

The Haltonian Magazine and the Daedalus

43a Entry Edition

October 1943

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**THE
HALTON
MAGAZINE**

OCTOBER, 1943.

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EDITORIAL

IN normal times the publication of a magazine is a hazardous business: in wartime the difficulties are so great that an imaginative person might be forgiven for doubting the wisdom of embarking on such a venture. However, faith has been justified and enthusiasm has had its reward. The reception accorded to the first number of the magazine was greater than we had hoped for. Many congratulatory messages were received, and we take this opportunity of thanking the writers for their encouragement and appreciation. Inevitably there has been some criticism, and this also has been welcomed since we realise that perfection is not easily attained, and criticism must precede and point the way to improvement.

Brain Children

A magazine cannot depend for its success on faith alone: it must also have good works. We have been very greatly impressed by the amount of talent to be found on the Station and, frankly, we want to use it. Humility and diffidence may conspire to frustrate our intentions. We assure intending contributors that we shall be careful guardians of their brain children and that we wish to encourage them to overcome their natural shyness and timidity. The greater the volume of material submitted, the easier it becomes to make a worthy and representative selection.

Every sensible person understands that everything submitted cannot be published, but aspiring contributors can be assured that their

work will be rejected only after it has been given the most careful consideration. We know by experience that rejection is a blow which is hard to bear. It is some consolation to know that editors are traditionally stupid and callous; that genius languishes for a long time unknown and unrecognised, and that even successful authors have at least one room papered with rejection slips.

Communal Life

Long hours of training and a feeling of being isolated from the actual operations of the war tend to produce in the minds of many of us a feeling (a state) of apathy towards welfare activities. It is the purpose of *The Halton Magazine* to dispel this and to stimulate interest in the various enthusiasms that are vigorously pursued after the tools have been packed away and the squads have been marched up to their Blocks. It is then that the communal life of Halton begins. Many a dingy blackout conceals the existence of a club or an informal gathering, keenly interested in doing or learning something to enliven camp life. The more of these meetings, the richer the community. We intend to put their work on record and give prominence to the personalities who contribute to enriching the life of this "village". Our general policy is to publicise the events of Station life, and to maintain a high standard of literary work without being heavy or artificial—in fact, to produce a magazine for the enjoyment of the Station at large.

In the Spotlight This Month

Corporal B. Buckley

TO run away to sea at ten, and then take a man's job, cowpunching in the Argentine is not a bad beginning for an adventurous life. Anyhow, this is the way Corporal Buckley, now serving on this Station started on his varied career as farmer, soldier, rancher, business-man, chauffeur, sailor, engineer and airman.

Born at Port Stanley in the Falkland Islands in 1894, Bernard Buckley did not find life too rosy, for his parents died early, and left him in the care of guardians who showed a marked preference for their own children. Buckley soon got tired of "carrying the can" for all the juvenile crimes committed in the family, and decided to run away.

Like most boys he dreamed of starting an adventurous career at sea as a cabin boy, but unlike many he possessed the initiative to carry

had persuaded a friend to offer him a job on a farm, and promptly ran away to take it.

This time he was brought before the courts, but told his story so convincingly that a sympathetic Bench decided he would be better left with the farmer, who was prepared to give him the family life he had never yet enjoyed.

Two years of hard work followed, helping to look after over twenty-five thousand sheep on the great fenceless farms of the Falklands.

At the end of two years hard living and plenty of open air, Buckley was enabled to add four years to his age so convincingly that he obtained a man's job on another farm raising sheep, cattle and horses.

This experience was valuable when, a few years later, he crossed to the mainland and took a job in the Argentine shearing sheep and driving cattle from the Andes foothills to the nearest canning town.

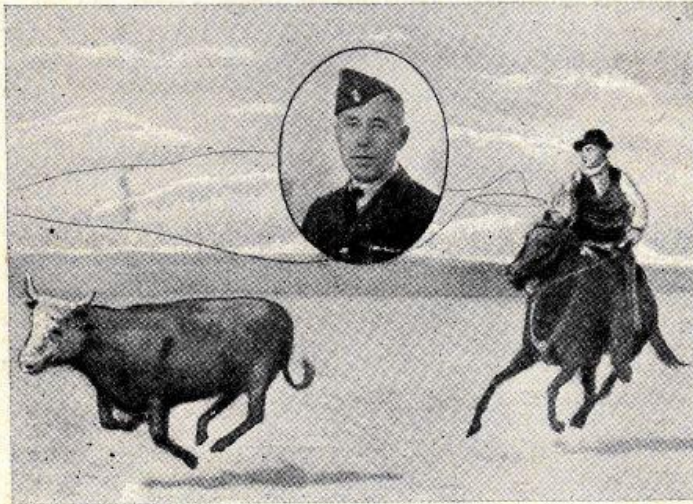
For six weeks or so he and his mates would ride over the wide pampas, steadily herding fifteen or twenty thousand wild cattle towards their fate as superior corned beef.

In winter Buckley and his companions would move south to the snows of the sub-Antarctic regions, where they spent the cold month's trapping foxes and skunk, or hunting emus for their valuable "under-arm" feathers.

The Great War put an end to this phase of Buckley's career. At twenty he volunteered for the Army, was drafted to England with the Royal

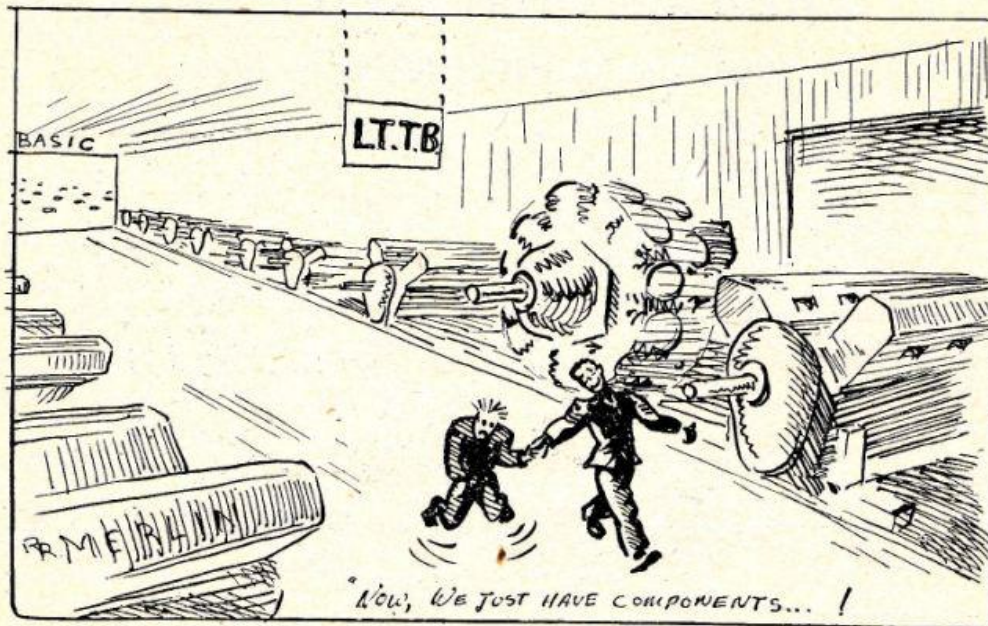
Field Artillery, and spent three years in France—followed by three months in hospital as a result of a shrapnel wound.

At the end of the War he married a Manchester lassie he had met while training, and took her back to the Argentine, where they started a drapery business. This flourished so much that in 1928 they decided to see some other parts of the world, and took a five



his plans beyond the dream stage. At ten, he ran away, reached the sea, and smuggled himself on to a freighter; he was only discovered hidden in the hold just as the ship was casting off.

Though his unwilling return was followed by a warm welcome in the less comfortable sense, Buckley did not let the cracks of fate—or guardians—get him down. Within a year he



MONTHLY SPOTLIGHT—continued

months holiday in England on the way to Australia and a mixed farm near Perth.

There for three years they grappled with the effects of the mounting world crisis that sent costs up and prices down, particularly for farmers. With all their savings gone as a result of this unequal battle against the economic fates, Buckley went to Chile in the hope of repairing his fortunes. But there, too, the slump had spread its deadening tentacles. So Buckley worked his way to England as a deck-hand in the research vessel "William Scoresby"—sister ship to Scott's "Discovery." By doing this he not only saved the fifty pounds the passage would have cost him, but was able to use his pay to keep his daughter on at school.

In England he spent a dreary and not very profitable five months canvassing vacuum cleaners; then got a good job as chauffeur-gardener in remote Isla, off the coast of Scotland.

Three years later he took an engineering job with the printing department of the *Daily Mail* at Manchester—so after much travelling his

wife was back in her home town again.

Finding indoor life a little oppressive and realising that war was imminent, Buckley joined the Balloon Section of the Auxiliary Air Force, and was consequently embodied at the outbreak of war.

With the R.A.F. he spent six months in France, ending in a hasty retirement from Cherbourg packed in an Isle of Man pleasure steamer.

In England he has seen his full of the blitz, for his unit was at one time stationed near much-bombed Southampton.

Now at the age of 51 Buckley is preparing for still another phase of his varied career. Short and stockily built, quiet and unpretentious in manner, he gives one the feeling that whatever further adventures life holds in store for him he will continue to emerge with a smile.

The photograph of Air Commodore H. G. White in last month's Spotlight was by courtesy of Artograph (West's Studio) Ltd. Aylesbury.

WHEN MEN DRESSED IN SILK *But Fought and Died for an Idea*

WHEN freedom was just a word, an Englishman refused to pay twenty shillings—and proved that in England the word had meaning. At Great Hampden, a few miles south of Wendover, a church and house are a monument to his inspired thriftiness, which led to an invasion of the House of Commons by a King with an armed guard, and set a torch to the fire of civil war.

John Hampden was a wealthy squire during the reign of Charles I, when silks and curled hair were the correct wear for gentlemen, and huntin' and drinkin' were their favourite pastimes—with a few love affairs thrown in. Hampden could have followed the general example on his estate in Bucks, which had been in the possession of his family since before the Norman Conquest: but he chose, at the age of 26, to enter Parliament.

He became member for Wendover in 1623, and continued to represent the borough during one of the stormiest and most vital periods of English history—a history which he did much to influence.

Being a Member of Parliament in those days was by no means a picnic. There was no salary of £600 per annum to sugar the pill. On the throne was a Stuart whose view of his divine right to do as he pleased was not quite in line with democratic ideals; and in London was a Tower which, while it had visitors even then, held for them a less objective interest than it has for us.

