

THE EAGLE



October 1962

No. 260

The Eagle

A MAGAZINE SUPPORTED BY MEMBERS OF
ST JOHN'S COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE
FOR SUBSCRIBERS ONLY

The College and the House	page 329
Tuesday	334
Restoration of Second Court IV	339
Poems	344
Lincolnshire	346
On having a foreign name	351
Fish Ponds Close and its Pondyards	353
The Commemoration Sermon	363
The Library	368
College Chronicle	370
College Notes	385
Book Review	392

Editorial Committee

Mr WOOD (*Senior Editor*), Mr HINSLEY (*Treasurer*), D. N. L. RALPHS (*Junior Editor*), Dr STERN, W. M. NEWMAN, R. L. NOBBS, R. A. M. MARSHALL, R. J. BAGLIN, C. ADAM.

All contributions for the next issue of the Magazine should be sent to The Editors, *The Eagle*, St John's College. The Editors will welcome assistance in making the College Notes, and the Magazine generally, as complete a record as possible of the careers of members of the College. They will welcome books or articles dealing with the College and its members for review; and books published by members of the College for shorter notice.

The College and the House

WHEN Mark Twain said, "the reports of my death have been greatly exaggerated," he was not thinking of the Cambridge colleges, but he might have been. The system of collegiate education is pronounced dead with such frequency and pontifical solemnity in the columns of the local periodicals that one is often amazed to see that these moribund foundations are actually thriving, housing, feeding, directing and teaching thousands of undergraduates. Despite the evidence to the contrary, the future of the college is said to be dark and uncertain. They are regarded as antiquated institutions which must, and inevitably will, pass away. The enlarged, modern University can no longer tolerate such anachronistic obstructions to efficiency. While obituaries for the collegiate system are being prepared, across the Atlantic, Harvard University has been building vast and impressive additions to its collegiate foundations, which are consciously modelled on the Oxford and Cambridge system. The millions poured into the construction of new colleges at Harvard are evidence that one modern university considers the college system very lively indeed.

The introduction of the college to Harvard and Yale does not date from the misty past but from an Autumn day in 1928 when Mr Edward S. Harkness (B.A. Yale 1897) paid a call on President A. Lawrence Lowell of Harvard. Mr Harkness offered President Lowell three million dollars to endow an 'Honor College' with resident tutors and a master. "It took President Lowell about ten seconds to accept; and the *fait accompli* was announced to the Faculty of Arts and Sciences on November 6th, 1928. The Governing Boards took up the plan with such alacrity and enthusiasm that Mr Harkness in a few weeks increased his offer to ten millions for equipping no less than seven houses (i.e. colleges in Harvard terminology) for the bulk of the three upper classes."¹ The plan was not entirely unopposed. The "Crimson", the

¹ S. E. Morison, *Three Centuries of Harvard*, Harvard, 1946 p. 476.

undergraduate daily newspaper, denounced it as an infringement of the personal liberty of the student and predicted gloomily the introduction of "boarding-school discipline and Oxford 'gating'."² Today, thirty years later, Harvard is quite unthinkable without the Houses. There are now ten in all and they have changed the physical appearance and inner life of the University beyond all recognition. During the 1930's, Yale, which had rejected Mr Harkness's proposal at first, decided to follow Harvard's example.

Before the Houses were built, the living and dining conditions of undergraduates at Harvard varied enormously depending on the student's ability to pay and his social background. For the wealthy and 'acceptable' young man, his club offered him comfortable lodging, amiable dining rooms and easy companionship. For the poor student, for the 'commuter' (the men from the Greater Boston area condemned to ride the tram or underground each day), for the boy from a distant part of the country, his four years as a Harvard undergraduate could be a grim and friendly experience. President Lowell was aware of this problem when he took office in 1909. "On the social side, Mr Lowell observed that at Oxford and Cambridge there was a union of learning with the fine art of living; and that, without there being any pretence of democracy, the poorest student in the college was in reach of the best his college had to give."³

Abbot Lawrence Lowell, like his predecessor Charles William Eliot (T. S. Eliot's uncle), was a 'Boston Brahmin' and an intellectual aristocrat. His brother, Percival, was a distinguished astronomer, and his sister, Amy, a famous and delightfully eccentric poetress. He belonged to that dynasty and city of which the anonymous jingle relates:

"Historic old Boston,
The home of the bean and the cod,
Where the Cabots speak only to Lowells,
And the Lowells speak only to God."

True to the traditions of the puritan aristocracy, Lowell disliked mediocrity and was impatient of social position which could not justify itself through works. "Mr Lowell disliked the social distinctions that he found in the University because they were based on wealth, schooling and Boston society rather than on intellectual ability . . . The traditional union of religion, learning and social life no longer existed; even in the clubs, which had salvaged the social side, there was no religion and little learning. Of the students, some were living in luxurious private dormitories, and eating in clubs or at restaurants; others were rooming in the

² *Ibid.* p. 477.

³ *Ibid.* p. 443.

shabby and struggling lived in College House or cheap lodgings.⁴

This was the disease which the House system was intended to cure. How far has it been successful? It has certainly not eliminated all social distinctions at Harvard and it is debatable whether it ought to do so. The aristocratic gentlemen's clubs still stand on quiet, tree-shaded side streets in Cambridge and, presumably, continue to cultivate their exclusive traditions. But their position has been weakened by the Houses. The requirement that all undergraduates live in the Houses has eliminated the club as a lodging and the sharp rise in fees since the end of the war has made it prohibitively expensive to dine regularly at a club, while paying full board fees at the House. Relentless pressure on the pocket-book has effectively destroyed the club's practical functions and diminished its role in undergraduate life.

The Houses provide lodging for the three upper classes. The Yard, the ancient quadrangle of buildings at the heart of the University, which used to be the coveted preserve of fourth-year men, has been given to the freshmen. The lovely old colonial buildings were repaired and new buildings added in the Yard, so that freshmen got the most desirable and central rooms in the University. The Union was taken over and converted into a communal dining hall for freshmen. The idea behind both housing and dining arrangements was to encourage friendships between men of different backgrounds and interests, which they would carry with them into the smaller House communities.

The University authorities attempt to foster social fluidity by the 'cross-section' plan, which is a hybrid system of allotting students to Houses, based on assignment and free choice. The object is to prevent any one House from becoming too fashionable or from developing too sharp a character. The plan requires a good deal of tact and compromise on the committee of masters and senior tutors who administer it, and it is not easy for a master to accept men who have made his House a third choice simply because he is supposed to maintain a reasonable geographical and social distribution among his undergraduates. The disgruntled mumblings and cries of triumph have been known to penetrate beyond the closed doors of the meeting room, and undergraduates generally have a fairly good idea of how successful the various masters have been in getting the best men.

All of this is obviously quite different from the system at Cambridge. The Harvard House is a subordinate creature of the University with neither the tradition nor the inherited wealth

⁴ *Ibid.* pp. 441-2.

of Cambridge's ancient and venerable foundations. The tutor in a Harvard House is, to be sure, a teaching officer, but his functions and responsibilities are limited to those undergraduates who read for an honors degree. Since less than half ultimately choose to write the thesis and take the special examinations required for an honor's degree, most undergraduates receive little or no college teaching. The various faculties are, in fact, responsible for the teaching of undergraduates and House tutorial is by no means mandatory even for honors candidates. There is no Hall. Each House has a large dining room, in which the undergraduates eat at small tables seating between two and eight persons. The food is served in cafeteria fashion and the undergraduate disposes of his tray at the scullery when he leaves the dining room. Smoking is permitted and coffee is served with meals, so that conversations and lingering to have a chat and a smoke tend to be encouraged. In this respect, the Harvard dining room resembles a London club rather than a Cambridge Hall, where the social amenities often get trampled under foot. One notoriously anglo-philic master indulges in High Table but only once a week and in very modified form. Tutors and dons eat with the undergraduates and in some Houses men reading a given subject will often eat regularly with their supervisors. For several years, one House sported a 'Poets' Table', which clustered around the person of a distinguished literary critic, and several Houses had foreign language tables where the German or Russian faculties in the House would gather at regular intervals.

All these differences, however numerous they may be, are not as essential as the fundamental unity. Both the College and the House are founded on the idea that a congregation of students and teachers, living under the same roof, can produce a union of study and living; that this union is a desirable one and helps to produce educated men. The fact that Harvard and Yale turned to this system in the twentieth century suggests that the Cambridge colleges have brighter futures than is often assumed. The brief description of life at Harvard before 1928 is instructive in this regard as is the example of the many universities in this country and in the United States where there is no resident collegiate life. Seen from this point of view, the fears expressed about the prospects for the Cambridge colleges seem curiously beside the point. Whether or not absolute collegiate autonomy can be maintained in the future is really not terribly important. The Harvard House does its job without a shred of autonomy. The 'true treasure of the College' is not its independence but its community. As Mr Miller points out in his history of the College, "it has been all to the good that colleges have remained what from one point of view they have always been—boarding houses. It is a fruitful

thing to bring together men of different backgrounds, interest and pre-occupations in a single community: for that is the means by which profit is taken from 'unprofitable talk' and lessons are learned from 'trivial books'."⁵

J. S.

⁵ Edward Miller, *Portrait of a College*, Cambridge University Press, 1961, p. 127.

Tuesday

I RESPOND to the Editorial invitation on the discussion printed under the above title in the June issue of *The Eagle* (No. 259). Anonymity is secured by fictitious but appropriate names and readers are told that the 'arguments' (a flatterous description of the contents) have been to some extent redistributed among the talkers. In the result *Bunkum* scores, as he is represented as talking more sense than the other six combined: his pseudonym is the only inapt one.

Balderdash starts with what he calls "some fairly simple questions" (did he say 'silly' and was misheard?) "like: Has St John's College a distinct, a distinguishable, personality. Is the term 'a Johnian' a meaningful one in the sense that 'a Trinity man' is?" Now the second of these questions, which seem to be intended as one, has none but the obvious meaning that one man is a member of St John's, another of Trinity; of the former question it may be asked How is any person, institution or thing distinguishable if he or it is not in some degree distinct? But taking these questions as one, the answer is that, except in the complicated legal sense, talk of a college, society or institution as having 'personality' is meaningless. Persons alone have personality, and two or any number of them no more make another personality than a constellation of nine stars makes a tenth. Institutions have history, traditions, characteristics, conventions which are, as it were, the surviving deposit, after much that was once important and unimportant has been lost, of the activities of other persons like ourselves.

What its past members have made the College, its Freshmen of every year enter into as unearned inheritance which, according to their wills and capacities, they may accept and assimilate, extend, modify or reject. Some of these characteristics the Freshman (unless the College has been mistaken in admitting him) can at once recognize to be good; others are good, though he may not at first or even later appreciate the fact; others are more or less accidental conventions, and might well have been other than they are, and which are in some ways better and in other ways worse than the young might aim at if they did not exist; a few (unless experience teaches nothing, very few) may be bad. The Freshman cannot avoid being influenced by this inheritance; even if he strongly revolts against some or much of it, *that* is still the influence it will have had upon him. Undergraduates should be grateful for 'mere conventions', even if for no better reasons than

the targets they offer to inexperienced wits and for the easy ways they provide, for those who cannot do so in harder and more useful ways, to draw attention to themselves, or to make a very slight and transient impression, by ostentatiously breaking them. Three years in any University fails in its main purpose of educating the intelligence if it does not issue in something more worthy than the attitudes 'This is old, therefore it is good' or 'This is new, therefore it is better'; for often in neither case is the 'therefore' justified or the chosen line of action in which either attitude issues more than thoughtless imitation, whether of the old or the new.

The second 'problem' discussed, though reported in little more than a page, was College discipline. It is or it should be one of the pleasures of undergraduate life that everything under the sun can be discussed with complete freedom, including freedom from responsibility, since no senior members of a College are likely to regard such discussion with undue seriousness. But to be worth attention at all, or even of the breath used in uttering them, criticisms, whether approving or adverse, should be based upon facts. In the published report of this part of the discussion the talkers (except *Bunkum*) made not the least attempt to relate the opinions expressed to the main purposes for which the College exists or revealed the smallest concern for anything except their own pleasures.

The only substantial paragraph of this talk is attributed to *Hogwash*, one can only hope erroneously. It would be hard to get more error and irrelevance into fewer words. His description of what North Court looks like during "the early part of most nights" is a travesty of the truth; either he knows nothing about it or his attempts at humour require the large assistance of lying. Were he often there to observe, he would meet the Head Porter or one of his Staff; once, and only once, he might meet the Dean, whereon he would have no further opportunities of extending an acquaintance no doubt as little desired by the one as by the other. If his words bore any recognizable relation to the truth, the one word in his description of his fellow-undergraduates with which the Dean would agree is 'chimps', and even that in a sense he did not intend. If what he says were true, it would be the easiest of any duties the Dean has to render it no longer so. The Steward assures me that the reference to dining regulations is also absurd, besides being as disgraceful a criticism of the hard-worked College Butler as the account of 'climbing in' is of the Porters. Assuming the sanity of *Hogwash* it is hard to imagine what useful purpose he thought he was serving by such rubbish. To retain belief that he is sane requires the further assumption that he did not think.

I ask to be allowed a few further comments upon what is called College discipline. The Dean is consulted about College rules,

but the Council makes them. The Dean has considerable discretion about the action he may or may not take with those who break or ignore them. He does not wish to judge of the discharge of his own duties; but if he may say so without complacent satisfaction though with pleasure, he can claim (i) that during his tenure of office the fingers of one hand would be excessive on which to count serious as distinct from annoying offences, whether or not the offenders have been identified, and (ii) that he has never as yet felt constrained to act in a way which might result in real or permanent harm to the future of any undergraduate. He hopes so to continue.

There are few College rules. Perhaps they could be fewer if undergraduates did not sometimes appear by their actions to make two irreconcilable demands—(i) nothing annoys them more than to be treated as schoolboys: they wish to be treated as young adults and the College wishes so to treat them; but (ii) some also reserve to themselves a right to behave like naughty schoolboys whenever they still feel like doing so. Put together, these amount to ‘heads we win and tails you lose’. This is an impossible state of affairs. There are good reasons for such rules as there are, which the Dean will gladly explain to any who care to consult him; and if he is convinced that they are not reasonable, he will do what he can to secure their revision or abolition, as more than once he has done; and his attempt might be more effective than ‘Tuesday’s’ discussions are in the least likely to be.

The undergraduate period of any young man’s life is that in which he has the fullest and most indulgent opportunities to learn to take sensible control of his own life. If he fails to do so, he will have to learn it, at greater cost to himself, in the wider and harsher world outside the University and College. He cannot learn to do this without the widest possible freedom such as he has not hitherto known. At school almost every hour must be spent in ways not in a boy’s own control. In University and College there is almost complete relaxation of such authority. At times the result is rebellion against any restriction whatever; and as far as possible this is accepted as natural and inevitable. But it cannot be accepted if pushed to the point of behaviour which indicates unawareness that one of life’s greatest difficulties is to reconcile the right of the individual to be free with the right of the community in which he lives to be something. Complete independence destroys reasonable freedom and issues in chaos; and as people fear chaos the consequence is the kind of authoritarianism which the senseless independence which produces chaos most detests.

I am fully aware that many undergraduates dislike the rules which require *exeats*, *absits* or late leaves. Such rules are necessary

for more than one reason, but basically because the University requires prescribed residence for a degree, and the Colleges, through the Tutors, have to certify that the requisite residence has been kept in each Term. Subject to its being kept, so far as I know *exeats*, *absits* or late leaves are never refused (at any rate I have never refused one) unless there is the clearest evidence that an undergraduate is seriously neglecting his studies or making himself a great nuisance. To try to obtain a degree while evading the known and freely accepted conditions may seem to be ‘smart’, but its proper name is deceit.

Then about parties. No Fellows of the College, nor I, have the least wish to limit any reasonable social life for junior members. But St John’s is a *College*, not a *rendezvous* for ‘Teddy-boy like’ parties. The remarks made in ‘Tuesday’ on this topic entirely ignore the rights of other persons living in the vicinity of the rooms where parties are being held. Parties “are often forced to end just as they are getting underway” (*sic*); “the New Court Cellars could be exploited more fully if they were available until midnight”, etc. No doubt; but with the proved result, even with the existing rules, of parts of the College being rendered intolerable for anyone wishing to read, work or sleep. Not a word to indicate awareness of the elementary fact and fairness that one cannot be a member of *any* community and do exactly as one likes. Freedom—or rather, thoughtless and selfish independence—cannot and will not be accorded to those who wish to use what they call freedom to destroy the equal right to freedom of other people. So to use freedom is to pervert it into tyranny. As for the so-called ‘bottle-parties’, they have several times ended in what I will only name as ‘incidents’ of a nature I am unwilling to disclose even to the restricted readership of *The Eagle* and which could only bring ruinous discredit upon a College or any civilized body which tolerated them. They are henceforward absolutely forbidden.

Permissions for clubs’ and societies dinners are always given, but if, as often happens, these events, in themselves entirely reasonable, continue to be followed by raucous shouting and other drunken noises late at night and into the early morning hours, permissions for such dinners will have to be and will be refused, with equal firmness and regret.

