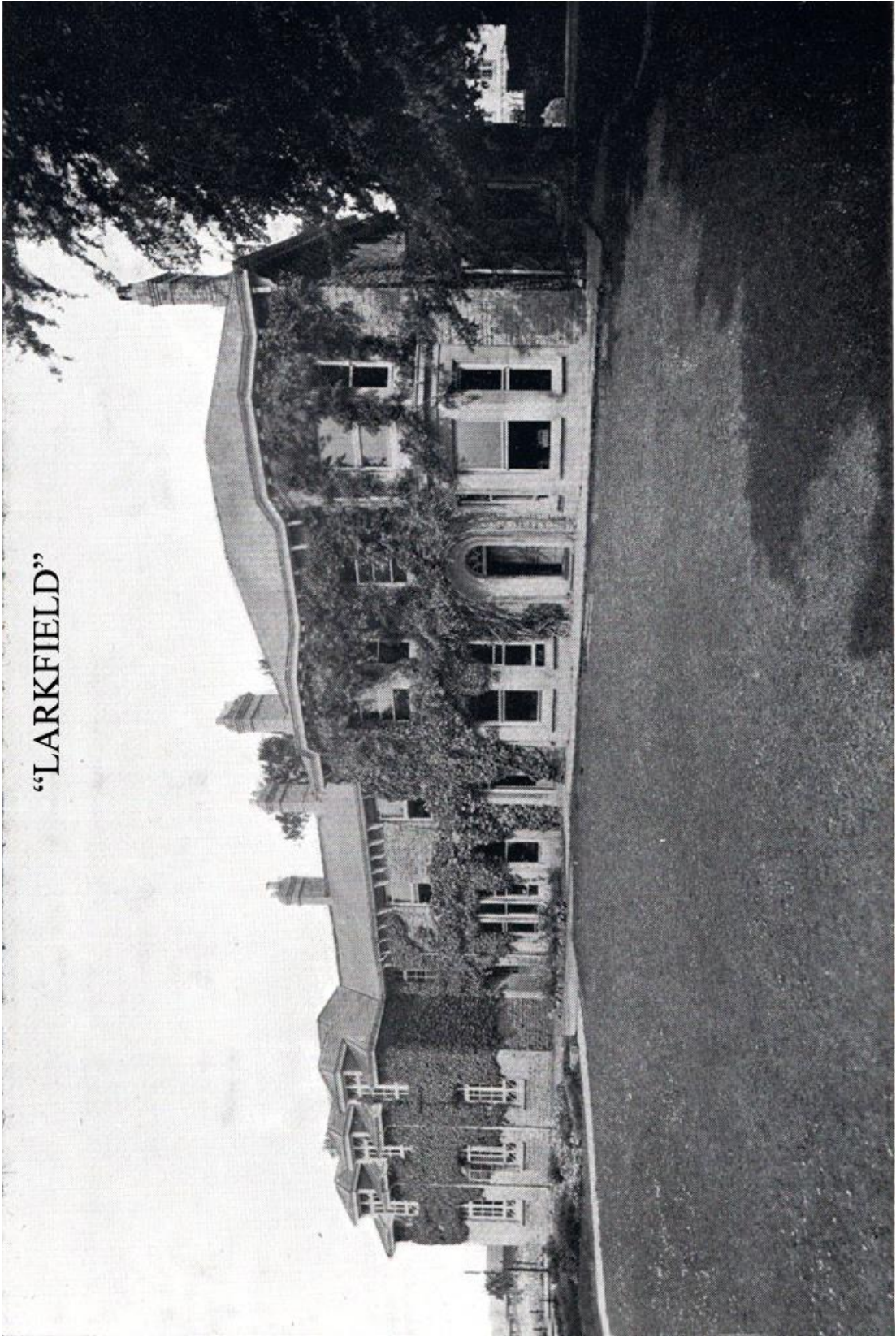


# “Larkfield Times”



1939-40

No. 6



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## EDITORIAL.

Co-Editors: E. J. VICARAGE & K. DUN. Sub-Editor : B. V. WHITCOMBE.

Magazine Committee : J. HENDERSON, K. MARSHALL, H. G. ATTEWELL, L. STAFFORD.

Dear Readers,

It is six years since the Larkfield Times was first issued, but this year it is making its appearance under different circumstances. Again, it has been published too early to include the results of this year's summer house matches.

Entries have been numerous, and we have had much pleasure in receiving articles from the Old Students in the Forces. These exceed sixty in number and we are very proud of them !

On behalf of the school we would like to convey to Major Webb, our Headmaster, our best wishes for his continued health and safety. At the same time we would like to congratulate Mr. Robinson on the admirable way in which he has conducted the school.

This year a National Savings Group has been inaugurated in the school under the efficient guidance of Mr. Morgan, and up to date about £300 has been collected £ 155 of which was subscribed during National Savings Week.

We extend a hearty welcome to Miss John and Miss Thomas, new members of the staff, also to the members and staff of the West Ham Municipal College who have come to share our school.

Lastly, we would like to thank all contributors to the Magazine and all who have otherwise helped with its production.

**Yours truly, E. J. VICARAGE, K. W. DUN, Co-Editors**

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## OMNIBUS QUISQUE.

Much has happened since last September affecting each and everyone.

"Omnibus Quisque" (Service) has become, not only the motto of Larkfield, but of the whole British Empire.

To be of some use to one's country is the privilege of all, particularly now.

To those Old Pupils who are actively serving with H.M. Forces, and to those who are engaged on National duties of all kinds, I send to you all my best wishes and regards. God bless you all.

"Service" is your motto, "Service" is your duty, and no one associated with Larkfield will be found wanting.

Au revoir and good luck.

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## ACTING HEADMASTER'S NOTES.

The sixth number of the School Magazine is being issued under conditions which are unique in the Annals of World History. These are times of National Stress but the Editorial Committee are hoping to maintain in this number a combination of record of School activities together with interesting and entertaining articles. Whilst the volume of literature is contracted the Committee hope to maintain the quality of previous numbers.

Events of fundamental importance disturbing to the mind are happening with a rapidity which makes it difficult to assess them at their true value. It becomes more imperative that we should exert ourselves to escape from an insularity of outlook so that we may contribute to the world creative and imaginative thought. The present kaleidoscopic changes are but the quickening of movements and ideological expressions which have been pending for a considerable time. Vigilance, alertness, sense of

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of proportion, steadfastness of purpose action are essential to individual and national preservation. It is therefore incumbent upon all to be so equipped mentally and physically that we can give effect to our contributory thought.

