



**Sydney Church of England
Grammar School**

North Sydney

December, 1954

Sydney Church of England Grammar School

Speech Day—9th December, 1954



Visitors are requested to take their seats before 2.45 p.m.
3.05 p.m.: Opening 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.



3.15 p.m.: The chair will be taken by His Grace the Archbishop of Sydney.

Summary of Headmaster's Report.

Presentation of Prizes by His Excellency, the Governor of New South Wales,
Lieut.-General Sir John Northcott, K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., C.B.

Vote of thanks (the Senior Prefect).

HYMN.

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.

National Anthem.

Tea will be served in the School Grounds.

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

Council:

Rev. Canon FRANK CASH, M.A., B.D., Th.D.
Rev. Canon R. J. HEWETT, Th.L.
Rev. R. P. GEE, Th.L.
Rev. Canon F. W. TUGWELL, B.A.
Rev. S. C. S. BEGbie, Th.L.
Rev. Canon S. G. STEWART, Th.L.
Dr. N. F. BABBAGE, M.B., B.S., F.R.C.S.
Dr. N. D. CAMPBELL, M.B., B.S.
Mr. R. F. NETTHEIM.
Mr. R. B. HIPSLEY, B.E.
Mr. H. M. BRAGG.
His Honour Judge ADRIAN CURLEWIS.
Dr. A. DISTIN MORGAN, M.B., Ch.M., D.A.
Mr. J. E. M. DIXON, B.Ec.
Professor D. M. MYERS, B.Sc., D.Sc. (Eng.).

Hon. Secretary: Mr. R. E. LUDOWICI.

Hon. Treasurer: Mr. A. D. W. FISHER, B.A., LL.B.

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

Second Master: C. S. Tiley, B.E. (Sydney).

Chaplain: Rev. J. F. W. MASON, B.A. (Sydney), Th.L.

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

House Masters:

*W. SAWKINS, B.A., Dip.Ed. (Sydney) (3) 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
K. D. ANDERSON, M.A. (New Zealand) Purves (Junior) House

Masters:

E. J. CLINCH, B.A., B.Sc. (Sydney).
J. B. BURRELL, B.A. (Melbourne).
*I. F. JONES, M.A. (Queensland) (2).
H. W. GRIGG, B.A. (Sydney).
*J. N. PASCOE, B.Ec. (Sydney) (5).
*T. B. WHIGHT, B.A. (Queensland) (9).
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) (4).
*J. V. TERRY, B.A. (Sydney) (8).
H. C. W. PRINCE, M.A. (Oxon.).
J. W. BURNS, B.A. (Sydney).
*G. FAUNCE ALLMAN (6).
T. H. VISSER, Ph.D. (Utrecht), Mus.D. (London).
L. M. JAMIESON, B.A. (Sydney).
C. J. NOMMENSEN, B.A. (Queensland), Dip.Ed. (Sydney).
J. R. BERNARD, B.A., B.Sc., Dip.Ed. (Sydney).
*R. DOIG (7).
E. R. WOOLMINGTON, B.A. (Sydney).
Rev. R. F. BOSANQUET, B.A., Th.L. (Sydney).
P. A. FULLER.
R. M. BLANSHARD.
R. BLOMFIELD, B.E. (Sydney).
D. A. WEBSTER, B.Sc. (Sydney).

*Senior Masters in (1) English and History; (2) Classics; (3) Mathematics;
(4) Physics; (5) Chemistry; (6) Music; (7) Art; (8) Geography; (9) Games.

J. H. DIXON, J.P. (A.I.F.) Sergeant-Major
Miss M. G. KEYTE Piano
Mrs. G. FAUNCE ALLMAN Orchestra

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: GORDON, C. B.

Second: McLELLAND, M. H.

JUDD, W. O.	STOWE, J. M.	RODGER, M. G.
HUNT, P. S.	SWINBURN, M. J.	SHERINGTON, B. B.
BURGE, W. R.	WOOD, T. J.	GARDNER, P. McN.
HEATH, J. R.	EDWARDS, W. J. W.	HOSKINS, D. J.
LITCHFIELD, P. W. O.	GALL, R. W.	WARDEN, R. R.
MACCALLUM, D. E.	MICHELMORE, H. M.	McCREIDIE, D. J.
RICHARDSON, P. L.	NAPIER, R. S.	THOMAS, M. A. W.
SCOTT, T. M.	PLOMLEY, E. D.	

