



Sydney Church of England
Grammar School

NORTH SYDNEY

DECEMBER 1944

Sydney Church of England Grammar School

Speech Day—14th December, 1944

Programme

Visitors are requested to take their seats in the marquee before 3.15 p.m.

At 3.15 p.m. a short service will be held in the marquee.

At 3.30 p.m. the Chair will be taken by His Grace, the Archbishop of Sydney.

ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS:

Summary of Headmaster's Report.

Presentation of Prizes.

Address by The Honourable Sir Henry Braddon, K.B.E., M.L.C.

Vote of Thanks (the Senior Prefect).

Ceremony of Remembrance.

National Anthem.

Tea will be served in School House Quadrangle and in the Dining Hall.

The official visitors will be entertained by the Council and the Headmaster in the Headmaster's Lodge.

ORDER OF SERVICE

HYMN.

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home.

Under the shadow of thy throne,
Thy Saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is thine arm alone,
And our defence is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,
Or earth received her frame,
From everlasting, Thou art God,
To endless years the same.

A thousand ages in thy sight
Are like an evening gone,
Short as the watch that ends the night,
Before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
Bears all its sons away,
They fly forgotten, as a dream
Dies at the opening day.

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be thou our guard while troubles last,
And our eternal home.

THE SCHOOL LESSON.—1 Peter, ii, 11-25.

—PRAYERS.

President of Council: THE MOST REV. THE LORD ARCHBISHOP OF SYDNEY.

Council:

Rev. E. F. N. CASH, M.A., B.D., Th.Soc.	Brigadier the Hon. T. A. J. PLAYPAIR, D.S.O., O.B.E., V.D., M.L.C.
Rev. O. G. DENT, L.Th.	A. D. FISHER, Esq., B.A., LL.B.
Rev. W. F. PYKE, B.D., Th. Schol.	Lieut.-Col. H. L. St. VINCENT WELCH, D.S.O., M.B., Ch. M. (Syd.), D.O.M.S. (London).
Rev. L. GABBOTT, B.A., L.Th.	R. B. HIPSLEY, Esq., B.E. (Hon. Sec.)
Rev. R. J. HEWETT, Th. L.	T. A. STRUDWICK, Esq., F.C.A. (Aust.), (Acting Hon. Treasurer).
Rev. R. P. GEE, Th. L.	A. DISTIN MORGAN, Esq., M.B., Ch. M. (Syd.), D.A. (R.C.P. & S., Eng.).
Professor E. R. HOLME, O.B.E., M.A.	
A. B. S. WHITE, Esq.	
F. W. HIXSON, Esq., O.B.E., V.D.	
H. V. JAKUES, Esq., B.A., LL.B.	
A. L. BLYTHE, Esq., O.B.E. (Hon. Treas.)	

Headmaster: L. C. ROBSON, M.C., M.A. (Oxford), B.Sc. (Sydney).

Chaplain: Rev. N. a'B. T. BACKHOUSE, B.A., Dip. Ed. (Melbourne).

Master of Preparatory School: K. D. ANDERSON, M.A. (New Zealand).

Assistant Masters:

R. G. H. WALMSLEY, B.A. (Oxford).	Rev. T. H. D. KITLEY, B.A. (Sydney), Th.L.
E. M. BAGOT, M.A. (Adelaide).	D. P. POMENKO, B.Ec., M. Litt.
C. S. TILEY, B.E. (Sydney).	W. H. BRIERLEY.
E. J. CLINCH, B.A., B.Sc. (Sydney).	E. C. ARNOLD, B.A. (Sydney).
J. B. BURRELL, B.A. (Melbourne).	W. N. DOWLING, B.A. (Sydney).
Miss M. MACKEY, B.A. (Royal University of Ireland).	N. M. GODDARD, B.E. (Sydney).
I. F. JONES, M.A. (Queensland).	Mrs. KIRSTEN, B.A., Dip. Mod. Lang. (Sydney).
B. G. DAVEY, A.F.I.A.	J. V. TERRY, B.A. (London).
P. H. ELDERSHAW, B.A. (Sydney).	Miss M. E. GLENNIE HOLMES, B.A., Dip. Mod. Lang. (Sydney).
C. E. BURGESS, M.A. (Durham).	P. R. M. JENKINS.
J. CARINGTON POPE, M.A. (New Zealand)	H. C. W. PRINCE, M.A. (Oxford).
H. W. GRIGG, B.A. (Sydney).	R. NILSSON.
J. F. E. MONCKTON, M.A. (Cambridge).	G. W. ROWDEN, B.Sc., Dip. Ed. (London).
J. N. PASCOE, B.Ec. (Sydney).	Mrs. E. GOURLAY.
W. SAWKINS, B.A., Dip. Ed. (Sydney).	Mrs. J. CARINGTON POPE, M.A. (New Zealand).
R. A. GILFILLAN, B.A. (Sydney).	Mrs. M. H. GALLIA.
W. M. MCGREGOR.	
T. MILFULL, B.A. (Queensland).	

On Active Service:

F/O G. H. BROINOWSKI.	F/L. C. J. MATHIESON, M.Sc. (New Zealand).
Capt. E. K. STEWART, M.A. (Sydney).	Lieut. W. V. BUTLER, M.A. (Melbourne).
Lieut. A. R. RUPP, B.A. (Sydney).	(Missing)
Major J. G. HENDRY, M.C., B.A. (Syd.).	

P. SELICK (late Coldstream Guards) Sergeant Major.

Miss M. G. KEYTE	Music
Mrs. G. FAUNCE ALLMAN	Orchestra
W. C. STUART	Shorthand
A. J. FISHER	Freehand Drawing

Bursar: R. ANDERSON.

**School Medical Officer: { Dr. S. STUDDY (on Active Service).
 { Dr. A. DISTIN MORGAN.**

PREFECTS:

Senior: EEDY, A. D.

Second: COOKE, J. M. B.

CORMACK, D. B.	EDWARDS, A. W. T.	VALKENBURG, P. J.
ROBSON, A. G. G.	McGREGOR, R. A.	FARAM, B. J.
BURNS, A. J.	WARDEN, D. B.	NELSON, J. R.
FORBES, H. P. M.	DOIG, P. R.	PATERSON, W. A.
BÄCKHOUSE, R. G.		EVERETT, P. F.

LESLIE, D. T.

Sub-Prefects:

PLAYFAIR, E. J. H.	COLLETT, B. L.	RIGG, C. A.
TRENERRY, S. P.	CROPLEY, D. O.	GALL, J. F.
LITTLEMORE, H. R.		TUGWELL, K. F.

THE GENERAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE:

President: THE HEADMASTER.

Hon. Secretary: THE SENIOR PREFECT.

Members: THE MASTERS.

THE PREFECTS AND SUB-PREFECTS.

Form Representatives:

Via.—McCASKILL, T. J.
Vib.—MacPHILLAMY, N. M.
Vlc.—DUFFETT, P. A.
Va.—FOSTER, M. L.
Vb.—DAVIES, K. W.
Vc.—THORNTON, G. W.
Vd.—WAUCH, A. E.
IVa1.—de LISSA, G. H.
IVa2.—BENNETT, D. J.
IVb1.—LOVE, P. N.
IVb2.—TULLOCH, J. S.
1Vc.—HALL, R. C.

Elected Members:

LLOYD, C. B. M.
BEST, J. P.

CAPTAINS OF SPORT:

Athletics: EEDY, A. D.

Cricket: BURNS, A. J.

Boats: LESLIE, D. T.

Football: FARAM, B. J.

Swimming: COOKE, J. M. B.

