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Co all our readers a happy Christmas

"BSERVE always," says Marcus Aurelius, "that everything is the result of change." The Emperor philosopher was thinking of the changes wrought by autumn in the natural scene, and we, too, may well contemplate the changes that this autumn has brought and is bringing. A new Entry of over eight hundred, to be followed in the New Year by another as large, the additions to the barrack accommodation, the transfer of the Conversion Course to Henlow, change in the working routine to allow of an extra half holiday for recreation, and changes of staff. Almost a new Halton!!

We have been honoured with visits from both the Under-Secretary and the Secretary of State for Air. We believe that the visit of the latter is the first paid to the Command by a Secretary of State.

The Conversion Course is due to leave Halton early in December for Henlow to make room for the larger Entries of apprentices. We wish them all the best of luck in the future.

We have to note with regret the departure of Group Captain C. G. Murray, O.B.E., to Headquarters Coastal Area on promotion. Group Captain Murray did much to facilitate the working arrangements between the Halton Society and the O.B.A. and his own particular branch, whereby many writings of long alphabetical lists were, to everyone's convenience, eliminated. We welcome Wing Commander P. J. Wiseman as Command Accountant in his place.

Group Captain H. E. Whittingham, C.B.E., M.B., etc., leaves the Command for the C.M.E. There are many on the station, service and civilian, who owe much to his skill, and perhaps more to his kindness.

Wing Commander A. F. Rook, M.R.C.S., M.R.C.P., Squadron Leader E. Thornton, and Flight/Lt. N. S. Paynter have left the Command, and we welcome Group Captain T. J. Kelly, M.C., M.B., and the Rev. B. Hessian.

Our best congratulations on their recent promotion to Messrs. F. B. Farthing, A. C. Kermode, A. Gillespie, S. Barraclough and W. Laidler.

The following new Education Officers have joined the station, and individually and collectively we extend them a hearty welcome. G. Agnew, F. S. Bloomfield, J. Hampson, A. C. John, T. W. Little, B. J. Lynch, A. T. Ryland, H. M. Wilson have been posted to No. 1 Wing.

W. F. Dowsett, R. H. B. Forster, T. B. Hall, E. Knowles, A. T. Mathews,

F. W. Clarke to No. 2 Wing.

Major H. R. Wight, M.C., Major F. C. W. Taylor, Dr. E. A. F. Reeve, and Mr. F. B. Farthing have also returned to the station from service elsewhere at home and from overseas.

Our best congratulations to the following of the 26th Entry on selection to Cadetships at the R.A.F. College, Cranwell: J. A. Pitcairn-Hill, P. G. Wykeham-Barnes, R. T. Frogley, P. A. N. Cox. The Viscount Wakefield Scholarship was awarded to Flt/Cadet J. A. Pitcairn-Hill, who also won the grand aggregate prize, the 1st Fitters' Prize and shared with P. G. Wykeham-Barnes, the Elliott Memorial Prize.

We deeply regret to record the death of 364720 Sgt. Mould, G. E. (4th Entry) who was killed when his machine crashed into the sea near Barton-on-Sea, Hants.

We much regret to record the deaths of 562753 L.A.C. Hurley, S. (18th Entry), and L.A.C. Beavis, M. B. R. (15th Entry). L.A.C. Beavis was the winner of the Curtis Memorial Prize in 1932. Both met their deaths as the result of motor cycling accidents.

We also regret to record the death of 364495 L.A.C. Bryant (4th Entry), at the East Dulwich Hospital.

560913 L.A.C. Sewell, K. J. (14th Entry) has been elected an Associate of the Royal Aeronautical Society. This is an honour to which few have attained, and deserves notable remark.

Col. R. Kingsley Pillers, O.B.E., left the station, on transfer, to Headquarters Central Area, Abingdon. We hear on good authority that they regard themselves as fortunate in acquiring an extra wonder of the world—the eighth pillar of wisdom! They have got the wisdom, and we have lost one who for many years gave devoted service to Halton life. His place we know will be well filled by Major Wight.

With the Conversion Course we shall lose also the company of Lt. Commander T. G. G. Hutchinson, Messrs. A. Gillespie, C. L. Hinings, J. A. G. Stuart, C. H. Latimer Needham, A. H. Reeve, D. L. Rundle, W. Laidler and J. Parry Jones.

