



**Sydney Church of England  
Grammar School**  
North Sydney

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December, 1946

# Sydney Church of England Grammar School

Speech Day — 12th December, 1946

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**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 Brigadier the Hon. T. A. J. Playfair.

**ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS:**

Summary of Headmaster's Report.

Presentation of Prizes.

Address by Mr. A. B. S. White.

Vote of Thanks (the Senior Prefect).

National Anthem.

Tea will be served in the 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.

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**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.

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

**Council:**

Rev. R. J. HEWETT, Th.L.	Mr. A. L. BLYTHE, O.B.E.
Rev. E. F. N. CASH, M.A., B.D., Th.D.	Mr. H. V. JAQUES, B.A., LL.B.
Rev. O. G. DENT, Th.L.	Brig. the Hon. T. A. J. PLAYFAIR,
Rev. W. F. PYKE, Th. Schol., B.D.	D.S.O., O.B.E., V.D., M.L.C.
Rev. L. CABBOTT, B.A., Th.L.	Dr. A. DISTIN MORGAN.
Rev. R. P. GEE, L.Th.	Mr. A. H. CURLEWIS.
Professor E. R. HOLME, O.B.E., M.A.	Mr. J. M. DIXON.
Mr. F. W. HIXON, O.B.E., V.D.	Mr. E. C. S. WHITE.

**Hon. Secretary:** Mr. R. B. HIPSLEY, B.E.

**Hon. Treasurer:** Mr. A. D. W. FISHER.

**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:**

E. M. BAGOT, M.A. (Adelaide).	A. R. RUPP, B.A. (Sydney).
C. S. TILEY, B.E. (Sydney).	T. MILFULL, B.A. (Queensland).
E. J. CLINCH, B.A., B.Sc. (Sydney).	Rev. T. H. D. KITLEY, B.A. (Sydney),
J. B. BURRELL, B.A. (Melbourne).	Th.L.
I. F. JONES, M.A. (Queensland).	D. P. FOMENKO, B.Ec., M.Litt.
B. G. DAVEY, A.F.I.A.	W. H. BRIERLEY.
P. H. ELDERSHAW, B.A. (Sydney).	W. N. DOWLING, B.A. (Sydney).
G. H. BROINOWSKI.	N. M. GODDARD, B.E. (Sydney).
C. E. BURGESS, M.A. (Durham).	J. V. TERRY, B.A. (London).
J. CARINGTON POPE, M.A. (New Zealand).	Miss M. E. GLENNIE HOLMES, B.A.,
H. W. GRIGG, B.A. (Sydney).	Dip. Mod. Lang. (Sydney).
J. F. E. MONCKTON, M.A. (Cambridge).	H. C. W. PRINCE.
J. N. PASCOE, B.Ec. (Sydney).	P. R. M. JENKINS.
W. SAWKINS, B.A., Dip.Ed. (Sydney).	R. NILSSON.
R. A. GILFILLAN, B.A. (Sydney).	G. W. ROWDEN, B.Sc., Dip.Ed. (London).
W. M. MCGREGOR.	A. E. MITCHELL, M.A. (New Zealand).
	R. PULLEN.

P. SELICK (late Coldstream Guards) ..... Sergeant Major.

Miss M. G. KEYTE ..... Music

Mrs. G. FAUNCE ALLMAN ..... Orchestra

J. LIPSCOMB ..... Freehand Drawing

**Bursar:** R. ANDERSON.

**School Medical Officer:** Dr. H. H. JAMIESON.

**PREFECTS:**

Senior: PLAYFAIR, D. H.

Second: BENNETT, D. J.

JAMIESON, H. H.	MICHELMORE, J. M.	KELLETT, A. M.
MILLS, R. P. C.	PULLING, H. L.	LAURIE, D. A. C.
MacPHERSON, G. C.		STROUD, J. G.