CAPTAINS OF SPORT:

Athletics . . .	JUDD, W. O.	Shooting . . .	DOUGLAS, D. W.
Boats . . .	GORDON, C. B.	Swimming . . .	RICHARDSON, P. L.
Cricket . . .	NAPIER, R. S.	Tennis . . .	McLELLAND, M. H.
Football . . .	HUNT, P. S.		

HOLDERS OF SCHOLARSHIPS, 1954

A. B. S. White Scholarship	McLelland, M. H.
Grainger and J. N. Graham Exhibitions	Stuckey, E. M. V. Thomas, M. A. W. Ford, J. S. Langdon, J. F.
Bruce and Eldon Beale Memorial Prize	Stiles, J. A.

Junior Scholarships:

Open Entrance	(The Hodges Scholarship)	Donnan, S. P. B.
	(Christina Campbell Scholarship)	Burgess, R. H.
	(Oswald Stanton-Cook)	Phegan, C. S.

Open School	}	Beatty, H. K.
		Carr, R. P.
		Vonwiller, J. B.
		Myers, P. W. H.

Under 14 years, No. 1 and No. 2	}	Milfull, J. R.
		Stiles, G. R.
		Bishop, A. D.
		Brain, S. V. F.
		Dixon, P. N.
		Sinclair, R.
		Gaskin, P. G. Dorter, J. B.

Extraordinary Scholarship	Cooper, A. F.
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Archbishop's Exhibitions	}	Edmondson, J. H.
		Langshaw, K. R.
		Dunstan, J. D.
		King, C. C. Deasey, P. W.

Old Boys' Union Bursary	Hunt, P. S.
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PRIZE LIST, 1954

SIXTH FORM:

Brian Pockley Memorial Prize	Gordon, C. B.
Burke Prize and United Services Prize and	} McLelland, M. H.
War Memorial Prize (first in General Proficiency)	
A. H. Wade Memorial Prize (General Merit)	Clarke, W. B.
Percival Sharp Memorial Prize (Form Prize)	Thomas, M. A. W.
Harold Dean and R. S. Reid Prizes (Mathematics)	Jones, A. I.
Charlton Prize (Divinity)	Clarke, W. B.
J. S. Wilson Memorial Prize (English)	Jones, A. I.
David Cowlshaw Memorial Prize (Latin)	Jones, A. I.
Herbert Kendall Memorial Prize (French)	McLelland, M. H.
Ian Menzies Memorial Prize (History)	Stowe, J. M.
Monteith Cowper Wood Memorial Prize (Physics)	Mitchell, A. S.
John Kingsmill Phillips Memorial Prize (Chemistry)	McLelland, M. H.
Desmond Hum Memorial Prize (Geography)	Clarke, W. B.
Russell Sinclair Memorial Prize (General Merit)	Heath, J. R.
Donald Muston Memorial Prize (General Merit)	Plomley, E. D.
German	Hoskins, D. J.
Ancient History (The "Lodge Torch-Bearer" Prize)	Kilgour, A. J.
	Thorpe, P. C.

FIFTH FORM:

Alan Ludowici Memorial Prize (VA Form)	Cooper, A. F.
Hunter Stephenson Prize (Mathematics)	Cooper, A. F.
Eric Mileham Litchfield Memorial Prize (General Merit)	Galbraith, M. N.
Harry Eames Budd Memorial Prize (English)	Doust, B.

FOURTH FORM:

Alan Ludowici Memorial Prize (IV A1 Form)	Milfull, J. R.
Roy Milton Prize (French)	Stiles, G. R.
L. R. Benjamin Memorial Prize (Science)	} Donnan, S. P. B.
Geoffrey Cohen Memorial Prize (General Merit)	Milfull, J. R.
Frank Bennett Memorial Prize (English)	Stiles, G. R.
	Milfull, J. R.

SUB-INTERMEDIATE FORM:

Alan Ludowici Memorial Prize (SA1 Form)	Anderson, B. D. O.
Hunter Stephenson Prize (French)	Anderson, B. D. O.
The Selby Prize (Physics and Chemistry)	} Sinclair, R.
	Williams, C. W.

THIRD FORM:

Alan Ludowici Memorial Prize (III A Form)	Phegan, C. S.
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PREPARATORY SCHOOL:

John Scott Memorial Form Prize (II A Form)	Harris, J.
John Scott Memorial Mathematics Prize (Division 6A)	Vonwiller, C. C.

SPECIAL PRIZES:

General Activities:

D. J. Richards Memorial Prize	Michelmores, H. M.
Old Boys' Union Prize	Judd, W. O.
Catechism: Usher Prize	Harris, J.

Choir:

The David Davies Memorial Prize	Sinclair, R.
Junior Prizes	Reeves, D. R. B.
	} Flemming, K. W.
	Lamrock, C. G.