England was passing through an important evolutionary period. The main point of contention was whether King or Parliament should have decisive power; and Hampden's fame rests on his exposure to the nation of the true issue, raising it above the mass of minor disputes.

Nominally only Parliament had power to impose taxes. Charles however ruled for much of his reign without a Parliament, and to avoid summoning it to meet—and allowing it to express its disapproval of some of his decrees—decided

to fill the exchequer himself.

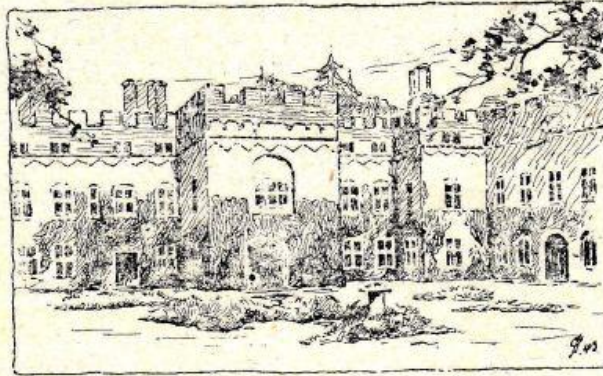
In 1635 he revived an ancient tax called Ship Money, which would be a source of revenue whose expenditure would be in no way controlled by Parliament. This was a stroke at the very roots of democratic government.

At a parish meeting in Great Kimble Church John Hampden protested against the tax, and refused to pay it. He appeared before the judges in the Exchequer Court: they decided in the King's favour.

But his stand had aroused the nation; and when the Scottish revolt forced Charles to summon the Long Parliament, it began to formulate measures which would limit the power of the throne. Charles saw his danger, and in an incredibly foolish moment of anger resolved to imprison Hampden and four of his most outspoken fellow-members.

While Parliament was in session the door of the House was thrown open and Charles strode in with a band of armed followers. It was one of the most dramatic moments in history: the King, richly dressed, his face a mask of rage, standing in the midst of his subjects' representatives, who maintained a hostile silence.

It was not less dramatic because it ended in anti-climax. The King glanced imperiously along the benches; the five members were absent. Forewarned, they had escaped in a river barge. In the stony faces of the members who had remained, Charles read his doom. He withdrew, not only from the House, but from the Capital. The Civil war had begun,



AND SO TO BED!

A.C.2. PEPYS ON A COURSE

MONDAY.—This day commenced the course. Fortune did smile upon me withal, for my labours did take me near unto the maidens who would undertake the work of men. Delighted was I at receiving a most charming smile from one Betty, and would have tarried a while. But a look of stern rebuke in her instructor's eye did deter me. Alas, in such manner are chances lost.

TUESDAY.—This night did take me abroad, to seek a glass of mulled ale. Did search in vain until arrival at an hostelry in the quaint but goodly town of Wendover. Would have gossiped with mine host but alas, 'twas impossible, the counter being obstructed by a mass of struggling figures requiring his attention. Nothing loth, I entered the fray and did suffer in consequence, receiving many buffetings and elbowings before emerging with a foaming glass just before closing time. Then

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though some months elapsed before the first battle was fought.

Hampden, whose instinct for liberty had given him courage to see that life and property were valueless without it, became a Colonel in the people's army. He returned to his home county to recruit the militia which was the 17th century version of the Home Guard.

The peaceful security of Bucks had been rudely shattered. It was now a battlefield: the King's army in the north, with camps at Buckingham, Bicester and Thame, and Cromwell's forces holding Aylesbury, Wendover and neighbouring villages.

On a morning in June, 1643, he led out a detachment to intercept a party of Royalists. They met at Chalgrove Field, where Hampden was wounded by the bursting of a pistol. He reached Thame, to die there a few days later. A military escort brought his body back to Hampden House, and he was buried at the nearby Church of St. Mary Magdalene.

The estate at Great Hampden—now the property of the Earl of Buckinghamshire—with its massive beech-trees and a peculiarly English atmosphere of rustic calm and philosophy, is the finest tribute to his memory: more eloquent than the memorial tablets in the church or the obelisk at Chalgrove Field.

did remorse set in, for that which was called bitter proved bitter indeed. Truly is beer not what it was.

WEDNESDAY.—To the schools this day. Much astonished on entering our chamber at being commanded to outstretch my hands for inspection. Alas, greater still was my embarrassment on receiving a stern rebuke about their condition. Nor did a titter from the aforementioned Betty improve my state of mind. Wherefore, my joy was great when she too was reminded of her obligations. So do those who mock receive their reward.

THURSDAY.—To 3 Wing this evening for the dance. Did meet that wicked jade Betty again. Her manner towards me proved charming and some little recompense for my enforced parting from Dame Pepys. She would have me dance, and poor was the show I made of it. But her sweetness remained unshaken, though 'twas not until later that I perceived the artfulness of her remark about giving some consideration to how big my feet were. And so to bed, my mind full of the wickedness of Betty.

FRIDAY.—To the workshops this day in great trepidation. My knees did knock and my head swim when contemplating the ordeal that lay before me. Nor was my anticipation confounded, for the inquisition due this day proved a memory test indeed. What I wrote me down I cannot remember, though am inclined to the thought that I have "boobed," a term much in use here meaning "blundered," or something like it. Wherefore my heart was sad and remained so until evening.

SATURDAY.—To the sports field this day for the purpose of partaking in the game called football. And a furious pastime it proved withal. In faith, I found it foreign to my liking, for my corpulence made it impossible for me to move fast enough. Many were the rude remarks flung at me in consequence, and I have it in mind that this vicious game is vastly detrimental to men's habitual good manners. How can it be aught else, since I departed from the field a mass of abrasions and contusions from violent contact with my fellow players, who attacked me without provocation as soon as the ball chanced my way, leaving me prostrate on the ground to the detriment of my scanty attire. Mercy upon me, what is the younger generation coming to!

"P2"

IS THIS THE PLACE?

*Is this the place? Here
sky is bare and clear!
Yet once here hovered,
febrile in the blue,
the whey-pale webs of Daedalians dear
in raucous battle wheeling.
Then their so few,
out of the azure feud
in scarlet shrouds
cast losers hurtling to the static clay,
—down—down—crescendo down:—²to Death.
Unproud, twisted,
the embered clutter of fashioned alloys lay
within the sunlit woodlands,
and lay there days . . . so many fell.
Only the birds that tolled
in every evening
and the haze of each dawn's mistiness
knew then the total of the broken bold.
This is the place. Here sky, bare but for Sun
bespeaks the freedom that was that day won.*

J.A.C.

The Halton Society

SINCE its fairly recent revival much has already been accomplished by the Society, but the coming winter should see a considerable increase in the activity of many of the Sections. Details are given of the programmes of some of the sections.

Model Aircraft.—Very flourishing. Now has over 70 members with models in various stages of completion. The third competition of the year was held on September 25, and was a great success.

Printing.—A small press is available for printing dance tickets, handbills, etc., while the larger one is used for printing this magazine.

Chess.—Membership is increasing, and a series of competitions is being organised for the winter.

Canoeing.—Work on a third canoe, all materials for which have been obtained, is just beginning.

Wireless.—The Section now holds an adequate kit of tools, and much new radio equipment has been purchased.

Debating.—Three lively debates and a mock trial have already taken place.

Model Engineering.—A good supply of new castings has been acquired. Members using these as a basis for making engines will be able to take the finished products away later as their own property.

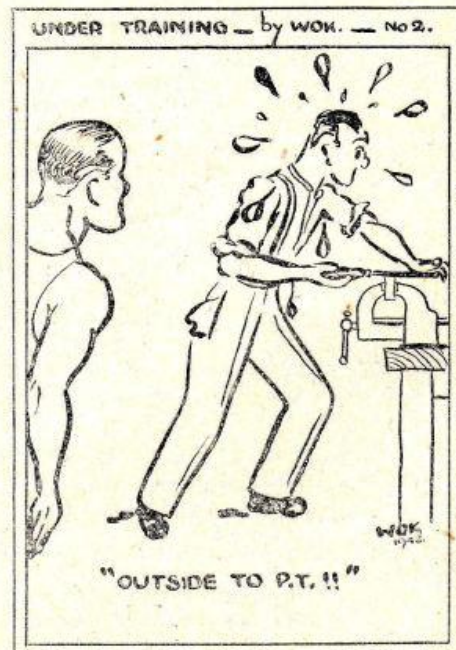
SCHOOL OF COOKERY

A PART from the routine job of training cooks to build bigger and better airmen, the chief events of the month have been in the darts and entertainments line.

The School of Cookery darts team consisting of Sergeants Holder, Baker, Twinn and Keeping, and Corporals Tubby, Toso, Furze and Jones beat the Station Police in a closely contested match. A return match has already been arranged, and it is also hoped to challenge No. 4 Wing in the near future.

With regard to entertainments, our weekly Whist Drive and Dance have had their usual success. A new departure has been a free film show with refreshments provided afterwards; P.S.I. hired from E.N.S.A. the film "They Flew Alone", which features Amy Johnson and Jim Mollison. It drew an appreciative audience, including several W.A.A.F. who are hoping they will one day be accepted for transfer to the A.T.A.

While on the subject of flying we would like to wish Flt/Sgt. Donald the best of luck in his forthcoming training for aircrew; Sergeant Twinn is taking over his duties at the School of Cookery.



WHEN AIRCREWS DO NEEDLEWORK

WHEN I was asked to write about Diversional Occupational Therapy at the Hospital I was rather appalled. It seemed a deuce of a title for wool rug making.

I toyed with several ideas including that of opening with a caricature of the C.O., furtively making a string belt behind locked doors, with the caption: "The C.O. is interested in Occupational Therapy." My courage failing me, I went to see the W.A.A.F. sergeant-in-charge.

The interior of the new hut in the compound is very bright, and has an atmosphere between that of an "Art and Wool Shoppe" in a country town and a rather enlightened girls' school.

The first intimation I had that this was not just another establishment of the unholy trinity "Art, Craft and Uplift" was the spectacle of a tough-looking air-crew officer, wearing one of those ribbons with the diagonal stripes, concentrating upon the intricacies of a needlework table mat, under the eye of a competent-looking W.A.A.F.

I was then shown a series of articles: leather work, charming toys of American cloth, needlework table-runners, and squares of tapestry, which displayed a technical excellence, a delicacy of taste, and a standard of craftsmanship worthy of a past generation.