World events have their repercussions upon our school life in a very real sense. In the first place we regret the absence of our Headmaster, Major J. H. E. Webb, M.B.E., on active service. We wish him a speedy and safe return to the school. Our thoughts are with him and those ex-pupils who are serving so gallantly with His Majesty's Forces. We are proud of the part that the school is playing in our National Effort, to maintain liberty of thought and action.

One of the results of the War is the evacuation to Chepstow of West Ham Technical College. We extend to them a hearty welcome into our midst. We are pleased to share with them our educational facilities. We are confident that by working in sympathetic harmony both institutions will be able to maintain a high standard of education. We have already had evidence from Mr. J. W. Lewis the Headmaster, and his staff of that kindly consideration which will make their sojourn with us mutually interesting, helpful and happy.

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### **THINGS ENGLISH."**

England, land of free thought and free speech, of the Red Robin and Englishmen. All the world knows that an Englishman is mad. Americans have big things and startle the world with their "super productions but for sheer audacity and coolness an Englishman is invincible. The French are artistic, the Germans thorough; but for all his slovenly ways an Englishman gets things done, and as for the artistic, well, isn't England an art in herself with her green fields and hedgerows going hand in hand with dirty industrial cities?

And what of the British Empire, covering a quarter of the globe? Didn't Englishmen build this Empire, and settle there, and fight tooth and nail to keep it? For more than four centuries Englishmen have travelled and discovered new lands until to-day all the world respects and admires the English. The spirit of England has drifted to the British Empire. The tradition of England is beyond the understanding of foreigners. And every man who is not English is a foreigner !

Through the ages English tradition has descended from father to son until to-day the country is united by a love for England. Several times this country has been faced by danger only to rally round the English flag, forgetting all personal or political grievances. Families have starved or died for England.

But you cannot say that Englishmen are a race of pure bred supermen. Far from it! The English are so intermixed that there is hardly anyone who can honestly say that he is a true Englishman. Germans, Frenchmen, Jews, Italians and in fact all races under the sun go to make up this people of ours. And this racial impurity is a good thing. Compare an average German with a man in the street of England. The German mind, though methodical, scientific and thorough, cannot think. It has to be led. It cheers the first man who gets up and says "I am a God, you must bow down and obey me !

The Englishman, however, thinks that he won't support that fellow because he doesn't like his policy, or his moustache for that matter. He would rather support anyone than a fellow who goes round with his "beastly" arm in the air like a "blessed tin god."

This English stubbornness to be coerced, has led to many conflicts and troubles but always the English have come through them, satisfied if not exactly victorious.

The English countryside too is an example of the power of England. About that quiet serenity, in shady woods and beautiful meadows, there is that resolution and determination which is typical of an Englishman himself. Englishmen, a mixture themselves seem able to mix even beauty and ugliness

without any harshness. One may be in the centre of a city and then without much trouble one can seemingly be in the heart of the country.

An Englishman also likes sport in all its forms. The boat race, the international rugger and soccer, the Derby and Grand National, fishing and chess all appeal to him. If there is a least hope of a competition and the chance to make a wager he will be there to shout himself hoarse. And as he cheers in the winner of the Derby he may be tearing up a tote ticket on which he spent his last "two bob." He bears no malice and does not feel sore, but he thinks better luck next time and forgets the name of the horse he backed. Win or lose he takes, not with calm certainty, but with that certain manner that can hardly be explained; when he wins he's happy, but he doesn't care if he loses. He can boast, but he is willing to be beaten by a better man.

But it is England herself that makes Englishmen. No other country could produce such a people. Perhaps its the steady climate, maybe the free speech of the country, but whatever it is it is England who keeps the English as they are, a resolute, calm, indifferent people, who will always help a lame dog and who-don't give a brass button for this "bloke" Hitler anyway. Or perhaps it is the inns and taverns of this Merrie England that make her what she is. More party politics and more governments have been run properly here than anywhere else. And Englishmen know that they are mere children of a mighty race and one poet at least has acknowledged t his and written the line "Oh to be in England, now that April's here."

And it is in England that Englishmen find rest at last, the weary traveller comes home and all toil is forgot in this fair land of ours, the most English thing in England.

**T. R. FORSTER.**

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### **A HOLIDAY IN BELGIUM.**

One late afternoon in August I caught my first glimpse of the battlefield of Europe. The beach, surrounded by the typical many storied hotels, was bathed in golden glory. Threading our way through the calm blue waters we arrived at the quay which was thronged with cheering crowds. With much pushing and jostling we thrust our way past the Belgian Custom Officials in their faded drill uniforms and soon with a sigh of relief we found ourselves in the town of Ostend. Sitting outside a cafe drinking black coffee, I turned my attention to a group of fishermen, who clattered across the cobbles in their clogs to see how their fish were drying, for there opposite us, all along the promenade, hung rows of salted fish drying. The smell was not altogether pleasant, but to my surprise there were no cats to be seen. Having spent an hour in Ostend, we took a train for Brussels. Through the fertile low lying plains of Flanders the train roared, past ripe corn fields patterned with poppies, and an occasional windmill to complete the picture. Then on through Bruges and Ghent until we reached the famous capital of Brussels. Here we boarded a modern electric locomotive which carried us with full speed south-east to Charleroi, our final destination.

Charleroi was a large mining town, part of Belgium's "Pays Noir." The town itself was flat, the flatness only relieved by large coal dumps. From the top of one of these one could view the large town stretching on every side almost as far as the eye could see. The house, where I stayed with my friend

Paule, was fairly large, situated in front of a Junior School. Madame Deforeit, my hostess, was headmistress of this school. In the playground, bordered with majestic plane trees, lay a tennis court. We were four girls, Paule, her younger sister, a girl from Windsor and myself.

After a good night's rest I was up early next morning. After looking up a few French phrases I boldly stepped forth. The "bonne femme greeted me with several expressions that were entirely new to me; she was followed by Madame who repeated the same phrases. I muddled an answer but I could tell by their looks that I was wrong somewhere. When I joined the others I was able to procure a translation so that every morning afterwards I was able to converse quite correctly. After a truly

French breakfast of coffee and rolls we got ready for church. Walking through the long cobbled streets, we arrived at a large square in the centre of the town where a fair was in full swing. On one side of the square stood the church and there, outside, stood a queue of people, waiting to enter. Presently we went in and found seated inside at least a thousand people while many more were standing in empty spaces. Just as we arrived a woman who looked very much like a cockney charwoman came around for the offering which she collected in her hand. I watched to see what Paule gave and to my surprise she gave a 25 centime piece (about one farthing). The lowest coin I had was a franc so I gave it, feeling rather ashamed that it was so little, when to my great astonishment the woman gave me 80 centimes change; I found out later that no one is allowed to give more than 25 centimes. When the congregation left the church, they at once made for the fun fair.