**Sub-Prefects:**

CHAMBERS, A. D.	LOVE, P. N.	SHAND, A. B.
SHAND, J. W.	SHEARMAN, B. T.	BRADSHAW, J. L.
CARR, E. W.	LIMBERS, C. G.	FREEMAN, D. F. H.
PENNEFATHER, G. R.	PROCTOR, P. N.	SUHAN, J. B.
BARSBY, K. A.	BLACKWELL, J. L.	DE LISSA, G. H.
	WANSEY, R. B.	

**THE GENERAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE:**

President: THE HEADMASTER.

Hon. Secretary: THE SENIOR PREFECT.

Members: THE MASTERS.

**THE PREFECTS AND SUB-PREFECTS.**

**Form Representatives:**

VIA.—PALMER, K. J.  
VIB.—COX, B. P.  
VIC.—AUDETTE, B. B.  
VA.—PLAYFAIR, W. N.  
VB.—COOPER, I. A.  
VC.—ALLEN, J. J.  
VD.—SANGSTER, J. A.  
IVA1.—ANSTEY, D. B.  
IVA2.—DAVEY, N. J.  
IVB1.—MILNE, J. G.  
IVB2.—FOMENKO, M. P.  
IVC.—SLADE, R. R.

**Elected Members:**

HALL, R. T.  
WEEKS, J. A.

**CAPTAINS OF SPORT:**

Athletics: PROCTOR, P. N.	Football: PLAYFAIR, D. H.
Boats: MacPHERSON, G. C.	Shooting: BARSBY, K. A.
Cricket: BENNETT, D. J.	Swimming: PLAYFAIR, D. H.

Tennis: SHAND, A. E.

## PRIZE LIST, 1946

	<b>DIVINITY</b>	<b>FORM</b>		<b>DIVISION</b>
Form VI	A (Jamieson, H. H.) aeq.	{ (Jamieson, H. H.) (Peters, P. F.)		(Edwards, K. D. G.)
Form VI	B Neave, J. B.	de Lissa, G. H.		Shearman, B. T.
Form VI	C Carr, E. W.	Carruthers, B. G.		Mills, R. P. C.
Form VI	D Horrocks, R. E.			
Form V	A Benjamin, P. J.	(Benjamin, P. J.)		Benjamin, P. J.
Form V	B Bradley, M. G.	Forsyth, I. W.		Nelson, D. Y.
Form V	C Barnett, B. P.	Stewart, R. B.		Stewart, R. B.
Form V	D Hordern, I. R. C.	Thode, R. B.		
Form IV <sup>e</sup>	A1 Brown, R. F. C.	(Willis, D.)		Willis, D.
Form IV	A2 Walker, A. L.	Martin, D. M.		Lemon, B. S. D.
Form IV	B1 Blanshard, W. M.	Blanshard, W. M.		Milne, J. G.
Form IV	B2 Maltby, G. G.			
Form IV	C Dark, H. D.	Bennett, J.		Raleigh, J. B.
Form S	A1 Farmer, T.	(Corin, R. A.)		Twyble, W. J. A.
Form S	A2 Green, V. J. D.	Hughes, N. McL.		Bryant, D. L.
Form S	B1 Coles, P. L.	Austin, D. G.		Davis, I. C.
Form S	B2 Jones, B. R. S.	Dodds, G. F. H.		Currie, R. C.
Form S	C Spring, A. H. L.	Shepherd, C. R.		Hungerford, P. R.
Form III	A Noble, N. R.	(Knight, R. Y.)		Southwick, J. H.
Form III	B Kerr, J. F. R.	Kerr, J. F. R.		Kerr, J. F. R.
Form III	C Murdoch, B. J.	Murdoch, B. J.		Murdoch, B. J.
Form III	D Griffin, P. H.	Griffin, P. H.		Griffin, P. H.
Form II	A { Harpur, M. H. Wolfgarten, D. F. M.	Wolfgarten, D. F. M.		Harpur, M. H.
Form II	B Finch, D. N.	Goulston, K. J.		Goulston, K. J.
Remove	A McGrath, P. J.	McGrath, P. J.		McGrath, P. J.
Remove	B Sabine, C. N. B.	Crawford, J. C.		Crawford, J. C.
Form I	A Bond, H. G.	Bond, H. G.		Setchell, G. H.