This pleasing and surprising oasis houses a first-class contribution to the war effort. Under the guidance of skilled young women mind and body co-operate in a healing process which has produced remarkable results. Idle minds given to introspection find new interest; stiff and unused fingers gain new suppleness and confidence, and the healing blood circulates more freely in limbs imprisoned in plaster.

Social Activities at the Hospital

IN the past, the social activities of the Hospital have been largely merged in those of the Camp as a whole; but this winter the amount of talent available has made possible a new departure.

The Hospital is forming its own Dramatic Society, and hopes in due course to produce a play. The title of the play is at the moment a mystery to all but those concerned in its production. Sgt. Bearman and Cpl. Blunt Vyse are playing an active part behind the scenes.

It is the bond of football more than of any other game which has bound the Hospital closely to the life of the Camp, and this season

Occupational Therapy has proved of particular value to crash cases who, lying upon their backs, would otherwise be condemned to find their recreation solely in the illusory world of books.



An important part of Occupational Therapy is the work done by the Hospital P.T.I.'s, under the direct control of the Medical Officers.

I went to the new hut in a spirit of duty, but I left profoundly thoughtful. At the door, I turned and cleared my throat. "Er, Sergeant," I said, "can you tell me if I can obtain patterns for some nice wool chair covers?"

has opened under the happiest auspices for the Hospital team, with a 2-1 victory over 2B, and a 4-0 victory over 2C.

The Hospital is most fortunate in retaining in these uncertain days the services of no less than seven of last season's players, and good hard games can be expected in consequence. These players are: F/Sgt. Whillocks, F/Sgt. Fogg, Sgt. Reynolds, Sgt. Mather, Sgt. Lynas, Cpl. Blair and L/A/C. Durrant.

F/Sgt. Fogg, in the match with 2C, performed the hat trick; and F/Sgt. Whillocks (left back), who first played at Halton in 1920, is still playing a strong game in this year 1943.

Fall in for a Good Time on

ENTERTAINMENT PARADE

with "YORICK"

The outlook for the winter is promising. The Station Entertainment Committee have several projects in hand, the Wings are rising nobly to the task of keeping you amused, and E.N.S.A. is giving an extra show every four weeks during the blackout months. This month Yorick cuts out the cackle and presents the gen—or as much of it as he could get hold of.

RHEARSALS for "Pride of the Regiment" are going full swing, and the cast are most enthusiastic. A certain sergeant I know wanders round the workshops muttering to himself, and occasionally bursting into subdued song. Several other people show signs of the same disease: it's known in the profession as "getting into the part".

AT THE CONCERT HALL

Here is a list of shows to be presented in the Station Concert Hall during the next few weeks. The dates may have to be altered, and you should be on the lookout for additional bookings. Details of these, and of the monthly Wing dances, will be found on the "What's On" notice boards.

- Oct. 25-7—Station Orchestra
- Nov. 2—E.N.S.A. Variety
- " 4-5—R.A.F. Regt. Concert.
- " 10—E.N.S.A. Concert — Boyd Neel Orchestra; Harriett Cohen (pianoforte).
- Nov. 16—E.N.S.A. Concert.
- " 23-26—'Pride of the Regiment.'
- " 30—E.N.S.A. Concert.

"Pride of the Regiment" is a burlesque musical comedy, which was first produced in London about ten years ago. Although the background is the Crimean War, when the political set-up was vastly different from that of to-day, the play has a topical flavour—and it contains some sly digs at people and things you'll recognise.

Aha! The Villain!

As a burlesque, "Pride of the Regiment" (the sub-title is "Cashiered for his Country") naturally has a Villain—Captain

de Vavasour, played by L/A/C. Conrad Vinc- (who was the Doctor in No. 2 Wing's presentation of "White Cargo"). The hero is Lieutenant Brown, played by Flt/Lieut. Gottlieb and Sister Church plays the heroine, Miss Adelaide.

Other principals are Sqdn/Ldr. Cashell as the Prime Minister, Sgt. Sieverdink as Gen. Sir Joshua Blazes, L.A.C.W. Middleton as Miss Millicent Blazes, and S/O. Tilley as Miss Agatha. Producer is the Station Entertainment Officer, Flt/Lieut. Steiner.

Dirty Work

THE Villain leaves you in no doubt as to his nasty character, and you'll hate him from the start. But Lieut. Brown is usually on the spot just in time to command him to "unhand that fair damsel", so there is no need to worry.

There's a spot of intrigue, with a secret document of State vanishing mysteriously, not from a parked car, but from underneath an aspidistra. In the background lurks a spy known as the Hidden Terror, who learns the decisions of the Cabinet three days before they are made.

Sgt. Carter and the Station Orchestra will be responsible for the music, which is very tuneful.

First There, Best Chair

AN experiment is being tried out at this show on the recommendation of the Station Entertainment Committee. On one of the evenings no seats will be booked, so that the first to arrive will be able to choose their own arm-chair. A splendid idea.

Last month's appeal for behind-the-scenes helpers has brought volunteers from No. 5 Wing and the Hospital. Good show. But more assistants will be welcomed with open arms, as will anybody with ability to entertain camp audiences. If this interests you, get in

touch with Flt/Lieut. Steiner at the Dental Centre, or with one of the entertainment representatives in your own Wing.

Wednesday for Music

MUSICAL concerts will be presented by M.E.N.S.A. on every fourth Wednesday during the winter, in addition to the usual fortnightly variety shows—which incidentally have been very good lately. The next Wednesday concert (on November 10) will feature the Boyd Neel Orchestra. No one who likes good music will miss this opportunity of hearing an orchestra with a first-class reputation, and known to many by its broadcasts. It plays supremely well the type of music that nowadays we don't hear as often as we would wish.

At this concert there will be a pianoforte soloist—none other than Harriet Cohen, one of the most outstanding of British pianists.

This is a programme better than many in the London concert halls. I've no doubt it will prove immensely popular.

I understand that we may expect to see and hear quite a lot of celebrities at future concerts in this series.

Meet the Orchestra

THE Station Orchestra, which is giving a concert of popular classical music this month under the direction of Sgt. George Carter, has in its ranks some very fine players, many of them recent acquisitions. For these concerts George Carter, the orchestra's founder, will be at the piano, and the orchestra will be led by Fredric Kuper.

Yes, he's the Fredric Kuper you heard on the radio with his own orchestra before the war. A professional musician and an excellent violinist, he played with the Cumberland and Dorchester Hot 1 orchestras before forming his own band. Now he is a corporal instructor.

His arrival will help to strengthen the violin section, which has hitherto been the most difficult part of the orchestra to fill. Other new violinists have come forward, and it will be interesting to note their effect on the balance of the orchestra of the increased volume and improved quality of the violins.

Galaxy of Talent

THE other violinists are all experienced players. They will include Tommy Atkinson (who played with Northern Cinema Orchestras and Percy Bush's Orchestra), Charles Preston (City of Birmingham Orchestra), Leslie Simmons (Leyton Municipal Orchestra), Arthur Dickins (Southend Muni-

In the Band No. 2

L.A.C. SWINBURN

IT'S a long hop from hot swing to the less sophisticated music of the days when we got a thrill out of melodrama, laid on thick by touring companies. Yet the change is much more recent than most of us imagine, as L.A.C. Swinburn, solo cornet in the Station Military Band, and first trumpet in the Station Orchestra, is in our midst to prove.

Still in his thirties, Roy Swinburn has had the experience of playing in a theatre orchestra of the pre-cinema vintage, and is now an accomplished exponent of dance music.

A native of Spennymoor, Co. Durham, Roy is a monumental sculptor by trade, and a musician by inclination. His father, a well-known band teacher and gold medallist, introduced him at the age of 13 to the cornet and trumpet.

At 17 he was in the pit orchestra of the Spennymoor's Cambridge Theatre.

For about four years he saw enacted on the boards such full-blooded pieces as "Maria Marten of the Red Barn," "Uncle Tom's Cabin," and "The Face at the Window"; helping to provide thunderstorms and suitable background music for the moustachioed villain or the weeping heroine.

But then the films came to Spennymoor, and soon Roy was in the cinema orchestra, underlining musically the emotions and actions of the flickering figures on the screen.

All this was done in his spare time, after a hard day's work. In addition he was for some years solo cornet player in the town band.

With the advent of talkies, the cinema orchestra was disbanded, and he was free to tackle other jobs. He played in the Weal Philharmonic Orchestra, but gradually he became deeply interested in modern dance music. He was a member of several dance orchestras, notably Owen Walters' band in Stockton and Benny Nelson's band in Hartlepool.

Conscripted with his age group, he was called up by the R.A.F. He's not likely to forget the date—it was his wedding anniversary. After passing out on his course at Halton he was posted to Station Flight.

He has since been a prominent figure on ceremonial occasions, when he has played the Service trumpet calls. The apprentices are now having the benefit of his experience; he is training a trumpet band in their Wing.

Quiet and unassuming in manner, he does not look as if he'd go in for the more dashing sports. Yet his hobby used to be dirt track racing. He rode at Greenhill (near Newcastle) and at Gosforth, but gave it up on getting married.



ENTERTAINMENT PARADE—contd.

principal Orchestra), Adam M'Ewan (Kilmarnock Cooperative Orchestra) and James Ely (The Bloomfield Orchestra, Gateshead).

Norman Hillam (Savoy Hotel Orchestra), already well known on the Station, will be the cellist, and the bass violin will be played by Walter Hindson (Newcastle Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra).

Good Old Brass!

THE brass and wood-wind sections of the Orchestra have always been good, and will be mainly in the hands of the same artistes as before, so that excellent quality is assured.

Here they are: clarinets—Don Turk (B.B.C. Northern Orchestra) and Peter Fackler (South-West Symphony Orchestra); flute—Jack Wilson (Leeds Philharmonic Orchestra); trumpets—Roy Swinburn (you can read all about him "In the Band") and Jock Tassart, who played with Hugo Rignold and Henry Hall; trombone and euphonium—Victor Saywell (B.B.C. soloist); horn—Humphrey Storer (Nottingham Philharmonic Orchestra); and percussion—Leslie Clark (Palace Coliseum, I.O.M., and Regal Theatre Orchestra, Southend).

New Soloist

WELL, now you'll know who's doing what. Another feature of the concerts will be the appearance of a new soloist—Kathlene Flynn (soprano), who has sung in musical comedy and was with E.N.S.A. before joining the W.A.A.F.

Your Favourites

THE programme is one of the best the Station Orchestra has offered. It starts off with a rousing march, "Old Comrades", by Leiki, followed by the von Suppé overture, "Morning, Noon and Night". The violins will be given a chance to show their prowess in Edward German's delightful "Nell Gwyn" Dances.