Early one morning at 6.30 a.m. we left Charleroi, for a walking tour in the Ardennes. We visited Maredsous, then walking for 10 miles along the Molignee, a small stream, we arrived at Anhee a small town on the Meuse. From here we caught a train to Dinant, a beautiful town, the scene of many a bloody battle (during the last war 625 of the inhabitants were massacred by the relentless Huns). Leaving the floodlit citadel and bridge we took the train for Charleroi where we arrived rather exhausted at 11.30 p.m.

On the twelfth day of our visit Madame Deforet entertained several friends to tea. They talked for a long time about the International situation, and after much hard thinking and listening I understood that Europe had once again reached an international crisis. While we were listening to the speech of Lord Halifax, the telegraph boy arrived with a telegram from the parents of the girl from Windsor, telling her to go home immediately. She departed early the next morning. The following day seemed very long; the papers had printed in heavy type ominous headlines, the majority of which were greatly exaggerated or based on rumour. In the evening we went to see the mobilisation of the troops. The stalls of the fair in the square had rapidly disappeared and there tied together stood horses all ready for military use. In another square numerous cars had been mobilised, in fact everything and everyone were prepared for war. On our return home we were met by a gentleman from the Hotel de Ville who told us that the British Consul had decided that all English people should return to England as soon as possible.

At 7 a.m. on a peaceful Sunday morning I bade farewell to Charleroi, a town that stands no more. After a long and tedious journey I arrived on board the boat. The boat was crowded from stem to stern with passengers from France (many French crossings having been stopped), Germany, Switzerland and many of the interior countries. It would have been interesting to count the number of different nationalities on that boat. The crossing was perfect and soon in the distance the famous white cliffs of Dover were visible. Steaming into the harbour, past the battleships, we cheered the soldiers

on the pier. It was good to stand once more in this citadel, Old England, with its neat Customs Officers and cheery porters, and although the C.I.D. eyed us critically, with a clear conscience and a light heart I boarded the train for home.

#### **LILIAN REES.**

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#### **DUNKIRK JITTERS.**

On arriving home for my forty-eight hours leave I discovered a request for a short article concerning the B.E.F. in Flanders. Naturally that is an excellent title, but there is a small matter of censorship which prohibits the publishing of war memoirs of any description. This leaves me in a rather unenviable position because I am totally at a loss for subject matter of any interest to the rather blood-thirsty younger generation, who might where their 'sensibilite' is more acute see a measure of irony in the position of an individual who has undergone an uneventful training for a safety-first

profession, yet without seeking, found supreme, shall I say, adventure even unheard of in the gory realms of Rovers, Wizards and Modern boys.

I speak mainly of Louvain and Dunkirk, because they stand out as milestones in the chaos of our experience.

The first indication that the fun had started came upon me in the form of a terrific midnight thunderstorm. I reluctantly turned in my manger, quite a good bed incidentally, to witness in the sky the finest firework display I have ever seen or imagined. Yet was this not strange lightning? Then slowly the dread realisation permeated my sleep sodden mind, that it might be a stupendous air raid; my fears were confirmed by a weary ominous drone broken by the vicious wail of sirens. So they had at last decided to play.

I yelled to some dark shadow in the beyond to shut the blasted window. I rolled over and resumed my slumber, but not for long. Someone was shaking me violently and feverishly entreating me to get my kit together as we were moving. I remember little of the journey until we at last pulled into Brussels, which appeared as a city of dreams after the monotonous and seemingly sordid villages of industrial France. Our first impression was that the war was over and well won, we couldn't have had a greater welcome on a victory parade. Alas our jubilation was short lived. Louvain portrayed a different aspect. The dive bombers were completing their operations leisurely as a subdued and grief stricken stream of wretched humanity emerged from the heavy pall of acrid smoke. There was a deathly silence, the air was still, but as we approached we became conscious of the muffled sobbing of the long black sinuous line slowly wending its way into the fast falling night.

During the next days I bitterly understood what "the scream of the flying shell," and "the hillside hisses with death and never a foe in sight" signified to the heroes of the Great War.

Louvain was an epic !

That you may learn many years after the war is concluded.

I often wonder whether I was dreaming or gradually becoming insane. Imagine one's reaction upon discovering a nun shaving in the woods. But enough of that or I shall be accused of giving our gallant chief parashot unnecessary hints. Having completed my task at Louvain I had adventure after adventure, finally culminating in Dunkirk. I did anything from roping stray steers to writing gentle reassuring epistles home whose little gems are irretrievably lost.

After a rapid panorama of Armentieres, Ypres, Poperinghe and Cassel we abandoned and scuttled ship and tramped a never-ending twenty-five miles, merely to find we had missed our boat by a fraction of a second. We were doomed to witness the destruction of the historic old port. At that moment we did not know we should have twelve hours to wait, while the craters slowly merged into one desperate shambles.

Never shall I forget the barbarism of Jerry over Dunkirk's bloody quay. I have no intention of humouring the evil lust for detail of the horrible, besides it raises too many ghastly scenes once more to the level of consciousness. By one of the greatest miracles in the history of mankind we made it. But those dark vultures, symbolic of Nazidom, still follow me I've got the Dunkirk Jitters! Best wishes.

**Gunner-Surveyor R. D. BAMKIN WHEELER.**

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### **FLAGGING THE BEECH TREE.**

Sports day is a great day in the school curriculum and it must be treated with all due respect. Mr. Robinson asked the school for volunteers to flag the beech tree. Mr. Edwards, noted for his hobby as a cat burglar and his L.D.V. armlet, stepped forward. He said he would lead his form to the task. That week-end he took a trip to Dartmoor to obtain advice from the inmates.

On Monday morning the school set about the task. A great noise was proceeding from the woodwork room. Mr. Wilding was constructing a ladder. Mr. Robinson with great dignity and many



"no comments" climbed bravely up the ladder with the flag tucked under his arm. He had reached the middle of the ladder when the contraption split in the middle. Our deputy substitute headmaster fell to earth. He stood to his feet and looked into the gaping hole he had made in the ground and commented "Not so deep, I expect I am getting thinner "Mr Morgan said something about falling bodies. Mr. Ball looked up his forgotten theorems and suggested raising a perpendicular at A and proving the triangles were congruent Miss Davies said what Henry VIII would have done, but this was of no avail for he was dead. She consoled herself by giving 3a a test. Miss Lullett gave vent to her favourite phrase "and so on", and examined the tree with a malicious intent. Mr. Westcott mixed a potion which turned colour on command. Miss Rees used many Latin phrases which no one could understand (methinks perhaps she could not either).

