



**Sydney Church of England
Grammar School**

North Sydney

December, 1950

Sydney Church of England Grammar School

Speech Day—14th December, 1950



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 His Excellency the Governor of New South Wales,
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.

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

Council:

Rev. Canon R. J. HEWETT, Th.L.
Dr. FRANK CASH
Rev. S. C. S. BEGBIE, Th.L.
Rev. W. F. PYKE, Th. Schol., B.D.
Rev. Canon F. W. TUGWELL, B.A.
Rev. R. P. GEE, Th.L.
Professor E. R. HOLME, O.B.E., M.A.
Mr. F. W. HIXSON, O.B.E., V.D.

Dr. N. F. BABBAGE
Mr. H. V. JAQUES, B.A., LL.B.
Brig. the Hon. T. A. J. PLAYFAIR,
D.S.O., O.B.E., V.D., M.L.C.
Dr. A. DISTIN MORGAN
His Honour Judge CURLEWIS
Mr. J. E. M. DIXON
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).

Second Master: E. M. BAGOT, M.A. (Adelaide).

Chaplain: Rev. N. a'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) (1) Barry House
P. R. M. JENKINS, B.A. (Sydney) School House

Masters:

E. J. CLINCH, B.A., B.Sc. (Sydney).
J. B. BURRELL, B.A. (Melbourne).
*I. F. JONES, M.A. (Queensland) (2).
J. CARINGTON POPE, M.A. (New Zealand).
H. W. GRIGG, B.A. (Sydney).
J. N. PASCOE, B.Ec. (Sydney).
W. SAWKINS, B.A., Dip.Ed. (Sydney).
T. B. WHIGHT, B.A. (Queensland).
R. A. GILFILLAN, B.A. (Sydney).
W. M. MCGREGOR.
A. R. RUPP, B.A. (Sydney).
T. MILFULL, B.A. (Queensland).
D. P. FOMENKO, B.Ec., M.Litt.
W. H. BRIERLEY.
W. N. DOWLING, B.A. (Sydney).
N. M. GODDARD, B.E. (Sydney).
*Senior Masters in (1) English and History; (2) Classics; (3) Modern Languages;
(4) Science; (5) Mathematics; (6) Music.

J. V. TERRY, B.A. (Sydney).
H. C. W. PRINCE, M.A. (Oxford).
A. E. MITCHELL, M.A. (New Zealand).
Rev. A. F. DRYDEN, Th.L. (Aust. Th. Coll.).
J. W. BURNS, B.A. (Sydney).
*G. FAUNCE ALLMAN (6).
T. H. VISSER, Ph.D. (Utrecht), Mus.D. (London).
J. G. HASLAM, A.A.A.
G. T. BAWTREE.
L. M. JAMIESON, B.A. (Sydney).
C. J. NOMMENSEN, B.A. (Queensland), Dip.Ed. (Sydney).
M. G. F. PORTER, B.A. (Sydney).
J. R. BERNARD, B.Sc., Dip.Ed. (Sydney).

J. H. DIXON (late 2nd A.I.F.) Sergeant-Major.
Miss M. G. KEYTE Piano
Mrs. G. FAUNCE ALLMAN Orchestra
J. W. LIPSCOMB Art

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: WEBSTER, D. A.

Second: HUGHES, N. McL.

BARRAND, P. H.
ELDERSHAW, J. M.
KEIRLE, G. G.

KERR, J. F. R.
LANE, D. G.

LEGGETT, K. C.
MEARES, D. D.
PATON, R. N.

Sub-Prefects:

ADARE, M. I.
COLES, P. L.
GIBSON, J. B.

KNIGHT, R. Y.
LAWRENCE, J. H.
McGUIRE, P. N.
SPRING, A. H. L.

TANCRED, B. J.
WILLIAMS, R. G. P.
WOODHILL, R. A.

CAPTAINS OF SPORT:

Athletics: WILLIAMS, R. G. P.

Football: HUGHES, N. McL.

Boats: LANE, D. G.

Shooting: LEGGETT, K. C.

Cricket: LEGGETT, K. C.

Swimming: TANCRED, B. J.

Tennis: LEGGETT, K. C.

SCHOLARSHIP LIST, 1950

A. B. S. White Scholarship Webster, D. A.
Old Boys' Union Bursary Corin, R. A.
Fenton, A. S.

Granger Exhibition, No. 1 Tugwell, W. D.

