

The Haltonian Magazine

73 Edition

Spring 1956

(Scroll down)

MARSHAL OF THE ROYAL AIR FORCE
VISCOUNT TRENCHARD

G.C.B., O.M., G.C.V.O., D.S.O., D.C.L., LL.D.

3rd FEBRUARY, 1873 — 9th FEBRUARY, 1956

In common with the rest of the Service, Halton mourns the death of Lord Trenchard. The close contact which he maintained with the Royal Air Force until his death was nowhere more apparent than here.

It was his foresight which established Apprentice training at Halton in 1922, and the interest which he has shown in the School has been of the most detailed kind. His correspondence concerning different aspects of Apprentice work continued, despite his partial blindness, until just before his death. In recent years he had been particularly generous in making gifts of books and manuscripts to Halton, where the School library bears his name.

After serving in the Army, Major Trenchard, as he then was, joined the Royal Flying Corps in 1912. From then until 1914 he was Assistant Commandant at the Central Flying School, Upavon. Thence he went to France to take command of No. 1 Wing, R.F.C.

In 1915 he became a Brigadier-General and was appointed to command the Corps. His work and his insistence upon the absolute importance of air power were both recognized in 1916, when the R.F.C. was given Divisional status, and he was promoted Major-General. His policy of attack became, and has remained, the basis for the tactics and strategy of the R.F.C. and the R.A.F. He foresaw the eventual domination of war by the air arm.

Important as was his work during the First World War, it was in the immediate post-war period that it reached its peak. The R.A.F. was established as a separate Service on 1st April, 1918, and the difficult questions of its organization and future policy had yet to be solved. The solutions were provided in the Churchill-Trenchard Memorandum, the joint work of the Secretary of State for Air and the Chief of the Air Staff. It proposed the formation of a small, but highly trained, corps capable of rapid expansion should the need ever arise. Cranwell and Halton were two of the results of this policy. That the Royal Air Force was able to acquit itself so well when the demand came, is a direct reflection on Trenchard's genius and ability.

No man more deserved the honours which came to him, and certainly none better deserved the affection in which he has been, and will always be, held by the R.A.F.

Truly he was "The Father of the Royal Air Force" and "The Architect of our Air Power."

EDITORIAL

WE would like to wish all our readers a rather belated Happy New Year. It is unfortunate that our issues never seem to coincide with any national or festive occasion, so that any congratulations we wish to send are always some months behind the times. However, the thought is there even though the facilities are not.

Since the beginning of a new year is traditionally the time for taking stock of the preceding twelve months, and since this is being written in January, we would like to set down our editorial hopes and wishes for the present printing year. They run something like this:—

To all Old Haltonians wherever you are; our thanks for your support of the Magazine under all circumstances.

To Squadron Leader Pritchard who has, to our regret, been posted to another unit, our thanks for all the work you have done to make the O.H. a flourishing section. We are only realising now the amount of effort which you put in in order to build up the contacts and the fund of goodwill, which we hope will remain with us for a long time.

To all members of the Magazine staff whose work, always additional to their normal duties, keeps the journal going, our grateful thanks.

To all Apprentices; our thanks for the fact that you buy your own official publication, and in so doing, offer your own thanks to those who labour on your behalf.

Our hopes for the future are that the Apprentices will realise that, since this is their Magazine, it is not sufficient merely to buy it once it is published, but to take part in its preparation by sending in material for each issue; that the officers and N.C.O.s who are responsible for the set parts will submit their copy IN TIME, and will not, as now, wait for several written reminders and half-a-dozen telephone calls before they rouse themselves; and finally, that our advertisers will continue to give us their business, for it is their support which enables us to sell the Magazine at its present, very reasonable price.

The prizes offered by the Magazine Committee in the last issue were awarded as follows:—

£1.1.0 to A/A R. D. Trender for Parachutes and Ejector Seats.

10.6d. to L/A/A Swatton for Flt.Sub-Lt. Warneford, V.C.

10.6d. to L/A/A Wooldridge for The Halton Society Tour.

£1.10.0 to Class 75L2 for their joint poem "Animal Farm."





The Prize-Winners

GRADUATION PARADE OF THE 73RD ENTRY

The passing out parade of the 73rd Entry took place on 21st December, 1955. The Reviewing Officer was Air Marshal Sir George R. Beamish, K.C.B., C.B.E., Air Officer Commanding - in - Chief, Technical Training Command. He was accompanied by Air Vice-Marshal G. B. Beardsworth, C.B., Air Officer Commanding No. 24 Group, Air Commodore G. N. E. Tindal-Carill-Worsley, C.B., C.B.E., Officer Commanding Royal Air Force, Halton, Group Captain R. J. Carvell, Senior Training Officer, No. 1 School of Technical Training, Group Captain E. Knowles, M.B.E., Principal Education Officer, No. 1 School of Technical Training, and Wing Commander F. H. Stubbs, A.F.C., D.F.M., Officer Commanding No. 2 Apprentice Wing.