Meanwhile Horne had invented a glider which he launched from the school roof. His steering gear failed him and he landed in the renowned (to new boys) hollybush. Wilsher fetched his air-gun and shot a few inoffensive sparrows. Ideas were cheap on that day and continued indefinitely until an enterprising youth named Carnon climbed the tree and calmly fixed the flag in position. Harry Heard was jealous and said he could have done it. But when he was wanted to take a second flag up he could not be found.

### **R ROWLANDS, IIIA.**

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#### **DO YOU KNOW?**

1. Where the whistling tree grows, and what makes it whistle?
2. What animal lives for most of its life in the tree tops, upside down, and in what country?
3. What are "travelling stones" and do they really travel?
4. How old is the oldest tortoise in the world?
5. Which village in existence has the shortest name? And which has the longest ?
6. How big is the largest candle ever made?
7. How small is the smallest picture ?

#### Answers.

1. The whistling tree grows in Jamaica. When the wind blows through its leaves and branches, the leaves make a sound like a whistling bird.
2. The sloth which lives in South America.
3. Travelling stones are found in Australia and America, usually several together in a nest like hollow in the ground. They will run to each other from a distance of three or four feet apart, and are really pieces of magnetic iron.
4. In Mombasa, East Africa, there lives a huge tortoise called Liza, who is said to be more than 450 years old.
5. Two, villages in France are said to have the shortest place names, 0, near the River Orne, and "Y," on the Somme  
One of the longest is that of a place in America, whose name in full native dialect is, Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchuubunagungamaugg. This means, "You fish on your side, I fish on my side, nobody fish in the middle."
6. A huge candle, 18 feet high, 7 feet round, and weighing three tons made in Naples in 1924 to commemorate Caruso, the famous singer. One day every year it is lit for 24 hours, and at this rate of burning should last 1,800 years.
7. A Flemish artist has painted a miller and his mill on a grain of corn, while in Germany a hundred portraits have been carved on a cherry stone.

### **VALERIE WOOTTON, IIA.**

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### MY CONTRIBUTION.

On Friday evening last I thought,  
    An article I'd write,  
I took my pen and sat me down,  
    Then sat up half the night.  
I toyed with hundreds of ideas,  
    Of sport, love, death and war.  
But still I'd written nothing down,  
    And the time was half past four.

A description of some type I'd do,  
    But it wasn't quite the thing.  
Then suddenly a thought struck me  
    A poem—on anything.

A poem ! yes ! that was the plan,  
    I'd do that in a minute,  
Once the rhyme and metre's picked;  
    Why, there was nothing in it.

I tried the styles of all the best,  
    Like Shelley, and Milton, and Keats,  
And Robbie Burns and Thomas Gray,  
    And I wasted dozens of sheets.

Then I tried a style of my own,  
    Which had no sense, or rhyme, or metre,  
So that people might say,  
    There is hidden meaning in these lines,  
And the person who wrote them  
    Must possess extraordinary depth of soul."

Finally, all I could produce,  
    Was the nonsense gone before,  
And since I can't think of anything else,  
    I won't write anything more.

Read what comes now, and the moral extract  
    From the ordeal through which I've just been  
And never agree to an Editor's plea  
    To write for a school magazine.

**B. CARRIVICK, IVA**

**After Anon**

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## **SCHOOL JOTTINGS. SPEECH DAY.**

Speech Day for the school year 1939-40 was held on December 7th. We were unable to hold it in the Public Hall but were lucky in securing the Congregational Church. As acting-headmaster, Mr. Robinson, in the absence of Major J. H. E. Webb delivered his report. The prizes were presented by Mrs. Webb and an interesting address was delivered by Mrs. James. Mr. John Price presided.

C.W.B. Certificates: I. R. Baker, E. Culshaw, D. J. Duncan, V. M. Jones, M. E. Jones, I. L. Pinfold, J. Walker, A. W. Coombes, C. H. Davies, T. J. Herbert, J. A. T. Lewis, D. C. Powell, A. Turner, F. H. Williams, W. L. Woodgate, I. J. Brown D. A. Davies, A. M. Edwards, V. Hurle, D. E. Millard, P. B M. Parry, D. E. Williams, S. F. J. Brace, T. R. Forster, C. G. Hill T. E. J. Hunt, D. W. Margretts, R. P. Reece, B. V. Whitcombe,

Supplementary Certificates: L. Rees and M. Edwards.

Higher Certificates: B. Bartlett and J. Brown.

Scholarships: County Scholarship, B. Bartlett; Old Students' Trust Fund, J. Brown.

Form Prizes: Form VI, Betty Bartlett; Form Va, I. Baker; Vb, R. Reece; Form IVa., J. Henderson; Form IVb, R. Davies; Form IIIa, B. Howard; Form IIIb, T. Evans; Form IIa, M. Court; Form IIb, M. King.

Special Prizes : English, B. Bartlett; French, B. Bartlett; Chemistry, W. L. Woodgate; Botany, J. Brown; Mathematics, C. Hill; History, E. Culshaw; Geography, R. Reece; Commercial, T. Forster; Woodwork, V. Whitcombe; Cookery, E. Culshaw; Art, M. Edwards.  
School Colours:-

Hockey, J. Vicarage, W. Price, I. Baker, M. Sainsbury, M. Burns;

Tennis, J. Vicarage; Netball, D. Davies M Edwards;

Rugby, A. Coombes, B. V. Whitcombe, R. Price, W. L. Woodgate;

Cricket, B. O. Edwards, R. Reece, J. Lewis.

After the presentation of the prizes there were several items. M. Burns recited the "Great Lover", and D. Davies recited a French poem "Ma Normandie." David Holloway sang two delightful songs. We had several organ selections by Mr. W. Thomas, and the proceedings were finished by the choir, conducted by Miss Gillatt, who sang "Now on land and sea descending." "It was a lover and his lass," and "Rose among the Heather."

**K. MARSHALL,**

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### **EISTEDDFOD.**

Larkfield's Annual Eisteddfod was held at the school in the latter part of the Spring Term, and was a worthy successor to the eisteddfodau of previous years. Mr. Price presided, and Mr. Thomas kindly adjudicated the musical items. Major J. H. E. Webb was unable to attend, but the gap was bridged by the presence of Mrs. Webb and Mrs. James. The pupils entered into the competitions with enthusiasm and achieved the following result.

Music Section:

Junior Solo Girls, 1, R. Vigors (U); 2, M. Dun (W); 3, J. Hobbs (W).

