



**Sydney Church of England
Grammar School**

North Sydney

December, 1947

Sydney Church of England Grammar School

Speech Day — 11th December, 1947



PROGRAMME.

Visitors are requested to take their seats in the marquee before 2.45 p.m.
At 3.00 p.m. a short service will be held in the marquee.
At 3.15 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 Mr. H. V. Jaques, B.A., LL.B.
Vote of Thanks (the Senior Prefect).

National Anthem.

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



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.

Lord, dismiss us with Thy blessing;
Thanks for mercies past receive:
Pardon all, their faults confessing;
Time that's lost may all retrieve:
 May thy children
Ne'er again thy Spirit grieve.

Let thy Father-hand be shielding
All who here shall meet no more:
May their seed-time past be yielding
Year by year a richer store:
 Those returning
Make more faithful than before.

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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. JACQUES, 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. GABBOTT, 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. HIXSON, 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, B.A., LL.B.

Headmaster: *L. C. ROBSON, M.C., M.A. (Oxford), B.Sc. (Sydney) (5).

Chaplain: Rev. N. & B. T. BACKHOUSE, B.A., Dip.Ed. (Melbourne).

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

House Masters:

*E. M. BAGOT, M.A. (Adelaide) (4)	Hodges House
C. S. TILEY, B.E. (Sydney)	Robson House
P. H. ELDERSHAW, B.A. (Sydney)	Barry House
P. R. M. JENKINS, B.A. (Sydney)	School House

Masters:

E. J. CLINCH, B.A., B.Sc. (Sydney).	D. P. FOMENKO, B.Ec., M.Litt.
J. B. BURRELL, B.A. (Melbourne).	W. H. BRIERLEY.
*I. F. JONES, M.A. (Queensland) (2).	W. N. DOWLING, B.A. (Sydney).
B. G. DAVEY, A.F.I.A.	Dr. T. H. VISSER, Ph.D. (Utrecht),
*C. E. BURGESS, M.A. (Durham) (1).	Mus.D. (London).
J. CARINGTON POPE, M.A. (New Zealand).	N. M. GODDARD, B.E. (Sydney);
H. W. GRIGG, B.A. (Sydney).	J. V. TERRY, B.A. (Sydney).
I. F. E. MONCKTON, M.A. (Cambridge).	H. C. W. PRINCE, M.A. (Oxford).
J. N. PASCOE, B.Ec. (Sydney).	*W. V. BUTLER, M.A. (Melbourne),
W. SAWKINS, B.A., Dip.Ed. (Sydney).	Dip. (Paris), Dip. (Berlin) (3).
T. B. WHIGHT, B.A. (Queensland).	G. W. ROWDEN, B.Sc., Dip.Ed. (London).
R. A. GILFILLAN, B.A. (Sydney).	A. E. MITCHELL, M.A. (New Zealand).
W. M. MCGREGOR.	Rev. A. F. DRYDEN, Th.L. (Aust. Th. Coll.).
A. R. RUPP, B.A. (Sydney).	D. J. W. ANTHONY, B.Sc. (Sydney).
T. MILFULL, B.A. (Queensland).	J. W. BURNS, B.A. (Sydney).
	*G. FAUNCE ALLMAN (6).

*Senior Masters in: (1) English and History; (2) Classics; (3) Modern Languages; (4) Science; (5) Mathematics; (6) Music.

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

Miss M. G. KEYTE Piano

Mrs. G. FAUNCE ALLMAN Orchestra

J. LIPSCOMB Freehand Drawing

Bursar: R. ANDERSON.

School Medical Officer: H. HUNTER JAMIESON, E.D., M.B., Ch.M. (Sydney).
F.R.C.S. (Edinburgh), F.R.A.C.S.

PREFECTS:

Senior: FREEMAN, D. F. H.

Second: SHAND, J. W.

SHEARMAN, B. T.
McKEOWN, C. W.
MEIKLE, R.

CURLEWIS, I. A.
PALMER, K. J.
ALLEN, J. J.

DAVIDSON, R. A.
WEBSTER, J. D.
McAULEY, A. W.

Sub-Prefects:

BLANSHARD, R. M.
ELVY, N. M.
AUDETTE, B. B.
FEAKES, G. B.

CAMERON, A. D.
PLAYFAIR, W. N.
BRETHERTON, J. R.
HAMILTON, J. M.
SANGSTER, J. A.

COOPER, I. A.
RICHARDS, W. R.
BENJAMIN, P. J.
KESTERTON, R. G.

THE GENERAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE:

President: THE HEADMASTER.

Hon. Secretary: THE SENIOR PREFECT.

Members: THE MASTERS.

THE PREFECTS AND SUB-PREFECTS.

