, all's well that ends well, and here we are safe and sound on dry land with a climate at present which would be hard to beat. It is difficult to believe that you at home are enduring rain and cold whilst we at Malta have every window and door open, the sky with hardly a cloud, and temperature equal to a real English midsummer day.

Our barracks are situated on a very desolate part of the island, but we are practically on the sea shore at a very high altitude, and could not be in a more healthy spot.

In the towns there is practically nothing doing at all. Owing to the war the usual visitors have not come, and in consequence all the usual entertainments are missing. The Maltese people are a very poor lot—small, very dirty, and the worst beggars I have ever come across. I am told the war has hit them pretty hard, as they have practically no industry by which they earn their living; they are practically destitute.

On Wednesday and Thursday last we had to furnish the guard for the Governor's palace, and owing to my length I was one of the chosen. The palace stands in the main thoroughfare of Valetta, and my beat was right along the front. We had the usual periods of duty—two hours on and four hours off, day and night, but as the high ranks require the whole guard to turn out it was impossible to get any rest, and during the two days and nights I had about two hours' sleep in spasms of a quarter of an hour or so.

T. A. POWELL.

Our experiences out here if fully narrated would appear very bald and unconvincing and perhaps a trifle nasty, but I'll try and tell you just about what we do.

To start with, we had a bad time, for we had a two days' march over rough cobbles, and when, on the second day, a bivouac was reached everyone was tired and footsore. Some muddle had made rations nearly non-existent, and a move was made at dusk to the trenches without food again, and, owing to our inexperience, without drink. From our first billet to our trenches was about twenty-six miles. I managed to drop in for a few more miles, as I had to return to our last bivouac and come back again. By the time

I reached the trenches I was so tired that I flopped down in the mud and water with six spades I was carrying and remained there till daybreak, shivering.

At daybreak we saw the German trenches some 175 yards away and behind them two clumps of buildings. All of a sudden a whizz and a bang, and part of the buildings went up in the air. We smiled and took an interest in things. Later, there arrived another shriek and bang, and a large portion of the near scenery was displaced. We looked to see if there was any cover. There wasn't. We made some as quickly as possible and stuck our noses in the mud. Eventually the shells got us and wounded only two. I must say our artillery were splendid, once actually coming into the open to reply to the enemy.

Next time we went to different trenches. So it goes on, usually two days in the trenches, two in supports, two more in trenches, and back for a varying period of rest.

There was an action by which the Germans obtained two trenches and we had a hurry call at night. Next night we did twenty-four hours of trenches extra. The Germans were driven out, but kept up activities, and the twenty-four hours lengthened into forty-eight.

We get accustomed to everything. Things are much better now and we carry more comforts with us. The great thing is to get hot meals in the trench, and this I have nearly always managed to do. In one instance we had taken the firing line for two days, and being warned by experience I took in four days' rations and dry wood in a brazier.

I am afraid it is not easy to write about this war. Even in such a small locality as this things are necessarily mixed, as various events occur. I am not going to prophesy when the war will end, as I have not the slightest idea. DUNCAN S. WHITMORE.

THOSE boys who are leaving the School this term are strongly recommended to join the Old Boys' Club, to which the subscription, including the Magazine (of which a copy is sent as issued to each member), is 1s. per annum for the first two years after leaving School, and subsequently 2s. 6d. per annum. Full particulars can be obtained on application to the Hon. Secretary, Mr. W. E. Powell, 116, Denmark Hill, S.E.

ALL copy for the next number of the Magazine must be in the hands of the Editors (Mr. E. F. Carrick, Alleyn's School, and Mr. L. F. Masters, 31, Beckwith Road, Herne Hill) by Wednesday, May 19th, 1915.