PRIZE LIST, 1944

	DIVINITY	FORM	DIVISION
Form VI	a (McCaskill, T. J.)	(Packard, R. S.)	(Edwards, A. W. T.)
Form VI	b Adams, P. D. B.	Macphillamy, N. M.	Amos, R. S. P.
Form VI	c Macourt, D. J. C.	Davidson, P. J.	Harris, S. G.
Form V	a Jamieson, H. H.	(Foster, M. L.)	Foster, M. L.
Form V	b East, S. G.	Watling, J. C. J.	Cox, A. A.
Form V	c Playfair, D. H.	Playfair, D. H.	MacDougall, B. R.
Form V	d Earngey, J. P.	Suhan, J. B.	
Form IV	a1 Barton, G. P.	(Edwards, K. D. G.)	Edwards, K. D. G.
Form IV	a2 Sando, M. J.	Harry, D. L.	Cooper, D. T.
Form IV	b1 Finch, D. W.	Withey, A. F.	Gall, M. E.
Form IV	b2 Lee-Martin, N.	Bysantson, G. K. J.	Bysantson, G. K. J.
Form IV	c Barsby, K. A.	Trenerry, L. M.	Brigden, D. N.
Form S	a1 Benjamin, P. J.	(Benjamin, P. J.)	Benjamin, P. J.
Form S	a2 Dalrymple, F. R.	Campbell, M. W.	Campbell, M. W.
Form S	b1 Kenyon, C. F.	Goodchild, D. J.	Souter, N. C.
Form S	b2 Roberts, S. D.	Green, J. W.	Green, J. W.
Form S	c Catterall, R. G.	Matthews, D. F.	Hordern, S. C.
Form III	a Willis, D.	(Willis, D.)	Willis, D.
Form III	b Stone, J. G.	Wilcox, G. G.	Wilcox, G. G.
Form III	c Andrew, J. W. A.	Sutton, J. E.	Lloyd, D. B.
Form III	d Newling, G. L.	Newling, G. L.	Newling, G. L.
Form II	a Corin, R. A. } aeq. Hooke, J. A. L. }	Corin, R. A.	Corin, R. A.
Form II	b Nettleton, S. B.	Nettleton, S. B.	Davis, I. C.
Form II	c Kirke, E. A.	Nimmins, G. H. L.	Sixsmith, J. A.
Remove	Foskey, C. J.	Berne, E. R.	Padman, B. J.
Form I	Wilson, K.	Wilson, K.	Finch, D. N.

GENERAL MERIT: (Amos, R. S. P.); Gall, J. F.; Doig, P. R.; Valder, P. G.; Kellett, A. M.; Board, P. W.; Jones, M. H.; (Palmer, K. J.); Bennett, D. J.; Block, J. B.; Houstone, J. M.; Cornish, A. D.; Wilson, P. C. M.; Moses, W. K.; Earngey, D.; Jones, G. O.; Palmer, R. D.; Weatherstone, P.; Ranken, J. D.; Campbell, C. M.; Ducker, A. G.; Nettleton, G.; Stewart, N.; Goulston, K. J.

PRIZE LIST (Continued)

(a) Form VI—

Brian Pockley Memorial Prize	Eedy, A. D.
Burke Prize and United Services Prize (for general proficiency)	Ritchie, W.
War Memorial Prize (2nd in gen. prof.)	Packard, R. S.
Percival Sharp Memorial (VI Form)	Packard, R. S.
Harold Dean and R. S. Reid Prizes (Maths.)	Edwards, A. W. T.
A. H. Wade Prize (Modern)	Edwards, A. W. T.
Charlton Prize (Divinity)	McCaskill, T. J.
J. S. Wilson Prize (English)	Packard, R. S.
Russell Sinclair Memorial Prize (general merit)	Amos, R. S. P.
David Cowlshaw Memorial Prize (Latin)	Ritchie, W.
Herbert Kendall Memorial Prize (French)	Rigg, C. A.
Ian Menzies' Memorial Prize (History)	McCaskill, T. J.
German Prize (Mrs. Dixon Hudson)	Edwards, A. W. T.
Monteith Cowper Wood Prize (Physics)	Goldby, D. P.
John Kingsmill Phillips Prize (Chemistry)	Bull, R. S.