Senior Solo Girls, 1, D. Thomas (W); 2, J. Vicarage (U); and P. Adams (U).

Junior Solo Boys, 1, J. Heard (U); and Norkett (W); 3, A. Shock (S) and K. Foster (S).

Senior Solo, Boys, 1, D. Holloway (U);

Piano Solo, Junior, 1 B. Pearson (S); 2, M. Sims (S); 3, B. Ellis (U).

Piano Solo, Senior. 1 .H. Wright (S); 2, V. Howells (U); 3, M. Moore (U);

Piano Solo, Open, 1, J. Vicarage (U); 2, D. Thomas (W) and V. Howell (U); 3, M. Sims (S) and H. Wright (S).

Violin Solo, 1, S. Whittaker (S); B. Jordon (W).

Vocal Duet, 1, R. Vigors and P.Adams (U); 2, J. Vicarage and R. Davies (U); 3, E. Thomas and D. Dowler.

Literary Section:

Junior Essay, I, M. Sims (S); 2, R. Matter (S); 3, M. Court (W).

Senior Essay, 1, J. Vicarage (U) and T. Forster (U); 3, D. Davies (W).

English Recitation, Junior, 1, M. Sims (S); 2, M. Dilworth (S); 3, B. Price (S) and D. Barton (W).

English Recitation, Senior, 1, J. Vicarage (U); 2, M. Burns (S); 3, D. Davies (W) and M. Curtis (U).

French Recitation 1, D. Davies (W); 2, R. Davies (U); 3, M. Burns (S).

Impromptu Speech, I, T. O'Neill (S) and M. Burns (S); 3, M. Davies (W).

History, Junior, 1, R. Matter (S); 2, V. Wren (U); 3, G. Rowland (W).

History, Senior, 1; D. Williams(W); 2, J. Reese (W); 3, J. Henderson (S).

Geography- Junior: 1,M. Morgan (U); 2, V. Dobson (S); 3, M. Dilworth (S).

Geography Senior, I, M. Edwards (S); 2, D. Davies (W); 3, L. Carter (U).

Botany, I, J. Vicarage (U); 2, B. Wray (W); 3, J. Henderson (S) and N. Bevan (W).

Biology, 1, R. Vigers (U); 2, A. Powell (U); 3, B. Whitcombe (W).

Arts and Crafts:

Woodwork, Junior, 1, P Cavill (W); 2, H. Watkins (W); 3, R. Rowlands (U).

Woodwork, Senior, I, V. Whitcombe (S) and K. Jones (U) and L. Friend (S).

Art, Junior, H. Townsend (W); 2, M Dilworth (S); 3, H. Townsend (W).

Art, Senior, I, H. Price (U); 2, T. Evans (U); 3, D. Davies (W).

Knitting, Junior, 1, M. Rowlands (U); 2, M. Court (W); 3, B. Kent (U).

Knitting, Senior, 1, B. Talbot (W); 2, J. Vicarage (U); 3, I. Pinfold (W).

Knitting, Open, 1, K. Iles (U).

Plain Needlework, 1, M. Edwards (S).

Cookery, I, J. Henderson (S); 2, M. Court (W); 3, J. Vicarage (U).

House Competitions :

House Plays, I, Severn; 2, Usk and Wye.

House Choirs: 1, Severn; 2, Usk and Wye.

Country Dancing, Junior: 1, Usk; 2, Severn; 3, Wye.

Senior: I, Severn; 2, Usk and Wye.

Final Results: Usk, 74½ points; Severn 64½ points; Wye 55 points.

**J. HENDERSON.**

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**THE SPORTS.**

This year our Fifteenth Annual Sports Day was held on Thursday, June 6th. We had chosen a perfect day for the occasion. Owing to war conditions there were fewer spectators than on previous occasions, and our headmaster, Major J H. E Webb, was unable to attend. Nevertheless, the sports were a success.

The Severn House obtained the highest number of points for sports events, but the shield was won by the Usk. The Victrix Ludorum, Mary Burns, belonged to the Severn House, and the Victor Ludorum, H. G. Attewell, was in the Wye.

Results:

80 yds. (Girls) Junior : I, C. Jones (S); 2, R. Skinner (S); 3, A. Morgan (S).

100 yds. (Boys) Junior, I, D. Lewis (S)- 2 A Morgan (U); 3, R. Beard (S).

Egg and Spoon (Girls): 1, J. Hobbs (W); 2, M. Burns (S); 3, B. Williams (U).  
 100 yds. (Boys) Senior 1, H. G. Attewell (W); 2, B. V. Whitcombe (S); 3, B. L. Tamplin (U).  
 Three-legged: 1, M. Burns and I. Smith (S); 2, P. Adams and A. Powell (U); 3, A. Morgan and R. Skinner (S).  
 220 yds. (Boys Junior: 1, D. Lewis (S); 2, Holsgrove (S); 3, R. Beard (S).  
 100 yds,(Girls) Open: C Jones (S); 2' M- Burns (S). 3 M- Davies (W)  
 220yds (Boys)senior: L. Tamplin (U); 2, H. G Attewell (W); 3, P Cavill (W).  
 Hurdles (Girls) Open: 1, M. Burns (S); 2, M. Davies (W), 3, J. Vicarage (U).  
 Long Jump (Boys) Junior: 1, D. Lewis (S ; 2 K. Cole (U); 3, A. Morgan (U).  
 Long lump (Boys) senior 1 H G Attewell (W); 2, R. Roberts (W); 3. F. Williams (W)  
 Skipping Race (Girls): 1, M. Davies (W); 2, M. Burns (S) 3, P. Adams (U).  
 100 yds. (Girls) Senior: 1. M. Davies (W); 2 P' Adams (U); 3, N. Bevan (W).  
 Hurdles (Boys) Junior: 1, R. Beard (S) 2. D. Lewis (S) 3' K- Forster (S).  
 Obstacle (Girls) Open : 1, P.Jones (S); 2, M. Burns (S); 3, P. Adams (U).  
 Hurdles (Boys) Senior: 1. H.G. Attewel (W) 2 B, V. Whitcombe (S); 3, L. Tamplin (U).  
 Late for School (Girls): 1, I. Herbert (W); 2, J. Henderson (S) 3,A. Morgan (U).  
 440 yds (Boys) Open: 1, D. West(U); 2, R.Roberts (W); 3, R Price (U)  
 High Jump (Girls) Junior: 1, C. Jones (S) 2 A. Powell (U) 3 M.Moore (U)  
 High Jump (Girls) Senior: 1, M Davies (W); 2, P. Adams (U); 3, N. Bevan (W).  
 High Jump(Boys) Junior, 1, D\_ Lewis (S)\_2. J. Heard (U); 3, W. Reece (W)  
 High Jump (Boys) Senior. 1. P. Groves (S). 2 R. Roberts. (W) 3. D. West (U).  
 880 yds (Boys) Open : 1. H. Townsend (W); 2, J.Carnon (W), 3, R. Roberts (W).  
 House Relay (Girls): 1, Wye 2 Severn; 3, Usk.  
 House Relay (Boys): 1. Wye; 2, Usk; 3, Severn.  
 Consolation Race (Girls): 1. J. Reece (W); 2, B. Riches (U); 3 N Bevan (W.)  
 Points: Severn, 64; Wye, 58; Usk, 43.  
 Victrix Ludorum: M. Burns (S). Victor Ludorum: H. G. Attewell (W).