Form Representatives:

VIA.—BIDDULPH, M. C.
VIB.—JACKSON, J. B.
VIC.—NELSON, R. J.
VID.—PERKS, P. N.
VA.—ROTHWELL, M. L.
VB.—ANSTEY, D. B.
VC.—HAWKER, G. G.
VD.—ARNOLD, V. F.
IVA1.—WEBSTER, D. A.
IVA2.—LAWRENCE, G. E.
IVB1.—KAY, J.
IVB2.—MORELL, W. R. R.
IVC.—SHEPHERD, C. R.

Elected Members:

FIELD, R. D. R.
McCREIDIE, R. M.

CAPTAINS OF SPORT:

Athletics: BRETHERTON, J. R.

Football: FREEMAN, D. F. H.

Boats: FREEMAN, D. F. H.

Shooting: ALLEN, J. J.

Cricket: SHAND, J. W.

Swimming: ALLEN, J. J.

Tennis: BIDDULPH, M. C.

PRIZE LIST, 1947

(a) Form VI—

Brian Pockley Memorial Prize	Shand, J. W.
Burke Prize and United Services Prize (General Proficiency)	Shearman, B. T.
War Memorial Prize (General Proficiency)	Hamilton, J. M.
Percival Sharpe Memorial Prize (VIth Form)	Feakes, G. B.
Harold Dean and R. S. Reid Prizes (Maths.)	Benjamin, P. J.
A. H. Wade Memorial Prize	Cameron, I. C.
Charlton Prize (Divinity)	Barry, G. M.
J. S. Wilson Memorial Prize (English)	aeq. { Feakes, G. B. Palmer, K. J.
David Cowlshaw Memorial Prize (Latin)	Palmer, K. J.
Herbert Kendall Memorial Prize (French)	Feakes, G. B.
Ian Menzies Memorial Prize (History)	Feakes, G. B.
Monteith Cowper Wood Memorial Prize (Physics), aeq. {	Hamilton, J. M.
John Kingsmill Phillips Prize (Chemistry)	Shearman, B. T.
German Prize	Palmer, K. J.
David Hum Memorial Prize (Geography)	Jackson, J. B.
Russell Sinclair Memorial Prize (General Merit)	Loder, J. W.
Donald Muston Memorial Prize (General Merit)	Houstone, J. M.

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

Va.	Willis, D.
IVa1.	Webster, D. A.
Sal.	Kerr, J. F. R.
IIIa.	Harpur, M. H.
John Scott Memorial Form Prize (IIa)	McGrath, P. J.
John Scott Memorial Division Prize (Div. VIa), aeq. {	McGrath, P. J.
Roy Milton French Prize	Goulstone, K. J.
Hunter Stephenson Mathematics Prize	Synge, R. F. S.
Hunter Stephenson French Prize	Willis, D.
Uther Prize (Church Catechism)	Noble, N. R.
David Davies Memorial Choir Prize	McGrath, P. J.
Torchbearer Prize	Blackwell, D. E. W.
D. J. Richards Memorial Prize	Palmer, K. J.
Geoffrey Cohen Memorial Prize	McKeown, C. W.
L. R. Benjamin Memorial Prize (Physics and Chemistry in IVth Forms)	Corin, R. A.
Physics and Chemistry (Sub-Intermediate Forms)	Webster, D. A.
Old Boys' Union Prize	Kerr, J. F. R.
General Knowledge Prizes	Richards, W. R.
(Dr. H. L. St. Vincent Welch)	{ Hamilton, J. M.
"Lodge Torchbearer" Prize	Farmer, T.
Debating Prizes (The Headmaster)	Amos, B. J.
Choir Prizes	Meikle, R.
Play Day Awards: Senior	Palmer, K. J.
Junior	Benjamin, P. J.
	Campbell, M. W.
	Herbst, J. A.
	Johnson, R. L.
	Form Vb
	Form IIIa

PRIZE LIST—(Continued)

Drawing—		
Freehand, Senior	.....	Cornwell, J. H.
" Junior	.....	Bishop, A. S.
Music Prizes—		
Practical, Senior	.....	Cuffe, W. E.
" Junior	.....	Harris, A. P.
Theory	.....	aeq. { Lloyd, T. D.
		Stobo, D. M.
		Alldis, I. B.
Orchestra Prizes	.....	{ Walker, A. L.
		Rutter, D. W.

