

The Haltonian Magazine

76 Edition

Autumn 1956

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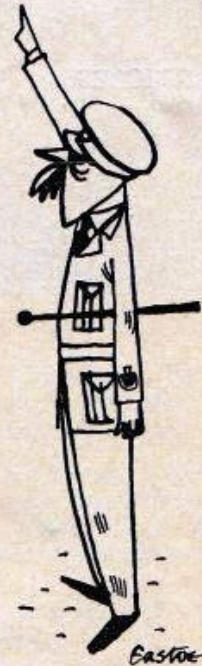


EDITORIAL

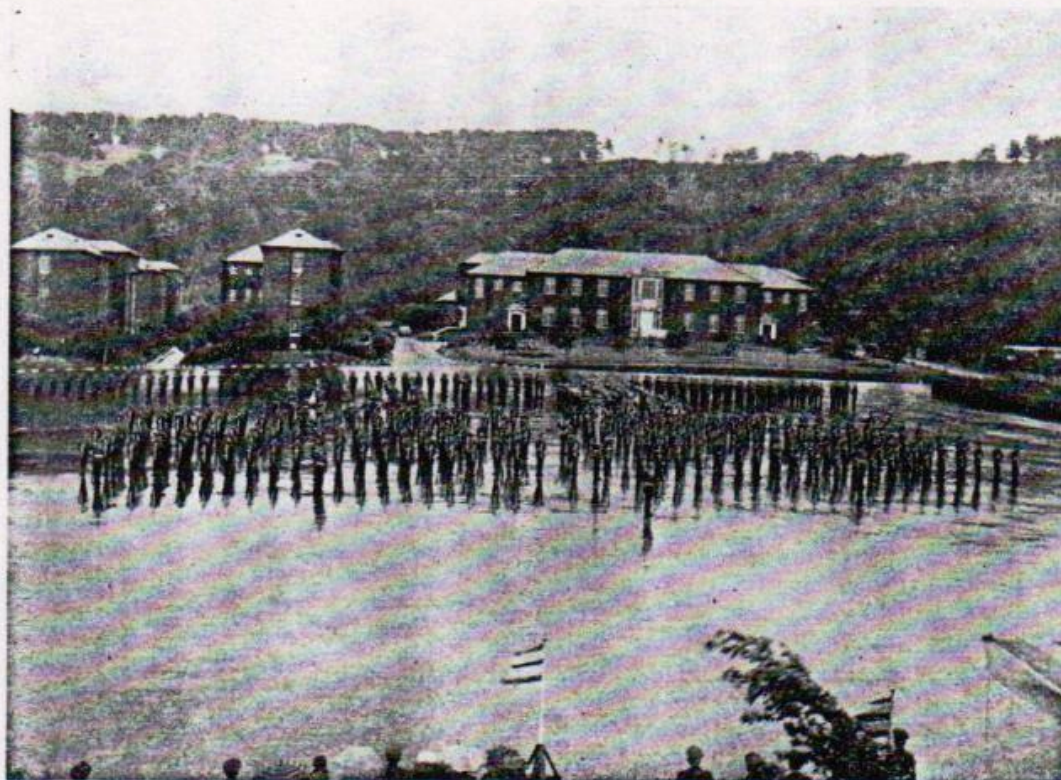
WE have, first, the pleasure of welcoming as Commandant, Air Commodore E. D. McK. Nelson, C.B., A.D.C., a full account of whose career will be found on another page. It is a weakness of the Magazine (we hope one of the few), that it appears at odd times of the year. It always seems that, because of the long time lag between writing and publication, nothing ever occurs at the right time for us. The result is that we always have the air of a magazine found in a dentist's waiting-room—rather time-worn; And this is a case in point. Air Commodore McK. Nelson has now been with us for several months but, because the summer issue was already in print, no reference was then possible. Hence the time lag. But our best wishes to both the Commandant and Mrs. McK. Nelson for a happy tour at Halton are none the less real for being so late.

This time lag, however, serves to remind us of the continuity of our lives. At the moment, the predominant topic is Suez and the Security Council, and every second which ticks away seems vital to our interests in the Middle East. Yet, when these sentences appear in November, the scene will have changed and the issue will either have been solved or have entered into an even more complicated phase. But work at Halton will still go on. Examinations will still cast their shadows on successive entries and blight an otherwise carefree existence. This is rather prosy and obvious and apparently rather dull but it is, in fact, a blessing. The perpetual contemplation of enormous problems of war and peace would be intolerable, and it is only in our pursuit of day-to-day activities that life seems real and worth-while. That is why it is important to

make sure that our time is not wasted by futile bickering and why you should, in the words of a once-popular song, 'Enjoy yourself, its later than you think'. It is, in fact, always later than you think, for life is extraordinarily short. Enjoy yourselves in every possible way: in your work, your games and your leisure. In other words, recognize your good fortune when you see it. And of all good fortune Youth is the greatest. No one can deny that Halton Apprentices are youthful—look at the members of the 84th Entry whom we are now welcoming as fully paid-up members!



GRADUATION PARADE OF THE 75TH ENTRY



The General Salute

The Graduation Parade of the 75th Entry took place on Henderson and Groves Parade Ground on 1st August, 1956. The Reviewing Officer was Air Marshal Sir Harry Broadhurst, K.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., D.F.C., A.F.C., Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Bomber Command. He was accompanied by Air Vice-Marshal G. B. Beardsworth, C.B., Air Officer Commanding No. 24 Group, representing the Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief Technical Training Command; Air Commodore E. D. McK. Nelson, C.B., A.D.C., Commandant of No. 1 School of Technical Training; Group Captain A. K. Hunter, O.B.E., Senior Training Officer, No. 1 School of Technical Training; Group Captain E. A. Stockwell, Principal Education Officer, No. 1 School of Technical

Training, and Wing Commander W. D. G. Watkins, D.S.O., D.F.C., D.F.M., Officer Commanding No. 1 Apprentice Wing.

The Parade was under the command of Flight Sergeant Aircraft Apprentice R. J. Barrett, 75th Entry. Other N.C.O. Apprentices were Subordinate Commanders on the Parade. These were:

Colour Bearer	S/A/A R. J. E. Darley
Colour Warrant Officer	S/A/A P. A. H. Taylor
Colour Escort	S/A/A J. P. Fisher
	S/A/A D. G. Roberts
Parade Adjutant	S/A/A R. P. Rickwood
Parade Warrant Officer	S/A/A J. E. Cooper

Escort Squadron Commander
F.S/A/A A. T. Braillard
No. 1 Flight Commander
S/A/A Maung Soe Tint
No. 2 Flight Commander
S/A/A R. Dillon
No. 2 Squadron Commander
F.S/A/A P. T. Epps
No. 1 Flight Commander
S/A/A D. C. Ferris
No. 2 Flight Commander
S/A/A D. S. Chapman
Standard Bearers
C/A/A W. T. Greenwood
C/A/A D. H. Preston
Apprentice i/c Supporting Entry
C/A/A E. W. Le'Count
Drum Major Military Band
L/A/A C. G. Miller
Drum Major Pipe Band
A/A B. D. Creek

THE COMMANDANT'S REPORT

The parade took place in unpleasantly heavy rain. The morning had held promise of a fine day, but even as the Entries fell in, preparatory to marching on, the weather broke. Because of the inclement weather, there was no inspection.

After the parade, the guests withdrew to the shelter of the Burnett Gymnasium to watch the prize-giving. This was the Commandant's first graduation since arriving at Halton. Welcoming the Reviewing Officer, Air Marshal Sir Harry Broadhurst, Air Officer Commanding Bomber Command, Air Commodore Nelson said, gave him particular pleasure for two reasons. First, because Air Marshal Broadhurst leads the senior Command of the Royal Air Force, which is also the most important Command to which Halton Apprentices go. It was the most important Command, he said, because of the tremendous job which Bomber Command is at present tackling to build up a great deterrent force whose aim was the prevention of further aggression against the forces of freedom. The second reason was that Air Marshal Broadhurst's Command was one with which he had often been associated in the past, and that it therefore seemed fitting that he should be reviewing this parade and presenting the prizes.

The 75th Entry, the Commandant said, was the largest to pass through Halton since the war. The intake strength had been 370, to which were added during the three years, 56 Apprentices recruited from earlier entries. Of this total of 426, 137 had been lost by discharge, transfer to a lower trade level or recourse, leaving a total of 289 who were actually graduating, 21 of these belonged to the Burma Air Force and five to the Ceylon Air Force. He pointed out, as of particular interest, the fact that, for the first time since 1929, certain Apprentices were being granted the status of Junior N.C.O.s on graduation. Seven of the 75th Entry were, in fact, graduating as substantive Corporals, among them the two who had been awarded cadetships.