**B, V. WHITCOMBE.**

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**NATIONAL SAVINGS ASSOCIATION.**

Inspired by a sense of duty and a keen determination to help the country in its war effort, the School Savings Group was formed on 29th January, 1940. The enthusiastic support which this activity of the school has received, has been amazing. The savings group has been in existence only 19 weeks and in this period a total of £308/19/0 has been reached, averaging nearly £16 a week. During the National Savings Week Campaign, the school was asked to make a very special effort, and to save, if possible, £50 in one week. This was regarded by many as a much too ambitious sum, but for Larkfield £50 was a mere nothing. Everyone set to work with a will and at the end of the week the Secretary was able to announce, with pleasure and no little pride, that contributions amounted to the astonishing total of £155/0/6.

Splendid though our efforts have been; we can still do better. We will only reach our maximum effort when every pupil in the school is an active member of the savings group. There are still some 70 pupils who have not yet joined. There are few who cannot spare 6d. a week. We appeal to all to make saving a part of their sacrifice. It is the least we can do for those, who are doing so much for us.

To all parents, we send our grateful thanks for their co-operation. We know your demands are heavy, but we are convinced that this movement not only helps the country in its need, but also inculcates in the children the habit of saving, which will stand them in good stead in the future.

Now then Larkfield, see to it that during the coming year we shall obtain full membership, with everyone saving to the utmost. Save each week a little of your pocket money. A small luxury denied will mean so little to you and so much to your country. We can only win this war with the full cooperation of each one of us. This time next year, we hope to report that our total saved is at least £1,000. Can we do it? Of course we can. Larkfield never fails.

**L. MORGAN.**

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**SPORTS SECTION AND HOUSE NOTES.**

**HOCKEY NOTES.**

Captain : J. Vicarage. Vice-Captain : M. Sainsbury.

We have been unfortunate this year five of our matches having been cancelled. Otherwise we have won two, drawn one, and lost four.

We were most disappointed that the two County tournaments at Bassaleg were cancelled owing to the war. We appreciate the efficient way in which Miss Davies and Mr. Westcott have coached us for the season. As there are several promising players in the lower school we hope to have better luck next year.

Colours were presented to : I. Baker, W. Price, J. Vicarage, M. Sainsbury, M. Burns.

Members of the Team: D. Thomas, M. Sainsbury, J. Reese, K. Marshall, J. Vicarage, M. Spooner, M. Burns, I. Smith, N. Bevan, P. Jones and M. Davies.

Scorers Were: N. Bevan, M. Burns, I. Smith, M. Davies, P. Jones, J. Vicarage.

**J. VICARAGE.**

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**NETBALL NOTES, 1939-40.**

Captain: Mary Edwards. Vice-Captain: D. Davies.

The standard of the Netball Team this year was fairly high considering that only two of last season's players were left in. Unfortunately, however, owing to the bad weather and the war, we played only three matches. Of these three we succeeded in winning two.

School colours were awarded to : D. Davies and M. Edwards.

Team: M. Edwards, D. Davies, D. Jones, R. Davies, H. Shock, D. Barnfield, A. Powell, M. Leonard.

Reserves : D. Cook, H. Vincent.

Results: Lydney (away)      Lost    29-19    Lydney (home)      Won    13-12

Old Students                Won    16-10

**M. EDWARDS.**

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**RUGBY NOTES.**

Captain: B. L. Tamplin. Vice-Captain: H. G. Attewell. Secretary: A. Turner.

Team : B. L. Tamplin, H. G. Attewell, T. Forster, B. V. Whitcombe, A. Turner, R. Price, D. Powell, W. Woodgate, J. Lewis, G. Freebury, D. Lewis, F. Williams, J. Lewis, P. Groves, D. Jones P. Billing, C. Bartle.

This season has been the most successful the school Rugby team has ever had. We have only had four members of last year's rugby team to fall back on, which makes the results all the more pleasing. During the Christmas Term we excelled ourselves, being victorious in the six games played, two of which were against Lydney. After the Christmas holidays we lost four of our regular players but the young members who took their place played excellently. Out of the nine matches arranged for the Spring term, five had to be cancelled owing to the weather conditions, but of the four matches played we won three, suffering our only defeat of the season at the hands of Cathays.

We played the Welch Regiment (Searchlight Battery) twice, winning on both occasions. At the end of the season we were all very proud of our performance and hope that next year's team will do as well.

School colours Were presented to : B. L. Tamplin, A. Coombs, B. V. Whitcombe, R. Price, W. Woodgate.

Final: Played 10; Won 9; Lost 1. Cancelled, 6.

**B. L. TAMPLIN.**

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**TENNIS NOTES.**

Captain : J. Vicarage. Vice-Captain: M. Edwards.

We have been lucky this year as only one of our matches has been cancelled because of the weather, but, owing to the loss of two of our members one of them M. Edwards, the vice-captain, the result of the matches is not as good as we hoped. We have won two matches and lost four.

School colours Were presented to J. Vicarage.

Members of the Team: M. Edwards, J. Vicarage, M. Spooner, K. Marshall, I. Pinfold, M. Burns.

Reserves: M. Davies, D. Thomas.

J. VICARAGE.

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**BASEBALL NOTES.**

We have been very successful this year, having won easily our first two matches. Form II are very enthusiastic and there are some very promising players among them.

Members of Team: J. Reese (captain), I. Murphy (vice-captain), I. Smith, P. Jones, IVa M. Leonard, P. Jones, IVa, H. Vincent, P. Adams, J. Brace.

Matches played:

Lydney (home) Won 12½-0 Abergavenny (away) Won 52

Abergavenny (home) cancelled

Rounders: H. Vincent 12; J. Reese 4; P. Adams 1; M. Leonard ½

**J. REESE.**

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**CRICKET NOTES.**

Captain: F. H. Williams. Vice-Captain: B. L. Tamplin.