	DIVINITY	FORM	DIVISION
Form VI	A (Barry, G. M.)	(Feakes, G. B.)	(Benjamin, P. J.)
Form VI	B Taplin, J. H. E.	Dalrymple, F. R.	Cameron, I. C.
Form VI	C Thode, R. B.	Thode, R. B.	Thode, R. B.
Form V	A Barnett, I. H.	(Willis, D.)	Willis, D.
Form V	B Stratton, J. D.	Stratton, J. D.	Butler, J. S.
Form V	C Ingall, D. A.	Hawker, G. G.	Twitchett, W. A.
Form V	D	Ingall, D. A.	
Form IV	A1 Crakanthorp, J. C.	(Webster, D. A.)	Webster, D. A.
Form IV	A2 Lane, D. G.	Thompson, M. D.	Nettleton, S. B.
Form IV	B1 Richards, D. R.	Parson, P. E. B.	Davis, I. C.
Form IV	B2 Leeder, J. G.	Currie, R. C.	Cathels, D. C.
Form IV	C Meares, D. D.	Hungerford, P. R.	Hungerford, P. R.
Form S	A1 Kerr, J. F. R.	(Kerr, J. F. R.)	Kerr, J. F. R.
Form S	A2 Murdoch, B. J.	Murdoch, B. J.	Whalley, R. D. B.
Form S	B1 Gumbley, T. B.	Griffin, P. H.	Griffin, P. H.
Form S	B2 Ditchfield, V. P.		
Form S	C Murray, K. L.	Clarke, B. G. Y.	Clarke, B. G. Y.
Form III	A Wolfgarten, D. F. M.	(Harpur, M. H.)	Harpur, M. H.
Form III	B Heppell, R. R.	Heppell, R. R.	Scott, B. W.
Form III	C Blanks, C. E.	Taylor, R. R.	Taylor, R. R.
Form III	D Gambrill, J. K.	Banks, E. C.	Banks, E. C.
Form II	A McGrath, P. J.	(McGrath, P. J.)	aeq. { McGrath, P. J.
			Goulstone, K. J.
Form II	B Walker-Smith, J. A.	Langdon, R. N. L.	Langdon, R. N. L.
Remove	A Stowe, G. M.	Setchell, G. H.	Clarke, W. B.
Remove	B Steel, R. J. S.	Edwards, W. J. W.	Swinburn, M. J.
Form I	Jones, A. I.	Jones, A. I.	Maling, I. K.

GENERAL MERIT: (Loder, J. W., Houstone, J. M.); Cameron, A. D.; Brown, R. F. C.; Smidlin, R. J.; Osborne, P. C.; (Corin, R. A.); Noble, R. A. S.; Luker, P. S. M.; Pennefather, H.; Farrar, R. A. and Maclean, W. H.; Sherwood, H. R.; Bunyan, G. J.; Ditchfield, V. P.; Cameron, R. S. and Amos, B. J.; Shortridge, K.; Lewis, K. C.; Finch, D. N. and Wolstenholme, P. M.; Bramma, P. J.; Bond, H. G.; Woodley, C. E.; Morrow, D. J.

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

REPORT OF HEADMASTER FOR 1947

It will give satisfaction to all who are associated with the School to see the President of the Council in the Chair on Speech Day. His Grace has, as usual, had a busy year, during which he has travelled far and rapidly in the service of the Church.

This year the Council has again invited an Old Boy to present the prizes. Mr. H. V. Jaques attended the School during the first decade of its existence, and has maintained a keen interest in its welfare ever since that time. He has been a member of the Council for nearly twenty-five years, and his experience of affairs and wise advice have frequently been of great assistance in the government of the School.

I have often felt that I should like to adopt a new style in my annual report, and to produce a document different from that which is traditional. To do so would take more time than I have ever yet had at my disposal. Perhaps it is wiser to keep to the general pattern, and to hope that there will not be many who will compare phrases closely with those that I have used before. Since the framework of school life does not change rapidly, there is bound to be similarity of expression, even repetition, from year to year. My purpose has always been to give some account of the School life during the year, and some reflection of the problems that engage our attention from time to time both in education generally and also in school government.

The total enrolment in First Term was 756, including 219 boarders. This number, or a number closely approximating to it, seems to have become the recognised strength of the School. Though our accommodation is fully taxed, we have become accustomed to adapting our organisation to the enrolment, without loss of efficiency and without hindrance to the growth of School activity. In comparison with former years, there is some advantage in having larger numbers in the Fifth and Sixth Forms, in that a greater variety of curriculum is made possible, and a more efficient separation into groups. I should still like to be able to reduce our total, in order to give relief in the size of some classes and to give greater freedom in the use of rooms and grounds. However, it does not seem possible to make any reduction under present circumstances. One reason is financial, and I shall refer to this consideration later; if we were to reduce numbers, we could not maintain our present services without increasing fees heavily. Another reason rests upon the demand for places in the School; we should be compelled to exclude even more of those who are so urgently asking for admission.