GENERAL MERIT: (Shearman, B. T.; Blackwell, J. B., and Pulling, H. L.); Anderson, A. G. C.; Feakes, G. B.; Fleming, M. W., and Jack, J. T., aeq.; Matthews, M. H. R. (Palmer, R. D., and Edwards, J. K. F., aeq.); Astbury, I. B.; McBean, I. R.; Hooke, J. A. L.; Jackson, J. A.; Parson, P. E. B.; Halstead, B. W.; Rolls, A. P. J.; Maclean, W. H.; Field, J. H., and Hawksley, R. J.; Sherwood, H. R.; Bunyan, G. J.; Bennett, F. S.; Heppell, R. R.; Myles, D. F.; Fitzpatrick, G. P.; Stowe, J. M.; Beckerleg, P. B.

(a) Form VI—

Brian Pockley Memorial Prize .....	{	Playfair, D. H.
Burke Prize and United Services Prize	}	Edwards, K. D. G.
(General Proficiency)		Jamieson, H. H.
War Memorial Prize (General Proficiency) ....	}	Peters, P. F.
Percival Sharpe Memorial Prize (VIth Form)		Jamieson, H. H.
Harold Dean and R. S. Reid Prizes (Maths.) ....	}	Peters, P. F.
A. H. Wade Memorial Prize .....		Edwards, K. D. G.
		Williams, J. R.

## PRIZE LIST (Continued)

Charlton Prize (Divinity) .....	Jamieson, H. H.
J. S. Wilson Memorial Prize (English) .....	Jamieson, H. H.
David Cowlishaw Memorial Prize (Latin) .....	Peters, P. F.
Herbert Kendall Memorial Prize (French) .....	Peters, P. F.
Ian Menzies Memorial Prize (History) .....	Jamieson, H. H.
Montieth Cowper Wood Memorial Prize (Physics) .....	Macpherson, D. W.
John Kingsmill Phillips Prize (Chemistry) .....	Williams, J. R.
German Prize .....	Peters, P. F.
Geography Prize .....	Laurie, D. A. C.
Russell Sinclair Memorial Prize (General Merit) .....	Shearman, B. T.
Donald Muston Memorial Prize (General Merit) aeq. }	{ Blackwell, J. B. Pulling, H. L.

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

Va. ....	Benjamin, P. J.
IVa1. ....	Willis, D.
Sa1. ....	Corin, R. A.
IIIa. ....	Knight, R. Y.
Roy Milton French Prize .....	Edwards, J. K. F.
Hunter Stephenson Mathematics Prize .....	Benjamin, P. J.
Hunter Stephenson French Prize .....	Synges, R. F. S.
Uther Prize (Church Catechism) .....	Wolfgarten, D. F. M.
David Davies Memorial Choir Prize .....	Ewing, R. E.
Torchbearer Prize .....	Palmer, K. J.
D. J. Richards Memorial Prize .....	Jamieson, H. H.
Geoffrey Cohen Memorial Prize .....	aeq. { Palmer, R. D. Edwards, J. K. F.
L. R. Benjamin Memorial Prize (Physics and Chemistry in IVth Forms) .....	Willis, D.
Physics and Chemistry (Sub-Intermediate Forms) .....	Cuningham, J. B. F.
General Knowledge Prizes .....	Hamilton, J. M.
(Dr. H. L. St. Vincent Welch)	Brown, R. F. C.
	Gee, R. W.
"Lodge Torchbearer" Prize .....	Bennett, D. J.
Debating Prizes (The Headmaster) .....	{ Barton, A. B. Jamieson, H. H. Suhan, J. B. Allen, K. T. Stone, G. W.
Choir Prizes .....	Form Vc
Play Day Award (Open) .....	
Physical Efficiency—	
Over 14 .....	Tancred, B. J.
Under 14 .....	Spring, A. H. L.
Music Prizes—	
Practical, Senior .....	Mellor, R.
" Junior .....	Cuffe, W. E.
Theory .....	aeq. { Herbert, D. F. Harris, A. P. Aldis, J. B.
Orchestra Prize .....	
Drawing—	
Freehand, Senior .....	Cameron, A. D.
" Junior .....	Bunyan, G. J.
Technical .....	Moses, W. K.