We have been very unfortunate in only having two members of our last year's cricket team and also in having most of our matches cancelled. We have played four matches, won one and lost three. We beat Cathay's High School by a narrow margin, but lost heavily to Beachley. Several of the team are in the fourth form and show great promise for next season.

Team: F. H. Williams, B. L. Tamplin, H. G. Attewell, R. Roberts, D. West, T. G. Evans, K. Cole, D. Jones, B. Jones, L. Mackie L. Stafford.

Reserves: D. Wilding, E. Lang.

Colours Were awarded to: J. B. Lewis, R. P. Reece, B. O. Edwards.

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**USK HOUSE NOTES.**

Girls' Captain: E. J. Vicarage. Boys' Captain: B. L. Tamplin.

We are all very pleased this year because we have won the shield for the fourth time and now we have held it for more years than either of the other houses.

The House has done very well in work, in the Eisteddfod which we have now won for the third time in succession and in games the boys having won all their matches and the girls both tennis, one

baseball and one netball. We were not so successful on Sports Day, but we hope for better luck in the future.

Also we are pleased to note that three of the School games captains are in the Usk.

**J. VICARAGE, B. L. TAMPLIN.**

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**WYE HOUSE NOTES.**

Girls' Captain: D. Davies. Boys' Captain: H. G. Attewell. Hon. Secretary : F. Williams.

Although the Wye has not had a very successful year, on the whole a marked improvement has been shown since last year.

The boys won their cricket match against the Severn, but were defeated by the Usk. In Rugby they won their match against the Severn, but lost to the Usk.

The the girls have been unfortunate in losing both Tennis and Netball matches, they won their hockey match against the Usk, but were defeated by the Severn.

We gained least points in the Eisteddfod, but were not many points behind Severn House which took second place.

On Sports Day we gained second place, the Victor Ludorum H.G. Attewell, being in the Wye.

We hope the members of the Wye House will be more enthusiastic next year, and so reverse the position of the houses.

**D. DAVIES, H. G. ATTEWELL.**

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**SEVERN HOUSE NOTES.**

Girls' Captain: Mary Edwards. Boys' Captain: B. V. Whitcombe.

Again the Severn was not fortunate enough to win the Shield, but the House has worked very hard and co-operated well. However we won the Sports fairly easily and came second in the Eisteddfod. The Victrix Ludorum, Mary Burns, we are pleased to say, was a member of the Severn House.

The girls did very well in the Hockey and Netball matches, being victors over both the Usk and Wye. The boys unfortunately were not so strong this year as their opponents, owing to the loss of several senior members.

This year we did not do so well in school work as previously, but we have some very promising members in the lower school so there is no reason why the Severn House should not be victorious next year.

**M. EDWARDS, B. V. WHITCOMBE.**

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**LARKFIELD OLD STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION.**

OFFICERS, 1940-41.

President: Dr. Birch; Vice-Presidents: Major Webb and Miss D. M. Smith;

Chairman: Mr. W. Robinson; Hon. Treasurer: Mr. B. Westcott;

Committee: Misses I. Flowers, M. Rees, F. Stockham, D. Hutchings and L. Rees;

and Messrs. J. Weekes, J. Dixon, A.L. Hemingsley, H. E. Blackaby and E. Brown;

Hon. Secretaries: Miss Kathleen Price and J. E. Price.

In common with every other organization, the activities of the Larkfield O.S.A. have been disorganised by the outbreak of war. In our case, indeed, the dislocation caused has probably been greater than in most other societies, for Larkfield is still a young school. Consequently, all our Old Boys are of military age, and very few now remain in the district; what activities are possible must therefore be confined almost entirely to the Old Girls.



One of the most regrettable features is the fact that the London branch, after a most auspicious start, had to close down almost immediately on the outbreak of hostilities. Locally we have managed to carry on, though our activities have been greatly curtailed, and the efforts of those still in civilian life have been centred on making some contribution to the welfare of our members who are in the Forces. As a result we were able to send out over seventy parcels of comforts last Christmas. This could never have been done without the energetic help of the staff and present pupils, and we are deeply indebted to them for their efforts in this connection. The great number of letters of thanks received from all parts of the world showed how much these small parcels were appreciated.

At Christmas also, it was found possible to hold the usual Old Students' Dance, but at the Beaufort Hotel instead of the Public Hall, and since then Beetle Drives and Dances have been held at Larkfield. The object of these social events has been to provide funds to send comforts to the Old Boys in the Services, and the Old Girls are giving much of their leisure time to the making of these.

In the critical times through which we are passing, with the country in greater peril than the most pessimistic of us would have dared to prophesy a short while ago, one hesitates to express an opinion on what the future may bring. In the meantime, our best wishes go out to Major Webb and the great number of our members who are playing their part in the defence of our Empire and all that it stands for. We wish them all the best of luck, and when ultimately victory is gained as, with Right on our side, it surely will, a safe return to happier conditions.

**KATHLEEN E. PRICE, J. E. PRICE**, Joint Hon. Secretaries.

#### **MARRIAGES.**

- Evans-Richards. On August 5th, 1939, at Caerwent Parish Church,  
Percy Evans to Georgina Richards (1929-33).
- Hinds-Dibden. On September 16th, 1939, at All Saints' Church, Goodmayes,  
Leonard Hinds, B.A., to Eileen Mary Dibden (1926-29).
- Evans-Evans. On Octobsr 28th, 1939, at Baptist Church, Chepstow,  
Lyn Evans to Edna Evans (1926-29).
- Jones-Edmonds. On November 2nd, 1939, at St. Mary's Church, Magor,  
Bert Jones to Elsie Blanch Edmonds (1926-30).
- Nichols-Lang. On November, 1939, at Chepstow Baptist Church,  
Aubrey Nichols to Doreen Lang (1929-34)".
- Shott-Baker. On December 24th, 1939, at St. Mary's Church, Magor,  
Ronald Shott to Amy R. Baker (1924-30).
- Adlam-Brown. On December 24th, 1939, at Portskewett Church,  
Frederick Adlam to Margery Brown (1931-37).
- Peacock-Davies. On December 30th, 1939, at Moravian Church, Maudlin, Bristol,  
Rev. F. A. W. Peacock, to Doris M. Davies (1929-35).
- Hill-Wood. On January 9th, 1940, at St. Mary's Church, Undy,  
Gordon Hill (1929-35), to Joyce M. Wood (1931-36).
- Dilworth-Robbins. On April 4th, 1940, at Chepstow Church,  
Arnold Dilworth to Marion Jean Robbins (1932-35).
- Watkins-Johnson. On, April 15th, 1940, at Chepstow Church,  
Ivor Watkins to Ann Robsen Johnson (1931-36).
- Ellis-Davies. On June 18th, 1940, at St. Nicholas Church, Chegnal, Essex,  
L/Cpl. P. W. Ellis to Joan C. Davies (1928-32).
- Hotchkin-Jones. On August 26th, 1939, at Riverside Methodist, Church, Tintern,  
Aubrey G. R. Hotchkin (1924-27) to Edith W. Jones.