The problem of new enrolments is as difficult as ever. We shall have to disappoint a great number of applicants for places in 1948. There are many applications for the years ahead. It is impossible to estimate the position with any degree of accuracy for any given year in the future, and therefore definite replies cannot be given early to applications beyond a certain number. This School differs in respect of enrolments from the average English School, which takes almost all its new boys at a certain approximate age and standard, and can therefore reckon its annual intake as a certain grand total. Our intake is adjusted according to the organisation which we find best suited to the work which we are called upon to perform in our own environment. Thus we take twenty nine-year-olds into the first form, about forty other boys of primary standard, about fifty into

the first Secondary year (or Third Form), and a few others into higher classes. The precise number at each level is not determinable until the changes due to promotions and other causes become apparent towards the end of the year. At the same time the balance of boarders and day boys has to be maintained. I cannot hope to explain in a few words the nature of the problem that is presented by applications which go as far ahead as 1956. All that I can say is that we are sparing no effort to be as helpful as possible in dealing with these applications, and that we are disappointed when it is not possible to take those who are obviously keen to come to the School. Recent experiences suggest that I should repeat two warnings that I have given before. If unsuccessful application is made for the enrolment of a boy in, say, 1949, it does not follow that the application will automatically stand for the next year, unless a specific request to this effect has been made. Again, the only application that can be recognised is that which is made upon the printed form; a verbal request cannot be considered to be sufficient.

- The Leaving Certificate results last year were fairly good; they were up to the normal standard of the School, but scarcely above it, except in the proportion of honours. Eighty-one boys passed. There were twenty first-class honours and eighteen second-class. First-class honours were obtained in every subject in which candidates were presented for honours, that is, in ten subjects. K. D. G. Edwards and P. F. Peters obtained the maximum pass, and G. P. Barton, B. T. Shearman and J. R. Williams were each short of it in one respect only. G. H. de Lissa won second place in the State in Chemistry and, if he had wished, could have claimed one of the scholarships which we have won so frequently in recent years. Some of our other candidates were not quite as high in the honour list as we hoped, and were possibly unlucky in the examination, as their School work was of good quality. Our candidates again obtained seven University Exhibitions, a high proportion. Under the existing unsatisfactory conditions, ninety-nine boys were awarded the Intermediate Certificate.

The best of this year's Leaving Certificate candidates should do fairly well, but I doubt whether the proportion of honours will be as great as usual. There has been a drift away from the study of Latin towards Mathematics and the Sciences. It is proving difficult to withstand this now that the University no longer requires a language other than English for matriculation. I feel sure that the University authorities will regret this alteration in their requirements, and that the standard of matriculants will not be improved by it. For the boy of appropriate intelligence who aims at higher education, there is, I believe, no satisfactory substitute for those studies which cultivate a respect for accuracy of word and phrase. Latin, properly taught, does this. There is no great trouble in maintaining a fair number of serious and capable students of French. I should welcome co-operation in maintaining the study of Latin in its proper place in our curriculum for those boys who can thoroughly profit from it. I have already made it clear that I cannot permit in the Sixth Form a selection of subjects from English, Mathematics and the Sciences without other literary study. I do not apply this requirement to the few boys who, after having matriculated, may be doing a further year's work in the Sixth Form. It is still our function to be a "Grammar" school and indeed, secondary education is drifting at present in such a direction that it may soon be a distinction to be able to continue with justification to use this term.

Among the best boys of the year are some who have worked with interest throughout their School careers, and who have also kept a most praiseworthy breadth of interest. Brian Shearman's record in this respect is so unusual as to deserve more than passing mention. He first came into prominence in scouting, and he rose to be leader of the School Troop and a master of a variety of the crafts which scouting encourages. He transferred to the Cadet Corps and became a Commissioned Officer in it, while at the same time keeping up his former interest. He is a member of the First Eleven. Again, he is a talented violinist, and a leader of School Orchestra. He has crowned these distinctions by coming top of the School this year in General Proficiency. For variety of interesting achievement this record must surely be hard to beat.

The record in games for the year has been fairly good. Our hopes were disappointed in the boat race, but perhaps exceeded in football and athletics. The cricket team won four matches and lost three, and came third in the competition. The football team was considered at first to be not quite so good as those of recent years, but came second equal. Their matches were extremely close; two were drawn, one was won by a single point, and one lost by the same narrow margin. This last was the splendidly contested match against St. Joseph's; our team put up a fine performance after being well behind in the first part of the game. The second and third fifteens were first equal and second in their respective competitions. In athletics also we did not consider that we were very strong, and we suffered a little from illness and injuries. Nevertheless, the senior and junior teams each occupied second place, and their combined total of points was the best. The eight had appeared good in practice. In the race, however, they seemed to row with too little dash in the early stages, and they just managed to tie for third place on the finishing line. Newington had a powerful rugged crew, and won for the first time for many years. Both rifle teams repeated the victories of last year, the first team doing well to win after being behind in the earlier matches of the series. Our record all round is better than that of any other School for the year.

Mr. Burrell retired this year from his position as rowing master. He has coached the first four on nineteen occasions, with seven firsts and five seconds; the second four on eighteen occasions, with nine firsts and two seconds. It is he, of course, who has laid the foundation of such success as we have had with our eights. Apart, however, from his skill as a coach, he has made a very fine contribution to the life of the School over a long period by the education in manners and morals that so many boys have caught by their association with him on the river.