The parade was under the command of F.S.A/A J. P. Condie, 72nd Entry. The other N.C.O. Apprentices who were subordinate commanders were:—

Colour Bearer	S/A/A G. Williams
Colour Warrant Officer	S/A/A A. Shah (R.P.A.F.)
Colour Escort	C/A/A A. S. Delves
	C/A/A W. Ogden-Smith
Parade Warrant Officer	S/A/A R. L. Dalkie (R.N.Z.A.F.)
Escort Squadron Commander	S/A/A R. T. Holpin
No. 1 Flight Commander	S/A/A T. Hartland
No. 2 Flight Commander	S/A/A D. F. Everitt
Standard Bearers	C/A/A H. Irwin
	C/A/A D. L. Standing
Apprentice i/c Junior Entries	S/A/A J. J. MacMahon
Drum Major Military Band	L/A/A C. Swaine
Drum Major Pipe Band	C/A/A J. G. Webb



The Prize-Giving

THE COMMANDANT'S REPORT

After the parade, the guests assembled in the Burnett Gymnasium for the prize giving. The Commandant began by welcoming as Reviewing Officer, Air Marshal Sir George Beamish, who had recently been appointed A.O.C.-in-C. of Technical Training Command, and Air Vice-Marshal Beardsworth, A.O.C. 24 Group. He also welcomed parents, relations and friends of the Apprentices of the 73rd Entry.

The Commandant said that we at Halton were proud to receive so many visitors from Dominion and foreign air forces. He pointed out that we were about to welcome the first Apprentices from Venezuela as we said good-bye to the last of the Royal Pakistan Air Force Apprentices. He paid a tribute to the Pakistanis' ability with which they had overcome language difficulties in their school work, and their prowess on the sports field.

Continuous efforts were being made to improve the technical equipment of the school,

and working conditions had been improved.

In sport, the Apprentices had acquitted themselves well. In our winter games fixtures against Army Apprentice Schools we defeated Chepstow and Arborfield and drew with Harrogate. The Barrington-Kennett Trophy had been competed for in boxing, basketball, shooting and cross country running and had been won by 2 Wing.

The Apprentices' volunteer bands and trumpeters had been in great demand, the former taking part in the Lord Mayor's Show, and the latter in the ceremony at the Cenotaph on Remembrance Day. On The Battle of Britain Day the band and a flight of Apprentices put on a drill display, very favourably reported by the local press.

The Commandant now turned to the 73rd Entry. They began their training in January, 1953, two hundred and twenty-nine in number. During the three years of training some had been discharged, recoured or failed, leaving one hundred and seventy-six on the graduation parade. Of these, one was from New Zealand,

five from Rhodesia, nineteen from Pakistan, and five from Ceylon.

In practical and theoretical examinations in technical subjects, the improvement by the Electrical Fitters noted in the two previous entries had been maintained. The Armament Fitters, despite a disappointing examination average, were better than previous entries. The other trades, Airframe, Engine and Instrument Fitters, achieved an average result.

In educational subjects the Instrument Fitters were to be particularly congratulated on getting a high average mark. About one-third of the Royal Air Force Apprentices, and about one-quarter of the other nationalities, were being recommended for the award of the Ordinary National Certificate in Engineering, and this was well above average. In the Aircraft Servicing and Maintenance examinations four first class and twenty-one second class City and Guilds of London Institute certificates were obtained.

The General Service Training Syllabus had been completed satisfactorily and good marks were obtained in the final examinations.

The general standard of Physical Training and games had been rather below average though some of the entries had represented the School and the Station, and ten had been awarded School Colours.

The Commandant then expressed gratitude to the manufacturing companies which had entertained parties of Apprentices.

He concluded his remarks on the achievements of the 73rd Entry with the announcement that a cadetship at the Royal Air Force College, Cranwell, had been awarded to S/A/A Holpin, who had been awarded a Trustee Prize of £25.

The Commandant said he felt certain that the members of the Entry would look back on their time at Halton with pride, in support of this, he pointed out that among the guests present there were Col. Douglas of the U.S.A.F., a member of the 13th

Entry, and Flt.Lt. Birch of the 1st Entry.

He ended by wishing the 73rd Entry the very best of good fortune wherever they should go.

THE REVIEWING OFFICER

Air Marshal Sir George Beamish, K.C.B., C.B.E., Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Technical Training Command, addressing the Commandant, Air Vice-Marshal Beardsworth, guests and Apprentices expressed his real pleasure in being Reviewing Officer. He hoped that the parents present were proud of the progress that their sons had made, and were satisfied at the way Halton had looked after them.

He congratulated the 73rd Entry on its parade, reserving particular praise for the Parade Commander, F.S.A/A Condie, and the distinguished Colour Party. He then congratulated S/A/A Holpin on his cadetship to



The Inspection

Cranwell, thus following in the footsteps of many distinguished officers who have passed out from Halton.

The Reviewing Officer applauded those Apprentices who had been recommended for the Ordinary National Certificate, which, he said, was well worth the personal effort. However, as Commander in Chief, he would not be satisfied until the marks were nearer 100 per cent. He hoped there would be honest heart searching amongst those who had not done as well as they should. He pointed out that the only way to succeed was by personal effort.