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

## REPORT OF THE HEADMASTER FOR 1946

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His Grace the Archbishop has not yet sufficiently recovered from his recent severe illness to be able to be present at Speech Day. He has asked me to express his regret that he is unable to take his place in the Chair as President of the Council. I have assured His Grace, on behalf of the School community, that we rejoice to know that he is making a steady recovery; and that, though we deeply regret his absence, we join with the rest of the Church in Australia in hoping that he will give himself an adequate time for convalescence before again assuming the full burdens of his high office.

This year we have asked Mr. A. B. S. White to present the prizes in order that we may pay due compliment to one of our most steadfast friends, and one of the oldest, in standing if not in years. Last year, when he retired from his membership of the Council, I recited some of his associations with the School. He has been a boy here and one time Senior Prefect; a member of the Council, for some years its Honorary Secretary; a father of Old Boys—one of his sons was Senior Prefect; President of the Old Boys' Union; the founder of a valuable Scholarship which bears his name, and in very many other ways with which his name is not publicly associated, a most generous benefactor. Since last year he has received a further distinction in that his grandsons have been registered for enrolment in the near future. At Speech Day, when a boy, he received prizes; later he has frequently donated prizes; it is fitting that now he should be acclaimed by us when he is called upon to present them.

The members of the Council have again been most generous of their time in caring for the affairs of the School. The business of month-to-month administration is very heavy, for the School is a fairly complicated organisation, and the circumstances of the present time do not tend to make management easy. There is a constant stream of important matters, connected with the School properties, with aspects of finance, or with plans for the future. The fact that it is seldom possible at present to bring matters with speed to the desired conclusion means that a constant burden rests upon the executive officers. For example, though the Council have succeeded with difficulty in making some of the repairs and renovations which had to be deferred in war time, there still remains a heavy leeway to be made up in the face of rising costs and shortage of materials and labour. The sale of the Mount Victoria property involved protracted negotiations; it has been effected, to the relief both of the burden of management and of our finances. These are merely two examples. In spite of the difficulty of getting anything done, the Council have not ceased to consider plans for immediate alleviation of our needs

and for the more permanent satisfaction of them. Surely circumstances will soon change sufficiently to enable the results of their planning to become more apparent. I am personally very grateful to the Council for their readiness always to listen to my constant requests and complaints, and for their most persistent efforts to improve the conditions of work in School.

Lieut.-Colonel H. L. St. Vincent Welch recently resigned his seat upon the Council in order to enable Captain Adrian Curlewis to resume the place which he vacated when he entered the armed forces some years ago. We hope that we shall not entirely lose the services of an Old Boy whose interest in our affairs has been most active over many years; we have had good reason to value his breadth of view and far-sighted counsel.

One of the important events of the year has been the launching of the movement to provide a fitting memorial of the sacrifice and service of Old Boys in the recent war. The demands which war has made upon the School during its relatively short life of fifty-seven years are almost staggering. Of all who have been at the School and who had reached military age by, say, 1943, about one-half have accepted military service in wartime and one in twenty have given their lives. I shall make no reference now to the deeper and more personal sentiments associated with the Memorial, since this is scarcely the place. It is enough to say that it is the duty of a School to preserve the memory of each individual who has added lustre to it by personal sacrifice. It is also undeniably right that the best examples of the past should be made part of the tradition which is the heritage of every boy who comes later to the School. This is the reason for our determination that the Memorial shall be contained in a building that will be in frequent use in the corporate life of the School. The Hall will be much more than merely practically useful; it will be a building in which the daily School life will be dignified and elevated by the best associations of the past.