The most frequent nuisance of all is what, with often generous extension of the word’s meaning, is called ‘music’. I have wasted hours in going round asking that it be ‘toned down’, and have circulated warnings additional to the printed rules sent to every undergraduate before coming into residence. Nothing could be easier to stop; but I am very reluctant to resort to what I am being forced to think is the only effective measure, *i.e.*, to forbid

in undergraduates' rooms radio-receiving sets, pianos and noise-making instruments of every sort.

One final comment and question. *Piffle* is represented as referring to what he calls "the undergraduate administration of the College". I do not know what this is, never before having heard of its existence. It is said that "it operates by a series of secret committees composed of self-canvassed members." Ignoring the fact that self-canvassed persons cannot be a 'committee', since nothing has been committed to them, I ask for enlightenment as to whether the anonymous 'Tuesday' talkers are one more addition to the series of committees of self-canvassed members and, if not, whom do they claim to represent?

J. S. B.,
Dean.

The Restoration of Second Court IV

DURING the earlier part of the Long Vacation of 1959 the aluminium roof over the Kitchen and Butteries was taken down and stored temporarily outside the Library in Third Court. For nearly two years it had been a feature of the old buildings of the College, and indeed, it figures on several aerial photographs. Thus ended the first, and, it was to be hoped, the most difficult phase of the restoration of the Court, involving, as it did, extensive investigations of defects in the old structure, and a constantly extending field of work. The policy adopted in the restoration work as a whole was to take first those parts of the Court which were in a positively dangerous condition, to follow with those less serious, but still potentially dangerous parts, and only when all these had been attended to, to undertake the more general restoration of the weak parts of the fabric. The next job to be tackled therefore was the Shrewsbury Tower.

Concerning the Shrewsbury Tower, the structural condition report of March 1956 said "Plumb line readings taken down the turret faces in both Second and Third Courts reveal an overturning towards the river averaging approximately 8 ins. The vertical faces of the three stages of the octagonal towers above the first string course are not in the same planes. This phenomenon is more acute above the second string course where the octagon tends to take the shape of an inverted bell. The open joints in the string course and various cracks in the brickwork suggest that this inaccuracy was not an initial error, but is due to subsequent movement." The Tower was therefore exhibiting two defects. There was evidence of movement of the structure as a whole, and at the same time the turrets were opening at the top like tulips. This latter defect, it subsequently appeared, had probably arisen because the quoin stones were thin, and did not penetrate to any considerable depth into the loose rubble fillings of the walls. Therefore if the structure were to be retained, the only possible way of preventing this movement would have been to encircle the turrets with iron bands, or less effectively, to have encircling bands within the turrets connected through to numerous plates on the outside. Either remedy would have been unsightly, and would have been only local in effect, providing no solution to the main problem of the structure of the body of the Tower itself. It was therefore decided gradually to demolish the turrets and the Tower, carefully observing the structure at each stage until a sound basis for reconstruction could be found. At the same

time photographs and measurements were taken, so that the reconstruction would be an exact replica of the structure demolished, and the stones, as they were taken down, were all numbered in the hope that as many as possible could be re-used. In the event, this hope was disappointed: the thinness of the quoin stones, already mentioned, made it necessary to replace them, and many of the coping stones of the parapets proved to be much worn by exposure to the weather. The former defect, in particular, could not be detected until demolition began.

Some of the structural defects of the main body of the Tower were no doubt due to the various structural changes which had taken place during its history, notably the erection there of a College Observatory in 1765. This Observatory was one of the principal centres of astronomical research in the University up to the time of the building of the University Observatory in Madingley Road to which many of its instruments were removed. The College Observatory then fell into disuse, and it was demolished in 1859, just before the three inner faces of the Court were roofed in Westmorland slate. The observation room itself, looking more like the modern notion of a sun room than an observatory, is well shown in Ackerman's print of Second Court, published in 1815.

The problem of the makers of the observatory was to secure a firm foundation for their instruments; and their solution was thus described by the Reverend Mr Ludlam, who in 1769 published an account of "Astronomical Observations made in St John's College, Cambridge, in the Years 1767 and 1768". "As it was proper to have the observatory within the College walls for the convenience of the scholars, it became necessary to erect it on the top of a tower over one of the gate-ways, a situation otherwise by no means eligible. To give all the stability possible to the instruments, an arch was thrown cross (*sic*) the building from south to north, whose span within was 15 feet 6 inches, rise 2 feet 1 inch, breadth 10 feet 9 inches and a half, thickness a brick and a half: on this all the instruments are placed. To take off the lateral thrust of such an arch, which might have endangered the building, three very large beams were laid into the south and north walls; across these, just within the two walls was laid at each end a transverse piece, strongly bolted and secured by *joggles* to the three beams aforesaid; from these transverse pieces the arch springs, and thus the beams, like the string of a bow taking off all lateral thrust, the dead weight only of the arch rests upon the walls. On the crown of this arch is laid (from east to west) one large stone 2 feet 4 inches wide, 6 feet 6 inches long, and about 6 inches thick: on the ends of this stand the two shafts which support the centres of the transit telescope, each of these are 24 inches by 22, and 6 feet high, and are composed of two stones only. To the

upper of these (which is about 4 C. weight) (before it was set and while the face could be turned upwards) was leaded the apparatus for the centres of the transit. The floor of the room lies entirely on the side walls, and has no immediate connection, either with the shafts that support the transit, or the stones on which the clock and quadrant are placed; all which stand directly on the arch, so that the observations are no ways disturbed by the weight of persons treading on the floor of the room."

In consequence of these arrangements the north and south walls of the main body of the Tower were loaded near the top with a very massive structure for which the original builders had made no preparations. As it later appeared, the method of construction of the Tower was essentially similar to that already observed in the reconstructed west wall of the Kitchens and Scholars' Buttery, that is to say, there was an outer and inner skin, and the space between was filled up with a mass of clunch rubble intermingled with mortar. The solidity of such a structure depends much on the type and quality of the filling: as we have already seen, above the Scholars' Buttery there was so little mortar, and the rubble was so dusty, that when a breach was made in the inner skin, the contents poured out; whereas on the First Court side of the same building, where the filling was of squared clunch blocks and mortar, the wall is still of great solidity. The Shrewsbury Tower proved to represent an intermediate condition, and it might have been possible to preserve much of the main body of the Tower had it not been for the effects of the Observatory, whose weight pressing mainly on the inner skin of the north and south walls, proved to have caused extensive cracking and general deterioration, which was hidden behind the 18th century panelling of the rooms below.

Before leaving the Observatory, it may be interesting as a digression to mention that Mr Ludlam was an horologist of some note. His book on Astronomical Observations contains two sections, one on "Problems relating to Pendulums, and their Application to Clocks", and one on "Problems Relating to Clock-work", together comprising about one seventh of the entire work. He devoted a great deal of attention to the Observatory clock, made by Shelton, and now in the College Library, and quotes a detailed register of the going of the clock over a period of more than a year. Comparing this with the corresponding register of the clock at the Observatory at Greenwich, he concludes "it seems therefore that the clock at St John's College has been more regular than that at Greenwich."

It will have been noticed that the sub-structure of the Observatory must have taken up a good deal of room, and when it was demolished, and the stone slabs and brickwork cleared away, the

oak beams were left in position in a space about five feet high between the ceiling of the upper rooms of the Tower, and the flat lead roof of the Tower itself. In view of the shortage of accommodation in College, it seemed a pity that a waste of space of this kind should remain so near the centre of the College. It was accordingly decided that when the Tower was reconstructed, the ceiling of the original upper storey should be lowered somewhat, and the flat lead roof of the Tower raised, so as to accommodate an additional, new, upper storey of two bed-sitting rooms, each provided with a dressing room in one of the southern turrets. The oak beams themselves were generally in remarkably good condition, and special steps were taken to hoist them out of the Tower and lower them to the ground intact, in the hope that use can be made of them elsewhere in the reconstruction. By a curious contrast the main timbers, of hemlock spruce, supporting the flat lead roof put in a century ago, proved to be extremely worm eaten, and these were sawn up and taken out piecemeal.

Demolition began with the turrets, and the utmost care was taken to preserve all materials which might be re-used. This applied particularly to the stones, as has already been explained, and to the bricks. The stones were numbered as they were removed, and arranged in a regular pattern round the margin of the Second Court. The bricks were removed individually from the crumbling mortar, carefully cleaned and stacked. Even sound half bricks were preserved, as the Old Buildings Committee were most anxious that the east side of the Tower facing into Second Court should be rebuilt as far as possible with old materials, so as not to introduce any incongruous element into the Court as viewed from the Screens. Previous articles have already made clear that all attempts to find a substantial further supply of old bricks similar in size, colour, and general character to the Second Court bricks had proved unavailing. Accordingly, the only course was to use all the old bricks which could be recovered from the demolition of the upper part of the Tower to rebuild its eastern half and, should it prove necessary, to extend the supply slightly with a small admixture of other old bricks. The western half, facing into Third Court, is so far above eye level that it is a much less conspicuous feature as seen from inside the Court. Accordingly this side was to be rebuilt in the same Reading bricks as had been used to reconstruct the wall south of the Screens.

As demolition proceeded, and the structure of the main part of the Tower became exposed, it was realised that the effect of the weight of the Observatory was more serious than had been supposed, and that extensive deterioration of the north and south walls had occurred at the level of the upper inhabited storey of the

Tower. These were accordingly pulled down to just below the ceiling level of the large room above the archway, a level about 18 ins. below the lowest string course, but leaving untouched the upper part of the niche containing the statue of the Countess of Shrewsbury. At this level there was no further sign of deterioration, and the walls retained their original structure with a loose filling, pieces of which could readily be detached and picked up in the hand. There was no reason to suppose that further demolition would have disclosed anything different in the lower walls: and furthermore these walls had supported, without difficulty, the whole weight of the upper part of the Tower for three and a half centuries, for a century of which time there was the added weight of the Observatory. Accordingly it seemed wise to halt the demolition at this point, and to make arrangements to spread the weight of the new upper part of the Tower uniformly over the whole of the lower part of the old walls. This was done by means of a complex ring-beam of reinforced concrete which passed round the main body of the Tower and also round the four corner turrets, uniting them all at this level into a single structure, and covering the whole surface of the lower walls except for the outer $4\frac{1}{2}$ ins, and the chimneys of the rooms below. In this way there was secured what amounted to a firm foundation in mid-air for the re-erection of the upper part of the Tower.

The new construction has solid load-bearing walls, supporting three reinforced concrete floors, one for what used to be the upper rooms of the Tower, one for the new top storey, and one for the flat lead-covered roof. Its floors are, of course, heavier than were the old wooden floors, but this added load is more than compensated for by the reduction in the thickness of the upper walls made possible by the use of solid brickwork, and in consequence the weight of the upper part of the Tower is now somewhat less than it was at the time when the Tower was first built.

This method of construction, in addition to its greater inherent strength has another important quality. It provides an incombustible structure dividing the north range of Second and Third Court from the south, and thus constitutes an important fire break. Possibly the most alarming feature of the ancient buildings of the College is the ease with which fire, once started, could spread from one part to another, and it has been the concern of the Old Buildings Committee, in the course of the reconstruction, to reduce this risk wherever possible. We have earlier seen how provisions of this kind were made in the work above the Kitchens and Butteries, and the Shrewsbury Tower furnishes another example of what must be a continuing process.

G. C. E.

Poems

LION IN A CAGE

SOME women love a lion in a cage,
While other lions know he is a fool,
Roars frustration, hates himself,
Wants courage to bite clear, to earn
His true inheritance, the sun and earth.
Was it his parents' sin, or his,
That coldly disenfranchised him?
Sin, rhubarb! Cold self-pity, rather,
That cannot be forgiven here
On earth.

W. D-C.

THE WALL

And life is being delivered to the half-alive.

LAWRENCE DURRELL: 'Letters in Darkness'

ONCE, out of dozens of milling visages,
there stilled a face named you.
A face that cannot be compared
to anything living, unless it be
in some unexotic private place.

No need here for broken glass to ward
off unwanted company,
since time, in the creeping shape of leaves,
has recovered this handbuilt wall,
twining, along its smooth camber,
moss, ivy, weed and the smear of snails.

Because you would be jewess, I a pagan,
you a vacuum, I a cauldron,
you, in your certainty of coldness,
strong as a hermit, lone not lonely:
I in the sureness of my weakness,
twitching over with unused loving,—

the longing to clamber over
into your private garden, where I ought,
in pity, to shatter your present senseless state
of being more distracted than distraught,
is less real, solid, lasting
than this wall of difference and indifference.

W. R.

POEMS

TOKYO

(from the French of Paul Claudel)

1

NOT on shingle, not under trees, but the place each day where
I walk is a wall,

There is always a wall to my right.

I follow a wall that yet follows behind, I unwind a wall in my
steps, and I measure before me my stock and store

Of wall without end to my right.

To my left is the town, and tree-lined roads under sail for the
ends of the earth.

But I still have a wall to my right.

I turn (where the trams turn too) and I recognise here the surf,

But the wall clings fast to my right,

And a town at my feet, a whole frail evening world where for
lights that fade there are others fanned,

Cannot alter this wall to my right,

And the wall leads away but to bring me again to the point where
my walk began,

And if I close my eyes, I may hold out my hand,

And know what is there to my right.

6

Around my palace, said the King, I have set a band of sky,
already it seems I am no more held by the earth,

The time has come for sleep, already it seems there is movement
beneath me, like the moaning suffering decks of a ship on the
midnight sea.

They must hurry, my last guests (I see down there their tiny
carriages, their lamps, as they hurry through the wastes of
gravel).

Now we shall lift the last bridge.

8

Reader, I beg, hold back this breath, lest, breathing, you mist
the magic surface.

The wind has blown from the sea, and the page is instantly
spread in your sight with squirming words in thousands too
many to tell.

12

On a ring's edge I live.

And the wall, I have learnt, is within, not without, the wall
within is my prison.

And to move, I have learnt, from this point to that, there are
only short cuts as long as the long way round.

M. W.

Lincolnshire

THE spade cut down into the tangled grass. Nick shoved it down further with the heel of a wellington, felt the hard iron through the rubber sole. It was Monday morning. He had got up at seven o'clock and had cycled the three miles to the farm. They had set him to clear the dyke where he now worked. He shoved with his foot and jerked the handle to and fro with his left hand, working the steel further into the stony earth. Stones ground on the blade, jarred his wrist as he hit them, needed working round. He prised them up and then threw them out onto the bank above him. The ditch stretched a hundred yards down in front, tangled with overgrown briar and the tough grass. Behind him, where he had already cleared, dirty water ran slowly out, wet, browned, yellowed grass strung the sides. He could hear himself breathing. There was violence in his movement. The time was 9.30, at ten he had a break for tea and a sandwich which he had brought with him. He thought of Margaret with exasperation. She had whispered with Else. He had been right. They were in league. Margaret talked to Else. He struck down at the grass again, shoved, pulled back on the spade handle and worked the blade obliquely into the ground, timing the jerk of his foot with the effort of his hand to push it in. Then slid his right hand further down the shaft until it touched the metal flange which extended from the blade. He held it there, pulled. His back bent. He could feel the stretching in his shoulders, hear the grass tearing, feel it slipping from the blade, pushed the blade in again and yucked. Panted. It was half past nine. He had just looked at his watch which he had laid on the lining of his jacket at the top of the bank, a bit further back. He had just looked. Another six or seven hours in which to dig out grass and briar which he could already see. He stopped for a minute, tired suddenly, hands still on the shaft. He looked to his right. The tangled bank was about three feet away. At the top of it there was a hawthorn hedge. There was an identical bank on his left side. His wellingtoned feet stood in muddy water, cut off. He moved the feet, heard the water sucking. Six or seven hours.

Margaret had made it less possible for him to work. There was a time when he would have managed absorption without too much difficulty. Now he looked at the grass surrounding him and at the dyke stretching in front of him. He opened the fingers of his right hand, felt the cold steel against his palm, tried to mark the feeling, failed, and gripped the shaft again and then jerked the

spade out and struck it down. He could not stop work. If he looked up to see where the foreman was . . . he looked down and shoved with the spade feeling a weight of apprehension that he was being watched, angry. The weight turned to curiosity. He slung the spade down, "Bugger it," and climbed up the bank. The long stony field opened out. There was no-one there. He looked at his watch. It was almost time to have the break. He sat down on the jacket, wiped sweat from his face, holding the blue thermos in his left hand and then unscrewed the white, ribbed, plastic top with his right, feeling the hand pleasantly rough against the smoother plastic. He poured out the clear, bright tea from the silver top of the flask, added sugar and milk, by unscrewing the aluminium bottom and taking out two small flat bottles. They pleased him. The glass felt thick and heavy.

He unfolded the greyish white greaseproof paper of his sandwiches carefully, took out one, then refolded the paper. Ate it. Ham and chutney. Thick ham, he had prepared it himself. His teeth cut into the cold meat. It parted easily. He turned his head slightly to cut through the crust of the bread, holding the sandwich in one hand, the other grasping, feeling the warmth of tea through the thin plastic of the cup.