Other items are selections from "Roberta" (Jerome Kern) and "Tales of Hoffman", by Offenbach (in which you'll hear the famous serenade); an Egyptian Ballet Suite, by Luigini; "Alpine Echoes", a fantasia by Herfurth; and "Les Millions d'Arlequin" (Drigo).

The concert will conclude with another Offenbach composition, "Orpheus in the Underworld".

Band Ahoy!

FOR those who suspect the Station Orchestra of being too highbrow for them (though they probably enjoy its music just the same)

there is the Station Dance Band, which hopes to put on a show, "Band Ahoy!" early in November. This show was to have been presented earlier, but various difficulties led to its postponement.

The band will play dance numbers, and contribute sketches and comedy interludes as well. You will be surprised at the variety of talent the members of the band possess. For one thing, most of them are not content to master only one instrument. I have always thought this one of the most attractive features of a dance band. It's fascinating to watch somebody tootling on a flute at one moment, and booming away on a saxophone the next.

May I Introduce . . .

YOU'D like to meet the dance band too; let me introduce them: trumpets—Norman Drew, Don Smith, and Bobby ("Bigs") Benstead; trombones—Vic Saywell and Jock Tassart; saxophone section—Johnny Bounden,

THEY DELIVER THE GOODS

Station Entertainment Committee

Chairman:—Padre Groves.

Entertainment Officers

Station:—Flt. Lieut Steiner.

No. 1. Wing:—Flt. Lieut Saxby.

No. 2. Wing:—Flt. Lieut Sanderson.

No. 3. Wing:—F.O. Saunders.

No. 4. Wing:—F.O. Parnidge

No. 5. Wing:—W.O. Paley

If you have talent or ideas (or both)

get in touch with your wing officers, or

with these N.C.O's:—Cpl. HOWARD

(No. 5 Wing—No. 6 Bay, Old Workshops);

Cpl. McGRATH (No. 2 Wing); Cpl

BOTTOMLEY (No. 3 Wing—No 6 Bay

old workshops); Cpl OKIN (No. 4

Wing—No 2 Bay old workshops); Cpl

SPENCER (No. 5 Wing—Progress, No 2

Bay, old workshops); and Cpl LUNN

(No. 5 Wing—No. 6 Bay, old workshops).

Don Turk, Pete Fackler and Fred Cooper; vocalist and guitarist—Al Collins; bass—Tommy Atkinson; and impersonations—Sid Allen (who in civvy street was in a band with George Carter, conductor of the Station Dance Band); and finally the pianist, Fred March.

On Tour

THE Station concert party which did such good work during the summer will again be "on tour" during the winter. In the next few

ENTERTAINMENT PARADE—contd.

weeks it will present an entirely new show, "Spotlight on Variety", at a R.A.F. hospital; at Chinnor, in aid of the British Legion; and to men of the Eighth Army who are undergoing plastic surgery in England.

A series of shows will be given for the Red Cross Prisoners-of-War Fund, and a second series is under consideration for outlying building sites and factories under the auspices of the Ministry of Labour.

The Station will see "Spotlight on Variety," which has been devised and produced by Henry Howard and Wally Okin, some time in December. We shall have the advantage of seeing it when it has been, so to speak, highly polished and has outgrown the teething troubles inevitable in a variety show.

New Talent

THE producers are themselves doing two new acts, and the cast includes Djana Male, Flt/Lieut. Gottlieb, Jimmy Cummings, Phil Lunn and Wally Spencer, Conrad Vince and Jill Winsome and Frankie Middleton.

When the show reaches camp it is hoped that some new talent may be introduced.

Several candidates were found at a recent audition in the Station, notably Cpl. Tullett (4 Wing), a clever impressionist, and two very good tap dancers, also from No. 4 Wing—A/C. Keats and A/C. Stark.

Regiment Variety

THE R.A.F. Regiment concert on November 4-5 will be one of the high lights of the season. Some excellent talent is available. The Regiment also has its own dance band, and hopes to run several dances.

Odds and Ends

ANOTHER Station show will be produced in January. Maybe a play or a pantomime—and the latter seems to be favoured at the moment.

The Station Military Band, when it gave a recital at the Officers' Mess after No. 5 Wing church parade, had as its soloist A/A. Good-sall, who played "I'll Walk Beside You".

Sgt. Sharp (No. 2 Wing), who was responsible for the production of "White Cargo", has another play in rehearsal: "Love in a Mist", which he hopes to present in December.

STATION CINEMA

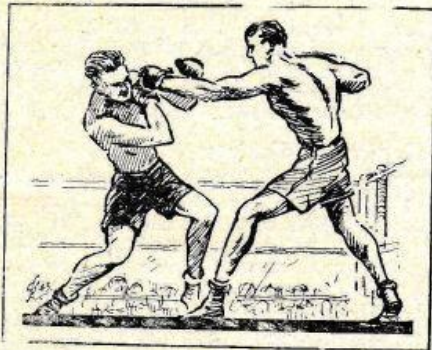
Coming Attractions

November is a good month for filmgoers. Some excellent re-issues—such as *Sanders of the River* and *Topper Takes a Trip*—are extremely welcome. Pride of place among the new films goes to *Battle of Britain*, but indeed all the programmes can be recommended.

- Nov. 1—*Commandos Strike at Dawn* (Paul Muni and Anna Lee).
- " 4—*Get Cracking* (George Formby).
- " 7—*Aloma of the South Seas* (Dorothy Lamour and Jon Hall).
- " 8—*Theatre Royal* (Flanagan and Allan).
- " 11—*Topper Takes a Trip* (Constance Bennett and Roland Young).
- " 14—*Sanders of the River* (Paul Robeson and Leslie Banks).
- " 15—*Five Graves to Cairo* (Eric Von Stroheim and Franchot Tone).
- " 18—*When We are Married* (Sidney Howard).

- Nov. 21—*Louisiana Purchase* (Bob Hope and Vera Zorina).
- " 22—*There Goes My Heart* (Frederick Marsh and Virginia Bruce).
- " 25—*Prison Mutiny* (Edward Norris and Joan Woodbury).
- " 28—*Rhythm on the River* (Bing Crosby and Mary Martin).
- " 29—*The Battle of Britain and Reveille with Beverley* (Ann Miller and Frank Sinatra).

Note:—The camp cinema runs two shows on Monday and Thursday—17.15 and 20.00 hrs.—and on Sunday—14.00hrs. and 18.00hrs. Other nights 19.00hrs. Seats at 1s. and 1s. 3d. may be booked in advance by telephone-ext. 65- or at the cinema. The booking office is open from Monday to Saturday from 10.00 to 12.30 hrs. and 16.30 to 20.00 hrs.; and on Sunday from 13.30 to 20.00 hrs.



SPORT on the Station may be said to have settled down firmly to the winter programme. Settled down, that is, as well as it is possible to do with that sword of Damocles in the form of postings always hanging over the heads of organisers. Nothing can be more disheartening than to build up a well-balanced team and then have it knocked sideways by movements of players. However, it is a handicap to be faced and overcome these days, and we must make the best of it.

Winter Season Plans

THERE has been a total re-organisation of sports representatives, and Flt/Li.ut. Doniger tells me that there are now to be competitions among the Wings at Soccer, Rugby, Boxing, Hockey, Cross Country and Swimming, for which a collective points scheme has been arranged. A Victor Ludorum cup is being awarded to the winning Wing. Reports so far show that the various Station sides are shaping up and settling down. Activity in the Wings is greater than ever, and our plea last month for more players and fewer spectators has not fallen on deaf ears.

RUGBY

THE Rugby men are going about feeling quite pleased with themselves. Plenty of hard graft has resulted in the moulding of a promising fifteen which, if it is not disturbed too much by loss of players, should do well. Flt/Li.ut. Roe is particularly pleased with the way players are rallying round. Flt/Sgt. Hurst and Sgt. Rattray have done some excellent missionary work for the game in the Wings, and more players than they had dared hope for are turning up. The demand, as I expected, for a match every week-end instead of three



STATION

by "A"

matches and a practice game once a month, has had to be met. But there are still Rugger pitches not in use and more players are wanted.

Pack Settles Down

THE side won its first four games, a heartening start and a promise of good results when the more important fixtures are reached. At first the old fault of a pack pulling in all directions was noticeable, but several evenings' concentrated scrum practice put this right and the pack is now much more together. The forwards are heavy and well led by Sgt. Golder (Hospital). A welcome re-appearance has been made by F/O. Smith, who played for Halton as an apprentice some years ago. He had the bad luck last season to break a wrist in one of the early games, but after the enforced rest he is back in better form than ever.

W. O. Harris's knee Injury

THE return of F/O. Smith has been offset by the early loss of W. O. Harris. In the first match, against No. 1 Wing, he hurt a knee and it may be some time before he plays again. He scored one of the tries against the apprentices. Your enthusiastic Rugger man, however, is not put off by injuries, and W. O. Harris is still lending a hand with training and on the field as a referee.

Promising Apprentices

INCIDENTALLY the apprentices, who are running their Rugby separate from the Station, showed promising form in this match. They were beaten 10-5, but the game was much closer than the score suggests. They have a clever half-back pair who are well worth watching. A/A. Barker, who has played full back in the Station team, cannot get his place in the Wing side!

Discoveries

THE Station side still depends to a large extent on the nucleus of last season's fifteen, but there have been some promising


SPORT
the Hooker"

discoveries. McCart (No. 5 Wing), an Irish wing three-quarter, is a strong runner who knows how to go for the line; and Braunton (No. 5 Wing), a Devon man, promises well at wing forward.

Strong Supporters

TENTATIVE arrangements are in hand for some 7-a-side games later in the season. No. 2 Wing and No. 5 Wing are such strong supporters of the Station side that they will probably dominate any inter-unit competitions. It is hoped that the other Wings will put out sides. No. 4 Wing have, in Cpl. Battgate, one of that fine old type of Border forwards on whom to call. For those who don't quite make the Station team here is a tip. Every Saturday scratch games are organised for all players, and with the approval of Sqdr/Ldr. Crowe matches between the Rest and Apprentices sides are arranged.

SOCCER

ALMOST before the season had started Flt/Lieut. Statham, who was in charge of Soccer, was posted, and this job has now been taken on by Flt/Lieut. Holbrock. Flt/Sgt. Loom (No. 5 Wing) is captaining the side and there is no lack of first-class talent, both professional and amateur, on which to draw. The difficulty is that in some matches professionals cannot be included, and thus the job of building up a settled eleven is rather more complicated.