" " No. 2 Oliver, C. A. H.
Bennett, F. S.

Bruce and Eldon Beale Memorial Prize Noble, R. A. S.

Junior Scholarships:

Open Entrance Meek, I. E.
Stewart, P. S. B.

Open to Boys within the School Kerr, J. F. R.
Harpur, M. H.
McGrath, P. J.

Under 14 years Clarke, T. J. O.
Amos, B. J.
Read, D. J. C.
Cameron, R. I.
Maclean, W. H.
Wolstenholme, P. M.
Goulston, K. J.

Archbishop's Exhibitions Begbie, A. S.
Ashley-Brown, P. W.
Dunstan, J. D.

Christina Campbell Scholarships Henningham, J. G.
Sherington, B. B.

PRIZE LIST. 1950

SIXTH FORM:

Brian Pockley Memorial Prize	Webster, D. A.
Burke Prize and United Services Prize (1st in General Proficiency)	Kerr, J. F. R.
War Memorial Prize (2nd in General Proficiency)	Maclean, W. H.
Percival Sharpe Memorial Prize (Form Prize)	Everson, W.
Harold Dean and R. S. Reid Prizes (Mathematics)	Kerr, J. F. R.
A. H. Wade Memorial Prize (General Merit)	Webster, D. A.
Russell Sinclair Memorial Prize (General Merit)	Murdoch, B. J.
Donald Muston Memorial Prize (General Merit)	Oliver, C. A. H.
Charlton Prize (Divinity)	Field, J. H.
J. S. Wilson Memorial Prize (English)	Everson, W.
David Cowlshaw Memorial Prize (Latin)	Murdoch, B. J.
Herbert Kendall Memorial Prize (French)	Abernethy, C. L.
Ian Menzies Memorial Prize (History)	Everson, W.
Monteith Cowper Wood Memorial Prize (Physics)	Griffin, P. H.
John Kingsmill Phillips Memorial Prize (Chemistry)	Kerr, J. F. R.
Desmond Hum Memorial Prize (Geography)	West, P. J.
	Lane, D. G.

FIFTH FORM:

Alan Ludowici Memorial Prize (VA Form)	Harpur, M. H.
Hunter Stephenson Prize (Mathematics)	Harpur, M. H.
Eric Mileham Litchfield Memorial Prize (General Merit)	Taylor, R. R.

FOURTH FORM:

Alan Ludowici Memorial Prize (IVA1 Form)	McGrath, P. J.
Roy Milton Prize (French)	McGrath, P. J.
L. R. Benjamin Memorial Prize (Science)	Wolstenholme, P. M.
Geoffrey Cohen Memorial Prize (General Merit)	Wolstenholme, P. M.

SUB-INTERMEDIATE FORM:

Alan Ludowici Memorial Prize (SA1 Form)	Stiles, J. A.
Hunter Stephenson Prize (French)	Stiles, J. A.
The Selby Prize (Physics and Chemistry)	Stiles, J. A.

THIRD FORM:

Alan Ludowici Memorial Prize (IIIA Form)	Thomas, M. A. W.
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PREPARATORY SCHOOL

John Scott Memorial Form Prize (IIA Form)	Ford, J. S.
John Scott Memorial Mathematics Prize (Division 6A)	Cooper, A. F.

SPECIAL PRIZES:

Uther Catechism Prize	Cooper, A. F.
David Davies Memorial Choir Prize	Hunningham, J. G.
D. J. Richards Memorial Prize	Cunningham, J. B. F.
John Jamieson Memorial Prize (General Knowledge in Upper School)	Abernethy, C. L.
"Torch-Bearer" Prize	Abernethy, C. L.
Old Boys' Union Prize	Warden, J. C.
"Lodge Torch-Bearer" Prize	Litchfield, R. O.
General Knowledge Prizes (Dr. H. L. St. Vincent Welch)	Meek, I. E.
	Jones, A. I.

PRIZE LIST—(Continued)

Debating Prizes (The Headmaster)	{ Everson, W. Kerr, J. F. R. Taylor, B. T.
Choir Prizes	{ McGregor, R. W. Collison, D. R.
Play Day Awards: Senior	Hodges House
Junior	SA1 and IIIA (æq.)
Original Play	{ Eldershaw, J. M., and Richards, D. R.
Art: Senior	Eldershaw, J. M.
Junior	Jowett, I. D.
Music: Practical, Senior	Cuffe, W. E.
" Junior	White, R. G. S.
Theory	Benjamin, D. T.
Musical Perception (Mr. R. G. H. Walmsley)	Peters, B. J.
	Bull, N. G.
Orchestra Prizes	{ Noble, N. R. Wilcox, K. G.