He put down the cup when he had eaten the sandwich, took out a flattened packet of Players from his trouser pocket and lit one. He looked at the smoke rising from the tip, two white streaks with a veil of white between. There was earth dried on his hands. They felt pleasant. It wasn't too bad. He looked at the small oblong gold watch. Lying on the jacket lining with the two parts of the strap rising on each side of it, moulded to the shape of his wrists. Five more minutes. Margaret had whispered with Else behind the door. He had expected the father but he had not come. That must have been deliberate. Nick flicked the cigarette away, down into the ditch, into the muddy water. He heard it hiss, got up and went back down the bank again to pick up the cold spade and dig it into the tough grass. He could see nothing but the tangled banks two or three feet from him; the small cleared area behind him was there. It remained. He looked down along the narrowing v. He was meeting her later in the evening.

The spade went in, he pressed the cross part of the handle down, grass rose a foot in front of the place where he had made the cut. He took out the spade and struck three times to make the rest of a square. Then stuck it in again, pressed down and pulled. The grass tore. Mud and small stones came up. The mud slipped easily from the spade as he threw it onto the right bank. The steel came back shining with the water on it, streaks of mud running across it. He shoved it into the ground again. There was a

big stone. The spade rang on it. He struck again, in a different place, to get the edge of the spade under so that he could prise up the stone. His wrists jarred again. He tried to ease the spade in over the top of the stone to clear the grass. Got it in, scraped the grass away. It lay there only a small back showing.

The spade was no use. He threw it down onto the left hand bank, swinging it so that the blade came up and then, when the weight was balanced on his hand so that he could push, he slung it easily, feeling the weight, onto the grass at the top of the dyke. He bent down and put his hands onto the stone, probing round it with his fingers. The earth was soft, but grated as he pushed through smaller stones in it. He got a lever under a hold in the stone and pulled. It did not move. He worked the other hand round so that the two hands were close together at the far side of the stone, wrists down, pulling. There was effort needed. He jerked. The stone remained unmoved. He put his head down, jerked again. Strain grew in the muscles of his shoulders. His crooked fingers began to straighten out. He let them slip so as not to crack the nails. But the stone had not moved.

The water stopped as he moved his feet for a new position. They had sunk so that he no longer balanced. He pulled out the wellingtons, feeling them dragging off his feet, clenching his foot to keep them on, put his feet down in a new place. There was strength needed. He worked his fingers in again and pulled. His head went down, not looking forward at the stone, but back towards his feet making a line of force along his back and down his arms. Panting. It started to give. He felt it, felt its weight slightly as it shifted, knew more of its shape as he got his hands further underneath. His body was alive as muscles were called into play. He heaved. The stone gave. The grass tore. It rose up, dark, wet, coloured by the mud. He lifted it out, arms straight down, at full length, keeping its wetness away from his clothes, feeling it in his stomach muscle. He threw it onto the bank. It rolled down again. He picked it up and feli with it, good humouredly, pressing it down into the long grass there.

The spade, its blade turned face down to the grass, lay a little to the left. He put his hand over the cross piece of the handle, shaft between the third and fourth finger. He did not pull the spade down but flicked it over, with a movement from his elbow. He looked at it. The metal flange which bound on the shaft, fitted the wood. He pulled the spade down the grass and felt the smooth join of the metal and the wood, marked their different temperatures. And went to work again.

But the time dragged. He tried digging faster, working harder, tried to adopt an exhaustive rhythm but the ground was too stony, and resisted effort. There was nothing certain to push

against. The stones turned the blade of the spade so that the whole of it was not pressing. Force could not be applied.

Nick stopped and leaned on the handle, foot on the step of the blade. It grew quiet. He did not move his feet in the water. There was a small toad crouched against a stone sticking out from the bank. Nick remained still, watching the toad. Two knobbed ridges ran down its back. Its eyes stood out above its head. The underside of its throat on its belly, moving, showed lighter than the greyish green of its back. The skin hung loose about it. Nick watched it. There were a few spots, dark red in colour, along its back. There was no reason why he should kill it. He took his foot off the spade and carefully lowered the foot into the water. The wellington squelched as it pressed down into the mud. He carefully eased the spade out of the ground, shoving it forward slightly his left hand on the shaft of the T which the handle made with the shaft. He pulled it out, delicately, taking care not to move.

The unsuspecting toad sat. Nick had put his other hand, the right, on the shaft of the spade lower down, he was squinting along it, aligning the sharp edge of the blade with the toad's back. It would not work, there was too small a cutting edge if he threw it flat. His left hand was spread out over the T at the top of the handle. He turned it so that the edge of the blade came vertical cutting across the toad as he looked down it. He threw the spade.

Blood spurted out over the stone. The spade had not so much cut the belly as squashed it out, white guts, hung from it, its squatting black legs hung out, trailed, behind. The spade had rung on the stone and twisted away, the handle first, falling down the bank. It lay there now, the blade turned up. Smearred.

Nick picked up the toad by the foot of a back leg. It hung down. White underneath, white on the inside of the legs. He felt the small bones of the foot between finger and thumb, swung the toad to the left and then with the momentum of the swing as it came back, so as not to let the slime on it touch his hand, he slung it into the long grass at the top of the bank.

He rubbed the finger and thumb which had held the toad through the rough cloth of his grey trousers, stepped out of the water and collected the spade from where it had bounced about two yards in front of him. He cleaned it on the long grass on the left hand bank, pressing it down with both hands, face down, and then pulling it back.

He turned back to the cut he had been making and made three violent cuts round it to complete the square.

The afternoon wore on. There was no rest in work. He had strapped on his watch again after lunch. He looked at it. The thin stretch of muddy water behind him grew longer, slowly. He

waited, smoking a cigarette from time to time. Then flicking it away, aiming at stones, watching sparks fly as it hit stone or briar, or listening to the hiss if he threw it into the water. Margaret must have had a difficult day, coping with the righteous indignation of Else and her father's anger. She would have been made to work. The kitchen was hot when the stove was opened for cooking. He was growing tired, he noticed, beginning to feel colder. The shaft of the spade seemed to grow rough as his hands grew tired. The right wrist which he had once broken ached. In the loose wellingtons all day, standing in water, his feet had begun to feel hard, cramped. But it was curious how, as he grew tired, the ditch became solider. The spadefuls of earth and stones and the wet grass landed more definitely. He had become used to the difficulties. It was not surprising now when the spade twisted as he shoved it into the ground. It had become interesting to probe into the ground, gauge the weight and shape of stones. His body had begun to accommodate itself to the positions which were required. The noise he made seemed more coherent than at first. He had begun to grow used to it. His own body absorbed his attention. The aching in his muscles made them more present.

At 5 o'clock he cleaned the spade, went up the bank and rolled down the sleeves of his blue shirt before he put his jacket on. The smooth lining against the back of his hands as he put them through the sleeves created a sense of luxury. The warmth, as soon as he buttoned the jacket, tweed catching against the roughness of his hands, gave a sense of new interest.

W. A. W.

The editor of The Eagle leaned across the table confidentially and said, "I say, Vichy-Firenze, would you like to write a little piece for the next issue of The Eagle? I've always been fascinated by your name. Why not a little discursion on its origins?"

"Well," I said, "I could make a few comments on the difficulties of having a foreign name . . ."

"Capital," said the editor, and drank my wine.

On having a Foreign Name

THE case of Borax illustrates the damage to the moral fibre that can be done by a funny name. Borax lived (when I met him) in a part of South America where borax is mined. If I were not sure that he does not take *The Eagle* (although he comes into contact with Englishmen a good deal), I should not tell you all this. For years Borax had to endure the suppressed laughter and coughing that came whenever he was introduced to fresh people. For borax was in the public eye.

For some years the output of borax had fallen, and one might have expected that, as a result, the time would come when the name Borax would be as unremarkable as, let us say, Pyrites in England. But these hopes were dashed by an article in the *Reader's Digest* which forecast that borax was due for a boom in view of its increasing use in rocket fuels.

One day Borax could stand it no longer, and decided to change his name by deed poll. One feels that he did not go quite far enough in the change, however, and that he had become quite fond of his surname over the years. His lawyer used the term "a love-hate relationship". For he altered it to *Boracks*. On a visiting card, on a name plate, the improvement is quite marked. But not so on the lips.

No element or mineral bears my name, although one might be excused for confusing it with one of the rare earths. My only complaint is that it is almost always spelt wrongly. Often the result is more euphonious than the original; for example, in the *Resident List* for 1961-2 it appears as Vita-Zinzi. But I do not feel the same enthusiasm for Vita-Fiurgi, and even less for Vita-Fuzzi. The former was not wholly unwelcome, however, for it appeared in an account of a pair-oared race in which the Lady Margaret pair, with Fiurgi at bow, were overhauled soon after the start. Vita-Fuzzi was printed on an *Eagles* dinner card, and several heads were turned in search of somebody wearing

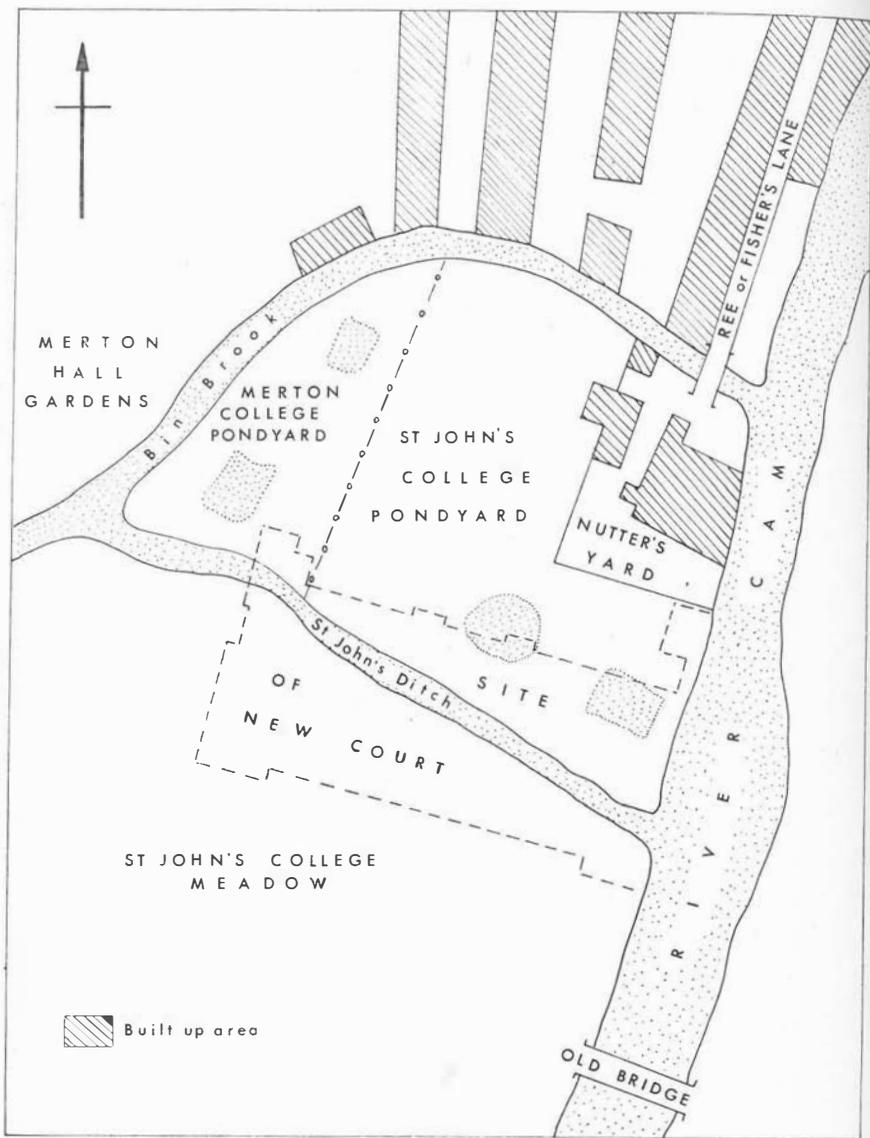
blazer and loincloth. Vita-Frenzi I could hardly be expected to take calmly, but Vita-Vinci, I felt, had an endearing renaissance flavour.

It is reasonable to assume that a name ending in 'a' is female. Thus *Vita* is often taken for an unusual girl's name, and replies are addressed to 'Mrs' or 'Miss'. In this guise I was granted a place at University College, London, for 1954; but for various reasons, I was forced to decline. Narrowly avoiding National Service in the W.R.E.N.S., I came up to St John's College only to find that mail addressed to the lady continued to arrive. It says much for the tact and savoir-vivre of the Porters that they have never even noticed.

I could name dozens of variations, but I am afraid that too many might confuse the typesetter, and thus accidentally result in correct renderings of the spelling which would, of course, be fatuous. But I must lay claim to 'the Rev C. Vita-Finzi' (which was the result of heading a letter ' Rectory'), an auspicious opening that led to a disappointingly firm refusal of whatever it was I had been asking for from such unimpeachable surroundings.

But no one has yet used the one version that succeeds in anglicising the name without spoiling its flavour. I mean, of course,

C. VITA-FFINZI



SKETCH MAP OF FISH PONDS CLOSE, c. 1800

Fish Ponds Close and its Pondyards

THE plot of land variously known by the names which head this essay lies today in a somewhat derelict and truncated state behind our New Court. Since the time will soon come when it will disappear under buildings, and the names by which it has been known will pass like many others of old Cambridge into oblivion, this is an appropriate moment to set down some of the things which can be discovered about the area. It is all the more desirable to do so because the story, as things stand, is a very confused one. We are told, and Loggan's map of 1688 is vouched to warranty, that St John's College fishponds occupied an area bounded by the Bin Brook and St John's Ditch (which once flowed from the Bin Brook to the river more or less diagonally across the site of New Court). We are told, too, that the Pondyard was given to St John's Hospital by Henry VI in 1448.¹ On the other hand, we know that in 1824, in order to secure part of the New Court site, the College bought from one Thomas Nutter a copyhold estate called the Pondyard which he held of Merton College, Oxford.² Finally, another authority informs us that, in the fifteenth century, Merton had eight fishponds lying between their house in Cambridge (i.e. Merton Hall) and the Bin Brook; that in 1448 St John's Hospital acquired some fishponds on the opposite (eastern) bank of that stream; and that the Hospital temporarily secured possession of the Merton ponds, too, about this time.³ These various observations are not all easily reconciled and some of them are, in the strictest sense, incorrect.

I

It is perhaps best to begin with certain transactions of the mid-fifteenth century which have not always been clearly understood. In 1446, as a part of his measures to provide an endowment for King's College, Henry VI conferred upon that new foundation Merton Hall and other Merton College property in Cambridge-shire, giving in recompense to the Oxford college the manor of Stratton St Margaret in Wiltshire.⁴ The property acquired by King's College at this time included two several fisheries, one of which must have been that near Merton Hall. This follows from

¹ R. Willis and J. W. Clark, *Architectural History of the University of Cambridge*, ii. 235.

² H. F. Howard, *Finances of the College of St John the Evangelist*, 352-3.

³ J. M. Gray, *The School of Pythagoras*, 37.

⁴ *Ibid.* 53, no. 85.

the fact that, in 1448, the Provost and Scholars of King's made an exchange, confirmed by Henry VI, with St John's Hospital whereby they handed over to the latter lands in Over and a certain garden with ponds therein in the parish of St Giles next Cambridge castle, previously the property of Merton College.⁵ This 'garden' was bounded on the north and west by the Bin Brook, on the east by a garden belonging to the Hospital and on the south by the Hospital's meadow.

This, then, is the supposed grant of the St John's fishponds in 1448. It is indeed a grant of fishponds, but of fishponds which had belonged to Merton College; and those fishponds lay, not as Gray supposed between the Bin Brook and Merton Hall, but east of the Bin Brook. He was right to point out, however, that St John's Hospital's possession of this Merton property was short-lived. Merton had been careful to reserve, when it transferred its Cambridgeshire property to King's in 1446, a right of re-entry if at any time it lost Stratton St Margaret. It did in fact lose that manor with the accession of Edward IV and in 1462 it set about recovering its Cambridge lands.⁶ In 1464 St John's Hospital had to relinquish its acquisitions from King's College in 1448, including eight fishponds which lay between the Bin Brook and the fisheries of the Hospital.⁷ Two years later the Hospital settled with King's for £56 1s. 8d. compensation for expectations which, in the event, were to be deferred for over three and a half centuries.⁸

The later history of the Merton Pondyard will only be written after a systematic investigation of the records, and in particular of the court rolls, of Merton College. Here no more than a few notes are possible. That Pondyard was said in 1468 to lie near Merton Hall and was in the occupation of Robert Heryng. It was leased in 1470 for thirty years to Richard Rolff, a Cambridge burgess and fishmonger, but had passed by 1484 into the hands of Denise Gery.⁹ In 1525 and 1595 it was said to be enclosed by a wall and it was described in 1763 as 'an island between the garden belonging to St John's College and the garden belonging to Merton Hall'.¹⁰ There, for the time, we must leave it; it will concern us once more towards the close of the eighteenth century.