Talent Noted

I AM rather inclined to think that the difficulties facing the Station team will be smoothed out considerably as the games get well under way in the Wings. There must be plenty of talent, and once the Wings start sorting it out the best should find its way to the Station side. Already L/A/C. Abraham, a left winger of No. 2 Wing, L/A/C. Hilton (No. 5 Wing) and Metcalfe (No. 4 Wing), a hard-working left back, have been noted. A

SPORTS GALLERY NO. 2

SGT. HEDGER

GO to the Burnett gym, on any evening when it is opened for boxing practice or matches and it is any odds you will see a dark haired, well built, good looking welter weight lending a hand in training the Station team. He is Sergt. H. Hedger. I say good looking with intention for, as a boxer with over 500 fights to his credit, even in the amateur ring, he has none of the appearance of your cauliflower-eared, twisted nosed pugilist.

Harry Hedger is one of those types of which sport has all too few—not only a top class performer, but a knowledgeable and efficient administrator. Since he made boxing his first love he has given up hours to forward his



favourite sport, and is widely known in amateur boxing circles all over the country and in certain parts of Europe for his association with the amateur ring. First as vice captain (for two years) and then as captain (for five years) he led the famous Polytechnic club, relinquishing the captaincy to take on the more arduous duties of hon. secretary. In the wider sphere of amateur boxing he is a member of the A.B.A., Referees' and Judges' Association.

Hedger would probably have succeeded in any sport. At school he won championships at running, jumping and boxing (including the British Senior Schools' boxing title) and won the first Jack Hobbs' bat ever presented by notching top score for London Schools in a match at Lords in 1923. Boxing won his undivided attention in 1929 when he joined Polytechnic and quickly came to the front as a lightweight with a series of K.O. victories. During his boxing career he has won Divisional titles on several occasions and has gained almost every honour amateur boxing has to offer except an A.B.A. title. Hedger has represented England against Ireland, Holland, France and Germany and has boxed continuously for the R.A.F. since joining in 1940. These days he has left the lightweight for the welter class, but the change has not affected his boxing nor his ability to impart the finer points of the "noble art" to any keen to learn.

In over 500 bouts Hedger ranks as his best performances:—winning two open competitions and three contests in one week, necessitating nine fights against the cream of the country's talent (an almost unique performance in amateur boxing); and when he beat in Amsterdam the Netherlands and Maccabi Olympic champion, H. de Vries.

Probably no other amateur in the country has met so many A.B.A. champions. His rivals include Arthur Danahar, Harry Mizler, Dave McCleave, Cyril Gallie, Freddie Simpson, Charlie Webster and Frank Frost.

Bienck. The Poles have had only about a dozen lessons and their progress is a great tribute to the Bath instructors.

An exhibition of Life Saving by Padre Grove and L.A.C.W. Stevens was much appreciated.

BOXING

BOXING on the Station is now the subject of a plan which, with proper co-operation from the Wings, should ensure that all available talent is revealed. Flt/Lieut. Doniger and the committee decided, before any more matches with outside teams are held, to stage a Station championship. October 27 is the date chosen for the eliminating bouts and October 28 for the finals.

For The Future

A PRELIMINARY stage of the Station championship is that each Wing should hold its own competitions and send forward the names of ten men, of whom six will be selected to compete for a Station title. Some Wing championships have already been held. The net thus cast for talent is a wide one and should ensure that Station teams of the future are representative of the best boxing ability.

CRICKET

AN enjoyable season from every point of view—even the weather was not too bad—appears to be the general summing up of the Cricket season. There was something to satisfy everyone. Close and exciting finishes, big batting, and, for the purist, stylish batting and bowling which would not disgrace many county teams. The first team won 14 out of 27 matches and were only beaten six times.

SHOOTING

THE big event in rifle shooting has been the Station Small Bore Championship, completed this month. With the British champion on the Station one does not have to look far for the winner. Sgt. Forster's (No. 4 Wing) deadly accuracy gave him the Halton Challenge Trophy and replica to add to his many other successes. No. 1 Wing captured the next three places, Sgt. Ramm being second, and two apprentices, A/A. Evans and C/A/A. Dillrose, third and fourth respectively.

Dissappointing

THE Rifle Club has a new committee for the ensuing six months. F/O. Henry is chairman, with Mr. M. W. J. Kirby as secretary.

The Wing representatives are: Sgt. Ramm (No. 1), Sgt. O'Keefe (No. 2), F/Sgt. Crabtree (No. 3), Sgt. Forster (No. 4), and F/Sgt. Scriven (No. 5). F/Sgt. Blake represents the Hospital, and Mr. H. Dudley the School of Cookery. Entries for the small bore championship were disappointing, and a big effort is being made to stimulate increased interest in shooting. I am glad to see that No. 5 Wing is providing facilities for personnel.

Stiff Programme

THERE will be no lack of competition this winter for those who want to shine at shooting. The programme is a stiff one. Three teams are to be entered for the *News of the World* rifle competition; and two teams are to compete in the S.M.R.C. League. Those interested in pistol shooting (22) have the League, for which two teams are being entered, to go for, and also the Morton Pistol League, open to novices, for which three teams are to compete. The monthly spoon shoot with pistols is being continued through the winter, and there are three junior team competitions for A/A.'s.

BILLIARDS

SNOOKER and Billiards are easily the most popular indoor games on the Station. The decision to run an Inter-Unit League has been received with enthusiasm everywhere, and thanks are due to Flt/Lieut. Farmer (No. 4 Wing), under whose chairmanship the Committee is working. Matches are played on Monday evenings and the Station Service Institute is providing prizes for winners and runners up. The latest tables available showed No. 4 Wing and No. 2 Wing leading at Billiards with 4 points each and No. 2 Wing leading the Snooker with 3 points. Individual prizes are being awarded for the best breaks, and to date Cpl. Calvert (No. 4 Wing) leads at Billiards with 46 and Flt/Sgt. Oivant (also of No. 4 Wing) at Snooker with 22. A knock-out competition will probably be held at the end of the League fixtures.

ATHLETICS

ATHLETICS has suffered a severe blow by the loss of Flt/Lieut. Caddy. On the track he represented the Station regularly in the mile and held the championship. Off the track he was responsible for athletics on the Station, and under his guidance the Station team has just ended a track season which is generally considered the best for several years.

No. 1 (APPRENTICES') WING

DURING the last month there have been many changes in the Staff of No. 1 Wing and we have welcomed several N.C.O.'s from the Junior N.C.O.'s Course. In addition F/Lieut. E. Gorwood, M.B.E., whose activities are so well known throughout the R.A.F., came to us, and our sports teams will no doubt reap much benefit from his expert advice.

On Battle of Britain Sunday a Guard of Honour and Pipe Band went to Hemel Hempstead where they took the "honours of the day". A trumpet band is now being formed.

Another innovation is that Sergeant Apprentices now take it in turn to read the lessons at the C. of E. Church services each Sunday with the exception of "A.O.C.'s Sunday".

The sporting activities of the Wing have been many and keen. The Rugby team defeated

of the Station" twice and drawn on each occasion 3-3.

The Wing is looking forward to a Boxing Match against the Army Cadet School at some future date.

At Swimming the Wing beat No. 2 Wing easily, although some of the relay races had close finishes. We won the 1 length Dash, the Free-Style Relay, the Diving, Water Polo, and tied with No. 2 Wing in the Medley Relay in the Station championships.

Popular dances are being held in the Henderson Gym every Friday evening. We are very grateful to our W.A.A.F. friends for their support in this direction and hope they will continue to come along.

The following are the Captains of the various sports or activities mentioned:

Captain of Rugby	C/A/A. Rennie.
" Soccer	C/A/A. Atkinson.
" Hockey	L/A/A. Harris.
" Cross-Country	L/A/A. Salmon.
" Boxing	S/A/A. Iddison.
" Shooting	S/A/A. Iddison.
" Swimming	S/A/A. Howells.
Band-Master	C/A/A. Johnson.
Leader of Dance Band	C/A/A. Menin.

POLISH APPRENTICES' SQUADRON

It is now just over two months since we greeted our new arrivals the Polish apprentices.

Of the many visits, the two that will remain longest in the minds of the apprentices were those of General K. Sosnkowski, Commander-in-Chief of the Polish Armed Forces, and of Air Marshal Sir Arthur S. Barratt, K.C.B.

General K. Sosnkowski, accompanied by Air Vice-Marshal M. Izycki, Inspector-General of the Polish Air Force, and Air Commodore White attended the hoisting of the Polish flag. General Sosnkowski, with the opening words, "I, the eldest general, greet you, the youngest soldiers of Poland", delivered a stirring address to the apprentices. Then followed the hoisting of the Polish flag, march past and later the official opening of the Polish Apprentices' Rest Room.

Of their activities, sport is most popular. Great progress has been made in swimming—the crawl performed *en masse* is quite an impressive spectacle and vouches for the excellence of instruction. Association Football is at present confined to inter-squad matches.

A very pleasing and healthy feature of the life of the Polish apprentices is the number of friendships that have sprung up with British apprentices.



the Army Technical School by 29-0 and recently went to Stowe where they beat the School by 16-0.

The Soccer team is improving rapidly and had a very keen match with Aldenham School which was drawn 1-1.

In the Station Cross-Country trial the apprentices supplied 47 out of the first 48 home.

The Hockey team have done well and have enjoyed their two games against "away" teams. In addition they have played the "Rest

They Were Halton Apprentices

No. 1—Group Captain D. O. Finlay, D.F.C.

Many ex-apprentices have achieved high rank and honour in the Service. We hope each month to record some of the achievements of one of these former apprentices and to persuade him to recall for us memories of Halton.

MENTION the name D. O. Finlay anywhere and I will wager that somebody will reply "Yes, Britain's best hurdler". To me the name conjures up three pictures: A tall, bronzed figure carrying a Union Jack around a stadium in Berlin; an inches finish in the most thrilling hurdles race I have ever seen; and a fighter pilot taking off to help save Britain in the dark days of 1940.

There you have the man who to-day is Group Captain D. O. Finlay, D.F.C., one-time apprentice at Halton. Now an officer holding high rank and responsibility; all-round athlete and prince of sportsmen; and a fighter pilot of whom the official citation for his D.F.C. says:

"... He participated in many sorties during which he destroyed three enemy a/c in combat . . . On March 3, 1942, he destroyed a Messerschmitt 109 following a courageous head-on attack, bringing his victories to four. This officer has always shown great keenness and has set a splendid example to all."