Speaking of trade training, the Commandant said that the Entry had, in general, given a reasonably good account of itself, and that although their standard had not been so high as one would like, they had shown a definite improvement over the previous entry. The standard achieved was above the post-war average. In addition to the credit which this reflected on the Entry itself, tribute was due to the hard-working staff who, especially in the early phases of training, had had to overcome certain difficulties with training equipment and abnormally large classes.

In Educational subjects, the results of the Entry were also an improvement on their immediate predecessors, although the average mark was still below the average for all post-war entries. The Burmese and Ceylonese Apprentices had done well to average 43%, working in what was to them a foreign tongue. Forty-five Apprentices, including one Burmese and one Ceylonese, had been recommended for the award of the Ordinary National Certificate. This number was a little below the average for all the entries which had taken it: in 1955, six Airframe Fitters of the 75th Entry, including one Burmese and one Ceylonese, passed the Intermediate Examination for the City and Guilds Certificate in Aircraft Servicing and Maintenance. Results were not yet known for 1956, but 42 candidates from the Entry were sitting for this certificate, 30 Airframe Fitters and ten Engine Fitters taking the Intermediate Examination and two Engine Fitters taking the Final Examination.



Mr. and Mrs. F. Grimston with S/A/A Grimston, admiring their son's prizes.

—Sport and General Agency, Ltd.

The Commandant referred to a number of visits to manufacturers' works which the Entry had made. These, he thought, both helped to broaden the Apprentices' outlook and also helped to provide a small relief from the steady grind of three years' training. Visits had been made to Messrs. Handley Page, the Enfield Small Arms Factory, the Hunting Percival Aircraft Company Ltd., Air Trainers Ltd., the De Havilland Aircraft Company, and Messrs. Smiths Instruments. He expressed appreciation for the hospitality and courtesy extended by these firms to the Apprentices of Halton.

Speaking of discipline, Air Commodore Nelson said that, in general, this had been good. The usual ten per cent. had been either purged a little or included in the losses referred to earlier. Drill standards had been satisfactory and in defence training achievements had been good. In particular, the Entry had produced a record number of shots, namely 123 Marksmen and 110 First Class Shots. Physical training standards had also been high, and the Commandant thought that there was possibly a connection between this

fact and the fact that the health record of the Entry had been above average.

The Commandant went on to speak of the interest taken by the Entry in the Halton Society, and especially in the Military and Pipe Bands. The Entry had provided no less than nine members of the Military Band, including a Drum Major and a Trumpet Major, and ten members (although most of them were Sassenachs!) of the Pipe Band, including a Pipe Major.

Dealing with the sporting activities of the Entry, he said that the standard had been average, but that some individual efforts had been particularly pleasing. In the various types of sport, 75 Apprentices had represented the School or Station, two had represented Command and two had represented Bucks. County. The Entry had also contributed to the success of Halton in winning the MacEwen Trophy at Cosford in June. He chose this juncture to mention the possibility that Halton might provide three members of the British teams in the forthcoming Olympic Games, in Boxing, the Pentathlon and Water Polo.

Before proceeding to the Prize Giving, the Commandant outlined a new scheme whereby the Commandant of the School was empowered to award one prize Cadetship for either the R.A.F. College, Cranwell, or the R.A.F. Technical College, Henlow. The award was to be made only to an outstanding Apprentice who, subject to medical fitness and, in the case of the G.D. Branch, flying aptitude tests, would proceed direct to the college for which he was nominated, without having to pass through the normal cadet selection procedure. He announced the name of the winner of this award as Flight Sergeant Apprentice R. J. Barrett.

In conclusion, the Commandant said goodbye to the 75th Entry. We all of us at Halton wished them, he said, the best of good fortune wherever they might go.

THE REVIEWING OFFICER

The Reviewing Officer, Air Marshal Sir Harry Broadhurst, K.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., D.F.C., A.F.C., Air Officer Commanding Bomber Command, addressing the Commandant, Air Vice Marshal Beardsworth, the guests and members of the 75th Entry, referred to the inclemency of the weather and congratulated the 75th Entry on their bearing and turn-out in spite of the adverse circumstances.

He doubted whether even the most cynical could fail to get a kick out of a Passing Out Parade. It was, to the parents, the final launching of their son on his career, to the instructors, another job completed, and to the men in the parade, it meant that at last they would be able to shake off the pupil/instructor feeling and settle down to their job in life as responsible individuals.

He was, as the Commandant had said, naturally interested in the material Halton produced to maintain the aircraft in his Command. He said it had long been recognised that the training of Halton was second to none, and that his own experience bore that out. He referred to their enviable reputation; his own knowledge and experience of ex-Halton Apprentices went back to the days when he first joined the Service. They were the backbone of the engineering maintenance in the Service, and therefore carried a very heavy responsibility. He spoke of the large

numbers of ex-Apprentices who were now commissioned. Some of them held quite high rank; there was, in fact, an Air Chief Marshal serving today who started as an Apprentice at Halton. This sort of thing demonstrated that there was no bar to progress in the Royal Air Force; if you had got what it takes you could get to the top.

Some of those graduating would probably soon be in Bomber Command. They would find the work extremely interesting, he said. He referred to the advanced and complicated mechanisms they would have to deal with in such aircraft as the great 'V' Bombers, and of the immensely powerful nuclear weapons which they could carry. These bombers were 'most inspiring from every point of view', and were 'the ultimate in military power'. Apart, however, from training for their operational role, Squadrons in Bomber Command were often sent on tours overseas, such as the goodwill tours to South America, the West Indies, Nigeria, the Middle East and Far East. He himself hoped to go to Australia and New Zealand in September.

He spoke of the great flexibility of air power. This was not lost on the countries visited, who were well aware that should any crisis arise the Air Force could be there to fight in their defence in a very short space of time.

These tours also provided excellent opportunities of seeing the world. On his own tour he would have the chance to see such places as Aden, Singapore, Wellington and so on. They also served to develop a great spirit of comradeship and esprit de corps within the Squadrons,

There were, however, other enjoyable things to be done in the Service, unconnected with work. He spoke of the high standard set by the Royal Air Force in the realms of sport. The Service was holding its own with the other services. In 1955, for instance, we had won the Inter-Services Athletics, Cricket, Cycling, Fencing, Soccer, Hockey, Lawn Tennis, Rugger, Small-bore Shooting and Swimming. This was a pretty formidable list of achievements. He said he gathered that several of the staff at Halton were, or had been, international athletes, and exhorted the Graduating Entry to keep up their own games

when they got out into the Service. They were good for them and for the Service.

Air Marshal Broadhurst concluded by giving the Passing Out Entry a thought to take away with them. The Royal Air Force, like the Army and the Royal Navy, was called a Service, and for a very good reason. People did not join the R.A.F. with the object of becoming rich in the terms of pounds, shillings and pence. We joined the Service knowing that our first duty was to serve. We joined to serve the Royal Air Force, our Queen and our Country, and there was a great deal of satisfaction to be got out of that. The knowledge of a job well done in the service of your country was a very satisfying feeling.

As skilled technicians, the Graduating Entry would be in extremely responsible positions. With the great speeds and heights at which our aircraft now operated, the failure of one small part could lead to disaster. The discipline of the R.A.F. was basically fashioned from mutual trust and confidence between the men who fly in the aeroplanes and the men who maintain them. Personal integrity was all-important. Trust and responsibility developed all that is best in a man, and he knew, he said, that as Halton Apprentices they would not fail in that.

He wished the 75th Entry the best of luck, and looked forward to meeting some of them in Bomber Command.



Left to right—S/A/A Grimston, F.S/A/A Barrett, A/A Nicholson.
—Sport and General Agency, Ltd.

HISTORY OF SPECIAL PRIZES

Monsignor Beauchamp Memorial Prize

The late Monsignor Beauchamp was Principal Roman Catholic Chaplain for the Royal Air Force and for almost 20 years Roman Catholic Chaplain at Halton. On his death, a fund was raised to provide, among other presentations, a book prize to the best all-round Apprentice graduating with each entry.

Pioneer Trophy

Presented by the Royal Flying Corps and Royal Naval Air Service Ex-Boys Association to the Apprentice who obtains the highest marks in all Technical Training subjects at the final examination of each entry.

Quinton Memorial Trophy

On 13th August, 1951, Flight-Lieutenant J. A. Quinton sacrificed his life in saving an A.T.C. cadet when both were flying in an aircraft which was involved in a mid-air collision. For this supreme act of gallantry, Flight-Lieutenant Quinton was posthumously awarded the George Cross. As a mark of esteem, all A.T.C. cadets at that time subscribed one penny per head so that the

Quinton Memorial Trophy and replica could be presented to the best all-round ex-A.T.C. cadet graduating with each entry at Halton.