⁵ St John's College Muniments (henceforth SJC), (Drawer) XXXII/ (no.) 1. SJC XXXII/204 is a later copy of this document, erroneously dated 1535, and XXXII/205 is a translation into English.

⁶ J. M. Gray, *op. cit.* 54, no. 90.

⁷ *Ibid.* 55, no. 98.

⁸ SJC XXXII/202.

⁹ J. M. Gray, *op. cit.* 55-6, nos. 104-5, 109.

¹⁰ SJC XXXII/204.

II

These transactions of the mid fifteenth century, however, make some things clear. The Merton Pondyard lay on the opposite side of the Bin Brook from Merton Hall; and it adjoined, as the Hospital's surrender in 1464 explicitly states, fisheries in the possession of the Hospital. The latter had nothing to do with the grant of 1448, which concerned the Merton College Pondyard. No unequivocal testimony has yet emerged to show when the Hospital acquired its fisheries, but it seems very likely that it was already in possession in 1448. At that time the Merton Pondyard was called a garden with ponds therein and its eastern boundary was a garden belonging to the Hospital. We may legitimately guess that the latter garden, too, had ponds in it. It is more than possible that the Hospital, with its establishment of poor sick to maintain, had itself constructed the fishponds there at some time in the past as a convenience for its own provisioning at a time when supplies were uncertain and there was no refrigeration to preserve fresh fish.

However that may be, the ponds by the late fifteenth century had ceased to be mainly a source of fish supplies for the Hospital. They were leased out for a rent of 28s. a year supplemented by three pike. The lessee in 1485¹¹ was one John Bell and he continued to hold them after the Hospital property has passed to the College, certainly until 1521 and probably until his death in 1523. They were described as lying in 1490 between Merton Hall and the river;¹² and in more detail in 1521 as occupying an area bounded by the river on the east, 'the land of Merton College called le Poundeyerde' on the west, St John's meadow on the south and 'le comen dyche Cambridge' on the north.¹³ Here again the implication is that both the St John's and Merton Pondyards lay in the area enclosed by the river, St John's Ditch and the loop of the Bin Brook (provided we can identify the 'common ditch' with the lower part of the Bin Brook).¹⁴ There is support for that identification in the city treasurers' accounts for 1514-15, in which we read of a footbridge in Ree Lane over the King's Ditch leading to the Pondyard belonging to St John's College.¹⁵ Since Ree Lane was the later Fisher's Lane, leading from Magdalene Street to the north east corner of the Pondyard, it is clear that the ditch

¹¹ Willis and Clark, *op. cit.* ii. 235n, though the rent is incorrectly stated.

¹² SJC XXXI/16.

¹³ SJC XXXI/25.

¹⁴ Rather than with the 'watercourse called Cambridge', the course of which was reconstructed by A. Gray, *C. A. S. Proc.* ix (1895) 61 sqq. and *Dual Origin of the Town of Cambridge*, 20 sqq.

¹⁵ *Cambridge Borough Documents*, ed. W. M. Palmer, i. 46.

in question was the Bin Brook. It may also be significant that, as late as 1824, St John's Ditch was called 'another part of the Bin Brook' and that it was the dividing line between the parishes of St Peter's and St Giles.¹⁶ In brief, St John's Ditch may well have been the original route of the Bin Brook to the river and the lower portion of the present Bin Brook originally an artificial cut.

However we resolve this topographical tangle, it seems clear at least that John Bell was a man to make professional use of the St John's fishponds. Coming from Earith around 1474, he acquired a tenement 'called the beer brewhouse at the great bridge' lying between Magdalene College and the river. Whatever else he did, he was clearly involved in the fish trade, for in 1476 he is called a pikemonger and in 1506 was involved in a stand-up fight with the Prior of Barnwell about fishing rights in Barnwell Pool. It is doubtful, however, if his activities were limited to fishmongering. He had a barn called the 'coped hall' lying either in Chesterton Lane or Thompson's Lane, perhaps pointing to some farming or corn-dealing interests; he had property across Magdalene Street in Ree Lane; and he was renting the Hermitage west of Silver Street bridge in 1522. Altogether he was a great man in Cambridge who, for all his assault upon the Prior of Barnwell, was five times mayor.¹⁷

Before the end of his life, however, John Bell may have ceased to reside in Cambridge. When he made his will in 1523 (among other things he bequeathed to St John's a reversionary interest in the issues of the brewhouse by Magdalene Bridge to keep his obit)¹⁸ he was living in King's Lynn. He died in that same year, in fact, and was buried in the chapel of St Nicholas there. Possibly he subtlet the Pondyard before his death to one Thomas Stank¹⁹ who, by 1525, was the direct tenant of the College at an enhanced rent of 30s. and 3 pike.²⁰ We know nothing of him save that he had been succeeded by Christopher Stank before 1540, when we reach firm ground with the first surviving lease. By it the College conveyed to Thomas Taylor, a London fishmonger, and David Clappam, gentleman, a pondyard in St Peter's parish containing 13 ponds for a term of twenty years at an annual rent of 30s. and three pike (two of eighteen inches and one of sixteen inches clean fish). The tenants might have the profit from the 'loppe' of

willows and other trees growing in and about it and within three years they were to enclose it with a good and sufficient mud wall.²¹ Taylor and his partner may have been extending their interests to the provincial fish-market, but all that is certain is that they did not see out their term. Its balance and a further term of twenty years beginning in 1560 were acquired in 1553 by two more fishmongers, George Hilles of London and William Raynes of Cambridge. The only new provision in their lease was a requirement that they would, within two years, plant a quick-wood hedge around the Pondyard.²²

This more or less marked the end of the association of London fishmongers with the St John's Pondyard. George Hilles paid the rent for a year or two,²³ but thereafter William Raynes, the local man, was the effective lessee until, sometime in 1568, he gave place to Nicholas Gaunt.²⁴ The latter was a man just emerging into prominence in the town, for he was serving that year as one of its treasurers. He was destined for higher office and lower reputation. As mayor and M.P. in 1589 he was held responsible for certain concessions over jurisdiction at Stourbridge fair made by the town to the university. Consequently, he was held to have betrayed the town and 'shortly afterwards was put off his aldermanship, and lived the remainder of his life in great want and misery and hateful to all the townsmen'.²⁵ It is of interest to note, however, that Gaunt, like previous lessees of the Pondyard, was a fishmonger. In 1573 the city fathers bought fish from him to give to Lord North; and in the year of his humiliation Gaunt spent £8 on fish for presents during the parliamentary time.²⁶ Perhaps, in the light of his profession, he could think of no gift more suitable.

Gaunt's name continues to appear in the College Rentals until 1596, but a new lease was made in 1593 in which the previous lessee was said to have been George Inman. How long the latter had held and whether he had been a sub-tenant of Gaunt's there is nothing to show. The new tenant of 1593 is a more recognizable figure—another fishmonger called Thomas French. He became a member of the town council in 1599, was mayor five times between 1608 and 1619, and in 1620-1 represented the town at hearings occasioned by a disputed parliamentary election and in endeavours to settle quarrels with the University.²⁷ His substance

¹⁶ SJC XXXII/208; A. Gray, *Dual Origin*, 20.

¹⁷ J. M. Gray, *Biographical Notes on Mayors of Cambridge*, 20; *Cambridge Borough Documents*, i 40, 57-8, 62-3, 65, 83, 136-7.

¹⁸ *Cambridge Borough Documents*, i. 146.

¹⁹ He appears as lessee in a rental of 1520 (SJC XXXI/11), though that of 1521 still names Bell.

²⁰ SJC XXXI/3.

²¹ SJC Thin Red Book, f. 211.

²² SJC Thick Black Book, ff. 327-9.

²³ SJC Rental, 1555.

²⁴ *Ibid.* 1568.

²⁵ C. H. Cooper, *Annals of Cambridge*, ii. 244, 475.

²⁶ *Ibid.* ii. 319, 476.

²⁷ *Ibid.* ii. 597; iii. 30, 44-5, 92, 137, 141-2.

and prosperity he clearly owed, in part at least, to fish. The corporation in 1606 paid him £14 for fish to present to the Lord Chancellor and Sir John Fortescue, and clearly he believed in the efficacy of this sort of gift. In 1622, in an endeavour to win advantage against the University, he showered upon the Lord Chancellor (apparently the great Francis Bacon) no less than 20 very great pike, 22 great bream and 20 great tench.²⁸

His leases of the Pondyard, therefore, were probably all in the way of business, though they also illustrate very neatly his rise to eminence. In the first, for twenty years in 1593, he is plain fishmonger; the only other notable thing about it is that he had to pay seven pike yearly as well as 30s. in cash. In the second, for the same term and at the same rent drawn up in 1597, he is called yeoman. In the last, granted in 1618 for forty years, he is styled gentleman.²⁹ Perhaps these prosaic documents reveal something of the man's character, for he was described by a fellow alderman, John Wickstede, as a 'proud man'. It is possible too, that he was not over-nice in his methods, since it was also alleged that he 'abused the corporation'.³⁰

When he relinquished the Pondyard is not certain. He was dead and buried in St Peter's churchyard in 1628; but three years earlier he had taken out a licence to alienate his lease³¹ and may have handed over at that point to another of the same name, most probably his son. The latter, similarly styling himself a gentleman, took out new leases, each for forty years and for fines of £20 and £10 respectively, in 1648 and 1660.³² The younger Thomas French also rose to the aldermannic bench, was mayor in 1639, 1652 and 1661, and very active on the parliamentary side between 1640 and 1660. He was constantly collecting taxes and contributions; he was a sequestrator of royalist property; M.P. for Cambridge in Barebone's parliament; a commissioner to execute ordinances regulating the university; and one of the those empowered to eject scandalous and insufficient ministers and schoolmasters.³³ There were, however, suspicions about his integrity even when he was in a position of power and when Charles II was restored Alderman French's chickens came home to roost. He did his best to avoid the inevitable. He collected a tax for the new government, took on again the office of mayor, and was demonstratively co-operative when commissioners were sent to

²⁸ *Ibid.* iii. 22, 142.

²⁹ SJC White Vellum Book, ff. 9-10, 82-3, 884-6.

³⁰ J. M. Gray, *Biographical Notes*, 33.

³¹ SJC White Vellum Book, f. 1061.

³² SJC Lease Book, 1649-69, ff. 20-22, 494; XXXII/203; Fine Book, f. 131.

³³ Cooper, *Annals*, iii. 297, 299, 331, 342, 346, 354, 372, 384, 419-20, 459, 466, 490, 503; J. M. Gray, *Biographical Notes*, 36-7.

reform the Cambridge corporation in 1662. He swore oaths of allegiance and supremacy, swore that it was unlawful to take up arms against the king, and swore that the Solemn League and Covenant was illegal and imposed against the liberties of the kingdom. All this availed him not at all. He was ejected from the mayoralty and his aldermanship and died a month later, intestate and perhaps of a broken heart.³⁴

While a good deal is known of the public life of the younger Thomas French there is less information about how he made a living. Certainly he was a wealthy man, for he was one of the highest contributors to taxation in Cambridge in the years 1640-61 and his house near Magdalene Bridge, lying between Ree Lane and the river, had twelve hearths in it.³⁵ But whether he leased St John's Pondyard in conjunction with a fishmongering business is less certain. He could have done so, for David Loggan's maps of city and college in c.1688, though they differ slightly in details, do show the area bounded by the river, the Bin Brook and St John's Ditch fairly well occupied by ponds. The college map, too, shows particularly clearly that there was a hedge cutting off the western third of the area from the rest with a gate of some sort about half way along it. We are reminded of the requirement that the lessees of 1553 should hedge the College Pondyard, and it is reasonable to see in this hedge the boundary of the Merton and the St John's fishponds. The same division, moreover, seems to be discernible on Hamond's map of 1592, evidence which presumably must be given some credence despite Hamond's failure to mark any ponds to the east of it. What is clear, in fact, is that the St John's Pondyard continued in its original use from its first appearance in documents of the late fifteenth century until well through the seventeenth century.

III

At the same time Loggan's maps are evidence of incipient change. They show that building development had crossed the bridge over the Bin Brook from Ree Lane into the north-east corner of the St John's Pondyard. That these buildings were timber barns, etc., is clear both from later documentary evidence and from Ackermann's prints of the early nineteenth century. The converse of this development was the gradual desuetude of the fishponds. Custance's map of 1798 marks only four and R. G. Baker's in 1830 one solitary survivor. The occupations of some of the lessees who followed Thomas French the younger support the supposition of changing use. The lease to his immediate successor, one Morris, has not survived and nothing is

³⁴ W. M. Palmer, *C. A. S. Proc.* xvii (1912-13), 82-3, 87, 105.

³⁵ *Ibid.* 134; SJC Cupboard 13, Bundle 23.

known of him;³⁶ but the next occupier was a butcher, James Wendy, who paid a £60 fine for a forty year lease in 1700.³⁷ He was followed by Lydia Wendy, perhaps his widow, who took a new lease for forty years in 1716, but well before that term was up Thomas Nutting, a Cambridge merchant who was twice mayor, was granted a forty year lease in 1730.³⁸ Nutting remained in possession of the Pondyard until his death in 1759, when it was taken over by a certain William Gregory.³⁹ Again his lease has not survived, but the Rentals show that he continued to rent the premises until 1786.

In that year the last Cambridge family to hold the Pondyard makes its appearance in the College records. A lease for forty years was granted to James Nutter, merchant, and it differed only in one particular from earlier leases. A clause was added to the effect that, should the College desire to resume a part or the whole of the tenement to add to or improve its gardens and walks, it might do so by giving six months notice.⁴⁰ This clause proved convenient, though not quite in the way anticipated, and was repeated in later leases of the Pondyard. For the moment, however, James Nutter deserves a word. He was the eldest son and heir of Thomas Nutter, a sievemaking, who in 1770, in the right of his wife, Hannah Bradford, acquired Thomas French's old house in Ree Lane, the lease of the Pickerel Inn and other property in the vicinity of Magdalene Street.⁴¹ Whatever profession his father may ultimately have followed, James was a corn merchant and maltster and he used the Pondyard in connection with these occupations. He took out a new lease in 1800, the rent of pike now being dropped and the money rent raised to 32s.⁴² This was perhaps somewhat tardy recognition that the use of the premises had been completely changed.

In the meantime James Nutter had extended his interests. In 1791 Dr William Purkis, who had been the copyhold tenant of the Merton Pondyard since 1772, died and no heirs of his appeared to claim the reversion of his holding. In 1795, therefore, James Nutter was admitted in his place and thus united the whole of Fish Ponds Close in his possession.⁴³ James continued to be titular lessee of the St John's property down to 1824,⁴⁴ but by 1821

he had removed to Great Shelford and the partnership in which he had been engaged with his brother Thomas and another man had broken up. He sold out, in fact, all his interest in the Magdalene Street business to Thomas for £5,900.⁴⁵ Consequently it was with Thomas Nutter that the College opened negotiations in 1823 with a view to obtaining part of Fish Ponds Close in connection with plans for building a new court. He agreed on 22 November that the College should purchase from him the copyhold Pondyard he held of Merton College; resume part of the leasehold Pondyard he held of St John's; and grant him a new lease of the remainder of both tenements at an annual rental of £10.⁴⁶ On 8 January 1824 the Seniors agreed to purchase the Merton Pondyard for £300⁴⁷ and on the same day James Nutter, with the consent of Thomas Nutter, surrendered the Merton copyhold to the use of St John's College.⁴⁸ A new lease of the truncated premises was ratified by the Seniors on 8 July⁴⁹ and during the next few years the final steps were taken to extinguish the rights of Merton College on the eastern side of the Bin Brook. On 30 September 1826 the College was formally admitted as copyhold tenant of the Merton Pondyard and in the following May purchased its enfranchisement from Merton for £200.⁵⁰ It only remained to secure the agreement of Thomas Nutter that the College might have a right of way across his tenement to Magdalene Street, for which it would pay an annual rent of £20 for seven years, to complete this particular phase in the preparations for the building of New Court. It was also proposed that an arched vault in the basement of the western tower of that court would be let to Nutter as a store, but there is nothing to show that this proposal was ever put into effect.⁵¹

The documents of this period provide final confirmation of the way land lay in Fish Ponds Close and of the changes which had taken place in its utilization. The Merton copyhold was stated to be bounded by the Bin Brook, St John's Ditch and an orchard belonging to St John's College; and what remained to Nutter after 1824 was a garden and yard with warehouses, malt-houses, sheds, etc. It had access to Magdalene Street via a bridge across the Bin Brook and Ree or Fisher's Lane. A surviving sketch

³⁶ SJC Rentals, 1664 sqq.

³⁷ SJC Lease Book, 1700-15, f. 40; Fine Book, f. 131.

³⁸ SJC Lease Books, 1715-27, ff. 67-9 1727-41, ff. 139d-40.

³⁹ J. M. Gray, *Biographical Notes*, 47; SJC Rental, 1760.

⁴⁰ SJC Lease Book, 1771-86, ff. 528-31.

⁴¹ SJC Cupboard 13, Bundle 23.

⁴² SJC Lease Book, 1794-1800, ff. 491-4.

⁴³ SJC XXXII/206.

⁴⁴ SJC Rentals, 1820-24.