Speaking of his three years at Halton, Group Captain Finlay says:

"My early memories include the thrill of the spectacle of thousands of lights after dark and how tiny I felt in the great hive of industry; of tiredness, marching up the hill after shops and the 'quickening' to the R.A.F. march past as we came past the Guardroom; of a 1,000-a-side snow battle between the wings with the resultant masses of broken windows."

It was while he was an apprentice at Halton that Group Captain Finlay started to make the name in athletics which was later to become world famous. In his own words, "Wing soccer and the Barrington-Kennett trophy became everything. All else was relegated, including my work, if necessary."

This was probably quite true. He concentrated on sport to such good effect that while still an apprentice he won the R.A.F. hurdles in record time of 16 secs., a title he was to hold every year until war broke out.

The result on his work was to be expected and, as Group Captain Finlay says, "I dis-

appointed on passing out, but then pulled up my socks and started to work hard." Here again his innate capacity for hard work, whether in sport or in the Service, came to the top, and it was not long before he became an N.C.O. pilot and was given a Commission.

Group Captain Finlay's list of athletics successes is far too long to chronicle here. To



mention just a few: He first represented England in 1929, becoming British hurdles champion in 1932 and holding the title for seven years. He was Empire champion in 1934 and European champion and record holder in 1938. Olympic Games 3rd in 1932 in Los Angeles, and 2nd in 1936 in Berlin, where he was the British captain.

After becoming a fighter pilot Group Captain Finlay served with three fighter squadrons, appearing in the R.A.F. display at Hendon with each of them.

Later he did a long engineering course at Henlow, and then returned to one of his old squadrons as C.O., leading them until he was shot down. Afterwards he was C.O. of another squadron during the Battle of Britain. Since that time he has been in various jobs in Fighter Command.

Group Captain Finlay is a man of whom Halton is proud. He, too, is proud of Halton. "I have never heard anything but good of the Halton product," he says, "and it seems to be the general opinion that they are the mainstay of the R.A.F. to-day—but very thin."

NOTES AND NEWS

No. 2 WING—Since the last issue of the Magazine the Wing has had a change of C.O. Sqdn/Ldr. Massey-Westropp, after serving for three years on the Station, has been posted, and his place has been taken by Sqdn/Ldr. E. D. Salthouse.

Sqdn/Ldr. Salthouse served with the famous Lovat's Scouts in 1915, transferring to the R.F.C. in 1916. A good deal of his flying was done on Sopwith Camels in Italy. After the last war he did a considerable amount of civil flying in Assam and Northern Bengal between 1927 and 1930. In 1938 he joined the Auxiliary Air Force (Balloon Section) and first came to Halton as Camp Commandant of the A.T.C. summer camps.



In sport and entertainment the Wing is preparing for what it is hoped will be a very

successful winter.

The Corporals' Club, formed in May, is going from strength to strength. It had a very good cricket season, and an attempt is now being made to form a football team.

The Wing is fortunate in having its own Concert Hall, which is being completely re-decorated and will provide a pleasant setting for the Wing dances and concerts. Sgt. Sharp has a play in rehearsal; the cast will include Conrad Vince, and the female parts are being played by W.A.A.F. trainees. Cpl. McGrath also has a show on the way—a revue which he hopes to have ready in November.

Squadron dances, organised by Cpl. McGrath, are held in the Concert Hall every Tuesday. Music is provided by the Wing dance band.

The Soccer season began well with an inter-entry knock-out competition in which 18 teams competed. In addition to providing 3-6 Station players every week the Wing turns out three teams in the League. It is proposed to run a knock-out competition on an inter-entry basis shortly.

Flt/Sgt. Hurst, a regular member of the Station Rugby side, works hard to organise the game in the Wing.

No. 3 WING—The Wing Entertainment Committee are to be congratulated on their plans for dispelling the gloom of the darker evenings. The aim has been to provide entertainment on as many nights of the week for as many varied tastes as possible.

Here is the weekly "Plan for Entertainment".

Monday.—Whist drive, organised by Cpl. Long, an extremely popular feature at 19.15 in the Airmen's Reading Room. Good prizes.

Tuesday.—The Wing goes "lowbrow". Downbeat concert, arranged by Cpl. Chalkley, in the Reading Room. Record programmes of lowbrow music (swing and variety).

Wednesday.—Dining Hall dance, already too popular to need further comment.

Thursday.—"Highbrows' Night". An "up-beat" concert of popular classics in the cosy atmosphere of the W.A.A.F. rest room. All personnel and records welcome. This is also organised by Cpl. Chalkley.

Sunday.—Dining Hall dance, for lucky ticket holders to enjoy the strict dance tempo of Victor Sylvester on records.

An impressive weekly list, enhanced still further by the monthly dance in the Concert

Hall, at the last of which the feature was a ballroom dancing exhibition by Mrs. Barton and Mr. David Johns.

On September 29 a talent concert was held in the Dining Hall, and plans for the future include a Hallowe'en Party dance in the Concert Hall on October 31 in true honoured Scots style. Watch for details. Plans are also in hand for ballroom dancing classes.

The small number of personnel compared to the other Wings makes sport more difficult to organise, but the men rally round well. Outstanding recently was the performance of a Wing Soccer side which played as R.A.F. Halton against a strong London Fire Forces side. All the critics—and there were many—were confounded by the fine performance of the No. 3 Wing team. Despite two injured players they won by the odd goal in nine.

The W.A.A.F. personnel in the Wing, in addition to supporting all the entertainments, have their own activities. The excitement of having some of their number photographed for the national press was followed by a coach trip to Welwyn Garden City for a comparison of houses and planning schemes—getting ready for the Peace!

FROM THE WINGS

No. 4 WING—It is with regret that we say farewell this month to F/O. K. G. Duncan (who was with the Unit for two years, and showed great interest in all Wing activities), and to P/O. W. A. T. Canton, whom we welcomed only last month.

No. 4 Wing represented the Station at the Battle of Britain Sunday parade and service in Aylesbury. The salute was taken by Air Commodore H. G. White.

Last month's reference to the Welfare Committee under the chairmanship of Flt/Lieut. Farmer has failed to draw many suggestions or constructive criticism. What about it, No. 4 Wing?

The latest Wing dance was fairly successful, but more enthusiasm would improve the Wing functions. F/O. Partridge is now Wing Sports and Entertainment Officer. Let him have your suggestions.

Sgt. Forster won the Station .22 Shooting Championship with a score of 199 (possible 200). The Wing Billiards and Snooker Tournaments were won by Cpl. Calvert (who had a fine break of 64) and Sgt. Goodings respectively. The Inter-Wing League has begun; aspiring Lirdrums should contact Flt/Sgt. Morrell. The Service Police played a darts

No. 5 WING—The very strong entertainments committee in the Wing, led by W/O. Paley, has spent a busy time organising and continually improving the weekly concerts held in the Institute. These have become so much a part of Wing life that it was considered the rather bare platform style of presentation should give way to a pukka stage. The result of some good work by Sgt. Foy and A/C. Gregor is that there is now a stage, decorated in blue and beige.

The concerts are produced by Cpls. Lunn and Spencer, and there is no scarcity of talent. Cpl. Fazackerly (piano), Cpl. Anderson (violin), Cpl. Greig (bass), A/C. Dunford (piano), A/C. Kavanagh (baritone), A/C. Bridock (monologue) are all popular performers. This company, aided by L.A.C.W. Diana Male, recently gave a highly successful concert at Wendover, organised by Mrs. Muschamp, on behalf of the W.V.S. Nursery Fund. A letter of thanks was received by the Station Entertainments' Officer from Mrs. Rothschild.

match with the School of Cookery on September 28, and lost 4-5. Chess enthusiasts should get in touch with Cpl. Ensor, who is organising a winter programme. A Wing team has played several matches against No. 2 Wing corporals.

W.A.A.F.—The W.A.A.F. Block Huts are having their appearance considerably improved by an energetic band of airmen, supervised by S/O. Redmond Lyon. Airwomen are asked to help in this effort.

Spare-time facilities for the winter are numerous. You can learn fencing on Tuesdays at 19.00 hours. The Burnett Gym. is open on Wednesday evenings for badminton or other sports; Sgt. Scutar (who was 2nd in the Back Stroke and 100 yds. free style events at the Station Championships) gives instruction in swimming on Tuesday and Thursday from 1800-1900 hours.

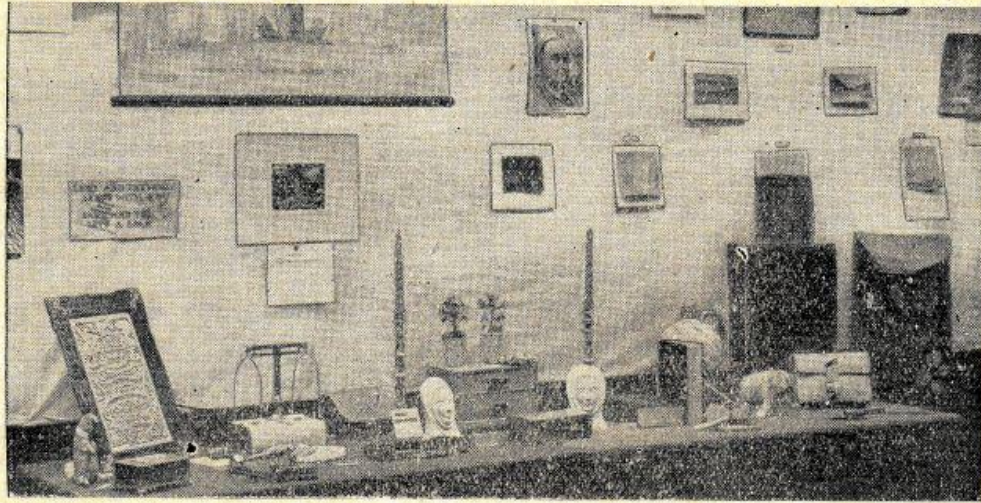
Dressmaking classes are held on Tuesday and Thursday evening (with A.C.W. Wirmill to give expert advice) in the W.A.A.F. Library. Cookery classes are organised also, and all the education facilities of the Station are at your disposal.

The Station Hockey team has many members from this Wing. Practice matches are held on Thursdays.