		DIVINITY	FORM	DIVISION
Form VI	A	(Field, J. H.)	(Everson, W.)	(Kerr, J. F. R.)
Form VI	B	Whalley, R. D. B.	West, P. J.	Macleay, W. H.
Form VI	C	Spring, A. H. L.	Stone, G. W.	Logan, J. W.
Form V	A	Harpur, M. H.	(Harpur, M. H.)	(Harpur, M. H.)
Form V	B	Evans, C. J.	Wilson, R. G.	Conolly, W. B.
Form V	C	Mutton, B.	Mutton, B.	Peak, H. J.
Form V	D	—	Allsop, L. H.	—
Form IV	A1	McGrath, P. J.	(McGrath, P. J.)	(McGrath, P. J.)
Form IV	A2	Sabine, C. N. B.	Sabine, C. N. B.	Brooks, J. A.
Form IV	B1	Jones, D. G. O.	Jones, D. G. O.	Binet, R. G. K.
Form IV	B2	Jones, B. C. C.	Parrett, C. A. M.	Morgan, W. H.
Form IV	C	Tancred, G. O.	Siddins, W. R.	Siddins, W. R.
Form S	A1	Stiles, J. R.	(Stiles, J. R.)	Stiles, J. R.
Form S	A2	Ford, R. W.	Loder, D. K. H.	Minns, M. A.
Form S	B1	Hunt, P. S.	Doney, R. J.	Conolly, R. D.
Form S	B2	Harris, A. P.	—	Lander, D. G.
Form S	C	—	Wilson, B. G.	Engert, J. C.
Form III	A	Jones, A. I.	(Thomas, M. A. W.)	Thomas, M. A. W.
Form III	B	Lewis, G. B. H.	Mitchell, A. S.	Mitchell, A. S.
Form III	C	Rail, G. D. M.	Little, G. B.	Lane, R. B.
Form III	D	Scott, T. M.	Siddins, C. C.	Herbert, G. E.
Form II	A	{ Ford, J. S.		
	(æq.)	{ Cooper, A. F.	(Ford, J. S.)	(Cooper, A. F.)
Form II	B	Walker, A. T.	Walker, A. T.	Harding, M. J.
Remove	A	Carr, R. P.	Hutchinson, I. E.	Carr, R. P.
Remove	B	Cousins, M. G.	Lane, I. G.	Lane, I. G.
Form I		Old T.A.R.	Dixon, P. N.	Dixon, P. N.

GENERAL MERIT: (Webster, D. A., Murdoch, B. J., Oliver, C. A. H.), (Taylor, R. R.), Cavanaugh, T. J.; Foskey, C. J., (Wolstenholme, P. M.), Goulston, K. J.; Hamilton, I. A.; Drown, C. R.; Phillips, A. G.; McLelland, M. H.; Henningham, J. G.; Stowe, J. M.; Lack, G. N. T., Catley, L. L., Stuckey, E.; Collison, D. R.; Hunt, M. R.; Jeffery, A. C.; Merrillees, R. S.; Lane, I. R. E.; Lane, A. J.; Cowlshaw, A. K.; Drake, R. H.

HEADMASTER'S REPORT FOR 1950.

It is now nearly twelve months since Mrs. Robson and I returned from England, but this is my first opportunity of expressing generally our thanks for the great kindness which was shown to us during last year. I thank the Council for making possible a long convalescence of which the result is apparently satisfactory. We are extremely grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Bagot in particular, and to our colleagues generally, for carrying on so readily and so efficiently during 1949, and for many acts of personal kindness extending into the present year. There are also hundreds of parents and Old Boys and other friends to whom we are indebted for good wishes during our absence and for such a pleasant welcome back to the School.