We were successful in an application to the Taxation Commissioner for recognition of the Memorial as a public memorial, and for his assurance that gifts to it would be subject to concessional allowance for purposes of income tax. A meeting for the inauguration was held at the School on June 12th, and was attended by about 500 persons. The Fund has, therefore, been in existence for just six months. The material results have so far been satisfactory. There is in hand a sum of £16,648/14/10. We are most grateful to those who have contributed to this result. In many cases donations have been accompanied by such expressions as indicate that the project is generally approved. In another respect the cause for satisfaction is not so great. The number of contributors is so far \*1072, and this does not fairly represent the numerical strength of the School. It is the genuine hope of the Appeal Committee that the number of contributors will become much more representative before the movement is brought to conclusion; not merely, or chiefly, because of the increase that will thus be brought to the fund, but because the Memorial will thereby become a closer link between the School of the future and those who have had a part in forming it during its first fifty years. We, therefore, ask for much assistance in making known the object that we have set before us and in encouraging the participation of others.

\*As at 7th December.



There is one point about the proposed building which we may not have emphasised sufficiently, though it has always been realised clearly by the Council. The site is one of the most prominent in the Sydney landscape, and it is a civic responsibility to erect upon it a building that will be an ornament to the city. We shall not only be discharging that responsibility, but shall be placing before the people for all time a symbol of the highest duty that can be asked of men.

On former occasions I have spoken of the pressing need for a Hall. This need has been constantly apparent during the past year. I shall speak elsewhere of the musical and dramatic activities. That we are simply unable to cope with the keenness for such work is due largely—if not entirely—to the lack of proper facilities within the School. We have had most kindly co-operation, specially from Miss Doris Fitton, of the Independent Theatre. However, the rehearsal of dramatic work is doubly difficult if it has to be done at odd times and in odd places, and stage management must at best be a matter of ingenious improvisation. The orchestra has to clear a space among desks in a class room for its practices. Where our various choirs practise I do not quite know and dare not always enquire too closely. These are merely examples of the work which the Hall will enable us to do in greater quantity and perhaps better.

It is only fair to say that when we have built the Hall we shall be immediately looking for other things, such as, for example, greater library accommodation, art rooms, workshops, a gymnasium, a swimming pool and very much more. At the same time the boarding accommodation must be brought to a higher standard of comfort. Much has been done in the School in a relatively short time from very moderate resources. However, the amount to be done is still enormous; and the object of it all is simply to create a School which is capable of developing to the full the potentialities of the boys within it. In our less optimistic moments we feel that the School is merely scratching the surface of the work that it could do if it were fully equipped and adequately staffed. Yet we are doing at least as much as, probably far more than, most other Schools. Every new experience shows that the intellectual and physical possibilities of boys of the type that we have are great in extent and in variety, and it is idle to pretend that they can be fully realised with the facilities that are now available to us. For this reason it is our bounden duty to be importunate in our demands. Indeed, in spite of all that has been said in the past, I doubt whether there is a general realisation of the financial problem which a School presents. I referred to it very briefly in my report last year, and, in a little more detail, in the August issue of the "Torchbearer."

The number enrolled in first term was 779, including 219 boarders. Last year I tried to explain why it is difficult to adjust new enrolments to vacancies. The boys who remain in a school from one year to the next are arranged in various categories, as boarders and day boys, and also in the various classes to which they are promoted. Until the departures are known exactly, and until the promotions are decided, it is not possible to know exactly the number of vacancies in each house and in each class. Hence it is not possible before November of each year to come to a final decision about the next year's enrolments; all that can be done up to that

time is to work upon a rough estimate of the probable vacancies. It will be clear that it is far less easy to give a definite reply to all applications for future years. As we are now being faced with large numbers of applications for all years up to 1952, and a smaller number even up to 1956, the recording of enrolments is becoming a major task of administration. I know that some Old Boys are concerned about the enrolment of their sons, and some parents about younger brothers of boys now here. I can only assure them that we shall do all that we can to meet their wishes. If I were too ready to give early assurances of acceptance I might risk overloading some parts of the School at the cost of efficiency. Indeed, this year a few forms were above the proper number. The question of extending the secondary course from five to six years has been freely discussed recently, and I think that it is very likely that this change will be made before very long. When that time comes, there will be a pretty problem, which I leave to your imagination. There will be a critical year in which the number of departures will suddenly be reduced; in that year the intake will have to be correspondingly reduced and the internal organisation of classes will have to be adjusted. I shall not attempt a more detailed explanation; this will perhaps be enough to show that the problem of enrolment is more than a matter of simple subtraction and addition.