Crebbin-Robinson Cup

At the 1936 Model Engineering Exhibition held in London, certain samples of basic exercises carried out by Apprentices at Halton were on display. These exhibits were admired by a Dr. Robinson and a Mr. Crebbin who kindly offered a cup for the best Trade Standards Practical Fitting Test at the final examination of each entry.

Elliott Memorial Prize

Mr. R. D. Elliott was Sir Alan Cobham's ground engineer during his many flights to India and South Africa in the early 1920s. In 1926, Mr. Elliott was killed during the first England to Australia flight. In 1927, a Memorial Prize was awarded by the Royal Aeronautical Society to be presented to the Apprentice who gained the highest marks in English and General Studies at the final examination of each entry.

75th ENTRY SPORTS AWARDS

SCHOOL COLOURS

Badminton

A/A Tun Zaw	1955
L/A/A Hkan Maw	1955
S/A/A Diaz, T. B.	1955

Boxing

A/A Speake, R. D.	1954/55/56
L/A/A Taylor, W. M.	1954/55/56

Cricket

A/A Brett, L. J.	1954/55/56
C/A/A Phipps, R. A.	1955
L/A/A Wallace, D. P.	1955
A/A Townsend, P.	1955

Rugby

S/A/A Cook, J. R.	1954/55/56
S/A/A Dillon, R.	1954/55/56
C/A/A Dobbyn, R. W.	1955/56
C/A/A Smith, F.	1955/56
A/A Sedge, D. N. G.	1955/56
S/A/A Smith, E. W.	1954/55/56

Shooting

C/A/A Styes, A. F.	1954/55/56
A/A Bone, H. W.	1954/55/56
L/A/A Hardie, J. W.	1955/56

Soccer

A/A Moore, D. F.	1955/56
C/A/A Pleded, W. J.	1955/56
C/A/A Bowden, A. E.	1955/56
C/A/A Tebbutt, K. E.	1955/56
A/A Lewington, D. M.	1955/56
C/A/A Bidgood, D. L.	1955/56
C/A/A Preston, D. H.	1955/56

Swimming

A/A Burke, A. B.	1955/56
F.S/A/A Barrett, R. J.	1955/56
C/A/A King, M. J.	1955/56
C/A/A Hart, I. R.	1955/56
L/A/A Cook, P. A. J.	1955/56

Athletics

L/A/A Harris, A. K.	1956
A/A Wareham, D. E.	1956

75th ENTRY CADETSHIPS**General Duties:**

F.S/A/A R. J. Barrett

Technical:

S/A/A D. F. Grimston

PRIZE-WINNERS**Monsignor Beauchamp Prize (for the best all-round Apprentice)**

S/A/A D. F. Grimston

Pioneer Trophy (for the highest marks in all Technical Training Subjects)

A/A V. V. Nicholson

Crebbin-Robinson Cup (for the best Trade Standards Practical Fitting Test)

A/A N. M. Peters (Burma Air Force)

Elliott Memorial Prize (presented by the Royal Aeronautical Society for the highest marks in English and General Studies)

C/A/A D. Holcroft

Quinton Memorial Trophy (for the best Ex-A.T.C. Cadet)

S/A/A D. F. Grimston

AIR MINISTRY PRIZES**Highest in Order of Merit, All Subjects**

S/A/A D. F. Grimston

Highest in Order of Merit, Educational Subjects

First Prize: C/A/A D. Holcroft

Second Prize: C/A/A R. Leighton

Third Prize: A/A V. V. Nicholson

Highest in Order of Merit, General Service Efficiency

First Prize: F.S/A/A R. J. Barrett

Second Prize: F.S/A/A A. T. Braillard

Third Prize: S/A/A E. W. Smith

Highest Average for Practical Fitting over Three Year Course

A/A N. M. Peters (Burma Air Force)

Best Tradesmen in Trade Standards Trade Test

Airframe Fitter 1st	. . .	C/A/A D. H. Preston
Airframe Fitter 2nd	. . .	S/A/A D. W. Nobbs
Armament Fitter 1st	. . .	C/A/A D. Crosby
Armament Fitter 2nd	. . .	A/A B. E. Smith
Electrical Fitter (Air)	. . .	S/A/A D. F. Grimston
Electrical Fitter (Ground)	. . .	A/A B. Gosling
Engine Fitter 1st	. . .	L/A/A M. S. Williams
Engine Fitter 2nd	. . .	C/A/A J. R. Press
Instrument Fitter (Nav.)	. . .	A/A T. I. C. Riches
Instrument Fitter (Gen.)	. . .	A/A V. V. Nicholson

BURMA DEFENCE SERVICE PRIZE**(For the best Burma Apprentice in the Order of Merit)**

S/A/A Maung Soe Tint

75th ENTRY POSTING LIST (in order of merit)

Grimston, J. F.	R.A.F. Tech. Coll., Henlow	Peters, N. M.	2nd T.A.F.
Nicholson, V. V.	Leeming	Stevens, P. C.	Wittering
Leighton, R.	A. & A.E.E. Boscombe Down	Wright, C. T.	St. Athan
Barrett, R. J.	Kirton-in-Lindsay	Connolly, P.	St. Athan
Holcroft, D.	Swinderby	Cooper, I. J.	F.E.A.F.
Smith, B. E.	F.E.A.F.	Green, M. F.	F.E.A.F.
Press, J. R.	Lynham	Clark, F. E. N.	St. Athan
Hill, D.	Aldergrove	Crockford, J. W. A.	F.E.A.F.
Nobbs, D. W.	F.E.A.F.	Edwards, F. G.	St. Athan
Skelton, D. L.	2nd T.A.F.	Mcuntford, B.	F.E.A.F.
Hogarth, W. E.	St. Athan	Castle, D. G.	2nd T.A.F.
Wilkins, D. J.	F.E.A.F.	Khin, M.	St. Athan
Stephenson, R. D.	F.E.A.F.	Hunt, R. K.	St. Eval
Brailard, A. T.	F.E.A.F.	Taylor, W. M.	F.E.A.F.
Howarth, R.	Binbrook	Wallace, D. P.	Upwood
Collins, T. E. J.	2nd T.A.F.	Thompson, R. C.	F.E.A.F.
Rice, D. W.	A. & A.E.E. Boscombe Down	Ingham, B. H.	Waddington
Rickwood, R. P.	Dishforth	Martin, B. R. L.	Wyton
Taylor, P. A. H.	Tangmere	Shaw, A.	Upwood
Crosby, D.	Hullavington	Norris, D. J.	F.E.A.F.
Bray, M. E.	Wyton	Flint, P. R.	F.E.A.F.
Hooper, J. E.	Odiham	Lax, R. V.	Lynton-on-Ouse
Rowlandson, D. A.	St. Athan	Hall, A. E.	F.E.A.F.
Preston, D. H.	Leeming	Richardson, B. C.	St. Athan
Williams, M. S.	In hospital	Honey, D. E.	2nd T.A.F.
Drysdall, B. T.	Topcliffe	Diaz, T. B.	Tangmere
Rees, R. C.	Caldrose	Walker, D. W.	F.E.A.F.
Maung Soe Tint	St. Athan	Davis, R. J.	Caldrose
Dillon, R.	St. Athan	Bowden, P. T. F.	Marham
Styles, A. F.	St. Athan	Riches, T. I. C.	2nd T.A.F.
Jones, T. L.	Duxford	Whelan, A. G.	F.E.A.F.
Wilby, P. J.	F.E.A.F.	Whitehead, J. A.	St. Athan
Hayhoe, E. J.	Stradishall	Milton, P.	2nd T.A.F.
Lynch, D.	Wyton	Bulbick, P. J.	St. Athan
Quinnell, D. P.	F.E.A.F.	Janes, M. J.	Hemswell
Thompson, R. I.	Dishforth	Pallister, M.	F.E.A.F.
Smith, E. W.	A. & A.E.E. Boscombe Down	Perera, A. C.	St. Athan
Thomas, M. J.	St. Athan	Burke, A. B.	St. Eval
Roberts, D. C.	Ballykelly	Bidgood, D. L.	F.E.A.F.
Relf, A. R.	F.E.A.F.	Wilton, M. C. H.	West Raynham
Lill, A. M.	2nd T.A.F.	Hewell, D. G.	Caldrose
Epps, P. T.	F.E.A.F.	Garnham, R. L. A.	Waddington
Narraway, G. A.	F.E.A.F.	Wash, R. J.	M.E.A.F.
Price, A. B.	F.E.A.F.	Walker, J. M.	Lindholme
Dunphy, T. J.	F.E.A.F.	Hkan Maw	Upwood
Johnson, C.	2nd T.A.F.	Carlton, D. W.	St. Eval
Darley, R. J. E.	St. Athan	Bowen, D. L.	Shawbury
Durston, R. H. G.	A. & A.E.E. Boscombe Down	Jamieson, P. J.	Caldrose
King, R. D.	Marham	Thomas, M. B.	2nd T.A.F.
Stidever, M. E. A.	Wittering	Redshaw, J. B. A.	St. Mawgan
Chapman, D. St. J.	Ballykelly	Bowden, A. E.	Swinderby
Howland, C. W.	2nd T.A.F.	Smith, F.	St. Athan
Ellis, L. W.	2nd T.A.F.	Tebbutt, K. E.	St. Athan
Heckett, R. C.	M.E.A.F.	Roberts, G. W.	St. Athan
Balasubramaniam, N.	Stradishall	Keay, W. C.	St. Athan
King, M. J.	Waterbeach	Townsend, P.	Ballykelly
Rogers, P. M.	St. Athan	Their Aung	F.E.A.F.
Cooper, J. E.	St. Eval	Carling, M. T.	2nd T.A.F.
Veck, R. F.	2nd T.A.F.	Htoo Wyn Maynard	F.E.A.F.
Dinning, G.	F.E.A.F.	Williams, A. R.	St. Athan
Borthwick, D. E.	Wattisham	Skey, J.	Wyton
Spencer, M. J.	St. Athan	Arundell, P.	Shawbury
Farrow, D. W.	2nd T.A.F.	Saunders, K.	Waddington
Onan-Read, K. J.	St. Athan	Adlam, C. F.	Ballykelly
Kyffin, D. J.	Waddington	Girdler, E. E. G.	F.E.A.F.
Spencer, E. A.	St. Athan	Till, P. P.	Pembroke Dock
Horn, R. W.	St. Athan	Ruskin, P. N.	Upwood
Thomas, W. L.	St. Athan	Beare, W. H.	Lindholme
Fryer, P. F.	F.E.A.F.	Else, D. A.	St. Athan
Keen, G.	F.E.A.F.	Fisher, J. P.	Hendon
Longhurst, L. W.	St. Mawgan	Stent, M. T.	Wyton
Winterton, S.	Caldrose	Stocker, D.	Pembry
Phipps, R. A.	Upwood	Hays, J. E.	Marham
Smith, J. P.	A. & A.E.E. Boscombe Down	Norton, K. F. W.	St. Athan
Cripps, B. D.	St. Athan	Stratton, A. J.	F.E.A.F.
Hart, I. R.	Wittering	Gibson, G. F.	2nd T.A.F.
Godley, E. C.	F.E.A.F.	Goulden, A. A.	F.E.A.F.
Maguire, J. J.	Leuchars	Plested, W. J.	2nd T.A.F.
Blunt, D. S.	A. & A.E.E. Boscombe Down	Smith, D. G.	Dishforth
Rosvear, R. A.	Upwood	Wareham, D. E.	
Goddin, K. C.	2nd T.A.F.	Tin Myint	
Hollands, K. W.	Benson	Drennan, C. W.	
Gilmore, T. K.	St. Athan	Brooks, T. J.	
Hatchett, J. B.	F.E.A.F.	Busby, B. W.	
Taylor, R. L.	F.E.A.F.	Holthby, E.	
Cook, P. A. J.	F.E.A.F.	Ratcliffe, P. J.	
		Whitehead, B. S.	

