

# Careers in COAL

*Coal is and will remain for many years ahead the great basic source of energy in this country. To meet the demand for coal, the National Coal Board are undertaking vast schemes to modernise and reconstruct the mining industry. They need skilled and qualified men to help with this work. Here are some of the ways in which entrants can be trained for a career in coal mining:*

★ **UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS.** The National Coal Board offers a hundred University Scholarships a year; most are in Mining Engineering and some are available in Mechanical, Electrical and Chemical Engineering and in Fuel Technology. They are equivalent in value to full State Scholarships, there being no parental means test.

★ **STUDENT APPRENTICESHIPS.** Boys with a good G.C.E. at O or A level can qualify as student apprentices, and take a co-ordinated course of practical training and technical education which will equip them for careers leading to supervisory and technical posts in mining, mechanical or electrical engineering.

★ **SCHOOL LEAVERS.** There are also good opportunities for advancement for boys with initiative who come straight into the industry from school even if they do not hold a G.C.E. Part-time courses leading to National and other Certificates are available at Technical Colleges, and day release from work, with pay, is given to approved students.

**MANAGEMENT TRAINING.** When a student has qualified either through a University or a Technical College, or after successfully completing training as a student apprentice, he is eligible to apply for further training in the Board's Technical Management Training Scheme. Each trainee's course is mapped out to suit his own particular needs and bent, and this is carried out under the close personal supervision of a senior engineer. The length of the course varies from about eighteen months to three years, according to previous experience.

**SCIENTIFIC.** For those interested in Science, there are absorbing and rewarding possibilities at the Board's Research Establishments, and in the coalfields on operation work.

**OTHER CAREERS.** There are, from time to time, training posts for boys of a good educational standard who want to make a career in architecture, civil engineering and accountancy, as well as openings in administrative, personnel and marketing work.

★ **PROSPECTS.** After qualifying, there are excellent prospects of promotion to responsible posts in this, the Nation's basic industry.

Please write for full particulars of the career which interests you most to:

Divisional Chief Staff Officer,  
Staff Department,  
National Coal Board,  
East Midlands Division,  
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Arnold,  
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wise choice.

|                          |      |    |    |    |
|--------------------------|------|----|----|----|
| Kodak Brownie 127        | .... | 1  | 4  | 5  |
| Kodak Brownie 1          | .... | 1  | 14 | 11 |
| Kodak Brownie Reflex     | .... | 2  | 1  | 3  |
| Kodak Brownie Flash III  | .... | 2  | 12 | 4  |
| Kodak Brownie 44A        | .... | 2  | 14 | 1  |
| Agiflash 44              | .... | 2  | 15 | 0  |
| Kodak Brownie Flash B    | .... |    |    |    |
| and Flash IV             | .... | 2  | 15 | 3  |
| Kodak Duaflex II         | .... | 3  | 9  | 9  |
| Agiflash                 | .... | 3  | 15 | 0  |
| Kodak Brownie Twin 20    | .... | 3  | 15 | 7  |
| Ilford Sporti            | .... | 3  | 17 | 7  |
| Ibis 34                  | .... | 4  | 7  | 2  |
| Kodak Brownie Reflex 20  | .... | 4  | 7  | 2  |
| Kodak Brownie Flash 20   | .... | 4  | 7  | 2  |
| Isola II                 | .... | 7  | 6  | 6  |
| Kodak 66 Model II        | .... | 7  | 11 | 2  |
| Bella DC4 Vario          | .... | 8  | 11 | 6  |
| Zeiss Nettar             | .... | 9  | 4  | 3  |
| Kodak Colorsnap 2 Bantam | .... | 9  | 11 | 10 |
| Agfa Sillette Vario      | .... | 9  | 18 | 6  |
| Kodak Colorsnap 35       | .... | 10 | 9  | 3  |
| Francolor                | .... | 10 | 15 | 8  |
| Gnome 35                 | .... | 10 | 10 | 0  |
| Bella 35                 | .... | 10 | 19 | 9  |
| Bella DC4 Pronto         | .... | 11 | 17 | 9  |
| Ilford Sportsman         | .... | 11 | 19 | 6  |
| Regulette                | .... | 11 | 19 | 9  |



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# THE TOWER

The Magazine of the  
Northampton Technical High School

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VOL. 1. No. 2.