There are several changes in the Staff to be recorded. We were glad to welcome back Mr. Broinowski and Mr. Rupp early in the year after their service in the Forces. Mr. Mathieson and Mr. E. K. Stewart, after having been on active service, both relinquished their positions in order to pursue other interests. Mr. Roland Pullen joined us in June as organist and choirmaster, but is leaving for England at the end of the year. We are also to lose the Rev. T. H. D. Kitley, who has been appointed to a housemastership in a Victorian School, and Miss Glennie Holmes, who, now that the war is over, does not wish to carry on longer. We shall miss them both greatly. Mr. Kitley has done much for the School in teaching, in games, and in the encouragement of debating and music: his personal influence has been considerable and he has been of great assistance to the Chaplain. Miss Holmes came to us originally in a spirit of public service in order to take the place of a man in wartime: she has taken a full share in School life and all of us have a very high regard for her. Next year Mr. T. B. Whight is to rejoin the Staff after having been Headmaster of Townsville Grammar School since 1939. Mr. W. V. Butler is expected to return after having been away since his enlistment in 1940; he had a distressing experience as a prisoner of war, and has spent this year recuperating, and incidentally extending his experience in Europe. The Rev. F. Dryden is joining the School after experience as a Bush Brother, and an army chaplain and in parochial work. Mr. J. W. Burns, an Old Boy, is to join the staff of the Preparatory School. The musical direction next year will be in the hands of Mr. G. Faunce Allman, with Mrs. Allman giving help of the same most valuable character as hitherto. If we can only give them adequate facilities for their work, they are bound to make a great improvement in school music. A further staff appointment is intended, but I am not yet in a position to announce it.

There have been large congregations at Open Chapel Services during the year. We have always regarded as the most important

of these the service held in May, as near as possible to the anniversary of the School's Foundation. The practice of holding two services was revived this year and will be continued: the morning service being for day boys and parents, and the evening service for boarders and Old Boys. At Open Sundays and on several other occasions there have been addresses by visiting clergy. On Anzac Day and on Victory Day the speakers were Old Boy ex-soldiers, Colonel H. L. St. Vincent Welch and Captain Adrian Curlewis. On Armistice Day, which we shall continue to celebrate with the special act of commemoration which has become one of our School customs, the speaker was F/Lt. G. H. Broinowski. A special evening service for Old Boys was held in October at the request of the Old Boys' Union, but the attendance was a little disappointing. The daily services have been frequently assisted by a choir of about 45 boys of the Fifth and Sixth, who have been trained once a week by Mr. Nilsson and Mr. Pullen.

Last year's results in the Leaving Certificate Examination were very fair. The number of passes was eighty-seven. R. C. Bowe and A. E. Melville obtained the maximum pass, and the latter further distinguished himself by coming top in English. J. D. Harley and W. T. Gilder were short of the maximum in one respect only. There were 21 first-class and 21 second-class honours, spread over seven subjects. I should like to see an even wider spread. There is point in trying to maintain representation from year to year in the first-class list in all subjects in which honours are studied in the School, but this is not always possible unless the best boys elect to spread themselves over the full range of subjects. Seven boys won University Exhibitions: a good number, since it means that we had seven boys among the first hundred applicants for Exhibitions. One hundred and two boys were awarded the Intermediate Certificate: three were judged upon School record to be worthy of eight A's.

There is very little difference in total marks between the first five boys in general proficiency in this year's Sixth Form. Three have been placed equal at the top of the School. Of them, Peters is the best in language study, Jamieson in English and History, Edwards in mathematics. The two first named have also been judged equal in merit in "Form" subjects. The fourth boy, Williams, is top in Chemistry, and the fifth, Macpherson, is top in Physics; they are not far behind. We should be well represented in the Leaving Certificate Honours list in most subjects. The Intermediate classes, however, are below the normal standard.