PRIZE LIST—(Continued)

General Knowledge:

John Jamieson Memorial Prize	Jones, A. I.
Junior Prizes	Milfull, J. R.
	Gaskin, P. G.

Art:

E. T. Thring Memorial Prize	Dowe, A.
Junior Prize	Cox, P. S.

Original Contribution to the School Magazine:

"Torch-Bearer" Prize	Plomley, E. D.
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Debating: The Headmaster's Prizes

McLelland, M. H.
Stowe, J. M.
Plomley, E. D.

Music:

Musical Perception. Mr. R. G. H. Walmsley's Prize	White, J. E. S.
Practical, Senior	} Harbutt, T. L.
Practical, Junior	Langshaw, S. N.
Theory	Harbutt, T. L.

Play Day:

Senior	2A Division
Junior	III A Form

Orchestra Prizes

Shearman, I. H.
Griffin, A. W. F.

		DIVINITY	FORM	DIVISION
Form VI	A	(Jones, A. I.)	(Jones, A. I.)	(Clarke, W. B.)
Form VI	B	Irish, R. D.	Taylor, D. T.	Myles, P. F.
Form VI	C	Gardner, P. McN.	Court, C. A. F.	Stewart, R. A. F.
Form V	A	Dowe, A. C.	(Cooper, A. F.)	(Cooper, A. F.)
Form V	B	McCreadie, G. K.	Lloyd, P. H.	Langley, P. A.
Form V	C	Turnbull, D. L.	Chauvel, P. J. L.	Finney, R. B.
Form V	D	Green, K. H.	Yeldham, A. J.	_____
Form IV	A1	Stiles, G. R.	(Milfull, J. R.)	Donnan, S. P. B.
Form IV	A2	Litchfield, C. I. A.	Duncan, J. A.	Buckley, M. J.
Form IV	B1	Genge, I. M.	Dowsett, M. H.	Lake, J. A.
Form IV	B2	Liddle, A. J.	Alsop, J. C.	Fitter, W. A.
Form IV	C	Doyle, R. B. H.	Madgwick, P. B.	Hamilton, R. J.
Form S	A1	Carroll, W. D.	(Anderson, B. D. O.)	Anderson, B. D. O.
Form S	A2	Jenkyn, P. N. D.	Burgess, R. H.	Young, P. W.
Form S	B1	Lotz, D. G. C.	Tyrrell, R. de V.	Bucknell, R. E.
Form S	B2	_____	_____	_____
Form S	C	Wade, R. B.	Sedgwick, J.	Sedgwick, J.
Form III	A	Phegan, C. S.	(Phegan, C. S.)	Phegan, C. S.
Form III	B	Murray, L. M.	Stuart, R. C.	Brögan, R. I.
Form III	C	Tonkin, D. G.	Stott, R. G.	Turnock, P. H.
Form III	D	Harris, K. H. C.	Murchison, R. W.	} Murchison } Primrose, D. H.
Form II	A	Liddle, D. W.	(Harris, J.)	
Form II	B	Fenwicke, I. C.	Hudson, C. B.	Halstead, R. T.
Remove	A	Molloy, G. B.	Budd, A. H. D.	Budd, A. H. D.
Remove	B	Kingsmill, J. M.	Jarvis, C. J. E.	Jarvis, C. J. E.
Form I		Anderson, H. M. O.	Wyndham, R. N.	Anderson, H. M. O.

GENERAL MERIT: (Thomas, M. A. W.), (Plomley, E. D.), (Hoskins, D. J.), Stuckey, E. M. V., (Galbraith, M. N.), Warden, A. D., Gardner, J. T., (Stiles, G. R.), Tompson, M. F., Genge, I. M., Horder, R. S., Burrell, C. J., Vonwiller, J. B., Moran, R. J., Barker, H. M. J., Sedgwick, A., Dorter, J. B., Cunningham, R. N., Cadwallader, P. C., Lovell, S. J. T., Hungerford, K. R., Harris, K. H. C., McHutchison, H. B., Brown, G. J., Fielden, J. H., Perdriau, A. B., Kingsley-Strack, T.