Greenwood, W. T.	Wittering	Ferris, D. C.	T.C.S.P. Northolt
Griffiths, W. I. E.	Kinloss	Ramsey, J. A.	F.E.A.F.
Chatfield, J. K.	West Raynham	Lewington, D. M.	2nd. T.A.F.
Ohn Nyunt, C.	*	Miller, C. G.	Waddington
Smith, J. M.	F.E.A.F.	Brown, R. J.	A & A.E.E. Boscombe Down
Stiens, H.	St. Athan	Malam, C.	Northweald
Pocock, G. M.	Lindholme	Wright, T.	F.E.A.F.
Edge, J. L. W.	Lynham	Bone, H. W.	F.E.A.F.
George, J. A. F.	A. & A.E.E. Boscombe Down	Richards, M. L.	Pembroke Dock
Rimmer, W. M.	2nd. T.A.F.	Clayton, M.	F.E.A.F.
Baker, J. R.	Aldergrove	Medhurst, A. R.	Manby
Parker, D. G.	F.E.A.F.	Knight, A. J. C.	Caldrose
Hemer, P. R.	2nd. T.A.F.	Maung Tint Swe	*
Tin Nyunt	St. Athan	Robinson, W. H.	West Raynham
Carr, G. E. R.	2nd. T.A.F.	Broughton, T. W.	St. Athan
Jordan, G. F.	Lindholme	Gibson, G. T.	2nd. T.A.F.
Cross, A. J.	Church Fenton	Dennett, H. B.	A. & A.E.E. Boscombe Down
Newman, M. W.	Caldrose	Hardie, J. W.	F.E.A.F.
Walsh, R. J.	A. & A.E.E. Boscombe Down	Charlwood, M. H.	F.E.A.F.
Warne, B. R.	St. Athan	Tin Pe	*
Guildford, J. B.	St. Athan	Ba Yi	F.E.A.F.
Kyi Win	St. Athan	Jones, N. L. S.	2nd. T.A.F.
Assiter, J. W. A.	F.E.A.F.	Welsh, D. J.	*
Longstaff, B.	Upwood	Tun Zaw	St. Mawgan
Shirfield, R.	Marham	Wright, T.	2nd. T.A.F.
Hamand, D. F.	St. Athan	Keefe, R. K.	Hemswell
Welby, T. N.	Ballykelly	Harris, J.	Upwood
Sudge, D. N. G.	Shawbury	Cutress, A. H.	F.E.A.F.
Page, A. P.	Waddington	Molloy, J. M.	Caldrose
Stammers, B. R.	F.E.A.F.	Hapugoda, E. L. W.	2nd. T.A.F.
Kirkpatrick, I. D.	A & A.E.E. Boscombe Down	Thomas, G. E.	Pembroke Dock
Langworthy, H. V.	F.E.A.F.	Harris, J.	Wyton
Dempsey, J.	Wyton	Knight, D. W.	2nd. T.A.F.
Higgins, J. K.	Tangmere	Clift, G. R.	*
Smith, J. R.	Hemswell	Warner, R. C.	*
Neve, B.	Wittering	Ycung, C. D. E.	*
Loft, R. W.	Aldergrove	Tun Lwin	*
Head, C. J.	Shawbury	M; Aye Thwin	*
Hammond, C.	F.E.A.F.	B; Than, N.	*
Plummer, A. C.	Marham	Hindson, M. R.	St. Athan
Speake, R. D.	Aldergrove	Kyaw Tint	*
Chapman, A. A.	F.E.A.F.	Tin Aye	*
Richardson, B. A.	F.E.A.F.	Hla Aye	*
Towns, R. J.	F.E.A.F.		

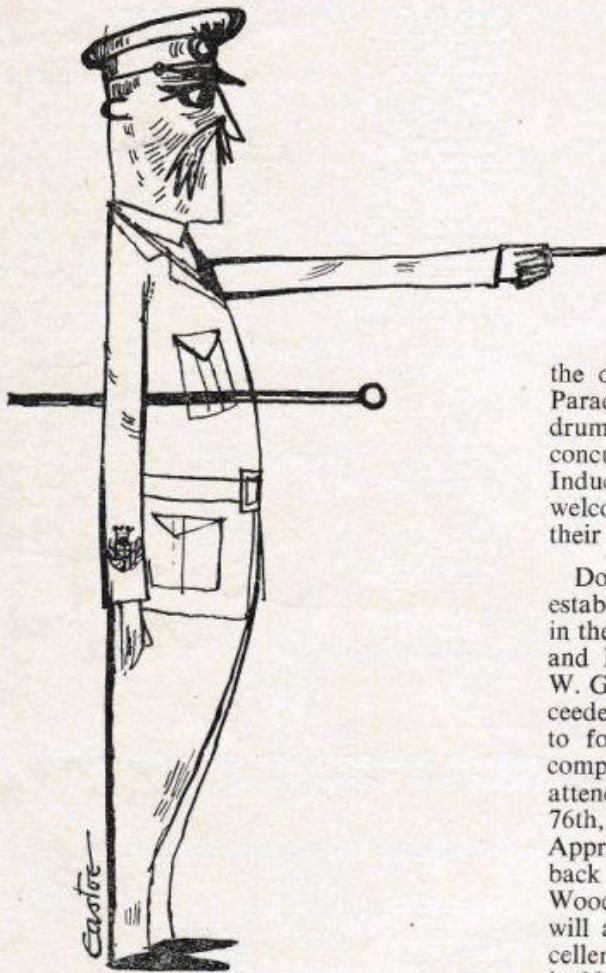
* Denotes R.Cey.A.F. and B.A.F. Apprentices who qualified as 'Satisfactory to carry out the duties of their Trade' although they did not reach R.A.F. Junior Technician standards.