It is usual to try to give in these annual reports some reflection of the problems of School government and management which are most pressing at the time. This is more than usually difficult this year, partly because the problems are so numerous and so varied, partly because they can be evaluated fully only by one who understands both the increased complexity, and also the limitations of the School organisation. One has to understand how much is to be done before one can realise the full difficulty of getting it done; and one has to understand that a school must always be trying to keep its costs within reasonable bounds, whatever circumstances it may have to face. Twelve years ago the School used to employ, including masters, just over 100 persons. Nowadays there are more boys, much more is attempted on their behalf, and the properties are a little more extensive; so that there would be need of a greater number of employees if they were available, and even if they were to work at the same rate. In fact, in all the non-professional parts of the School organisation we are constantly battling merely to keep the wheels turning. We never have nowadays anything like an adequate domestic staff; though we have some excellent help at Northbridge, it is years since there were enough men to keep up to the work; painting has fallen far behind, and very many jobs of repair and maintenance are a constant irritation. One almost despairs of having a tidy, orderly School with all its normal services working smoothly. Of course, all big organisations have troubles of this kind now. We do not wish to make too much of our troubles, but certainly the grave accentuation of them is the feature which distinguishes this year.

It is only right to acknowledge that many boys have been extremely co-operative. They are beginning to understand that many things, which a few years ago they took for granted, do not happen unless there is someone to cause them to happen. The sensible boys are increasingly ready to give a hand in tasks that would simply have to be neglected without their help; recently many have shown initiative in offering services. Of course, this is a good thing. When employed labour is lacking they ought to be ready to help, and we ought not to hesitate to encourage them. However, most of them have a full School life and the free time that they have is not sufficient to make a great difference. At best they can give only occasional help in odd jobs, however willing they may be. It is more than proper also to acknowledge the great services of certain persons without whose loyal help our difficulties would have been far greater. The housekeeper has not spared herself in circumstances often of great difficulty. The head groundsman at Northbridge has done his level best to make use of slender resources. Not least, the foreman and his right-hand man have stood by us at regular and irregular times. These are all full members of "the team", whose chief interest is the School's progress.

At a time when it is so very difficult to get materials, even in small quantities, when labour is scarce and costs are high, we are

bound to hesitate before committing ourselves to new building. Hence we still have buildings which we hoped to replace long ago, the "new buildings" are at least ten years old, and our beautiful plans still remain upon paper, and it is impossible to say when they will be translated into bricks and cement. This is a personal disappointment to me, because it now seems improbable that I shall be able to reach the objective that I set before myself many years ago. We considered long ago whether we ought to move the School from North Sydney, and decided against it for reasons which seem to us as sound to-day as they did then. We have not contemplated any great change in the character of the School. I think that it is of the type that is best for our conditions—combining city and country, uniting the influences of home and School, near to the current of daily affairs, robust in outlook and sound in academic standards. I have, therefore, always thought that the development associated with my period of office ought to be the improvement, as far as possible, of this site, accepting its limitations as well as its great advantages; and the planning upon it of a School of the agreed type, on a scale consistent with our probable resources. With great sympathy from the governing body and with professional help, we have devised a plan which seems to me very suitable. Before the recent war two important sections were built in accordance with it, and we then looked forward with reasonable confidence to having the teaching and administrative part finished by 1950. This would have involved a good deal of building on the eastern side of our land. Not only have we made no further progress in the last ten years, but, indeed, in a sense, we have gone backward, for prices have advanced to an absurd degree.

The Hall is an important part of the plan, and it is particularly disappointing that this has not been started. The Council share this disappointment most acutely and have lately been trying very hard to find a way of making a start. The Fund that has generously been contributed is now well beyond the objective that was set a few years ago. Unfortunately the price of building has increased very much more rapidly than the Fund, and is likely to move further ahead as the increase in the basic wage becomes effective. We do not wish to undertake less expensive building jobs, because if we were to do so we should reduce the funds which we have been keeping to supplement the War Memorial Fund, and then we might have to wait even longer for the Hall. During this period of uncertainty the Council have had a scale model of the Hall made to assist with the final planning of it, and I hope that this will be exhibited on Speech Day.

Though our designs for adding to the School building have been temporarily frustrated, we have nevertheless been able, during the last few years, to make most important additions to the School properties. In 1948 a piece of land to the east of Barry House was purchased; this not only adds to the area, but safeguards permanently the outlook from the House. Last year a row of houses facing Lord Street was purchased. I have no doubt that in due course this area will be put to a most important use, which it is unnecessary to specify at present. During 1950 we acquired St. John's flats, immediately to the east of Robson House, and also a piece of land and a cottage facing Union Street, below Barry and Hodges Houses. The former property goes far to round off our possessions on the eastern slope of the hill overlooking the Harbour, and the latter completes the whole frontage that we need to the south. I think that it is quite possible that, in due course, the acquisition of these properties will be recognised as a most important forward move in the development of the School.