The three leading prefects deserve special mention. The Senior, Playfair, and the second, Bennett, have been a very good combination and have exercised a strong influence upon discipline. The former specially has shown much initiative and the rare ability to follow matters of detail to a conclusion. Jamieson has a fine record. His work in English and History is unusually good; he has played his part keenly in games and is a cadet officer; he has distinguished himself in dramatic performance and debating, and is the winner of the Lawrence Campbell trophy for speaking before an audience.

After being unusually successful in games in the two preceding years, we dropped back in results this year, though probably the standard of our teams was little inferior. The cricket team had four wins, two losses, and one draw, and was third in the competition. The football team won five games and lost two and was third. The athletic team was also third, though of quite good standard. In these sports the second and junior teams had their fair measure of success. The eight was in fifth place on the Nepean, the lowest place that a Shore crew has ever taken: but they were a good crew, and it is only fair to them to say now that a mechanical accident to the boat occurred during the race just when they were in a position to move well forward. The fours did well once more; the second and third won and the first was beaten by only two feet. We had, however, conspicuous success in rifle shooting, which was revived after having been abandoned during the war. The two teams won every match—a performance without precedent in the series of competitions. We are, therefore, premiers in rifle shooting for the year.

I should like it to be recognised widely that the groundman at Northbridge has done splendid work in the last few years. He has been very short of assistance and has encountered several very dry spells of weather; also soil has not been available for top-dressing. He has, nevertheless, kept the ground in a condition that bears very favourable comparison with other Sydney grounds. Now that more labour is available and soil not quite so difficult to obtain, we hope to improve the facilities for junior cricket. The lack of labour has also caused tennis courts to fall into disrepair, but it looks as if it may be more difficult to restore them at present. Bad weather has caused a setback to junior rowing this last term. The shed at Berry's Bay is in a position exposed not only to the winds that have prevailed, but also to the effect of passing water traffic, now so much greater than it used to be. The time is fast approaching when we shall have to contemplate moving this shed, but, even if the means were available to do so, it is very hard to select a more suitable spot which is readily accessible.

During the year the enrolment of the Cadet Corps has been maintained at a figure well above 300, and the standards of training have been kept up. I should like to make a special request this year to parents and boys for continued strong support of the Corps. It has an honourable history since its inception, more than 38 years ago. Its contribution to national service in wartime has been distinguished in ways that call for no emphasis. It has been our pride also to maintain it keenly in times of peace. Its purpose is twofold. The training is educationally valuable in that it gives some pride in bearing, fundamental military knowledge, and a sense of achievement: many boys acquire in it a sense of confidence and an ability to lead others, which they could not otherwise get. Again, in so far as it is the duty of a citizen to prepare himself for a part in national defence, it is the responsibility of a School such as this to set an example. Indeed, now that the war is over, and that there are signs of a slackening in the public attitude towards defence, I am very keen that the high service which the Shore Cadet Corps has given to the nation in the past should be continued without diminution. Parents can help by expecting and encouraging their boys to join when they become fourteen years of age, and by seeing that

they then discharge their full responsibility to the Corps, specially by attendance at the annual camp. As an example of the sense of achievement which the Corps gives, it is to be noted that 12 boys hold commissions and 17 others have qualified for them: qualification involves attendance at a special course of instruction and examination by an independent authority. In all, 74 boys at present hold commissioned or non-commissioned rank. The School Flight of the Air Training Corps has continued to do good work, in spite of diminished official encouragement and Mr. Tiley and the boys associated with the Flight have made a big contribution to the School life by following up this activity keenly and with interest.

Debating has again been regularly encouraged. The School team did not have the same success as its predecessor, but was of quite good standard. I have already mentioned that one of its members was responsible for our retaining the Lawrence Campbell trophy: the competition for this is severe, and it is by no means easy to win it.

The Scouts have been operating with smaller numbers than in some earlier years. In this work much is owed to the Chaplain, who continues to take the Troop camping in vacations, to their great profit and enjoyment. He is supported well by the Group Committee of parents, who have always taken the keenest interest. They are very anxious to see the Troop increased in numbers and provided with better quarters. I hope to be able to help them towards that object. It is partly a matter of securing assistance for Mr. Backhouse, whose time is already fully occupied, and partly yet another question of accommodation.