The following Apprentices, ex-74th Entry, also qualified as Junior Technicians:

Ford, W. E.	F.E.A.F.	Davey, R. C.	St. Eval
Pearn, K. L.	Honington	Godenough, B. M.	St. Athan
Watkin, R. V.	Wittering	Miles, C. J. S.	2nd. T.A.F.
Grundy, D. M.	F.E.A.F.	Bloom, R.	West Malling
Jones, D. C.	Wyton	Cole, B. J. H.	F.E.A.F.
Arnold, D.	F.E.A.F.	Coulston, T.	2nd. T.A.F.
Moore, D. F.	Wyton	Fletcher, W. H.	2nd. T.A.F.
Ycung, B.	Marham	Gale, A. H.	Chivenor
Gosling, B.	Wyton	Neil, R. S.	Upwood
Whyte, J.	F.E.A.F.	Pressman, J. C.	F.E.A.F.
Baiss, A. J.	Pembroke Dock	Wright, G. A. A.	F.E.A.F.
Brooks, K. A. F.	Caldrose		
Cook, J. R.	Gaydon		
Digby, D.	Upwood		

The following Apprentices also qualified as Junior Technicians:

Daniels, F. J.	Caldrose	Martin, R. E.	Marham
Harris, A. K.	Aldergrove	Pulford, A. R.	Upwood



NO. 1(A) WING

THE period covered by this issue of the Halton Magazine has been an extremely busy one for No. 1(A) Wing and the tasks which were required of us as the Co-ordinating Wing were many and varied and kept most of us very much on our toes throughout the whole of the Summer term.

Two noteworthy events, which required the attention of the Co-ordinating Wing, loomed up immediately on our return from the Easter Holidays. The first, which involved the whole Station and in particular the Commanding Officer, Wg.Cdr. W. D. G. Watkins, D.S.O., D.F.C., D.F.M., as Parade Commander, was

CURRENT EVENTS

the organization of the Aylesbury 'Freedom' Parade with bayonets fixed, colours flying, drums beating and bands playing. Running concurrently with this historical event was the Induction of the 83rd Entry, all of whom we welcome and wish God Speed throughout their Apprenticeship training.

Dove-tailed into these two events was the establishing of the Halton Summer Camp, and in the middle of April, Sqn.Ldr. W. C. Parsons and Flt.Lt. J. V. Doyle, together with W.O. W. G. Cadman from the Technical Wing, proceeded to R.A.F., Woodvale, near Southport, to form the Camp's Executive Staff. Four complete entries, instead of the usual three, attended Summer Camp this year, namely the 76th, 78th, 79th and 80th Entries, and all the Apprentices concerned will no doubt look back upon their fortnight's stay at R.A.F., Woodvale, as a very pleasant interlude, and will also remember with appreciation the excellent meals provided by F.S. Hutchins (now in No. 3 (A) Wing) and his team of cooks.

A concerted effort has been made during the last few months to run most of the Wing's sporting events on an inter-flight basis instead of inter-squadron, with a view to affording a better chance of participation and of fostering the unit spirit. As a result, a very pleasant evening was enjoyed by all who attended our Inter-Flight Swimming Gala Night; the effort put into our Inter-Flight Athletics meeting seemed to have paid dividends for it enabled us to go on to sweep the board in both Senior and Junior events of the Inter-Wing B.K. Contests and finally, to finish the term, by taking the B.K. Trophy itself. Despite our many Wing Co-ordinating commitments towards the end of the term, we were also able to extend the inter-flight idea to introduce an Inter-

Flight Drill competition held on the 30th August. Those who witnessed the enthusiasm and work put in during spare time practices, and the excellence of the final turn-out and drills, were convinced that the desired team and unit spirit was already much in evidence.

The close association of the 75th Entry with No. 1(A) Wing gave us all a feeling of pride when the Station Commander announced that they were the best post-war entry to graduate so far. Their general turn-out and bearing and drill movements in the most wicked weather on Graduation Day, 1st August, 1956, must have been most gratifying to Sqn.Ldr. A. K. Marshall, who had the task of licking them into shape. Our congratulations are extended to F.S/A/A Barratt and S/A/A Grimston on their award of Cadetships and also to the seven Apprentices who qualified for promotion direct to Corporal Technician, especially to S/A/A Taylor and C/A/A Halcroft of No. 1(A) Wing, both of whom we are convinced will fully uphold this distinction.

It is felt that the lack of damage and the absence of foolish misconduct generally, in connection with this recent graduation and the very high degree of gentlemanly conduct which prevailed at the 75th Entry's Dance, held in Kingsbury, London, on the night of the 1st August, should not go without praise either. Surely this is a new course which has been set and the right one for succeeding entries to follow. It is certainly an example we are all very pleased to see and one which we feel that the 76th Entry, with very little effort, could even better.

Associated with the 75th Graduation was, of course, our own Wing Parents' Day, during which the record number of 1,375 meals were served by the N.A.A.F.I. to Parents accompanied by their sons training at Halton. This entailed a vast amount of administrative work and the Wing has Sqn.Ldr. Loxton to thank for its success and smooth running.

To round off quite a successful and busy term, the Wing managed to win the band competition and all who participated, including Fg.Off. Aldridge, whose keenness never flags despite past disappointments, are to be congratulated on their success, which many of us were beginning to feel was long overdue.



Summer Camp

Staff movements seem to be inevitable and rarely does an issue of this Magazine come out without some comings and goings to record. This time we say goodbye to Fg.Off. Millgate (No. 3 Squadron) who, starry-eyed, has gone to join No. 64 Night Fighter Squadron at R.A.F. Debden and in his place we welcome Fg.Off. Pluck from R.A.F., Stoke Holy Cross, near Norwich. F.S. 'Paddy' Orr (also of No. 3 Squadron) has left us for R.A.F. BallyKelly and returns to his native soil, whilst in his place we welcome Sgt. Henson from the Boy Entrants' Wing, R.A.F., St. Athan. A young officer whom we shall all greatly miss is Fg.Off. Maconachie, of No. 2 Flight, No. 2 Squadron, who, during the comparatively short time of his National Service here at Halton, has been a tower of strength and an exemplary flight commander. He is off to Canada to take up a research post in the Aluminium Company of Canada Ltd., and our best wishes go with him. Flt.Lt. Hunn is transferred from 1 to 2 Squadron to take his place. Two other officers who have recently joined the Wing are Fg.Off. Pocock and Plt.Off. Maloney from O.C.T.U., R.A.F., Jurby, and we bid them both a happy tour of service with us. Plt.Off. Maloney joins No. 2 Squadron as No. 1 Flight Commander and Fg.Off. Pocock replaces Fg.Off. Matthews as Wing

P.F.O. The latter has left the Service, with our good wishes, to take up a teaching appointment in civilian life. We also welcome Sgt. Malings from the Administrative Course, R.A.F., Hereford, who has joined No. 1 Squadron. There is a special welcome back

to the Wing to F.S. Jones of the Catering Staff, who has lately been on the Instructional Staff of the School of Cookery. Both these Senior N.C.O.s have already made their mark and we hope their stay with us will be a long and pleasant one.

NO. 2(A) WING



Summer Camp

—Halton Photographic Society.

Although we can hardly say the past term has been one of continuous sunshine as was the summer term of 1955, the weather was not too unkind to the entries attending summer camp. In addition to the 78th, 79th and 80th Entries, the 76th Entry, who were cheated out of their camp last year by the rail strike, were squeezed in. The popular opinion seemed to be that it was well worth waiting for and everyone returned looking bronzed and fit.

There have been few changes in the Squadron Staffs since our last Wing Notes, though No. 2 Squadron has suffered a double blow in that Sqn.Ldr. G. J. Macrae left us rather hurriedly in June, no doubt taking with him his favourite record, 'Sand in my Shoes', on his long journey down under to Australia and

Task Force Buffalo. We wish him good hunting. In the meantime, No. 2 Squadron has been in the loving care of Sqn.Ldr. R. Candy. Flt.Lt. P. de B. Daly left us during the summer leave to return to flying duties via an instructor's course at C.F.S. We wish him every success in his course. His relief, Fg.Off. R. G. Penniell, arrived in July from Buchan, Aberdeenshire. Sqn.Ldr. R. G. M. Walker, D.F.C., has just arrived on the Wing from Uxbridge to take over No. 2 Squadron. We welcome them both to the Wing and the Squadron. On return from summer leave we were very surprised to learn that Flt.Lt. Hodges, our Wing Equipment Officer, had been recalled from leave and posted to the Middle East almost before he had time to pack his bags.