Cpls. Lunn and Spencer also arrange the cabaret at the Wing monthly dance. Prize-winners at the last one were L/Bmdr. Boreham and A.C.W. Sharman; A.C.W. Woodford and A/C. Thompson; Mrs. Back and A/C. Grant; L.A.C.W. Benson and A/C. Stook. In presenting the novelty prizes the C.O., Sqdn/Ldr. Rees, said that No. 5 Wing hoped to invite members of isolated Army Units, not so well favoured with entertainment facilities, to Wing dances and concerts.

The Wing has had the bad luck to lose several prominent sportsmen, among them being Sgt. Rattray (Station Rugger Captain), Sgt. Hedger (Boxing), and Sgt. Shaw (Soccer). Sgt. Jones, the Wing Sports N.C.O., has taken over the Rugger, and quite a strong team is being formed. The Soccer side is settling down well and has victories over No. 2 and No. 4 Wings.

The Boxing Championships, for which there were 19 contests, showed promising talent. A/C.'s Smythe, Lee and Megar were outstanding. Cross-country is strongly supported. Cpl. Frogley is fancied for the Wing Championship on November 6.



THE ARTS and CRAFTS EXHIBITION

THE general opinion of the Arts and Crafts exhibition held in the workshops on Sunday, September 19 was that it disappointed in that there were many fewer exhibits than for the previous one held a few months ago.

However, the articles shown were of a higher standard of work, and a great deal more originality was displayed.

It should be stressed that merit this time was given to the most original if not perhaps the finest craft, the originality of the subject receiving special consideration.

A lot of thought and care was put into the arranging and planning, so that full advantage was given to every exhibit. This was due to the hours F.Lt. Boston and Corporal Okin must have spent beforehand, carefully placing the pictures and needlework to show them at their best.

Outstanding were some candlesticks made out of cotton reels and painted most artistically, a model of a plane made by a Polish corporal, and the articles on the hospital stall. When one keeps in mind the fact that the latter have been made by patients in the hospital lying on their backs, or maybe working with only one hand, the endless patience required must have been enormous. And there was no sign of the amateur about them; they were both artistic and well made.

The Oriental works of art, exhibited to encourage everyone to greater efforts in the future, were truly beautiful; and thanks must

be given to Group Captain Muschamp and Sqdn. Ldr. Reed for giving us the opportunity of admiring such skilled work. O.A.K.

Prizewinners

Flying Models of Aircraft—Cpl. Welsberg (R.W.D.8); A.A. Mason (Duration Model); A.A. Dudley (Gull Sailplane).

Solid Models of Aircraft—Cpl. Kubacki (Polish Bomber); A.C.2 Mealand (Catalina).

Misc. Models—Cpl. Putnam (Ships); Mr. Goodchild (Fort).

Miscellaneous—Cpl. Gibbs (Cigar Box); Mrs. Krause (Madonna Book End).

Models of Engines—Sgt. Read (Steam Engine); Mr. Roberts (Locomotive).

Oil and Water Colour—L.A.C. Foster (The Ship); F.O. Woof (Portrait); Cpl. Reed (The Street).

Sketches—Mr. Ousley (King's Head Inn); L.A.C. Foster (A.T.C.); A.C.2 Frost, 4 Wing, "A" Sqdn. (Montgomery).

Design—Cpl. Blair (Per Arbua).

Needlework—Mrs. Philbey (Runner); Vera Blacklock (Cushion Cover); L.A.C.W. Fisher, 4 Wing (Framed Picture).

It is hoped to hold another exhibition in about six months' time. Those who are interested in Arts and Handicrafts are advised that classes in sketching and art are held in Room 69, The Schools, on Wednesdays at 19.00 hrs. Cpl. Blair, a professional artist, is the instructor.

SERVICE EDUCATION

What You Can Do at HALTON

LAST month we talked in general terms of what Service Education stood for, and promised a statement of the facilities provided on the Station. Here it is. It's a fairly substantial list because the Station enjoys exceptional advantages.

All classes and activities are held in the Schools and at 19.00 hours unless otherwise stated. The figures indicate in which room in the Schools the classes are held.

DO YOU WANT

TO REMUSTER TO A HIGHER TRADE GROUP?

Remustering Mathematics. Tuesday (75).
Remustering English. Thursday (72).
Remustering Science. Thursday (75)
Maths. for Airwomen, u.t. Friday, 5 classes.

TO QUALIFY FOR AIRCREW?

A.C.S.B. Mathematics (P.N.B., A.G. and W.O.P.-A.G.). Monday (70).
I.T.W. Mathematics and Elementary Navigation. Monday (72).
Maths. for Flt. Engineers. 8 classes weekly.
Graphs for Flt. Engineers. 8 classes weekly.
Special difficult class. Thursday (70).

TO MASTER A LANGUAGE?

French Elementary. 1830 hrs., Wednesday.
Advanced, 1830 hrs., Thursday (74).
German Elementary. 1830 hrs., Monday.
Advanced, 1830 hrs., Tuesday (74).

Spanish Elementary. 1830 hrs., Monday (31).
Italian Elementary. 1830 hrs., Thursday (31).

TO UNDERSTAND AFFAIRS?

Elementary Economics. Friday (70).
Economic Discussions. Wednesday (70), as per D.R.O.s.

TO TAKE MATRIC OR ANY OTHER EXAMINATION?

See the St.E.O. for particulars of facilities and classes.
N.B. Matric Mathematics. Thursday (75).
Matric English. Tuesday (72).

TO LEARN DRAWING, COOKERY, DRESSMAKING, SHORTHAND?

Art. Wednesday (64).
Cookery, at School of Cookery. Wednesday.
Dressmaking, at Waaf Library (Black Huts 17). Tuesday and Thursday, 1930 hrs.
Shorthand. Wednesday (75).

TO SEE NEWS FILMS?

O.D. Church. Wednesday, 1800 hrs. (Fortnightly).

ADVICE ON YOUR FUTURE CAREER, ON REMUSTERING OR ON AIRCREW CONDITIONS?

The Education Officer has answers to this and probably to many other questions you are wanting to ask. You can make an appointment by 'phone (ext. 99).

FLYING FITTERS

IT seems to be a habit with flight engineers on Sunderlands to carry out repairs in mid-air, under the nastiest conditions imaginable. Many times they have saved their aircraft from destruction; their specialised training enabling them to cope with emergencies in face of which other members of the crew would have been helpless.

Sgt. Michael Campion, a native of Dublin, already awarded the George Cross for saving lives from a blazing aircraft, was in a Sunderland, miles out at sea, when enemy aircraft attacked. The Sunderland emerged from the engagement with petrol flowing from her tanks at a gallon a minute.

In his shirt and pants, Sgt. Campion clambered along the inside of the wing and

though drenched with petrol and half blinded, succeeded in repairing the feed pipe that was causing the trouble.

A similar feat was performed by P.O. Crump, a Flight Engineer, when his aircraft was on patrol over a convoy in a U-Boat area. A propellor control became useless, and immediate repair was essential if the convoy was to continue to have effective air cover.

Guided by the light of a portable torch, and clad in slacks and vest, P.O. Crump crawled inside the wing, and for half an hour made adjustments whose effect was signalled to him by Aldis lamp from the root end of the wing.

"The job wasn't 100 per cent.," he said afterwards. "But it enabled us to finish the patrol."

Pay Accounts Telling You

Gen on Allowances and Gratuities

A FEW questions have been raised in reply to last month's invitation to submit queries on pay and allowances. It is hoped that, in future, more of our readers will take advantage of this opportunity of settling doubts which exist in their minds.

Allowances

1. *An airman asks, "What should my wife be drawing in allowances, living in London with one child?"*

Answer: The amounts are:—

- 18s. 0d. Family Allowance.
- 3s. 6d. Government Grant.
- 3s. 6d. London Allowance.
- 9s. 6d. Children Allowance.

Plus qualifying allotment deducted from your pay. You do not mention your rate of pay which governs the amount of qualifying allotment.

Post-War Gratuity

2. *An airman writes, "What gratuity am I entitled to after the war, as I feel that knowing this would give me a feeling of security when discharged; does my being conscripted disqualify me from benefit?"*

Answer: No gratuities are payable, under existing regulations, to personnel enlisted during the war or to reservists called up on general mobilisation. This applies equally to volunteers and conscripts. A Post War Credit of 6d. per day (airmen) and 4d. per day (airwomen) is, however, being accumulated for your benefit and will be paid to you at some date after hostilities have ceased. This is effective from 1st January, 1942, if you were serving at that date, or from your date of enlistment, if later. You will be notified on discharge of the address to which you will have to apply, on general release of Post War Credits.

Maternity Benefit

3. *A W.A.A.F. asks, "I am expecting a child. Am I, as well as my husband, entitled to draw Maternity Benefit?"*

Answer: Yes, under certain conditions. Service personnel are fully insured during service, their contributions, with the exception of Old Age Pensions Insurance, being paid by

HATE

These people give me quite a pain:
The erk who pre-war (so they say)
Was Somebody, and can't refrain
From boasting of his salary;

The man who snores, the man who talks
When I am yearning for some slumber;
The keen-eyed so-and-so who squawks:
"Ah! Civvy shirt!" and takes my number.

The man who, early in the day,
Is full of bright and witty cracks;
The man who has too much to say;
Any and every W.A.A.F. in slacks;

The man who shoots a horrid line,
And tells me I should "get some in";
The man with higher rank than mine;
The pioneer of discipline;

The expert on war strategy
Who knows when this old mess will end;
The people who make N.A.A.F.I. tea;
Not one of these could be my friend.

I hate the N.C.O.s who boom
Their "Wakey-wakey!" before dawn;
I hate the chilly barrack-room
Until I've got my trousers on.

I even hate myself sometimes;
Sometimes I don't like anyone;
And finally (to end these rhymes)
I don't suppose I like the Hun. P.M.

the State. To qualify for benefits it is necessary that 42 weekly contributions should have been paid. It follows, therefore, that if you were employed and in benefit before joining, you remain in benefit throughout your service. Both you and your husband could, in these circumstances, draw the Maternity Benefit provided your claim is made within 6 months of your confinement.

On the other hand, if you were *not* insured before enlistment, you would have to complete 42 week's service before being entitled to Maternity Benefit. Your claim, as in the example above, would have to be made within 6 months of your confinement.

If you are a member of an approved society, Maternity Benefit will be paid by that society. If you are not a member of an approved society, application for payment should be made to Ministry of Health, Blackpool.

CHRISTIANITY AND POLITICS

"WHY does the Archbishop of Canterbury take a part so often in political matters?" is the question frequently on the lips of many people. It is a question, of course, applied to all ministers of religion whenever they appear to interest themselves in politics.

It is about time that we really set out to answer this question.