ORDER OF MERIT IN THE SIXTH FORM IN GENERAL PROFICIENCY

1, Clarke, W. B., McLelland, M. H. (aeq.); 3, Jones, A. I.; 4, Thomas, M. A. W.; 5, Stowe, J. M.; 6, P. Plomley, E. D.; 7, Taylor, D. T.; 8, Thorpe, P. C.; 9, Hoskins, D. J.; 10, Kilgour, A. J.; 11, Browne, D. S.; 12, Shearman, I. H.; 13, Collison, D. R.; 14, Stuckey, E. M. V.; 15, Court, C. A. F.; 16, Swinburn, M. J.; 17, Hunt, P. S.; 18, Graham, R. M.; 19, Fisher, J. W.

HEADMASTER'S REPORT FOR 1954

The most important event in the past year has been the completion of the Memorial Hall. Speech Day is now held in it for the first time. The occasion is given added distinction by the presence of His Excellency the Governor in the building of which he set the foundation stone eighteen months ago. Interest in schools has been a feature of His Excellency's very distinguished service to the State.

The Memorial was inaugurated on May 4th, the 65th Anniversary of the School's foundation. Their Excellencies the Governor General and Lady Slim did us the very great honour of visiting the School for the occasion. His Excellency's admirable address will be long remembered. The weather was brilliant, there was a large and happy gathering of boys, Old Boys and parents, and the day was perhaps the most successful and the most impressive in the School's history.

Much has been written in School publications concerning the Hall and the Memorial. Experience has already shown it to be a highly successful building. We have held assemblies, concerts, and dramatic performances, and we are well satisfied that the building and furniture and fittings meet our requirements. The Hall has been greatly admired and is a notable contribution to school architecture.

We are particularly pleased with the opening up of the main entrance of the School. There is now a variety of spacious views from various points. We have been planning for years for this feeling of greater spaciousness and the effect of the plan is now becoming apparent. The provision of an open space under the Hall has turned out to be a splendid feature of the architect's design, and it greatly helps the general effect. When the quadrangle is completed in due course it will be a very pleasant place.

We have reason to be very grateful to all who made possible the building of the Hall, and particularly to the very large number of Old Boys and parents who worked for it and contributed towards it over a period of nearly ten years. It is doubtless one of the great sources of our strength that several of the big forward moves in the development of the School have been brought about by the interest and joint effort of a very large number. The result is that thousands of people feel, with every justification, that they have had a part in the making of Shore. It is also a most happy custom here that combined effort of this kind is carried out not only without dissension, but in such a way that lasting associations are formed with the School as their focus. The number of recorded contributions to the Memorial Fund is over 3,000, but many of these are from groups small and large, and hence the number of interested persons is even much greater.

The cost of the War Memorial, consisting of the Hall and the rooms and parts of the ground associated with it, is computed at about £61,400. This figure includes professional fees, furniture, curtain, sound equipment, the very complete and modern stage lighting, and other items. In addition, the Council wisely decided to build the first two class rooms of the proposed quadrangle, to erect the gates, and to carry out minor works. These items cost £6,750, making the total cost £68,150 for the whole building project. The War Memorial Fund has reached, up to the present, a net amount of £50,770. Of this the organised efforts of the Old Boys' Union and the S.C.E.G.S. Association have contributed respectively £5,901 and £5,082 (of course, both bodies have been contributing at the same

time to other School affairs). The War Memorial Fund remains open in the hope that the difference between the cost of the Memorial and the contributions to it, amounting at present to about £10,600, will be bridged. The account has been discharged for the time being by the School, which is using its bank overdraft for the purpose.

There is a vast amount of building yet to be done before we shall have the necessary working equipment. I did hope that during my headmastership we would advance further, but the War and the tremendous cost of building have placed a check upon my hopes. Nevertheless, I anticipate that we shall soon be able to undertake another part of the plan, either by proceeding with the quadrangle or by replacing the very old rooms west of the big classroom block.

A small but very important addition to the North Sydney lands has been made by the acquisition of No. 16 Alma Street. This will make possible, when we can afford it, an addition to the Art Building for the accommodation of various crafts. A fine improvement of the rowing property at Gladesville is now in progress. An area is being reclaimed along the waterfront and is to be finished with a sea wall. The result will be to increase the size of the property by about 50 per cent., giving much needed level ground, and to eliminate the unseemly effect of low tide. Several gentlemen have given us great help in this work, to which we have been looking forward for years. Some alterations are possible at Northbridge at the extreme north of the property, beyond the playing area that is at present in use. I am very anxious to see improvement in D and C grounds and extension of them to slightly greater size. My notes about the School property ought to contain a reference to the really remarkable work done by Barry House boys, on their own initiative, with a view to creating a tennis court for the House. Unfortunately, in the concluding stages they seem to be frustrated for a while by the high cost of the part of the work that is beyond their own skill, but doubtless the difficulty will be overcome.