(b) General.—Alan Ludowici Memorial Form Prizes:

Va.	Foster, M. L.
IVa.	Edwards, K. D. G.
Sa.	Benjamin, P. J.
IIIa.	Willis, D.
Roy Milton French Prize	aeq. { Harry, D. L. Richardson, W. R. F.
Hunter Stephenson Mathematics Prize	Foster, M. L.
Hunter Stephenson French Prize	Benjamin, P. J.
Uther Prize (Church Catechism)	Hooke, J. A. L.
David Davies Memorial Choir Prize	Ferguson, B. A.
Torchbearer Prize	Davey, W. A.
D. J. Richard's Memorial Prize	Backhouse, R. G.
Geoffrey Cohen Memorial Prize	Palmer, K. J.
Physics and Chemistry Prize: IVth Forms	Edwards, K. D. G.
S Forms	Benjamin, P. J.
General Knowledge Prizes	{ Ritchie, W. Harry, D. L. Brown, R. F. C. Lawes, D. C. A.
Lodge Torchbearer Prize	Cormack, D. B.
Debating Prizes	{ Melville, A. E. Anderson, H. C. Macphillamy, N. M.
Choir Prizes	{ Johnston, R. P. V. Shellshear, M. F.
Play Day Awards (open)	Sa. and IIb aeq.
(Original Play)	Foster, M. L.
Physical Efficiency (over 14)	Stone, J. G.
Physical Efficiency (under 14)	Osborne, P. C.
Music Prizes—Practical, Senior	Cook, W. A. A.
Junior	Cuffe, W.
Theory	Johnstone, P. F.
Orchestra Prize	Shearman, B. T.
Drawing—Freehand	Nicolson, W. P. S.
Mechanical	Doherty, M. J.

The School gratefully acknowledges the gift of the
Special Prizes mentioned above.

Report of the Headmaster for 1944.

I have the honour to present my report of the activities of the School during the year which is now ending.

It has been a very successful year, and in several directions marked progress has been made; but I am bound to say that I do not remember any period in which greater effort has been needed to preserve a reasonable continuity of routine. Indeed, during the last few years it has become increasingly difficult to organise all the various departments of the School so that they may be able to withstand the shocks of circumstance. Of course, all big institutions are working under handicaps which are accepted as inevitable in war time. Though I do not wish to make too much of our difficulties, yet this report would not be a complete record if it were to make too light of them. It is true that we have become fairly well accustomed to shortage of labour in domestic and technical services and on the playing fields, and have adopted many new habits to meet the deficiencies. The new conditions, however, impose a strain from which we are seldom free, and, if a difficulty arises it is often much more serious and far-reaching than formerly. It has frequently been difficult to maintain supplies, not so much of food, but rather of crockery, material for repairs, linen, stationery and so on. Breakages and damage to plant, furniture and buildings are accumulating, and in some respects very little can be done at present to make up the leeway. Our troubles were emphasised at the beginning of the year when we were faced with a great increase in enrolment, which, for reasons that I shall explain later, was not entirely foreseen. Fortunately, we then had a sufficiently large teaching staff to enable us to cope with the problem which was presented. As the year progressed, however, we suffered an unusual number of casualties among the staff through illness and accident, and disturbing rearrangements of time-tables have been necessary. In actual fact, in spite of anxiety from time to time, we have come through this year very well. For this, as usual, we have to thank the staff. I have often had occasion to say that the chief strength of this School lies in the readiness of the staff to co-operate in the general interest of the School; it has certainly been so this year. As a result, the work has been maintained at a good standard, the general life has been full of activity and perhaps more varied than ever, and in games we have had the most successful year in the history of the School.