⁴⁵ SJC Cupboard 13, Bundle 23; XXXII/208.

⁴⁶ SJC XXXII/207.

⁴⁷ SJC Conclusion Book, 1786-1846.

⁴⁸ SJC XXXII/208

⁴⁹ SJC Copies of Leases, 1823-9, ff. 135-8; Conclusion Book, 1786-1846.

⁵⁰ SJC XXXII/210-11.

⁵¹ Documents concerning the building of New Court in SJC XXXIII. For this information and for many suggestions concerning other parts of this essay I am indebted to the Master.

map shows that the property abstracted from Nutter's tenements in 1824 consisted of a strip of land, between 80 and 140 feet wide, lying along the north side of the St John's Ditch. The westernmost third of it, next to the Bin Brook, was part of the former Merton copyhold. Nutter's yard, with its malshouses and other premises appropriate to his profession, lay by the river-bank. Between was garden and orchard land.⁵² In brief, it seems that sometime during the middle ages Merton College and St John's Hospital both established pondyards in the island of Fish Ponds Close. After the Hospital failed to maintain its hold upon the Merton Pondyard secured by exchange with King's College in 1448, the two properties retained their identities in the hands of separate tenants until they were united in the hands of James Nutter in 1795 and St John's bought the Merton copyhold in 1824-7. A series of fishmonger-lessees continued to use the St John's fishponds for their original purpose well into the seventeenth century; but thereafter the riverside became a site of commercial buildings, the ponds gradually disappeared, and garden and orchard lands took their place.

It remains only to add a footnote concerning the steps by which the College came to occupy as well as own the whole of Fish Ponds Close. We may suspect that, in buying out his brother in 1821, Thomas Nutter had overstrained his resources. To complete that transaction he had to borrow £2,000 from a Cambridge bookseller, John Nicholson, and his sister. He managed to repay that loan, and another of £1,000 advanced by a Fen Drayton farmer in 1825; but apparently only by borrowing a further £3,500 from Jonas Tebbutt of Earith. To secure these loans he had to mortgage his Magdalene Street property. In the end his creditors foreclosed, his property was sold to Thomas Hallack, and the latter entered into an agreement with the College to sell back the unexpired portion of the Pondyard lease and the bridge across the Bin Brook to Ree or Fisher's Lane. The purchase was eventually made at a price of £2,500.⁵³ So Thomas Nutter and Sons, who still advertised as corn merchants of Magdalene Street in 1837, disappeared from that place; though it was possibly one of the sons who still did some business in that area and another who was established as a brewer in King Street in 1847.⁵⁴ As for Fish Ponds Close, uniting the old St John's and Merton Pondyards, there is no sign that it ever again passed out of the occupation of the College.

E. M.

⁵² SJC Maps, no. 123.

⁵³ SJC Cupboard 13, Bundle 23; Rental, 1842.

⁵⁴ *Pigot's Directory*, 1839, 49; *Kelly's Directory*, 1847, 1100.

The Commemoration Sermon, May 6, 1962

It is a moving moment at Commemoration each year when we hear the resounding roll of our benefactors, each name charged with College associations and with the overtones of four and a half centuries of English history. It is fitting that we should take this opportunity to do honour to their memory and to reflect upon what each individual act of giving has meant to the society to which we all belong. The very material wealth represented here needs to be borne in mind: not, of course, in pride of possession, but since it is only because of what this wealth commands that we manage to preserve our integrity as a College at the present time. For that wealth has given us the opportunity to maintain an independence of mind and spirit against the pressures of a mass age. The vice-chancellor of a great civic university, himself without loyalties to the ancient universities, told me recently that time and again in the past twenty five year British universities have been saved from going seriously astray by the independent thinking of Oxford and Cambridge. These, to him, are the twin fortresses of higher learning in Britain and their inner citadels are the colleges. "If these go", he said, "all goes." It is a high responsibility that our benefactors place upon us.

This is a critical moment to carry this responsibility. The colleges, with their wealth and privileges are subject to a process of attrition which could threaten their independence.

Cambridge, along with all universities, is subject to mounting pressures from the lay public to serve a more utilitarian purpose. Never has there been such vociferous clamour for higher education nor so little understanding of its true nature. The character of society is changing and the universities, in their public aspects, have not kept pace. There is a real danger that the hold of the universities on the country may be loosened. The echelons of leadership are multiplying and becoming ever more complex; and the traditional role of Oxford and Cambridge in educating a small ruling class of statesmen and public servants and providing recruits for the learned professions no longer serves. In the words of the University's Bidding Prayer, there may indeed be "wanting a supply of persons duly qualified to serve God in Church and State"; and since after the decay of aristocracy, the universities have been the sole guardians and transmitters of culture in these islands, we may be in danger of becoming, in Matthew Arnold's

terms, a nation of philistines. Those generations of unseen benefactors in Whitehall and Westminster, who have protected the universities from political pressures, not a few, members of this College, may be able to protect us no longer.

The Colleges of Oxford and Cambridge are especially vulnerable. Other universities which must be content with standards of amenity far below those we here take for granted, are beginning to question the justice of such special privileges. For Oxford and Cambridge are now only a part of a national system of universities which educate young men and women of comparable ability, not as an élite, but for a growing variety of workaday occupations.

In Cambridge itself, the place of the colleges is called in question as a result of the growth of new and ever more specialized disciplines which bear less and less relation to the tradition of college education. Everywhere we see the same pull towards specialization, towards research and publication at the expense of teaching, the same reluctance to teach first year men which in America leads ultimately to a refusal to teach any but research, indeed post-doctoral students. As a result there has been a serious breakdown of communication. That common discourse which sustained the republic of learning and which in Cambridge persisted long after classics and mathematics ceased to dominate the curriculum, has become so corrupt that it remains little more than a kind of pidgin English in which we try to make our basic wants known to our colleagues. It is a vulgar error to regard this as a division into two cultures: it pervades every aspect of our communal life. And there is plenty of evidence, from the difficulties of Fellowship elections to the high table talk which is so often reduced to the commonplace, that this is a threat to the College as an academic community.

As a result of these pressures we have seen our society grow to about ninety Fellows and over seven hundred junior members: a society which in scale has more affinity to a small university than to the College of tradition. What must we do in these circumstances to preserve the faith of our founders and benefactors? What must we do to justify ourselves to the world?

That wise Master, Ernest Benians, once truly said: "A college is more difficult to create than a university." What is this essence which we must preserve if we are to remain the "perpetual College" of the Lady Margaret's letters, if we are to avoid the fate of dwindling into little more than a combination of an expensive faculty club and a luxurious students hostel?

I have recently had cause to reflect upon the rich and varied life which our benefactors have enabled us to enjoy within these precincts: upon the manifold beauties of our buildings and grounds,

upon our library and this chapel, our furnishings and table, and the grace of living which they afford. These in themselves are no guarantee of excellence; indeed they have sometimes stood in the way of excellence. There was a time when a better education was to be had in the humble building of the Warrington academy and the wilderness college of John Harvard than this College thought fit to provide. Suppose that the College and its furnishings had been destroyed in the Blitz. What would have been the qualities of mind and spirit which would have ensured our survival? "A college is more difficult to create than a university" and it must be re-created by each generation of its members.

In this annual moment of reflection one returns to that prayer which never fails to refresh the spirit and discipline the will. What should we now do to ensure that "love of the brethren and all sound learning" may yet continue to "grow and prosper here"?

"All sound learning": the phrase has had varied overtones of meaning. Presumably it originally meant little more than "sound theological doctrine" and in current usage it has a negative suggestion of cautious, and pedantic scholarship. I like to interpret the phrase in a more positive sense: the pursuit of the truth, at once disinterested and courageous, humble and relentless, wherever its evidence may lead, and whether its reward be a Fellowship of the Royal Society or the isolation which is so often the penalty of a stubbornly held but inconvenient view. This is the tradition of the College, which has protected and encouraged many men too original to have found early recognition in conventional fields. It is a tradition which is often at odds with the times. For academic fashions, powerfully reinforced by State and foundation grants and by national publicity may deflect the good and encourage the careerist. And when dons are careerists who can blame undergraduates for regarding the university simply as a means to a job? Let us jealously guard this tradition which assumes a right and a duty to make our independent judgments of scholarly values. Also, for me, the word "all" has its own significance. For it implies a generous tolerance for other disciplines than one's own and for the colleagues who profess them. Ever since the 17th Century this College has been conspicuous for its liberal temper and I like to recall to-day that it was our late Master, Sir James Wordie, who first made this explicit to me. Ever since its Foundation, when Fisher made it the leading centre of Renaissance learning in Cambridge, the College has been receptive to scholarly innovation; and within the past century many new disciplines—for example, biology, economics, history, and psychology—have found an early home with us. Here, perhaps, the College has the greatest opportunity, today, to promote sound learning. It is a commonplace that much

creative work comes about at the growing-points between conventional disciplines, work often inhibited by faculty and other barriers. Surely, a great College like ours, where outstanding practitioners of all the major disciplines live together, has an almost unique opportunity to foster a more lively meeting of minds and thereby to bring back to it some of the intellectual leadership which in the last half century has passed to the University?

Yet, when all is said and done, a love of sound learning, even in the sense in which I have defined the term, does not sufficiently distinguish the College from the University. We only come to the heart of the matter when we consider the full implications of the first phrase of our prayer. In what does "love of the brethren" consist?

The essential difference between being a member of the University and of the College lies in the fact that whereas the obligations of the former are limited to the calls of scholarship and academic instruction, membership of the College demands a more complete allegiance. The College is a corporate body of scholars and students who have chosen to pursue their calling as members of a community. The character of the college has changed much since the time of its first statutes. These as Mr Miller has pointed out, embodied much of the order of discipline of a monastic establishment. But the College has not changed out of all recognition. It is still a community of academics who are not merely pursuing their scholarship but living their lives in common. If the College does not still mean this it means nothing. Allegiance to the College is more than scholarly: it is moral and spiritual. The life of a Fellow of the College is, or ought to be, complete: complete in the sense that the demands made upon him are those of the full man.

In the first place the college is a self-governing community. This is a boon which we tend to take for granted and it may be useful to remind ourselves that outside Oxford and Cambridge the normal pattern of academic government is markedly hierarchical, often authoritarian. Here, in contrast, all Fellows of the College are peers, whether they be holders of chairs, scholars of international reputation or newly elected research Fellows; and as we all know this equality is no mere formal or indeed political matter but determines our bearing towards each other, all our courtesies. The College is a true democracy; and this is a pre-condition for the life of the full man.

However, there is a less obvious point to be made. One comes ever more to admire the subtle and complex discipline of college life and the way that discipline gives unity and purpose to the great variety of talents latent in and among its members. We are

all of us conscious of tensions within our own lives: tensions between research or writing and teaching, between teaching and administering, between government and friendship, between the discipline and the fostering of youth, between work and idleness, yes and between belief and unbelief. In other organizations, even in universities, similar tensions may lead to personal frustrations, disappointments and failure. Yet within the beneficent habit of college life, such tensions, though part of men's normal lot, are kept in balance; nay more, for him who is prepared to accept the College's discipline, they may be resolved into a life which has more than its share of happiness. Our oath to promote education, religion, learning and research—that pluralism of values—was a promise for our own well being as well as for the College itself.

There is only one proviso. We must be prepared to serve the College and not ourselves. Here I do not want to be mistaken. Self-assertion is part of all of us, not least of those who are most creative in scholarship and the arts; and the College offers us a rare opportunity to lead a creative life. But unless in doing so we in some way serve the College we shall be guilty of a misplaced trust and we and the College will be the poorer for it.

One of the great traditions of St John's is the assumption that service is given and accepted by its members without personal recognition and with little recompense. Generations of Fellows have spent themselves in this way: tutors who have known their pupils one by one; bursars who have devoted a loving care to the minutiae of accounts and buildings; organists who have preserved the tradition of cathedral music; college lecturers of whom it could have been said, as of the Clerk of Oxford: "Gladly did he learn and gladly teach"; many have foregone academic honours, content with the quiet dignity of the black stuff gown and the plain description "Fellow". Some are among the names we have heard this morning; a few are commemorated by plaques in the ante-Chapel behind us; but many are barely known to us even by name and most of them have left nothing behind save the ineffable spirit which is the College. They are to be numbered among our most cherished benefactors. Let us therefore consider them in our prayers and take heart from their example.

F. T.

The Library

LAST May Mr R. Brice-Smith (B.A. 1908) generously presented the Library with an unpublished autograph letter signed by Sir Walter Scott. The letter is addressed to G. T. Gollop Esq., Brompton House, Near Yeovil, Somerset, London, and bears the postmark 18 Feb 1822. It runs as follows:—

Sir

I am honoured with your packet and regret that circumstances prevent my giving the contents more than a very superficial examination I disclaim all pretensions to being a judge of poetry of which I am to say truth (though I should be ashamed) a reluctant peruser. From the great number of gentlemen who with an opinion of me which does me more honour than I deserve have forwarded to me their poetical compositions & from the extreme delicacy of giving an opinion which to be useful must be sincere & to be sincere must often be displeasing I have been induced to lay down the general rule of declining a task which I have neither time nor taste to execute I trust therefore you will be (*sic*) no means consider it as a mark of disrespect to you individually if I am very brief on the present occasion. The version from Schiller seems to me to convey a very just idea of the original but I have strong doubts whether the lyrical poetry of that great German author will ever be very popular in England. The genius of the languages is much alike but that of the people themselves is very different. The German requires strong excitement and likes the wild and the fantastic in composition often hovering between the sublime & the bombast. This strong contrast of light and shade, this mingling as I may say of sense with nonsense or something like it will never be popular with a people like the English. Their power of reasoning does that for them which the French sensibility to the ridiculous produces on the other side of the channel. The English damns the author the instant he gets out of his depth and the Frenchman laughs at him the German on the contrary applauds and admires the author the more the further & deeper he plunges into the mystical & the exaggerated. I am afraid these national prepossessions will stand in the way of your proposed work and would if you pursue it recommend both compression and retrenchment. For the same reason I would recommend some of the ordinary and established English forms of metre instead of those borrowed from the German which sound harsh & new to our ears I think also you might

THE LIBRARY

with advantage bestow some stricter attention on your rhimes some of which are not now tolerated at least in short poems and perhaps upon revisal you will avoid some harsh turns of construction which are not quite congenial to the spirit of our language.

I would return your packet by post but as the postage is nearly a guinea & a half perhaps you will have the goodness to indicate some less expensive mode of transportation

I am Sir

your most obedient Servant

Edinburgh 17th february

Walter Scott

Scott's hand is elegant and fluent but unclear. For example *d* looks like *cl*, *o* like *e* or *i*, *a* and *n* like *u*. He rarely dots an *i* or crosses a *t*. The full stop is virtually the only punctuation mark he uses and he often omits even that. His compositors must have had a good deal of trouble when setting up the novels. Unless Scott was a careful proof-reader there is probably some scope for the textual critic there.

George Tilly Gollop must have been encouraged by Scott's remarks, for in the next year he published in London *Poems from the German of Schiller*. This is a rare book. There is no copy in the British Museum, our University Library, the Bodleian, the Taylorian or Brasenose (Gollop's college). Mr L. W. Hanson, the Keeper of Printed Books at the Bodleian, writes that the book "is recorded in B. Q. Morgan's *Bibliography of German Literature in English Translation* who cites only a copy in the library of Robert Priebisch."

In the year in which Scott took this trouble over Gollop the following novels of his were published: *The Pirate* (3 vols.), *The Fortunes of Nigel* (4 vols.), *Peveril of the Peak* (4 vols.). Other publications were *Halidon Hill: A Dramatic Sketch from Scottish History*; *Hints addressed to the Inhabitants of Edinburgh*, and *Others, in prospect of His Majesty's Visit*; and *Sketch of the Life and Character of the late Lord Kinmeder*.

A. G. L.

College Chronicle

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL

President: G. H. GUEST. *Captain:* D. A. PECK

Match Sec.: C. A. GREENHALGH. *Fixture Sec.:* K. SANDERSON

The Soccer Club experienced a moderate season, despite the fact that as individuals the players sometimes showed much prowess. The captain, D. A. Peck, was a constant source of strength and enthusiasm while the Club was honoured by K. Sanderson's selection for the University match against Oxford at Wembley.

The Michaelmas Term had a disastrous ending in that the 1st XI was relegated from division I although it would be true to say that the team did not play as badly as the league position suggests. During the Lent Term the semi-final of Cuppers was reached but Trinity barred the way to a second successive final. However, an appearance in the final of the University Six-a-side competition helped to somewhat redeem the hopes in the earlier part of the season.

One very gratifying aspect of the season was the enthusiasm of the Freshmen, four of whom were awarded Full Colours, and the fact that we were able to field regularly three teams.

Full Colours awarded to: M. F. Shayler, D. L. Rowlands, A. Simmons, P. S. Bennett, B. C. Collyer, D. C. K. Jones, R. F. Nelson.

THE BADMINTON CLUB

Captain: A. G. WAKLEY. *Hon. Sec.:* Y. ABDUL AZIZ

Treasurer: P. L. PEARSON

Once again the Club has enjoyed a successful season. Under the captaincy of Jay Dehejia we reached the final of the Cuppers to be beaten by Pembroke, and were well placed in the League.