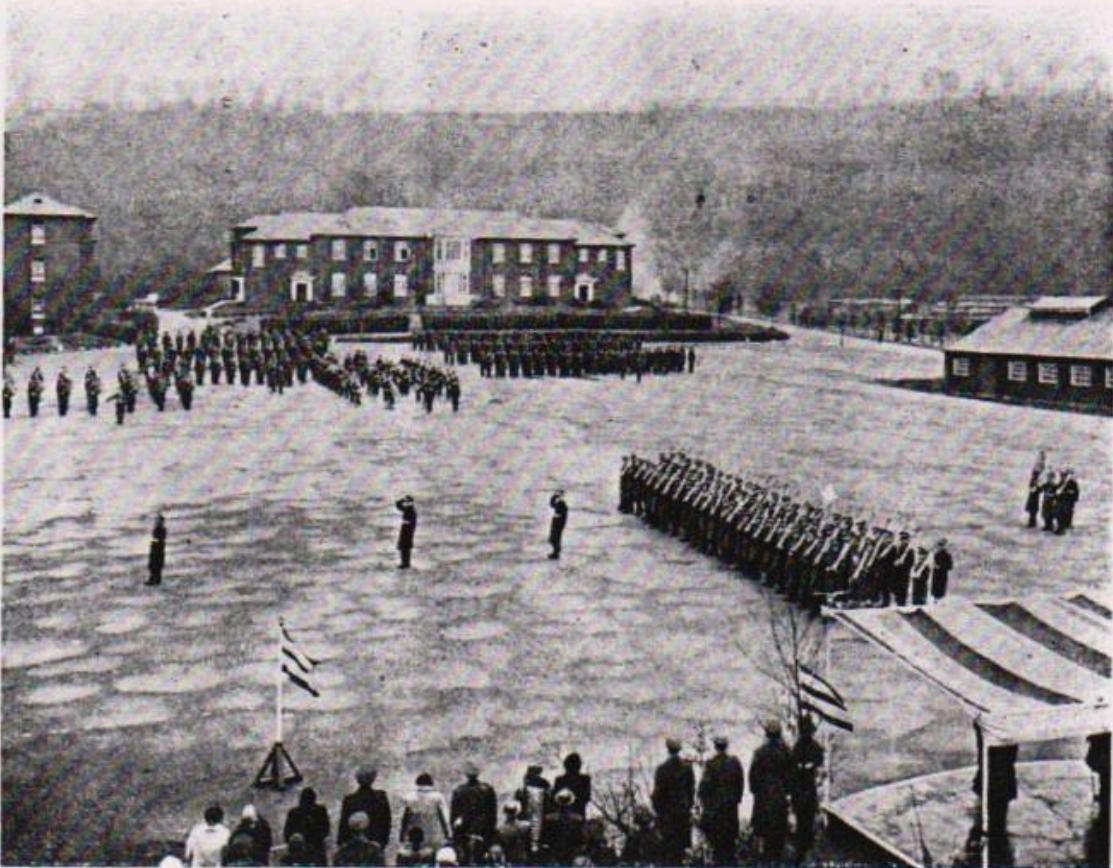
Though the Entry had not been outstanding at sport, this was not important as long as they had been active in it. Sport was valu-

able, not only for the fitness it brought, but for the fellowship which surrounds it.

At Halton, the Apprentice had received a sure foundation of education and trade training. In the Service outside they would find facilities for further instruction, and the opportunity to keep up to date.

Sincere thanks were expressed to the instructing staff for doing a task worthy of the best of men. They were asked to bear constantly in mind the long term effect of their work.

The Reviewing Officer ended by saying goodbye to the 73rd Entry and members of the Royal Pakistan Air Force and asking them to "be a credit to Halton."



The March Past

73rd ENTRY CADETSHIP

General Duties Cadetship
S/A/A R. T. HOLPIN

73rd ENTRY PRIZE WINNERS

Monsignor Beauchamp Memorial Prize (for the Best All Round Apprentice)
S/A/A G. WILLIAMS

Pioneer Trophy (for the Highest Marks in all Technical Training Subjects)
L/A/A J. S. STEVENS

Crebbin-Robinson Cup (for the Best Trade Standards Practical Fitting Test)
S/A/A R. L. DALKIE (R.N.Z.A.F.)

Elliott Memorial Prize
(presented by the Royal Aeronautical Society for the
Highest Marks in English and General Studies)
C/A/A D. J. MORGAN

Quinton Memorial Trophy (for the Best Ex-A.T.C. Cadet)
C/A/A H. IRWIN

Azhar Memorial Shield (for the Best Pakistan Apprentice)
S/A/A A. SHAH

AIR MINISTRY PRIZES

Highest in Order of Merit, All Subjects
S/A/A G. WILLIAMS

Highest in Order of Merit, Educational Subjects
First Prize : L/A/A J. S. Stevens
Second Prize: C/A/A W. Ogden-Smith

Highest in Order of Merit, General Service Efficiency
First Prize : F.S./A/A J. P. Condie
Second Prize: S/A/A G. Williams

Highest Average for Practical Fitting over Three-Year Course
S/A/A T. J. HARTLAND

Best Tradesmen in Trade Standards Trade Test

Airframe Fitter I	:	C/A/A H. Irwin
Airframe Fitter II	:	A/A W. D. Davidson
Armament Fitter	:	A/A J. G. Barratt
Electrical Fitter (Air)	:	L/A/A J. S. Stevens
Electrical Fitter (Ground)	:	A/A B. E. Tarling
Engine Fitter I	:	S/A/A A. Shah (R.P.A.F.)
Engine Fitter II	:	A/A F. W. Richardson
Instrument Fitter (Nav.)	:	S/A/A G. Williams
Instrument Fitter (Gen.)	:	A/A R. A. J. Turner

73rd ENTRY POSTING LIST (in Order of Merit)

Williams, G.
Irwin, H.
Stevens, J. S.
Ogden-Smith, W.
Shah, A.
Everitt, D. F.
Standing, D. L.
Reeves, P. O.
Holpin, R. T.