JULY 1960

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*Editors :*

IRENE HALL CHRISTINE WHITEHEAD J. DAWKINS D. A. JEYES

## EDITORIAL

THIS is the second of our school magazines and we hope that it will become a regular and welcomed publication. Although we experienced certain "teething troubles" in the first edition, by all accounts it was extremely successful. The editorial staff sincerely hopes that this, our second attempt at producing a concise yet readable account of school life, will be equally well received.

The prime purpose of the magazine is to give an account of the School's achievements during the school year. The magazine, however, has been liberally sprinkled with humour, but the serious sections take precedence.

Although this magazine is not a first edition, a great deal of work has been necessary in its compilation. Special thanks are due to Mr. Crick who has supervised the publication and advised the editors. Mr. Bennett has also been untiring in his suggestions and has helped to obtain the advertisements which are the "life-blood" of "The Tower" and we would like to thank Mr. Adams once again for his cover design which will become a familiar sight identifying our magazine.

At this point, the subject of the magazine—the Northampton Technical High School—deserves more detailed mention. The last school magazine complained of a lack of interest in House activities. During this year, however, a great deal more enthusiasm has been shown. This is largely due to Mr. Grimshaw and Mr. Gibson who have encouraged numerous sporting tournaments, and also to increased sportsmanship throughout the school. Miss Rudling has also helped to increase the interest of the girls in their various House competitions.

The School's academic achievements have surmounted those of every preceding year. Many more G.C.E. "O" level passes have been gained by sixth as well as fifth and fourth year pupils. The

Sixth Form has grown considerably since the last edition and now includes over seventy pupils. The total number of school members has also risen to approximately 730. G.C.E. "A" level passes are also rising and many pupils are leaving the Sixth Form with three or more "A" level subjects to their credit.

Another Prefects' Dance was held in December due to the previous one's success. £25 from the takings was contributed to the World Refugee Year funds. The dance was an even greater success than its predecessor and the floor was literally packed with couples. Dancing classes were held during the Autumn and Spring Terms and a Grand Dance was organised at the end of the Spring Term. Following the previous year's play and concert, which were hailed as a great success, another concert and play were staged at Christmas. This production was equally successful and attracted a large audience.

We welcome the new members of the Staff who joined the School this year. We hope they will spend many happy years teaching at the School. These new members are: Mr. Burgess, Mr. Houghton, Mr. Roe, Mr. Hogg, Mr. Hammond, Mrs. Hogg, Mrs. Watson and Mrs. Powell-Smith. Those who left during the last school year—Miss Clothier, Miss Clews, Mrs. Wrigley, Mr. Gilkes, Mr. Mathias, Dr. Chater, Mr. Reynolds and Mr. Matthews—receive the best wishes of the magazine editors, in their new posts. We are grateful for the assistance of the following during the past school year in a part-time capacity: Mrs. Delahunty, Mr. Meadows, Rev. Campbell, Rev. Holley and Canon Robinson.

To close this editorial, we wish all those pupils who are leaving our school at the end of the Summer Term, good luck and success in their new careers.

## UNIVERSITY AND TRAINING COLLEGE NEWS

THE Editors extend their best wishes to the following old students who are at Training Colleges and Universities: A. G. Scott, R. D. Campin, G. Hobson, D. Hobson and A. W. Pell, who are all at Birmingham University; I. R. L. Lloyd, who is still doing research at Birmingham University; T. A. J. Cockerill and C. Andrews, who are at Leeds University; D. Bason at Nottingham University; P. Johnson at University College, London; B. Allen, who is doing electronics research at the University College of North Staffordshire; R. H. Bunting, A. E. W. Lay and R. Whiting, who are at Loughborough Training College; J. Magauran and D. M. Cumming, who are at the North Riding Training College; J. Allen at Derby Training College; M. Tew at Borough Road Training College; D. Betts at Leicester Training College; and J. Hardy at Whitelands Training College.