Perhaps the most popular innovation for this Club was the playing of social games with C.U.W.B.C. and Homerton B.C. For these games there was great demand for selection!

The prospects for this season appear bright; it is probable that a third court will be in use at Portugal Place which will considerably increase the duration of our allotted practice times.

It is also hoped that matches will be played against colleges of other Universities.

R. G. C.

THE CLASSICAL SOCIETY

President: D. J. LITTLE. *Secretary:* M. C. SCHOLAR

Treasurer: M. SCHOFIELD

Meetings have been held regularly throughout the year, but attendances have varied a good deal. Professor Page's paper, "Some allegedly well known but usually mis-interpreted Homeric epithets" drew a lively audience of over thirty. Fewer came to read "The Bacchae" of Euripides, but Dr Peck's paper "The Tripos", perhaps through the ambiguity of its title, was a great attraction.

The first meeting of the Lent Term took an unusual form: four members of the society each read a short paper; W. J. Houston's entitled "Professor Page and the Agamemnon", J. G. Wright's "The Novi Poetae and the Angry Young Men: two chapters in the history of journalism", J. Sheldon's "Lateness of composition in the Homeric poems", and J. Miller's "Verginius in 68". In February Mr Crook read a paper "Amphitryo: a fairly serious study in comparative literature" in which he compared the plays of Plautus, Molière, Dryden, and Kleist; illustrating Dryden's play by singing several of Purcell's settings from it. At the end of the Lent Term, Mr S. J. Papastavrou delivered a paper in which he stressed the continuity of Greek language and literature, and, in the Easter Term, at our last meeting, J. B. Hall read a paper entitled "Claudian: the last of the pagan poets".

The Annual Dinner was held in June. Dr Peck and Mr Papastavrou were our guests, and the company was well entertained with a number of very amusing speeches.

Officers for year 1962-3—*President:* M. C. Scholar; *Secretary:* J. G. Wright; *Treasurer:* A. S. Gratwick.

M. C. SCHOLAR

THE GOLF CLUB

Captain: M. F. SHAYLOR. *Secretary:* M. J. F. STEPHENS

The Golf Club has enjoyed a fairly full programme this year. In the Michaelmas Term we were unbeaten in three matches in spite of the usual team selection difficulties.

Two pairs were entered for the Welsh Cup but the draw was against us and after a gallant effort Peter Ellis and Charlie Shearer were defeated by the strong Corpus first pair. Nigel Thompson and David Williams were slightly more successful but were knocked out in the second round.

The Lent Term saw the initiation of an inter-College Team knock-out competition. Here again we were matched against strong opponents and went down 3—0 in the first round to Jesus.

The season was wound up by playing our two yearly games against St Edmund Hall, Oxford. The first, at Huntercombe resulted in a resounding victory 6 games to 2 but the second was an equally resounding defeat $2\frac{1}{2}$ — $5\frac{1}{2}$ playing on an over-crowded Gogs.

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

President: DR R. E. ROBINSON. *Secretary:* K. J. MCCRACKEN

Treasurer: E. J. KING

All six meetings of the Society this year were well-attended, and a number of lively and enthusiastic discussions took place during which the views of more than one of our guest-speakers were assaulted, though not overthrown.

At the first meeting of the Michaelmas Term Mr Hinsley gave a highly interesting talk on the origins of the Second World War, in which he treated the theories of A. J. P. Taylor to a devastating analysis, and put forward some new ideas of his own. T. P. R. Laslett, formerly of John's but now a Fellow of Trinity, spoke at our second meeting on the still largely uncharted question of population and subsistence crises in the 17th Century. Our last paper of the term was delivered by J. Callagher of Trinity who spoke on the resurgence of Conservatism in Britain, France and the United States in the last quarter of the 19th Century.

At the beginning of the Lent Term, Professor Knowles talked about the recently completed Oxford History of England, and opened the way to a vigorous discussion on co-operative histories in general. He was followed by Richard Langhorne, who, with the aid of a vast and multi-coloured map, delivered the only undergraduate paper of the year on the subject of "Railway Wars in the 19th Century". Finally, Professor McCormick of Rutgers University, New Jersey, spoke on "The American Historical Tradition".

The Society's Annual Dinner was held at the beginning of the Easter Term with Professor La Nahze of Melbourne University as the guest of honour. Numerous speeches, most of them unofficial, were delivered by Professor La Nahze, Dr Robinson, Mr Hinsley, and Messrs McCracken, Augenbraun and Clark. The evening was voted a great success.

HOCKEY

President: MR A. G. LEE

Captain: D. B. ORR. *Secretary:* S. C. HODGSON

This year as last the strength of the team lay not in individual ability but in the high overall standard of play, the only weakness

in the side throughout the season being the lack of scoring power in the forwards, the defence being steady and reliable. Under the excellent captaincy of D. B. Orr, who was largely responsible for the season being a most enjoyable one, teamwork quickly developed and we won second place in the League tournament, being runners up to Christ's. With this success boosting morale, Cuppers was entered with enthusiasm but after an easy victory against Churchill in the 1st round we were unfortunate to lose by three goals to one in the 2nd round against Trinity.

Among the Club fixtures the most enjoyable was that against Southgate Hockey Club 2nd XI when we drew, two all, a gratifying result since the Varsity also drew with Southgate 1st XI on the same day.

A 2nd XI was fielded and under the capable captaincy of D. N. L. Ralphs it had a most successful season. For those less skilful several 3rd XI fixtures were arranged, no mean achievement on the part of the Secretary S. C. Hodgson, whom we thank for all his work during the season and congratulate on being captain for the next year.

Near the end of the season Nijmegen University XI from Holland visited the College for a week and due mainly to S. C. Hodgson's efforts, their stay was a most successful one.

Finally, the 1st XI went to the Folkestone Hockey Festival at Easter and was one of the five teams to win all four matches played.

S. C. Hodgson, D. B. Orr and M. E. Miller are congratulated on being made members, and M. E. Miller on also being elected secretary, of the Wanderers. With only two players going down and provided we maintain our keenness and enthusiasm we should achieve even greater success next year.

R. O. ELLIS

LACROSSE

You may think that Lacrosse is a girls' game—so it is, but men also play it and with more finesse. It must be admitted that the heavy handed novices who represent College teams leave a certain amount to be desired in this respect. Once on the field, however, enthusiasm does much to replace the lack of finer skill; the 'crosse changes from an innocent, if somewhat eccentric looking instrument into a lethal weapon. (We must here thank the college for so thoughtfully providing our armament for next season.)

For the College player, 'Cuppers' is the climax of the year. As a result of the fervent canvassing of one or two of the regular players, during the earlier part of the season, we were able to field two teams entirely from players with previous experience. This so overawed the opposition that John's won.

We hope our readers will be sufficiently inspired by this story

of success that they also will want to perform. This year sees the reinstatement of inter-College League Matches after a lapse of 14 years; and also the inauguration of a full social fixture list. Chris Town will be delighted to see those interested.

THE LADY MARGARET BOAT CLUB

President: THE MASTER. *Senior Treasurer:* MR A. M. P. BROOKES

Captain: A. J. COLLIER *Vice-Captain:* N. J. C. WALKINSHAW

Secretary: R. M. CROFTON

Assistant Secretary and Junior Treasurer: J. W. WATERS

MICHAELMAS TERM 1961

Two Light fours and a Clinker four started training at the beginning of term. The first and second Light fours were chosen after a week. The first four always showed promise of being fast and came on well, coached by Alf Twinn, J. Parker and J. G. D. Simpson. The second four was coached by Col. Wylie and after one or two changes in order, improved rapidly.

The first four drew Trinity Hall in the first round, and had to race on the Tuesday of the races due to matriculation days falling the same week. Trinity Hall were beaten by 11 seconds, but the four had rather a scrappy row. The second four drew Pembroke second four and beat them soundly on the Wednesday. On the Thursday the first four met First and Third Trinity. This was a most exciting race. First and Third led by two or three seconds all the way to the Railway Bridge, where Lady Margaret spurred for the last two minutes home to win by 3 seconds.

The second four had a hard race against a good Christ's four and lost.

The first four beat Clare in the semi-final and Jesus in the final, winning by 6 seconds in quite a close race. This was the first time the Club had won this event for ten years.

The Clinker four was big and rough. They raced very hard indeed and did extremely well to reach the final, when they were beaten by an exceptional First and Third crew, who broke the course record.

Crews:

1st IV
J. B. Peddie
J. R. Simmons
Hon. R. A. Napier
A. J. Collier

2nd IV
J. W. Waters
M. J. B. Gallop
N. J. C. Walkinshaw
R. M. Crofton

Clinker IV
P. A. Arriens
P. B. Simpson
T. C. Parker
C. Sinclair
Cox J. A. D. Hope

Colquhoun Sculls: The Club had two entries for the sculls, P. A. Arriens and Hon. R. A. Napier. Napier won the event. His chief opponent was Cooke of Jesus whom he beat in a very exciting semi-final and the fast time of 7 min. 49 seconds. This is the first time Lady Margaret have won the event since F. M. Symonds in 1932.

Fairbairn Cup: Only three crews were raised for this event. The first eight progressed well, and were ably coached by P. W. Holmes. They lacked the drive to seriously challenge Jesus but rose one place to second—twenty seconds behind Jesus.

A novices eight was raised for the Clare novices race but were beaten by Magdalene in the first round.

Trial Eights: The Club had three trial caps, Hon. R. A. Napier, J. B. Peddie, R. J. Ruane. Three members also rowed in the junior trial eights race: P. J. Owen, M. J. B. Gallop and J. R. Simmons. The latter, aided by more low cunning than was suitable for a junior, stroked his crew to victory by 27 seconds.

LENT TERM 1962

The first crew started training a week before the beginning of term under L. V. Bevan. J. B. Peddie was to have taken the next period but, quite rightly was recalled to row in the Goldie crew, so J. R. Simmons took over. J. Parker coached the final period. The performance in the races was a reflection of the Fairbairns and similar to last year. They were never really challenging Jesus nor did crews behind give any trouble.

The second eight were coached largely by N. J. C. Walkinshaw and J. R. Simmons. They showed occasional flashes of brilliance but were not always on top form, however they dealt convincingly with Jesus 2 to become the highest second eight in the Lent Races. The only other crew of note were the sixth boat which had the misfortune to be triple overbumped by a fast Fitzwilliam third boat.

Forster-Fairbairn Pairs: The Club had one entry, P. J. Owen and P. A. Arriens. They were beaten in the first round by 1.8 seconds by an Emmanuel pair who lost to the winners by a similar margin.

Bushe-Fox Sculls: The Club had one entry for this event also, G. R. H. Greaves who reached the final.

Fairbairn Junior Sculls: P. A. Arriens entered for this event and was beaten by Cooke of Jesus, who broke the course record.

Second Trinity Sculls: This event was won by P. A. Arriens.

Boat Race: Two members of the Club rowed in the winning boat race crew: Hon. R. A. Napier at 3 and A. J. Collier at 4.

Crews:

1st VIII
Bow J. W. Waters
 2 G. R. H. Greaves
 3 N. G. Timmins
 4 R. M. Crofton
 5 P. J. Owen
 6 P. B. Simpson
 7 P. A. Arriens
Str. S. L. Richards
Cox G. W. Egner

3rd VIII
 (Engineers)
Bow Hon. J. F. Lewis
 2 D. H. Chandler
 3 D. A. V. Beare
 4 P. C. Cunnington
 5 C. A. S. Macmillen
 6 A. H. L. Padfield
 7 T. C. Parker
Str. R. B. Reissner
Cox R. T. D. Oliver

5th VIII
 (Cynics)
Bow A. S. Gratwick
 2 C. Lawrence
 3 A. B. Cotterell
 4 D. H. Enderby
 5 G. M. Austin
 6 H. C. Bramley
 7 J. A. Wyke
Str. H. D. Fairman
Cox R. Gilbert

2nd VIII
Bow R. E. Footitt
 2 N. Vincent
 3 C. D. F. Smith
 4 P. G. Smith
 5 S. H. Vincent
 6 A. B. Macdonald
 7 A. A. D. Easterbrook
Str. J. S. R. Harris
Cox J. K. Hart

4th VIII
 (Novices)
Bow R. C. E. Devenish
 2 J. S. Sheldon
 3 C. R. Campbell
 4 P. A. Linehan
 5 M. H. R. Bertram
 6 J. R. G. Wright
 7 C. H. F. Bowden
Str. D. A. D. Cooke
Cox N. Coward

6th VIII
Bow A. J. Lait
 2 T. J. Budgen
 3 B. M. Wilson
 4 R. J. B. Way
 5 A. R. E. MacDonell
 6 B. P. Farrington
 7 J. B. Conybeare
Str. P. L. H. Pearson
Cox W. B. Wendt

EASTER TERM 1962

Magdalene Pairs: The Club had one entry, A. J. Collier and Hon. R. A. Napier who were beaten by J. M. S. Lecky (Jesus) and H. B. Budd (First and Third) by 2.8 seconds in the first round.

Lowe Double Sculls: The Club had three members entered, Hon. R. A. Napier and P. A. Arriens, and R. J. Ruane rowing with Webb of Queens'. Napier and Arriens won the event in record time, in the final against Webb and Ruane.

May Races: Two crews started training on Easter Monday with H. H. Almond coaching. After a fortnight the crews were more or less chosen. The first crew was going well with plenty of drive, but a lack of cohesion, quite usual at that stage. A. L. Macleod took over for the next fortnight, concentrating on technique. This was a very useful period and the crew improved enormously, though some attack may have been lost in the process. L. V. Bevan took the third fortnight during which a great deal of mile-

age was done, and several good rows were done at about 28. C. B. M. Lloyd took over for the final period and started to quicken the crew up. This was not entirely successful and there was a bad course on the Saturday before the races. This was attributed to the weather, which was extremely hot and sultry. The Monday outing was very much improved and some confidence was restored.

The first day of the races went well to start with. Jesus gave no trouble until Ditton, where Trinity pressed them hard, so hard in fact that they came up on us and made their bump soon after the Railway Bridge. The disturbing fact was that we had been able to do very little about it, being "stuck" at 32, 33 unable to raise the rating. The rig was altered for the next day and we rowed over, Trinity being bumped by Queens'. On the Friday Queens' caught us at the Plough. On the Saturday we rowed over and Jesus were caught by Queens' at the railings.

It is not possible to fix any blame for losing the headship, nor, I hope, is it necessary. A number of small things added up to disaster. The coaches, all good, coached well—perhaps they would have been better in another order, but they are not to blame for that.

The second boat were coached by L. V. Bevan, Col. Wylie and C. K. Smith. They were unlucky to be bumped by Magdalene but otherwise did well.

The third and fourth boats both did very well.

Crews:

1st Boat
Bow P. J. Owen
 2 J. R. Simmons
 3 N. J. C. Walkinshaw
 4 R. J. Ruane
 5 J. B. Peddie
 6 A. J. Collier
 7 Hon. R. A. Napier
Str. J. Parker
Cox J. A. D. Hope

3rd Boat
 (Engineers)
Bow Hon. J. F. Lewis
 2 D. H. Chandler
 3 D. A. V. Beare
 4 P. C. Cunnington
 5 T. C. Parker
 6 A. H. L. Padfield
 7 C. A. S. Macmillen
Str. R. B. Reissner
Cox R. T. D. Oliver

2nd Boat
Bow J. W. Waters
 2 M. F. Peachey
 3 S. H. Vincent
 4 P. G. Smith
 5 N. G. Timmins
 6 R. M. Crofton
 7 P. A. Arriens
Str. G. R. H. Greaves
Cox C. H. F. Avery

4th Boat
 (Hannah's)
Bow R. E. Footitt
 2 N. Vincent
 3 C. D. F. Smith
 4 S. L. Richards
 5 D. G. C. Slight
 6 A. B. Macdonald
 7 A. A. D. Easterbrook
Str. J. S. R. Harris
Cox J. K. Hart

5th Boat
Bow R. C. E. Devenish
 2 J. S. Sheldon
 3 P. D. M. Ellis
 4 P. A. Linehan
 5 C. R. Campbell
 6 F. R. Shackleton
 7 M. H. R. Bertram
Str. J. R. G. Wright
Cox G. W. Egner

7th Boat
 (Hoggers)
Bow M. de la P. Beresford
 2 D. R. Byron
 3 N. F. Large
 4 R. Lambert
 5 J. O'Brien
 6 J. A. L. Armour
 7 P. F. Clarke
Str. J. C. Lendon
Cox I. D. Strickland

9th Boat
 (Cecil Butler)
Bow D. J. A. Woodland
 2 B. W. Jackson
 3 D. C. Nicholls
 4 P. W. H. Weightman
 5 J. C. Fentress
 6 B. J. Burn
 7 A. J. Adey
Str. J. M. Pickles
Cox E. J. King

11th Boat
 (B.A's)
Bow J. P. Lewis
 2 J. A. Taylor
 3 D. E. Lennard
 4 J. R. Hurford
 5 A. J. Lane
 6 A. M. J. Davis
 7 G. F. R. Ellis
Str. J. Lions
Cox J. D. Mudie

Marlow and Henley Royal Regattas: One eight and two spare men were taken to these regattas. J. L. M. Crick took the eight for a couple of days before Marlow and quickened it up a little, but it was no match for London University. Napier and Collier were beaten in the final of the Marlow Pairs by two feet.