In February last there was a great increase in the numerical size of the School. The number of new boys accepted was approximately the normal number and there was no significant increase from the Fourth Forms downward. The change occurred because the number of Fifth and Sixth Form boys who remained at School was vastly greater than usual. A new class and several new sets had to be created for their accommodation. In a similar manner, the number of boarders rose unexpectedly and provision had to be made by the allotment of extra rooms. In Term I the total was 781, including 225 boarders; in Term II the corresponding numbers were

772 and 222; in Term III 758 and 219. It is puzzling to decide whether the increase in the size of the upper classes is likely to be permanent, and, therefore, it is not at present easy to determine how to bring the numbers back to normal. Some of the boys who returned were young boys who had unsuccessfully sought admission to the University under the new conditions of selection. These conditions are unlikely to be changed for some time. It is also evident, however, that there is a tendency to remain longer at School and this is definitely a good sign. There is at present a heavy demand for fresh enrolments and it is equally puzzling to know whether this is likely to continue. The School is full for 1945 and is rapidly filling for 1946.

The results of the Leaving Certificate Examination in 1943 were not as good as those of the previous year. 69 boys passed but their average quality was not as high as that of some groups whom we have sent up. There were 13 first-class honours, compared with 23 in 1942. G. L. Melville and A. W. T. Edwards did very well, and obtained almost the maximum pass. On the other hand, the Intermediate passes were exceptionally good. 106 boys passed and M. L. Foster and P. G. Valder both obtained the maximum of eight "A's". Classes fluctuate in quality from year to year. I shall be disappointed if we do not do very well in the Leaving Certificate Examination which has just been conducted.

This year the Intermediate Certificate is to be awarded partly upon School record, partly upon external examination. In my last report I expressed the opinion that it would have been wiser to introduce the principle of internal assessment more gradually. I feel sure that this opinion will be justified. Because it is not considered that Schools in general throughout the State are yet fully able to express reliable judgments upon their pupils, the process of internal assessment has been hedged about by restrictions which in practice cause severe interruption of school teaching routine. Thus, even the theoretical advantage of the internal system is lost. The present scheme cannot be allowed to continue without change. I hope that before long the Intermediate Certificate will recede to an unimportant place, and that the more rational arrangement of the Secondary Course, which has been long advocated, will be introduced. The change is overdue.

Certain minor adjustments of our School curriculum have been introduced this year with advantage. Geography is now being taken in the Sixth Form at both Pass and Honours standard. Also the Fourth and Sub-Intermediate Forms have been reorganised in such a way that they are able to work in more compact groups upon subjects better suited to their range of ability.

Two important decisions were announced by the University this year. By the one, the conditions for matriculation were amended so that a foreign language is no longer necessary. The effect of this can at present be only a matter of opinion. I consider that it is a dangerous move, specially in a country which has not yet learnt to place a high value upon literary scholarship. By the other decision, selection of students for reservation in University faculties will be based upon the total of the six best Leaving Certificate papers. This appears to me to constitute a clear invitation to boys and girls to concentrate upon a range of work smaller than that which many could undertake with profit. I cannot see any compensating advantage in either decision.

The record of our representative teams this year has been exceptionally good. We came second in rowing and were superior to all other schools in cricket, football and athletics. We have not been so strong all-round at any other time in the School's history. Second and third teams did not equal the records of the first teams, but were of good standard. The usual very large programme of junior games was maintained.

Our greatest triumph was in football. For the first time for many years, the first XV was unbeaten in school matches; they lost one game only during the season, a week-day practice game against a mature and powerful Navy team. They were a fast and clever side and showed excellent spirit throughout the season. Altogether, we fielded 24 teams during the season, including those of the Preparatory School, and almost all had a regular programme of matches. This is a considerable achievement, involving much detailed organisation. The 24 teams played 234 matches, of which 138 were won, 89 lost and 7 drawn.

The cricket team was strong in all departments of the game, and had the best record for the G.P.S. season. It was beaten once only, on the first innings, by St. Joseph's College, after a very close game from which both sides emerged with credit. In spite of the difficulty in preparing grounds and obtaining material, a good programme of junior games has been followed.

The Eight came second to Sydney High School in the unofficial Boat Race in April. The crew was an extremely good one, up to our best standard, and I was surprised when they did not win. They encountered a crew that was definitely faster on the day. The competition among junior crews was stronger than usual, and, though our crews did well, their record was not as good as it has been in the years recently past.