The recent Federal financial legislation contains a provision that ought surely to be of the greatest importance to independent schools. During the last few years the Government had already introduced a concession to parents whereby school fees to the amount of £75 per annum per pupil can now be claimed as a deduction from income for taxation. Again recently we secured exemption from Sales Tax on almost all articles bought for school purposes. This year it has been further provided that gifts to schools such as ours can be claimed as deductions under certain very liberal conditions. These matters are very important in principle, because they indicate the acceptance of the idea that independent schools are proper objects of Government recognition and of at least limited support. They are of practical value both to parents and to the School management. The usefulness of the most recent concession depends upon its becoming widely known, and I do hope that all will help us to make it known. In my own experience I have encountered many cases in which men have preferred to support objects other than the School, such as, for example, the University and charitable bodies, because the income tax law permitted them to use their money to greater effect. This distinction is now removed. It is proper to say that the initiative in seeking all these concessions was taken by the Headmasters' Conference; we have had much help and sympathy, not least from our own Old Boy, Mr. F. M. Osborne, D.S.C., M.P.

Unfortunately I cannot omit my annual paragraph about increasing School expenses. Costs have again risen and a small increase in fees has been necessary. It would be too optimistic to say that further increases will be avoided, but the Council will certainly do

their best to avoid them. Indeed, our fees have in general been lower than those of several corresponding schools. We find that parents understand well the situation with which the School is faced.

The total number in the School has been kept in the vicinity of 780, this being the figure at which we endeavour to maintain it. Although the demand for places is extremely heavy, it is, nevertheless, very difficult to plan for an exact distribution of boys to fit our organisation. This year the proportion of Boarders has been slightly smaller because a few withdrawals took place at the last moment. Next year the grand total may be smaller than usual because the number in the Sixth Form will be diminished. Thus a full waiting list does not necessarily mean a full school.

Next year the first term will again commence on a Tuesday, as Monday, January 31st, is to be a public holiday. Most of the new boys have already been examined and the organisation into the new classes is well advanced. It is a matter of pride for us to commence the New Year with as little delay as possible, and doubtless we shall have the usual co-operation from parents in doing so. All boys ought to be here quite punctually at the time required, and absences ought not to be permitted for any reason other than illness.

The enrolment position is as difficult as ever; indeed, it may have become a little more difficult. Applications are available in sufficient numbers to enable the School to be filled for more than ten years ahead. This situation is not entirely happy. The work entailed in dealing with applications and in keeping the records is extremely heavy. Furthermore, we find that many of those to whom we do not give a favourable reply are inclined to be critical and some even take offence. My opinion is that the work of dealing with applications is done here with extreme accuracy and consideration. We have examined the systems employed at other schools and have subjected our own system to keen examination in the hope of improving it; but I believe that it is at least as good as any other.

The results of the Leaving Certificate of 1953 gave considerable cause for satisfaction. The proportion of passes was not as high as we should have liked, but many of the passes gained were of very high quality. There were 21 1st Class Honours and 27 2nd Class Honours, the total number of honours being apparently the highest of any school in the State. Six of our boys were numbered in the first hundred in general proficiency, a number exceeded only by one other school; in 1952 also there were six boys in the first hundred. J. A. Stiles won exceptional distinction. He was placed first in general proficiency and won the James Aitken Scholarship for General Proficiency, the Barker Scholarship for Mathematics, and a Livingside Scholarship for Chemistry. The School has now taken top place in the State seven times in the last 30 years. This year the Leaving Certificate Examination has been held in the Memorial Hall; the arrangement is far more satisfactory in every way. The results should be satisfactory; I think that the standard of diligence has been good.

First place in the School in general proficiency is shared between William Branthwaite Clarke and Malcolm McLelland; the former is strong in Mathematics and Science and the latter on the literary side. W. B. Clarke is the grandson of one of the boys who came to the School when it opened for the first time in the middle of 1889.

The Leaving Examination was moved forward this year to November 2nd and many boys had finished their papers by November

11th, a month before the end of the School year. The disadvantages to school life are very obvious. The Headmasters and Headmistresses made very strong representations which had no effect this year. However, we have recently been informed that the examination will commence next year on November 8th. This is still very early, but it is an improvement.

The Intermediate results, and the general work of the School have been normal and call for no particular comment. I do, however, feel that it is necessary to repeat what I have so often said before, that a last minute sprint is not effective in the Intermediate if the work of the preceding year and a half has been well below standard. Our Intermediate marks are made up from Second Year work, which counts two-tenths, Terms I and II of Third Year which count three-tenths, and the final examination, which counts five-tenths. Many boys would improve their chances if they were to spread over two years the effort that they endeavour to concentrate in the final term.