## SCHOOL OFFICERS

Head Boy—R. M. Wade

Deputy Head Boy—L. R. Northover

Head Girl—H. M. Miller

Deputy Head Girl—L. M. Hall

### SENIOR PREFECTS:

Boys: C. Finn  
M. J. Burrow  
R. C. Pearson  
R. G. Church  
R. W. Howes  
R. W. Alcock  
R. P. Daniels  
R. Austin  
J. Dawkins  
T. R. Hope  
R. F. Osborn  
P. Brown  
A. R. Kingston  
M. T. Ryan

Girls: P. A. Lea  
J. P. Parker  
C. A. Whitehead

### PREFECTS:

Boys: E. J. Clapham  
R. S. Cole  
D. F. Robinson  
I. J. Spencer  
W. P. H. Curl  
A. O'Toole  
W. P. Culley  
R. G. H. Relf  
J. E. Forth  
D. A. Jeyes  
J. W. Kightley  
B. Capell  
P. F. Hern

Girls: D. Addington  
N. J. Stevenson  
S. Hailey  
S. E. Ward  
L. A. Lewis  
D. A. Williams  
V. M. Dutton

## OBITUARY

WE regret to record the death of Mr. H. H. Harris, the father of Mr. P. J. Harris and a very good friend of the School. Mr. Harris donated the Harris Cup which is presented annually to the winning House on Sports Day. We extend our deepest condolences to his relations and assure them that Mr. Harris will always be remembered for his interest in the School.

## SPEECH DAY, 1960

THIS year, the School had the honour of welcoming the principal of the North Riding Training College, Miss E. L. Madge, who was the first woman speaker to address the School on Speech Day.

Our distinguished guest based her speech on courtesy and manners, and advised us not to exaggerate social successes or failures, because we are not as interesting to other people as we are to ourselves. Miss Madge then made the point that we all expect other people to be civil to us, but we are often too busy and so occupied

in our own affairs that we make very little effort to be civil to other people.

Miss Madge was pleased to inform everyone that two of the School's former girls, who attended her training college, were a credit to the School and its teachers, and that their progress was outstanding.

Speaking before Miss Madge, the Headmaster thought it was a pity secondary schools had to be labelled with names like "modern," "technical" and "grammar," since we think of most of them as just good schools. He then explained, in detail, precisely what the Northampton Technical High School provided for its students, and told the parents they need not entertain the thought that their child, on coming to the School, would be thrust into excessive amounts of craftwork or commercial subjects. He assured them that their child would have an education on modern grammar school lines, following the basic five-year course. Mr. Howard then presented an account of the School's varied successes.

The Mayoress, Mrs. G. Nutt, graced the occasion by presenting the prizes, and she was followed by the Mayor, Councillor G. Nutt, who proposed a vote of thanks. This was seconded by Robin Wade, the Head Boy, on behalf of the School, and he led the School in three rousing cheers.

Speech Day was brought to a fitting end by the School Choir, which, accompanied by the School Orchestra conducted by Mr. Chesters, sang "Viking Song" by Coleridge-Taylor, and "Non Nobis Domine" by Roger Quilter. Once again, Alderman F. Tollit, the Chairman of the School Governors, took the chair.

J.D.