Once more there was much activity in athletics. Our senior team was the strongest that we have ever had. In 15 events they obtained 6 first places, 2 second, 5 third and 2 fourth. Some performances were exceptionally good. The juniors were not so strong; in 21 events they obtained one first place, 6 second, 5 third. The Preparatory School again won the senior championship at the Combined Preparatory Schools' Sports. There was much enthusiasm throughout the athletic season; it was pleasing to see so many boys training hard, even when their chances of selection were negligible.

In general, I consider that we have reason to be well satisfied with the amount of physical activity which has been provided. In this brief review there is no room to mention in detail minor events, such as the Swimming Carnival, House Regatta, School Athletic Sports, and so on, in which many boys are engaged. I do not think that we can claim that we have satisfied all demands for games, but we have done very nearly all that is humanly possible in the present circumstances. As the war drags on, the average age of the coaches does not decrease and we shall welcome younger men to share the work as soon as they are available. Meanwhile, the standards are certainly not being allowed to drop, and a very good spirit of keenness is being preserved.

Once more I bring to notice the standing appeal for sports clothes. There has been a generous response since the request was first made,

but if we are to continue to turn boys out in suitable outfits we shall need all the help that we can get. I suspect that there is still no small number of boys who, on leaving School, put their football jerseys and boots and running shoes away and forget about them. I again ask them to be thoughtful in this respect and to help their successors by handing over any serviceable articles to Mr. Pope's store.

There has again been great keenness in dramatic performances and in music. These are now continuing interests in the School and are not entirely dependent upon public performances for their maintenance. The keenness has developed spontaneously over the last few years and is all the better in that it needs only opportunity for expression and no stimulation. Such occasions as the Annual Concert and the Play Day give this opportunity. The concert reached a very good standard this year. It was an excellent piece of team work by well over a hundred persons. The Octet Club was strong numerically and very good in quality, and the evident delight that they took in their work added greatly to the pleasure which they gave to the audience. There was a well performed play by a group of senior boys and a really first rate farce by boys of the Preparatory School. The orchestra surprised everyone by the evidence of its progress, and gave a competent and confident rendering of difficult music. A note about a School Concert would be incomplete without full acknowledgment of the work of the Stage Manager and his helpers. Year by year, a master and a few boys have done splendid work behind the scenes in difficult and often trying conditions, and a considerable share of the credit for the success is due to them. Incidentally, the Concert was performed three times to full houses, and there were still many who could not get tickets.

Perhaps in no respect has there been more satisfactory advance this year than in the work of the orchestra. It is a very few years since we made our first step forward, with hesitation arising from the fear that the undertaking might be too difficult. It is indeed very difficult; there is no really suitable place for practice, frequently it is impossible to assemble the orchestra completely for practice in view of other demands, and, as is inevitable in a school, there are several changes annually in the membership. These drawbacks have made no difference whatever to Mrs. Allman's persistence and enthusiasm, and she has obtained really remarkable results. The membership is now approximately 40 and there is every sign that the orchestra has been established permanently. They performed very well at the School Concert, and in September they gave a performance which, specially in view of the age of the performers, was of really high standard. The occasion was a concert in the Dining Hall, arranged by the orchestra themselves for the entertainment of their friends; we have all since regretted that more did not have the opportunity of hearing them.

Play Day (the fourth of the annual series) took place on December 4. There were eleven plays presented, one by each house and seven by forms. Two were original plays written by boys. This is another splendid institution, though I do not know how we shall cope with it if enthusiasm grows any greater than at present. It now takes the best part of a day, but the standard is good and it is well worth the expenditure of time and trouble.