The financial problems of the School have been very great during the last few years and are not decreasing at the present time. Parents have been very good in receiving without loud complaint

the successive notices that they have had, announcing increases in the fees. Doubtless it is fully realised now that the School has no important source of revenue outside the School fees; and hence if costs rise an increase in fees is quite inevitable. The Council have been very reluctant to make these changes, well knowing that many of those associated with the School are not particularly well off. Indeed, they have made a practice of deferring increases in fees until the need has become fully apparent. As our accounts are compiled at the end of each year and are not fully available until February, this is the reason why increases have been made in the middle of the year rather than at the beginning. There has been a significant loss on this account more than once, for the greater revenue has been obtained only after the former rate has been definitely proved to be seriously inadequate. Of course, the present financial conditions are such that any attempt to budget in advance is likely to be seriously inaccurate. I wish that I could encourage the hope that further increases will be avoided. They may not be long delayed and may have to be substantial. The increase made in 1950 has already been partly swallowed by rising costs. At the time of writing this report the effect of the projected rise in the basic wage is not known, but the indications are that it will be very great, and that, like other similar effects, it will be cumulative over a period of months. My own personal opinion, after many conversations, is that, if a further increase becomes necessary, most of our parents will be content to have the Council make it substantial in the hope of relieving for some time the great anxiety that is attached at present to School government.

The Headmasters' Conference of Australia has been trying hard to persuade the Government to give relief to parents by allowing deductions from taxable income in respect of school fees. We have had a very sympathetic hearing indeed, and are grateful for the genuine interest that has been shown by several Members. I think that we might fairly ask friends of the School to bring this matter before influential persons in the next six or eight months in the hope that that which the Government found impossible by a small margin in 1950 will be found possible in 1951. It is the most ready way in which parents can look for relief. The idea of direct State assistance to schools is apparently not generally favoured, but our proposal is different, and ought not to be opposed. Again, it is a fair request to the Government to give relief to parents who pay for secondary education, when it is about to inaugurate a system of no fewer than 3,000 tertiary scholarships annually. We might surely be spared one little crumb from this rich table.

This reference to scholarships leads me to suggest to parents that they make a practice of seeing the "Shore Weekly Record". It is a handy and, indeed, now almost indispensable method by which all persons can be kept informed about the activities of the School in its many departments, about such rules and arrangements as are necessary for discipline and organisation, and about matters of general interest or profit. I do not find that boys pass on as much of this information as they ought. Three times recently I have been consulted by parents who were concerned to know if they could afford to see their boys through University courses starting next year, and who had not heard of the Commonwealth Scholarships. A first reference to these important awards appeared in the "Record" of 7th July. I advise that all who have sons rising towards the University level should make themselves familiar with the conditions of award and should study the experience of the way the first awards are made next year. I also doubt whether parents generally are aware of the scholarships and exhibitions which the School gives from time to time. A reference to these is in the issue of 29th September, and also in the

School Notes of the May "Torch-Bearer". I again bring to notice that the conditions of award of the "Junior Scholarships" are being changed and that in future they will be awarded at the end of primary education.

For the greater part, the Open Chapel Services this year have been in accordance with our custom—that is to say, "Open Sundays" for parents, and special services for Old Boys and for Lodge Torch-bearer. In the Third Term there was a very special occasion when the Book of Remembrance was dedicated. To this service we invited the close relatives of those who gave their lives in the recent war. So many came that eventually we had to limit the representation of the School to the Staff and prefects, the Choir, and about 60 of the "85". I think that the service was as it ought to have been for such an occasion: the singing was exceedingly good. In fact, there has been a further advance this year, under Mr. Allman, in the standard of Chapel Music, and certainly in the interest displayed in it. Both his knowledge and his enjoyment of the work appeal strongly to our boys, and I am sure that many will long remember what he has given to them. He has been assisted only for portion of the year by Mrs. Allman, who was laid low by an illness from which most happily she seems to be fast recovering. For the rest of the year he had the help of some of his pupils and musical colleagues, whom we heartily thank. It is a pity that more persons do not have the chance to hear the singing of which Mr. Allman's various groups become capable by the end of the year, particularly the hundred or so trebles of the Third Forms, or the robust group that we know as the "85". They are obliged to sing mostly for their own satisfaction, but this, I believe, is now not small.