We propose to introduce an amendment of the curriculum into the Fifth Form in 1955, taking it through to the Sixth Form in 1956. One of the Chemistry sets will be replaced by a Geology set, and a course in Accountancy will be introduced for the few boys to whom the more abstract ideas of Mathematics are difficult. Possibly we shall also be able to introduce Art for some of the older boys. There will be a very slight rearrangement of the existing subjects. Such changes are not easily made and they involve some elements of risk. The introduction of a new subject involves an obligation to keep it going and therefore to maintain a staff capable of teaching it and able to be spared from other work. Again, the creation of easier alternatives may—and usually does—result in an attempt by boys to escape more exacting work. And again, the more numerous the choices between subjects, the greater is the chance of an unbalanced distribution of boys between classes. It is important for parents to understand these points, in order that they may be able to see why the School cannot allow quite unfettered choice to all boys but must exercise a reasonable control. The purpose of the changes is to try to make things easier for diligent boys whose aptitude for “academic” studies is less marked. The more clever boys should scarcely be affected.

Recently the Headmaster of Grammar and I were asked by our colleagues of the Headmasters' Conference to give evidence on their behalf before the Committee of Survey of Secondary Education which the Minister appointed some months ago. Of our evidence the most important item, from the point of view of this report, was that we advocated extension of the secondary course to six years. This is supported by all Headmasters and Headmistresses of independent schools and by many others. It is, of course, an old contention, and there is no doubt that the scheme would have been introduced in N.S.W. in the early forties if the War had not intervened. The necessary legislation is already on the Statute book. It is the plan in Victoria and some other places. The six-year period would consist of four years of general education with an appropriate examination at the end of the fourth year, followed by two years of deeper and perhaps rather narrower study before entry to the University. There is no doubt that many of our youngsters are now too young and immature after only five years of secondary work.

Last year I made a few remarks verbally about choice of career, and it has been gratifying to notice that they aroused some interest. I therefore repeat them more formally. I said that we are happy to be consulted about boys, about their progress and prospects and future plans. We often encounter cases in which parents have been

worried by advice and information, of doubtful value, that they have received otherwise. Personal contact and consultation with parents is a pleasant part of our work, and we try to regard requests for advice with a strong sense of responsibility. It has been suggested that we ought to have a "careers adviser". I take the view that the Headmaster, of course with the help of his colleagues, ought to be the careers adviser. Parents ought to guard against being unduly influenced by phrases. "Vocational guidance" is a phrase which promises much but which has to be received with qualification. Aptitude tests, which are the basis of vocational guidance, are often valuable and we use them in suitable cases. However, in straightforward cases—and most of ours are straightforward—we have records and opinions that are usually more complete and more accurate. The choice of a career depends not only on aptitude, but also upon interest and opportunity and temperament. We are interested in the future of our boys and are happy to be consulted and to be asked for advice. It is too much to hope that our advice will be infallibly correct, but it is not often far wrong.

Another matter which we invariably consider with a high sense of responsibility is the question whether a boy ought to remain for an extra year in the Sixth. There are not many who ought, but there are some who gain incalculable benefit, not only intellectually, but in character and assurance and maturity and in the qualities that contribute most to one's outlook on life. I have felt lately that the School has given a great deal to some boys who have had this extra opportunity.

I have been very concerned lately by the number of requests for leave from school work for a variety of reasons. The principal reasons are appointments with doctors and dentists. I am well aware that many doctors and dentists give their time freely to voluntary work; and I do not suggest that any boy's physical welfare should be prejudiced for the sake of school routine. On the other hand, it is our responsibility to maintain a good level of efficiency, and for this purpose absences ought to be as few as possible. I can only request that every possible endeavour be made to avoid absences from school engagements.

Several of the Staff have gone to other States lately, at times that have not interfered with our own routine, to see other schools in operation. During the year Mr. Grigg has been to Melbourne and Adelaide, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Jamieson and Mr. Webster have been to Melbourne, Mr. Jenkins to Brisbane, and I myself have been to Melbourne and Tasmania, as well as to Brisbane for the Headmasters' Conference. I am sure that this is a good thing and that we ought to keep in touch with education elsewhere and with the enterprise that so many others are showing.