Webb-Warren. In October, 1939, at the Methodist Church, Chepstow,  
J. Warren to Lilian Webb (1931-35).  
Robinson-Priest. On June 22nd, at Birmingham,  
Joseph Robinson to Frances Priest (1924-28).  
Davies-Rexworthy. On 13th September, 1939, at Roggiett Church,  
Royston J. Davies (1931-34) to Nora M. Rexworthy.  
Dobbs-Parkin. At Gomersal Parish Church,  
Edward James Dobbs (1928-33) to Annie Parkin.  
Hickman-Alien. Hugh Hickman to Phyllis Alien.

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Old Students News.

Doreen Adams (1929-34) now serving in a Military Hospital at Dartford, Kent, has passed her State Final examination, thus gaining her S.R.N. certificate.

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**IN MEMORIAM. DEATH ON ACTIVE SERVICE.**

Arthur Thomas (1927-31). Killed in France October, 1939.

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**ON ACTIVE SERVICE.**

Major J. H. E. Webb, M.A., O.B.E., 2nd Batt. Mon. Regt.  
2nd Lieut. W. H. M. Baker (1927-34), Royal Artillery.  
A/C. J. Banfield (1938-39), R.A.F.  
A/C. A. Bennett (1931-34) R.A.F.  
Pte. F. H. Billing (1929-33) Special Signals Corps, Royal Fusiliers.  
Cpl. A. Bullock (1924-28), E.R.S.  
Cpl. V. Bullock (1928-33), Royal Army Pay Corps.  
A/C. E. Butler (1935-37), 266 Squadron, R.A.F.  
Sapper D. Chubb (1933-38), Royal Engineers.  
A/C. F. Coles (1932-35), R.A.F.  
Signalman R. Davies (1931-34), Royal Corps of Signals.  
Rifleman R. Dobbs 1928-32). First Mons.  
Private K. Ellis (1931-35), First Mons.  
L. A/C. J. Felton (1928-33), R.A.F.  
Rifleman H. Farr (1931-36). 1st Mons.  
Pte. Betty Foster (1930-34) A.T.S.  
L. A/A. F. Fyfield (1936-38), R.A.F.  
Cpl. G. Green (1931-34), R.N., R.A.F.  
Signalman A. J. Griffiths (1929-33), Signallers.  
3rd Officer D. Groves (1930-35), Merchant Navy.  
A/C. H. K. Hill (1932-36), R.A.F.  
Pte. G. Hill (1929-35), South Wales Borderers.  
Driver M. Hill (1932-36); Royal Artillery.  
Sgt. F. J. Hoare (1929-34), 3rd Mons.  
Lance/Cpl. j. Howells (1932-37), 1st Mons.  
A/C.2 E. D. Isaac (1930-36), R.A.F.  
A/A. R. Hardwick (1934-39), R.A.F.  
Gunner R. Harris (1931-35), Royal Artillery.  
L.A.C. G. G. Jones (1926-30), R.A.F. 5 (AC) Squadron.

Signaller S. Jones (1931-35), R.A.F.  
 L. A/C. R. D. Knight (1928-33), 235 Squadron R.A.F.  
 Pte. C. Lewis (1931-38), 1st Mons.  
 LI. Madley (1928-34), Royal Engineers.  
 Pte. J. Mansell (1928-32), South Wales Borderers.  
 Trooper J. Manson (1932-37), N. Somersetshire Yeomanry  
 Rifleman C. Mathews (1931-36), 1st Mont.  
 Rifleman- D. Matthews (1929-33), 1st Mons  
 L./Cpl. J. Moore (1931-38), 1st Mons.  
 Photographer J. V. Oakes (1931-33), H.M.S. Excellent.  
 Signaller T. D. Oakes (1923-25), H.M.S. Neptune  
 E. R. Penny (1928-32), H.M.S. Rodney.  
 Rifleman A. Pinfold (1928-34), 1st Mons.  
 B/E, H. Pitt (1933-37), R.A.F.  
 Private J. Porter (1931-35).  
 L.Stoker N. Presley (1926-29), H.M.S. Gloucester.  
 A/C. H. C. C. Price (1927-33), R.A.F.  
 H. F. Price (1932-37), R.A.F.  
 Private D. Pritchard (1930-35), 1st Mons.  
 J. Probyn (1937-38).  
 R.N. Airman L. Rowlands (1930-35), H.M.S. St. Vincent.  
 Cpl. P. J. Reynolds (1924-27), R.A.F., India.  
 Rifleman C. Saddler (1931-35), 1st Mons.  
 A/C. A., H. Sheppard (1935-38), R.A.F.  
 J. Shaddick (1935-38), H.M. Navy.  
 Cpl. R. T. Smith (1930-35), 1st Mons.  
 St. Sergt. L. Spooner (1924-28). Royal Army Pay Corps.  
 Private A. Stephens (1930-37), 1st Mons.  
 H. Stoddart (1931-36).  
 1st Mate C. J. Thomas (1924-30), Merchant Navy.  
 Pte. Clifford Thomas (1933-36), Infantry Training Coy.  
 Musician D. Trivitt (1931-34), H.M.S. Kent.  
 Pte. M. Trueman (1928-33), 1st Mons.  
 A/C. S. H. Waters (1924-27), R.A.F.  
 A/C. J. Ware (1934-38), R.A.F.  
 2nd Lieut. C. I. Watkins (1924-29), South Wales Borderers.  
 Pte. W. Weekes (1930-33), 1st Mons.  
 H. Welsh (1927-31), H.M.S. Furious.  
 Gunner R. D. B. Wheeler (1930-37), R.A.  
 Driver S. A. Woodgate (1928-34), R.A.S.C.  
 Driver A. W. Woodgate (1929-35), R.A.S.C.  
 L. A/C. B. H. Wright (1934.-37), R.A.F.  
 Also serving: H. Harrison.

The Editors wish to make the list of old pupils serving with H.M. Forces as complete as possible, and would be grateful for any information regarding members whose names are not mentioned.

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