The report about School work follows the usual lines. From year to year there are variations in various respects on either side of a certain reasonable mean standard. For example, in 1949 the Leaving Certificate Candidates contained few boys of conspicuous ability, and the results were therefore sound all round, but by no means spectacular. On the other hand, the classes immediately below were quite good and the work at Intermediate standard was better than usual. This year there will probably be more Leaving Honours, and the Middle School classes, though fair, are not quite so good. There has been a fairly good attitude generally towards study. The top boys in the Sixth Form are a very sound lot, and in every way most co-operative. The chief prize-winner of the year, Kerr, has excellent prospects.

There is not room for an extensive survey of the achievements of Old Boys, but this year distinctions have been spread over a quite unusually wide field. William Ritchie won the University Medals at Sydney in Latin and Greek, and A. E. Melville won the Medal in English. Both have gone to Cambridge, holding important scholarships. Five Old Boys were awarded first classes at Graduation in Engineering. Michael Foster topped first year Law, with the Wigram Allen Scholarship, and Roger Brown topped his year in Chemistry. It is, of course, hard to keep track of all and these are instances which occur to one at random.

There is a respect in which I want to bespeak liberal co-operation. We have been to much trouble in the last few years to enlarge the range of subjects available in the Fifth and Sixth Forms. Between these subjects, however, there cannot be absolutely free choice for all boys. The reason, stated very briefly, is that, with limited staff, and a limited number of rooms and laboratories, we must keep fairly constant from year to year the number of classes in each subject. The classes now arranged meet the reasonable average requirements. For the common good, boys must accept a reasonable measure of direction.

The problem of enrolments appears to be as great as ever. We have many applications for 1962 and 1963, which seems to be a case of *reductio ad absurdum*. It is impossible to explain briefly the complexity of this problem. We have discussed our system of dealing with enrolments with several Old Boys and others during the year and have not found occasion to alter it. In fact, though we cannot avoid causing disappointment, I think that we have evolved a pretty good plan for dealing with a most difficult and often embarrassing situation. Mr. K. D. Anderson has been most helpful to me in this matter, as in many others. The total numbers in the School in the three terms were respectively 782, 778, 770; the numbers of boarders were 215, 216, 214. Two important considerations have impelled us to keep these numbers up; the first, the obvious financial consideration from which there is at present no escape; the second, the heavy demand for enrolment which we feel we ought to do our best to meet. In order to maintain the numbers, a very careful arrangement of boys is necessary, so that, as far as possible, no class may be large, and, also, boys may be in a class for which they are suited. If we are to make the best use of our slender resources, certain corollaries will doubtless be acknowledged. The most important is that we are bound to consider whether we can retain indefinitely a boy whose membership of a class is a serious disadvantage to the other members of it, particularly if the reason is that he is gravely out of step with the School's methods or outlook. I thank parents again for their co-operation in matters of routine administration. In a big school the checking of absences, the granting of leave and similar matters would absorb a vast amount of energy if a routine were not adopted. The telephone could easily absorb one person's complete day if we were not to ask that it be used only for urgent matters. It is not, of course, merely to save ourselves trouble that we ask that there be no avoidable absence, but because it is a set-back to a whole class if one or two are away from it. I now ask particularly that absence at beginning and end of term be avoided. We regard it as our duty to start work promptly and to maintain it to the end, and, of course, classes must be full if we are to do this.

I think that our prefects have been very good. As Senior, Webster has set a very high standard and he has shown a high degree of initiative and a rare capacity for "getting things done" by willing helpers. He has been well supported by Hughes and by half a dozen others. As a group the prefects are quite as good as we have ever had. It has been a pleasure to find things being done without having to suggest them.