Dr Owen took over the eight and there was rapid improvement as it was made to work harder. Fours were entered for the Visitors and the Wyfold, and Napier and Collier entered the goblets.

6th Boat
 (Temperance IX)
Bow A. J. Lait
 2 R. J. B. Way
 3 B. P. Farrington
 4 D. V. Woodman
 5 B. S. Augenbraun
 6 R. A. Cross
 7 P. J. Jones
Str. H. D. Fairman
Cox N. Coward

8th Boat
 (Cygnet)
Bow J. R. D. Willans
 2 D. E. Hargreaves
 3 D. W. Brown
 4 A. R. E. MacDonell
 5 G. M. Austin
 6 H. C. Bramley
 7 T. J. Budgen
Str. P. L. H. Pearson
Cox R. Gilbert

10th Boat
 (Rugger)
Bow R. A. C. Bramley
 2 H. T. Roberts
 3 J. W. Thompson
 4 P. B. Woodhouse
 5 C. G. Hoole
 6 R. E. Gilkes
 7 S. G. Barff
Str. J. M. Coombs
Cox S. F. Havrlik

12th Boat
 (Medics)
Bow I. D. Strickland
 2 M. E. French
 3 R. H. Davies
 4 S. Moss
 5 I. G. Grove-White
 6 R. A. Carson
 7 C. D. Town
Str. J. Pritchard
Cox G. G. Davies

In the races, the eight, entered for the Thames Cup, beat Thames Tradesmen on the Wednesday and lost a tight race with Detroit on Thursday. The pair lost again to Lecky and Budd on the first day. The Visitors four reached the second round and were beaten by a good Imperial College four. The Wyfold four, having comfortably won an eliminating race, drew the Belgian Navy on the first day and were beaten. The Belgians won the event.

Crews:

Thames Cup
Bow P. J. Owen
 2 J. R. Simmons
 3 N. J. C. Walkinshaw
 4 R. J. Ruane
 5 Hon. R. A. Napier
 6 A. J. Collier
 7 J. B. Peddie
Str. J. Parker
Cox J. A. D. Hope

Visitors IV
 P. J. Owen
 J. R. Simmons
 J. B. Peddie
 J. Parker

Wyfold IV
 J. R. Owen (substitute for
 P. A. Arriens)
 G. R. H. Greaves
 N. J. C. Walkinshaw
 R. J. Ruane

THE MEDICAL SOCIETY

President: PROFESSOR H. A. HARRIS. *Chairman:* D. N. L. RALPHS

Secretary: S. MOSS. *Treasurer:* K. E. HAYNES

The Society has had an extremely varied programme this session with topics ranging from the gory details of trepanning as carried out by Saharan tribesmen, portrayed in a unique film introduced by Mr Ackester, to a lecture on homeopathy—one of the niceties of medical practice whereby patients are treated with potions containing infinitesimal amounts of active constituents and are held to make dramatic returns to health.

Dr Granville Williams, fellow of Jesus College, talked to us about the overdue reform of the abortion laws, of which cause he is a notable champion, but was unable to hold out any hope that this would be implemented in the near future. A psychiatrist from South Wales, Dr Davies, during his lecture in which he traced the development of methods of treating mental disease, dispelled much of the mystery surrounding the couch and members were impressed by the basis of common sense which underlies much of mental health medicine today.

Early in the Lent Term, Dr Louter, Director of the Radio-biological Research Unit at Harwell, addressed the Society on

'Radioactive Strontium and Bone Metabolism'—illustrating his points with a number of graphs. While these showed increasing background irradiation over the last ten years or so, they indicated that it is still too early to say whether dangerous levels of fall-out have yet been reached. It is not certain if there is a threshold below which level irradiation is harmless or whether the slightest dose could predispose to cancerous changes on further exposure.

Two contrasting lectures were given by Dr Harman, consultant physician to St Thomas' Hospital, and Dr Safir, who is visiting the Physiological Department from the U.S.A., on Russian and American Medicine respectively. Although some of the equipment was outdated, Dr Harman found the Russians well versed in the latest medical techniques and by and large the picture, in the larger hospitals at least, was very similar to that in this country. In America the increasing demand for specialist treatment is ousting the general practitioner as such, and small firms of doctors are springing up, each member of which is experienced in a particular facet of medicine. Although no Federal health service exists, Dr Safir told us of several types of organisation providing a comparable service to subscribers.

By kind invitation of the Chaplain, members were able to hear Dr Barber, director of a mission hospital near Johannesburg, talk both of the situation out there and also about the nature of his work. It seemed clear that any medical student who baulks at the exclusive specialisation required to practice in hospitals here, could do much worse than think in terms of working in such a hospital where there was an opportunity of very varied yet advanced practice.

Medics have appeared on the river both in the Lents and Mays, but the days seem to be passed when the L.M.B.C. 1st May Boat is made up of more than half of the previous year's medics' crew.

It remains only to thank members of the committee for their help in arranging and organising meetings and Dr Campbell for his continued interest, advice and loan of his set to the Society.

THE MODERN LANGUAGES SOCIETY

Peter Whyte, our first secretary, retired at the beginning of the Lent Term, 1962, and at that point the society could be said after one year's existence, to have proved its value and established itself firmly and since then our meetings have maintained a high standard. We have had papers by Mr G. Steiner, Mr R. Bambrough, Dr E. James and Professor Bruford on subjects concerning criticism, definitions in literature, *Candide* and "Classicism" in literature. In the Easter Term, Mr Boorman

spoke to us on the modern French novel and Dr Stern gave a reading of Mrs Stern's translation of a story by Schnitzler. On the Saturday night before the exams we had our annual dinner which many of the year's speakers attended as guests. Mr Boorman, in reply to a toast to the guests, made a memorable anti-speech. Despite impending exams celebrations continued late into the night. A rather discouraging feature of the year's meetings has been the lack of freshmen. We hope that somewhat high-powered titles are not putting them off. Our meetings are certainly always interesting and stimulating. We have a bright programme next term, including a French poetry reading and a talk by an undergraduate, C. D. Waller, on Nietzsche, and we hope that the state of the society will be the same after two years as after one. The continuing enthusiasm and generosity of Dr Stern and Dr James are a great inspiration and help to our progress and I would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to them.

J. R. HURFORD

THE MUSICAL SOCIETY

President: MR A. G. LEE

The pattern of activities during the year 1961-1962 followed that of previous years. Three Smoking Concerts were held in each of the Michaelmas and Lent Terms and one during the Easter Term. The second concert of the Michaelmas Term was given by Freshmen. All were successful and attendances were encouragingly larger than in recent years.

Notable events were the concert held in the Senior Combination Room (by kind permission of the Master and Fellows) on Tuesday, 28th November 1961 and a concert held in Hall on the afternoon of Sunday, 11th February 1962. The Combination Room concert was largely devoted to music written in the eighteenth century. Two concertos for harpsichord by Handel and Hook were directed from the keyboard by Peter Williams. The concert in Hall was given by the College Orchestra conducted by A. D. Greensmith and a group of singers conducted by D. J. Harvey. Leon Coates was the soloist in the Symphonic Variations by Cesar Franck.

The Society's pianos have recently been overhauled and renovated with the help of a grant from the College Council.

H. B. RUNNETT

THE PURCHAS SOCIETY

President: MR G. B. KENNEDY. *Secretary:* MR H. L. MASON

Senior Treasurer: B. H. FARMER, ESQ., M.A.

Esquire Beadle: C. VITA-FINZI, ESQ., M.A.

Librarian: C. T. SMITH, ESQ., M.A.

The Purchas Society has had a year which has been successful without in any way departing from the precepts of our Founder. It has continued to perpetuate the illustrious memory of Samuel Purchas, a Johnian, a master of the calculated over-statement and the greatest geographer and anthropologist of the Seventeenth, or for that matter, any other century.

In emulation of the wide range of interests of our erudite Founder, our fortnightly meetings have covered such diverse matters as the Prehistory of Sardinia, the Geomorphology of the Massif Central, and the place of mathematics in the development of the Geographical discipline. The ability of impecunious Purchasians to travel extensively remains strong, and resulted in three talks, upon travels carrying Purchasian civilisation to foreign parts, which revealed undoubted merit but dubious photography. All of the talks were preceded by coffee and the ceremonial reading of the minutes, and most were illustrated with distorted views of car windows, telephone wires and all-obscuring mists.

The Annual General Dinner, an unique institution which attracts numerous errant Purchasians, was held in the Wordsworth Room during February and it was the occasion for a spirit of amity, harmony and fraternity throughout Purchasdom. Later in the year an intrepid band of Purchasians ventured far into the wilds of Cambridgeshire and eventually attained the establishment of Messrs Steward and Patteson at Ely. Other features of the year worthy of note include the purchase of a new and heavy paperweight by the librarian to contain the rapidly increasing library. After the thorough and extensive exposition of all subjects worthy of attention by our illustrious founder, the Society remains clearly aware of the dangers involved in rashly setting quill to paper.

THE RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

President: PROFESSOR W. A. DEER. *Captain:* F. K. KEYSSELL

Secretary: J. W. THOMPSON. *Match Secretary:* C. G. HOOLE

The results of the 1961-62 season show that the Club did not enjoy a successful season, but this was not due to a lack of enthusiasm, which was maintained throughout the season. During the league term the 1st XV lost their position in the 1st Division;

the 2nd XV gained a position in the 2nd Division and the 3rd and 4th XVs maintained their positions in the 4th Division. The Cuppers XV were beaten in the semi-final of the competition.

The College Trials promised a good season with seventeen old 2nd XV colours playing. The standard of the Freshmen was not high, and as a result few of them played in the senior league teams. The 1st XV started with two defeats, they recovered, and gained two good victories over teams which were high in the league table. The side looked settled and was working together; but three bad injuries followed, meaning that the Captain had to completely rebuild his side. In this time they were beaten by three sides, but recovered once again to win the last league game; three victories did not save the side from relegation.

The 2nd XV under the powerful leadership of Fred Bowater started well with two good victories, but then found that points were difficult to score. This was due to the 2nd XV players being required to play for the 1st XV. They however managed to record five victories and only two defeats by the end of the season. In order to get their promotion they 'played off' against Jesus II, beating a side which had previously defeated them. The 2nd XV had a successful season.

The 3rd and 4th XVs were of very much the same standard and many players played equally for both sides, due to a slight shortage of players. (The club totalled 80 players of which 30 were freshmen.) The Captains of these teams managed their difficult task well and recorded a few creditable wins and in doing so played some good rugby.

The Club having once again had a good Cuppers draw got down to serious training, which was well maintained until the semi-final. In the first round they beat Jesus by a penalty to nil, which by some was considered to be a lucky victory; but others considered that with more thought the side could have scored more points. In the second round the Cuppers XV defeated Magdalene 19—0. It was a good victory and gave the side the confidence which they needed. Unfortunately training had to be stopped before the semi-final and the team was not fully prepared for the power of the Queens' side. Queens' won the match by three penalties to a goal and a dropped goal.

The club indulged in its normal activities throughout the season—the Dance was well organised by Simon Barff and his assistants. The Club also entered for the Esher Sevens competition, but did not go on Tour due to a lack of support.

Cuppers XV: F. K. Keysell (*Captain*), J. W. Thompson, S. M. Vaughan, R. H. Palin, H. J. Wyman, C. G. Hoole, R. M. Turnbull, P. E. K. Fuchs, S. Waddell, P. B. Woodhouse, R. H. Davies, S. F. Havrlik, J. A. Castle, H. J. Roberts, P. F. Clarke.

THE SQUASH RACKETS CLUB

Captain: P. D. STOKES. *Secretary:* D. M. R. LEWIS

The 1961-62 season was one of the most successful enjoyed by the Club for some time. By winning the Cuppers for the third year in succession, the Club was the only major club in the College to win a Cuppers competition. The 1st League V also ended the season at the head of the 1st division and the second V were placed 5th in division III, the third, 6th in division IV. Peter Stokes and Roger Palin represented the College in the Blue side, and Martin Smith and Stuart Francis were awarded Ganders.

P. D. Stokes, R. H. Palin, M. G. M. Smith, J. M. Waterfall, D. M. R. Lewis and R. C. Harrison played in the Cuppers Competition and were awarded Colours for the 1961-62 season. P. E. K. Fuchs and J. H. B. Allan were awarded 2nd V Colours, having played regularly for the 1st League team and the College in the Club matches. Club matches were an enjoyable feature of the season and some exciting matches and entertaining evenings were had by all. The Jesters, Escorts, R.A.F. Henlow, Norwich C.E.Y.M.S., London School of Economics, St John's College, Oxford, Cumberland Club and Harrowgate S.R.C. are all teams whom we hope to meet again next season.

Prospects for 1962-63 season are good as the complete Cuppers side is returning. P. D. Stokes captains the University again and R. H. Palin is University Secretary. College Officers will be:— Captain, D. M. R. Lewis; Secretary, J. M. Waterfall. Only one Freshman played in the League teams this year and we hope to see many more on the courts next season.

College Notes

Honours List

Birthday Honours, June 1962:

K.B.E.: FREDERICK WILLIAM GEORGE WHITE (Ph.D. 1934), chairman of the Commonwealth of Australia Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation.

C.M.G.: GEOFFREY HOWARD HERRIDGE (B.A. 1926), managing director of the Iraq Petroleum Company, Limited.

C.B.E.: KENNETH ADAM (B.A. 1929), director of television broadcasting, B.B.C.

C.B.E.: RONALD GEORGE HENRY WATTS (B.A. 1935), H.M. Consul-General, Osaka, Japan.

Honorary Degrees

Honorary degrees have been conferred on members of the College as follow:

3 May 1962, LL.D. of the University of Exeter, Mr A. P. STEELE-PERKINS (B.A. 1930), Mayor of Exeter;

14 June, D.D. of the University of Cambridge, The Most Rev. F. D. COGGAN (B.A. 1931), Lord Archbishop of York;

27 June, D.Sc. of the University of Oxford, Sir FREDERIC BARTLETT (B.A. 1915), Fellow;

July, D.D. of the University of Wales, at Swansea, Dr T. H. ROBINSON (B.A. 1903), formerly Professor of Semitic Languages at University College, Cardiff.

Elected into Fellowships

At the Annual Election, May 1962:

ROGER FRANCIS GRIFFIN (B.A. 1957); DEREK ALBERT WILLOUGHBY (Ph.D. 1961); MICHAEL RICHARD AYERS (B.A. 1958); JOHNSON ROBIN CANN (B.A. 1959).

From 1 October 1962:

Mr H. S. L. HARRIS (B.A. 1941), University Lecturer in Engineering.

Mr M. G. COOPER (B.A. 1948), University Lecturer in Engineering.

Mr A. C. CROOK (Trinity Hall M.A. 1962), chief architect in the University Estate Management Service.

Professor J. H. FRANKLIN, Pitt Professor of American History and Institutions for 1962-3.

Professor G. BARRACLOUGH (incorporated M.A. 1933), formerly Fellow, Stevenson Research Professor of International History at the London School of Economics, has been re-elected into a Fellowship from 1 October 1962.

University Awards

A. C. RENFREW (B.A. 1961): Studentship at the British School of Archaeology at Athens; and a grant from the Ridgeway Venn Travel Fund.

S. W. SYKES (B.A. 1961): Joseph Hodges Choate Memorial Fellowship at Harvard University.

M. J. S. HODGE (B.A. 1962): Arnold Gerstenberg Studentship.

J. MILLER (B.A. 1962): Sandys Studentship.

G. A. REID (B.A. 1962): W. A. Meek Scholarship.

P. A. STRITTMATTER (B.A. 1961): Amy Mary Preston Read Scholarship.

I. D. BENT (B.A. 1961): Allen Scholarship; and William Barclay Squire Prize in musical palaeography.

S. J. P. WATERS (B.A. 1962): Frank Smart Studentship in Botany.

N. F. LARGE (B.A. 1962): Philip Lake Prize for Physiography.

R. E. EMMERICK (B.A. 1961): Bhaonagar Medal, and Brotherton Prize for Sanskrit.

A. J. LAIT (Matric. 1960): Rex Moir Prize in Engineering.

S. JUMSAI (B.A. 1961): Grant from the Brancusi Travel Fund.

C. R. E. TITLEY (B.A. 1962): Grant from the Tennant Fund for study in Norway.

Other Fellowships, Prizes, Awards, etc.

Dr B. A. CROSS (B.A. 1949), University Lecturer in Veterinary Anatomy, has been elected into a Fellowship in Corpus Christi College, Cambridge.

Mr R. W. LARDNER (B.A. 1959) has been elected into a Research Fellowship at Peterhouse.

Mr R. HYAM (B.A. 1959) has been elected into a Research Fellowship in Magdalene College.