I feel bound once more to refer to our urgent need for a School Hall. The School is effervescing with keenness for all sorts of activities which need far better facilities than we now have available. I have so far only hinted at instances. The thirty-odd members of the orchestra have to clear a classroom for practices, and the Dining Hall has to be cleared and subsequently reset in order that even their own circle of friends may hear them. Even three full houses at the Independent Theatre are not enough to provide for all who wish to attend the School concert. The plays for the concert and for Play Day are rehearsed in odd corners. No emphasis is needed of the fact that there is an expanding energy and interest in the School which is demanding greater opportunities. It would be easy to give these if we had the hall about which we have been dreaming for so long. I say nothing of the many other functions that the hall would fulfil as a centre for the general activities of the School. The Council is well aware of our need, and is giving its attention to plans in the hope that building may be possible before long. When that day comes, I hope that we shall not look in vain for substantial help to enable us to build on a proper scale.

The Debating Society has been more active than usual and has aroused the interest of a considerable number of boys. The team which officially represented us in contests against other schools did not win, but the standard was fairly even and they had several close contests.

The Cadet Corps continues to fill a most important place in the School. At the end of the year the numerical strength reached the record figure of 322; taking into consideration the strength of the Air Training Corps and the number of those who have left School during the year, we find that 400 boys have been given service training. This makes no small task for six masters and upon them the continuity from year to year primarily depends. The Corps has been served this year by an unusually capable set of Cadet Officers and N.C.O's. Fourteen boys held commissions as Cadet-Lieutenants and another 10 have qualified for commissions. Each year we send about 48 boys to an Army School for potential officers and N.C.O's. Recently a new arrangement has been announced whereby a measure of consideration is promised to Cadet-Lieutenants who enter the Army. On leaving school they are to be transferred to the reserve of officers; after call-up they are to do three months of recruit training and then are likely to be sent to an officer cadet training unit. Much more equipment has been coming forward lately, and it has therefore been possible to introduce more variety into the training. All boys ought to join the Corps at the age of fourteen. The training which they receive supplements the general discipline of the School and there is ample provision for giving them confidence and experience in the handling of others.

The work of the School Flight of the Air Training Corps has gone on satisfactorily. It is now three years since the Flight was formed. Over this period 132 boys have been members and of these 53 are now on strength; 32 are known to be in the R.A.A.F., and several others are awaiting call-up or are in other branches of the service. About 60% of those who have passed out may be considered to be effective members of the Air Force, and I am given to understand that this record is extremely good in comparison with the A.T.C.

average. It would be idle to pretend that there is not uncertainty about the prospects of those who aim to join the Air Force in the near future. Nevertheless, I believe that it is our duty to maintain this form of training. It is in any case a good training for any branch of the services, and it is worth while for its own sake, both as an education and as a discipline. Some boys this year have obtained very good results in their proficiency tests, and since they are all boys who were studying at the same time for the Leaving Certificate, they deserve the greater credit.

The Chapel Services have been conducted in approximately the same way as usual. In the daily services, the practice has been continued of choosing a theme for each week and building the service about it. It is difficult to estimate how effective this has been, but the idea is sound. The Chaplain and Mr. Kitley have given much careful thought to the concise and clear presentation of the various themes. I feel sure that their efforts have been made to good purpose, and am grateful to them for their trouble. There have been many occasions when we have had addresses from visiting clergy, both on weekdays and on Sundays. Among the most recent visitors was the Reverend Stephen Bradley, who has been during the last few years with the Australian Forces engaged in active operations abroad. The services on 7th May and 3rd December were broadcast and acknowledgments were received from distant places. During the year the choir has often reached a high standard, and I acknowledge gratefully the help that they have given. It should again be stated that the members of the choir give up much of their recreational time to practice—a sacrifice which is great for the boys, but even greater for the masters who are members. In August, 93 candidates were confirmed by the Bishop Coadjutor, the Right Reverend W. G. Hilliard.

The health of boarders during this year has been exceedingly good. There have been scarcely any cases of infectious disease—a most welcome contrast with the years 1942 and 1943—and other illnesses have been very few, relative to the number of boarders. The School House sick room has been empty for the greater part of the year, a remarkable state of affairs in a house of eighty boys. I do not know of any special circumstances to which we can attribute our good record. The care and attention have been good, but to give this as the reason would imply, quite falsely, that some precaution had been omitted in other years. Perhaps we can accept our good fortune on this occasion as a due, but deferred, reward for the regular vigilance of the School Medical Officer and Matrons. Dr. Morgan has been exceedingly helpful to us in every way, in spite of the exacting demands of his own special work.

