

The Haltonian Magazine

Volume 5 No. 1a

May Daedalus 1928

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THE  
DAEDALUS

The Magazine of the  
Old Boys' Association,  
Royal Air Force, Halton.

MAY, 1928

Vol. II.

No. 1.



## The Hon. Secretary's Notes

IN the two previous numbers of *The Daedalus* I have mentioned the great importance of the work of our local secretaries. To a very considerable extent the successful working of the O.B.A. depends on their enthusiasm and ability, and excellent reports from 50 out of our 58 branches have been received from them. To write out a report is arduous but not unpleasant work, and is one of the main duties of every secretary. Another main duty—that of pursuing defaulters for subscriptions—is possibly equally arduous and perhaps not quite so pleasant. I hope that all secretaries who have in their branches any members of the Halton 4th Entry, and every member of that Entry who sees a copy of this magazine will read the following paragraphs, and take action.

THE FOURTH ENTRY.—This Entry passed out from Halton in January 1927, about 450 strong. Their subscriptions fell due in January 1928. At the time of writing only 89 subscriptions have been received—and therefore only 89 copies of this magazine will be sent to the faithful. If the 4th Entry can be taken as a typical Entry, and if out of 450 members of the Association only 89 see fit to renew their membership, it would appear that the aims of the O.B.A. are not appreciated to a sufficient extent to warrant its further existence. It is always easy to obtain one hundred per cent. membership from each Entry as it leaves Halton—the real test of the value of the Association to its members comes when it is time for subscriptions to be renewed.

I do not believe that the majority of the 4th Entry have decided not to renew their membership. I think that they have merely forgotten to send their subscriptions (and as one who is generally behindhand with all subscriptions, I write sympathetically). But I want all secretaries and all members of the 4th Entry to make a special and immediate effort, and I hope to raise that 89 to at least 350.

To be self-supporting, we want £350 a year, and we should get it if all members would remember to renew



their membership. Is the O.B.A. worth supporting? If it is, support it at once with 2/6.

THE TENTH ENTRY.—Subscriptions from this Entry fall due at the end of July. Some members, inspired by a most praiseworthy zeal, have already rejoined. Members would help me greatly if they would hand in their subscriptions to secretaries when the time comes, and all secretaries will be sent the names of those of the 10th Entry at their branches.

NEW MEMBERS.—About 250 new members have joined the Association during this year, largely from Karachi, Aboukir, Risalpur, Kohat, and H.M.S. *Tamar*. The Branch Reports in *The Daedalus* appeal very strongly to ex-A.A.s overseas, and the way in which we are endeavouring to find, and succeeding in finding, employment for those who are discharged on the grounds of ill-health or as the result of an accident, has attracted a number of new members. Thanks to the help that we have received from the Society of British Aircraft Constructors Ltd., we have been able to offer employment to every member of the O.B.A. whose name has been brought to my notice, and we are now in touch, not only with the S.B.A.C., but also with several of the leading Aircraft Firms. We can find employment for our members, and in these days it is not easy for a skilled man to find a good job unless he has some recognised Association behind him. We have obtained recognition, and those whom we have helped have done well.

We now have a membership of about two thousand, and we have at least 500 well-wishers and supporters whose membership has, for the moment, lapsed, but who were all members a short time ago. I want before the end of this year a membership of three thousand. We ought to be able to get it, and we shall get it if only those interested well-wishers will express their interest in a practical manner, and if our secretaries receive the support they deserve in their "recruiting campaigns." With three thousand members we can pat ourselves on our backs, and then go after the next thousand. Very careful stock of the position of the O.B.A. will be taken at the end of this year, and it will have to justify itself. Now, then, everybody—do what you can to place us in a sound position! And if I have harped unduly in these notes on the payment of subscriptions, the reasons are that without subscriptions



we cannot carry on, and that I have always to watch very carefully the financial side of the O.B.A.

Again may I thank all those Officers, Education Officers, Secretaries and members for their help, enthusiasm, and cheery letters, which make the running of the Association a very pleasant experience.

D. G. O'SHEA,  
*Hon. Secretary, R.A.F.O.B.A.*

### Contemporaries

The Editor acknowledges with thanks the receipt of the following contemporaries :

*The Halton Magazine; The R.A.F. Cadet College Magazine; The Globe and Laurel (monthly); The Gunner Magazine; The Hampshire Regimental Journal; The London Scottish Regimental Gazette.*

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