Dr I. D. MUIR (B.A. 1947), University Lecturer in mineralogy and petrology has been elected into a Fellowship and College Lectureship in Selwyn College.

Mr D. H. V. BROGAN (B.A. 1959) has been elected into a Harkness Fellowship of the Commonwealth for American politics; and Mr D. S. GLASS (Matric. 1959) for organic chemistry.

Dr W. O. CHADWICK (B.A. 1939), Master of Selwyn College, has been elected a Fellow of the British Academy.

Sir HUGH CASSON (B.A. 1932), architect, has been elected an Associate of the Royal Academy.

Mr K. FEARNSIDE (B.A. 1940) has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Aeronautical Society.

The Carnegie Institution of Washington has awarded the Grove Karl Gilbert Award to Sir HAROLD JEFFREYS (B.A. 1913), Fellow, to assist work in the improvement of seismological travel times.

Dr L. S. B. LEAKEY (B.A. 1926), formerly Fellow, has been awarded a Viking Medal by the Wenner-Gren Foundation, Royal Anthropological Institute.

Mr JOHN SARGENT (Matric. 1928) has had three marble reliefs of horses accepted for the Paris Salon 1962, and has been awarded a *Medaille d'or*.

Mr K. A. USHERWOOD (B.A. 1925) has been elected President of the Institute of Actuaries for the years 1962-4.

Mr E. ROXBURGH (Matric. 1961) has received an award for composition in music from the Lili Boulanger Memorial Fund of Boston, U.S.A.

University and Other Appointments

Dr P. A. G. SCHEUER (B.A. 1951), formerly Fellow, to be an Assistant Director of Research in Physics.

Mr J. R. BAMBROUGH (B.A. 1948), Fellow, to be a University Lecturer in Classics.

Dr M. J. P. CANNY (B.A. 1952) and Dr S. M. WALTERS (B.A. 1951), formerly Fellow, to be University Lecturers in Botany.

Mr P. BOYDE (B.A. 1956) to be a University Assistant Lecturer in Italian.

Mr D. R. STODDART (B.A. 1959) to be a University Demonstrator in Geography.

Mr S. G. FLEET (B.A. 1958) to be a University Demonstrator in Mineralogy and Petrology.

Dr F. SMITHIES (B.A. 1933) to be Reader in Functional Analysis.

Mr G. S. HANKINSON (B.A. 1960) to be an Administrative Assistant in the office of the General Board.

Dr D. W. J. CRUICKSHANK (B.A. 1949), formerly Fellow, has been appointed Joseph Black Professor of Chemistry in the University of Glasgow, a new chair.

Mr I. P. WATT (B.A. 1938), formerly Fellow, Professor of English in the University of California (Berkeley), has been appointed Professor of English Literature and Dean of the School of English Studies in the University of East Anglia.

Dr G. G. HALL (Ph.D. 1951), formerly Fellow, lecturer in mathematics at the Imperial College of Science and Technology, London, has been elected Professor of Applied Mathematics in the University of Nottingham.

Mr J. F. LIVELY (B.A. 1953) has been appointed lecturer in politics in the University of Sussex.

Mr P. F. WILLIAMS (B.A. 1958), Mus.B., has been appointed a lecturer in music in the University of Edinburgh.

Dr RUDOLF PEIERLS (M.A. 1936), Professor of Mathematical Physics in the University of Birmingham, has been elected Wykeham Professor of Physics in the University of Oxford from 1 October 1963.

Mr J. H. M. SALMON (M.Litt. 1957) is now Professor of History in the University of New South Wales.

Dr T. C. WHITMORE (B.A. 1956), formerly Fellow, lecturer in botany in the University of Southampton, has been appointed botanist to the Forestry Department, British Solomon Islands.

Mr F. S. MARSHALL (B.A. 1944), senior physics master at St Alban's School, has been appointed headmaster of the science department of the Royal Belfast Academical Institution.

Mr T. K. VIVIAN (B.A. 1948), a master at Rugby School, has been appointed headmaster of Lucton School, Herefordshire.

Mr F. S. CHAPMAN (B.A. 1929), formerly headmaster of St Andrew's College, Grahamstown, South Africa, has been appointed Warden of the British Pestalozzi College at Sedlescombe, near Battle, Sussex.

Mr R. B. BARNES (B.A. 1958), music master at Calne Bentley Grammar School, Wiltshire, has been appointed music master at Harlow comprehensive School; he is succeeded by Mr D. B. PRICE (B.A. 1961).

Mr K. W. BLYTH (B.A. 1957), lately of the National Institute of Industrial Psychology, has been appointed assistant to the Director of the Nuffield Foundation.

Mr B. M. STROUTS (B.A. 1931), Deputy General Manager, Nyasaland Railways Limited, and Trans-Zambesia Railway Company, Limited, has been appointed General Manager.

Mr R. L. MIALI (B.A. 1936), formerly the British Broadcasting Corporation's chief correspondent in Washington, has been appointed to assist the director of television in work concerned with the development of the television service.

Mr J. B. MILLAR (B.A. 1930) has been appointed Scottish Programme Head of the British Broadcasting Corporation.

Ecclesiastical Appointments

The Rev. E. M. B. LOFT (B.A. 1949), vicar of Allonby with West Newton, Cumberland, to be vicar of Fillongley, Warwickshire.

The Rev. G. G. CARNELL (B.A. 1940), rector of Isham, Northamptonshire, has been appointed Director of Ordination Training in the diocese of Peterborough.

The Right Rev. F. H. MONCREIFF (B.A. 1927), Bishop of Glasgow and Galloway, has been elected Primus of the Episcopal Church in Scotland.

The Rev. P. N. CHALLENGER (B.A. 1957), curate of Busbury, Wolverhampton, to be vicar of Horsley Woodhouse, Derbyshire.

Ordinations, 17 June 1962:

Priest

The Rev. J. M. BROTHERTON (B.A. 1959), by the Bishop of London.

The Rev. D. W. GOULD (B.A. 1959), by the Archbishop of York.

The Rev. B. E. KERLEY (B.A. 1957), by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

The Rev. M. A. OAKLEY (B.A. 1959), by the Bishop of Rochester.

The Rev. J. T. SPENCE (B.A. 1959), by the Bishop of Coventry.

Deacon

Mr P. FISK (B.A. 1960), Wells Theological College by the Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich, to Holy Trinity, Ipswich.

Mr A. A. MACINTOSH (B.A. 1959), Ridley Hall, by the Bishop of Lincoln, to South Ormsby, Lincolnshire.

Medical and Legal Appointments

Mr M. K. TOWERS (B.A. 1943), M.R.C.P., has been appointed consultant in cardiometrics, Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, London.

The following members of the College have been elected Fellows of the Royal College of Physicians: Mr F. S. JACKSON (B.A. 1936), Dr L. S. PENROSE (B.A. 1921) and Dr JOHN VALLANCE-OWEN (B.A. 1942).

Mr R. G. GIBSON (B.A. 1932), O.B.E., has been admitted to the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons as a general practice representative.

Mr W. H. GRIFFITHS (B.A. 1948), of the Inner Temple, barrister at law, has been appointed Recorder of the Borough of Margate.

Sir JOHN MEGAW (B.A. 1931), Judge of the High Court, has been appointed Chairman of the Restrictive Practices Court.

A Duke of Edinburgh Entrance Scholarship at the Inner Temple has been awarded to Mr C. B. HERTZOG (B.A. 1960).

Marriages

JOHN CHARLES ALLDAY MOUSLEY (Matric. 1950) to ALDA MARY SHEWELL—on 16 June 1962, at St Andrew's Church, Ashburton, Devon.

STEPHEN THESIGER WILLIAMS (B.A. 1959) to DIANA DODD, eldest daughter of E. J. DODD, of Weston, Berkshire—on 12 May 1962, at Welford Church, Berkshire.

JOHN HAMPDEN HYATT (B.A. 1952) to CYNTHIA MARY STEVENSON, daughter of B. P. Stevenson, of Auckland, New Zealand—on 19 May 1962, at St Leonard's Church, Flamstead, Hertfordshire.

PETER EVAN BRUTTON FORD (B.A. 1954) to ELIZABETH DAY, only daughter of Commander Edward Day, of Winchester—on 28 July 1962, at St Bartholomew, Hyde, Winchester.

RONALD MIDGLEY NEDDERMAN (B.A. 1956) to SUSAN WELLER, only daughter of E. P. Weller, Bursar of Gonville and Caius College—on 28 March 1962, at Cambridge.

DAVID SYDNEY ROWE-BEDDOE (B.A. 1961) to MALINDA ELIZABETH COLLISON, daughter of Thomas F. Collison, of Mill Valley, California—on 31 March 1962, at Llandaff Cathedral.

JOHN ALISTER DAVIDSON (B.A. 1954) to MARILYN MENZIES ANDERSON, daughter of Lady Menzies Anderson—on 14 April 1962, at New Kilpatrick Parish Church, Bearsden, Dumbartonshire.

STEPHEN EDWARD REID (B.A. 1961) to WENDY ANN CADWALLADER, only daughter of W. D. Cadwallader, of Birmingham—on 5 April 1962 at Elmwood Congregational Church, Hamstead Hill, Birmingham.

WILLIAM HUGH BEAUMONT (B.A. 1947) to ELIZABETH CUTTS, only daughter of Alfred Cutts, of Stratford upon Avon—on 28 April 1962, at the Church of St Helen, Stratford upon Avon.

BERNARD GRANT CAMPBELL (B.A. 1953) to MARGARET WENDY CHRISTIE—on 10 May 1962, in Cambridge.

ROGER EDWARD BOURNE (B.A. 1959) to SUSAN CALLANDER, daughter of T. E. Callander, of Coulsdon, Surrey—on 11 August 1962, in the College Chapel.

Deaths

GEORGE LINDSAY RITCHIE (B.A. 1913), M.C., Lieutenant-Colonel, Royal Scots Fusiliers, died 24 March 1962, aged 73.

HERBERT THOMAS HOLMES (B.A. 1896), formerly H.M. Inspector of Schools, died at Reigate, 31 March 1962, aged 86.

HERBERT LOVELL CLARKE (B.A. 1904), Archdeacon of Leeds from 1940 to 1950, died at Swindon, 4 April 1962, aged 80. His father, HENRY LOWTHER CLARKE (B.A. 1874), his uncle, JOHN CLARKE (B.A. 1870) and his grandfather, WILLIAM CLARKE (B.A. 1829) were members of the College; and he is the father of DENIS LOWTHER LOVELL CLARKE (B.A. 1938).

PENRY MALCOLM WYKEHAM WILLIAMS (B.A. 1911) died at Redhill, 18 April 1962, aged 72.

ROBERT SHILLITO DOWER (B.A. 1895), iron merchant, died at Burley in Wharfedale, 14 April 1962, aged 91. He was the father of JOHN GORDON DOWER (B.A. 1923) and the grandfather of MICHAEL SHILLITO TREVELYAN DOWER (B.A. 1957) and of ROBERT CHARLES PHILIPS DOWER (B.A. 1961).

GEORGE NOEL LANKESTER HALL (B.A. 1913), Bishop of Chota Nagpur from 1936 to 1957, died at Dormans, Surrey, 12 May 1962, aged 70.

JOHN STERNDALÉ-BENNETT (B.A. 1906), Lieutenant-Colonel, Indian Army, O.B.E., J.P., died at Waterinbury, Kent, 6 June 1962, aged 82.

WILLIAM ROBERT STANLEY PRESCOTT (B.A. 1934), barrister at law, Member of Parliament for the Darwen division of Lancashire from 1943 to 1950, died in London, 6 June 1962, aged 50.

EDWARD CECIL COSGROVE (B.A. 1923), physician to the Royal Hospital, Buxton, died at Buxton, 22 May 1962, aged 59.

JOHN ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL ROBERTSON (B.A. 1934), C.B., under-secretary, H.M. Treasury, died at Hampstead, 27 May 1962, aged 49.

GERALD LITTLEBOY (B.A. 1921), headmaster of Sidcot School, Somerset, from 1934, died at Oxshott, June 1962, aged 65.

JOHN DAVID HENRY PATCH (B.A. 1894), rector of Ashill, Ilminster, Somerset, from 1935 to 1953, died at Newton Abbot, Devon, 30 May 1962, aged 89.

ROBERT FREEMAN PEARCE (B.A. 1897), formerly a Missionary in India and vicar of Rodmersham, Kent, from 1936 to 1939, died 6 March 1962, aged 85.

ISAAC ERNEST JONES (B.A. 1919), for many years secretary of the National Federation of Building Trades Employers, died at St Albans, 27 July 1962, aged 68.

ERIC LESLIE VIVIAN THOMAS (B.A. 1921), solicitor, of Penzance, died 6 July 1962, aged 62.

WILLIAM KNIGHTLEY-SMITH (B.A. 1955), of the Eagle Star Insurance Company, died suddenly at Edinburgh, 31 July 1962, aged 30. At Cambridge he won blues for cricket and association football.

WALTER HARRY HARDING (B.A. 1909), vicar of North Leigh, Oxfordshire, from 1948, died at the Vicarage, 2 August 1962, aged 75.

EDWARD OWEN PRETHEROE (B.A. 1920), M.C., Q.C., formerly of the Colonial Legal Service, serving successively in Nigeria, British Guiana and Malaya, died in London, 4 August 1962, aged 66.

DAVID IAN THOMAS (B.A. 1946), died at Tenby, 9 August 1962, aged 37.

Book Review

GEORGE WATSON: *The Literary Critics*—Pelican, 1962.

From Saintsbury to Wimsatt and Brooks we have looked for a history of English criticism that is sound without being over-weighty, provocative without being flashy—a contribution, in fact, neither too large nor too thin. Mr Watson in *The Literary Critics*, within the scope of a Pelican, states his case and convictions, adding to his well-known gifts of accuracy and scholarship (revealed in his editorial and bibliographical work) a turn of phrase, clarity and speed. It is an exciting book, dealing with a subject that can be notoriously dull.

The author limits himself to “descriptive criticism, or the analysis of existing literary works”, as opposed to legislative and theoretical criticism. Stating his distrust in the “Tidy School” who see the history of criticism as a “story of successive critics offering different answers to the same questions”, he sees a “pattern of refusal, on the part of the major critics, to accept the assumptions of existing debate”. Before starting (with Dryden, as he must) Mr Watson allows himself a word on the too-frequently heard “no creation, so critic”, ironically enough put forward most forcibly by Coleridge. With no trace of self-justification, this is answered by a glance at the names on the cover. Poets great and small have left the one for the other (Coleridge not least). Criticism is not inferior, but often a parallel activity, and always a “statement of experience.”

The approach to each critic is direct. The questions as much as the answers concern the author. Passages catch fire and hold interest with strong opinion, and remarks, apparently over-simplified, yet conceal a firm grasp of the main point; of Dryden:—

His achievement, ultimately, lies not in analysing much or in doing it well, but in providing the inestimable example of showing that literary analysis is possible at all.

and of T. S. Eliot, sceptical,

The question sounds eminently reasonable, but remains unanswerable; what is revolutionary in the criticism of T. S. Eliot?

Running throughout the book this ability to turn a phrase and hit the nail enlivens the whole history (Hazlitt, we are prettily told “flaunts his own personality at the expense of his subject. He is the father of our Sunday journalism”).

Rymer is soundly (finally, we hope) thrashed, Coleridge brilliantly treated, while Arnold and Eliot engage the author strongly. Henry James receives high praise—the clarity, economy, perception and uncompromising approach of the Prefaces stand, perhaps, as Mr Watson’s ideal.

The central thread, however, is not lost sight of under the opinion. The search for the individual voice dominates, the main issue; moving into this century we have Eliot’s evasiveness bitterly condemned, only the early years surrounding *The Sacred Wood* (1920) finding favour. Yfor Winters would not agree with me but surely Mr Watson’s remark:—

Altogether, his (Eliot’s) critical career might have been planned as a vast hoax to tempt the historian into solemnities for the sport of Philistines

is a little unfair. It makes good reading, but over-shoots. F. R. Leavis, however, falls into perspective under a firm hand—it is balanced, mature, completely un-partisan. Empson, as with James, kindles affection.

One small habit tends to annoy. Each critic (for the sake of clarity, doubtless) falls just a little too comfortably into periods. Johnson’s criticism, we find, falls into “four groups”, James’ into “three stages”, and Eliot’s into “three periods”—and more. To quibble, this is too tidy! Elsewhere, however, he steadfastly resists, reminding us in the last chapter:

The terrain since the 1930’s is unmapped, and must for the time being remain so. The subject is at best an untidy one, and every attempt to make it look tidy must suffer from some distortion and suppression of evidence.

References are excellent, and the index, thankfully, is not a potted substitute of the book. A useful bibliography follows the author’s closing view that “a wise eclecticism is the best thing that could happen to our critical tradition”.

The book is not the whole answer, but a spring-board. As with the “beam of light” in De Quincey’s criticism, when Mr Watson is at his best the history of descriptive criticism engages our full interest —“we understand in some part how it came to be made”. We may not always agree with the sane, occasionally sharp and sceptical voice, but the note of authority and stimulation is unmistakable; and it would be foolish to miss the challenging views.

J. B. S.