Hemswell
32 M.U. St. Athan
Honnington
M.E.A.F.
Honnington
Wyton
F.E.A.F.
Sel. G.D. Cadetship

Hartland, T. I.
Turner, R. A. J.
Condie, J. P.
Burton, J. D.
Tarling, B. E.
Dyer, R. J.
Sexton, J. J.
Morgan, D. J.
Davies, D. G.

32 M.U. St. Athan
Binbrook
Topcliffe
Abingdon
32 M.U. St. Athan
Wittering
Hemswell
Boscombe Down

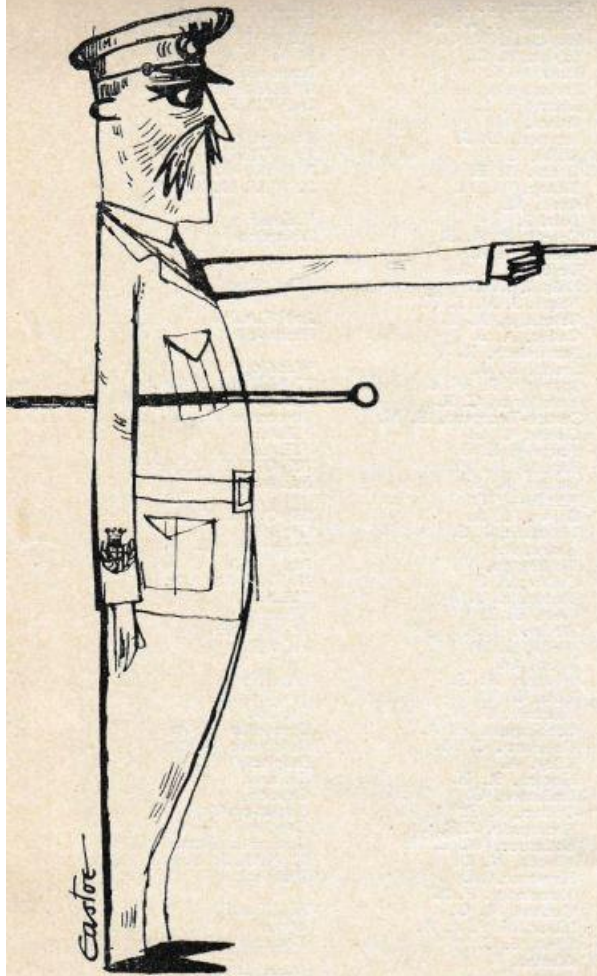
Cooper, B. B.	2nd T.A.F.	Padmore, F. J.	F.E.A.F.
Gourlay, W. S. T.	Hemswell	Machin, G. D. G.	32 M.U. St. Athan
West, P.	F.E.A.F.	Howcroft, W. G.	F.E.A.F.
Truluck, V. G.	Boscombe Down	Taylor, R. C.	32 M.U. St. Athan
Martin, T. J.	Topcliffe	Ross, M. J.	Boscombe Down
Faruqi, A. R.		Freemantle, G. B.	Boscombe Down
Khan, A. S.		Donnelly, T.	2nd T.A.F.
Beadle, B. J.	231 O.C.U. Bassingbourne	Aslam, M.	
Dalkie, R. L.		Johnson, D. J.	Boscombe Down
Barrett, J. G.	228 O.C.U. Leeming	Smith, E.	2nd T.A.F.
Reynolds, J. K.	St. Eval	Green, R. E.	32 M.U. St. Athan
Davidson, W. D.	Boscombe Down	Bishop, W. A.	32 M.U. St. Athan
Smale, D. G.	32 M.U. St. Athan	Amir, M.	
Astley, G. R.	32 M.U. St. Athan	Torr, J.	F.E.A.F.
Bowyer, F. J.		Cosens, P. A. S.	Abingdon
Hills, K. E.		Sattar, M. A.	
Pembroke, P. J. Y.	F.E.A.F.	De Silva, T. S.	
Greig, R. C. C.	Wittering	Kidgell, D. P.	West Raynham
Murray, B. J.	Wittering	Naqvi, S. M. T. H.	
Britch, W. T.	F.E.A.F.	beveridge, A. T.	2nd T.A.F.
Sinclair, N. K.	Wyton	Cutler, A. J.	Hemswell
Bunney, M. C.	Abingdon	Samsudeen, R. W.	
Newton, F. W.	Boscombe Down	Smith, D. J.	Waddington
Clarke, P.	F.E.A.F.	Spurway, R. W. J.	32 M.U. St. Athan
Hirons, A. E.	F.E.A.F.	Humphries, C. R.	Aldergrove
Gorman, A. E.	2nd T.A.F.	Curzon-Tompson, B. M.	Boscombe Down
Akhtar, N. A.	Boscombe Down	Clarke, C. G.	F.E.A.F.
Jarmain, M. H.		Pengelly, E. G.	F.E.A.F.
Rodriguez, R. A.	Upwood	Riccard, R. P.	229 O.C.U. Chivenor
Rice, M. C.	32 M.U. St. Athan	Delves, A. S.	F.E.A.F.
Fazal, A. H.	Lyneham	Rehman, W.	
Dace, L. P.		Brown, T. A.	238 O.C.U. Colerne
Beer, R. H.	Coltishall	Thomson, I. S.	Gaydon
Jackson, M. W.	F.E.A.F.	Hearn, R.	Abingdon
Richardson, F. W.	F.E.A.F.	Wallington, W. H.	2nd T.A.F.
Armstrong, A.	Topcliffe	Collier, J. F.	32 M.U. St. Athan
Thomas, T. B.	32 M.U. St. Athan	Taylor, B. J.	F.E.A.F.
Swaine, C.	32 M.U. St. Athan	West, G. E.	Wyton
Hunter, J. R. G.	St. Mawgan	Marlow, P. D.	St. Mawgan
Huxford, R. H. W.	2nd T.A.F.	Webb, K. W.	F.E.A.F.
Shah, N. H.		Khan, G.	
Wardley, D. E.	F.E.A.F.	Whitley, H. E.	Topcliffe
Brain, P.	32 M.U. St. Athan	Ross, G. T.	Waddington
Andrews, C. F.	West Malling	Florence, G. H.	Driffield
Merritt, A. B.	Lyneham	Bebbington, H. A.	Boscombe Down
Webb, J. G.	2nd T.A.F.	Davidson, C. M.	Boscombe Down
Yates, P. C.	Honnington	Riley, A.	Ballykelly
Evans, D. J.	32 M.U. St. Athan	Horton, R. H.	Driffield
Hutchinson, H. H. F.	Abingdon	Anderson, G.	Gaydon
Perry, B. W.	Bassingbourne	Critten, N. C.	Linton-on-Ouse
Scatcherd, J. A.	Binbrook	Thompson, J. R. J.	Gaydon
Ashraf, M.		Batterbee, W. L.	Boscombe Down
Hedgcock, T. J.	32 M.U. St. Athan	Woods, N. D.	32 M.U. St. Athan
Main, J.	Pembroke Dock	Hamence, M.	Binbrook
Webster, W. R.	2nd T.A.F.	Mazumdar, F. H.	
Thame, D. C.	2nd T.A.F.	Carless, M. G.	2nd T.A.F.
Fretten, T. G.	32 M.U. St. Athan	Silver, M. F. A. A.	Wyton
Blyth, J. D.	2nd T.A.F.	Short, S. C.	Boscombe Down
Payne, A.	F.E.A.F.	Ahmed, S.	
Stearn, R. T. A.	West Raynham	Janes, M. J.	Lyneham
Doney, C. J.	32 M.U. St. Athan	Parr, D. T. J.	Boscombe Down
Millar, G. McD.	Ballykelly	Stoneman, P. J.	B.D.U. Wittering
Kitchen, J.	Binbrook	Moriarty, M.	F.E.A.F.
Osborne, J. H.	St. Mawgan	Balasuriya, N. M.	
Rogers, T. J.	F.E.A.F.	Postance, J. B.	Boscombe Down
Butler, D. C.	Waddington	Smith, A. D.	2nd T.A.F.
Harris, D. J.	Stradishall	Twaites, J. S.	32 M.U. St. Athan
Booth, M. C.	Horsham St. Faith	Jervois, W. H. P.	
Ridgwell, M. T.	F.E.A.F.	Swait, J. S.	
Conway, M. J.	Coltishall	Don Paul, D. A.	
Taqvi, S. Q. H.		Jan, M.	
Ligertwood, J.	Linton-on-Ouse	Dobson, C. J.	F.E.A.F.
Richardson, J. S.	Abingdon	Khan, A. M.	
Halliwell, R.	32 M.U. St. Athan	Mawson, G. W.	Linton-on-Ouse
Bowatte, R. M. N.		Simpson, A.	Dishforth
Smith, R. J.	Wattisham	Birt, C. J.	2nd T.A.F.
Martin, D. R.	Boscombe Down	Gray, M. H.	Odiham
Fyfield, A. G.	F.E.A.F.	Ashraf, M.	