The usual Chapel Services have been held and do not call for any special remark. Early in the year the sculptured mural was completed by Andor Meszaros and was erected below the East window. It is an interesting addition to the Chapel. It stands as a memorial to four Old Boys who served in the War. The flags in the Chapel have been renewed; a bequest was made for this purpose some years ago by Mrs. A. L. Blythe. A chair has been placed in the Sanctuary as a memorial to J. H. A. Scarr, and Holy Communion vessels have been given in memory of D. B. Mackie. Very recently the panelling of the West Wall was completed, a work for which we have long been waiting. This is a memorial carrying two names which are woven into the School's history. One half commemorates James Lee Pulling,

for more than thirty years a Housemaster, and the other half bears the name of Bill Hixson, son of D'Arcy, grandson of F. W.

There are various other gifts that we acknowledge with great gratitude. The racing eight in which the last crew won was given to us by D'Arcy Hixson and it bears the name of his father; both of them have done more than time permits me to say for our rowing and, indeed, for our school life. The practice eight was given by another Old Boy, James Litchfield. In the Hall there are three fine chairs for the platform. Two of these remind us of Greg and Reg. Kierath, brothers, whose names are on the Honour Roll. The third is in memory of Frank Bennett, whom so many here remember well and with deep regard. We received during the year a bequest of securities worth more than £500 from the late Oswald Stanton Cook, bearer of a well-known Shore name, for the Scholarship fund. His name will in future be associated with one of our annual awards. More recently we received advice of a bequest that is to come, amounting to £1,000, from the late Miss Holme. It is to provide a memorial to her late brother, Professor E. R. Holme, and we propose to use it in due course for the maintenance of a reference library.

The record in games for the year is mixed. We had a weak year in athletics. Though there were some splendid individual performances, notably that of Malcolm Swinburn, and though boys enjoyed the season, the collective results were below our normal standard. In cricket the First Eleven had a moderate year, but the Seconds were successful in winning their competition. The same applies to football. The Firsts won few matches, though they always battled hard, and the Seconds, on the other hand, won their premiership. In these games we are finding it hard to maintain thoroughly the big programme that we have set for ourselves, because for the time being we are not as well supplied with coaches as we have been. The balance tends in other directions. This circumstance can doubtless be remedied after a time. If any young men such as Old Boys can help we shall be glad. Some have offered themselves occasionally, but the trouble often is that they cannot be free at the right times for practices and cannot accompany their teams to matches on Saturdays. The rowing season was again extremely successful. With characteristic skill, Mr. W. G. Thomas steadily developed the crew so that they won the "Gold Cup" narrowly at Riverview, and then, vastly improved, won the G.P.S. Championship fairly easily. This is Mr. Thomas's third win in four years. The First Four won the Yaralla Cup and the various other crews were quite reasonably successful. David Webster had a coaching success that we hope will be often repeated. The shooting was managed and coached for the first time by Mr. Grigg, and with marked success. The first team tied with The King's School for the premiership and the shooting season was enjoyable and enthusiastic. There were the usual events in Tennis and Swimming, and in both the standard was good.

There has been a good spirit in games. The incentive for this comes in the first place from Masters, many of whom give to organisation and to coaching far more of their time than is generally understood. Nor is it fully understood that this time and effort are given quite voluntarily. Games ought to be an opportunity for exercising that pastoral care and guidance which are the principal objects of school life, and I feel that our Masters look on games from that viewpoint. Some of the senior boys have been very good also. Warwick Judd was a conspicuous case. He has had a long and successful career as an athlete. This year he was Athletic Captain, but was prevented by an injury from competing seriously. Instead

of yielding to disappointment, he was among the most regular at practice, coaching and helping others. Several rowers, particularly Bruce Gordon, have been helpful this term in coaching beginners. A development that is insufficiently known is that regularly several boys qualify to be football referees. They have to reach a good standard and the experience gained is very valuable.

The Cadet Unit has progressed steadily. Changes have taken place during the year among the officers. On Major Lipscomb's death the command of the Unit was assumed by Captain Jenkins. Captain Jamieson is surrendering the exacting job of Q.M. after performing it most thoroughly for five years. Mr. Blomfield is now Training Officer and Mr. Bernard is taking over the Q.M.'s work. Wet weather caused cancellation of the Field Day, but this loss in training was partly made up in the annual camp in Holsworthy. Our representatives have done very well in courses and schools of instruction. The Unit has acquitted itself well on ceremonial occasions.

In April Flt.-Lt. C. S. Tiley relinquished command of the A.T.C. Flight. I cannot speak too highly of the value of his work during the recent War and after it. He was one of the original officers of the movement, and there is no doubt that his work and that of others like him did much to ease the problem of Air Force Training in the early forties. Our Flight under him had always been outstanding in efficiency. The command has been taken over by Flt./Lt. R. M. Blanshard and the work is being well maintained. The strength of the Flight is about 60. One member, Cpl. Barraclough, has recently been awarded a Flying Scholarship. Last week the Flight was in camp as a unit for the first time for some years.