As for games, this has been a quite unusual year. We hold at present most of the A.A.G.P.S. trophies: four for shooting, two for rowing, two for athletics and one for football. There are only three others, the two for cricket and the first football shield. The first event of the year was the Boat Race. Our Eight was, in my opinion, on the day of the race, the best school crew that there has been in N.S.W. They averaged well over 12 stone in weight and knew how to row. We expected their win, but had not dared to hope for the success that the regatta day brought to the Fours. This made it the more welcome. Mr. W. G. Thomas has taken over the coaching of the Eight for next year; this is a piece of good fortune for us. The football season brought us back into balance, for the 1st XV shared the "wooden spoon"; bad luck for the new coach, but he is so keen and expert that it will soon change. Games were close throughout. The 2nd XV won their competition and the 3rd XV were beaten only once, and that narrowly. The innumerable junior teams flourished as well as the constant rain allowed. The Shooting Matches were another great success for Mr. Bagot. For the second time our team won all three matches which make up the premiership. We have won six of

the last seven premierships. In Athletics we gave ourselves a very welcome surprise by winning both competitions, a feat performed not often before. This was really a good performance, due to a most happy and determined spirit of team work under the leadership of Mr. Burns and Mr. Backhouse. At the time of printing this report the cricket is not over, but our teams have performed fairly well. There has been so much wet weather this year that the amount of cricket played has been absurdly small and the younger teams have suffered a great deprivation in consequence. As an example, out of twelve Saturday afternoons the 2nd XI have had only four without interruption of play, and on six there has been no play at all. Various carnivals have provided an outlet for the enthusiasm for swimming. The tennis courts at North Sydney are a great boon, and I wish that we had more. The standard of School tennis has improved, particularly among the juniors.

I do not know how to do justice to the dramatic and musical activities. These seem to me to be more than ever noteworthy this year, not perhaps because of the standard achieved, though that has been certainly as good as ever, but because of the nature of the work attempted and the way it was carried through in the face of difficulties. As permission to do another Savoy opera was withheld the Senior School presented Edward German's "Merrie England" in July. Mrs. Allman's enforced retreat in May from the position of conductress, that she has so long held, seemed at first a severe blow. However, Mr. Jamieson stepped into the breach with great success and the preparation went on with little interruption. It was a very big undertaking, but was brought to a triumphant conclusion. The Preparatory School, under Mr. Brierley as producer, undertook the whole work of "Toad of Toad Hall" and presented it in November at Mosman Town Hall. This was another great success. The boys were all, of course, very young, but they were word-perfect and they acted with an assurance that ought to stand to them in later years. These annual productions are providing a large number of boys with a splendid experience and they are profiting as much by the excellent team work in which they have a share as by the training that they receive. At present recruits for the orchestra are not coming forward in sufficient numbers; suitable aspirants would receive a welcome. The two annual "Play Days", Senior and Junior, went off with great enthusiasm and enjoyment, and with a good standard of performance.

The Cadet Unit has gone ahead, with its standards fully maintained. It commenced the year with a total strength of 330, allowing formation of a fourth company. Early in the year Captain I. F. Jones resigned after ten years' service, chiefly as Quarter Master; his place has been taken by Mr. L. M. Jamieson. There has been good demand for places in various courses of instruction for N.C.O.'s and Commissioned Officers. Seventeen Cadet Lieutenants and 65 N.C.O.'s have had appointment. The regular training is now fortunately more varied than it used to be, and regular instructional help is available. On August 9 the whole day was devoted to a Range and Field Day. Lt.-General Sir Leslie Morshead inspected the Corps on 31st October, and was very complimentary, both privately and in public. The annual camp has just been held at Singleton, but too late in the year for an account of it to be given in the printed report.

The School Flight of the A.T.C. increased in strength to 94 this year, so that more than 400 have been receiving military or Air Force training. In April Flight Lieutenant F. P. Weaver became Flight Commander, and he has been a very great help. Though Mr. Tiley has handed over the actual command, he maintains keen interest. The formation of the Flight was due to him and he is responsible for the splendid results that it has achieved so far. There is further evidence of high standard this year in that three of our boys have

won the first, and only, three certificates issued by the squadron for the third and highest stage of training, that of Sgt. R. A. Corin being awarded with distinction, and in that 15 out of 19 certificates for Stage II went to this flight. The supply of permanent R.A.A.F. instructors has not always been adequate during the year. Even with a regular supply, the training is a matter of some difficulty. It will be necessary to set an upper limit of about 100 beyond which the Flight must not be allowed to grow, otherwise it will become impossible to provide fully. I understand that the rank of Cadet Pilot Officer is soon to be established; this should provide further incentive.

There has been due interest in debating, and, under the guidance of Mr. Jenkins, an improvement in the standard. The School team was defeated this year only in the final of the G.P.S. Series. The number of boys who are anxious to participate is increasing, but our engagements are too many to permit us to give that instruction and help which would make the most of the material. Similarly, I wish that we had a sufficiently big staff to enable us to make more of the Chess Club, the Camera Club and the Art Club. All these have, however, moved forward in such a way as to give profitable amusement to their own devotees.