Also Passing Out

Register, C. H.	Young, A. F. F.	Griffiths, D. A. J.	Ellis, J.	Walker, B.
Saban, P.	Ravenscroft, F.	Nicholls, G. C.	Horrigan, M. E.	Baker, N. J.
Taylor, D. J.	Stock, D.	Bennett, K. J.	Parsons, T. B.	

The following Apprentices, ex-72nd Entry, also qualified as Junior Technicians

Goodchild, R. L.	F.E.A.F.
Owen, S. A.	32 M.U. St. Athan



NO. 1(A) WING

HAVING had a large number of changes amongst the staff last term there are only three to be recorded this term. Firstly we welcome Flight Lieutenant M. G. Hunn, M.B.E., to No. 1 Squadron, who has come from Royal Air Force, Upwood. He was engaged in first-line servicing and several years ago he was a fitter engines in the 10th Entry at Halton. We bid farewell to Pilot Officer I. Hall (No. 3 Squadron) who having completed his national service has returned to his civilian occupation in architecture. In his place we welcome Pilot Officer J. Edgington who has arrived from Bircham Newton having completed a secretarial course.

CURRENT EVENTS

About the beginning of December, Squadron Leader W. C. Parsons (No. 2 Squadron) went into P.M. Hospital for an X-ray and check up for two days. However, the two days dragged into five weeks, for the check up revealed that an operation was necessary. Fortunately he was well enough to be able to come for a short while to the Apprentices' Christmas dinner.

Our congratulations are extended to Flight Sergeant Orr on his promotion; he has now been transferred to No. 3 Squadron.