## PRIZE LIST, 1960

### FORM PRIZES :

- First Year: G. Bromage, P. Shaw, A. Bull, A. Ryan, P. B. Nutter, R. A. Bradbury, D. G. Bissonnett, J. Ribbans, V. Clarke, S. Lewin, D. M. Seck, J. S. Marriott.  
Handwriting Prize : S. Northover.
- Second Year: A. A. Chamberlain, L. E. Butlin, D. J. J. Rooke, R. A. Farey, H. Brien, T. L. Roy, J. N. Williamson, E. J. Winkworth.
- Third Year: S. M. Old, P. S. Dickens, T. Knibb, T. N. Thomas, T. G. Roberts, R. L. Thorogood, R. J. Bending, R. P. J. Finnis.
- Fourth Year: L. A. Lewis, R. Newman, R. Wilmer, I. R. Skears, L. J. Sharpe, G. M. Laughton, G. J. Street, R. C. Hillson.

### MIDDLE SCHOOL SUBJECT PRIZES :

- |            |              |                     |                    |
|------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Art:       | R. P. Rogers | History:            | G. Sanders         |
| Craft:     | R. G. Oram   | Mathematics:        | P. A. Dawes        |
| English:   | J. Clarke    | Needlework:         | C. M. Sheerman     |
| French:    | E. Stephens  | Science:            | I. R. Skears       |
| Geography: | D. J. Ashby  | Physical Education: | V. Humber, B. Wood |

## GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION PRIZES :

Ordinary Level: C. M. Pettifer, J. Dawkins, J. F. Tremlett.

### Distinguished work in :

|                                   |                |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| Applied Mathematics:              | G. J. French   |
| Art:                              | A. J. Maycock  |
| Commerce:                         | V. Dyer        |
| Chemistry:                        | E. J. Clapham  |
| Cookery:                          | C. M. Pettifer |
| English:                          | A. J. Chivers  |
| French:                           | S. W. Reeves   |
| Geography:                        | D. A. Jeyes    |
| Geometrical & Mechanical Drawing: | A. C. Webb     |
| History:                          | S. Ward        |
| Needlework:                       | C. M. Pettifer |
| Pure Mathematics:                 | W. R. Sharp    |
| Practical Subjects:               | J. E. Forth    |
| Physics:                          | E. J. Clapham  |

## GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION PRIZES—ADVANCED LEVEL

### Distinguished work in :

|                      |                    |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Applied Mathematics: | A. W. Pell         |
| Art:                 | S. A. Seward       |
| Chemistry:           | A. W. Pell         |
| Economics:           | T. A. J. Cockerill |
| English:             | B. Tarry           |
| French:              | T. A. J. Cockerill |
| Geography:           | A. E. W. Lay       |
| Physics:             | A. W. Pell         |
| Pure Mathematics:    | A. W. Pell         |

### Upper School Physical Education Prizes:

H. M. Miller, G. Coles

### Staff Prizes for Reading in Prayers:

H. M. Miller, R. W. Alcock

### The P. E. Tompkins Prizes:

French: T. A. J. Cockerill  
History: T. L. Blundell

### 6th Form General Knowledge Prizes:

R. Wade, P. Lea, I. Hall,  
E. Clapham

### The Hennings Prize:

I. M. Hall

### The Tollit Prize:

A. R. Kingston

### The British Timken Essay Prizes:

1st: C. Finn  
2nd: R. C. Pearson  
3rd: E. Stephens

### The Headmaster's Prize:

C. A. Whitehead

### The Percival Prizes for Public Spirit:

A. W. Pell, D. M. Cumming

### The Tony Cockerill Prize:

R. C. Pearson

### Head Girl's Prize:

H. M. Miller

### Head Boy's Prizes:

R. G. Baker, R. M. Wade

### The A. Chown Trophy:

L. R. Northover

### The "Auricula" Cup:

A. W. Pell

## LONDON GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION

### Ordinary Level

#### Fifth Year :

|                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| K. Adams       | R. W. Howes    |
| R. Austin      | D. H. Jewell   |
| T. L. Blundell | D. A. Jeyes    |
| J. H. Braddock | R. D. Jones    |
| I. J. P. Brown | J. W. Kightley |
| P. Brown       | J. K. Knight   |