Early this year the Reverend Nigel Backhouse resigned as Group Scout Master, and the Reverend A. F. Dryden was appointed in his place. The Group was formed by Mr. Backhouse eighteen years ago and he is responsible more than any other person for its continued work and present sound condition. About three hundred boys have been members during that time, and it has been a great advantage to them to have with them one who has so thoroughly enjoyed the open air life in their company. This year the Scouts have been in camp at Canberra and at Springwood, and in their routine work they seem to have progressed as well as ever. They have had the active help of several Old Boys. The ladies and gentlemen of the Group Committee have again been very energetic in promoting the interests of the Scouts. They have made splendid use of the venerable old "gym." as a Scout Hut and they are constantly showing initiative in adding to the facilities available to the boys. It is a matter of concern to them and to us that the numbers in the troop cannot be allowed to grow indefinitely.

This is, however, but one instance of the limitations that must necessarily be placed upon our activities. All such affairs as games, scouting, corps, drama and the rest need organisation and continuity of guidance, which must come from the masters, and we are now very near to the limit of the activities that we can undertake. In this report it is possible only to indicate generally what goes on in the School during the year. When it is all reckoned up it makes a formidable total. The masters of a big School in these days need to command a great variety of abilities and interests beyond even those which are required by the teaching curriculum; and the avidity of the boys is such that the Staff can never be too abundantly supplied with energy. We are fortunate that we are able to do so much. I think that there are many parents who would like me to pass on to my colleagues publicly the appreciation that they have expressed to me concerning them.

The Ladies' Committee of the S.C.E.G.S. Association has been active once more. The social objective of their Annual "American Tea" is not less important than the financial and is achieved equally well. These functions enable many people to meet with the School as a common interest. The evidence of their generosity is spreading ever more widely. They have formerly provided a mace for the use of the Drum Major. This year they provided also a leopard skin to ornament the frame of the big drummer. They have given a sub-

stantial gift recently to the Library, another to the Cricket Club, and are providing seats for this ground. All this is in addition to big contributions to the War Memorial Fund.

This latter fund now stands at £32,786, which represents an increase of £4,276 over the amount quoted last Speech Day. I have referred already to the problems associated with building.

Mr. Carington Pope is to retire at the end of this year after having been a member of our staff for 23 years and a schoolmaster for much longer. He has had a great variety of interests throughout a long teaching career. Outside the School he is highly respected as the Secretary of the A.A.G.P.S. and as a member of the Lodge Torch-Bearer. He was active in our games for several years, and since then has performed much organising work; for example, arranging fixtures and practices, allotting and supervising grounds. It is due to his quiet work behind the scenes that we have been able to increase our games programme so much in recent years. We shall miss him very greatly. In his place, Mr. John Lipscomb is to become a full member of the Staff, with as much liberty as we can afford him to pursue the teaching of Art. For want of better premises we are handing over to him the old cottage known familiarly as the "San". I have no doubt, from the indications in advance, that the future inhabitants of that historic edifice will enjoy themselves in it more than those of the past.

We lost a wonderfully loyal and considerate Old Boy recently when Norman Deane died. I shall not give here details of his School and professional career; these will have a place elsewhere. It is in this report that it should be recorded that he had a very great part in two matters of lasting importance. In about 1912, realising that no satisfactory provision had been made for retiring allowances for masters, he set out, on his own initiative, to create a fund for the purpose. It was bad luck that the First War reduced the practical effect of his efforts, but the interest that he aroused did not perish, and in due course he joined me most enthusiastically in re-establishing the fund which he had first called the "Torch-Bearer Fund". He remained a Trustee of it till his death, and saw it grow to quite respectable dimensions. It was also due to the initiative of Norman Deane and a few others that we secured the Memorial Playing Fields at Northbridge. In these days it would be impossible to imagine the School without them, but when they were purchased it was chiefly faith that was available to pay for them. Let us realise, by the way, that that was only about thirty years ago, and let us imagine, if we can, how much will be effected by a corresponding progress in the next thirty. I have always had the most profound admiration for Norman Deane. He was a man of the greatest integrity of heart.

In conclusion, I express my thanks to parents for their co-operation during the year; and to the Council, not only for consulting so earnestly for the welfare of the School, but also for the interest that they have shown personally in all its doings.