The 83rd Entry have completed their first term now and seem to have settled down well to their new surroundings. Now that the painters have finished in the Wing there should be no upheaval to find extra room for the Induction and accommodation of the 84th Entry when they arrive later this month.

In the summer term, Inter-Wing Competitions, the Wing won the senior B.K. shooting competition and also went on to win No. 24 Group shooting competition, in which all wings in the Group were participating. We did quite well in the band competitions, winning three of the four awards, namely, Wing Trumpeters, Trumpet Major A/A McKeever of No. 1 Squadron, Commandant's Trumpeter, A/A Hardy of No. 2 Squadron, and the best Drum Major, A/A Squires of No. 2 Squadron. Although results of B.K. Athletics left much to be desired, two of our Apprentices put up individual performances of merit. Our congratulations go to L/A/A Hallam for his fine efforts this season, in the Inter-Services competition he improved his efforts on last year by making a clean sweep of firsts in the Group and Command Championships, second place in the Royal Air Force Championships and second also in the Inter-Services Championships. Outside the Service he represented Nottingham in the Inter-Counties Athletics, finishing equal fourth, which performance gained him recognition by the Amateur Athletic Association whom he represented the following week versus Cambridge University. His final effort was second place in the A.A.A. Junior Championships with a vault of 11ft. 9ins. This is undoubtedly the first time that an Apprentice has been awarded a representative vest by the A.A.A. A/A Sneddon is also deserving of our congratulations; he came first in the two-mile at Halton in the very good



L/A/A Hallam winning the B.K. Pole Vault
—Halton Photographic Society.

time of 10m. 22s., and put up a very fine performance at Locking, winning the three-mile event. He was allowed to compete as an individual in the Group 3,000 metres steeplechase, in which he showed great potential.

We congratulate those members of the 75th Entry who succeeded in graduating, particularly C/A/A Bray, who graduated as a Corporal. The 75th Entry is the first entry since 1939 to have selected Apprentices graduate as Corporals and no doubt this will prove to be a great incentive.

NO. 3(A) WING

Quite a number of staff changes have taken place during the past term. We cannot do better than begin by welcoming our new Adjutant, Plt.Off. R. A. Thomas. We trust that his stay will be a happy one.

Flt.Lt. I. Hawkins has left us to resume his flying career and takes with him our best wishes. Almost his last act before leaving

Halton was to request the writer to insert the following into these notes, 'The Reverend Canon Hunting, warden of the Orphanage for Boys, Shefford, Beds, wishes to thank the 74th Entry for the kind donation to their funds, received after their graduation at Easter, 1956'.

Our P.F.O., Fg.Off. A. Ford, has left us on

his transfer to the General Duties Branch. One wonders how he finds flying aircraft not fitted with arrester hooks!!! Jolly good luck to him.

In his place we welcome Plt.Off. A. C. Pye.

Flt.Lt. A. D. Cunniam is now the Station Adjutant but we are sure that he still has a 'soft spot' for No. 3 Wing. His successor in No. 2 Squadron is Flt.Lt. J. Yule, to whom we say 'welcome'.

Another newcomer is Plt.Off. J. Robinson, who has become a Flight Commander in 3 Squadron.

Sqn.Ldr. R. F. Davis, D.F.M., takes with him our best wishes on his departure to take up a new career as an equipment officer.

During the term we lost W.O. Jinks on his posting to Padgate. Our new Wing W.O. is W.O. Lee and we trust that his tour with the Wing will be a happy one.

The Sergeants' Mess and the Wing generally suffered by the posting of Sgt. Farrant, we wish him lots of luck.

The new N.C.O. i/c Maitland Mess is F.S. Hutchins; his efforts in the Mess are much appreciated by all.

A welcome is extended to the 83rd Entry, who joined us at the beginning of May. With their arrival came the innovation of Initial Training Flight, the intentions being to keep each new entry together for one complete term rather than for the first three weeks only.

The 83rd Entry have completed one term and have now been posted to the squadrons. It is believed that the scheme is proving to be successful but until a number of entries have passed through the Flight, its real value cannot be assessed.

As a means of training N.C.O. Apprentices it is undoubtedly doing a good job. Initial Training Flight is now preparing for the reception of the 84th Entry.

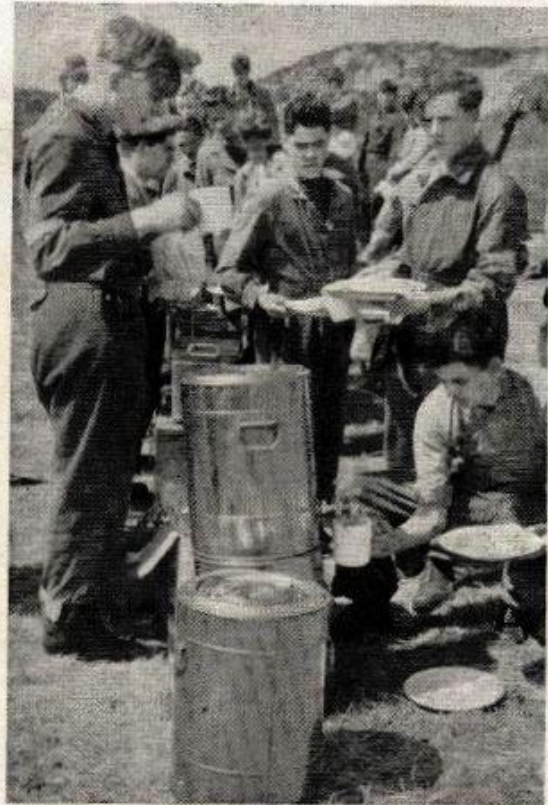
Our congratulations go to those members of the 75th Entry who graduated on 1st August. Special mention must be made of Sgt. Apprentice Grimston, D. F., who passed out first in Order of Merit as a substantive corporal, was awarded a technical cadetship and carried off

four prizes. F.S. Apprentice Braillard, A. T., and Sgt. Apprentice Rickwood, R. P., also left Halton as substantive corporals, Braillard winning the second prize for General Service Efficiency.

Burmese Aircraft Apprentice Peters, N. M., won the Crebbin-Robinson Cup for the best T.S.T. Practical Fitting test job, together with the prize for the highest average for practical fitting on the three-year course—surely a fine achievement.

Cpl. Apprentice Crosby won the prize as the best Armament Fitter of his entry.

These Apprentices have brought credit to their Wing and their achievements should prove to be an incentive to the entries following on, particularly now that for the first time since 1929 the opportunity exists for passing out a limited number in the rank of substantive corporal. Go to it!



Summer Camp

—Halton Photographic Society.

The Wing sports notes are dealt with elsewhere in this issue but mention must be made of our athletic meeting which took place on Saturday, 21st April, No. 3 Squadron running out as worthy winners.

At the conclusion of the events, Mrs. Brinn kindly presented the prizes.

An afternoon which will long remain in the writer's memory was that of Wednesday, 25th July, 1956, when No. 3 Wing Senior B.K. cricket team played No. 1 Wing Senior B.K. cricket team.

No. 3 Wing won, but that does not matter; what does matter is that the day was beautiful (one of the rare ones this summer) and Halton was at its best. The writer overheard another spectator remark, 'How beautiful Halton looks just now; what a peaceful scene'. Most of the players and spectators were of the 75th Entry. What a nice memory of Halton to take with them.

No. 3 Wing is singularly honoured in that we have in our care Lewis the goat. It is sad to relate that this trust was betrayed on the eve of the graduation of the 75th Entry when our mascot came in for some not very sporting treatment. Such a thing is not funny and is the essence of bad taste and puts the Wing and indeed the School in disrepute.

The writer views with interest our re-conditioned square. Twenty-nine years ago he was receiving his initial training on that very hallowed spot and much has happened on it since then.

What events will take place on the square before it is re-conditioned again? Whatever happens it is to be hoped that the Wing spirit will live on, that spirit which had, which has, and will have its birth on the square.

We were just about to go to press when the news reached us that our Commanding Officer, Wg.Cdr. W. G. Brinn, D.F.C., D.F.M., is posted and will be leaving us in the middle of October to take over a staff job at Headquarters, Maintenance Command.

This is indeed a sad moment because, as an ex-Apprentice himself, Wg.Cdr. Brinn had the welfare of all Aircraft Apprentices at heart. Nothing was too good for them and nothing was too much trouble, hence the respect in which he was held.

He may be sure that we wish him and his family all success in the future and we hope that he may find time occasionally to visit us, coming back to the very place, the very Wing where he began his Royal Air Force career. God speed.

TECHNICAL TRAINING WING

AIRFIELD TRAINING SQUADRON

The Airfield Training Squadron continues to function well in its all-important role as the final stage between A/A and Jnr.Tech.