No religion is worth anything at all unless it influences the *whole* life of the individual, his thinking and his planning, as well as his acting; therefore, if a minister of religion does not set out to affect the politics of his generation, which are, after all, only a planning for action by the people in matters of government, he is pursuing a futile task which has only some possibly remote and speculative objective, which most people refer to, often scathingly and sceptically as "another world."

As a matter of fact the real Christian has always wanted that other world now, inspired by the words of Christ, when he said: "The Kingdom of God is at hand." He wants to realise that life is governed no longer by individual selfishness and personal ambition, but by a mutually co-operative and constructive way of living.

This means that Christianity cannot be left just to Sundays and to the Churches; it has to be carried into the homes and workshops and

factories and stores and shops and schools, and everywhere where men are to be found. It must influence the whole of life or be set on one side altogether.

The man who has no time for Christianity or religion will immediately retort, "Well, set it on one side and be done with it, it is a waste of time;" but wait a minute: all that we really value in the civilisation of today has been produced by the influence of Christianity in education—hospitals, and all the philanthropic and reform movements of our country and people and the peoples of Christendom; and in the case of other nations religion, not necessarily Christianity, has done the same for them on a lesser scale and in varying degree and quality with the character of the religion concerned.

But the most outstanding achievements of international development today are bound up with the history of the Christian Church—that is undeniable—so it is obviously impossible to cast Christianity on one side and speak of it as "a waste of time." Rather must each face the challenge of Christianity and be prepared to let God direct instead of the individual.

So the Archbishop may well be excused, and, in fact, praised for his logical action in emphasising that our life and the way we live it must be governed by our Christianity.

RELEASE

AS he came out of the door—a thin little figure, face pale and haggard, lips twitching—the small knot of men who waited fell silent. They gazed at him in amazement, hardly able to realise that he was free at last.

The door clanged shut behind him, and the group moved forward eagerly.

"How did it go?" they asked, crowding round him. "Was it very bad?"

He staggered a little where he stood, and two of the men helped him over to a block of stone, on to which he collapsed.

"Got a fag?" he whispered.

He selected one from the many that were showered on him, and after inhaling gratefully was able to speak.

"It could have been worse," he said, his voice becoming stronger. "Yes, it could have been worse. But what a grilling!"

"Don't we know!" murmured some of the others.

"I can't say what they thought of me," he went on. "They're a poker-faced lot. I thought they looked a bit suspicious now and then . . . But I think it's all right. Still—"

He broke off, the hunted look was on his face again. A man in uniform pushed the crowd aside, and pointed at him.

"You! I want to speak to you."

The group melted away; and even when the stranger had gone, and the little man sat white-faced and silent, they made no move towards him. It was as if they feared the worst.

I went over and touched him on the shoulder.

"Can I help?" I asked. "Is something wrong?"

He turned to me eyes in which I read stunned unbelief.

"It can't be true!" he said. "It couldn't happen here."

"They've given me my props!"

STATION SPORT—continued

number of the professionals, such as Sgt. Shaw, Sgt. Kramer, Sgt. Young and Cpl. Saunders, have yet to make an appearance.

For the Red Cross

So far the Station team have played five matches, winning two, losing two and drawing one. R.A.F. Bicester were held to 2-2 in a match played at Aylesbury on behalf of the British Red Cross, which attracted quite a fair crowd. Flt/Sgt. Loom was in scoring mood against R.A.F. Uxbridge, but the Halton defence was not proof against the whirlwind Uxbridge attack and Halton lost 7-2. Matches in prospect include some against local infantry regiments which are expected to provide keen games.

HOCKEY

AFTER having had a lean time towards the end of last season owing to postings the Hockey team has begun the new campaign full of beans. Early results promise well, and though new players will always be welcome—they should get in touch with Padre Groves, W/O. Sweetapple, at Pay Accounts, or Flt/Sgt. Patching, Bay 12 in the workshops—some new talent has already been discovered. Two full men's teams and also a mixed side are run, and good support is forthcoming from W.A.A.F. personnel.

Apprentices' Help

THE big part which the apprentices play in Station sport is emphasised now that the boys are running their own games. When apprentices are available the hockey team is only too glad to get them. Recently, in a mixed match with R.A.F. Ruislip, won by the Station 8-2, A/A. Montague, inside left, got seven goals. A/A. Harris, centre half, has also played for the Station.

The "Old Guard"

PLAYERS seem to last a long time at Hockey. Members of what might be termed the "Old Guard", Flt/Sgt. Patching (goal), Flt/Sgt. Frith (half back), W/O. Sweetapple (back) and Flt/Lieut. Somerville are turning out regularly. I hear, too, that Padre Payton, a regular member of the side before he was posted, may come back. L/A/C. Cheetham (No. 2 Wing) is a discovery of this season. He plays outside left and scored a perfect goal against Bomber Command.

W.A.A.F. Star

OUTSTANDING among the W.A.A.F. hockey players is Cpl. Cadel, who has played for Warwickshire, the Midlands and Rest of England. She has already represented the W.A.A.F. against the Wrens, and was picked to play in another W.A.A.F. trial on October 20. Cpl. Cadel and Sgt. Souter are working hard to build up a strong W.A.A.F. side, as well as playing in the mixed team.

SWIMMING

THE Station Swimming Championships were held on October 13, and thanks to excellent organisation by Flt/Lieut. Doniger and his committee a big programme was carried out in style. The A.O.C. and Mrs. White watched the contests, and Mrs. White presented the trophies. The new champions are:

100 yds. free style (Dacre Cup).—A/C.

Wray (No. 4 Wing).

100 yds. back stroke.—Sgt. Gray (No. 4 Wing).

100 yds. breast stroke.—A/C. Stow (No. 2 Wing).

Diving.—L/A/A. Clements (holder) (No. 1 Wing).

Inter-unit relay (3 × 33½ yds.).—Nos. 1 and 2 Wings dead heat.

Inter-unit relay (4 × 33½ yds.).—No. 1 Wing.

33½ yds. dash.—A/A. Jones (15½ secs., Bath record).

Inter-unit water-polo.—No. 1 Wing 3, No. 2 Wing 0.

W.A.A.F. Championships

100 yds.—L.A.C.W. Stevens (No. 3 Wing).

2 lengths breast stroke.—A.G.W. Pratt (No. 4 Wing).

2 lengths back stroke.—L.A.C.W. Stevens (No. 3 Wing).

Diving.—L.A.C.W. Stein (No. 1 Wing).

Apprentices' Record

THE outstanding result was the fine "Dash" by A/A. Jones. His time beat the previous record of 15½ secs. set up by A/A. Sluman in 1931, and as a result Jones swam himself into the Station team for the home match with London Fire Forces on October 18. Another apprentice, A/A. Cornish, who was not much more than a novice when he came to Halton, did well in the 100 yards free style. He led for a good distance, but Wray's finish was too strong.

Polish Success

THE novices' one-length swim, judged on style, was deservedly won by Polish A/A.

Around Main Point

By "Onlooker"

THE departure of Flt/Lieut. (now Sqdn/Ldr.) Barrett, Station Education Officer, will be regretted by the many officers and airmen who came in contact with him. The staff of *The Halton Magazine*, while joining in the congratulations on his promotion, feel that they have lost their guiding light. Flt/Lieut. Barrett was the magazine's founder and editor, and—despite the colossal amount of work he had to cope with as Station Education Officer—was always on hand to smooth out the difficulties that threatened to swamp the first issue.

Those who knew him only as the first obstacle on the way to a flying career would have been astonished to see him, as we did, in shirt sleeves in the minute printing office near No. 2 Wing, vigorously guillotining the ragged edges of copies of the newly-born magazine. It was an education.

WE welcome to Halton as the new Station Education Officer Flt/Lieut. F. C. Caulfield. Station Education Officers at Halton work long hours, and it must have been no small shock to Flt/Lieut. Caulfield to find when he arrived that, in addition to his manifold duties, he had inherited the editorship of a magazine which had only just got over its birth. Whether the magazine is showing signs of becoming a lusty infant readers can judge for themselves; the staff have every confidence that under Flt/Lieut. Caulfield it will reach adult maturity

SOME panic has been observed among the technical corporals on the Station. Reason? Look out for some brand new three-storey chevrons.

A FRIEND of mine approached me the other day with an official-looking document, all seals and red tape. He didn't look too happy about it: it was a summons to appear at the petty sessions to answer a charge of contravening regulation something, by-law something, sub-section something. Very imposing. What it amounted to was that he had been cycling without a light.

Between us we concocted a letter which (we hope) made the justices weep with pity, and

now he's wondering how much it's going to cost—he comes from Scotland! Anyway, he has a light now, so that makes one less invisible man I'll have to dodge in the dark.

C. S. LEWIS, who recently completed a series of lectures at the Camp, is author of "Screw-tape Letters", "The Pilgrim's Regress", "The Problem of Pain". An Ulsterman, born in Belfast, he loathed most of his schools and escaped from Malvern after a year, but, he adds, was not expelled. Disliked games—which were cancelled on wet days. Hence his present fondness for rain.

Serving in the Great War, he was wounded by a stray British artillery round. An aunt of his, hearing of this, exclaimed with great relief "So that was why you were hit in the back!"

Reasons for not marrying: "If she doesn't like dogs, cats, hens, rabbits, she can't be a nice girl. If she does, God preserve me from living in such a house."

DEMOBILISED on Christmas Eve 1918, he went up to Oxford as Scholar of University College, took a Triple 1st in Honour Mods. (Classics), "Greats" (Philosophy) and English. Appointed a Fellow of Magdalen College, Oxford 1925, he is recognised as one of the best lecturers in the English Schools. Chief occupations—talking and walking. Describes himself as "a sociable man, but not a society man." His favourite sound—adult male laughter. It is understood that plans are in hand for another series of lectures by Mr. Lewis. Those who missed his last lectures should make a note not to miss the next series.

THINGS THEY SAY...

An Army jeep has four speeds—one, two, three, and you'll be sorry.—*Bob Hope*.

At one time, in Libya, it was thought our men might use crosses (kisses) they add to letters to signify words in a code, so the padre (also the censor) got over that, not by blotting out the crosses (as the authorities suggested), but by adding another half-dozen kisses!

—"War in the Sun"

Contributions for *The Halton Magazine* will be welcomed. We want articles, stories of your experiences (humorous or serious), verse, drawings or cartoons, and news—in fact anything that will interest people on the camp.

Send to The Editor, *The Halton Magazine*, Central Registry, S.H.Q., as early as possible each month.