M. A. Bullock  
 B. Capell  
 A. J. Chivers  
 R. G. Church  
 E. J. Clapham  
 R. S. Cole  
 G. A. Coles  
 M. E. Collier  
 B. A. Cosford  
 B. A. Coull  
 W. P. Culley  
 B. T. M. P. Davies  
 J. Dawkins  
 V. A. Dyer  
 D. G. Easty  
 M. B. Edwards  
 I. F. Fitzhugh  
 J. E. Forth  
 G. J. French  
 G. J. Frost  
 J. G. Gibbins  
 A. Grafton  
 R. Green  
 R. W. Green  
 I. M. Hall  
 A. E. Hames  
 P. F. Hern  
 R. W. Higham  
 J. C. Hiskey

R. T. Leigh  
 G. M. Markie  
 A. J. Maycock  
 A. O'Toole  
 J. P. Parker  
 A. A. Paul  
 C. M. Pettifer  
 D. A. Plester  
 M. Powell  
 R. G. H. Relf  
 M. E. Rogerson  
 M. T. Ryan  
 R. J. Sampson  
 M. J. Sharman  
 W. R. Sharp  
 S. A. Seward  
 G. E. Shatford  
 J. L. Sheldon  
 D. L. Solomon  
 P. Tarrant  
 M. C. Taylor  
 J. A. Thorpe  
 A. C. Timms  
 J. F. Tremlett  
 M. E. Walden  
 A. C. Webb  
 C. A. Whitehead  
 D. J. L. Wigley  
 R. N. Wilkins  
 C. G. Wright

#### Fourth Year :

D. J. Ashby  
 P. M. Bailey  
 D. W. Bampkin  
 N. T. Brewer  
 G. L. Chillingsworth  
 J. Clarke  
 R. W. Cripps  
 B. J. Cumberpatch  
 P. A. Dawes  
 J. A. Fitzgerald  
 R. J. Gibbins  
 W. Harrison  
 C. L. Healey  
 F. R. Jones

L. A. Lewis  
 B. G. Major  
 D. A. Parker  
 S. W. Reeves  
 K. R. Rixon  
 M. J. Robinson  
 I. R. Skears  
 A. L. Smith  
 E. Stephens  
 S. E. Ward  
 A. J. Warwick  
 J. Watson  
 J. A. Wilmer  
 R. Wilmer  
 P. J. York

### LONDON GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION

#### Ordinary Level—Additional Subjects

R. W. Alcock  
 R. G. Baker  
 P. W. Brown  
 M. J. Burrow  
 D. M. Cumming  
 T. R. Dale  
 T. R. Hope  
 A. R. Kingston  
 A. E. W. Lay

H. M. Miller  
 L. Northover  
 R. F. Osborn  
 J. W. Pardoe  
 J. P. Stewart  
 B. W. Tarry  
 S. Tomalin  
 R. M. Wade  
 M. E. Wilkinson  
 D. P. Willmott