The conditions for games have been varied. In football they were fairly good, thanks to reasonable weather and comparative freedom during the winter from sickness and accident. This meant the programme of practices and matches suffered little interruption, and that junior teams were more regular in composition than usual throughout the season. Our twenty-five teams (three in the Preparatory School) had a great record of success with the exception of the Under Fifteen Group, which was below normal strength. In cricket we are still struggling to make up leeway lost during the war years. It is here that we still feel severely the lack of skilled labour on the grounds. We have had negligible assistance on this ground at North Sydney, which usually provides several practice wickets. Some boys have

certainly worked hard to try to fill the gap. The junior cricket has, however, improved in quality and quantity, and in interest. It is at present difficult to reckon when we are likely to be back to the conditions to which we were once accustomed. Our junior rowing has also had a setback. Both at Gladesville and at Berry's Bay the pontoons necessary to the launching of boats have exhibited defects due to deterioration during war time, and the costly and difficult repairs are still incomplete. At the latter shed the wooden staging and the shed itself are in bad condition. The start of rowing was seriously delayed, and we are well behind in preparation for next season. The tennis courts are another source of worry. It is useless to lay down a surface which requires upkeep while there is so little assurance of regular labour; and we have not so far been able to secure timber and wire-netting. We have laid down an experimental surface on the Junior House court, and I hope that we shall soon be able to do something with the others.

The enrolments of the Cadet Corps and the A.T.C. Flight have been kept up above 300 and 50 respectively, and I am bound to say that I am pleased with the response.

Since the war I have made the request that co-operation be given to us in maintaining the strength. It is one of the ways in which we can express a sense of national obligation, and perhaps set an example in public service. It is encouraging to find that there is a ready understanding of the request. There has been the usual programme of training, completed by the camps at Ingleburn and Richmond, which came to a conclusion two days ago. There has also been the usual readiness to pursue training with the object of qualifying for rank and, in the case of the Cadet Corps, for commissions. The standard attained has been quite good. One is constantly impressed by the improvement in confidence and general bearing that comes to boys who pursue their training to the higher levels. Though there were some good cadet officers twenty years ago, the number is far greater now, and the general standard of efficiency is far higher.

Major Bagot is now relinquishing command of the Cadet Corps which he has held for nearly nineteen years. This is a big task in addition to the other responsibilities that he carries in the School; it would be difficult, without going into much detail, to explain just how big it is. The strength is not far short of a half-battalion. A quite big issue of stores, such as arms and uniforms, has to be handled, kept in good condition, and accounted for. The organisation of personnel, arrangement and carrying out of training programmes, planning for camp, and so forth, all come within his charge. He would, no doubt, like me to say that he has received always great help from the other masters who hold commissions in the Corps; but the responsibility is his, and, as everyone knows, such responsibility cannot be exercised without that close supervision of detail which is a constant drain upon energy. The present standards of efficiency and discipline within the Corps are due to Major Bagot, and I take this opportunity of acknowledging the great service that he has rendered not only to the School, but much more widely. No assessment has been made, as far as I know, of the extent to which cadet training enabled our armies to be trained more rapidly for the recent war. If an assessment were made, I have no doubt that it would reflect great credit upon the Cadet Corps of the Great Public Schools, and of that credit a good share would be due to Major Bagot. He will be succeeded next year by Captain A. E. Mitchell.

I hope that we shall always receive every assistance in sending the full strength of the Cadet Corps and A.T.C. to their annual camps. There are not many requests for leave, but I am afraid that there might be if we were to omit to make our point of view clear. The camps are regarded as the culmination of the year's training. Every effort is being made by the military authorities to hold them in good condition. My view is that it is a bad thing to permit a boy to leave his obligations only partly performed unless the circumstances are very unusual; and also that it is only fair to the masters who give up so much of their time to the work to make their task as easy as possible.

The Scout Troop has expanded in activity and in numbers during the year. I cannot speak with sufficient recognition of the work which the Rev. Nigel Backhouse has done during so many years, and I know that many parents and boys are very grateful to him. It is a great tribute to him that so many have come forward as members of the Group Committee during the year to give financial and much other practical assistance to the Troop. The camps have been very successful, and the boys, I believe, have enjoyed them enormously, and have also received a practical education through them. The Rev. A. F. Dryden has come forward to help as a Scoutmaster, and other former Shore Scouts have renewed their association. The claims upon the Council are so many that they have been unable to help the Scouts as much as they would like. I therefore acknowledge the more fully the initiative and the spirit of self-help that has been shown by parents and masters and boys in promoting this important work of the School.

We were fortunate at the beginning of this year in linking Mr. G. Faunce Allman with the School Staff to take charge of most of the School music. With Mrs. Allman, he has effected a great improvement. They make splendid use of every opportunity that we can give them; it is a very great loss to us that we cannot give them far wider opportunities. They have taken most of the younger boys, up to and including the Third Forms, and a large proportion also of the older boys, at regular times weekly. The congregational singing in Chapel has improved enormously, and has been at times quite thrilling; and I think that many boys have been greatly interested in the teaching that they have received. We ought, of course, to have the means of teaching music, according to a regular programme, to the vast number of boys in the School who can profit by it, and we ought to be able to give them the opportunity of musical performance on an extended scale. If we had the School Hall . . . but I have said that so often lately that I dare not say it again.