Two vital improvements have been made during the summer months which should ensure the survival this winter of most of the A/As of the 77th Entry, and the instructional staff. Hangar 3 has a 'new look' in heating installations, which, providing the boiler house produces maximum effort, should replace the candles used hitherto. A complete overhaul of the toilet accommodation was made necessary after the embarrassment occasioned by the bursting of 42 pipes during last winter.

Practical servicing is being carried out on Swift, Meteor and Mosquito aircraft. The 77th

Entry are concerned with the change-over from Meteor 3 to Meteor 8 on minor inspections.

The Squadron is well represented in all fields of sport, Command, Station and Wing standard; the Tech. Wing 'B' cricket team reached the quarter-finals of the No. 24 Group Inter-Section competition and is comprised mainly of airfield staff. We are looking forward to another enjoyable season of soccer this year and hope to repeat last season's practice of playing the Apprentice Senior Entry teams.

Congratulations are extended to Cpl.Tech. Garrett on his recent marriage, and to Chf.Tech. Williams and Snr.Tech. Roberson on passing their Tech. Boards for promotion to these ranks,

We extend a welcome to the following new arrivals: Chf.Tech. Williams (E), Cpl.Tech. Aspinall, Cpl.Tech. Law, Cpl. McKenzie, Cpl. Buckle, Cpl. Hancock, Sgt. Glover, Sgt. Cast-

ings, Jnr.Tech. Ogden and L.A.C. McMahon.

We wish every success to the 76th Entry and to all a very happy Christmas and good fortune in the New Year.

ARMAMENT ENGINEERING SQUADRON



ARMAMENT ENGINEERING SQUADRON STAFF (Left to Right)

Mr. Butler, Mr. Elwell, Cpl. MacBeth, Cpl. Kelly, Snr.Tech. Cleal, Mr. Sharman, Mr. Stone, Mr. Oates, Mr. Sedgley, Cpl. Tilsley, Chf.Tech. Lyons, Mr. Allen, Cpl. Wilson, Cpl. Prickett, Cpl.Tech. Wright, Cpl. Davis, Mr. Jenkins, Sgt. Snape, Snr.Tech. Crowson, Chf.Tech. Creffield, Cpl.Tech. Brown, Cpl. Tiley, Mr. Stevenson, Cpl.Tech. Gibson, Chf.Tech. Philpott, Cpl. Swarbrick, Mr. Miles, Cpl. Henshaw, Mr. Heath, Mr. Miller, Snr.Tech. Anderson.

Mr. Bishop, Mr. MacLean, Chf.Tech. Lee, F.S. Cawley, Mr. Lamberton, Fg.Off. Forrester, Sqn.Ldr. McGrath, Sqn.Ldr. Markey, W.O. Skevington, F.S. Little, Mr. Harrison, Chf.Tech. Wilson, Chf.Tech. Bentley, Mr. Dovey.

The Squadron has a number of staff changes since the last issue. Sqn.Ldr. H. P. McGrath has left us to join Home Command Headquarters and we wish him every success in his new appointment. It is certain that Home Command boxing enthusiasts will welcome 'Mac' and the Home Command boxing team will no doubt become a serious threat to the champions.

Sqn.Ldr. Markey (38th) has come from Air Ministry to assume command of the Squadron and we welcome him back to the fold. The following instructors have also left us for new pastures:

Sgt. Morton (Netheravon), C/T Taverner (Cyprus), C/T Creffield (Kirkham), S/T Crowson (Germany), Cpl. Smith (Hereford), Cpl. Dodman (Catterick), Cpl. Ellison (Watchett), Cpl. Brown (A.I.S. Course), Cpl. Wright (A.I.S. Course), Cpl. Bunting ('Demob'), Cpl. Henshaw ('Demob').

We also welcome 'six wise men' who have 'come to join us' from Kirkham and St. Athan, namely C.I.s Jack, Stone, Heath, Sharman, Stevenson and Sedgley. We only regret they didn't bring the Canberra with them when they left No. 10 S. of T.T.

The 75th Entry has now left us. F.S/A/A Braillard had the distinction of winning a prize for General Service Efficiency and C/A/A Crosby was the best Armament Fitter in the entry. We congratulate them and the entry as a whole and wish them good luck wherever they may be. Now let's see what the 76th can do.

We publish the latest picture of the Armament Engineering Squadron Staff.

No doubt some of the old faces will bring back memories of many happy hours catching those 'pearls of wisdom'—what was that you said?—well really!

The workshop roof has now been repaired and no rain now drips down the back of our necks, instead the water rushes into Bays 10 and 11 through the approved drain pipes. We are hoping to take advantage of the situation by producing Amphibious Armament Fitters, and are considering a suggestion that webbed

feet should be made a condition of acceptance for training. We are glad to hear that the A.M.W.D. are considering the problem and no doubt a solution will be found. But, by that time, we shall probably have come to love the Venetian atmosphere which rain produces in some classrooms.

AIRCRAFT ENGINEERING SQUADRON

Airframe Fitter Flight

During the last few weeks we have said farewell to two very long-established civilian instructors in Messrs. Skinner and Cubitt who have reached the retiring age. Both of them commenced their careers at Halton with the very early entries, and must have seen thousands of Apprentices through their training and watched some of their old pupils rise to high rank in the Service. We wish them a long and happy retirement, coupled with our thanks for their able service and long association with us.

We welcome into the fold F.Sgt. Eager, Sgt. Tidmus and Cpl. McLean, and trust that they will enjoy the worthwhile job of instructing. We congratulate Sgt. Gibson on recent promotion and Cpl. Grantham on his marriage.

The past term has seen the introduction of the 'Future Developments' phase. The subject appears to be making a great appeal and is being learned with interest. During the phase, practical work is being given on the 'Basix' construction of ground equipment.

The 'Swift' phase is now in full swing, after some sound pioneer work by the 77th Entry. A number of snags were cleared up recently by a visit made to Messrs. Vickers at South Marston, by three of the staff.

We are pleased to record that our need for lecture rooms has improved, for the Link Trainer hut has been restored to us and now houses the 'Powered Control' section. With the removal of the air compressor to an outside building, we are hoping that the space gained may be converted into more classrooms.

At the end of term, the Station Commandant presented the 'Instructors' Progress Shield to A/A Dorr of the 77th Entry, who

had gained the award from A/A Hill by a very fine margin.

Engine Fitter Flight

The last term passed quietly. The 75th Entry has gone and the Engine results were encouraging. Our share of the entry worked well and their efforts are reflected in the list of prize-winners.

C/A/A Holcroft won the Elliot Memorial Prize and was also highest in the Order of Merit in Educational Subjects. C/A/A Leighton got into second place.

A/A Peters, of the Burmese Air Force, did very well in securing the Crebbin-Robinson Cup for the best practical fitting job. This rather surprised us as we thought another section in the Technical Training Wing were going to give this cup a permanent home. They declared their intention to do so, anyway. Who's neck is going red?

Our best two tradesmen in the 75th were L/A/A Williams and C/A/A Press.

None of the awards can be won without hard and, what is more, accurate work, so that the prize-winners are entitled to our congratulations and their own satisfaction. The entries still with us would do well to note the results the 75th obtained and regard them as something to be beaten. It will require some doing.

The 'day out' for selected Apprentices, this term, was to the de Havilland factories at Hatfield and Leavesden. Those lucky enough and good enough to be selected had a thoroughly interesting and enjoyable day.

The Engine Fitter Instructors have subscribed for and have acquired a very nice shield. They propose to present it to the class whose collective results show the greatest im-

provement during the second year of training. The first award will be made to the 79th after their Second Inter.

Our old Cheetahs and Gipsys from the Preliminary Engine Phase are now being retired to the Salvage Dump and are being replaced by others which, not so well drilled, will not fall to pieces or get together again 'by numbers'.

As forecast in the last issue, Sgt. Hall and

Cpl. Walls have left us. The former is still instructing but is now doing it on the Double Mamba at Armstrong Siddeleys, whereas Cpl. Walls is back in his beloved Wigan, working on the maintenance of canal barges. They were two nice chaps.

On the IN side, we are glad to welcome Cpl. Stephens from Aden, Chf.Tech. Rose, also from Aden, and Chf.Tech. Hepburn from Nicosia. We assure them that the Halton weather, since they arrived, is not typical.

ELECTRICAL AND INSTRUMENT FITTER SQUADRON

Electrical Fitter Flight

This report will, of necessity, follow the pattern of our previous bulletin in that no major changes have taken place and, due to the (so called) 'summer' leave period, progress upon our development scheme has been very slow. We have, however, succeeded in installing a complete 'Swift' aircraft at the mouth of the basic section and hope that it will be put to much better use than was the Lancaster nose or the Spitfire airframe that was housed for so long in Bay 12.