## LONDON GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION

### Advanced Level

R. G. Baker  
R. H. Bunting  
T. A. J. Cockerill  
D. M. Cumming  
T. R. Dale

A. R. Kingston  
A. E. W. Lay  
A. W. Pell  
S. A. Seward  
B. W. Tarry

### AWARDS GAINED

#### Major Awards :

T. A. J. Cockerill  
A. W. Pell

Leeds University  
Birmingham University

## SENIOR LIBRARY PREFECT'S NOTES

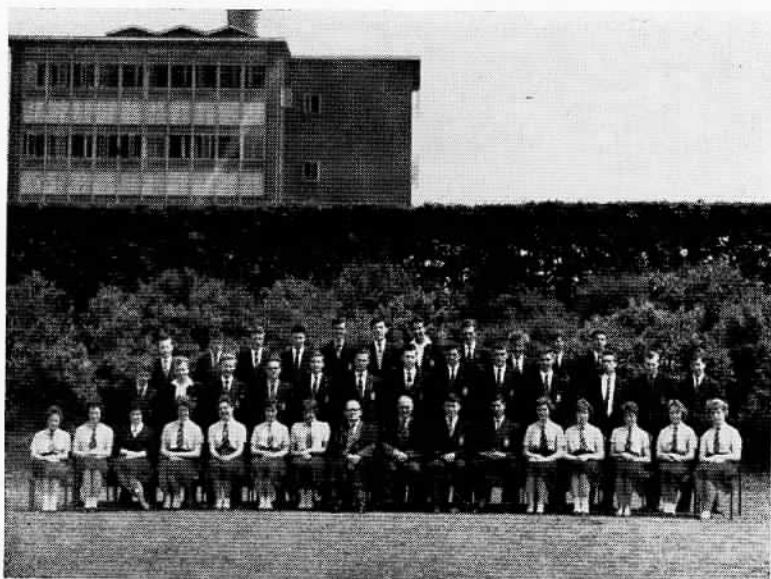
THE routine management of the Library is undertaken by a team of Library Prefects, who remain after school to supervise the borrowing of books. The Senior Library Prefect would like to thank the Library Prefects for the excellent work they have done throughout the year to keep the Library running efficiently.

Every boy and girl in the School has a copy of the Reading Lists, and the recommended books are very popular; in fact, the shelves housing these books are nearly always empty.

The Library is used extensively by 1st and 2nd year pupils. The love of reading, however, appears to fade away as the scholar progresses up the school, and the 5th year seems to be a literary desert. It is to be hoped that Sixth Formers appreciate the importance of wide reading; yet even they do not make full use of the Library.

Excuses range from "I never get time" and "There's nothing in the Library," to "I'd rather watch the telly!" The first two excuses are clearly ridiculous, and the third is alarming: an Upper School of square-eyed, 'goggle-box' addicts is hardly desirable.

Some people hold the view that reading is a dull pastime, or that the knowledge gained from books is of no value. On reflection, it is easy to see that the reading of a book can be like a conversation: exciting experiences are related; another person's feelings and emotions can be felt; and the mind is transported away from the drab monotony of everyday life. The beginning of a book can be like the beginning of the "big" picture in a cinema: a new world is revealed. Yet, whereas in a cinema one merely watches a screen, using the faculties of sight and sound, in reading a book the reader's imagination is forced to work. The greater the writer, the more he will stimulate the reader's imagination, thoughts, and emotions—here lies the real source of pleasure.



PREFECTS, 1959-60



PARIS IN THE SPRING — EASTER, 1960

The question remains of what to read. This choice must be left largely to the individual; but it may be worth pointing out that there is, fortunately, more to literature and good reading than is offered by the tabloids of the "gutter press" and the sagas of "Woman's Own." And as G. M. Trevelyan observed, "Education . . . has produced a vast population able to read but unable to distinguish what is worth reading." C.F.

## THE SCHOOL PLAY

OUR first School Play was such a great success that it was decided to present another play the following December. The play was performed with the school as audience on Thursday, 17th December, in the afternoon. In the evening, parents and some members of the governing body and friends were present at another performance.

The play was a rather unusual one, in that all the scenery was changed by a property man who was on-stage during the whole play. It was entitled "The Stolen Prince" and written by Dan Totheroth with the action taking place in China.

The plot of the play was about the stealing of one of the royal twins (a boy) by two children who, thinking it was a girl, put the baby into a basket on the Yangtze river. The baby was found and brought up by a poor fisherman and his wife. There was a shortage of fish so their duck stole the royal goldfish, and the whole family was sentenced to death. The two children revealed the truth, however, and all ended happily.

The humour was derived from the simple scenery which was changed in full view of the audience by the extremely lethargic property man. A narrator in a Chinese costume and an accompanying "orchestra" caused further amusement. The representation of the great Yangtze river by a blue cloth and other similar and equally simple props brought roars of laughter from the appreciative audience.