Halton usually has a cosmopolitan air about it and we are pleased to welcome nine Apprentices into No. 3 Squadron from yet another country—Venezuela. This presented a language difficulty which was overcome by the arrival of A/Cpl. Gobens from Pembroke Dock whom we welcome to No. 3 Squadron as interpreter. These new Apprentices soon made a name for themselves on the Basketball court and for their lusty (though incomprehensible) verbal support during competitions. It can safely be said that the Venezuelan Apprentices have settled in well.

On December 15th the Station Commander, Air Commodore G. N. E. Tindal-Carill-Worsley, C.B., C.B.E., presented the Barrington-Kennett Trophy to No. 1(A) Wing after the finals of the Basketball Competition. In future this trophy will be competed for each term.

The one influencing factor this term has been the arrival of the painters. Not for a long time has one small body of men caused so much upheaval in the everyday routine. Initially all the occupants of No. 9 Block went back to Summer Camp and lived for five

weeks under canvas on the sloping ground next to the School of Cookery. By the end of five weeks the chilly nights were being felt by all, especially by the Burmese and Ceylonese Apprentices. Unfortunately as the painters progressed at varying rates, blocks were overcrowded with Apprentices and equipment, while others had a much needed clean up of battle scars, entry numbers and the ubiquitous "writings on the wall."

NO. 2(A) WING

His kit was carefully packed into his back pack; his kitbag was filled with the remainder and wedged on top of the pack; then with his blankets all balanced carefully on top of the lot, the writer of these notes joined all the other Apprentices and moved from No. 3(A) Wing to No. 2(A) Wing in the first year of the last war. The Apprentices' wheel keeps turning.

We welcome all the arrivals from the other two Wings and trust that by the time this is printed we are all welded into one happy unit. We especially welcome our share of the Senior Entry and congratulate them on their promotions. Great things are expected of them in the short time they have before graduating. Their job is to set new standards and to help to create some new and worthy traditions and to put away for ever some of the more uncommendable traditions of the past.

Last term saw a lot of work done in the Wing as all three Entries studied for their respective examinations, reaching the climax with the graduation of the 73rd Entry. Visiting padres took two of the graduation church services for the Entry, Rev. G. Hyslop, M.A., Assistant Chaplain-in-Chief, for the Church of England, and Rev. A. W. Hopkins, B.A., Principal Chaplain, Methodist, for the P.M. and U.B.

We congratulate S/A/A Holpin on being awarded a cadetship and we wish the 73rd all the best on their postings, especially those who are going overseas.

We welcome the 82nd Entry and hope that they will soon settle down into this new way of life.

There have been many changes in the Wing staff recently.

During the term several "flying week-ends" were arranged to enable the 75th to obtain flying experience. One thing in all our minds towards the end of the term, was the reshuffle of Apprentices. We discussed its merits and faults, and the dreaded possibility of a "posting" to the "Kremlin." We wish good luck to those who went to the other Wings and extend a welcome to those fortunate enough to be sent to No. 1(A) Wing.

We are sorry to have lost two squadron commanders. Sqn.Ldr. F. W. Pritchard has gone to Headquarters, Transport Command, and Sqn.Ldr. D. H. Davis, D.F.C., after a long tour in the Wing, has gone to North Weald Flying Wing Headquarters. We welcome their replacements, Sqn.Ldr. G. R. Candy, from the R.A.E. Farnborough, to take over No. 1 Squadron, and Sqn.Ldr. K. Kingshott, D.F.C., from No. 67 Group H.Q., Northern Ireland, to take over No. 3 Squadron. Sqn.Ldr. J. C. Burch has moved from the Wing and has taken up residence in the Station Headquarters.

All the N.C.O.s in charge of squadrons have been changed since our last notes, and we welcome F.S. Lenz to No. 1 Squadron and F.S. Thomas to No. 2 Squadron, both from Yatesbury, and F.S. More to No. 3 Squadron from the Canal Zone. Sgt. Larner has joined No. 2 Squadron from Malta.

We say goodbye to F.S. Yarrow of No. 1 Squadron who has gone to Topcliffe, and to Sgt. Hicks of No. 2 Squadron who has gone to Henlow. Cpl. Walker has moved across to Admin. Wing and Cpls. Snow and Atkinson have now left the Service.

New arrivals to the Wing include Cpl. Wigg to join our P.T. staff, Cpls. Ross and Smith to the Wing Mess, and Cpl. (W) Kempster, L.A.C.W. Hall, A.C.W. Lewis, and A.C.s Wilkinson, Carey and Eve from Admin. Wing.

We offer our congratulations to our last Wing Education Officer, Wing Commander G. W. Whittaker, D.S.O., M.A., who has been awarded the O.B.E. in the New Year's Honours List after his retirement from the Service.

Red Indians are kept in reservoirs.

78th Inter. Paper

NO. 3(A) WING

The reorganisation of the Wings has been the main topic of conversation during the past term and the 74th Entry has been put on its mettle by having to provide three F.S.A/As, 24 S/A/As and 72 C/A/As. This is a chance for the Entry to prove itself. Congratulations to all those appointed.

The term ended on a fine note by the Wing Christmas Party and it was agreed by all that F.S. Peckham and his staff excelled themselves. His Xmas cakes were excellent and artistically decorated, in addition to which he provided beautiful cakes for the children's and orphans' parties.

It is certain that F.S. Aldous will enjoy his books for many years to come and it is to be hoped that Flt.Lt. Hawkins will abide by the rules laid down in his certificate of airworthiness. Also the timing of parades will be easily accomplished by the Wing Adjutant on future occasions.