Those who attended the Play Day and the various concerts will have had opportunity to observe the increasing interest in play-acting and in music and the rise in standard. A senior Play Day was held in Second Term, at which twelve plays were presented by various class and house groups of Upper School boys. It was intended that a junior Play Day should be held in November. However, as that month approached, it was found that the School programme was so full that the intention was allowed to lapse. It is a pity not to be able to do everything for which the spirit is willing, but the space and time inadequate. The handling of a Play Day in a place apart from the School is a most difficult and trying task; but we hope for better opportunities soon. The orchestra held their own special concert in October, and were assisted by the singing of some 60 Third form boys. I was away from the State at the time, but am assured that the performance gave much satisfaction and demonstrated a further advance in standard. Even Mrs. Allman herself expressed considerable satisfaction, and those who know her will understand what this means. There have been two School concerts at the Independent Theatre. At both the programme was made up by vocal and instrumental music and by plays. In the August "Torchbearer" the July concert is described in a way which not only reflects the pleasure which it gave to the audience on three successive nights, but also suggests clearly the good team work that there is behind such a performance: I recommend the re-reading of this account. The performance of "Trial by Jury" was generally acknowledged to be excellent. The incentive for the November con-

cert came largely from Mr. Monckton and Mr. Brierley, who repeated former successes. On this occasion the Preparatory School boys took the larger part numerically and gave great pleasure by the freshness of their voices, by the aptitude for acting which they revealed, and by the zest which they exhibited throughout the evening.

There is undoubtedly a very great advance to be made in the School if we can place upon a more regular footing the opportunities for the study and practice of music and also if we can simplify the arrangements for dramatic work and provide better facilities for instruction and rehearsal. Really good work has been done so far, and I acknowledged fully the enthusiasm and hard work of those who made it possible. However, a great deal—indeed too much—is asked of them when they have to improvise constantly in finding times and places for rehearsal and teaching. In desperation we are descending to an attempt to secure temporary huts in order to eke out our accommodation until permanent building becomes possible. One thing is certain, that we must seek to develop and improve this side of school life in which such spontaneous interest has been exhibited. There is also the need, rapidly becoming more insistent, for better and more extensive facilities for those who show ability and interest in other forms of art. Indeed, we all realise that among 700 boys there is a variety and a degree of talent that we have only commenced to explore and we shall not be content until we have acquired the means of giving it a reasonably full opportunity for expression. Unfortunately, the provision of the means is largely a matter of finance, for a larger staff and for further appropriate buildings. Is it too much in these days to hope for benefaction on such a scale as to permit the opportunities of the School to be more fully used?

It is perhaps invidious to mention distinctions which have come to Old Boys. However, it occurs to me to mention that an unusual number are enjoying or are about to enjoy opportunities abroad which they have won for themselves by their merit. B. H. Travers is at Oxford working in the Modern History School; he has won his blue for cricket and is on the way to a football blue also. He will soon be joined by our more recent Rhodes Scholar, Dr. W. W. Woodward, who, incidentally, topped the final year of medicine when he graduated in May. Dr. David Dey is to have further surgical experience as the Gordon Craig Travelling Scholar. Three Old Boy chemists, all first-class honour graduates of Sydney, have been awarded travelling Scholarships; they are David Craig, John Willis and Alan Friend. The new President of the Old Boys' Union is Mr. R. Cairns Anderson. He is one of those to whom we owe the compilation of the Roll of Service in connection with the War. He and his colleagues wish me to ask, once more, through this report, for further names and particulars which may aid them in making the roll complete.

In conclusion, I offer my thanks to all those who have contributed to the work of the School. I repeat that there is a great debt due to the Council and specially to those who have worked so hard on its sub-committees. There has been much co-operation from parents and boys during the year, and I think that the atmosphere of the School has been happy and friendly. Finally, I thank the Staff for their patience, loyalty and devotion.