The company—members of the 1st and 2nd years—all gave excellent performances. Let us not forget the lighting engineers, make-up artists and stage crew, for they also devoted much time to make the play a success. Special thanks are due to Mr. Bamber, Mr. Clarke and Mr. Guffogg who devoted many hours to preparing lighting and scenery. Mr. Meldrum, whose patience in producing the play was unending, also deserves our thanks.

The play was a huge success and so we would like to thank all those who helped to make it possible.

D.J.

## THE CAST

|                                |                                                                                                          |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Long Fo .. .. .                | B. Johnson                                                                                               |
| Wing Lee .. .. .               | S. Chapman                                                                                               |
| The Royal Nurse .. .. .        | D. Wilson                                                                                                |
| Hi Tee .. .. .                 | H. Nethercot                                                                                             |
| Li Mo .. .. .                  | J. Harrington                                                                                            |
| Joy .. .. .                    | J. Eyre                                                                                                  |
| First Soldier .. .. .          | M. Roberts                                                                                               |
| Second Soldier .. .. .         | R. Jones                                                                                                 |
| The Executioner .. .. .        | M. Adhemar                                                                                               |
| The Chorus .. .. .             | A. March                                                                                                 |
| The Property Man .. .. .       | T. England                                                                                               |
| The Orchestra .. .. .          | P. Ginn, J. Betts, R. Coe.                                                                               |
| PRODUCER .. .. .               | Mr. Meldrum                                                                                              |
| SCENERY AND STAGE CREW .. .. . | Mr. Clarke, Mr. Bamber, J. Forth,<br>J. Dawkins, D. Jewell, I. Brown,<br>D. Jeyes, R. Relf, G. Jenkinson |
| LIGHTING .. .. .               | Mr. Guffogg, A. O'Toole, R.<br>Austin                                                                    |
| MAKE-UP .. .. .                | Mr. Roe, Mr. Hartwell, Mr.<br>Bamber, Mr. Syer                                                           |
| PROPERTIES .. .. .             | Mr. Major                                                                                                |
| COSTUMES .. .. .               | Mrs. Major                                                                                               |

## THE SCHOOL CONCERT

THE second concert by pupils of the School opened with the School Choir singing "Torch of Truth" and "Flowers in the Valley." These songs provided a very fitting beginning to the concert.

Gordon Bromage (2A) then demonstrated his abilities as a pianist. This was followed by some more singing; this time by a choir consisting of 1st year pupils. I thought these young performers did surprisingly well and the audience obviously thought so, too.

The programme then turned to dancing: firstly, by the 1st and 2nd year girls and then by the 4th year girls. They performed a series of folk dances and the younger male section of the audience almost became hysterical in its enthusiasm. I suppose they must be authorities on folk dancing!

Then Trevor Peploe (2A) sang "I love all gracious things." This was another polished performance. The first half of the programme finished with two more songs by the choir, this time by the 2nd year section.

After the interval, there was more dancing to be seen, but of a different nature from the folk dances of the first half of the programme. The dance was entitled "The Sea Triumphs" and was performed by some 2nd and 3rd year girls to parts of the music of the "St. Antony Variations" by Brahms. It was a very good performance.

This dance was followed by a duet in which Trevor Peploe (2A) and Vaughan Meakins (2B) demonstrated their excellent singing

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abilities. The school orchestra then played three items by Haydn and Mozart. These items were typical of all the others in being well rehearsed and consequently, as before, a very polished performance was the result.

After the play—which is dealt with elsewhere in this magazine—the school choir, augmented by some members of the Staff and 5th and 6th year boys, sang two pieces for mixed chorus: "Lullaby" and "The Dance" from Elgar's "From the Bavarian Highlands." Finally, choir, orchestra and audience joined in singing two carols: "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing," and "O Come All Ye Faithful." The accompanist was Mr. C. W. Wilson, the Deputy Headmaster of John Clare Secondary Modern School.