The War Fund has not been pressed very strongly this year because we have felt that so many other demands have to be met. Nevertheless, £750 has been collected during the year. This amount includes the proceeds of the Concert and a considerable sum raised by the Ladies' Committee of the Association. The latter, in accordance with their custom, held a function in September which was successful both socially and financially. This year it was decided that the Fund would be paid to the Gowrie Scholarship Trust Fund; we propose to endeavour during 1945 to bring the total to £1,000, which will give us the right to associate a Scholarship with the name of the School. The weekly Chapel offertories have amounted during

1944 to an amount well in excess of £100, and this has been distributed as usual to missionary societies and charitable organisations.

I have already referred briefly to the fact that an unusual number of misfortunes have overtaken the Staff during the year. In May, Miss Mackey was taken ill; in June, Mr. Burrell suffered a serious accident; and early in November, Mr. Brierley became ill; they have all been away since their disabilities occurred. In addition, brief illnesses have affected several masters from time to time. Mrs. Gallia joined us in June as a French mistress. We prevailed upon Mr. Arnold to emerge again from retirement between June and November, when he had to fulfil another long-standing engagement. Mrs. Carington Pope came to our rescue and returned to her former profession for such time as she could spare. In this way our ranks have been replenished. There have, of course, been breaks of continuity, which have been disconcerting. Over the whole period of the war, we have come through with far fewer staff troubles than most schools. Nevertheless, there has been a constant strain upon those to whom I may perhaps refer as the regular members of the team. They have constantly been called upon to fill gaps, both in teaching and in other activities. For their loyal co-operation, so willingly given in this and in many other ways, I am very grateful. I specially thank Mr. Tiley, who has not only arranged time tables and programmes, but has so often rearranged them as contingencies have arisen.

Mr. Burrell has recovered slowly but steadily, and expects to regain his mobility during the vacation. Mr. Brierley also should soon be fully recovered. Miss Mackey, after a period of indifferent health, underwent surgical treatment. I am happy to say that she is now much better. However, she has decided to accept an offer from the Council and will retire from the active service of the School at the end of the year. During 24 years of enthusiastic service to the School, Miss Mackey has won the respect and affection of a vast number of boys. All who are associated with the School will wish her long enjoyment of good health and greater leisure.

The School community lost one of its most distinguished members in October by the death of Mr. James Lee Pulling. More than 50 years of his life were spent in the teaching profession, 34 of them as a master at this School. He was a fine scholar and his active and discriminating mind made a deep impression upon those who came under his influence. He had a wide circle of friends who will long remember him for his genial nature and kindly humour, his sound judgment and ready sympathy. Few have as great a reason to acknowledge his friendship as myself. Our acquaintance commenced long before I came to Shore. Throughout our association here he was always a most considerate and loyal colleague; frequently I have had occasion to draw upon his much greater store of wisdom and experience. He will be sadly missed.

The Old Boys' Union and Club have carried on well within the limitations which are unavoidable in the present circumstances. Dr. Distin Morgan completed his term as President of the Union this year; he filled the office with distinction. He has been succeeded by Mr. C. S. Tiley, the first master of the School to be elected to the office. The Union is giving much thought to the services which it may be able to perform for Old Boys when they are released in due course from the Armed Forces.

If I do not make extensive reference to Old Boys who are on active service, it will nevertheless be understood that they are always in our thoughts. Throughout the year there has been constant evidence of the variety of experience and service of men scattered in almost every sphere of operations. I regret to say that the roll of those who have given their lives has steadily grown.

In conclusion, I offer grateful thanks to those who have contributed to the progress of the School during the year; to the Council for sympathetic consideration and wise guidance; to parents and friends for their interest and co-operation; to my colleagues for unswerving loyalty and most devoted service during a difficult period; and to the boys, not least, for their enthusiasm and responsiveness.

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