There have been many services in the School Chapel during the year: The majority have, of course, followed our usual custom. On the occasion of the Open Sunday in May we held a service in the morning for Day Boys and parents, and in the evening for Boarders and Old Boys. We intend to do the same next year. In the Third Term, in addition to the Open Sunday, there was a special Evensong for Old Boys, arranged in co-operation with the Old Boys' Union. The Open Service of Third Term was held on Remembrance Day. This is likely to be our custom in the future. Boys are likely to remember the special service which we held on the morning of November 20th in order to mark the occasion of the marriage of Princess Elizabeth. The congregational response was then splendid, and it is right that I should also record in terms of high praise the part played by the

choir. They were asked, with two days' notice, to sing the anthem chosen for the Abbey Service itself; the standard which they then reached was such as to reflect the greatest credit upon their interest and to do honour to the Choirmaster.

The team of enthusiasts that has recently done so much decided this year to produce "H.M.S. Pinafore." They did so in the eighth of the series of Annual Concerts which are now a recognised feature of the School year. It is unnecessary for me to say anything of the performance to those who were present. Others will find an account in the August "Torch-Bearer"; and these may be assured that the praise given in that review was fully deserved. It was easily the best achievement so far by the School in the field of music and drama. I feel bound to emphasise once more the difficulty of the undertaking. There is the need to fill all the parts, male and female, in voice and character; the training of boys in acting and singing, most of them having had little or no former experience; the building of the orchestra; details without end; and the integration of all elements. It has to be done almost entirely outside School hours by those who are at the same time, whether masters or boys, doing a full School week's work; and rehearsals have to be for the most part in improvised conditions, in a room from which the School furniture must first be cleared. There is no standard of comparison for a School production of this character. It is of such kind that allowances are made by all of us unconsciously. It is, however, right that I should say that all opinions which came to us were couched in terms of high praise; and that the Concert of 1947 deserves to go down in the continuing records of the School as marking an achievement of high merit. It is always a difficult business to acknowledge with adequate thanks the work which goes into School affairs, whether of this or another kind. They all depend upon the harmonious co-operation of large groups, of which all members are fired by the same enthusiasm. I shall not attempt to give a long list, though I might well do so; but all would like me to thank Mrs. Allman, the conductress, and Mr. Grigg, the producer, for the pleasure they gave, as well as for the standard that they established. I believe that I ought also to record, now that he is about to leave, the high opinion that we have of the talent of Richard Meikle. We all hope that he will find the opportunity to develop it, and that we shall see and hear more of him in the future.

There were two Play Days this year, one in August for the Seniors, and the other ten days ago, for the Juniors. At the first, ten plays were presented by various groups, and also two scenes from "Henry V," produced by Richard Meikle. At the second ten plays were presented. The standard was again quite good, and the enjoyment by the boys themselves was very evident. The Play Days were started very largely by the initiative of Mr. Sawkins, and he is always behind the organising. This year the judge, Miss Fitton, made some kindly but well-merited comments upon the impure vowels and bad accent of many of the performers. My own impression is that, as the years pass, Australian boys do not improve in their speech. Perhaps Miss Fitton's comments will have more telling effect than those of masters. We are not succeeding sufficiently in the battle against the bad speech of many of our boys. A trouble is that the standards generally prevailing in the community are not sufficiently high. If the Play Days can be made to assist in this respect, their value will be even greater than at present.

The recently appointed Rhodes Scholar for 1948, L. W. Davies, is

an Old Boy. Indeed, of the last six appointed four have been Shore Old Boys. It must surely be unusual for the one School to have three Rhodes Scholars in residence at Oxford at the same time, as we have at present in the persons of B. H. Travers, E. B. J. Smith and W. W. Woodward. Travers has the remarkable record of two blues and a half-blue. In the recent Rugby match between Oxford and the touring Australian team, he captained Oxford, and Emery and Kraefft played for Australia. I understand that the occasion provided a meeting place for several of the Old Boys who are now studying in various fields of work in London and Oxford.

The War Memorial Fund has progressed in a manner which ought to give us great satisfaction. There are so many appeals in progress that we ought to be very grateful, as indeed we are, to all those who have responded to ours, and to those who are continuing to show such interest in it. The total at the time of printing this report is £22,686, which represents an advance of more than £6,000 since the corresponding time last year. The number of contributors is now approximately 1,500, an increase of rather more than 400. I cannot now hope to express the thanks of the Appeal Committee to individuals, and it would scarcely be fitting. This is, however, my opportunity to express thanks to those who have taken part in functions of various kinds which have resulted in certain large sums under such circumstances that individual acknowledgment is impossible. From one such function a gift of £500 was made to the Fund. The Women's Association, by their annual American Tea, raised £462, and the Old Boys' Union £624 from their Annual Dance. One knows well that results, of which these are only examples, are impossible unless there is most careful and energetic organisation, backed by the interest of great numbers to whom we have no opportunity of expressing our acknowledgment. I now offer thanks to all those who have rallied to the support of the Committee. We do not propose to make any further urgent appeal, but hope that by continuance of the interest that has been manifested so far, the objective will soon be reached.