All thanks are due to Miss Rudling and Mr. Chesters for training the performers, and also to the performers themselves who worked so hard to put on a very good show.

Hautboy

### THE SCHOOL JOURNEY TO PARIS, EASTER, 1960.

THE school journey this year promised more thrills than ever before. None of us had ever visited Paris before, and few had ever been abroad. Thus, the sea-crossing was a new experience for the majority of our party; but the voyage proved to be uneventful. Having alighted at Dieppe, the first typical French scene to greet us was a low-platformed station and a train building up steam adjacent to the street. Within two hours, however, we reached Gare St. Lazare where a large sign over the exit read "Welcome in Paris."

We savoured our first meal, which proved to be typical French food, and concluded that, although it was delicately nice, it was not heartily enjoyable. Living on such food did not hurt us and it gave us energy to tackle our tourists' programme. The Louvre, a very solid building, housing great works such as the Mona Lisa and the Venus de Milo, was very impressive. Outside, the Jardin des Tuileries, with its fountains sparkling in the sunlight, led us to the Champs Elysées. After two and a half miles of walking along this huge boulevard, we stood under the Arc de Triomphe and watched the eternal flame flicker in the breeze. The view from the Arc was magnificent, as it was also from the historic Notre Dame and the monumental Eiffel Tower. However, the most beautiful of all the Parisian buildings is, we generally agreed, the Sacre Coeur. A trip to Paris would not be complete without a visit to Napoleon's tomb and we wished to make our journey as memorable as possible. Moreover, organised excursions were made to Chartres Cathedral with its famous stained-glass windows, and Versailles and Fontainebleau. It would be impossible to mention all the buildings we toured, let alone describe them, in this account, and the rest must be left to your imagination.

Our visit to Paris was not one organised tourist procession, however, for the evenings were free for us to explore Paris further, or to relax in one of the numerous boulevard cafes. One of our many humorous incidents took place when ordering coffee in broken T.H.S. French and this was a highlight of the journey. The simple underground railway system enabled us to travel across the city in ease—it was impossible to get lost.

The week soon passed and we were again crossing the Channel, only this time we were travelling with many memories of a truly enjoyable holiday. Although some were sea-sick, few were homesick as we sighted the Seven Sisters and Beachy Head. In a matter of hours, we were once again in Northampton. For all of us, the holiday went smoothly—almost so smoothly that we forgot the hard work, foresight and experience that went into its preparation. However, the services of Mr. Bamber, Mr. and Mrs. Hartwell, and Miss Littler did not pass entirely unnoticed, and I hope they enjoyed the harvest of their efforts as much as we did.

L.R.N.

### SCHOOL CAMP

AT the time of going to press, preparations are going on for our first School Camp to be held under canvas. This camp will be held in the August holidays in Gloucestershire. Five members of the staff and twenty-one boys from the third forms and upwards are going. Three canoes are being built by the 'experts'—M. Burrow, J. Forth, and L. Northover—and it is hoped that they will be completed in time for the journey down, as there is a lake not far from the camp on which the canoes can be used.

G.C.G.

### SIXTH FORM EDUCATIONAL VISITS

DURING the year, a party visited Whitton in Birmingham to see part of the great I.C.I. Works situated there. We went to Whitton via the M.1 and, on arriving, the party was shown round the works where we saw red-hot ingots of metal being rolled to size. We also heard about titanium, a steel-like metal but much stronger, that was being experimented with in certain jobs, such as the making of aircraft bodies, where the metal must be able to withstand great stresses. The use of titanium is as yet uneconomical but, as technical knowledge increases, costs are likely to fall.

After an excellent dinner, we were shown around the research side of the I.C.I. plant. The whole visit proved very interesting and gave many boys an idea for a career.

On November 19th, 1959, a party paid a visit to Cowley on the outskirts of Oxford. We visited the British Motor Corporation first and saw the complete construction process from the receiving