The results of 75th Entry graduation were not so good as had been hoped but to those who succeeded, and in particular to S/A/A Grimston, we offer our congratulations and hope that they will find their future career in the Service to be a happy one, full of interest.

Congratulations also to Sgt. Smith upon his promotion and to Snr.Tech. Dyde and Cpl. Clarke upon their successful effort to increase their respective income-tax relief. It is now more than a rumour that Snr.Tech. Brookes has similar ambitions and that he will be altar-bound in the very near future, as will also be Cpl. (P.T.I.) Trotter (ex-66th), who is now on leave from H.Q., N.A.T.O., for that very purpose.

The staff position does not become any easier, but fortunately the passing years appear to have little effect upon those civilian instructors who have served the section so well in the past and become so well-known to the many Apprentices who have passed through their tender care. Mr. Tripp is once again fighting fit and as always full of hope that the next entry will win back the trophy for him.

To our ranks we welcome Cpl. Clark-Hunt (ex-49th), Cpl. Wiley and Jnr.Tech. Brooks (N.S.A.), whilst bidding farewell to Cpls. Cooper, Goodman and Milham.

Of Cpl. Milham, who has given us almost five years' very valuable service, we make special mention and wish him all good fortune in his future career, which is still to be in the aircraft trade.

Instrument Fitter Flight

Since the last issue of these notes, a considerable number of changes of instructors have occurred. We extend a warm welcome to Sgt. Thomas, Cpl. Williams, Cpl. Naylor, Cpl. Nottage, Mr. Clapham and Jnr.Tech. Scott, all of whom have recently joined us.

Unfortunately, we have had to bid farewell to W.O. Slack on posting to Watton. W.O. Slack has been a tower of strength, and a highly popular and respected member of the Section, we wish him all the very best in the future. Congratulations and good luck to Cpl. Buist on promotion and posting to St. Eval. Whilst on the subject of Hatches—Matches and Despatches, we must not forget to congratulate Snr.Tech. Lane on his marriage in July.

We are fortunate to be able to report that Bay 9 has now been re-roofed, and all is now reasonably waterproof. There is now no excuse for complaints by Apprentices regarding 'drips' (water-type).

The 75th Entry visit to industry was made on 12th June to Messrs. Smiths Aircraft Instruments of Bishops Cleeve, Cheltenham, and was appreciated by all.

The 75th, having completed their training and graduation, will now be commencing their Service careers at their new stations. We wish them all success in the future. Congratulations are due to A/A Nicholson on winning

the Pioneer Trophy. Unfortunately, the entry was not able to regain the Crebbin-Robinson Cup for us, we must, therefore, look to the 76th to rectify this state of affairs.

Church Notes

ST. GEORGE'S

IF not exactly a 'Swan Song', I expect that these will be the last Church Notes that I shall write for the Halton Magazine. After nearly four years as Senior Chaplain (C. of E.), it is time for a move, and the prospect of a posting to Germany as warden of Trinity House Moral Leadership Centre in Cologne has its own compensations. If nothing else, there is the satisfaction of leaving a newly decorated Church behind ('You will be posted as soon as it is finished, you mark my words . . . !'), and a roof that does not leak. The interior of the Church was decorated by the Works Services and the exterior by the Chaplains themselves. Altogether the final result is most pleasing—the outside walls a cream 'Snowcem', with blue paintwork and a large blue cross above the upper window, also two tubs for conifer trees to set off the entrance. The interior has light blue-purple walls with dark blue pillars (or piers) to match the curtains at the altar end. The final polishing up is now in process and will be completed by the time my successor arrives. He is the Rev. John Dagger and is coming from Bruggen in Germany. I have known him for many years and am sure that he is the right man for the job. In the name of St. George's I bid him a very warm welcome.

Talking of moves, last term was notable for the fact that there were no changes of staff amongst the chaplains. Padre Methven 1 Wing, Padre Proudman 2 Wing, Padre Campbell 3 Wing (one wonders if there are any Clergy left in Australia!), also Padre Williams is still chaplain at the Hospital. Sqn.Ldr. (Dr.) Harvey is still choirmaster, but the choir was almost in abeyance during the whole term owing to the closure of St. George's Church (except for weekday and Sunday Holy Communion) and the fact that short Church Parades were held in the open

air on the parade grounds. The choir re-appeared in full force, at the end of term, for the graduation service of the 75th Entry. The preacher on that occasion was the Chaplain-in-Chief himself (the Rev. Canon A. S. Giles, C.B.E., M.A., Q.H.C.). We were very sorry to see the 75th go, because there were ten choir-men, three servers, and numerous regular communicants amongst them. We wish them God speed and 'Good luck in the name of the Lord' wherever they may be. We extend a hearty welcome to the 84th Entry, who take their place this term.

Looking back to April, and then on to August of last term, the following events took place. First the arrival of the 83rd Entry (now no longer 'rooks' but 'old hands'), who were mentioned in the last issue. Then the 76th, with Padre Campbell, and 78th, with Padre Methven, went to camp at Woodvale. During May, six Wycliffe Hall theological students came on two consecutive Fridays to observe the Religious Instruction lectures, and to look round the station. They were accompanied by the Assistant Chaplain-in-Chief (Padre Ainsworth) and also the Principal of the College. At the end of May, on the Queen's Birthday, 12 of the Servers' Guild went on a jaunt to London—Tower—Embarkment—N.A.A.F.I. Club—Pictures—and a weary gang slept all the way back in the train!

In June there was a 'Fact and Faith' film, 'Time and Eternity', instead of the lectures in the Wing areas, and, at the end of June, a most outstanding event took place in the marriage of Padre Campbell at Northwood. After a brief honeymoon, he and his wife now live out at Aston Clinton. We wish them both a very long life of happiness together. At the end of term, on July 15th, 21 Apprentices and R.A.F. personnel were Confirmed by the Bishop of Buckingham in the beautiful little Church of Hampden.

Whatever we think of the politics of this Civil War hero, we can but admire his courage. One can not help thinking that it is courage above all that is needed by all newly confirmed members of Christ's Church, so that they may be His faithful soldiers and servants to their life's end.

On Sunday, the 8th after Trinity, 31 communicants, and a great many more who

listened to the early morning service, offered special prayers for the new members.

At 8 o'clock in the chapel 30 members of the Church's family accompanied the six first communicants to the altar to receive the Blessed Sacrament.

D. W. DAVIES WILLIAMS,
Chaplain.

School Notes

SHORTLY before the end of last term, we received the news that Gp.Cpt. E. Knowles, M.B.E., had been appointed Aide-de-Camp to the Queen. All those who remember Gp.Cpt. Knowles as Principal Education Officer at Halton will receive the news of this distinction with great satisfaction.

At this time of year it is always an unpleasant duty to bid farewell to many officers who leave the Service and return to civilian life. To all of these we wish success and happiness.

Among those who have left us recently is Flt.Lt. G. R. P. Lawrence, who has gone to take up an appointment at the new University of North Stafford. Flt.Lt. Lawrence will be remembered here for many things: his tireless energy and good humour, his excellent work with Apprentices at all times, and his outstanding efforts in the Halton Society. In this he was a tower of strength, working efficiently as secretary but with a thorough knowledge of every activity in the society and a readiness to help all those who served this valuable organisation in their spare time.

It is seldom that the Trenchard Library is mentioned in this column, but it seems fitting to record here that a commemorative folder containing letters of the late Lord Trenchard has recently been placed in a show case in the library. The Trenchard Collection of books is a greatly valued section of the library and the correspondence which passed on this subject between Lord Trenchard and the Commandant over a period of years has been col-

lected and beautifully bound in a leather folder. Lord Trenchard's work for Halton is universally known: for the library which bears his name, few people realise how much he did. The folder containing these letters tells the story.

An unusually large number of visitors came to the School on Graduation Day last term. Perhaps the poor weather is the explanation of this as people may have come down when they could not visit the airfield. The display for visitors, however, was well laid out and was appreciated by the parents and other visitors who came to inspect training facilities and examples of work done by Aircraft Apprentices.

We are delighted to offer our congratulations to two members of 75th Entry who gained cadetships at the end of their course at Halton. D. F. Grimston was selected for a cadetship to the R.A.F. Technical College at Henlow; R. J. Barrett was awarded the Prize Cadetship and is going to the R.A.F. College at Cranwell.

Early in the new term, a party of Apprentices visited Pendley Manor, Tring, to see an open air performance of Henry V. This stirring play and the pageantry that goes with it could best be appreciated in the lovely setting in which it was staged. Three officers of the teaching staff at Halton were in the play itself, and some of the sound effects, particularly the fanfares of trumpets, were executed by members of the band.