Last month, printed copies of the Roll of Service were sent to those whose names are on our mailing list, and it is hoped that they reached all who are interested. The compilation, a task of very great difficulty, was undertaken by certain members of the Old Boys' Union, and has been carried through with great persistence over a period of years. If there are still errors in the roll, or omissions from it, I ask that either the School or the Union be informed of them without delay. The intention is to commence very soon the inscribing of the Book of Remembrance, which will be kept permanently in the Chapel. Mr. Eric Roberts, whose expertness in lettering and design is well known, has accepted an invitation to carry out the work.

Correspondence concerning the War Memorial, Roll of Honour and other matters has revealed that there are many who have lost touch with the School, and have been glad to renew their association with it. Certain figures may be of interest. Since the first School day in 1889, each new boy, as his name is entered upon the attendance roll, has been allotted a register number in sequence. Groups of entrants in any term are first arranged in alphabetical order before allotment of numbers; thus No. 1 on the School Register is Mr. Macartney Abbott, though his was not, I think, the first enrolment for which application was made. The most recent new boy in 1947 is No. 7553. There are very few duplications of register numbers, and there are about 750 boys now in attendance. This means that

about 6,750 have passed out from the School. The number who are no longer alive can only be guessed. Allowance must also be made for those who attended for too short time to acquire a lasting interest, and for others who have settled in distant places. The number of members of the Old Boys' Union is 2,330. I conclude that there are probably between one thousand and two thousand who might welcome the chance to renew their association with the School. If we could find some way of inducing them to renew their interest—and the best way for them to do this would be by joining the O.B.U.—there would be a most important addition to that collective interest which is so great a source of strength.

Having in view the approach of the School's sixtieth anniversary in May, 1949, the Council has given thought to this question, and also to the need to put together without delay the mass of historical matter that is available. If there is serious delay the task will become more difficult, and therefore we look forward to our sixtieth anniversary as the occasion for renewing old ties and for putting the history of the School in order. I do not quite see at present how it is to be done. The present staff cannot be asked to tackle more than they now have in hand. The solution is to find a suitable person who has the time and the interest to do the necessary research, and to conduct the necessary correspondence. Perhaps the indication in this report of the idea that we have in view may result in our finding the right man.

I am afraid that I have nothing to say concerning the prospect of building in the near future. It is well known that building costs are at present very high, that labour and materials are in short supply, and that there are restrictions in favour of urgent housing projects. It is impossible to guess when the position is likely to be easier. Last year I wrote at some length about the needs of the School for the Hall, for the replacement of the old class rooms which still remain, for improved boarding accommodation, workshops, a swimming pool, and so on. No purpose is likely to be served by going over the same ground this year. The present feeling is one of frustration. Ten years ago it seemed reasonable to hope that by 1949 we would have a well-built School with most of the things that we need for present-day education. The plan has been laid down, at least sufficiently for immediate purposes, and, according to the financial standards of ten years ago, a respectable sum of money would now be available. As it is, we shall have to go on waiting, but I hope for not too long.

It may be opportune this year to make a brief statement concerning School finances, with the object of giving information to those who are interested concerning the side of School government upon which the rest depends heavily. I am asked frequently questions which reveal misunderstanding and erroneous ideas, and it is due to our supporters that they should be put in possession of facts; the more so because the School balance-sheets are no longer published as they used to be in the proceedings of the Synod of the Diocese. Let me first explain the capital position by a summary of the sources from which money has come to enable the School to reach its present position. The original sum of about £30,000 for its foundation was allotted by the Synod in the late 'eighties out of the proceeds of the resumption of Church lands in the parish of St. James. The School has not received, or expected, any other help from Church funds. For the best part of twenty years from the 'eighties there was no

great addition to capital either from gifts or from surplus income. A fund opened in 1906 for the erection of the Chapel provided about £3,500, and the building was made possible in 1914 by this, together with a larger sum from income which was then improving. Between 1918 and 1928 there took place, mostly by means of Fêtes, a series of those combined efforts which have played a great part in the development. About £9,000 was raised, and this, again with allocations from income, provided for the purchase and improvement of the North-bridge ground. The largest single gift is that of £10,000 under the will of the late Sir Samuel McCaughey in 1919. This enabled two floors of School House dormitories to be erected, and a third storey to be put on the class room block. The Jubilee Fund, inaugurated in 1937, is now reckoned at £11,000. Other gifts for the general purposes of the School amount to about £7,000. Thus, excluding the War Memorial Fund, which still remains, and will for some time continue, entirely separate and in the trusteeship of the Committee, it may be reckoned that the School has received about £70,000 from sources other than profits from fees, and this includes the original £30,000. The total capital invested in the School is estimated to be £200,000. Hence, about two-thirds of our development to the present position has been made by the slow process of accumulating small surpluses from year to year. Our history in this respect is very different from that of most big schools, notably those in other States; indeed, there are few big schools that have been able to establish themselves with so little help. The figures dispose of any suggestion that we are well-endowed. The inference from them is that we are bound to depend for future progress, unless we are very fortunate, upon causing our income to exceed our expenditure by a sufficient amount.