The 74th Entry made a grand job of entertaining a party of 56 orphans all of whom were thrilled by the arrival of Father Xmas in his flying saucer. It is hoped that this annual entertainment will continue to be a feature of the Wing Christmas festivities.

Great mystery surrounds the disappearance of Cpl. Lewis on the occasion of the passing out of the 73rd Entry. Incidentally his return was just as mysterious as his disappearance. If only Lewis could talk!

A pleasing feature has been the activities of the Plaster Modelling Club. Many fine plaques have been produced and many of these

are enhancing the appearance of the dining hall.

The 81st Entry have settled down extremely well and have already given a good account of themselves in the field of sport. They have also already augmented the Wing Band.

Sgt. Brice, B.E.M., with his usual efficiency, organised a coach trip to the London Palladium in early December where almost 250 members of the Wing enjoyed "Painting the Town," featuring Norman Wisdom and Ruby Murray.

Perhaps the finest achievement in the field of sports was the retention of the Sigris Trophy by the Wing under-eighteen Soccer team at Hereford. The Wing Senior Basketball and Cross Country teams were also successful in the Barrington-Kennett Trophy Competition. Mention must also be made of the first class performances by the Wing Rugby, Basketball and Cross Country teams in the Inter-School fixture at Aborfield. Altogether 77 Apprentices have represented the various School teams during the term—a most satisfactory showing.

The introduction of the Barrington-Kennett Trophy Competition on a terminal basis has resulted in No. 1 Wing breaking the lease on the trophy held by 3 Wing for so long. Hearty congratulations are extended to No. 1 Wing on their fine achievement.

Flt.Lt. Gardner left the Wing and returned to his flying career during the term and we wish him every success. In his place we welcome Flying Officer Williams who thinks he is here on a short attachment!

TECHNICAL TRAINING WING

AIRFIELD TRAINING SQUADRON

The Airfield is having its face lifted. For months now workmen have been digging trenches and laying cables with a view to converting the airfield to A.C. supply; we understand that in the not-too-distant future, conversion will be complete. Our roads have recently been resurfaced and the painters have now moved in to redecorate the interior of Nos. 1, 2 and 3 Hangars. The refurbishing has not been without incident; the trench diggers have cut holes in the roads as fast as

the road layers could lay them, and the steam roller remaking the roads broke two manhole covers and flattened a wall.

Things are also looking up on the aircraft side. We now have three Meteor 8s and four more promised and hope that very soon the Meteor phase will be able to go over to 8s. One day we may even hear that the Mosquitos are to be replaced by something a little more modern. Hope springs eternal.

Since the last issue we have said farewell to the following members of the staff to whom

we extend our best wishes for their future success. Flight Sergeant Edington to 2nd T.A.F. and Corporal Clarke to M.E.A.F., Corporal Lee leaves shortly for Binbrook and S.A.C. Bridger will be leaving for civilian life.

We extend a welcome to the following who have recently joined our ranks:—Mr. Kingmill and Mr. Fisher from Cosford, Sergeant Macdonald, Sergeant Taylor, Junior Technician Crocker and Mr. Stringer.

Our congratulations to Sergeant Gilbert and Corporal Paxton on their promotion and to Corporal Lee on his recent marriage.

ARMAMENT TRAINING SQUADRON

Since the last issue, the re-roofing of Bays 10 and 11 has commenced. It is hoped that the signs of the rainwater running down the inside of the walls will become a thing of the past. Mr. Allen will now be able to abandon his raft and talk from a dry land position.

The increase in the number of Armament Apprentices has resulted in part of No. 3 Bay being taken over from the Engine Fitters and classrooms are now being put up there.

At Christmas we said "Goodbye" to the 73rd Entry. We wish them every success in their future careers. Despite being a very small entry they made their presence felt but they failed to produce a 100% examination result. However they provided the Flight Sergeant Apprentice and it is up to the succeeding Armourers to do the same.

In the new year we welcome the 82nd. This will be three times the size of the 73rd. May their stay at Halton be both happy and fruitful.

Sergeant Holt has left us for the real Air Force at Leuchars and Cpl. Belcher has returned to civilian life. We welcome Cpl. Tilsley, newly arrived from Cyprus, and issue an advance welcome to the seven new civilian instructors who have been promised to us.

Our training equipment is slowly and we hope surely, being replaced by modern stuff. Aden gun firing is now included in the training syllabus. Visits have been paid to Hunter and Valiant units from whom we have learnt something.

AIRCRAFT ENGINEERING SQUADRON **Airframe Fitter Flight**

At the end of the Autumn Term we said our farewells to the 73rd, and our Flight Com-

mander, Flt.Lt. Busbridge. We are sorry to see him go and wish him a long and pleasant retirement to civilian life. We welcome his relief, Flt.Lt. A. R. J. Thorogood.

The usual staff changes took place during the last term and we hope the new arrivals will like their job and will fill the posts as they were filled by Chf.Tech. Lewis and Sgt. Hellen, who left us on being promoted.

Congratulations to S/A/A Holpin on gaining the only cadetship awarded to the 73rd.