Mr. Laidler was for a time Editor of this magazine, and Mr. Parry Jones has for nearly two years most ably conducted the business of the O.B.A.

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The frontispiece is also a reminder of yet one more loss. To know Halton is to know Whittaker: to know Halton well is to know what one man, and not a fit one at that, can do to serve his fellows without stint and without thought of self.

Four ex-Haltonians—J. W. Bayley, F. E. Croce, A. J. Mason, and T. D. Melvin—who were awarded Flight Cadetships in July, 1933, successfully graduated from the Royal Air Force College last summer and were commissioned as Pilot Officers. Mason, who was a Cadet Sergeant, was first in the order of merit on passing out of the College, and was awarded H.M. the King's Medal (for obtaining the highest aggregate of marks in all subjects), the Abdy Gerrard Fellowes Memorial Prize (for Science subjects), the Aeronautical Engineering Prize, and the J. A. Chance Memorial Prize (for Service subjects). Bayley, too, was a Cadet Sergeant, and received colours for rugger and swimming. Croce, who has been a Cadet Corporal, represented the College at hockey, association football and boxing. To all, we offer our congratulations, and best wishes for still further successes in their career.

To the 27th Entry we say farewell and wish them the best of luck. Whether they will follow the 26th Entry in going early overseas we do not know, but here at home or overseas they will pull their weight as they have done at Halton.

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There has been a most welcome increase in the magazine contributions received from A.A.'s. The drawings have been of exceptional merit. This welcome change is due to the efforts of the A.A.'s advisory committee, and the Editor is glad to make this acknowledgement of the help he has received. Small awards are made for contributions accepted, and all who have any leanings toward literary and pictorial expression may rest assured that their efforts will receive sympathetic attention, and where necessary skilled criticism or amendment.

Capt. C. N. Heath, the Art Editor of the Magazine, was a most successful exhibitor at the recent R.A.F. Artists' Exhibition.





The A.B.C. of Flight

By the courtesy of Contact.

AEROBATICS, see Emetics.

Aerodyne, song—" Brother, can you aerodyne?"

Aerofoil, engine failure in mid-air (Somerset dialect).

AIRSCREW, bolt that holds the propeller on.

ALTIMETER, ship's instrument.

ANEROID, see a doctor.

ASPECT RATIO, view of the late Horatio Bottomley.

BANK, pays 21's.

CAMBER, inventor of the M.G. car. CANT, the man who doesn't take Eno's.

C. of G., Certificate of Ground-worthiness.

CHOCK, popular Scottish Christian name.

Chord, an oath, "—blimey!"
—love us!"

CLINOMETER, clinical thermometer. COCKPIT, has as little to do with a bird as Cuckoospit.

COWLING, small cow.

DIVE, underground drinking place.

DOPE, a drug on the market.

DUCT, those crossing the Equator
for the first time are duct by Father
Neptune.

ELEVATOR, see lift.

FAIRING, polite greeting: "How are you—?"; now obsolete. Modern: "How are you cracking?"

Fuselage, a discharge of firearms. Ground Engineer, aerodrome gar-

dener

GROUND SPEED, apparent speed on the earth when landing downwind.

GYROSCOPIC ACTION, invention of

Signor Cierva.

HORSE-POWER, the energy required by any number of horses to lift an aeroplane 32 foot-pounds per second per person per head. The higher the few and the more the merrier—hence expression: "don't spare the horses."

INDUCTION, method used by great detective to find criminals.

INDUCTION PIPE, kind of pipe smoked by Sherlock Holmes.

KNOT, either a nautical mile or a unit of speed and always a subject for argument. Hence expression: "a knotty problem."

LIFT, see Elevator.

NACELLE, French for nose. Aneroids occur in the nacelle organ.

Nose Heavy, "Schnacelle" Durante. PILOT, Biblical character or part of a carburetter.

PITCH, opposite to "Toss."

PORT, direction in which the bottle should circulate.

ROLL, Swiss aerobatic.

RUDDER, there are three kinds of rudder—left, right and wrong.

RUDDER BAR, bar on which one stands when in a dive.

SHOCK ABSORBERS, nervous passengers.

SPAR, inland watering place.

SPIN, a run in the car.