Anything that may be said about the income position must be indefinite under present conditions. Costs have risen, in some cases very sharply, and they are, of course, now very unsettled. In the years before the war we were able, by borrowing, to expand in advance of our income. During the war, when building was impossible, and before costs rose, we gradually eliminated our overdraft, and at present our cash position shows a small credit. Thus we could now, if materials were available and permission obtained, build to the extent of the debt which we feel to be safe, that is, to a sum in the vicinity of £25,000. Unfortunately, however, rising costs have had a severe effect in the last two years. In 1946 our small margin of profit vanished, and we showed a small loss for the first time in my experience. Fees were increased of necessity. In spite of this increase, this year's figures are not very favourable; indeed, the further rise in costs has absorbed more than two-thirds of the extra income from fees. In September laundry prices were more than doubled, and we were forced to introduce a special fee to cover this charge. How far the race will proceed between costs and income it is impossible to say. It is to be hoped that a further increase in fees can be avoided, but there seems to be doubtful justification for the hope.

The above statement is, of necessity, too brief to give a clear or complete picture. I hope that the reason for making it will not be misunderstood. I have felt that some statement must appear in this report if it is to give a reflection of the problems of the present year. If a School is not well endowed, the problem before its Council must inevitably be that of establishing a balance between three considerations, namely, keeping fees within reasonable bounds, providing satisfactorily for the present time, and planning wisely for better services

in the future. Our Council is gravely concerned to establish this balance, and is not less mindful of the first consideration than of the other two. There has been no time within my experience when it has been more difficult to see ahead and to plan with any degree of certainty.

I have not mentioned scholarship and prize funds in my statement. This must not be understood as implying that we do not place great value upon the possession of such funds. They do not, however, enter into a consideration of finances for the working and development of the School. We possess funds amounting to about £6,400 for the endowment of scholarships and about £1,400 for the provision of prizes.

During the year it has come to our knowledge that certain gifts are to be expected from estates that are yet to be realised. The late Sir Thomas Buckland bequeathed £1,000 to the School, the late Miss Knox a like sum, and Mrs. Clegg Taylor £500, all for general purposes. An Old Boy, F. H. Hart, who unhappily died while a prisoner of war, bequeathed £200 to the Jubilee Fund. There is also to be expected in due course a sum of £3,000 under the will of the late Mrs. S. I. Graham, formerly of Killara, for the foundation of a scholarship in memory of her son, John Netherby Graham, who lost his life in the war of 1914-18.

In the Prize List this year there are awarded for the first time the "Desmond Hum Memorial Prize" and the "John Scott Memorial Prize." Again we are to receive certain valuable securities to provide annually the "Bruce and Eldon Beale Memorial Fund," which will be awarded at exit from the School to a boy proceeding to the University. These foundations bring honour to the School; they all commemorate Old Boys who gave their lives on active service.

At the end of the first term Mr. G. H. Broinowski relinquished his position on the staff in order to join a business undertaking. He had been a master since 1925, and contributed greatly to many branches of School life; he did very valuable work for us on the Modern Language side. He earned our admiration by volunteering in 1942, though beyond the age at which he might have been expected to do so; his varied talents enabled him to give special service of some distinction. Mr. Raymond Nilsson left at the same time to seek a wider field for his vocal talent. We wish success to them both. Mr. W. V. Butler rejoined in June, happily restored to health after the hardship that he suffered as a prisoner of war. Mr. T. H. Visser also joined the staff after Easter. At the end of this year Mr. Burgess is to retire. He has always exerted a strong influence upon the intellectual life of the School, and I believe that his example has been far-reaching; an example not only of fortitude in the face of a persistent and often painful physical disability, but also of high personal qualities of character. Mr. Monckton also is leaving, with the intention of returning to England. His work has been with younger boys, and his influence with them has been most valuable. He has done much to foster an interest in art and music. We have a very high regard for both these gentlemen, and shall miss them greatly.

It is not possible to do justice to all activities, or to thank all those who have co-operated with us in the year's work. I now ask parents to accept my acknowledgement of their helpfulness and of their interest. I again record my indebtedness to my colleagues for their support, and for their sustained keenness in promoting the School life. Finally, I acknowledge gratefully the devotion of the members of the Council to the interests of the School.