Engine Fitter Flight

Since the last issue, things have proceeded quietly in this Flight and there is little of moment to report. It is however comforting at this time of the year to note that as far as our bays are concerned, the roof repairs are complete. The next fall of snow will show how well the job has been done. Part of the price we have had to pay has been to lose half of No. 6 Bay to the Electricians, who we think "pulled rather a fast one." We also gave up our share of No. 3 Bay to the Armourers. This infiltration may raise problems later on if we get the Sapphires and Power Plants which have been promised. We may have to shoot it out with the Armourers and give the Electricians a "negative earth." However, we are Engine Fitters. Others may find things impossible but the old saying, "Fitter, Rigger, C. of E., you can do anything," still holds good. We shall cope, particularly as the Airframe Fitters helped our accommodation problem by moving their Basic into New Workshops.

On the personnel side, Sgts. Hebbard and Barnes have recently returned from the Senior Management Course at Weeton. They tell us that the course was hard going but they both passed it and we congratulate them. Chf.Tech. Fletcher has left us to join the Mobile Careers Advice Bureau, based at Gloucester. He has not been with us very long but he has done some good work in Preliminary Engines and we hope he will enjoy his new job. Cpl. Parton has left the Service and is now at the College of Aeronautics. He studied and worked hard to fit himself for a job there and as hard work and intensive study normally pays a dividend, he should soon start climbing the tree. Cpl. Smith has also left and has obtained a job for himself in civilian life. He is not far away, at Airtech at Haddenham.

We are pleased to be able to record the promotions of Snr.Techs. Hall, Chawner and Fletcher to Chief Technicians. Well done!

ELECTRICAL AND INSTRUMENT SQUADRON

Instrument Fitter Flight

We extend a very warm welcome to Sqn.Ldr. C. F. Sloper who has joined us from Farnborough and takes over from Sqn.Ldr. M. D. Smith (now returned to Air Ministry) to whom we bid farewell.

During the term we have also lost Chf.Tech. Werrell to civilian life; Mr. Stock to B.O.A.C.; Cpl.Tech. Pulford on promotion to Sgt. and posting to Debden; and Sgt. Pechey (no more do those belly laughs echo around the bays!) to Air Trainers of Aylesbury. We wish them all success in the future.

Mr. Buchanan, an ex-Apprentice of the 43rd Entry, has joined us, as also has Cpl. Clack from Aldergrove; we hope they will enjoy their stay with us.

Instructors' liaison visits have been made during the term to Gaydon and Tangmere, and the 73rd Entry visited Smiths of Brentford.

The 73rd have completed their training and our congratulations go to S/A/A Williams, the first Instrument Apprentice since the 68th to graduate top of the Entry. Unfortunately the Entry was not able to retain the Crebbin-Robinson Cup for us, and so we must look to the 74th to place it once again in its familiar resting place in Bay 9.

Electrical Fitter Flight

We make absolutely no apologies for again opening our contribution by reporting yet another one hundred per cent. graduation result and we offer congratulations to both the 73rd Entry on their effort and the instructional staff who have played such a large part in making this success possible. It is also no small consolation to feel that the result of the 72nd Entry was no mere "flash-in-the-pan." Mr. Tripp will no doubt welcome the responsibility of again polishing the Crebbin-Robinson Trophy which was won for us by S/A/A Dalkie.

It is an old maxim that the best time to retire is when one is on the top of the wave and prestige at its highest—but far from resting upon his laurels and beating a hasty

retreat with two good results behind him, our training officer has taken on "for the bundle." We offer our hearty congratulations upon his selection for a Permanent Commission and extend good wishes for a long and distinguished career in the Service.

Since the last issue Sqn.Ldr. Smith has taken up an appointment in Air Ministry and as Officer Commanding Electrical and Instrument Squadron we welcome Sqn.Ldr. Sloper from R.A.E., whose rate of travel must rival that of British Railways—from Halton to Halton in twenty-odd years but obviously gaining much experience en route and of course sufficiently modernistic to desert from one of the ancillary trades (Eng.Fitt) and be converted to a successful and progressive "Disciple of Faraday." There is no doubt that future Entries will benefit from his tour of duty here.

Other staff changes this term have all been on the "Profit" side and we welcome Mr. Webster, Sgt. Cowper and Cpls. Smith and Clarke to the instructor strength and hope that their stay with us will be a long and happy one. Some say "it may be long, but . . . !" up to present no blue "ta-ta" chits have been issued to the section since our last report but it is strongly rumoured that F.S. Stevens has ordered his caps, Airmen type Fez (size not stated), in anticipation of a secondment to Iraq and that the burden of long hair and load of worry carried by Cpl.Tech. Newbury will soon be aggravated by the addition of another chevron and consequent posting.

We are pleased to report that Sgt. Shepherd and Cpl.Tech. Dyde were both successful on their Senior Tech. board but we can only report a partial success for Snr.Tech. Shepherd in his domestic ambitions where he was hoping to add a daughter's name to the foot of his nominal roll, but the Fates or whatever it is that decides these things were against him again.

With the 73rd Entry leave the last of the Pakistan Apprentices. Quite a large number of these have passed through, and, we hope they have reaped the full benefit of Halton training and tradition, and that they will soon command the same respect and prestige, in their own Service, with which the ex-Apprentice is associated in the R.A.F.

BIRDS of PREY



I've brought Mummy and Daddy along, too. I **knew** you wouldn't mind



I have a little property in Leamington



Surely you're not interested in little me?



Does that wheel really mean you are a Group Captain?

OR



Halton is your **country** place, I suppose . . .



Do come in. None of the others could come



My last husband died suddenly



I think these short haircuts are repulsive . .

BACK MEN, IT'S A TRAP



But are you fit?

Marlon Brando sends me



by

Del and Jong