STABILITY, a run on the wagon.

STAGGER, a run under the influence. STALLING, American for "holding off." Strongly deprecated (audi "Quit stalling.")

STARBOARD, kind of sideboard in which the port is kept.

STREAMLINE, invention of Mr. Cochran.

STREAMLINE STAYS, invention of Mr. Cochran's young ladies.

STICK, a glass, pony, swift or small one according to the locality.

Sump, they're always telling you to drain it, yet you must keep sump'n in it.

Taxi, when the aircraft will no longer fly you taxi back to the aerodrome.

TIME LAG, a veteran convict.

Toggle, don't run before you can toggle.

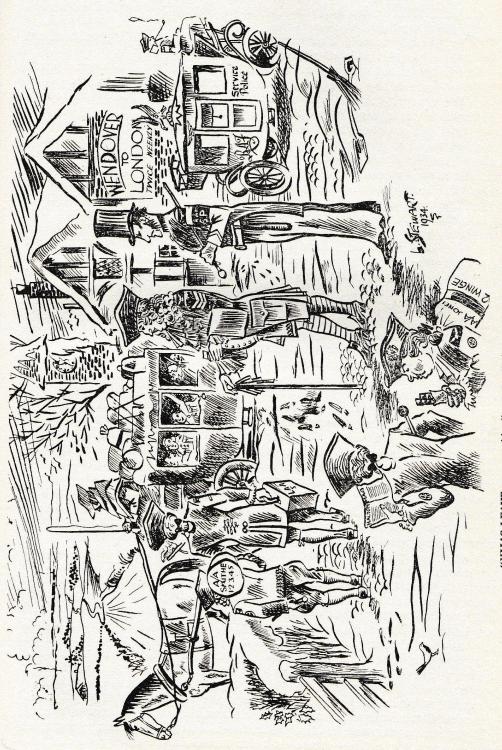
Torque, usually short and to young mothers.

TURNBUCKLE, early film comedian, nicknamed "Fatty."

Undercarriage, undertaker's cab.

WASH-IN, taken in. YAW, telling us!

FLYBYNITE.



"XMAS LEAVE 17-something"; or the Christmas Card Artist gets his data mixed

It is outside the door. Look, the door is slowly opening. It enters. MERCIFUL

I finished reading and for some time we were silent.

"I wonder what he saw," said I.

"I wonder," echoed Whiteside.

"What are you going to do about it?" I asked.

"This," he answered and, taking the paper from me, he flung it into the fire where it was soon reduced to ashes.

"Very wise," I agreed. "What the eye doesn't see . . . Have another drink?"



"SOCKS-SHARP!"

Believe it or Not

THE A.A. on mag. timing who turned the engine with the distributor rotor.

The A.A. with the pretty sister on Empire Day.

The rook that thought the reduction gear was a device for fat ladies' waist lines.

The old lady who wanted to see the infernal combustion engine on Empire Day.

The lady in the hulls and floats shop on Empire Day who wanted to know how many seats there were in the speed-boat.

The gentleman on Empire Day who said he had had his car degalvanised (decarbonised).

Wireless sets are part of electrical equipment.

The fried fish we get in the cookhouse originally came from the sea, and are trying to crawl back.

We haven't had macaroni for dinner since the Abyssinian dispute started.

Certain A.A.'s looked rather striking in gas-masks, but then beauty is only skin deep.



Conundrum

An employer wanted a man. Having sifted the applications down to three, he decided to test their intelligence.

He told them that he was going to send them all into one room; each of them would have on his forehead either a black or a white mark. Any one who saw a black mark was to hold up his hand. Any one who could deduce the colour of his mark was to leave the room.

All three men held up their hands. A saw that B and C had black marks, and after a moment or two he left the room.

He was right.

What colour mark had he, and why?



"And are both your uncles wealthy, Jimmy?"
"You bet they are! One was a Quartermaster in the army, the other is also rich"

Advice

You may not have a mighty brain; In games may not excel; You may perhaps have tried in vain To shine at sports, as well.

Your assets may amount to nil; Dame Fortune may not smile; Your luck, maybe, is out, but still, You can make life worth while.

Although the way is pretty rough,
With little hope of fame,
A clean-lived life is quite enough,
If you'll just "Play the Game"!

E. W. J.