In all, there seem to have been twenty plays of various kinds presented during the year. Eight of these were in Senior Play Day at the end of Term I, seven in Junior Play Day in October, three in the Preparatory School Concert in November, and two were performed at the Annual Concert in July. The Play Days seemed to me to be unusually successful and of high standard. For myself, I heartily agreed with the decision which placed IIIA's performance of "Noah" first among the Juniors. It seemed to me very good indeed, and the audience of Old Boys to whom it was presented later agreed most heartily with this judgment. The Annual Concert was of slightly different character this year, as it was arranged so as to show the sort of activity that the new Hall will encourage. We should like to hear more singing such as we heard then. The Preparatory School Concert was a very good revival of the work that Mr. Brierley does so well. Incidentally, the annual concerts have made a splendid contribution to the development of the Hall. Funds raised in them have been wisely expended by Mr. Grigg and others so as to supply valuable stage equipment.

In its various other departments the School life seems to be going on busily and happily.

The S.C.E.G.S. Association has been helping the School as usual. We are grateful to them, and particularly to the ladies of the Committee, among whom Mrs. McGrath and Mrs. J. H. Wilson have this year been most active. The American Tea in October was again wonderfully successful financially, and the profit exceeded £1,100. The Association has given £500 to the War Memorial Fund and £100 to the Library, and has presented us with a new projection unit, a flute and cymbals for the orchestra, and a new flag and other things. However, as I have so often pointed out, the financial help, valuable though it is, is not all that matters. The activities of this body

enable parents to meet one another and to get in touch with the School. At the Association's functions many lasting friendships have been made, with the School as their centre.

The recent Presidents of the Union have been very helpful to us. I record my thanks to Mr. Richard Swift, who has just retired, and welcome his successor, Mr. Norman Falk, who already has a long tally of service to the Union.

We have again had very good leading Prefects. Bruce Gordon has done very well and has been a strong influence, and he has been well supported by Malcolm McLelland. The rest of the boys have maintained the standard of prefectship well.

During the year we lost John Lipscomb from among us. Few Masters have aroused so great personal regard among adults and boys. His work in the Art School gave vast pleasure to his pupils and his activities outside his department brought him more friends than most of us are able to claim. The manner of his death was a painful shock from which we have scarcely recovered yet.

Mr. Burrell is to retire this year after more than 33 years of the most loyal and unselfish service. In his time he has helped in many departments of our life, including Shooting and the Cadet Corps, which he commanded for a time. It is in connection with Rowing that he will inevitably be best remembered. For years he was Rowing Master, and the happiness of the Gladesville camp was his pride. He took the Fours while I took the Eight, which is rather like saying that he did the hard work while I reaped the benefit. He was by far the most successful coach of four-oared crews in his time in the State. But these successes interesting though they are, must not cause us to forget the greater contribution that he has made to the quality of the School by his uprightness and sincerity, and doubtless by his intolerance of anything that fell short of the proper standard. We shall miss him greatly.

Mr. Nommensen is leaving us for a University appointment and Mr. Prince is to be away for a year on leave. Mr. and Mrs. Tiley will move out of residence and Mr. K. D. Anderson will become Housemaster of Robson House next year, relinquishing the charge of the Preparatory Department that he has had for so long. His place in the Prep. will be taken by Mr. L. M. Jamieson. Mr. D. A. Webster will transfer to full-time work in the Senior School. Mr. Ross Doig came to us as Art Master in August. Other vacancies in the New Year will be filled, in the Senior School by Mr. Derek Shawcross, and in the Prep. by Mr. J. K. Morell and Mr. M. Howard.

In conclusion, I offer thanks to the School Council for their thought for the School, for wise guidance of its affairs, and for personal help to myself. Members of the Council will not mind, I am sure, if I offer particular thanks to the three upon whose willing shoulders the chief burden of executive work falls. Mr. Arthur Fisher remains Honorary Treasurer, and for my part I hope he will long hold the office; only the Bursar and I know how much he does and with what generous sympathy he does it. Mr. Richard Hipsley is the Chairman of our Executive, and Mr. Richard Ludowici is the Hon. Secretary. They have not only wisdom, experience and balance, but they have also the right approach to the peculiar problems of school government. These three gentlemen do far more for the School than I can describe. I thank also my colleagues of the teaching and administrative staff for their patience and for their loyal support.